

## Turkmenistan

### Enabling Activity Proposal on Biodiversity

<b>Country:</b>	Turkmenistan
<b>Project Title:</b>	Biodiversity Strategy, Action Plan and National Report with Clearing House Mechanism
<b>GEF Focal area:</b>	Biodiversity
<b>Country Eligibility:</b>	CBD ratified 18 June 1996
<b>GEF financing:</b>	\$ 303,540
<b>Government contribution:</b>	In kind \$ 13,000
<b>Other Financing:</b>	\$ 16,000 (British Know-How Fund and Flora and Fauna International)
<b>GEF implementing agency:</b>	UNDP
<b>National Executing Agency:</b>	Ministry of Environment Protection
<b>GEF Operational Focal Point:</b>	Ministry of Environment Protection
<b>CBD Focal Point:</b>	Director of National Institute of Deserts, Flora & Fauna, Ministry of Environment Protection - Dr. Khabibulla Atamuradov
<b>Estimated Starting Date:</b>	July 2000
<b>Project Duration:</b>	12 Months

#### **Background/Context**

Since ancient times, Turkmenistan's people have had a strong relationship with nature. Indeed, less than three generations ago, a significant percentage of the population was still of a nomad character and depended heavily on the availability of good pastures and on carefully respecting the limits posed by sustainable resource use.

Turkmenistan has a significant diversity of fauna and flora. The country's different geomorphological, and climatic characteristics result in the existence of 13 natural regions. The Republic has over 2,800 plant species, 103 species of mammals, 397 species of birds, 82 species of reptiles, 67 species of amphibians, and 107 species of fish. Of these, 372 plants, 31 mammals, 39 birds, 1 amphibian, 21 reptiles, and 13 species of fish are rare, endemic, and under threat of extinction<sup>1</sup>. The table below summarises known faunal biodiversity in Turkmenistan:

*Table 1: Faunal Diversity in Turkmenistan*

	<b>Order</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Genus</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Subspecies</b>
Mammals	7	14	44	103	110
Birds	18	54	168	397	516
Reptiles	2	14	41	82	89
Amphibians	1	2	2	5	0
Fish	12	19	63	107	137
Cyclostomata	1	1	1	1	0
Total	41	103	319	695	852

As examples of the richness and also the threats against this fauna, Turkmenistan still hosts a small population of leopards (*Panthera pardus*), though the species is under serious threat of

<sup>1</sup> Research data on rare, endemic, and under threat of extinction species are set forth in the publication entitled "Conserving Biodiversity of Central Asia: Turkmenistan", which is produced jointly by the Ministry of Environment Protection of Turkmenistan and the World Wildlife Fund. The figures for other species have been taken from scientific studies compiled in the Red Data Book of Turkmenistan 1999. These data have been included into the global database of World "MABfauna" Information Ecology Center, California, USA.

extinction. Leopards are sporadically spotted in the Kopet-Dag and Badkhyz reserves. However, outside the boundaries of these protected areas, shepherds shoot leopards in order to protect their herds. Today, the leopard population is estimated at around 40 individuals and merits urgent protection measures. There also exists a population of gazelles (*Gazella subgutturosa*), a highly endangered species found in the Badkhyz reserve. Up to the 1930s, researchers had recorded herds of thousands of these gazelles. Today the population has fallen by 70%, and though their hunting is prohibited, current enforcement capacities cannot stop poaching. Other flagship, though threatened, species include the Shovel-Nose Sturgeon, found only in the Amu Darya and Syr Darya rivers, the Manul cat (*Felis manul*) found in Bakharden, and the Wild Ass or Onager (*Equus hemionus onager*) found in Badkhyz. Biodiversity loss also occurs as a consequence of anthropogenic desertification that stretches over 40 million hectares. This process of degradation and reduction in the area of natural vegetation occurs in the arid and semi-arid regions of the country.

The Caspian Sea, which is the largest inland water body in the world, is a significant contributor to Turkmenistan's biodiversity. It has been separated from the other seas since the beginning of the post glacial period and has not only preserved the rich late-Tertiary flora and fauna of marine origin, but has also been influenced by later inputs, particularly of freshwater origin. Turkmenistan has more than 500 kilometres of shoreline, in which the wetlands of Krasnovodsky Bay stand as a particularly important place in terms of biodiversity richness. The relevance of the Caspian Sea to this project is due to its great number of endemic species of both plants and animals. Most of these endemics belong to the Herring and Bullhead families of which the seven species and subspecies of Sturgeon are of importance. The main threats to biodiversity in the Caspian are represented by overexploitation of fisheries and non-trivial levels of pollution.

In recent years a number of factors have resulted in damage to the environment and to its biodiversity. The major impacts include:

1. The development and transformation of the natural habitat area, for example the loss of tree cover and shrubs, soil erosion and soil salination, overuse of rivers for irrigation and human settlement;
2. Extensive use of pesticides and release of untreated sewage;
3. Poorly controlled poaching and hunting of animals, including rare and endangered species, and their disturbance even within protected areas;
4. The encroachment of shepherds and local villagers into the protected areas and their surrounding areas seeking essential food and fuel resources;
5. The impact of economic growth, such as energy production, infrastructure development, establishment of new industrial plants and pipelines on the natural environment.
6. Insufficient capacity of the system of protected areas to protect biological diversity

In view of the situation described above, it has now become an urgent priority for Turkmenistan to develop its Biodiversity Action Plan, through a broad consultative process involving many different groups of stakeholders. In the following sections, the approach and methodology that will be used in developing the BSAP are described in greater detail.

### **Project objectives and short description**

The main aim of the project is to assist the Government of Turkmenistan prepare a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) that will analyse the major issues affecting biodiversity, identify strategic priorities and actions to protect ecological systems, and the integration of conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity into development plans of the Turkmenistan Republic<sup>2</sup>. Summarily, the project will produce the following outputs:

---

<sup>2</sup> A detailed description of activities is given in Criterion 2 "Appropriate Sequencing of Activities" and in the Timetable of Activities in Annex 2.

### *A Country Study*

The Country Study will provide an overview of the current status of biodiversity in the country (without new primary research), the current level of protection and related factors such as economics, institutional capacity and traditional practices. This review will include an inventory of species, an analysis of species richness and the threats to biodiversity, along with their underlying or root causes.

### *A BSAP*

Using the analysis carried out in the Country Study, the BSAP will identify general and specific objectives for conserving biodiversity at a national level. An action plan will be developed that outlines the activities to be undertaken in order to meet the objectives of the BSAP. The action plan will show priorities for undertaking work together with budgets and time-scales. The principles and approaches for biodiversity conservation will be developed, in line with those in the CBD, together with the national framework that will implement the plan.

### *A First National Report*

The Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Turkmenistan will be used as the basis of the First National Report, which will meet the obligation contained in Article 26 of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

A participatory planning approach characterizes this project, which also counts with strong public awareness components. An important principle used in the planning and preparation process of the BSAP will be the involvement of all relevant stakeholders such as government agencies, scientific and academic institutions, NGOs, local authorities, community representatives, donors, and protected area staff. Stakeholder participation will be ensured through a series of public consultations, discussions and planning workshops. In addition, a public awareness programme will be undertaken to increase understanding of Biodiversity and the need for its protection. The implementation of the BSAP will be led by the government agencies and will count with the participation of those ministries with authority over economic, social, and public investment issues. Their participation will ensure that biodiversity conservation is incorporated into national development plans. The stakeholder participation during the preparation will also help to mobilise public support, the active involvement of the NGOs, and potential external funding.

## **Operational Criteria**

### **Criterion 1 – Coverage Without Duplication**

The Government of Turkmenistan, with the technical and financial support of UNDP, started the National Environmental Programme for Turkmenistan (NEPT) in July 1998. The NEPT is aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Environment Protection, reviewing and improving environmental legislation, introducing Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures (as a requirement in public and private investments), increasing public awareness and strengthening local technical capacity.

One of the most important activities of the NEPT will be the identification of key environmental problems that have significant negative impact on the economy and social welfare. Based on this analysis, the NEPT will propose a range of priority actions through a process of wide consultation and active participation of NGOs, academia, private sector and governmental institutions. The output of this process will be an agreed National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) that will serve as a tool for resource mobilisation and proper natural resource planning. The NEAP will be co-ordinated by the Ministry of Environment Protection

and guided by a Steering Group set up under the National Commission for the Implementation of UN Environmental Conventions and Programmes (CIC).

The Government of Turkmenistan and UNDP fully agreed on the importance and strategic fit of a BSAP that is closely coordinated with, and complemented by, the NEPT. In this context, the request for GEF financial assistance in developing the BSAP provides a strategic avenue for incorporating the protection of biodiversity conservation into national sustainable development plans. The NEPT in general, and the NEAP in particular, will ensure that the long-expected economic take off of Turkmenistan is guided by the principles of sustainable resource use. The NEPT and NEAP will also ensure that attention is paid, and national financial resources are directed to, solving the most pressing environmental problems of the country. These actions are within the best interests of Turkmenistan and the country considers them as part of its national responsibilities. On top of these baseline activities, the development and implementation of a BSAP that is tightly coordinated with the NEPT will ensure that the protection of biodiversity of global significance is incorporated into local sustainable development strategies. The country will also consider incorporating into the BSAP the priorities contained in the guidelines for the top-ups.

In order to ensure that there is no duplication of any activities currently taking place in the country, the First Deputy Minister of Environment Protection, who serves as chair of the NEAP Working Group, will also chair the BSAP working group. He will report on a quarterly basis to the Vice Premier who is the chair of the CIC, and has oversight of the progress and plans of all national environmental programmes. The project will be co-ordinated by the Ministry of Environment Protection with assistance from international expertise for training activities, various aspects of project management and technical advice on the facilitation of the BSAP process. The First National Report will be prepared in accordance with guidance provided by the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Finally, the BSAP will incorporate all relevant information from existing studies and other data held by the Ministry of Environment Protection, institutions, the private sector and NGOs, in particular, data from “Conserving Biodiversity of Central Asia: Turkmenistan” and the “Red Data Book of Turkmenistan 1999”. The process will involve a series of consultations with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, in workshops and round-table discussions. All of the main participants will be trained in biodiversity planning and participatory techniques.

**Table 2: Activity Matrix<sup>3</sup>**

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments
		Inst. Strength.	Training		
<b>Commitment</b>					
<i>Stage 1: Initial preparation, planning and consultation</i>					
Appoint project co-ordinator (PC)		X			
Formalize Steering Committee	X	X		X	
Produce support materials	X	X	X		
Consultations with key stakeholders			X	X	
Stakeholder participation plan	X	X	X	X	
Appoint national consultants			X		
Formation of Working Groups	X				

<sup>3</sup> Please, note that the NEPT and some local publications in biodiversity related issues stand as main activities related to biodiversity conservation and planning. That is why the Activity Matrix shows almost no comments. The particular actions aimed at avoiding duplication with the NEPT, as well as those aimed at incorporating the information from local publications and other data sources into the BSAP process, are explained in Criterion 1 and Criterion 2 respectively.

Finalise and agree the work plan	X	X	X		
Inception Report	X				

*(It continues in next page)*

(It continues from previous page)

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments
		Inst. Strength.	Training		
<b>Commitment</b>					
<b>Stage 2: Information collection, evaluation &amp; Country Study</b>					
State of knowledge on biodiversity/ecosystems status	X				No primary research
Cross Sectoral Issues	X		X		
Policy Framework	X				
Regulatory mechanisms	X				
Assess human and institutional capacity needs	X		X	X	
Root causes analysis	X	X	X		
Impact assessment and trend estimation	X	X	X		
Technologies for Sust. Manag. Of Biodiversity	X		X		
Ongoing available tools for mitigation	X		X		
Country Study (CS) preparation			X		
Publish Country Study	X				
Presentation of CS in Ashgabat and 4 regional Forums	X		X	X	
Further public consultation /feedback			X	X	
Progress Report	X				
<b>Stage 3: Preparation of Biodiversity Strategy &amp; Action Plan</b>					
Determination of Objectives	X		X	X	
Identification, analysis and determination of Issues and Priorities	X		X		
Integration with NEPT		X	X		
Strategies for Conservation	X	X	X	X	
Strategies for Sustainable Use	X	X	X	X	
Strategies for Benefit Sharing	X	X	X	X	
Draft Biodiversity Strategy & AP (BSAP)	X				
BSAP reviews in Ashgabat and 4 regional centres	X			X	
Publish Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan	X				
Progress Report	X				
<b>Stage 4: Launching of Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan</b>					
Formal launch/promotion of BSAP			X	X	
Regional Launching activities			X	X	
Completion of Public Awareness	X	X	X	X	
Government adoption of the BSAP	X	X			
Submission of 1 <sup>st</sup> Nat Rep to CBD	X				
Final project Report	X				

## Criterion 2 – Appropriate Sequencing of Activities

All activities foreseen in the project will be completed within 12 months. The workplan has been designed to enabling the Ministry of Environment Protection of Turkmenistan to follow through on the planning cycle and ensure high levels of consultation and participation of all stakeholders. The following key stages have been identified based on existing guidelines and the experiences of other countries in the region:

### *Stage 1: Initial Preparation, planning and consultation*

The project will be co-ordinated by the Ministry of Environment Protection, with assistance from international experts for training activities, various aspects of project management and technical advice on the facilitation of the BSAP process. The First Deputy Minister of Environment Protection, who serves as chair of the NEAP Working Group, will chair the BSAP process. The Ministry of Environment Protection will designate a national Project Coordinator to handle day-to-day coordination and management activities.

The BSAP team will take the form of a Project Unit composed by a Project Coordinator and 4 local specialists from the natural and social sciences. Working groups will be formed covering the areas of legal and policy issues, institutional aspects, in-situ and ex-situ biodiversity conservation, development and sustainable use of biodiversity, training, awareness, and participation. The local specialists from the Project Unit will direct the activities of these working groups.

The Project Unit through its Project Coordinator will report to a Steering Committee formed by representatives of the government, NGOs, academic institutions, and UNDP. The Steering Committee will have coordinating and consultative functions, provide overall direction to the activities of the project unit, and will have the authority to make decisions on changes to project timetable and activities.

There will be an initial round of consultations with those stakeholders directly involved in the project. The main objective of the consultations will be to refresh the process leading to the CS and BSAP and discuss the priority themes that should be addressed during the BSAP process. The work plan will be reviewed and agreed, and an inception report prepared.

*Stage 2: Information collection, evaluation and presentation of the Country Study*

The process will be launched by first briefing the selected national consultants on the goal and methods for data collection, assessment of the socio-economic situation, status of biological diversity, threat identification, and planning techniques. Support materials will be provided to maximise the capacity building resulting from the CS process, together with training and workshop materials to facilitate broad participation and planning.

The information will be collected in two phases. The first one will involve a preliminary information gathering effort by local experts recruited in this project. The results will be discussed and analysed among national experts with the participation of international consultants. Based on these discussions, a second information gathering effort will fill the remaining gaps. This process of collecting and collating information will fully take into account existing data, in particular, the sources of “Conserving Biodiversity of Central Asia: Turkmenistan” and the Red Data Book of Turkmenistan 1999. However, additional information gathering and consultations will be required to clearly identify threats, root causes, trends, cross sectoral issues, and potential use and value of biological resources. No new primary research will be carried out. The analysis of the collected data will be done in collaboration between local and international experts and will lead to the identification of biodiversity and ecosystem status, threat and root causes of biodiversity loss, the impact of the policy framework and regulatory mechanisms on biodiversity, impact trend estimation, human and institutional capacity needs, and current available tools for mitigation

The results of this stocktaking, inventory and analysis will be used to prepare a Country Study for Turkmenistan. This document will be an information source, on the basis of which consultations with key stakeholders will be undertaken to help identify the options to conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity and to plan appropriate actions. In regards to the latter, there will be a national planning workshop to strengthen local capacities in biodiversity planning with a view to the preparation of the BSAP. International experts will facilitate the workshop. The process leading to the CS will also produce basic information for the public awareness programme to be designed to support the BSAP process.

The Country Study will be presented in Ashgabat and in 4 public local forums outside the capital to ensure widespread dissemination of the information gathered and ensure public participation in the discussion of its findings. The choice of four public forums allows the document to be presented in the principal cities and towns of Turkmenistan. There will be a

further round of consultations with the NGOs, government units, and academia participating in the CS/BSAP work to discuss the results of the public forums. International experts will assist in the preparation and editing of the CS so as to ensure that its format complies with international standards. The CS document will be printed in Russian, Turkmenistan, and English.

*Stage 3: Preparation of the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan*

The main working lines of a first draft action plan will be developed through consultations, analysis of information from CS, and a planning workshop involving the BSAP team with assistance of international experts. The result will be a document having preliminary proposed avenues of action. In turn, this document will be discussed in a 4-day National Action Planning workshop with the participation of key stakeholders, including environment and other sectors, NGOs, local authorities, donors, industry and the private sector. The BSAP team with the help of international experts will take the results of this workshop and produce a first draft action plan.

The draft action plan will delineate strategies for conservation of biodiversity, its sustainable use and benefit sharing and will also include components to develop the sector of eco-tourism (financed by the Know-How fund) and the identification of financial mechanisms to support biodiversity conservation. The draft action plan will fully take into account the work being carried out by the NEPT so as to ensure that biodiversity conservation is integrated within local sustainable development plans. This participatory approach will lead to increased capacity building for biodiversity planning, greater levels of public awareness and promotion of cross-sectoral coordination.

The document produced by the BSAP team, the first draft action plan, will be subjected to a further round of consultations with key stakeholders so as to ensure that the draft document has fully taken into account workshops inputs, and to add amendments and corrections as necessary. This will result in the development of a second draft of the BSAP, which will be subjected to a public review in Ashgabat and in 4 public forums around the country. The inputs from these public reviews, which will be facilitated by international experts, will be incorporated into the second draft BSAP and a final version prepared. International experts will assist in the preparation and editing of the BSAP so as to ensure that its format complies with international standards. The document will be printed in Russian, Turkmenistan, and English.

*Stage 4: Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan Launch, Implementation and Submission of First Nation Report.*

The BSAP will be formally launched in a public presentation in Ashgabat and additional 4 regional ones so as to ensure wide dissemination of information and public awareness about its contents. In view of the full involvement of all relevant government units in the preparation of the CS and BSAP, the formal adoption of the document by the government is expected to happen soon after the public presentation of the BSAP.

It is expected that the government will establish a unit entrusted with the coordination and implementation of the BSAP. This unit would oversee the initial priority needs and manage the ongoing planning and sustainable use of biodiversity. The specifics regarding composition of this unit will be defined throughout the BSAP process and is expected to have formal mechanisms to include inputs from NGOs, academia, the private sector, and foreign donors. Finally, the country will submit the first national report of Turkmenistan to the CBD in pursuant to decision II/17 of the Conference of the Parties.



### **Criterion 3 – Best Practice**

The Project will follow established and widely accepted guidelines. These will include *Guidelines for the Preparation of Biodiversity Country Studies*, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme, and *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Country Experiences*, prepared by the World Resources Institute (WRI), UNEP and the World Conservation Union (IUCN). All activities will also strive, within the particular conditions of the country, to:

- make full use of regional and local expertise
- address the social concerns of affected human populations, while at the same time meeting biodiversity conservation requirements
- build co-operation at local, regional and international levels and make use of the facilities provided by the Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention
- be based on national priorities and in accordance with the Republic's conditions
- be conducted in a participatory manner involving stakeholders from governmental, non-governmental and private sectors
- promote the sustainability of project benefits and offer potential contribution to experience in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components
- facilitate access to other international, national and private sector funds and scientific and technical co-operation
- become part of the country's normal decision-making processes

### **Criterion 4 – Cost-effectiveness**

The Project will use existing information available to the Ministry of Environment Protection and other relevant organisations. No other research will take place within its time-scale. The Project will be managed by the Ministry of Environment Protection using the mechanisms that currently coordinate the preparation of the NEAP. This process will enable considerable savings in establishment costs and contribute to the reduction in management costs. The indicative budget is shown in Annex 1 and is consistent with the cost benchmarks indicated in the Annex B of the GEF Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities.

Table 3: Cost Benchmarks for Enabling Activities in Biodiversity  
(it includes non-GEF contributions)

Cost Benchmarks	Product (preparation and execution of an activity)		Process (Stakeholder consultation, consensus building)		Total (\$)		Explanations of Deviations
	Turkmenistan EA	Cost Benchmark GEF	Turkmenistan EA	Cost Benchmark (GEF)	Turkmenistan EA	Cost Benchmark (GEF)	
Stakeholder and Inventory of Existing Information,	28,039	20,000-35,000		0,0,	28,039	20,000-35,000	-----
Identification and Analysis of Options	39,808	30,000-40,000	153,586	80,000-160,000	193,395	110,000-200,000	-----
Preparation of a Strategy and an Action Plan	28,696	20,000-30,000	51,996	40,000-60,000	80,692	60,000-90,000	-----
First National Report	13,657	10,000-15,000	9,757	0-10,000	23,414	10,000-25,000	-----
Clearing House Mechanism			0		7,000	1500-14,000	-----
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,201</b>	<b>80,000-120,000</b>	<b>215,339</b>	<b>120,000-230,000</b>	<b>332,540</b>	<b>201,500-364,000</b>	Total costs, which includes non-GEF contributions are within the GEF cost benchmark

Table 4: CHM Cost Benchmarks (in US\$ dollars)

Items	Estimated Cost Norm.	Actual Proposed	Comments on deviations from norm
Hardware (PC of appropriate configuration)	0 - 4000	3,700	-----
Software (Internet browsers and required software)	0 - 1000	1,000	-----
Modem	0 - 500	300	-----
Recurrent Access Costs to Internet Service Provider	0 - 3800	1,500	-----
Technician Set-Up Fees	500 - 700	500	-----
Internet and Email training	1000 - 4000	0,0	No need for such training.
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,500 - 14,000</b>	<b>7,000</b>	Total cost within the GEF norm

### **Institutional Framework and Project Implementation**

The Ministry of Environment Protection will implement the project. The United Nations Development Programme will be the GEF implementing agency and its local office will provide project support. The project will be implemented following the standard UNDP National Execution Guidelines.

The Ministry of Environment Protection will designate a National Project Director. The Ministry will also constitute a Project Steering Committee to provide overall policy and planning guidance, and to monitor project progress. The Steering Committee will have broad-based representation from various ministries and NGOs to ensure inter-agency coordination. It is anticipated that the members of the Steering Committee will continue as biodiversity focal points in their respective ministries after the completion of the SAP.

Under the supervision of UNDP, the Ministry of Environment Protection will be responsible inter alia for: Recruitment of International and National Consultants, including candidate search/selection, preparation of TORs, supervision; Project Coordination, including organisation of regular meetings with project implementing agency, Steering Committee, Technical Committees; Financial Management and Accountability, issuance of payments, training staff on financial disbursements and reporting, ensuring complete and timeliness of financial reporting; Technical Reporting, including preparation of progress reports; Monitoring and evaluation; Organisation of Training/Workshop Activities; Awareness Raising, including dissemination of relevant information to host and other countries, sharing training materials; Procurement of Equipment, including preparation of specifications, identifying suppliers for goods and services, evaluating contracts, awarding contracts, and authorising payment.

The Project Coordinator will assume the lead responsibility for organizing the various project workshops and the preparation of the CS and BSAP documents. International consultants will be recruited for short assignments to provide familiarization with biodiversity planning approaches, to facilitate workshops, and to provide expertise in different issues as appropriate.

The Project Coordinator will assume responsibility for organising a Tripartite Review in month 8. This will evaluate project performance in accordance with the work plan provided in Annex 2. The Coordinator of the project will present a report of project performance and recommendations for the TPR meeting. UNDP/GEF and the Steering Committee might require additional reports during the course of project implementation. A project final report will be prepared during project termination stage (no less than 1 month before actual termination). The report will be discussed and approved by the Steering Committee, project team, and UNDP. The Project Coordinator will provide regular reports (every three months) on project activities.

Following UNDP standard procedures, projects have to be audited by an internationally recognized firm at least once in the project lifetime. For this GEF project, there will one audit in month 10. The Project Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that the external audit takes place as specified in this project document.

## Annex 1: Project Budget

Stage	Product	Process	Total	%
<b>Stakeholder and Inventory of Existing Information, including social assessment</b>				
<i>National Consultants</i>	4,125	0	4,125	14.7
<i>International Consultants</i>	10,000	0	10,000	35.7
<i>Office facilities and equipment</i>	1,500	0	1,500	5.3
<i>Translation</i>	1,200	0	1,200	4.3
<i>Recruitment of local experts (advertising, etc.)</i>	2,000	0	2,000	7.1
<i>Training workshop and consultation</i>	5,000	0	5,000	17.8
<i>Auditing and Evaluation</i>	1,714	0	1,714	6.1
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	2,500	0	2,500	8.9
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>28,039</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28,039</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Identification and Analysis of Options</b>				
<i>National Consultants</i>	6,313	28,563	34,875	18.0
<i>International Consultants</i>	10,300	45,700	56,000	29.0
<i>Office facilities and equipment</i>	3,950	12,150	16,100	8.3
<i>Publishing costs</i>	5,000	1,500	6,500	3.4
<i>Public Awareness Campaign</i>	2,000	7,000	9,000	4.7
<i>Workshops</i>	1,400	14,600	16,000	8.3
<i>Program development in Ecotourism (non-GEF funds)</i>	1,500	6,500	8,000	4.1
<i>Translation</i>	1,000	4,600	5,600	2.9
<i>Training, Briefing and consultations</i>	1,300	12,700	14,000	7.2
<i>Auditing and Evaluation</i>	3,846	9,824	13,670	7.1
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	3,200	10,450	13,650	7.1
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>39,808</b>	<b>153,586</b>	<b>193,395</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Preparation of a Strategy and an Action Plan</b>				
<i>National Consultants</i>	2,000	5,000	7,000	8.7
<i>International Consultants</i>	5,000	10,000	15,000	18.6
<i>Office facilities and equipment</i>	3,250	3,250	6,500	8.1
<i>Publishing costs</i>	5,900	1,100	7,000	8.7
<i>Public Awareness Campaign</i>	2,500	9,000	11,500	14.3
<i>Translation</i>	3,000	3,000	6,000	7.4
<i>Workshop and consultation</i>	4,100	11,700	15,800	19.6
<i>Auditing and Evaluation</i>	2,346	5,346	7,692	9.5
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	600	3,600	4,200	5.2
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>28,696</b>	<b>51,996</b>	<b>80,692</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>First National Report</b>				
<i>National Consultants</i>	2,500	2,000	4,500	19.2
<i>International Consultants</i>	5,000	3,000	8,000	34.2
<i>Office facilities and equipment</i>	1,100	500	1,600	6.8
<i>Public Awareness Campaign</i>	2,500	2,500	5,000	21.4
<i>Translation</i>	1,200	400	1,600	6.8
<i>Auditing and Evaluation</i>	857	857	1,714	7.3
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	500	500	1,000	4.3
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>13,657</b>	<b>9,757</b>	<b>23,414</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Clearing House Mechanism</b>				
			7,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,201</b>	<b>215,339</b>	<b>332,540</b>	

Annex 2: Workplan (in weeks)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<b>Enabling Activities Work Plan</b>	<b>Participants*</b>										
<i>Stage 1: Initial preparation, planning and consultation</i>											
Appoint project co-ordinator (PC)											
Establish & equip project office											
Produce TORs for consultants											
Formalize Steering Committee											
Advertise for national consultants											
Produce initial briefing material											
Produce support materials											
General consultations with MEP											
Consultations with key stakeholders											
Consultations with potential donors											
Produce Workshop Materials											
Stakeholder participation plan											
Interview national consultants											
Appoint national consultants											
Brief project team											
Finalize and agree work plan											
Inception Report											

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
<b>Stage 2: Information collection, evaluation &amp; Country Study</b>	<b>Participants*</b>																					
Format for information gathering						PC/IC																
1 day briefing of national consultants						PC/IC/MEP/PT																
Preliminary information gathering						PT																
Collation of preliminary information						PC/PT																
Dissemination of information						PC																
4 day National Planning Workshop						KS/MEP/IS/PC/PT																
Further information gathering						PT																
Produce public awareness plan						PC/IC																
Implement Public awareness (PA)						PC/IC																
Country Study (CS) preparation						PC/PT																
CS Translation						PC																
Final edit of Country Study						PC/IC																
Publish Country Study						PC																
Presentation of CS in Ashghabat						UNDP/KS/MEP/IS/PC/PT																
4 local CS public forums						KS/MEP/IS/PC/PT																
Further public consultation /feedback						PC/Public																
Progress Report						PC																

Enabling Activities Work Plan	Participants*	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49
<b>Stage 3: Preparation of Biodiversity Strategy &amp; Action Plan</b>																													
Preparation of Action Plan W/S	PC																												
4-day Action Planning WS	KS/MEP/IS/PC/PT																												
Draft Action Plan produced	PC/PT																												
Biodiversity Project Training																													
Follow up on priority projects																													
Public Awareness Prog.																													
Ecotourism action/strategy																													
Consultations on draft AC	PC/KS/MEP																												
Priority financial mechanisms	PC/KS/MEP/IC																												
Draft BSAP	PC/PT/IC																												
1 day review of the BSAP	KS/MEP/IS/PC/PT																												
4 local BSAP reviews	KS/MEP/PC/PT																												
Amendments made to the BSAP	PC/PT																												
Final edit Biodiv Strat & Action Plan	PC/IC																												
Publish Biodiv Strat & Action Plan	PC																												
Progress Report	PC																												

Stage 4: Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan implementation	Participants*	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	
Preparation launch of BSAP	PC/IC																								
Priority financial mechanisms follow up	PC/IC																								
Establish BSAP Co-ordination mech	PC/MEP																								
Formal launch / promotion of BSAP	UNDP/MEP/KS+																								
Regional Launch activities	PC/MEP/PT																								
Completion of Public Awareness																									
Government adoption of the BSAP	MEP/PC																								
Submission of 1st Nat Rep to CBD	MEP/PC																								
Final project Report	PC																								
Implementation of BSAP actions	MEP/KS																								

\*Participants Abbreviations:

- PC= Project Co-ordinator,
- MEP = Ministry of Environment Protection,
- PT= Protected Areas Team,
- KS= Key Stakeholders (other sectors, donors, institutions, private sector & media),
- IC= International Consultants

