

REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL**

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Country | Uganda |
| Project Title | Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plan & National Report |
| GEF Focal Area | Biodiversity |
| Country Eligibility | CBD ratified in 1993 |
| GEF Financing Request | US\$ 125,000 |
| Government Contribution | In-kind |
| GEF Implementing Agency | World Bank |
| National Executing Agency | National Environment Management Authority |
| GEF Operational Focal Point | Ministry of Planning and Economic Development |
| CBD Focal Point | National Environment Management Authority |
| Estimated Starting Date | <u>June 1997</u> |
| Project Duration | <u>12 months</u> |

I. Background/Context

Uganda is a landlocked country located in the Eastern-Central part of the African continent and lies astride the equator, extending between 1° South and 4° North of the Equator. It has a surface area of 241,038 km², of which about 197,096 km² (82%) is land area and the remaining 43,942 km² (18%) is open water and permanent swamps. The relief of the country displays great contrasts, which bear significant influence on the physical and biological environments. The lowest point is located at 620m in the western Great Rift Valley of East Africa while the highest point lies at 5,111m on the snow-capped peaks of Rwenzori Mountains. The bulk of the country lies between 900m and 1500m, with less than 10% above and below these altitudes, respectively.

Due to its location near the heart of the continent and astride the equator, and the range of altitude and large lakes, Uganda has a diversity of climatic conditions. This diversity translates into a variety of ecological systems, which are particularly related to variations in annual rainfall. The rainfall zones support a variety of ecological zones, ranging from humid tropical and tropical savanna on one hand to dry savanna and semi-arid systems on the other. In the highlands and mountains of the country, montane and Afro-alpine ecological systems are well represented. Furthermore, Uganda lies in a zone of overlap between six of Africa's main vegetation regions.

Uganda is among six African countries regarded as internationally important for biodiversity. Seven of the mainland Africa's 18 bio-geographical regions are found in Uganda, more than any other country on the continent. Uganda is third in Africa in the number of mammal species, fourth in the number of bird species and has a wide variety of insect species. Furthermore, the country possesses over 50% the world's population of mountain gorillas, an endangered species. The protected areas, which include National Parks, Wildlife Reserves and Forest Reserves, cover 13% of the area, and provide habitats for rich indigenous fauna, including more than 40 different species of primates, ungulates, carnivores and other relatively large mammals. There are 15 mammalian species and sub-species endemic to Uganda. Uganda's extensive fresh water lakes

and swamps contain very rich biodiversity ranging from tropical high hydrophytes to plankton to both large to very small fish species.

Uganda's contribution to global biodiversity, therefore, is in three main areas: (a) the diversity of vegetation species ranging from semi-desert, tropical high forest and savanna to montane vegetation communities; (b) the diversity of fauna ranging from large mammals to small insects, some of which are either endangered or threatened; and (c) the diversity of aquatic flora and fauna in the extensive wetlands and fresh water lakes.

Nonetheless, there is growing concern about the accelerated rate of degradation and deterioration of many of these natural resources. This degradation is mainly attributed to increased population pressure on the resources, adverse utilization methods and inadequate management capacity. The main threats to biodiversity stem from agricultural expansion, overgrazing by livestock, illegal hunting and poaching, and overfishing. Agriculture is a backbone of Uganda's economy, accounting for over 50% of Gross Domestic Product, a trend which is expected to continue. With a population growth rate of 2.5%, continued agricultural expansion are anticipated. Expansion of the agriculture competes with and potentially threatens biodiversity habitats. Agricultural modernization could also lead to genetic erosion through the introduction of high yielding varieties, crop replacement and changes in cropping patterns and land-use.

In 1991, the Government of Uganda started developing a National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) which is now under implementation. The NEAP provides a framework for addressing the above problems as well as a strategy for integrating environmental concerns into the national socio-economic planning and development process. The institutional framework has been improved with the formation of the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), whose mandate is cross-sectoral coordination, supervision and monitoring environmental management in the country. Further reforms have been made in the wildlife sector by integrating the National Parks and Game Department to form the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA), for effective management of the country's wildlife; and in the Forestry sector, extensive inventory activities have been carried out under various initiatives including the GEF-funded regional project, "Institutional Support for the Protection of East African Biodiversity". Improvements in policies and management have also been made in the fisheries sector to ensure sustainability.

II. Project Objectives and Short Description

The main objective of the proposed project is to prepare a Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) in accordance with Articles 6 and 8 of the CBD and to identify priority actions for the conservation and sustainable use of Uganda's biodiversity. The project will, in addition provide resources for the Government to prepare its first National Report to the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

The BSAP will serve as a benchmark for enhancing capacity of Government and other stakeholders in various fields related to biodiversity and in identifying priority areas for biodiversity conservation in Uganda. Through the regional and national workshops and through public information efforts, increased public awareness of the benefits of biodiversity conservation will be achieved. The aim of the workshops is to involve all of the stakeholders who are dependent on the biological resources and incorporate their views and issues into the

Strategy. The project will also provide a framework for cross-sectoral cooperation in biodiversity conservation, especially in innovations, promotion and transfer of new technologies for biodiversity conservation.

A steering committee, comprising among others, the Uganda Wildlife Authority, the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO), the Forest Department and the NEMA Natural Resource Management Specialist (Biodiversity), representatives from line ministries, NGOs, academic institutions and the private sector, will prepare a detailed work plan and terms of reference for the national consultants and the international consultant. The latter will have technical background in biodiversity conservation, will participate in regional and national workshops, and comment on the work products (including the draft and final BSAP and National Report).

The steering committee and the consultants will participate in overlapping tasks of: a) summarizing existing information on Uganda's biodiversity; b) participating in working groups to formulate policies and actions of the BSAP; c) preparing the BSAP; d) preparing the National Report.

III. Operational Criteria

Coverage without Duplication

The Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) will expand on and complement already on-going or completed initiatives, especially the Uganda Country Study on Biodiversity and field documents from the GEF-funded regional projects: "Institutional Support for the Protection of East African Biodiversity" and "Lake Victoria Environment Management Program".

In addition, the BSAP will build on the policies and priorities identified in the National Environment Action Plan (NEAP), and other sectoral policies and action/management plans. This will ensure that the BSAP and first National Report to the COP are completed in the most cost-effective manner.

Time Plan and Sequencing

The BSAP will be produced over a period of 12 months according to the schedule outlined below, starting in June 1997. The general sequence of activities will be: 1) establishment of a steering committee; 2) selection of consultants; 3) stocktaking; 4) analysis of options and holding of 4 regional workshops; 5) preparation of the Draft BSAP; 6) holding of a national workshop; 7) preparation of the final BSAP and National Report based upon inputs from the national and regional workshops. The brief stocktaking activities will focus on collecting existing information from sources to complement and fill the gaps in the Uganda Country Study. The stocktaking will involve evaluation of information in terms of current status, trends and national needs of biodiversity resources; cross-sectoral issues; and policy and regulatory frameworks.

| Activity/month | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Establishment of steering committee | x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Recruitment of national consultants and international consultant | x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Finalization of TOR for consultants | x | x | | | | | | | | | | |
| Preparation of work plan | x | x | | | | | | | | | | |
| Review of stocktaking materials, preparation of chapters, assessment of gaps | | | x | x | | | | | | | | |
| Analysis and assessment of options | | | | | x | | | | | | | |
| 4 Regional workshops | | | | | | x | x | | | | | |
| Preparation of draft BSAP | | | | | | | x | x | x | | | |
| National workshop to present BSAP | | | | | | | | | | x | | |
| Review of BSAP, revision based on comments | | | | | | | | | | x | x | x |
| Public awareness campaign | | | | | | | | x | x | x | x | x |
| Preparation of National Report to COP | | | | | | | x | | | | x | x |

Best Practice

The Uganda BSAP will comply with the best practices and lessons learned from GEF projects in Uganda and in other countries. The BSAP will be prepared by Ugandans from the public and private sectors and NGOs through a cross-sectoral process that builds on the participation of the general public. The BSAP is envisioned as a living document that will continually develop as data gaps are filled and the actions are implemented.

The proposal is designed based on the "Guidelines for Preparation of Biodiversity Country Studies" (UNEP 1993), the guidelines and recommendations found in "National Biodiversity Planning" (WRI, UNEP, IUCN 1995) and the criteria for best practice outlined in the "Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities: Biodiversity" (GEF 1996).

Cost Effectiveness

The Uganda BSAP will be prepared in an accelerated schedule (12 months), and will rely exclusively on existing materials including the Uganda Country Study and field documents from the GEF "Institutional Support for East African Biodiversity".

Deviations from Criteria and Norms

None.

IV. Institutional Framework and Project Implementation

The National Environment Management Authority will be the lead coordinating agency for the project. To facilitate mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation into sectoral planning, the

project will be led by a broad based steering committee from: sectoral line ministries including: Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries; Natural Resources; Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities; and Local Government. Academic and research institutions such as Makerere University, the private sector and NGOs including the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), World Wildlife Fund (WWF), African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), East African Wildlife Society (EAWF), Wildlife Clubs of Uganda, and the Uganda National Farmers Association.

The steering committee will focus on developing constituencies across sectors for the strategy, give sound advice and guidance in the vision and direction of the strategy activities, and see that long-term implementation becomes a reality. The committee will actively participate in the implementation of certain components of the planning process. They will draft the terms of reference for the BSAP, will be represented in the working groups and chair those for which they can provide expertise. The committee will meet regularly to review progress, discuss options for action, review objectives and draft documents, and build consensus between the different stakeholders.

V. Project Financing

| | Product | Process | Total |
|---|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Stocktaking and inventory of existing information | 13,000 | | 13,000 |
| National consultants & working groups | 11,000 | - | 11,000 |
| Documentation | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| Identification and Analysis of options | 17,000 | 40,000 | 57,000 |
| International consultant | 4,000 | 4,000 | 8,000 |
| National consultants and working groups | 10,000 | 8,000 | 18,000 |
| Working group meetings | - | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| 4 Regional workshops | - | 16,000 | 16,000 |
| Travel etc. | 3,000 | 8,000 | 11,000 |
| Preparation of a Strategy & an Action Plan | 13,000 | 21,000 | 35,000 |
| National consultants | 9,000 | 8,000 | 17,000 |
| International consultant | 4,000 | 4,000 | 8,000 |
| 1 National workshop | - | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| Dissemination of drafts | - | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| First National Report | 7,000 | 4,000 | 11,000 |
| Public awareness campaign | - | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| Publication of BSAP | 5,000 | - | 5,000 |
| Promotion, misc. | 2,000 | - | 2,000 |
| Coordination and Management costs | 5,000 | 5,000 | 10,000 |
| Total | 55,000 | 70,000 | 125,000 |

ANNEX: Activity Matrix, Uganda Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

| Enabling Activity | Output | Capacity Building | | Public Participation | Comments |
|--|------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| | | Planning Execution | Institutional strength | | |
| <i>Stocktaking and Assessment, based on Existing Information</i> | | | | | |
| Biodiversity and biological resources | w, x, etc. | | | | 1 |
| Cross sectoral issues | x | | | | 1 |
| Policy and regulatory framework | x | | | | 1 |
| Institutional & human capacity | x | | | | 1 |
| Analysis of root causes of BD loss | x | | | | 1 |
| Technologies for Conservation and sustainable use | x | | | | 1 |
| Activities with adverse impacts | x | | | | 1 |
| Existing measures and programs | x | | | | 1 |
| Preliminary statement of objectives | | | | | 1 |
| Identification of gaps | | | | | 1 |
| Assessment of existing needs | | | | | 1 |
| <i>Identification of gaps to meet the objectives of the CBD</i> | | | | | |
| Strategies for conservation | x | x | x | x | |
| Strategies for sustainable use | x | x | x | x | |
| Strategies for benefit sharing | x | x | x | x | |
| <i>Planning and preparation of a strategy and plan</i> | | | | | |
| National strategy | x | x | x | x | 2 |
| National action plan | x | x | x | x | 2 |
| <i>Planning and preparation of the first National Report</i> | | | | | |
| First national report | x | | | | |

Legend

X: Activity to be undertaken by the project

W: Existing materials are available from the literature to be used

Activity Matrix comments

1. A Biodiversity Country Study was completed in 1991 with external assistance; this will be summarized for the BSAP stocktaking exercise. The Country Study is comprehensive and together with Field documents from the GEF-funded project "Institutional Support for East African Biodiversity" and Documents from the NEAP process, it should be adequate without a need for additional research.
2. These strategies will be developed with the assistance of an international consultant.



In any correspondence on
this subject please quote No.....

ED/C/GEF/1/00

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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TRILEX:

19th June, 1997.

The Chief Executive Office/Chairman
Global Environment Facility
1818 H Street N.W.
WASHINGTON D.C. 20433

RE: NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

The Government of Uganda herewith requests for financial assistance from the global Environment Facility (GEF) through the world Bank as a GEF Implementing Agency for an enabling activity to develop a national biological Diversity Strategy and Action Plan; and to produce the First National Report to the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The proposed activity is not part of any project for which funding has been requested nor approved. The cost of the activity is estimated to be US \$ 125,000 for which the Government of Uganda is requesting GEF support. The Government of Uganda will provide addition resources in-kind to supplement GEF efforts.

The activity will be implemented by Government through national Environment Management Authority (NEMA) which will work closely with the World Bank in all the stages of the activity.


C.M. Kassami
PERMANENT SECRETARY