



REQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	National Biodiversity Planning to Support the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Turkmenistan		
Country(ies):	Turkmenistan	GEF Project ID:	5011
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4929
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan (MNPT)	Submission Date:	May 29, 2012
		Resubmission date:	4 June 2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	36
Check if applicable:	NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/>	Agency Fee (\$):	22,000

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: To integrate Turkmenistan's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

EA Component	Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1. Stocktaking and national target setting	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By early 2013, a multi-sectoral/multi-stakeholder working group is established and it completes the stock-taking exercise. - By mid-2013, national targets in response to the global Aichi Targets are developed. 	<p>1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner.</p> <p>1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed in a manner that is attuned to Turkmenistan's reality.</p> <p>1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means.</p> <p>1.4 In an iterative manner, Turkmenistan taps into useful information on, and participates into, global networks and initiatives on biodiversity data and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership¹, Global Biodiversity Information Facility² and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre³, the Global Environment Outlook portal⁴, among other relevant ones).</p>	27,600	20,000
2. NBSAP update	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 2014, Turkmenistan's NBSAP is fully updated, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP 	<p>2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Turkmenistan, anchored into national development frameworks, is updated in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.</p> <p>2.2 The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Turkmenistan is submitted to the CBD, upon proper national and sub-national consultations, preferably within the deadline set by the COP.</p>	101,800	90,000
3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By 2013, complete the updating and improvement of national 	<p>3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional leadership for implementation is established and strategic partnerships are forged (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costed and prioritized Action Plan is</p>	71,600	51,000

¹ www.bipindicators.net

² www.gbif.org

³ www.unep-wcmc.org

⁴ geodata.rrcap.unep.org

EA Component	Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
on, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms		clearinghouse mechanisms - By 2014, complete a plan for implementing the NBSAP, including capacity, technology and finance needs assessment	appended to the NBS; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance are carried out; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance. 3.2 An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD's global CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity. 3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Turkmenistan in a timely manner, in particular the Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014.		
Subtotal				201,000	161,000
EA Management Cost ⁵				19,000	59,000
Total EA Cost				220,000	220,000

^a Listed in \$ by EA components.

B. CO-FINANCING FOR THE EA BY SOURCE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
National Government	Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan (MNPT)	In-kind	60,000
		Grant	120,000
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	40,000
Total Co-financing			220,000

C. GRANT RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	EA Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity Focal Area Set-Aside	Global	220,000	22,000	242,000
Total Grant Resources				220,000	22,000	242,000

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	[GEF only] Total Estimated Person Weeks**	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	40	17,000	40,000	57,000
International consultants*	0	0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications***		0	19,000	19,000
Travel*		0	0	0
Others**: Project Audit		2,000	0	2,000
Total		19,000	59,000	78,000

*Details provided in Annex A. ** Other items to be clearly specified. *** See Additional Information for Table D.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TABLE D, IF APPLICABLE:

Please refer to the Total Budget and Work-plan in Annex C for details.

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

⁵ This is the cost associated with the unit executing the project on the ground and could be financed out of trust fund or co-financing sources.

A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

National biodiversity context

Turkmenistan is located in the western part of Central Asia, bordered between Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, the Republic of Iran and Afghanistan and the Caspian Sea. The natural conditions of Turkmenistan are diverse. Topographically, the country can be divided into two unequal areas: the larger is occupied by the desert plain and the smaller by foothills and mountains.

Biodiversity is critical to the economy of Turkmenistan. The fisheries, tourism, forestry and agricultural industries depend directly on the sustainable use of ecological resources, while others are connected with them indirectly. Wild relatives of cultivated plants and numerous medicinal and economically important species are currently used or will be used in the future for the benefit of society and the country.

Up to 80% of Turkmenistan is desert. A major part of the biodiversity in deserts is in areas such as the Barkhan dune fields (which cover 350,000 km²). Deserts are home to amphibians such as the Eurasian green toad (*Bufo viridis*) as well as more than 40 species of reptiles including agamas, race-runners or fringe-toed geckos (*Eremias* spp.), agamid lizards (*Phrynocephalus* spp.), rock geckos (*Cyrtopodion* spp.), snakes, desert monitor lizard (*Varanus griseus*) and steppe tortoise (*Agriemys horsfieldi*). Two hundred and twenty species of birds live in the Karakum desert, 60 of which are breeding species. These include species such as long-legged buzzard (*Buteo rufinus*), little owl (*Athene noctua*), eagle owl (*Bubo bubo*), saxaul sparrow (*Passer ammodendri*), and Pander's ground jay (*Podoces panderi*). More than 40 species of mammal are recorded from the deserts of Turkmenistan. These include long-eared desert hedgehog (*Hemiechi-nus auritus*), Tolai hare (*Lepus tolai*), kulan (*Equus hemionus kulan*), goitred or sand gazelle (*Gazella subgutturosa*) and others. Rodents are the most representative mammalian group in deserts. Predators include the red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Corsac fox (*V. corsac*), golden jackal (*Canis aureus*), wolf (*Canis lupus*), European weasel (*Mustela nivalis*), marbled polecat (*Vormela peregusna*), caracal (*Lynx caracal*), sand cat (*Felis margarita*) and wild cat (*Felis lybica*). The characteristic species of the sand desert is the piebald or sand shrew (*Diplomesodon pulchellum*). More than 1,500 species of insects are recorded including many species of locust, ants, termites and beetles (especially family *Tenebrionidae*). The national symbols of the desert are the kulan and sand gazelle. Key mammal species in other ecosystems include: Turkmen wild goats, North Persian leopard, Turkmen urial, steppe cat, Blanford's fox, Caspian seals, wolf, jackal and hyena. Key bird species include white-winged grosbeaks, Eastern rock-nuthatch, bearded vulture and Caspian snow cock.

The importance of the mountain ecosystems cannot be overstated in terms of the conservation of arid ecosystems as a whole. The conservation of mountain rivers and springs helps prevent soil erosion. Turkmenistan has 92 endemic and near-endemic vertebrate taxa, most of which are montane. A total of 122 rare habitats have been identified as in need of protection, including the relict wild walnut forests, pistachio forests, wild pomegranate forests, wild pear and apple forests, and important fisheries areas. Wild crop relatives in Turkmenistan are extremely important as gene banks to ensure global food security in the event of disease; these include barley, oats, rye, onions, almonds, and apples, walnut, mulberry, grapes and more than 3 dozen others. The area is also particularly important for wild relatives of domestic animals, including kulan (wild *Equus*) and wild goat. A wide range of medicinal plants are also particularly important in the mountains.

Threats:

The main threats to biodiversity in Turkmenistan include:

- **Invasive alien species:** One of the most detrimental introductions into the Caspian Sea has been that of the three-spined stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) which was first recorded in 1981. It has no value as a fishery species but it competes with young fish of other native species and can adversely affect the spawning efficiency of commercially important species. However, *Mnemiopsis leidyi*, a jellyfish that has appeared in recent years, has turned out to be the most dangerous exotic species in the Caspian.
- **Over consumption:** Overgrazing, tree felling and poaching are among the most significant threats related to over-consumption.
- **Land conversion:** The expansion of cultivation is always accompanied by the loss of natural landscapes.
- **Water pressures:** In montane areas wild and domestic animals compete for pastures and water. In conditions of continuous drought the lack of tough regulation of livestock numbers causes degradation of some specific pastures and results in a number of unfavorable consequences (land erosion, salinization, decrease of water availability, etc.).
- **Pollution:** The main sources of pollution are the extraction and processing of hydrocarbons, the chemical industry, agriculture, electricity generation and household waste.
- **Climate change:** Climate change, fluctuations of sea level, and natural disasters are other factors that present some threat to biodiversity. The problem of climate change is closely associated with desertification, the most serious threat to biodiversity. The existing models of climate change forecast that a 100% increase in CO₂ in the atmosphere will cause a

warming of 4 - 8°C with a simultaneous decrease in rainfall over practically the whole of Turkmenistan, especially in spring.

Developmental context and challenges

Agriculture plays an important role in the development of the country's economy. More than half of the population lives in rural areas and about 48% of the manpower is involved in agriculture. Fisheries are of great importance to the national economy of Turkmenistan. Fish are traditionally caught both in inland basins and in the Caspian Sea. Over 4,800 industrial enterprises, producing 80% of the national income, are operating today in Turkmenistan. The country is an exporter of energy resources such as natural gas, oil products and electricity. The development of resources in the Caspian Sea shelf is the primary focus of the oil production industry. There are plans for the construction of fertilizer plants in the cities of Mary, Turkmenabat and Tedjen, an aluminum complex in Mary, a pulp and paper plant in the city of Shatlyk, a soda ash producing plant in the city of Guwurdak, and three iodine plants. The ecotourism industry is in the early stages of development. Turkmenistan is attractive for its man-made and natural features such as the Caspian Sea, Kugitang massif with a famous plateau containing dinosaurs' footprints, Kyrk gyz cave, Daraydere gorge, and the great Central Asian Amudarya River. There have been recent efforts to develop a nature-based ecotourism program based on Turkmenistan's protected areas. Literacy rates are very high in Turkmenistan – 99.3% of the population between 9 and 49 is literate.

Challenges to development in Turkmenistan include balancing the need for economic development, particularly the growth of the oil and energy sector, with the fragility of the desert and mountain ecosystems. In addition, pressures on water resources for development continue to be exacerbated by competing interests, and by increased likelihood from drought due to climate change.

Institutions responsible for managing biodiversity

The Government of Turkmenistan is responsible for managing biodiversity in the country with the Ministry of Nature Protection being specifically assigned to overlook biodiversity. Included under this framework is the Service "Kaspekokontrol;" the Velayat Department of Nature Protection; the National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna; State Nature Reserves and Sanctuaries; and the Service for Forest-Seed Farming and Natural Parks Protection. Very minimal power and management duties are given to other agencies and ministries. Lastly, national and international NGOs, including Flora and Fauna International, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Michael Succow Foundation, make some contributions to managing biodiversity.

Brief description of the protected area system

Turkmenistan has a long history of protected areas. The total area of protected areas of all categories is 1,978,300 ha or 4.02% of the whole territory of the country. Zapovedniks constitute 39.7% (784,600 ha) or 1.6% of the whole area of Turkmenistan; zakazniks 58.4% (1,155,900 ha) or 2.35% of the country's area; protected zones 1.8% (35,400 ha) or 0.07% of Turkmenistan's area; natural monuments 0.1% (2,300 ha). The protected areas of Turkmenistan include 8 state zapovedniks, 13 state zakazniks, and 17 state natural monuments. Areas of particular importance include:

- **Repetek zapovednik** (established in 1928), Turkmenistan's only biosphere reserve, is located at the junction of the Central and Southeastern Karakum sand deserts, covering 34,600 hectares.
- **Hazar zapovednik** (until 1994 called Krasnovodskiy) was established in 1932 on the southeastern coast of the Caspian Sea at the juncture of typically dry Transcaspian desert and the saltwater area of the Caspian and Astrabad subtropical province of Iran. The total area is 262,037 ha, including 192,047 ha of the Caspian Sea itself
- **Badkhyz zapovednik** (established in 1941, covering 87,680 ha) is located between the Kushkinsko and Tedjensky rivers in the foothills of the Eastern Kopetdag (mountain range Gezgyadyk) and Paropamiz (the saline Eroylanduz lake basin) in the southeast of Turkmenistan.
- **Kopetdag zapovednik** (established in 1976, 49,793 ha) is located in the Central Kopetdag. Mountain forest (mainly of Turkmen juniper) covers 21,814 ha (1982 data).
- **Kalininskiy** (established in 1976 covering 15,000 ha) and Meana-Chaachinskiy zakazniks (created in 1976 covering 60,000 ha) were established to protect common cranes (*Grus grus*) and to restore the population of kulan.
- **Syunt-Hasardag zapovednik** (established in 1978 covering 26,461 ha) fully represents the main landscape and ecological types of the middle elevations of the Southwestern Kopetdag dry subtropics. Relict plants such as Turkmen mandrake, wild pomegranate and wild grapes occur. In 1990 Syunt-Hasardagskiy zakaznik (38,000 ha) was established.
- **Amudarya zapovednik** (established in 1982 covering 49,514 ha) consists of three areas in the middle course of the Amudarya River in which the valley flood plain tugais, ridge-hillocks and barkhan sands, and salt pans of the Turan lowland are well represented.
- **Kugitang zapovednik** (established in 1986, 27,139 ha) is located on the territory of the western (Turkmen) scarp slope of

the Kugitang ridge of the Pamiro-Altai mountain range. Karlyuksky zakaznik (1986, 40,000 ha), Hodjaburdjibelendsky zakaznik (1986, covering 17,532 ha) and Hodjapilsky zakaznik (1986 covering 31,635 ha) were created to protect unique caves and archa forest and species of rare plants.

Barriers to effective implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan

The 4th National Report and the capacity needs self-assessment report identified some barriers to effective implementation of the CBD⁶. Those barriers most relevant to the CBD Strategic Plan include:

- ✓ Inadequate research capacity on climate change issues, including capacity to assess climate vulnerability and to develop adaptation measures to climate change and their integration into international programs and projects.
- ✓ Insufficient biodiversity incentives.
- ✓ Insufficient mechanisms of management and planning, especially in regards to the system of national environmental planning, especially the integration of specific CBD objectives into national policies and strategies of the NBSAP, and the development and approval of clear targets, work plans, national programs for the early adoption of conservation measures.
- ✓ An underdeveloped legal and regulatory framework and institutional framework of monitoring components of biodiversity, and the absence of comprehensive national programs for biodiversity monitoring.
- ✓ Inadequate public participation in environmentally significant decisions.

Other biodiversity planning efforts

- ✓ UNDP-GEF (3013): Early Action Grant to Turkmenistan to develop a tourism program based on protected areas. The project aimed at supporting the integration of sustainable economic options into the PA system of Turkmenistan, primarily through ecotourism, by addressing key policy and on-the-ground barriers.
- ✓ UNDP-GEF (2638): Conservation and Sustainable Use of Globally Significant Biological Diversity in Khazar Nature Reserve on the Caspian Sea Coast: this project aimed to strengthen one of the key protected areas in the Turkmenistan's national system of Pas (the Khazar reserve) by demonstrating effective biodiversity conservation in Turkmenistan's Khazar Nature Reserve (Khazar) on the Caspian Sea coast, including through the engagement of local communities;
- ✓ UNDP-GEF (3239): Capacity Building and on-the-ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management – this project aimed to improve the capacity of land users for sustainable management of their land resources. As such the project focuses on land degradation issues, but does incorporate the ecosystem approach into land-use planning.
- ✓ UNDP-GEF (3698): Strengthening the Turkmenistan Protected Areas System. This project has recently started; its objective is to create an enabling environment for the establishment of a functional, effective and ecologically coherent system of protected areas. The project will aim to set up the first national park (IUCN II category) in the country.
- ✓ In addition to the above UNDP and GEF initiatives, a number of projects are ongoing in the area of PA strengthening, focusing on increasing the patrolling and research capacities of key PAs in the country, as well as on awareness raising. These are financed by international NGOs, such as Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB, UK), and Michael Succow Foundation (Germany).

1) National Reporting to CBD			
Reports	Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat	Current Status*	Comments
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	2003-01-16	Submitted	Although submitted, it is currently outdated
Revision of NBSAP	Not submitted	Not yet started.	Funding being applied for under this project.
1 st National Report	2003-01-16	Submitted	This is now outdated
2 nd National Report	Not submitted	Not completed	No funding was requested from GEF for this.
3 rd National Report	2007-03-19	Submitted	This is now outdated
4 th National Report	2009-08-20	Submitted	Contains a lot of fairly up-to-date information and analysis on biodiversity management in Turkmenistan, but it is not "Aichi-ready".
2) Capacity Needs Assessments carried out		YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Start Date: Feb 2003		End Date: Dec 2006	

⁶ See for

<http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Environment%20and%20Energy/Integrating%20Environment%20into%20Development/nca/final%20report%20and%20action%20plan/english/nca-turkmenistan-fr.pdf>

Please list all of the CBD Program of Work and cross-cutting themes that were addressed in the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Capacity Needs Assessments:	Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cross-cutting capacity needs assessments for the implementation of the Rio Conventions See e.g. http://ncsa.undp.org/report_detail.cfm?Projectid=314 	2007
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Under the Third National Report to the CBD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Agricultural Biodiversity – Forest Biodiversity – Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing – Biodiversity for Development – Invasive Alien Species – Protected Areas – Sustainable Use of Biodiversity 	2007
3) Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) established?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
CHM link(s):	Does not apply
Is the CHM website maintained up to date? Does not apply	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
How many people currently operate and maintain the national CHM? Does not apply	The CHM is outdated
How many people visited the national CHM website in the past 12 months? Does not apply	Not assessed
Note: The lack of a functional central clearinghouse for information, and the challenges in inventorying and monitoring without robust data systems, was recognized as a major challenge to implementation of the CBD in the previous NBSAP.	

Project consistency with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments relevant for the CBD, as well as other cross-cutting assessments and priority setting exercises

At a national level, Turkmenistan’s obligations under CBD are addressed through the following policy and regulatory instruments:

- Cabinet of Ministers decree (2003) adopting the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and assigning roles and responsibilities for various agencies for its implementation.
- the Turkmenistan National Environmental Action Plan (1998), which aims at improving environmental conditions for human health; promoting the efficient and sustainable use of natural resources; protecting the most vulnerable and valuable ecosystems and species and defining a general strategy for Turkmenistan’s transition to sustainable development by identifying major environmental problems, setting priorities for action and building adequate policy and institutional frameworks.
- the “National Action Plan of the President of Turkmenistan on Environment Protection” (2002), which states that the country has to adopt international standards and economic tools for biodiversity protection
- Protocol on Biodiversity to Frame Convention on Protection of Marine Environment of the Caspian Sea (2008), which puts special emphasis on the protection of marine biodiversity.

Guidance for CBD also comes from the National Capacity Self-Assessment funded by GEF and conducted under a UNDP project in 2007, as stipulates the objective of capacity building for the Clearing House Mechanism and identify the biodiversity-climate nexus, relevant for national Turkmenistan context.

Thus, this project is a follow-on to the existing NBSAP, and it is consistent with it. It will also be guided by priorities in Turkmenistan’s above-mentioned strategies, policies and plans. The project builds on previous biodiversity planning and CBD reporting processes. It also builds on the conclusions from previous capacity assessments, taking these one step further.

B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (The proposal should briefly justify the need for the project.)

The Baseline Project: The Current NBSAP and the new CBD Strategic Plan

The new CBD Strategic Plan, adopted at CoP-10 in 2010 in Nagoya, clearly addresses the need for updating NBSAPs, stating in Target 17 that “By 2015, each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.” The strategic plan also covers a range of issues that will need to be incorporated into the revised NBSAPs, including guidance to countries to: a) fully realise the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and incorporate these values into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies (Targets 1 and 2); b) increase the global terrestrial protected area estate from 12% to 17% and the marine estate from 6% to 10% (Target 11); c) restore and safeguard key ecosystem services, especially for water, health and livelihoods (Target 14); and d) strengthen ecosystem resilience to climate change and promote ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation (Target 15).

The most recent NBSAP for Turkmenistan approved in 2003 is outdated, and does not include the following elements of the CBD Strategic Plan's Aichi Targets:

- A plan for integrating the value of biodiversity into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (Target 2). This is mentioned in the 1998 NBSAP as a serious gap.
- A plan for creating incentives and removing harmful subsidies (Target 3)
- A plan for developing landscapes that have sustainable production and consumption and ensure the use of natural resources falls well within safe ecological limits. (Target 4). Although the plan does mention the need for sustainable grasslands management, the strategies and actions to address this were weak.
- A plan for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, including increased protection and landscape/seascape connectivity (Target 11). The existing NBSAP does identify some specific steps of the PoWPA (e.g., creating new protected areas and enhancing community involvement) but does not cover most of the actions required to fully implement the PoWPA. The lack of protected area implementation is a serious weakness in Turkmenistan, and this NBSAP will outline clear steps to move forward.
- A plan for restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being (Target 14). By the third National Report, this had become a critical issue in Turkmenistan.
- A plan for strengthening ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks, including the restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems (Target 16).
- A plan for the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources (Target 20). Existing plans in the NBSAP are limited to external funding, whereas a long-term, sustainable finance basis for implementing the Strategic Plan must be sought.

Proposed Response and Rationale: The new generation of BD EA.

This project seeks to fully incorporate the above issues into the NBSAP. This 'new generation' of NBSAP will help set a regional standard of excellence by creating a national road map for achieving the Aichi Targets. Special emphasis will be placed on mainstreaming biodiversity into development plans, incorporating protected area networks and sustainable production systems into ecosystem-based climate adaptation and resilience plans, and creating sustainable finance for biodiversity conservation through the full valuation of key ecosystem services.

Alignment with Focal Area Outcome(s):

BD5 Objective: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities (herein serving as the 'Project Development Goal'):

Focal Area Outcome 5.1: Development and sectoral planning frameworks at country level integrate measurable biodiversity conservation and sustainable use targets.

Objective and outcomes

The Project *Objective* is to integrate Turkmenistan's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process, in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020.

This will be achieved through the following *Outcomes* (corresponding to components described in detail below):

- Outcome 1 – A participative stocktaking exercise on biodiversity planning takes place and national biodiversity targets are developed in response to the global Aichi Targets
- Outcome 2 – The NBSAP is revised/updated and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as mainstreaming and anchoring the implementation of the plan into national development frameworks, valuing ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience
- Outcome 3 – National frameworks for resource mobilization, Convention reporting and exchange mechanisms are established and strengthened

Refer to Part I, Table A and to the next section for more details.

How the project plans to build national capacity

Enabling Activities are considered foundation activities within the framework of the GEF. The ultimate goal of Biodiversity Enabling Activities is to build national capacity across the board for biodiversity management. The effective achievement of global biodiversity benefits depend on the development of national capacity for managing biodiversity. The more robust this capacity is in a given country, the more effective the national implementation of the CBD will be.

The approach to building of national capacity in this proposal follows the guidance from the *GEF Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building* (2003)⁷ under the GEF's cross-agency Capacity Development Initiative. Three levels of capacity were identified: individual, organizational and systemic. Quoting from a recent GEF publication on the theme of capacity (GEF 2010)⁸:

“At the individual level, capacity development refers to the process of changing attitudes and behaviors, most frequently through imparting knowledge and developing skills through training. However it also involves learning by doing, participation, ownership, and processes associated with increasing performance through changes in management, motivation, morale, and improving accountability and responsibility.

Capacity development at the organizational level focuses on overall performance and functioning capabilities, such as developing mandates, tools, guidelines and management information systems to facilitate and catalyze organizational change. At the organizational level, capacity development aims to develop a set of constituent individuals and groups, as well as to strengthen links with its environment.

At the systemic level, capacity development is concerned with the “enabling environment”, i.e., the overall policy, economic, regulatory, and accountability frameworks within which organizations and individuals operate. Relationships and processes between organizations, both formal and informal, as well as their mandates, are important.”

In this light, this project will build national capacity in Turkmenistan in the following manner:

Individual	Much of the work under this project will be carried out through working groups. This is an ideal forum for imparting knowledge among different individuals involved in biodiversity planning and in environmental matters in Turkmenistan in general. For many of the civil servants and NGO staff in Turkmenistan, the opportunity for working within a project like this is a form of training. Furthermore, consultation, participation and ownership are guiding principles of biodiversity planning processes. These are part and parcel of this proposal.
Organizational	UNDP's approach to Biodiversity Enabling activities in GEF5 goes beyond the mere production of national reports and strategies to the CBD and the development of a website for the CHM. Rather, it is concerned about the developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD and for maintaining the CHM interesting and up to date. This implies institutionalizing the capacity for eventually achieving this with as little external assistance as possible. Given the ambitious targets of the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020), it is recognized that actions to engage external assistance and retain national are in the meanwhile needed. This will be availed through the project. In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building organizational capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation▪ Setting targets and priorities▪ Developing implementation plans for the revised NBSAP▪ Assessing and strengthening capacity needs▪ Developing clearinghouse mechanisms▪ Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD

⁷ GEF, 2003: “Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building”. Global Environment Facility. See also: GEF Evaluation Office, 2006: “Evaluation of GEF Capacity Development Activities. Approach Paper”. GEF EO.

⁸ GEF Capacity Development Initiative, Global Support Programme for National Capacity Self-Assessment, 2010: “Monitoring Guidelines of Capacity Development in GEF Operations”.

Systemic	<p>The approach that UNDP has developed for Biodiversity Enabling Activities in GEF5 is transformational with respect to systemic capacity elements (i.e. policy, economic, regulatory, and accountability frameworks within which organizations and individuals operate). The aim is to ensure that the objectives, targets and guidance from the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) become fully anchored into national development frameworks. This will be achieved by the development of the following new aspects of the CBD strategic plan: (i) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; (ii) mainstreaming; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience. The knowledge developed through these activities will become part of Turkmenistan’s new NBSAP and will have a greater chance of influencing and even becoming policy. In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building systemic capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation ▪ Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies ▪ Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs ▪ Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan ▪ Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation ▪ Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios
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C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

(discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A).

Detailed Description of Activities per Project Component / Outcome

The description that follows has been organized in five modules (I -V), following the GEF’s guidance, but which for the sake of simplicity were grouped within the three already mentioned Components / Outcomes. The following are modules:

Component	Outline of modules for NBSAP Revision and Related Activities	Indicative percentage of total GEF funding in the proposal
1	I. Preparation	6%
	II. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	6%
2	III. Strategy and action plan development	52%
3	IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities	20%
	V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	16%

Component 1. Stocktaking and national target setting

Key Outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in a participative manner.
- 1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed in a manner that is attuned to Turkmenistan’s reality.
- 1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through the 5th national report, and through other means.
- 1.4 In an iterative manner, Turkmenistan taps into useful information on, and participates into, global networks and initiatives on biodiversity data and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership , Global Biodiversity Information Facility and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre, the Global Environment Outlook portal , among other relevant ones).

Key Outcomes:

- By early 2013, a multi-sectoral/multi-stakeholder working group is established and it completes the stock-taking exercise.
- By mid-2013, national targets in response to the global Aichi Targets are developed.

Key Products or publications resulting from activities:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Turkmenistan
- Biodiversity Targets for Turkmenistan: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD’s Strategic Plan for 2011-2020

Key Activities (I-II):

I. Preparing for the NBSAP revision

- Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation: This activity will focus on rapidly but accurately taking stock of existing plans, policies and practices, and of the root causes of biodiversity loss. Within country-specific contexts, the aim is not only to identify key threats, but to understand the drivers behind these threats, as well as the key aspects of the policy environment that are barriers and challenges to effective conservation/sustainable use. Based on existing studies and analyses, the emphasis of this activity will be on identifying key gaps in the existing NBSAP, understanding the primary drivers and root causes, and identifying the means of overcoming existing barriers and challenges.
- Stakeholder consultation and participation: This activity will focus on ensuring a robust consultative process that engages representatives from key sectors, administrative leaders, and traditionally under-represented groups. The aim is to develop and sustain a participatory process in order to increase the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP. This is especially important relative to the goals of mainstreaming biodiversity into national development plans, and promoting resilient landscapes that include production sectors. (refer to section B5).

II. *Setting targets*

- Setting targets and priorities: This activity focuses on setting specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound targets for the NBSAPs based on the global Aichi Targets, including targets on restoration of ecosystems, protected area coverage, overall biodiversity loss, and other aspects of the Strategic Plan. This activity, which is linked to priority setting among different aspects within the NBSAP, will be completed by CoP-11.

Component 2. NBSAP Update

Key Outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Turkmenistan, anchored into national development frameworks, is updated, in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.
- 2.2 The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Turkmenistan is submitted to the CBD, following national and sub-national consultations, preferably within the deadline set by the COP.⁹

Key Outcome:

- By 2014, Turkmenistan's NBSAP is fully updated, it is in line with the guidance in the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) and has been submitted to the CBD COP

Key Products or Publications resulting from activities

- Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Turkmenistan
- Sub-product 1: Study on Ecosystem Valuation in Turkmenistan
- Sub-product 2: Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Turkmenistan
- Sub-product 3: Study on the Incorporation of Challenges and Opportunities linked to Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Resilience in Turkmenistan

Key Activity (III)

III. *Developing the NBSAP*

This step will seek to achieve the following: (i) Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations; (ii) Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations; and (iii) Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations. While the project will focus on updating all aspects of NBSAPs, it will place particular emphasis on those aspects that are both highlighted in the 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Plan, and that are typically absent from its existing NBSAP. These include the following:

- Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation: The study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) has drawn attention to the global economic benefits of biodiversity and ecosystem services and to the growing costs of biodiversity loss and degradation. However, Turkmenistan has not yet linked the value of biodiversity and

⁹ The actual submission of the NBSAP to the CBD Secretariat is the responsibility of the government of Turkmenistan, not UNDP.

ecosystem services to our own national development goals, including poverty eradication and sustainable livelihoods. Through this activity, Turkmenistan will be able to demonstrate the benefits and values of ecosystems and biodiversity at a national level, and better link ecosystems and priority sectors in national development plans, in order to guide allocation of resources. The aim is to strengthen the point that biodiversity not only underpins human well-being, but that biodiversity and associated ecosystem services can make a significant contribution to poverty reduction and economic development. By engaging national specialists and providing support from global specialists, hard economic data will be collected and processed at the country level to demonstrate the costs and benefits of investing in biodiversity management. Capacity to carry out the assessments and make important links to priority economic sectors will be simultaneously built within the country. The availability of essential data and the analysis will allow Turkmenistan to “make the case” for biodiversity and will facilitate the process of mainstreaming biodiversity into sectoral planning through concrete biodiversity valuation examples. Specific steps in this process include:

- a) Identify and assess the full range of values of key ecosystem services within the country, based on existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the national TEEB valuation results, the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g., water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services.
 - b) Identify the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use.
 - c) Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods.
 - d) Where appropriate, this activity will also identify potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives.
- Mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies: Mainstreaming has been defined as the internalization of biodiversity conservation goals into economic and development sectors, policies and programs, such that they become an integral part of their functioning of these sectors.¹⁰ As part of this process, the project will focus on the following sectors: agriculture, forestry, hunting, livestock, energy, mining, oil and gas, and water management. The Project will also focus on the following development areas / topics: land-use management, including spatial and infrastructural development planning, development finance, poverty alleviation, rural development and livelihoods, food security, local development and decentralization, gender, climate change resilience and adaptation. Specific steps in this process will include:
 - a) forming partnerships between relevant stakeholders interested in biodiversity conservation issues and in development issues;
 - b) explicitly identifying key stakeholders’ interests, and desired outcomes;
 - c) identifying potential conflicts and trade-offs, and work towards mutually acceptable solutions, including strategies that serve mutually beneficial interests and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes;
 - d) embedding and institutionalizing these strategies in the institutions, policies, agreements, programs and mechanisms of each sector.
 - Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs: The previous NBSAP did not adequately address aspects of climate change. This activity will involve incorporating aspects of climate change into NBSAPs, including, for example:
 - a) identifying, protecting and appropriately managing areas important for carbon sequestration;
 - b) updating the country’s ecological gap assessment to include predicted future distribution of biodiversity under climate change scenarios;
 - c) assessing the impact of climate change on the functioning of ecosystem services, such as water;
 - d) identifying areas important for improving nature’s ability to adapt to climate change, such as altitudinal gradients and conservation corridors
 - e) identifying areas of particular importance for restoration in order to improve climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation.
 - Sharing NBSAP draft at the sub-national level: Once the aspects of mainstreaming and climate change impact have been incorporated in the updated NBSAP, the draft NBSAP will be shared with communities through 3 sub-national workshops in different parts of the country. The workshops will be largely co-financed by Government and will aim to present, discuss and agree on the key aspects of the updated NBSAP.

Component 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms

Key outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional leadership for implementation is established and strategic partnerships are forged (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costed and prioritized Action Plan is appended to the NBS; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance are carried out; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance.
- 3.2 An effective, user-friendly and easily updatable country-driven CHM site is developed; it is linked up to the CBD’s global

¹⁰ Petersen, C and B. Huntley. 2005. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Productive Landscapes. Working Paper 20. Washington DC: GEF.

CHM networks and to other information and knowledge exchange network on biodiversity.

3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Turkmenistan in a timely manner, in particular the Fifth National Report to the CBD by 31 March 2014.

Key Outcomes:

- By late 2013, complete the updating and improvement of national clearinghouse mechanisms
- By 2014, complete a plan for implementing the NBSAP, including capacity, technology and finance needs assessment

Key Products or publications (maybe combined into one):

- Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP
- Fully functional CHM for Turkmenistan based on best international practices in developing CHMs.

Key Activities (IV – V)

IV. Developing implementation plans

This activity will focus on developing an overall plan for implementing the NBSAP. This implementation plan will include the following elements:

- Developing an overall implementation plan: The primary output of this activity is an overall implementation plan that delineates major steps, responsible parties, costs for main activities, expected outcomes and a timeline
- Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan: Turkmenistan is in the process of finalizing its PoWPA implementation plan¹¹, and this step will ensure that the country's work on protected areas, including goals, objectives and next steps, are fully integrated into the NBSAP. We will place particular emphasis on those aspects of Target 11 from the CBD Strategic Plan, including our plans for expanding protected areas, improving management effectiveness, sustainably financing protected areas, improving connectivity, and integrating protected areas into the wider landscape and seascape.
- Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation: Article 20 of the Convention mentions the need for Parties "to provide, in accordance with its capabilities, financial support and incentives in respect of those national activities which are intended to achieve the objectives of this Convention." In the past few years, there has been a wide proliferation of innovative biodiversity finance mechanisms, such as payments for ecosystem services, conservation trust funds, biodiversity offsets and bio-carbon funding, among many others. Turkmenistan is still in the early stages of exploring these mechanisms. This activity will therefore focus on the following:
 - a) Identifying the existing financial gap for implementing the NBSAP
 - b) Identifying potential sources of revenue for filling these gaps
 - c) Assessing the feasibility for these revenue sources
 - d) Developing a detailed plan for operationalizing these revenue sources
- Assessing and strengthening capacity needs: One of the primary areas of enabling activities is the assessment of capacity needs. The decisions at CoP-10 place new and ambitious demands on countries, including requirements to protect and sustainably manage their lands and water, to develop comprehensive plans that integrate climate change into their land use, development and sectoral plans and strategies, and to develop appropriate biodiversity and climate policies, laws and incentives. This activity will ensure that Turkmenistan develops a road map for strengthening these specific capacities. Building on existing capacity needs assessment, and using existing guidance, Turkmenistan will focus on addressing the following capacity priorities:
 - a) Addressing inadequate research capacity on climate change issues, including capacity to assess climate vulnerability and to develop adaptation measures to climate change and their integration into international programs and projects. Specific capacity recommendations include a) strengthening the network of observations of the climate system, support for climate studies; b) improving the database on the state of the climate system and the environment; c) developing and implementing climate-related research programs;
 - b) Addressing insufficient biodiversity incentives. Specific recommendations include: a) developing bilateral ties and regional for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources (especially in a transboundary context); b) promoting adherence to existing international agreements; c) developing mechanisms and adopting legal instruments on sponsorship, preferential and differential taxable activities that promote the sustainable management of the components of biodiversity (especially in ecologically threatened regions); and d) the development of national markets for ecosystem services.
 - c) Addressing insufficient mechanisms of management and planning, especially in regards to the system of national environmental planning. Recommended actions include improving the system of national planning for biodiversity and conservation, developing national and regional action plans on biodiversity, and strengthening political will for following through on commitments to the CBD. In particular, this requires the inclusion of specific CBD objectives into national policies and strategies of the NBSAP, and the

¹¹ This is a CBD COP requirement. See e.g. paragraph 1(b) of decision X/31 of the Conference of the Parties. In paragraph 1(b) of the same decision the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to submit a report on the preparation of such plans to the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting.

- development and approval of clear targets, work plans, national programs for the early adoption of conservation measures.
- d) Strengthening underdeveloped legal and regulatory framework and institutional framework of monitoring components of biodiversity, and the absence of comprehensive national programs for biodiversity monitoring, preventing us from effectively reporting on biodiversity to the CBD. To solve this problem, we will prioritize the development of inventory and monitoring systems.
 - e) Improving public participation in environmentally significant decisions. To improve public participation in environmental decision, we will establish clear mechanisms of public hearings, develop mechanisms for public environmental review and monitoring; involve the public, indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders in the implementation of all program elements of the NBSAP.

V. Institutionalizing, monitoring and reporting

- Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity under climate change scenarios: Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity is a key aspect of several Programmes of Work within the CBD. To date, efforts to monitor and report on the status of biodiversity have been sporadic and have typically not taken into full account the status and trends of biodiversity, the status of effective conservation, the contribution of ecosystem services (such as water and carbon), and the likely impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Through this project, Turkmenistan will ensure that future monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity and ecosystem services is comprehensive, and fully incorporates climate change issues.
- Developing clearinghouse mechanisms (CHM): Of the 90 countries that accessed funding under the Fourth National Report joint global project (UNDP-UNEP/GEF), only 44 had national CHM sites, and of those, 25 were kept up-to-date (data from 2010). At the same time that CHMs are largely out of date, reliance on digital information has increased exponentially. Turkmenistan is no exception. While Turkmenistan has a website on environmental issues (<http://uznature.uz/eng/>), it is insufficient to provide adequate information related to biodiversity, and will need to be radically upgraded. This aspect of the project will help us develop an effective, user-friendly and easily-updatable CHM that will enable us to effectively share information nationally, regionally and globally. The project will also work in collaboration with the CHM of the Secretariat of the CBD, to ensure that lessons and information are disseminated globally.
- Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD: Parties to the CBD committed to submitting a fifth national report by 2014. In this project, Turkmenistan will submit a 5th National Report that fully covers the NBSAPs, key changes in the status and trends in biodiversity status, threats and conservation, and will develop a long-term reporting framework that will enable us to better track changes over time.

Collaboration and synergies with related initiatives

UNDP has active biodiversity and ecosystems portfolio in Turkmenistan, financed primarily by the GEF. Some of these projects have direct relevance for the activities under this EA project. Four of these projects have been mentioned and briefly described above under the subsection *Biodiversity Planning Efforts*. They are:

- *Early Action Grant to Turkmenistan to develop a tourism program based on protected areas*
- *Conservation and Sustainable Use of Globally Significant Biological Diversity in Khazar Nature Reserve on the Caspian Sea Coast*
- *Capacity Building and on-the-ground Investments for Integrated and Sustainable Land Management*
- *Strengthening the Turkmenistan Protected Areas System*

The Enabling Activity Coordinator, the host institution and the UNDP Country Office will ensure that this Enabling Activity project can benefit from technical synergies with the above mentioned initiatives, as well as with other ones, e.g. those financed by international NGOs, such as Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB, UK), and Michael Succow Foundation (Germany).

Representatives and experts from the on-going relevant biodiversity projects will be invited to NBSAP workshops and to participate, where relevant, in specific working groups. The aim is to ensure that the knowledge on biodiversity that these projects have collected and are producing can be incorporated into the NBSAP.

Project implementation arrangement

The project will be implemented over a period of 3 years. The **Ministry of Nature Protection of Turkmenistan (MNPT)** is the government institution responsible for the implementation of the project and will act as the *Executing Agency*.

UNDP is the *GEF Agency* for the project and accountable to the GEF for the use of funds. The project is nationally executed (NEX), in line with the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the UNDP and the Government of Turkmenistan, and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for Turkmenistan.

The overall responsibility for the project implementation by SCNP implies the timely and verifiable attainment of project

objectives and outcomes. MNPT will provide support to, and inputs for, the implementation of all project activities.

MNPT will nominate a high level official who will serve as the National Project Director (NPD) for the project implementation. The NPD will chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC), and other relevant stakeholder, sectoral and working groups under the project, and will be responsible for providing government oversight and guidance to the project implementation. The NPD will not be paid from the project funds, but will represent a contribution to the project from the government of Turkmenistan. The NPD will be technically supported by a project technical team, as well as UNDP's technical backstopping provided by the UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor responsible for the project and the UNDP Environment Focal Point at the Country Office in Turkmenistan.

Working closely with MNPT, the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) will be responsible for: (i) providing project assurance services to government (ii) recruitment of project staff, if so requested by government, and the contracting of consultants and service providers, especially international; (iii) overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets approved by PSC; (iv) appointment of independent financial auditors; and (iv) ensuring that all activities including procurement and financial services are carried out in strict compliance with UNDP/GEF procedures. A UNDP staff member will be assigned with the responsibility for the day-to-day management and control over project finance.

A *National Project Steering Committee* (PSC) will be convened by MNPT, and will serve as the project's coordination and decision-making body (Project Board). The PSC will include representation of key project stakeholders. The PSC meetings will be chaired by the NPD. It will meet as needed, but not less than once in 6 months, to review project progress, approve project work plans and approve major project deliverables. The PSC is responsible for ensuring that the project remains on course to deliver products of the required quality to meet the outcomes defined in the project document.

The day-to-day administration of the project will be carried out by the Enabling Activity Manager. The project staff will be recruited using the applicable recruitment procedures for the NEX modality. The Enabling Activity Manager will manage the implementation of all project activities.

The Enabling Activity Manager will liaise and work closely with all partner institutions to link the project with complementary national programs and initiatives. The Enabling Activity Manager is accountable to MNPT, and the PSC for the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds. The Enabling Activity Manager will also be technically supported by contracted national and international consultants and service providers.

Comparative advantage of UNDP in Turkmenistan with respect to this project:

UNDP has historically been the largest GEF implementing agency in terms of assisting countries in undertaking biodiversity enabling activities, having assisted more than 100 countries with it through several projects. The GEF2 global project 'Biodiversity Support Programme' was jointly implemented with UNEP and has set the stage at the global level in the field of biodiversity planning among GEF eligible countries. Furthermore, UNDP assisted Turkmenistan in the preparation of its existing NBSAP and the 1st, 3rd and 4th National Reports to the CBD.

The Government of Turkmenistan has requested UNDP assistance in designing and implementing this project, due to UNDP's track record in Central Asia, and its long association with UNDP on various GEF projects. UNDP has an established national office in Ashgabat with well-developed working relationships with the key stakeholders of the project. The UNDP Country Office's Environment & Energy Unit counts on 3 professional staff, plus senior management, operations and support staff. Moreover, the project will benefit from the presence of a UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor dedicated to Biodiversity in Bratislava, Slovakia. UNDP also has extensive experience in integrated policy development, human resources development, institutional strengthening, and non-governmental and community participation.

Project's alignment with UNDP's program for Turkmenistan

In Turkmenistan, for the past three years, UNDP has supported the Ministry of Nature Protection in designing the ECONET program aiming at improving the protected area system and the proposed project will greatly benefit from experience of the Agency. This proposal will be implemented in close linkage with the environmental component of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which reads that by the end of 2009 a comprehensive approach to environmentally sustainable principles and practices is integrated into policies at all levels and into community development to improve social well-being, and will contribute to the environment and energy portfolio of UNDP Turkmenistan in achieving its country program outcome "Environmental policies and implementation aligned with international environmental principles,

standards and commitments”. Other biodiversity related projects of UNDP Turkmenistan include the ongoing support to strengthening the Khazar nature reserve in managing its biodiversity on the Caspian seashore and finalization of the enabling activity on biodiversity through updating the biodiversity strategy and action plan and establishing a clearing-house mechanism

Stakeholder involvement in the implementation of the project

The stakeholder involvement element is embedded in the description of several activities within this proposal which will have a consultative and participatory character. A full stakeholder involvement plan will be developed in connection with the preparation of the UNDP Project Document that will operationalize this proposal at the level of UNDP, allowing Turkmenistan to access the funding. This plan will depart from the following indicative and non-exhaustive list with indicative roles:

Ministry of Nature Protection	MNP will, primarily through the Deputy Minister and the department for flora and fauna protection, be responsible for the overall coordination of the project. It will also be a primary beneficiary of project activities. The MNP will chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC).
National Institute of Desert Fauna and Flora	NIDFF will work in close cooperation with the MNP. It will contribute to the project through: technical and scientific support to the design of the NBSAP and CHM; scientific support to the preparation of ecosystem valuations and other feasibility assessments. The NIDFF will be a member of the PSC.
Protected area administrations	The SNRs are an important partner in, and beneficiary of the project. They will be involved in the project through: technical inputs into the development of the NBSAP; direct support to, and involvement in, the economic valuation of ecosystem resources.
Ministry of Sport and Tourism	The MST, through the State Committee for Tourism and Sport, is an important partner in the project. It will actively participate in the review of management and governance options for various aspects of biodiversity management that will be discussed in the mainstreaming studies on the NBSAP. This ministry is especially important in respect of the administration of natural monuments and development of nature-based tourism enterprises. The MST will be a member of the PSC.
Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Water Industry	The MA and MWI will be actively involved in the project through its inputs to the feasibility assessments of climate change impacts for biodiversity.
Other sectoral ministries	A number of other ministries responsible for specific sectors (oil and gas, mining, economy, finance) will be important stakeholders for sharing the NBSAP and providing feedback. Collaboration with them will be insured by the Ministry of Nature Protection. Relevant sectoral ministries are specifically important for the assessment of options for mainstreaming of biodiversity into economic sectors.
Provincial (<i>welayat's</i>) and Local (<i>etrap</i>) Government	Te affected provincial and local municipalities are project partners that are important for the embedding of the NBSAP at the sub-national levels. Where relevant, they will actively assist in the economic valuation studies and the study of the impact of climate on biodiversity.
National and regional NGOs	The participation of NGOs and CSOs stakeholders in the implementation of this project will be ensured in every stage of it. NGOs and CSOs in Turkmenistan play an important advocacy and ‘watchdog’ role with respect to biodiversity. They also develop interesting and innovative programmes working closely with local communities. Many of them count on extensive networks of stakeholders and have produced research data that can help enrich the products that this project will be concerned with. These advantages will be explored in full during project implementation. Relevant national NGOs such as the TNPS and the TSHF will be encouraged to take active role in implementing project activities, notably in the involvement and beneficitation of local communities in the project. National and local NGOs will actively participate in the stakeholder engagement processes for all project activities. A representative from the national NGOs will be a member of the PSC.
Academic and research institutes	Relevant national and regional academic and research institutes will contribute to the project through, for example, local scientific surveys and specialist mapping.
Local communities	Local communities will be involved in the project, at various stages. They are a key target group under Key Activity I-II (preparing for NBSAP revision). Under these activities, participation of the traditional under-represented groups from communities is envisaged. Under Key Activity III, the community knowledge of the ecosystem services will be documented and taken into account when implementing the economic valuation of ecosystem services. Furthermore, the assessment of the climate implications (which is the next action under the same Activity) is going to take into account the assessment on the climate impact on the benefits and losses for communities. Community groups will further be represented in the 3 workshops, through which the NBSAP draft will be shared at the sub-national level (last action of Key Activity III).
National and local press and media	The project will cooperate with national and local press and media on public awareness issues.

Gender marking

The Constitution of Turkmenistan prohibits all forms of discrimination and provides for equal rights for men and women. The Turkmenistan government is taking steps to address gender issues. In the environment sector, UNDP helps the government to promote gender mainstreaming. UNDP land degradation and biodiversity projects, including those financed by GEF target regions

where over 50% of the population constitute women. As one example, with GEF financing, UNDP actively supports sustainable rangeland management in arid and semi-arid regions bearing in mind that women would benefit from more sustainable rangeland management practices because animal husbandry constitutes a significant portion of rural household income in Turkmenistan. UNDP seeks to make sure that over 55% of applicants for rangeland support programs are women. In this process women receive guidance for sustainable grazing, small-scale land use techniques, promoting targeted environmental education activities, and contribute to raising the incomes of their households. This knowledge and synergy with the ongoing gender marking pilots of UNDP will be used when planning the activities under the new NBSAP.

Generally, the project coordination for this proposal will ensure that gender considerations become part and parcel of the updated NBSAP. COP guidance will be followed.¹² More specifically two are worth mentioning: (i) COP Decision 1X/24 on the approval and endorsement of the CBD Gender plan of Action; and (ii) COP Decision X/19, which amongst other matters invited Parties to consider gender as a core cross-cutting issue in the implementation of biodiversity-related activities.

During the project inception the mandatory UNDP gender marker will be applied. This requires that each project in UNDP's ATLAS system be rated for gender relevance. This will for example include a brief analysis of how the project plans to achieve its environmental objective by addressing the differences in the roles and needs of women and men.

Furthermore, gender marking implies the production of the following data by the project's year 2 and by its end:

- Total number of full-time project staff that are women
- Total number of full-time project staff that are men
- Total number of Project Board members that are women
- Total number of project Board members that are men
- The number jobs created by the project that are held by women
- The number jobs created by the project that are held by men

D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:

The proposed GEF project will ensure that a national strategy and action plan guide all stakeholders and partners in the conservation of these precious resources. This is one way of making optimal use of biodiversity planning resources.

The project combines GEF funding with UNDP co-financing and a government investment in order to achieve the project objective without duplication to ensure the application of resources in the most critical areas. The government contribution to the project include the staff time of a Project Director and of support staff at the MNPT a number of project activities, organization of and participation in Project Board meetings, plus other work related to reporting, work plan approvals, signing off on CDR reports, RDPs, reviewing APRs/PIRs. In addition, information and data will be collected and provided by the MNPT, Academy of Science and other state agencies regularly over 3 years of project duration.

The cost-effectiveness of the proposed activities will further be ensured by combining government internal, national and international expertise in implementing similar projects. GEF funding of consultation costs will be kept to a minimum, as government can finance much of it from existing resources. The same applies to the national contribution to EA working groups.

The government of Turkmenistan wishes the work on the new NBSAP to be transformational from a biodiversity planning point of view, in particular with respect to the mainstreaming and ecosystem valuation aspects. This requires expertise that is not found in the country. Hence, the GEF's financing of specialized consultants and knowledge / capacity building within the framework of this project is essential to its success, to the extent that it finances the costs of going beyond what government would be able to do without foreign assistance. The GEF funding to the project will focus in overcoming this specific barrier. UNDP is well positioned to assist Turkmenistan source the necessary expertise for this EA project in a cost-effective manner.

Other options have been considered, e.g. sub-contracting an NGO to assist in NBSAP update as an entire 'package' of services to be rendered. High costs in fees from service providers would make such option less cost effective, coupled with the risk of biasing a document such as the NBSAP, which is supposed to reflect broad societal views on the national strategy for biodiversity.

The project adopts the least-cost means of achieving the project's objectives and follows the activity norms and cost benchmarks defined by GEF guidelines. It will be built upon the strong foundation of the previous developed NBSAP, Capacity Assessments and National Reports.

¹² See e.g. www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/nbsapcbw-pac-02/nbsap-nadi-scbd-gender.pdf and www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-49-en.pdf.

E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Time frame
Inception Meeting	Project Coordinator UNDP CO UNDP GEF	\$1,100	Within first two months of project start up
Inception Report	Project Team UNDP CO	None	Immediately following IW
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Purpose Indicators, Project Progress and Performance (measured on an annual basis)	Oversight by Project Manager Project team	To be finalized during the inception phase and determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annually prior to ARR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
Simplified Biodiversity Enabling Activities Annual Project Review / Project Implementation Report (APR/PIR)	Project Team UNDP-CO UNDP-GEF	None	Annually
Quarterly progress reports	Project team	None	Quarterly
CDRs	Project Manager	None	Quarterly
Lessons Learned Log	Project Manager UNDP CO Programme Staff	None	Quarterly
Terminal Report	Project team UNDP-CO local consultant	\$1,000 for printing costs	At least one month before the end of the project
Lessons learned	Project team UNDP-GEF Regional Coordinating Unit (suggested formats for documenting best practices, etc.)	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Yearly
Audit	UNDP-CO Project team	\$2,000 in total To be included in the CO audit plan.	Yearly
TOTAL indicative COST <i>Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses</i>		US\$ 4,100	

PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (<i>Month, day, year</i>)
Dr. Jumamurad SAPARMURADOV	Deputy Minister	Ministry of Nature Protection	25 May 2012

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for Biodiversity Enabling Activity approval.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (<i>Month, day, year</i>)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP		June 4, 2012	Maxim Vergeichik, Biodiversity and ecosystem management specialist for Europe and CIS, EBD	+ 421 259 337 152	maxim.vergeichik@undp.org

ANNEX A. CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ / Person Week*</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
For EA Management			
<i>Local</i>			
National Enabling Activity Manager (Estimated costs: \$17K financed by GEF and \$48,600 from UNDP. This table covers the GEF portion only)	425	40	<p>To undertake the general administrative requirements of the project, including those related to project management and funding. The key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitate, guide and monitor the work of consultants, and approve their deliverables in association with the Project Committee. ▪ Establish and maintain linkages with national and international organizations and persons which/who can be of assistance to the objectives of the Project. ▪ Provide timely reporting of project status as required by the Project Committee and the UNDP. ▪ Maintain records of Project Committee meetings, decisions, actions etc. ▪ Organize and assist in project related activities, where required. These may include planning for meetings, local and national workshops, consultations, trips, and other project related activities. ▪ Ensure that project Objective, Outcomes, Outputs and Activities are executed in a timely and appropriate manner. ▪ Develop annual work plans and budgets, and submit these to the Steering Committee and to the UNDP Country Office for approval. ▪ Develop TORs for Consultants for technical services, consultants, experts, and specifications of materials as required by the project, in communication with the Project Director/UNDP. ▪ Coordinate with other initiatives and programs whose outcomes and outputs are relevant to this project's objectives. ▪ Any other duties assigned by the Project Committee that have direct relevance to the project. <p><i>Selection criteria:</i> should have an advanced degree in management, administration, environmental management or related field with a minimum of 5 years management experience at a senior level, or an advanced degree with 3 years management experience. Knowledge and understanding of the relevant UN Convention, environmental issues in Turkmenistan, good leadership, coordination, communication, and facilitation skills are essential.</p>
For Technical Assistance			
<i>Local</i>			
NBSAP Technical Advisor	400	72	<p>To provide technical assistance and advise to the Project Manager in the implementation of the project. The key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide strategic and technical guidance to the project manager on the implementation of the project. ▪ Review Terms of Reference developed under the project and, when requested, sit on the evaluation committee and recommend bids. ▪ Advise the PM on the technical aspects of the project to ensure effective project implementation in-line with the formally approved project document in order to achieve the stated project outcomes and outputs. ▪ Provide strategic guidance to the Project Steering Committee. <p><i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Turkmenistan ➤ Biodiversity Targets for Turkmenistan: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 ➤ Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Turkmenistan ➤ Sub-product 1: Study on Ecosystem Services Valuation in Turkmenistan ➤ Sub-product 2: Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Turkmenistan ➤ Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP ➤ Fully updated and functional CHM for Turkmenistan, based on best international practice on the matter <p><i>Selection criteria:</i> should have a degree in biology or other natural resources management related area, with particular background in biodiversity conservation. Minimum 5 years' experience in national and international natural resources projects in multi-stakeholder settings, in particular concerning Biodiversity Conservation. Prior GEF project experience.</p>

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ / Person Week*</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
BD Capacity Needs Assessment Consultant	350	18	<p>The key function of this consultant is to objectively reveal Turkmenistan's capacity to effectively implement the obligations deriving from the ratification and accession of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. The key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess extent of role clarity and the level of implementation and enforcement of the CBD and its CoP guidance across all primary and secondary stakeholders in central government. ▪ Determine the level of willingness to take responsibility and provide leadership in ensuring relevant CBD obligations and activities are fulfilled. ▪ Assess whether the identified primary and secondary duty bearers have the necessary human resources to meet the specific obligations. ▪ Assess the pattern and efficacy of participation at regional technical committees and COP meetings. ▪ Based on international best practice, recommend the most suitable institutional and/or accountability structure for the effective implementation and coordination of the CBD. ▪ Identify and prioritise the capacity development needs required to effectively implement CBD obligations at all levels within central government. ▪ Generate recommendations for capacity enhancement at all levels. ▪ Generate recommendations to enable rationalisation of capacity and efficient resource allocation during implementation with other MEAs. ▪ Develop a comprehensive Capacity Development Programme and Training Action Plan for effective implementation and coordination of CBD at the district and central government levels. <p><i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Turkmenistan ➤ Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP <p><i>Selection criteria:</i> should have a degree in a discipline such as Human Resource Management or Public Administration. Proven experience in Skills Assessment, Capacity Development and Training. Minimum 5 years experience in institutional/organisational development and change management.</p>
National NBAP Review Consultant	400	20	<p>To take stock of the success of the existing NBSAP and develop national targets in line with the global Aichi Targets. The key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify the key barriers and challenges in the policy environment to effective biodiversity conservation/sustainable use. ▪ Based on existing studies and analyses, identify key gaps in the existing NBSAP. ▪ Take stock of existing plans, policies and practices in Turkmenistan that result in biodiversity conservation or loss. ▪ Identify the root causes of biodiversity loss in Turkmenistan by first identifying the threat and then the drivers behind the threats. ▪ Identify the means to overcome existing barriers and challenges. ▪ Develop a stakeholder consultation and participation plan that will ensure that the NBSAP development process is participatory, increasing the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP. <p><i>Contribution to the following deliverables:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Turkmenistan ➤ Assistance to National Enabling Activity Manager in defining the vision for biodiversity Targets for Turkmenistan: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020 ➤ Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Turkmenistan ➤ Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Turkmenistan <p><i>Selection criteria:</i> should have an advanced university degree in environmental management or related field with a minimum of 5 years management experience at a senior level. Knowledge and understanding of the relevant UN Convention, the existing NBSAP and environmental issues in Turkmenistan are essential.</p>
Environmental Economist & Finance Specialist	400	38	<p>The consultant will be responsible for assisting international Economist & Finance Specialist in carrying out the tasks under two sub-activities: i) Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation (under Component 2), and ii) the mobilisation of financing for the implementation of the Action Plan of the NBSAP and in raising awareness among key stakeholders on the NBSAP (under Component 3). Key tasks are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist in identifying and assessing the full range of values of key ecosystem services within Turkmenistan, based on

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$ / Person Week*</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
			<p>existing local, national, regional and global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g. water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assist in identifying the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use. ▪ Assist in estimation and demonstration the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods. ▪ Where appropriate, assist in identifying potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives. ▪ Assist in identifying priority Biodiversity investment needs and opportunities based on the NBSAP ▪ Assist in analyzing internal sources of finance for action in the NBSAP including i) the national budget cycle and the allocation to public administrations (ministries), ii) the budget of local governments, iii) national funds to support local development, and iv) fiscal and economic instruments. ▪ Assist in analyzing external sources of finance for actions in the NBSAP including i) bilateral sources, ii) multilateral sources, iii) regional development banks, iv) international foundations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) ▪ Assist in analyzing innovative sources of finance for actions in the NBSAP, especially fiscal measures related to: i) tourism and infrastructure development (to encourage the mainstreaming of biodiversity into their operations, ii) bank loans for investment projects. NBSAP Integrated Financing Action Plan summarising concrete activities required to mobilise BD finance for the 10-year period of the implementation of the NBSAP.
Short term experts on sectoral mainstreaming of biodiversity (5 experts)	350	60	<p>One of the critical aspects of the NBSAP preparation in Turkmenistan is analysis of how well biodiversity is integrated into various sectors. Three best short-term consultants will be hired to assist in analysis in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expert 1: agriculture including livestock management. - Expert 2: forestry, hunting - Expert 3: Energy, mining, oil and gas - Expert 4: Water management - Expert 5: Ecosystem based mitigation and adaptation. identifying, protecting and appropriately managing areas important for carbon sequestration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) updating the country's ecological gap assessment to include predicted future distribution of biodiversity under climate change scenarios; b) assessing the impact of climate change on the functioning of ecosystem services, such as water; c) identifying areas important for improving nature's ability to adapt to climate change, such as altitudinal gradients and conservation corridors d) identifying areas of particular importance for restoration in order to improve climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation. <p>The experts will produce detailed analysis of (1) current status of mainstreaming , and (2) practical recommendations for the future on improving the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the targeted sectors (in policies and in practical implementation terms). Based on their input the National Enabling Activity Manager will collate the Report on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Turkmenistan, which is one of the key inputs to Component II. The expert on climate change mitigation and adaptation will be responsible for the tasks in the project that relate to the assessment of the impact of biodiversity on the climate, and the opposite – the impact of climate on the biodiversity. This is an important aspect of biodiversity management in the country since the country is located in a zone which is prone to climate change impacts</p>

Note: Weekly amounts for and split between local and international consultants is indicative and subject to procurement guidelines of agencies and governments. Consultants will be hired in line with national recruitment procedures. Also, in accordance with both UNDP and GEF policies, no GEF project resources will be used to pay any government, agency, or NGO staff personnel.

Annex B

Chronogram of activities

Comp	Modules	Guiding activities under each module	2012				2013				2014			
			Q1	Q2	COP 11	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	COP 12	Q4
1) Stocktaking and national target setting	I. Preparation	1. Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports			X	X								
		2. Identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness			X	X								
		3. Rapid assessment of the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human well-being			X	X								
	II Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	4. Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy through national consultations			X	X	D							
2) NBSAP update	III. Strategy and action plan development	5. Developing the strategy and actions to implement the agreed targets through national consultations					X	X	X	X				
		6. Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations						X	X	X				
		7. Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations						X	X	X	X	D		
3) National frameworks for NBSAP implementation , CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities	8. Development of a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation.							X	X	X	X		
		9. Technology needs assessment								X	X	X		
		10. Development of a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP.							X	X	X	X		
	V. Institutional, monitoring, reporting and exchange	11. Development of a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation							X	X	X	X	X	
		12. Establishment/ strengthening of national coordination structures			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
		13. CHM development.			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	14. Development of indicators and monitoring approach			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	15. Fifth national report (deadline Mar 2014)					X	X	X	X	X	D			

Annex C: Budget

GEF Component (Outcome) /Atlas Activity	Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ATLAS Budget Code	Atlas Budget Description	TOTAL Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Budget Notes
Comp 1. Stocktaking and national target setting	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	8,000	4,000	4000		1
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	5,000	2,000	2000	1000	2
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	4,000	2,000	2000		3
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	2,500	2,500	0		4
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	6,000	2,000	2000	2000	5
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	1,000	1,000	0		7
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	1,100	1,100	0		9
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 1 (Comp 1)						27,600	14,600	10,000	3,000	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 1 (Comp 1)						27,600	14,600	10,000	3,000	
Comp 2. NBSAP update	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	14,000		7,000	7000	10
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	13,000		7,000	6000	1
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	23,800	7800	8,000	8,000	2
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	9,500		5,500	4,000	11
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	18,500		9,000	9,500	4
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	9,000	2,000	3,000	4,000	5
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	12
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equip	1,500	500	1,000		13
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72500	Supplies	1,000	500	500		14
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	2,500	1,000	1,000	500	15
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 2 (Comp 2)						101,800	14,800	45,000	42,000	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 2 (Comp 2)						101,800	14,800	45,000	42,000	
Comp 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	10,000	0	10,000		1
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71200	Local Consultants	5,700	1,350	3,000	1,350	11
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	6,300	3,000	1,650	1,650	16
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	4,000		2,000	2000	3
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	8,000	2,000	6,000		5
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	14,000		10,000	4,000	17
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	8,000	1,000	2,000	5000	18
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	72800	Information Technology Equipmt	9,600	0	9,600		19
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	6,000	0		6000	20

GEF Component (Outcome) /Atlas Activity	Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ATLAS Budget Code	Atlas Budget Description	TOTAL Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Budget Notes	
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 3 (Comp 3)						71,600	7,350	44,250	20,000		
TOTAL ACTIVITY 3 (Comp 3)						73,600	71,600	7,350	44,250	20,000	
Project Mgt	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	17,000	6,000	6,000	5000	23	
	NEX	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	2,000	500	500	1,000	24	
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 4 (Proj Mgt)						19,000	6,500	6,500	6,000	
	NEX	04000	UNDP TRAC - 00012	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	40,000	13,000	13,000	14,000	25	
	TRAC Subtotal Atlas Activity 4 (Proj Mgt)						40,000	13,000	13,000	14,000	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 4 (Project Management)						59,000	19,500	19,500	20,000		
SUB-TOTAL GEF						220,000	43,250	105,750	71,000		
SUB-TOTAL UNDP TRAC						40,000	13,000	13,000	14,000		
GRAND TOTAL (in cash)						260,000	56,250	118,750	85,000		

Budget Notes	
1	International contractual services in the area of NBSAP planning and preparation in line with output based TOR in Annex D in the proposal.
2	NBSAP Technical Advisor fees (@ \$400/week) 72 weeks divided btw Component 1 (7.5 weeks) and Component 2 (59.5 weeks)
3	Nat. NBSAP Review Consultant (@ \$400/week) for 20 weeks divided btw Component 1 (10 weeks) and Component 2 (10 weeks)
4	Group of experts for mainstreaming (5 short term experts; lumpsum \$21K) divided btw Component 1 (\$2.5K) and Component 2 (\$18.5K)
5	Domestic and international travel in connection with project activities (the latter is primarily regional travel for bringing two international consultants to country)
7	Translation services
9	Costs of inception workshop, round tables and discussions
10	International contractual services in the area of BD financing and ecosystem valuation in line with output based TOR in Annex D in the proposal.
11	Nat. Environmental Economist & Finance Specialist (@ \$400/week) 38 weeks divided btw Component 2 (24 weeks) and Component 3 (14 weeks)
12	Consultation Workshops, round tables and discussions
13	Costs of communication, including telephone costs and internet service provision.
14	Miscellaneous supplies (mainly stationary).
15	Translation services
16	Nat. BD Capacity Needs Assessment Consultant (@ \$350/week) 18 weeks
17	Contract with IT company for CHM and related database
18	Consultation Workshops, round tables and discussions. National BSAP workshop.
19	Equipment for CHM
20	Printing of final NBSAP and 5th Report
23	Salary for National Enabling Activity Project Manager: GEF portion corresponding to 40 weeks at \$425/week
24	Project audit
25	Salary for National Enabling Activity Project Manager: UNDP-TRAC funding co-financing (lumpsum complement of \$40.00K)

ANNEX D. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICE PROVISION: TOR FOR LAUNCHING A REQUEST FOR QUOTES

International knowledge and Capacity Building Services for integrating new global biodiversity guidance into Turkmenistan's sectoral planning frameworks, climate change response and biodiversity planning, more specifically with focus on the Aichi Targets

Introduction

Refer to Total Budget and Workplan (TBW) in Annex C of this proposal, budget notes 1 and 10, for the amount of \$45,000 in the budget reserved for the above mentioned output-based consultancy that are planned under the project. This Annex describes the work under this consultancy. The content herein will form the basis for prepare complete **Requests for Quotes**¹³ for the consultancy.

The proposed consultancies should be based on international expertise (but may engage local consultants) and may be assigned to a centre of excellence, NGO or consultancy company that can avail or put together the required specialist staff.

The complete **Requests for Quotes** prepared by UNDP¹⁴ normally have the following structure:

- i. Instructions to Offerors
- ii. General Conditions of Contract
- iii. Terms of Reference (TOR)
- iv. Proposal Submission Form
- v. Price Schedule

In this annex, **only the TOR are described**. The remainder of the chapters of the Requests for Quotes will be completed before launching the tenders.

The complete TOR for Requests for Quotes will include the following headings (Sections):

- (1) Summary
- (2) Background
- (3) Objective of the Consultancy
- (4) Scope of Work
- (4) Expected Results
- (5) Duty station
- (6) Requirements to the documents
- (7) Responsibility
- (8) Qualification requirements
- (9) Available information
- (10) Selection Process

Section 1 is presented further down and its contents may be further detailed in Section 2, though this is not included here (may be prepared later or suppressed).

Sections 5, 6 and 7 are included after the description of Section 1.

Sections 8, 9 and 10 will be completed before launching the tenders.

The indicative break-down among proposed consultants and their expertise, the number of minimum mission days and schedule of payment are to be completed when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes.

The complete scope of the work and the specific tasks for all of the proposed consultancies will also be fully developed during the project's inception phase.

¹³ With reference to the applicable procurement process for the type of services being sought and budget allocated to financing them.

¹⁴ If procurement will be carried out by DEA, their tender templates and norms will apply.

Key Sections of the TOR

(1) Summary

Turkmenistan is in the process of implementing a GEF biodiversity planning project whose objective is to integrate the country's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks through a renewed and participative 'biodiversity planning' and strategizing process. This will be achieved in a manner that is in line with the global guidance contained in the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020, including the Aichi Targets for Biodiversity.

The following key outcomes are sought as part of the project:

1) A participative stocktaking exercise on biodiversity planning takes place and national biodiversity targets are developed in response to the global Aichi Targets. A key product will be:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Turkmenistan

2) Turkmenistan's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) is revised/updated and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as mainstreaming and anchoring the implementation of the plan into national development frameworks, valuing ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience. The development of the NBSAP will be supported by the development following key studies:

- Study on Ecosystem Valuation in Turkmenistan.
- Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Turkmenistan.
- Study on the Incorporation of Challenges and Opportunities linked to Ecosystem-Based Adaptation and Resilience in Turkmenistan.

3) National frameworks for resource mobilization, Convention reporting and exchange mechanisms, including the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) of the CBD, are established and strengthened.

The ultimate goal of the project is to build national capacity within the topic of biodiversity planning. This implies procuring knowledge and capacity building services due to the specificity of the topics at hand and the technical requirements.

Hence, a **Request for Quote** is being launched in view of having services rendered by a group of specialized consultants within the following areas of expertise:

Indicative areas of expertise sought by the consultancy (may include a combination of the following):

Ecology, conservation, protected area management, mainstreaming, policy analysis with focus on biodiversity, economics, environmental economics, finance, policy analysis, law, climate change modelling, adaptation, economics, econometrics or other relevant subjects

(2) Background

[To be added when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes]

(3) Objective of the Consultancy

There are two key objectives, each corresponding to a 'block of services':

- (A) To take stock of the success of the existing NBSAP and develop national targets in line with the global Aichi Targets; and
- (B) To guide, based on the best international practice, the overall process of economic valuation of ecosystem services from biodiversity and from sustainable environmental management through sectoral scenario analysis.

(4) Scope of Work

Block of Services A) National Biodiversity Planning Stock-taking, as a key subsidy to target setting and the updated NBSAP:

To the extent possible, the work under this consultancy will be based on existing studies and analyses. It will depart from the existing NBSAP, but it will also look at any advances in knowledge development in the field of biodiversity in Turkmenistan. This is particularly important, as the existing NBSAP dates from 2003.

Key activities will include:

- Stocking of existing plans, policies and practices in Peru that result in biodiversity conservation or loss. Much of the focus will be on identifying key gaps in the existing NBSAP and related studies, policies and practices. The focus should be on a review of implementation of the 2003 NBSAP to date.
- Identify the root causes of biodiversity loss in Turkmenistan by first identifying the threat and then the drivers behind the threats. There can be talk of direct threats to biodiversity. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment classified them within the following five broad categories: (i) habitat / land use change; (ii) overexploitation; (iii) invasive alien species; (iv) pollution; and (v) climate change. This should serve as a guide. Yet, there is a need to be specific about how these apply to specific ecosystems or biomes / key ecosystems of Turkmenistan. Also, it is important to identify emerging threats and risks (i.e. potential threats). An analysis of direct threats (and risks) lead to the an analysis of threat drivers (or indirect threats) and anthropogenic activities and economic sectors are making a contribution to the problem of biodiversity loss. The analysis needs to be thorough and have national scope. Partial sub-national analyses may corroborate to the overall analysis.
- Identify the key barriers and challenges in the policy environment to effective biodiversity conservation/sustainable use. Based on the threat and threat driver analysis, the following step is the identification of barriers and challenges based on the current and potential response to threats. This includes formal policies, legal frameworks and mechanisms (e.g. taxation, subsidies, incentives) affecting biodiversity, but also practices (whether legal, illegal, formalised or not).
- From a biodiversity knowledge perspective, assuming that the knowledge on Turkmenistan's biodiversity has expanded since the previous NBSAP, identifying the means of overcoming existing knowledge barriers and challenges.
- Based on the preceding activities and a thorough literature review of relevant studies and analyses, identify key gaps in the existing NBSAP in each region, biome/key ecosystems and thereafter nationally.
- Make concrete recommendations for the structure and blueprint of Turkmenistan's new NBSAP, including for the process of setting targets, which follows the stock-taking activity.
- Finally, develop a stakeholder consultation and participation plan that will ensure that the NBSAP development process is participatory, increasing the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP.

The consultancy will also contribute to the following Outputs of the Enabling Activity project:

Output 1.1 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity planning processes at the national level are carried out in participative manner.

Output 1.2 In response to the global Aichi Targets, national biodiversity targets are developed in a manner that is attuned to Turkmenistan's reality.

Output 1.3 The achievement of national targets, developed in line with the global Aichi Targets, is duly monitored during the project duration and beyond, and this is reported upon to the CBD through national reports and other means.

Output 1.4 In an iterative manner, Turkmenistan taps into useful information on, and participates into, global networks and initiatives on biodiversity data and indicators (such as the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership¹⁵,

¹⁵ www.bipindicators.net

Global Biodiversity Information Facility¹⁶ and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre¹⁷, the Global Environment Outlook portal¹⁸, among other relevant ones).

Block of Services B) National Biodiversity Valuation, as a key subsidy to the updated NBSAP:

The consultancy will work jointly with the national expert and be responsible for carrying out the tasks under two sub-activities: i) Assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation (under Component 2), and ii) the mobilisation of financing for the implementation of the Action Plan of the NBSAP and in raising awareness among key stakeholders on the NBSAP (under Component 3).

The tasks foreseen will be carried in close collaboration with the Government.

- Provide best international examples of ecosystem valuation methodologies and work jointly with the national economic expert to adapt them to Turkmenistan context.
- Help the national consultant to identify and assess the full range of values of key ecosystem services within the country, based on global studies on the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, including: the national TEEB valuation results (if any), the valuation of protected areas, any other national ecosystem services studies that have been conducted (e.g. water, carbon), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services.
- Identify the implications of these services for different stakeholder groups within the country, including those who benefit from, and pay for, the maintenance of these ecosystem services, and those that degrade ecosystems through unsustainable use.
- Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each service), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods.
- Where appropriate, this activity will also identify potential means of capturing the value of targeted ecosystem services including through policies such as payments for ecosystem services and other positive incentives.
- Identify priority Biodiversity investment needs and opportunities based on the NBSAP
- Analyse internal sources of finance for action in the NBSAP including i) the national budget cycle and the allocation to public administrations (ministries), ii) the budget of local governments, iii) national funds to support local development, and iv) fiscal and economic instruments.
- Analyse external sources of finance for actions in the NBSAP including i) bilateral sources, ii) multilateral sources, iii) regional development banks, iv) international foundations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs)
- Analyse innovative sources of finance for actions in the NBSAP, especially fiscal measures related to: i) tourism and infrastructure development (to encourage the mainstreaming of biodiversity into their operations, ii) bank loans for investment projects.
- NBSAP Integrated Financing Action Plan summarising concrete activities required to mobilise BD finance for the 10-year period of the implementation of the NBSAP.

The consultancy will also contribute to the following Outputs of the Enabling Activity project:

Output 2.1 A National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) for Turkmenistan, anchored into national development frameworks, is updated in a manner that is participative, widely disseminated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, such as: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience.

Output 3.1 National frameworks for NBSAP implementation is in place and includes: (i) institutional leadership for implementation is established and strategic partnerships are forged (nationally and internationally); (ii) a costed and prioritized Action Plan is appended to the NBS; (iii) needs assessments on capacity, technology and finance are carried out; and (iv) a strategy for resource mobilization for the implementation of the NBSAP is produced and includes a baseline assessment of existing biodiversity finance.

¹⁶ www.gbif.org

¹⁷ www.unep-wcmc.org

¹⁸ geodata.rrcap.unep.org

(4) Expected Results

Be primarily responsible for the following deliverables:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Turkmenistan
- Sub-product 1: Study on Ecosystem Services Valuation in Turkmenistan

Make a substantive contribution to the following deliverables:

- Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Turkmenistan
- Set of 'straight-forward' and feasible NBSAP implementation plans, which ensure the effective implementation of the Action Plan contained in the NBSAP – in particular, the one on finance.
- Sub-product 2: Study on Advances in Sectoral Mainstreaming of Biodiversity in Turkmenistan

(5) Duty station:

Preferably Ashgabat.

Note: all travel expenses should be included into the breakdown of contract total amount by submission of financial proposal.

(6) Requirements to the documents

- Draft and final documents should be submitted in English in MS Word (2007 and later). Used font: Arial, size: 12;

Presentational documents should be prepared in Power Point.

[May be complemented when composing the final documentation for the Request for Quotes]

(7) Responsibility

- Agrees the above results with Project Manager;
- Works in close collaboration with the remainder teams of experts and consultants involved in the Biodiversity Enabling Activity Project
- Ensures timely and quality execution of the Terms of Reference (after due finalisation, validation and agreement); and
- Ensures unconditional implementation of requirements of the contract.