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THE WORLD BANK/IFC/MIGA

# OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 1995

TO: Mr. Ian Johnson, GEF Secretariat

FROM: Ken Newcombe, Chief, ENVGC

EXTENSION: 36010

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 12, 1995 GEFOP Meeting - PDF Block B Requests

Please find attached a PDF block B request for consideration at the October 12, 1995 GEFOP meeting:

## PDF block B

**Uganda: Biodiversity Strategy & Conservation in Non-Protected Areas**

### Attachments

#### Distribution:

Messrs./Mmes:

- I. Johnson, GEF Secretariat (Fax: 23240)
- R. Asenjo, UNDP (Fax: 212-906-6998)
- W. Mansfield, UNEP (Nairobi) (Fax: 9-011-254-2-520-825)
- R. Khanna, UNEP (Washington) (Fax: 202-331-9333)
- S. Li, Biological Diversity Convention Secretariat (Fax: 9-011-41-22-797 2512)
- P. Vellinga, Vice-Chair STAP (Fax: 9-011-254-2-520-825)

cc: Messrs./Mmes. L. Vidicus, R. Broadfield, K. Mackinnon,  
J. Suter (ENVGC); S. Ganguly (AF2AF)

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## PROPOSAL FOR PDF BLOCK B GRANT

Country:	Uganda
Project Title :	Biodiversity Strategy and Conservation in Non-Protected Areas
Project Cost:	About US\$8.00 million
Requesting Agency:	Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities
PDF Funds requested :	US\$334,000
Financing Plan:	GEF            US\$6.00 million Gvt            US\$500,000 Co-financing US\$1.5 million (target)
Block A Grant Awarded	No
Block B Grant Awarded	No

### Summary Project Objectives and Description:

1. The overall objective of the project is to encourage sustainable use of biodiversity and more equitable sharing of benefits through implementation of a program for participatory management, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity outside protected areas, regions with high concentrations of native wildlife. The specific objectives are to: (i) rapidly survey and assess the flora and fauna and natural resource base of the Kararoja and Aswa Lulim region to determine areas of high biodiversity; (ii) integrate wildlife management and biodiversity conservation into the district and sub-county development planning process; and (iii) build the capacity at the local level to implement community-based wildlife management programs. This project will be associated with the proposed World Bank Protected Area Management and Sustainable Use (PAMSU) project currently under preparation. The two projects have been designed to complement each other and together the programs will ensure conservation and sustainable use and management of the biological resources both inside and outside protected areas. As part of the process of preparation of the GEF project, a draft national biodiversity strategy and action plan will be prepared, which will outline a comprehensive program of further action to conserve the country's biodiversity heritage. Overall preparation would be vested with the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities (MTWA).

### Eligibility:

2. In September 1993 the Government of Uganda (GOU) ratified the *Convention on Biological Diversity*. In addition it has ratified the CITES and the *Ramsar Convention* on wetlands. The Government's commitment to environmental protection and sustainable natural resource conservation and management is laid out in the Uganda Biodiversity Country Study, prepared with UNEP assistance, and in the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), which was supported by the World Bank and other donors and approved by Parliament in June 1994. In the NEAP the Government makes a commitment to conserving biodiversity both inside and outside protected areas.

3. The activities proposed under the project are in accordance with GEF programming guidelines for 1995 and are consistent with COP guidance. The project includes support for the following program priorities: strengthening conservation, management and sustainable use of ecosystems and habitats in semi-arid lands; and strengthening involvement of local people in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity through innovative measures, which integrate social dimensions and include economic incentives..

**Description of PDF Activities by Component for GEF-funding:**

4. PDF grant funds are requested for the following priority activities for project preparation:

- (a) Preparation of a Draft Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan in line with the UNEP guidelines. The Plan would: (i) provide recommendations for addressing technical, information, institutional, policy needs for conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and maintenance of key habitats; (ii) identify priority actions and projects for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity; (iii) identify institutional arrangements and costs for its implementation; and (iv) define a plan for monitoring and implementation of the action plan activities.
- (b) Rapid surveys to assess fauna, flora and land use patterns in the Karamoja and Aswa Lulim regions to determine areas of high biodiversity value outside the existing protected area system. The Karamoja area supports important populations of species such as greater and lesser kudu, cheetah, beisa oryx and roan antelope which are rare elsewhere in Uganda. Aswa Lulim lies adjacent to Murchison Falls National Park and is an important dispersal area for big game. These surveys will identify areas with good wildlife populations and potential for local community wildlife management.
- (c) Initiate consultations, participation and training in pilot communities, building on local knowledge and utilisation of wildlife resources, to build local capacity and enable community groups and decentralized authorities to participate effectively in wildlife management. This will include: defining channels of communication between the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and district authorities; identification and evaluation of community groups and associations empowered to develop and manage wildlife resources, providing training and resources to develop and deploy a cadre of local expertise for extension activities in wildlife management.
- (d) Identification and preparation of pilot community wildlife management projects in priority areas identified under component (b), to be funded under the proposed GEF project.

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<sup>1</sup> This will complement and extend work being undertaken by GOK and the Makerere University Institute for Environment and Natural Resources, with funding from the EU, to carry out preliminary large scale (primarily aerial and remote sensing) surveys of the Karamoja area.

**National Level Support:**

5. Over the past ten months a series of participatory meetings sponsored by MTWA were held to develop a strategy for revising the institutional and legislative framework for wildlife management and biodiversity conservation in Uganda. Participants included government ministries and departments involved in land and natural resource management (forest, fisheries), NGOs (local and international), multilateral and bilateral donors, private sector (including representatives from the tourism industry).

6. The strategy calls for the creation of a new parastatal which the GOU is now in the process of establishing. The new entity will be called the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) which will combine and replace the existing parastatal Uganda National Parks (UNP) and the Game Department. The UWA will have primary responsibility together with the Forest and Fisheries Departments, for the conservation, management and sustainable use of all Uganda's flora and fauna. The GOU is committed to the establishment of UWA and has secured assistance from a variety of donors including EU, USAID, and some international NGOs

7. During the course of these strategy meetings the concept for this project was developed and consensus was reached on priority activities for GEF funding. MTWA and UWA will contribute staff time and logistical support to complement the preparation resources. As this project will focus on assistance at the district level, it will provide support to strengthen the capacity of the District Technical Planning Committees already established in each district.

8. The total cost of the activities relating to the preparation of the project amounts to US\$744,000, of which GEF is requested to contribute US\$334,000 of PIDF Block B funds. The preparation plan is summarized in the attached table. Overall preparation would be managed through the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities (MTWA). Under the PAMSU project the GOU has established a Project Steering Committee (PSC) and has set up a project preparation office with a full time Project Coordinator which will also undertake the preparation for the GEF project.

**Justification:**

9. Due to its location in a zone of overlap between the dry East African savannah and the West African rain forest, Uganda possesses a rich natural endowment of forests, mountains, and waterways and some of the richest assemblages of biological diversity in Africa. Its wide geographical and altitudinal range, spanning from 600 m to 5100 meters, has resulted in a unique diversity of ecosystems and species. These include extensive wetlands and swamp areas, grass and woodland savannahs, tropical high forests, and Afroalpine habitats. For its size, Uganda is one of the most species rich countries in Africa. For example, Uganda has more than 11% of the world's bird species and more than 7% of total world mammals.

10. Uganda has an extensive system of protected areas, including ten national parks, and twenty-nine game reserves, sanctuaries, and controlled hunting areas. However, due to the breakdown of law and order since the 1970's, a significant portion of Uganda's protected area system has deteriorated and severe encroachment has occurred. Revitalization of the protected area system has been initiated and programs to assist in these activities will be supported through the proposed PAMSU project.

11. While much of Uganda's biodiversity resources are encompassed within the protected area system, a significant portion of the country's biodiversity and unique ecosystems exist outside the protected areas. These resources are severely threatened by over-exploitation, habitat conversion, and other effects of economic development programs and policies. Survival of these biological resources depends on compatible land use practices, and the cooperation and participation of residents and sectoral development agencies. This project would facilitate a participatory approach aimed towards the conservation and sustainable management of the resource base. It would also promote more equitable sharing of benefits from biodiversity conservation.

### Items to be Financed:

12. The requested PDF grant would finance the costs of activities outlined in the attached table, including workshops and seminars, supplies, and local and international consultants to assist the GOU in defining the detailed activities and costs of each of the project subcomponents. As part of preparation the issue of financial mechanisms for long term sustainability will also be addressed. In addition to the GEF PDF resources, the European Union is providing cofunding of US\$400,000 for the preparation of related activities which will contribute to the development of the GEF project. The World Bank is providing PPF assistance of US\$820,000 for the preparation of the GEF associated project (PAMSU) to be supported by IDA and potential co-financiers; these associated preparation activities will complement preparation of the GEF project.

### Preparation Costs:

ACTIVITIES	PDF US\$	EU US\$
Draft Biodiversity Strategy	55,000	
Floral, Faunal and Land Use Pattern Surveys		
(i) data collection	75,000	95,000
(ii) analysis and assessment	25,000	30,000
Local and District Capacity Building		
(i) assessment of existing institutional framework and capacity	15,000	
(ii) local wildlife management capacity development	65,000	135,000
Institutional and Legal Support *	20,000	10,000
Long-term financial mechanisms	15,000	
Identification and Preparation of Community Wildlife Management Pilot Projects	50,000	70,000
Logistics and Support	24,000	60,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$344,000</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>

Bank Task Manager: Nathalie Johnson