

REQUEST FOR CEO APPROVAL¹

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-Size Project
TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Developing National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Provincial Planning					
Country(ies):	Viet Nam	GEF Project ID:	4826		
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4811		
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Natural Resources	Submission Date:	February 14, 2012		
	and Environment (MONRE)	Re-Submission:	March 13, 2012		
GEF Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	36		
Name of Parent Program:	N/A	Agency Fee (\$):	90,909		
For SFM/REDD+					

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK²

Focal Area Objectives*	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Indicative Financing from the GEF TF (\$)	Indicative Co- financing (\$)
BD-5: Integrate CBD	Outcome 5.1:	Number and type of	826,446	4,113,500
Obligations into	Development and	development and		
National Planning	sectoral planning	sectoral planning		
Processes through	frameworks that	frameworks that include		
Enabling Activities.	integrate biodiversity	measurable biodiversity		
	conservation and	conservation and		
	sustainable use targets.	sustainable use targets.		
Subtotal			826,446	4,113,500
Project management cost ³			82,645	436,500
Total project costs			909,091	4,550,000

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

MSP Objective: Strengthen biodiversity conservation by (1) increasing the supply of policy relevant, actionable information through preparation of a new NBSAP in line with Viet Nam's Biodiversity Law and the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020; and (2) by building capacity at the provincial level to mainstream biodiversity priorities into land use planning.

Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
• New	TA	1.1 10-year NBSAP with	1.1.1 Enhanced institutional	211,800	1,920,000
NBSAP		clear institutional design	arrangements and capacities to		
and 5 th		and financing plan	synthesize, analyze, and report		
National		approved by government	on performance toward		
Report to		by 12/2012 . To include:	biodiversity targets in place. To		
CBD		 Prioritizing biodiversity 	include:		
prepared		through economic	 Participatory stocktaking of 		
in		valuation of goods and	biodiversity status and		ļ
complian		services.	trends, institutional		

¹It is important to consult the GEF Preparation Guidelines when completing this template.

²Refer to the <u>Focal Area/LDCF/SCCF Results Framework</u> when filling up the table in item A.

³This 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.

Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
ce with Biodivers ity Law and CBD Strategic Plan 2011- 2020.		 Restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services. Assessment of protected area design and management effectiveness. Conservation status of selected species (re)assessed based on international criteria, e.g., Red List. Assessment of rules and procedures for species reintroductions. 	responses, and policy options conducted, and priorities and national targets set in line with Aichi Biodiversity Targets (ABTs) and for setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy • Strengthening of national coordination structures for monitoring and oversight system in place to ensure that NBSAP priorities are achieved. • Establish partnerships nationally and internationally to capitalize on existing technical and financial resources. • Regular multi-sectoral consultation mechanism in place to address emerging threats and opportunities. 1.1.2 Relevant implementation plans developed though national consultations, to include indicators and monitoring approach for NBSAP implementation • plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation. • Technology needs assessment • communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP. • plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation • assessment • communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP. • plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation • assessment of opportunities of mainstreaming into selected sectoral plans such as development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations 1.2.1 The causes and		
		trends, causes and	consequences of biodiversity		

Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
		consequences; and actions communicated nationally and internationally. To include: • Submit 5th National Report to CBD by 3/2014. • Include latest biodiversity data in annual SOE report to National Assembly. • geo-referenced map of key biodiversity information; • systematising data and information relevant for the various CBD programmes of work and themes that are relevant for Viet Nam	loss assessed (based on available information) highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human wellbeing; Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports; Identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness, preparation of thematic reports e.g., wildlife trade, protected area management experience, biodiversity financing, incentive frameworks driving decision making at provincial levels to feed into NBSAP and 5th National Report 1.2.2 National biodiversity database framework and Clearing House Mechanism established with updated, geo referenced information on biodiversity conditions at national and subnational levels. Includes: Existing maps and data from multiple national and international sources. Results of targeted field surveys to fill key information gaps.		
2. Provincial commit ment and capacity strength ened to impleme nt NBSAP.	TA	2.1 Provincial capacity for NBSAP implementation, including spatial biodiversity assessment, biodiversity financing, enhanced and mechanism in place to report on biodiversity status and good practice from provincial to national levels	 2.1.1 Increased capacity of provincial authorities nationwide to implement NBSAP and to report on progress. Includes: Guidelines to integrate NBSAP priorities into development plans. 3 regional training courses for 150 provincial staff on how to implement NBSAP to aid application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations Guidelines to prepare biodiversity financing plans 	614,646	2,193,500

Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
		 2.2 NBSAP priorities implemented in 2 provinces⁴ through: Updated land use planning procedures and revised land use maps. Biodiversity criteria tested and proposed for inclusion in provincial performance assessment systems. hands-on preparation of 'Spatial Biodiversity Assessments' (SBAs) for the two target provinces 	based on strategic analysis of financing needs, gaps, and opportunities from state budget and other sources. Capacity to obtain, assess and use data in spatial biodiversity map preparation for the province 2.2.1 Provincial capacity built in 2 provinces to integrate biodiversity into spatial planning and influence annual development plans: Access relevant data and information nationally and at provincial level. Analyze land use and development plans for biodiversity impacts and consistency with NBSAP targets. Test and evaluate tools and techniques to integrate NBSAP priorities and targets into land use plans. Institutional mechanisms to coordinate with other projects and programs to ensure consistency with NBSAP priorities. Propose tested biodiversity performance criteria in performance evaluation systems. 2.2.2 Experience and lessons learned from 2 pilot provinces documented and shared nationally.		
Subtotal				826,446	4,113,500
MSP Managen	nent Cos	t		82,645	436,500
Total MSP Co	ost			909,091	4,550,000

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 $^{^4}$ Choice of provinces is subject to thorough national consultations and will be finally made at LPAC stage

C. SOURCES OF CONFIRMED CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME (\$)

Sources of Co- financing	Name of Co-financier (source)	Type of Co- financing	Co-financing Amount (\$)
NGO	IUCN	Grant	250,000
Bilateral	JICA	Grant	3,800,000
Government	MONRE	Grant	178,500
Government	MONRE	In-kind	21,500
UNDP	UNDP	Grant	300,000
Total Co-financing	4,550,000		

D. GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

GEF	Type of Trust		Country		(in \$)	
Agency	Fund	Focal Area	Name	Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity (Focal Area Set Aside)	Viet Nam	220,000	22,000	242,000
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity (STAR)	Viet Nam	689,091	68,909	758,000
Total Grant Resources				909,091	90,909	1,000,000

E. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	[GEF only] Estimated Person-Weeks	Grant Amount (\$)	Co financing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
Sub-Total Local consultants*	340	254,700	300,000	554,700
Training experts	50	37,200	0	37,200
Policy experts	61	45,750	0	45,750
Financing experts	24	18,000	0	18,000
Planning experts	68	51,000	0	51,000
Biodiversity experts	137	102,750	0	102,750
Technical support from project national stakeholders / co-financiers*	-	0	300,000	300,000
Sub-Total International consultants*	24	72,000	500,000	572,000
Biodiversity and planning experts	24	72,000	0	72,000
Technical support from project international stakeholders / co-financiers*	-	0	500,000	500,000
Total		326,700	800,000	1,126,700

^{*} Details are provided in Annex C.

F. PROJECT MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	[GEF only] Total Estimated Person- Weeks	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
Local consultants*	228	64,200	171,500	235,700
Equipment and furniture		5,000	0	5,000
Travel		8,000	235,000	243,000
Others: Miscellaneous: bank transfer fees, telephone costs, postages costs, insurance and security costs, plus unforeseen expenses, including exchange rate fluctuations etc.		5,445	30,000	35,445
TOTAL		82,645	436,500	519,145

^{*}Details to be provided in Annex C and in the UNDP Total Budget and Workplan..

G. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A "NON-GRANT" INSTRUMENT?

-- No. --

H. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M &E PLAN

The Project's M&E Plan Is Thoroughly Described In The UNDP PRODOC. For More Detail, Refer To Section IV. 'Monitoring Framework and Evaluation'. The table below provides a summary

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ Excluding project team staff time	Time frame
Inception Workshop and Report	Project ManagerUNDP CO, UNDP GEF	Indicative cost: 10,000	Within first two months of project start up
Measurement of Means of Verification of project results.	 UNDP GEF RTA/Project Manager will oversee the hiring of specific studies and institutions, and delegate responsibilities to relevant team members. 	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop.	Start, mid and end of project (during evaluation cycle) and annually when required.
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Progress on <i>output and</i> <i>implementation</i>	Oversight by Project ManagerProject team	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annually prior to ARR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
ARR/PIR	Project manager and teamUNDP CO; UNDP RTA; UNDP EEG	None	Annually
Periodic status/ progress reports	 Project manager and team 	None	Quarterly
Final Evaluation	 Project manager and team, UNDP CO; UNDP RCU; External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team) 	20,000	At least three months before the end of project implementation
Project Terminal Report	Project manager and teamUNDP CO	Printing costs, if any	At least three months before the end of the project
Audit	 UNDP CO; Project manager and team 	Indicative cost per year: 2,000 x 2= 4,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites	 UNDP CO; UNDP RCU (as appropriate); Government representatives 	For GEF supported projects, paid from IA fees and operational budget	Yearly
TOTAL indicative COST Excluding project team staff time	and UNDP staff and travel expenses	US\$ 34,000	

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.1. THE GEF FOCAL AREA/LDCF/SCCF STRATEGIES:

For more detail, refer to the UNDP PRODOC, SECTION II 'Strategy', Chapters 2.1 'Policy Conformity' and 2.2 'Country Ownership'. Below is a summary

The proposed project is consistent with BD5 Objective: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities (herein serving as the Project Development Goal); and Focal Area Outcome 5.1: Development and sectoral planning frameworks at country level integrate measurable biodiversity conservation and sustainable use targets. The project's GEF budget will come from the Focal Area Set Aside (FAS) under the Biodiversity window and it meets at least two of the six criteria for accessing the FAS as follows: (1) The project is relevant to the objectives of GEF's biodiversity strategy: it is a foundation activity for capacitating countries in biodiversity planning⁵, so they can more effectively contribute to the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services, which is the central goal of the GEF V Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy; and (2) It supports priorities identified by the COP of the CBD: the project directly supports essential biodiversity planning steps in the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020 approved in Nagoya, in particular CBD Parties' obligations to review their NBSAPs in light of new Convention guidance, to establishing targets in line with the Aichi Targets and to expand their institutional, monitoring, reporting and information exchange frameworks that support the implementation of the CBD at the national level (including resource mobilisation and the development of fully fledged CHMs). Access to the FAS is limited to \$220,000, which is the cost benchmark per country established by the GEF for Enabling Activities under the FAS. The remainder of GEF funds to the project will come from a prioritisation of Viet Nam's STAR biodiversity allocation, exactly because this project is seen as a priority for the country.

Furthermore, the project is designed to ensure that the revised NBSAP is a relevant policy instrument, effectively integrated into development plans, development finance, as well as plans, strategies and policies aimed at managing climate risk; and that convention reporting and the CHM frameworks are produced in a cost-effective manner and with technical quality.

A.1.2. FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES: N/A

A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS, IF APPLICABLE, I.E. NAPAS, NAPS, NBSAPS, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, TNAS, NIPS, PRSPS, NPFE, ETC.:

For more detail, refer to the UNDP PRODOC, SECTION II 'Strategy', Chapters 2.1 'Policy Conformity' and 2.2 'Country Ownership'. Relevant paragraphs are reproduced below.

The project directly addresses Article 6 of the CBD, which requires Parties to: "(i) develop national strategies, plans or programmes for biodiversity, or adapt existing strategies, plans or programmes; and (ii) integrate biodiversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies". It also addresses numerous CBD decisions related to NBSAPs, of which $\underline{\text{Decision } X/2}$ is particularly worth stressing. It urged Parties to: "(i) develop national and regional targets, using the Strategic Plan and its Aichi Targets, as a flexible framework, in accordance with national priorities and capacities [...] with a view to contributing to collective global efforts to reach the global targets, and report to COP

⁵Biodiversity Planning can be defined as the process of incrementally addressing, in an iterative and cyclical manner, the priorities of the CBD through participative planning and strategizing activities. As discussed in early guidance on the theme, "Biodiversity planning [...] is a process, not an isolated event or product. It is adaptive, developing as it goes along and responding to change. It is cyclical insofar as the main components are reiterated over several years. A strategy needs not and should not try to do everything at once. It can grow in scope, ambition, and degree of participation as human, institutional, infrastructure, and financial capacities increase." From Miller and Lanou (1995) *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Experiences around the World.* WRI/UNEP/IUCN; adapted from Carew-Reid et al. (1994) *Strategies for National Sustainable Development: a Handbook for their Planning and Implementation.* IIED/IUCN.

11 (2012); (ii) review, and as appropriate update and revise NBSAPs, in line with the Strategic Plan and Decision IX/9, and adopt as a policy instrument, and report thereon to the COP 11 or 12 (2012 or 2014); (iii) use NBSAPs as effective instruments for the integration of biodiversity targets into national development and poverty reduction policies and strategies, [...] economic sectors and spatial planning processes, by Government and the private sector at all levels; and (iv) Monitor and review the implementation of NBSAPs [...] and report to the COP." More importantly, the project is a direct contribution to the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020 at both at the national and global levels.

The project is consistent with Vietnam's current NBSAP (1995), which had the long term goal of "protecting the abundance and uniqueness of the country's biodiversity for the sake of sustainable development". The NBSAP laid out the status of Vietnam's biodiversity, threats to them and priority actions for their conservation. As a follow up to the NBSAP, keeping in view the rapidly evolving national socio-economic development context, the government of Vietnam developed a short addendum to the NBAP in 2007. This (the Prime Minister's decision no. 79/2007/QD-TTG of May 31, 2007) presented key new targets as "National Action Plan on Biodiversity up to 2010 and orientations towards 2020 for implementation of the convention on biological diversity and the Cartagena protocol on biosafety". This project is fully consistent with the priorities of the NBSAP and the 2007 Prime Ministerial decision. The project is also consistent with the government's priorities as outlined in its 4th National Report to the CBD, which has noted several ongoing challenges to biodiversity conservation that need to be addressed. The proposed project will assist Viet Nam update its NBSAP to overcome those challenges. Vietnam's National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (2006) has also identified the need "to develop National Biodiversity Action Plan (revised BAP)" as a priority and thus this project is also fully consistent with the findings of this assessment. The project's Outcomes 2 focuses on fostering greater ownership and capacity building in the Provincial and sub-provincial levels. This is consistent with the 1995 NBSAP, which had clearly identified the need for local government to implement this national strategy and had also envisioned the development of provincial biodiversity plans. The Prime Minister's decision in 2007 also called for strong involvement of local governments and local communities in the implementation of biodiversity targets.

The project is consistent with the Biodiversity Law of 2008 which specifies roles of MONRE and provincial authorities in biodiversity conservation. The Law highlights the importance of biodiversity conservation planning both at national and national level, conservation and sustainable development of natural eco-system, species and genetic resources, and requires to have mechanisms and resources for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. By development of NBSAP, strengthening capacity both at national and provincial level for implementation and monitoring of NBSAP, and piloting mainstreaming biodiversity priorities into land-use planning at two provinces, the project provides great lesson learns for biodiversity conservation planning and conservation of species in Vietnam, as required by the law. By focusing on strengthening provincial capacity for implementation of the newly developed NBSAP and mainstreaming biodiversity into provincial land use plan of two selected provinces, the project also contributes to strengthening provincial capacity for development of biodiversity master planning required by Biodiversity Law and Decree 65/2010/ND-CP on guiding implementation of the Biodiversity Law. Furthermore the project is consistent with the 2005 Law on Environmental Protection, the 1998 Water Law, and the 2004 Forest Law. The project is also in line with the direction of the national strategy for environmental protection and strategic Orientation for sustainable development (Vietnam Agenda 21) which emphasizes the importance of biodiversity conservation.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW

B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

For more detail, refer to the UNDP PRODOC, Secion I 'Situation Analysis', where the project's context is thoroughly described. Below are some of additional information pertaining to previous Enabling Activities and CBD Obligations, which compose the 'Baseline' or Point of Departure for the project.

Background: The GEF and NBSAPs. Since the early 1990s, Biodiversity Enabling Activities (BD EA) financed by the GEF have assisted GEF-eligible countries in fulfilling their obligations under the CBD, including through the development of NBSAPs, the establishment of country-driven Clearing House Mechanisms (CHM) and the preparation of periodic reports to the COPs of the CBD. The goal has been to enable countries to prepare the foundation for further biodiversity work, and to design and implement effective measures for achieving CBD's objectives.

NBSAPs are considered to be the primary strategy for national implementation of the Convention and the CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020, and are required by all Parties in Article 6(a) of the CBD. So far 171 countries have completed their NBSAPs which have been considered as an instrument to help defining national and sub-national biodiversity priorities around the world. Viet Nam's history of reporting to the CBD is summarized in the following table. Although there is no CHM, there is a web portal and there are partner NGOs that assist in maintaining some information about biodiversity in Vietnam (e.g., www.amnh.org/science/papers/vietnam.php).

National Reports	Date of Submission	Current Status	Comments		
	to CBD Secretariat				
1 st NBSAP	30/11/1994	Submitted	Very out of date		
2 nd NBSAP	11/4/2008	Submitted	Minor update for 2007-2010		
			period		
3 rd NBSAP	31/3/2012	Not yet started	Funding applied under this project		
1 st National Report	9/2/1998	Submitted			
2 nd National Report	24/7/2001	Submitted			
3 rd National Report	19/3/2006	Submitted			
4 th National Report	21/4/2009	Submitted			
5 th National Report	31/3/2014	Not yet started	Funding applied under this project		
Interim Biosafety Report	8/3/2006	Submitted			
1 st Biosafety Report	14/12/2007	Submitted			
2 nd Biosafety Report	30/9/2011	Submitted			
СНМ					
CHM link(s): http://vea.gov.vr	n/VN/quanlymt/baotondadangs		<u>lefault.aspx</u>		
Is the CHM website maintained up to date? YES NO					
How many people currently operate and maintain the national CHM? 2-3					
How many people visited the national CHM website in the past 12 months? 9.5 million visitors since web site					
launched in 2009. No number	s of the visitors for past 12 mo	nths.			

Baseline project

As noted earlier in this document, the government of Vietnam has made strong commitment to environmental conservation. Vietnam's 4th National Report to the CBD has noted that since 2006, Vietnam's Government has started to allocate 1% of the national budget for environmental protection. The national budget allocated to biodiversity conservation appears in two forms: central budget and provincial budget. The average spending for biodiversity conservation constitutes about 0.4% of the total national budget. This was a significant increase in biodiversity conservation investment. In 2005 alone, for example, it totalled USD51.8 million, whereas previously the total budget allocation for biodiversity from the national budget was only USD81.6 million over the period1996-2004. Currently, the total investment in protected areas in Viet Nam from the Central government is estimated at more than 21,000,000

U\$ per annum. Though the government has invested some resources in updating the original NBSAP of 1995 in 2007, this was only done for the period up to 2010.

However, due to lack of mechanism to account for investment in biodiversity conservation nationally from central government sources, provincial and sub provincial government sources and donors, the full figures for biodiversity conservation are unknown and are likely to be significantly more than the above mentioned figure. As will be further described in the barrier section, the overall investment is not guided by up-to-date and inter-sectorally agreed upon priorities. Much of such funds have been invested in programmes such as the 5 Million Hectare Reforestation Programme, under which government funds are mainly allocated for restoration of degraded lands. The funds are also allocated to Vietnam Environmental Fund, Aquatic Resource Reproduce Fund of MARD and the Vietnam Conservation Fund. An ODA report on Environment from Environment Protection Agency and UNDP (2003) has analyzed that 20-30% of the total amount of funds allocated for environment protection has been for biodiversity conservation.

The 4th National Report has also noted that much of the "investment for biodiversity is limited and untargeted; usually focusing on infrastructure construction rather than for scientific research, management and protection activities". It further notes that "investment in biodiversity conservation is also insufficient, when little funding is allocated to management, strategic development and legislative formulation, capacity building, and public awareness raising as well as baseline biodiversity investigation. It is estimated that nearly 90% of the biodiversity funds were spent for infrastructure construction, and only 10% was directly costed for biodiversity conservation and management." New and complex issues in biodiversity protection such as genetic access and benefit-sharing, ecosystem-based approach adoption, and terrestrial and marine biodiversity conservation have not received sufficient attention."

Similarly, the government has also supported some efforts to integrate biodiversity planning and implementation through regional plan. The Minister of MARD for instance approved "Biodiversity Conservation in the Central Annamite Ecoregion 2004-2020 in 2004. The long-term goal of this program is to promote the adoption of integrated methods to manage, protect and recover natural resources and biodiversity in Central Annamite in sustainable way in the industrialization and modernization process; to raise conservation awareness, to develop management capacity, and to improve living standards of local people. Additionally, MONRE supported some provinces, such as Quang Tri, Quang Nam, Binh Dinh, Dong Nai and Central Highlands to develop provincial biodiversity action plans in order to harmonize the biodiversity development with other regional and local socio-economic development plans. However, such planning and implementation have been done with extremely limited resources, have not built on major recent concerns (such as climate change issues) and lessons from these have not been adequately captured and disseminated nationally.

Current efforts underway at national level to support analysis and prioritization for biodiversity conservation includes the development of a National Biodiversity Database (with support from JICA); updating of the Ecosystem Profile for Viet Nam Red Listing of 30,000 plant species in Mekong countries including Vietnam, and the Red Listing of 5,000 freshwater plant and animals for all the Mekong Region including Viet Nam (with CEPF Partnership support). Work is also underway to strengthen national protected area financing through a GIZ support entitled Preservation of Biodiversity in Forest Ecosystems project which is testing conservation planning and sustainable financing in three pilot sites in north and central Viet Nam. Reviews of protected area financing and ranger capacity building have been completed through this, which are relevant to the updating of NBSAP. This project is also starting to examine the incentive systems that govern protected area management.

B.2. INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADDITIONAL (LDCF/SCCF) ACTIVITIES REQUESTED FOR GEF/LDCF/SCCF FINANCING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ASSOCIATED ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF) TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:

For more detail, refer to the UNDP PRODOC.

The Project's baseline is described in UNDP PRODOC, Section I: 'Situation Analysis', Chapter 1.7 'Baseline project' and the alternative scenario is described in UNDP PRODOC, Section II: 'Strategy'.

The 'Strategy' in the UNDP PRODOC contains a thorough description of all Outcomes, Outputs and Activities for which GEF funding is being sought.

Please refer to Chapter 2.6 'Expected global benefits' in UNDP project document.

Under the existing baseline scenario, Viet Nam's globally threatened biodiversity and natural ecosystems will become increasingly fragmented and degraded. Indeed, several primates and turtle species are already on the verge of extinction. Many ecosystems, particularly rivers, lakes, and wetlands, will continue to be under-represented in the protected areas system, which itself is poorly managed and seemingly immune to the adoption of best international practices. Efforts to create new protected areas (or protected areas categories) will not be based on the best available data and information and the lessons learned from 15 years of internationally support protected area management. And under the existing incentive framework, biodiversity conservation will continue to receive low priority by provincial decision makers, irrespective of national policy.

The GEF-funded alternative has the potential to start to reverse these trends because it deals with three fundamental barriers to improved biodiversity conservation in Viet Nam. Specifically, GEF support will ensure (1) that the preparation of a new NBSAP is based on a truly participatory process and takes into account constraints and opportunities at Provincial and further sub-national levels; (2) that the NBSAP is in line with CBD guidelines, including use of the Aichi Biodiversity targets to measure progress; (3) that the NBSAP incorporates the latest data and information from national and international sources, especially from Provincial levels (4) that the annual state of environment report to the National Assembly includes accurate information on biodiversity conditions and trends, which are currently poorly reflected (5) that BCA has the opportunity to strengthen implementation of the NBSAP by building capacity and demand for biodiversity conservation at the provincial level; and (6) that BCA can start to address the incentive framework that is driving unsustainable natural resource use at the provincial level and to build stronger support from local level upwards.

Without GEF support, BCA would not be able to make significant progress in any of these areas of work because it lacks the financial and technical resources to do so. In sum, with GEF support, BCA has the opportunity take a major step forward in mainstreaming biodiversity conservation into land use and development planning and in building the political support for more sustainable use of natural resources.

The global biodiversity benefits of the project will arise from the improved management of Viet Nam's globally threatened biodiversity and its habitats. Benefits will also accrue to local communities that depend on healthy natural ecosystems. Better management of freshwater ecosystems in particular has significant positive public health outcomes. More generally, local communities stand to benefit from the multiple goods and services provided by intact ecosystems. The value of these goods and services is likely rise as the effects of climate change become more apparent. For example, natural wetlands can absorb floodwaters and recharge groundwater.

The outcomes of the project can be indirectly associated with global biodiversity benefits through capacity development actions in the fulfilment of Viet Nam's obligation vis-à-vis the CBD. National capacity building areas will mainly include: (1) planning and strategizing on the management of biodiversity through the updating of the NBSAP that fully accounts for the high degree of decentralization that exists in Viet Nam for development and conservation planning and implementation; and (2) the setting of national targets in line with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. These actions will make a significant but indirect contribution to maintaining the productivity and diversity of ecosystems while also catering for people's well-being in a balanced way.

Without the project, there will likely be delays in the fulfilment of national obligations to the CBD and hence delays in implementing the ambitious timeline of the Strategic Plan in Viet Nam. The NBSAP will eventually be updated but without sufficient technical stringency and analytical depth that would be required for significantly raising the bar of biodiversity planning, and likely with significant delays. Business as usual planning will not achieve the goals of the Strategic Plan; new thinking and new approaches are required, and this in turn requires adequate funding. With the project, the process of setting national targets and of fully updating the NBSAP will achieve the time-bound milestones set by the CBD COP through the Strategic Plan 2011-2020. Without the GEF support, Provincial level governments will not have the opportunity to fully engage in, contribute to and feel ownership over the national biodiversity targets

and thus not contribute fully in achievements of the targets. Under the baseline, targets set at national level will be poorly integrated into sub-national development plans. Through technical assistance and full stakeholder participation enabled by the project, the NBSAP will have superior quality and will have better chances of being anchored in the national development and sectoral frameworks. With the project support, the provincial governments will have a better understanding on the importance of NBSAP, targets set for Viet Nam and ways to integrate biodiversity targets into their plans and to monitor performance.

B.3. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF GENDER DIMENSIONS, AND HOW THESE WILL SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF). AS BACKGROUND INFORMATION, READ MAINSTREAMING GENDER AT THE GEF:

The CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020 departs from the simple and straight-forward recognition that biodiversity underpins development. Paragraph #3 of the Strategic Plan states: "Biological diversity underpins ecosystem functioning and the provision of ecosystem services essential for human well-being. It provides for food security, human health, the provision of clean air and water; it contributes to local livelihoods, and economic development, and is essential for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including poverty reduction". This places the importance of implementing the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 as top priority for CBD Parties and humanity in general, due to the immense array of socio-economic benefits that the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity can provide, as well as the equitable sharing of its benefits.

Gender mainstreaming is an important aspect of CBD implementation and it is enshrined not just in the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 itself, COP decision X/2, article 8, but also in a number of other COP decisions. Quoting the mentioned article: "Recalls decision IX/8, which called for gender mainstreaming in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and decision IX/24, in which the Conference of the Parties approved the gender plan of action for the Convention, which, among other things, requests Parties to mainstream a gender perspective into the implementation of the Convention and promote gender equality in achieving its three objectives, and requests Parties to mainstream gender considerations, where appropriate, in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its associated goals, the Aichi Targets, and indicators." The project will be a vehicle for implementing these decisions, and data will be gender-disaggregated where applicable. Socio-economic studies will highlight women's role in conservation/sustainable use and the need for a more gender-equitable sharing of its benefits.

MDGs, including associated socio-economic benefits and gender mainstreaming, will be integrated into the project primarily by (1) assessing and integrating ecosystem services through economic valuation; and (2) mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectoral plans and strategies.

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 Steering Committee members that are women.
- Total number of Project Steering Committee 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.

B.4. INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE, PROPOSE MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS TO BE FURTHER DEVELOPED DURING THE PROJECT DESIGN:

The following Risk Matrix has been extracted from the UNDP PRODOC, Section II 'Strategy', Chapter 2.5 'Key, Indicators, Assumptions and Risks'.

Risk	Rating	Management Strategy
State and non-state partners will not participate actively in NBSAP preparation – particularly by sub-national governments as they will not see the importance of NBSAP	Low	Early engagement by MONRE of potential partners will go a long way to mitigating this risk. NGOs are generally keen to cooperate and support a stronger role by MONRE in biodiversity conservation. The project has been developed with wide stakeholder consultation and this engagement will continue in project implementation as outlined in the section on Stakeholders and also in the Project Management arrangements. Strong stakeholder cooperation will also be essential for the actual implementation of plans, especially at provincial levels. Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2 have been designed especially to ensure strong provincial engagement of stakeholders.
Rapidly changing socioeconomic, biodiversity, and climate context in Viet Nam will make any long term planning and target setting obsolete	Medium	Viet Nam has witnessed a rapid change in overall development context and this is set to continue. Whilst the proposed NBSAP will be for 2012-2020, the action plan will be developed for the first five years, 2012-2016. Capacities and mechanisms will be developed within MONRE for regular updating of overall national context and to adapt the plan as necessary. In essence this will be a "living" plan subject to periodic adjustment based on changing policy conditions and field realities.
Provincial governments will continue to prioritize economic gains over biodiversity conservation	Medium- High	This situation is unlikely to be completely changed over the next 10 years. Viet Nam aspires to go beyond lower middle income status, which implies continued high levels of economic growth and natural resource extraction. The project will address this risk by getting agreements early on with the two focal provinces selected under Outcome 2.2. Early engagement of these provinces will help them to understand importance of biodiversity conservation and therefore reduce the risk. The NBSAP will need to make the case for how biodiversity and more sustainable use of natural resources is important to Viet Nam's long term development prospects. The project will also make strong efforts to use economic rationale for biodiversity conservation and to the extent possible will involve MPI and DPI to raise their awareness for economic case for biodiversity.

B.5. IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, AS APPLICABLE:

The following matrix has been extracted from the UNDP PRODOC, Section I 'Situation Analysis', Chapter 1.5 'Stakeholder Analysis'.

Structures	Function/area of expertise
Government and state research organizations	
Ministry of Natural Resources and	Established in 2008, the Biodiversity Conservation Agency (BCA) is a department of
Environment (MONRE)	MONRE's Viet Nam Environment Administration (VEA); located within VEA, BCA is
	responsible for the implementation of the biodiversity conservation provisions of the

Structures	Function/area of expertise
	Biodiversity Law in cooperation with other ministries. BCA is the focal point of the CBD, Ramsar Convention, Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and Nagoya Protocol on ABS. Institutionally BCA is the agency authorized for preparation of NBSAP, biodiversity master planning, and reporting of biodiversity conservation including these submitting to CBD. Hence BCA will be the focal point for this project
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)	Manages terrestrial and marine protected areas; hosts CITES Management Authority. MARD will seek to play a leading role in the NBSAP preparation and will also seek to defend its authority over protected areas.
National Assembly	Responsible for passing laws including the annual budget, holding ministries to account, and receiving MONRE's annual SOE report. The National Assembly's Committee on Science, Technology, and Environment was involved in the passage of the Biodiversity Law and will be a key audience and potential advocate for the NBSAP.
Provincial People's Committees (PPCs)	Responsible for development and land use planning; this is the level at which the key decisions that affect biodiversity are made. The project will work closely with PPCs, particularly in the two focal provinces where the NBSAP will be mainstreamed.
Research organizations such as Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) and Institute of Tropical Biology (ITB)	CITES Scientific Authority, primates and plants in Southern Viet Nam. IEBR, ITB, and other national research organizations are important custodians of biodiversity data and have been closely involved in several red listing workshops.
Selected non-state organizations	
IUCN	Manages the Red List; coordinated red listing of 5,000 freshwater species in Mekong Region with the results to be published in late 2011. Present in Viet Nam since 1993, IUCN has extensive experience on protected area management and water bird and marine turtle conservation. IUCN could support NBSAP chapters that cover eccosystem valuation and coastal and marine biodiversity. It is keen to see local environmental NGOs participate in the NBSAP preparation.
Birdlife	Birdlife is custodian of Important Bird Areas (IBAs) and 15 years experience implementing protected area management projects in Viet Nam. It is currently coordinating the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) program in Indochina, which includes updating the Ecosystem Profile and several thematic studies.
Missouri Botanical Gardens (MBG)	MBG is coordinating the red listing of 30,000 plant species in Mekong Region. The results should be available in early 2013.
Wildife Conservation Society (WCS)	WCS specializes in the illegal wildlife trade, particularly tigers, and law enforcement training. WCS and TRAFFIC (see below) could lead the NBSAP chapter on the impact of the illegal wildlife trade in wild populations of commercially valuable species.
Fauna and Flora International (FFI)	FFI specializes in primate and plant conservation in Northern Viet Nam. FFI manages several long running projects to conserve the last populations of several highly threatened and endemic primate species. It is preparing a gibbon status review that will provide important input to the NBSAP.
Asia Turtle Program (ATP)	ATP is the center of excellence in Viet Nam for turtle and tortoise conservation. It can provide the latest information on turtle and tortoise distributions, threat assessments, and ex situ conservation needs and opportunities.
Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (CRES)	CRES has expertise in reptiles and amphibians, and mangrove ecosystems
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)	Coordinating revision of Ecosystem Profile covering Viet Nam and thematic studies
People Resources and	PRCF works primarily on primate and bird conservation in Northern Viet Nam. It can
Conservation Foundation (PRCF)	provide extensive information on conservation status of and threats to these species
Education for Nature-Vietnam (ENV)	ENV, a loval NGO, specializes in combatting the illegal wildife trade. It runs a hotline to report wildlife crimes, issues monthly amnd quarterly wildlie crime bulletins, and organizes volunteer groups.
WWF	WWF, the largest international consevation NGO in Viet Nam, has many projects dealing with protected area management, business engagement, species conservation including the saola, wildlife trade, and water resources management
Pan Nature	Pan Nature, a local NGO, has carried out policy research and advocacy on mining, dams, and forest policy and works closely with the media.
Local communities	Local communities are the direct custodians and users of biodiversity services, and manage

Structures	Function/area of expertise
	these resources effective, and in some case also the causes of biodiversity losses. Their
	equitable participation and benefit sharing from sustainable use of biodiversity is one of the
	key principles of the CBD. The project will ensure that community voices are integrated into
	biodiversity planning and target setting. Relevant community representatives (such as
	farmers' organization, youth organization, women's organization) will be invited to relevant
	consultations. Viet Nam has pioneered the use of FPIC in its work on REDD and such
	relevant principles will also be integrated in the revised NBSAP.

B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

The text that follows has extracted from the UNDP PRODOC, Section II 'Strategy' Chapter 2.3 '<u>Design Principles And Strategic Considerations</u>', segment 'Strong coordination and partnerships with relevant initiatives'

The project will benefit from the experience of previous related initiatives by national and international counterparts. It will also strive for strong coordination and cooperation with ongoing and future initiatives in the country. MONRE's work to prepare a National Biodiversity Database in partnership with **JICA** will run from July 2011 to December 2014 with the total funding of U\$3.8 million. It will support Nam Dinh province to build a data base prototype using biodiversity data from the province. This project will be a sister initiative to this proposed UNDP-GEF project and JICA supported initiative will contribute directly to Outcome 1 of this UNDP-GEF project. Information and profiles developed by the Critical Ecosystems Partnership in 2011 and thematic studies it has commissioned will also contribute to the baseline information for this project (www.cepf.net). Outputs relevant to the NBSAP include report, map files, species location records, and other GIS data are being concluded in end-2011/beginning of 2012. Additionally, a number of conservation organizations have been supporting conservation initiatives in Viet Nam for a number of years – including the WWF, IUCN, Birdlife International, Missouri Botanical Gardens, and IUCN etc. Information available from these organizations will also contribute to this project's objectives and outcomes.

At least two ongoing protected areas (PA) projects will be useful for this project in defining the new priorities and programming on PA in Vietnam. These include: (1) the *Preservation of Biodiversity in Forest Ecosystems in Vietnam* project implemented by MARD with GIZ support (2010 – 2013, phase 1 with total budget of U\$ 3,6 millions). This project is testing conservation planning and sustainable financing in three pilot sites in north and central Viet Nam. The project has completed reviews of protected area financing and ranger capacity building that are relevant to the NBSAP. The project also examines the incentive systems that govern protected area management. Understanding and seeking to reform these systems is a major outcome of this GEF project; and (2) The UNDP/GEF project *Removing Barriers Hindering Protected Area Management Effectiveness in Viet Nam* (2011-2014 with total budget of U\$3.5 millions) which focuses on supporting government to establish sustainable protected area financing mechanisms.

A number of landscape initiatives are also underway in Viet Nam, primary of which is the **ADB**-supported Biodiversity Corridors Initiative (BCI). The current phase runs from 2011 – 2013 with a budget of U\$3.5 million for the Vietnam component. BCI aims to conserve habitats for wildlife, enhance ecological services, such as water supply and flood protection, and improve local community welfare through poverty alleviation measures and sustainable use of natural resources in high biodiversity corridors in all six GMS countries. In Viet Nam, BCI supports work by **WWF** in the Ngoc Linh, Quang Nam-Xe Sap in Laos corridor.

Mainstreaming of biodiversity into sectors is also a priority for biodiversity conservation in Viet Nam. Key initiatives include **FAO** is supported Regional Fisheries Livelihoods Programme (RFLP) (2009-2013) which will strengthen capacity among participating small-scale fishing communities and their supporting institutions in a number of countries including Viet Nam (www.rflp.org). RFLP activities in Viet Nam are being undertaken in three central provinces, namely: Quang Tri, Quang Nam, and Thua-Thien-Hue. The **World Bank** is funding is the \$100M *Coastal Resources for Sustainable Development Project* that will reduce the dependence of coastal communities on capture fisheries and is currently under development. It will work in eight provinces.

C. GEF AGENCY INFORMATION:

C.1 CONFIRM THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT THE GEF AGENCY BRINGS TO THE PROJECT:

UNDP will provide \$300,000 as co-financing in the form of cash contribution through an UNDP "Strengthening Capacity for Natural Resources Policy Development and Environmental Performance" project that supports the government on development of regulations, guidelines/tools for wise use of natural resources, environmental protection, and promotion of green growth. In kind UNDP support (not included in Par I, Table C of this document) will also be provided through its broader programmes on UNREDD, climate change, disaster risk management, poverty and governance portfolio and through its range of technical staff working in the environment and natural resources.

C.2 HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO THE GEF AGENCY'S PROGRAM (REFLECTED IN DOCUMENTS SUCH AS UNDAF, CAS, ETC.) AND STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

The expected outcomes of the Project as mentioned above will contribute to achieving UNDAF's outcomes and UN One Plan's (OP) outputs which have been agreed with the government of Viet Nam:

- **UNDAF Outcome 1:** Government economic policies support growth that is more equitable, inclusive and sustainable, and
- UN One Plan Outcome 3: "Viet Nam has adequate policies and capacities for environmental protection and the rational management of natural resources and cultural heritage for poverty reduction, economic growth and improving the quality of life".

The project contributes to the achievement of:

- **UN OP Output 3.2:** "Environmental strategies, policies, plans and regulations developed with broad participation of local people and stakeholders and in line with international environmental conventions".
- UN OP Output 3.4: Local initiates supported to promote the sustainable use of natural resources.

Specifically, the project directly contributes to achievement of the following results: OPI 3.2.1 - Strengthened formulation of strategies priorities, policies and regulatory instruments that encourage environmental protection and sustainable natural resource management, specifically to deal with biodiversity, desertification, and clean technologies. (national and local levels)"; OPI 3.4.1 - Technical capacities improved in prioritized topical areas to support sustainable management of natural resources (national and local levels); and OPI 3.4.3] - Protected Area management, including in World Heritage sites and Biosphere reserves, strengthened and building local capacities (local level).

In UNDP Viet Nam Country Office (CO), the Sustainable Development Cluster Unit (SDC) is the unit directly responsible for the overall management and quality assurance of UNDP environment, biodiversity and climate change related projects. The Unit presently has a team of seven National Professional officers, three Programme Associates and five International Technical Advisors/specialists. Often, two SDC staffs are assigned to oversee and assist the project implementation. In addition the project also gets guidance from the Head of the Sustainable Development Cluster, UNDP Deputy Country Director, and assistance from UNDP operation units, such as on Human Resources, Procurement and Finance units. The project formulation and implementation is also technically assisted by the UNDP-GEF Regional Coordination Centre for Asia-Pacific in Bangkok (UNDP-GEF APRCU) and UNDP Headquarter.

For more details, refer also to the UNDP PRODOC, Section II 'Strategy' Chapter 2.3 '<u>Design Principles And Strategic Considerations</u>', segment '<u>Building on UNDP</u>'s comparative advantages'.

PART III: INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

The project's management and implementation arrangements are more fully described in SECTION I - Part III: 'Management Arrangements' of the UNDP PRODOC. Refer to it for more details. The text that follows provides a summary of the project implementation arrangements:

INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT:

N/A

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT:

The project will be implemented under the UNDP National Implementation Modality (NIM), which for GEF corresponds to national execution of the project by the Government. Specifically MONRE will act as the Implementing Partner (IP) given its formal role as lead institution in the biodiversity sector for Government of Vietnam. The project is co-financed and as such will also include major participation from JICA, IUCN and others. These agencies, as well as national stakeholder agencies will be involved both in the managerial as well as in the technical implementation of the project.

The project will be implemented over a period of <u>three</u> years. It will follow the National Implementation (NIM) with procedures set out in the Harmonized Programme and Project Management Guidelines (HPPMG) approved by the government of Vietnam and UN agencies. The implementing structure will include a project Steering Committee (PSC) and a Project Management Unit (PMU) as follows:

National Implementing Partner

As the national implementing partner (NIP) for the project, MONRE is accountable to the government and UNDP for ensuring (1) the substantive quality of the project, (2) the effective use of both national and UNDP resources allocated to it, (3) the availability and timeliness of national contributions to support project implementation and (4) the proper coordination among all project stakeholders, particularly national parties.

Responsible Party

MONRE will assign VEA/BCA to be the Project main responsible party. BCA will be the lead organization in the project, acting for MONRE and working with various departments, offices and institutes in MONRE, MARD and other stakeholders. As the day-to-day implementer of the project activities, BCA is responsible for mobilizing all national and international inputs to support project implementation, organizing project activities in accordance with the agreed work plan, and on quarterly basis reporting to MONRE and UNDP on the progress as well as financial status of the project.

Project implementation structure

The project implementation structure will be set up to include:

- Inter-Ministerial Drafting Committee
- Project Steering Committee.
- Project Management Unit.

An Inter-Ministerial Drafting Committee (IMDC) comprising the representatives from various ministries, such as MONRE, MARD, MPI, MOF, National Assembly, Office of Government, etc, will be set up to support the project implementation, review contents of NBSAP, and make sure that the final NBSAP is to be in line with government and sectoral policies.

VEA will convene the Project Steering Committee (PSC), which will serve as the project's coordination and decision-making body. The PSC will be chaired by leader of VEA and line ministries as appropriate. It will meet every six months, or more often on an ad hoc basis, if necessary. The PSC will make all necessary decisions and provide guidance for implementation of project activities, including approval of the overall project work plan, and budget revisions. It will ensure that the project remains on course to deliver products of the required quality to meet the outcomes defined in the project document. Specific responsibilities of the PSC include:

- Mobilizing technical assistance in support for the achievement of all project outcomes where joint responsibilities have been identified with MONRE.
- Undertaking appropriate technical inputs, coordination, monitoring and detailed (annual, quarterly) work planning and reporting to UNDP.

- Approving overall project work plan and final project terminal report.
- Ensuring that work being undertaken does not duplicate or simply replicate the work of relevant ministries but builds on the best practices to add incremental value to the work of the project.

To assist the BCA in implementing the project, a Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established. The PMU will be responsible for the following tasks:

- Prepare an inception report including detailed work plan and identification of target provinces/cites.
- Support the PSC and translate their guidance into day-to-day project coordination and management.
- Provide technical support to MONRE for implementation efforts to achieve the project outcomes.
- Mobilize technical assistance in support of the achievement of all project outcomes.
- Undertake project monitoring, budget management, detailed work planning (annual, quarterly), and fulfilling report needs to government and international donors.
- Prepare regulation for the project operation.

•

The PMU will be hosted in BCA and will comprise of the following positions:

- National project director (NPD), (in kind contribution from the Government, part-tine).
- Project Coordinator (PC) (recruited, 36 months, full-time).
- Project Accountant and Assistant (PAA) (recruited, 21 months, part-time)

The NPD who is often the director or the deputy director of BCA will be officially appointed by MONRE. He/she will head the PMU and will be accountable to MONRE for the use of project resources and to deliver on outcomes. The NPD will manage the implementation of all project activities and will work closely with all partner institutions to link the project with complementary national programs and initiatives. The NPD is accountable to VEA and the PSC for the quality, timeliness, and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds. The NPD will also be technically supported by contracted national and international consultants and service providers. Recruitment of specialist services for the project will be done by the NPD, in consultation with the UNDP and the VEA/MONRE. The NPD will not be paid from the project funds, but will represent a government in kind contribution to the project.

Consultants hired by the project will be recruited using either HPPMG approved by government and UN agencies or standard UNDP CO recruitment procedures and will report directly to the NPD.

UNDP-CO support

Working closely with MONRE, UNDP-CO as the Implementing Agency will be responsible for: (1) providing financial and audit services to the project; (2) recruitment of project staff (3) overseeing financial expenditures against project budget; (4) appointment of independent financial auditors; (5) organization of end of project evaluation; and (6) ensuring that all activities including procurement and financial services are carried out in strict compliance with UNDP/GEF procedures. Two UNDP staff members will be assigned with the responsibility for the day-to-day management and control over project finance.

Financial management mechanism

MONRE will maintain overall accountability for the proper financial management of inputs. With support from the PMU, MONRE will formulate detailed annual and quarterly work plans and financial plan and reports and submit them to the UNDP on the use of project resources as per the NEX guidelines. The PMU will be responsible for ensuring that an annual NEX audit of the project is carried out in line with guidance from UNDP/GACA. MONRE will be held accountable to follow up on recommendations by auditors.

Public information and advocacy

In order to accord proper acknowledgement of GEF and UNDP for providing funding and technical assistance, GEF and UNDP logos should appear on all relevant project publication, including among others, project hardware and project

assets purchased with the project funds. Any citation on publications should also accord properly acknowledge to GEF and UNDP.

PART IV: EXPLAIN THE ALIGNMENT OF PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF N/A.

PART V: 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 Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this OFP endorsement letter).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Dr. Nguyen Van Tai	GEF Operational Focal Point	Ministry Of Natural Resource	01/19/2012
	Director General, ISPONRE	and Environment	

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO approval of project.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Yannick Glemarec, UNDP/GEF Executive Coordinator	#	February 14, 2012	Sameer Karki. EBD	+662 304 9100 Ext. 2729	Sameer.karki@undp.org

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Hierarchy of Objectives/Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	End of project target	Source of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
			ng the supply of policy relevant, actionable informathe demand for this information by building province		
Outcomes 1.1-1.2: NBSAP and 5 th National Report to CBD prepared in compliance with Biodiversity Law and CBD Strategic Plan 2011-2020.	NBSAP with clear implementation plan National reports	NBSAP prepared in 1995, with an addendum in 2007 is out of date and do not reflect changes in national and international context, such as new CBD guidelines and 2008 Biodiversity Law.	 New 10-year NBSAP with clear institutional design and financing plan approved by government by 12/2012 and thereafter submitted to the CBD. To include: Prioritizing biodiversity through economic valuation of goods and services. Restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services. Assessment of protected area design and management effectiveness. Conservation status of selected species (re)assessed based on international criteria, e.g., Red List. Assessment of rules and procedures for species reintroductions. plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation. Technology needs assessment communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP. plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation assessment of opportunities of mainstreaming into selected sectoral plans such as development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations Clearing House mechanism 5th National Report submitted to CBD by 2014. 	New NBSAP. 5 th National Report.	Key national stakeholders and NGOs share essential data and information, and actively participate in NBSAP development process.
	on biodiversity status, trends,	Reports submitted to CBD.	·	1	aware of and committed to biodiversity conservation.
	causes and consequences; and actions.	Annual SOE reports to national assembly do not contain up-to-date data on biodiversity status and trends.	By 2014, at least two SOE reports submitted to National Assembly to reflect latest biodiversity data.	Annual SOE reports.	International organizations and NGOs actively support government in building capacity for

Hierarchy of Objectives/Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	End of project target	Source of Verification	Risks and Assumptions
V	National GIS based map of key biodiversity information	Comprehensive national database that is geo referenced on maps are not available	GIS map that has key biodiversity information (hotspots, PAs, ongoing projects etc.) available for wider use and dissemination	Project report	biodiversity conservation.
Outcomes 2.1-2.2: Provincial commitment and capacity strengthened to implement NBSAP.	Provincial capacity for NBSAP implementation.	Provincial staffs have very limited capacity and skills to implement NBSAP and connect land use with ecosystem functions, and biodiversity.	Provincial capacity for NBSAP implementation, including biodiversity financing, enhanced for up to 20 provinces through: • Guidelines developed to support to NBSAP realization at provincial level. • Up to 150 provincial staffs trained.	Training materials and training reports. Guidelines for NBSAP implementation.	Provinces effectively participate in training.
	Biodiversity reporting mechanism.	No guidelines or legal requirements or procedures exist to support provinces to report to central government.	Mechanism in place to report on biodiversity status and good practice from provincial to national levels.	Guidelines and legal procedures.	Provinces commit to NBSAP implementation.
	Provincial implementation of NBSAP priorities.	Land use plans do not explicitly incorporate biodiversity conservation priorities.	 NBSAP priorities implemented in 2 provinces through: Land use plans updated to incorporate NBSAP priorities. Biodiversity criteria tested and proposed for inclusion in provincial performance assessment systems. 	Updated land-use plans. Set of biodiversity criteria.	Selected provinces commit and actively mainstream their biodiversity priorities into land use plans.
	Spatial Biodiversity Assessment	Currently maps that highlight key biodiversity information at provincial levels do not exist	Biodiversity spatial assessment for two provinces prepared	Maps	Provinces have adequate data available
	Experience and lessons learned from 2 pilot provinces documented and shared nationally.	Little cross-provincial learning on biodiversity planning takes place.	Results from piloted provinces considered for replication to other provinces	List of project documents, lessons learned disseminated. Workshop reports.	Good results achieved from pilot mainstreaming.

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS BY GEF SECRETARIAT

Country: Vietnam		
Project Title: Developing National Biodiversity Strategy and A	l Action Plan and Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservat	ion into Provincial Planning
GEFSEC Project ID: 4826	UNDP Project ID: 4811	<i>y</i>
GEF 5 Strategic Programme:	Implementing Agenc (ies): UNDP	
GEF 5 Strategic i Togramme.	Implementing Agent (les). UNDF	
Anticipated project financing (\$million):	GEF Project Allocation: \$909,091	Total Project Cost:
	Co-financing: \$4,550,000 (revised)	\$5,709,091
Programme Manager: Yoko Watanabe	GEF Agency Contact Person: Sameer Karki	

Comments	Responses	
7. Is the project aligned with the focal /multifocal areas/ LDCF/SCCF/NPIF results framework?		
03 March 2012	The decision to present the project as a MSP – and with the two components that are part of its	
Yes, the project is generally aligned with BD	design – was the result of several discussions between government, partners and UNDP.	
Objective 5, however, component 2 goes beyond	Several considerations were at play. The Vietnamese government is very keen to extend the	
the scope of the objective 5 and it is aligned with	biodiversity planning exercise to the sub-national level, which is the subject matter of	
BD objective 2 on mainstreaming. Please also	Component 2. This has in fact been identified as a major gap hindering the implementation of	
refer to comments below on project design.	the CBD at country level, and more specifically of the CBD's new Strategic Plan to 2020.	
	It is correct, that Component 2 could in many respects be interpreted as fitting with SO2 on mainstreaming. However, one could also argue that the proposed outputs and activities under Component 2 would hardly constitute a stand-alone mainstreaming project. This is because the tangible results from the activities and outputs are primarily in terms of 'plans' and 'capacity' for NBSAP implementation and reporting. A fully-fledged mainstreaming project would require more.	
	In connection with it, UNDP noted that the Focal Area Strategy indicated the following as being part of the SO5 support from GEF: "Enabling activity support could be provided for revising NBSAPs in line with the CBD's new strategic plan to be adopted at COP-10 and integrating biodiversity into sectoral planning, national reporting, and implementation of guidance related to the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)."	
	Although pushing some "boundaries" in the Focal Area Strategy, Component 2 of the project	

Comments	Responses
	can also be construed as being aligned with the above, but with a clear focus on the subnational level.
	These were some of the considerations that lead to the design of the project as it has been proposed.
	UNDP notes that several of its BD EA proposals and the model behind them are gaining good acceptance at the GEF Secretariat's level. The Viet Nam project presents however a different design as compared to other UNDP/GEF BD EA. Yet, UNDP considers that it is a valid and 'extended' BD EA project.
	The GEF has in the past worked with selected countries to finance extended BD EA projects (e.g. Brazil and South Africa). Although those projects were an exception within the overall BD EA portfolio, those few initiatives were largely successful and definitely helped beneficiary countries catalyse major advances in terms of biodiversity planning. These projects were considered 'extended' either because the GEF grant was larger than usual or because the projects counted on large amounts of co-financing – or both. UNDP would be happy to discuss these with the GEF Secretariat. Finally, UNDP does not expect at all to have in GEF5 a large number of extended BD EA projects, but should it be the case, the agency will prioritise consultations with the GEF Secretariat for such submission prior to presenting the projects on how to best fit the design to focal area requirements.
8. Are the relevant GEF 5 focal/ multifocal areas	/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF objectives identified?
in the UNDP Project Document, page 18, para.3, there is a line that reads "the project is in full compliance with two GEF-5 BD Objectives". Please clarify.	This has been revised as "The project is also in full compliance with GEF5 Biodiversity Strategic Objectives 5 and the One UN plan for Viet Nam"
10. Does the proposal clearly articulate how the	capacities developed, if any, will contribute to the sustainability of project outcomes?
Please further clarify how the capacity developed through the project will contribute to the sustainability of the project outcomes.	The GEF Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Building (2003) ⁶ under the GEF's cross-agency Capacity Development Initiative provides a very useful framework on how capacity development can also be approached. More specifically, three levels of capacity were identified: individual, organizational and systemic. This approach has also been adopted by UNDP in several GEF project. Under Output 1.1.1, a thorough explanation has been provided on how the project would develop capacity at individual, organizational and systemic levels.
	Furthermore, UNDP's approach to capacity building is based on four drivers of change: 1) institutional arrangements, 2) leadership, 3) knowledge and 4) accountability. How the project will contribute to

⁶ 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. GEF5 CEO Endorsement-Approval-January 2011.doc

Comments	Responses
	these is now explained in detail in the revised PRODOC. The capacities built by the project will directly contribute to the sustainability of project Outcomes. UNDP's approach to capacity building is based on four drivers of change: 1) institutional arrangements, 2) leadership, 3) knowledge and 4) accountability.
	How the project will contribute to these is now explained in detail in the revised PRODOC. Refer to section 2.9, chapter "Sustainability" in the revised PRODOC., where a new section entitled "Capacity building as a means for sustainability" has been added.
	emonstrated, including the cost-effectiveness of the project design approach as compared to
alternative approaches to achieve similar benefit	
Please explain the cost-effectiveness of the project approach with regards to combining the STAR resources with the set-aside funding to go beyond the regular activities funded by biodiversity focal area Enabling Activities.	The combined resources both contribute to a single project goal and objective, whilst working at two different scales – national and provincial levels. This approach primarily ensures a seamless integration of the two scales and also allows the national government institution, responsible for biodiversity target setting, implementation and monitoring to plan and test approaches that best suit the highly decentralized governance context of Viet Nam. This also allows for greater participation by Provincial governments to influence national target setting, and at the same time allows for greater ownership by provincial authorities to these targets.
	While Component 1 bear all the typical elements of the BD EA project with a national focus – and it could be a self-contained project with a limited scope – Component 2 clearly extends the scope by ensuring that in the subnational structures are also aligned with the principles and goals of NBSAP implementation. More specifically, it provides a hands-on approach to biodiversity planning at provincial level, e.g. through the development of guidelines to integrate NBSAP priorities into land use plans and to prepare biodiversity financing plans (Output 2.1.1), or through the concrete integration, at provincial level, of biodiversity into spatial planning and land use plans (Output 2.2.1).
	In fact, the achievements of Component 2 will clearly enhance and strengthen those of Component 1. This will in and on itself also enhance the overall cost-effectiveness of the project.
	The prioritisation of STAR resources to the project are also a key token of ownership and of the ambition level set by the government with respect to the NBSAP revision process. Given the extended scope of the proposed activities and the strong drive of Vietnamese authorities to bring the benefits of biodiversity planning to the provincial level, it was assessed that it would not be possible to achieve the goals, if the GEF funding was limited to thresholds of the biodiversity focal area set-aside.
	Further to this, cost-effectiveness is one of the key reasons for combining the global focal area set-aside and STAR allocation into one project, rather than developing two different projects

Comments	Responses	
Comments	with same total amount combined. These reasons boil down to:	
	• the recruitment costs of hiring consultants are reduced, as	
	burden of hiring two sets of consultants are higher than hiri	•
	monitoring and evaluation costs of one project (evaluation)	
	investment) will be less for a combined project than two se	
	management costs are also less for one project compared to	two separate projects
	These elements have been reflected under the section on Section 2.3	O Cost Effectiveness
	These elements have been reflected under the section on Section 2.5	o Cost Effectiveness.
	GEF/LDCF/SCCF funding based on incremental/ additional reas	
While the incrementality of the revision and	The incrementality of Component 2 has been made more ex	plicit under B.2. Refer to
update of NBSAPs, which is Component 1 of the	highlighted text in the revised version.	
project, is clearly noted under section B.2., the		
incrementality of GEF funding for Component 2		
on provincial capacity building and planning		
requires further clarification. Please provide		
further information.		
14. Is the project framework sound and sufficien	tly clear?	
Component 1:	Several steps pertaining to NBSAP revision, as per guidance from 0	GEF and the CBD, were in
- This component should refer to and align with	fact included in the MSP Outputs, although not always in a totally 6	explicit manner – e.g.:
the GEF and CBD guidelines and benchmark	- Step 4 "Setting national targets, principles, & main priorities of	the strategy though national
budget established for the process. The current	consultations" were catered for under Output 1.1.1.	
project framework only makes reference to one of	- Step 6 "Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities throu	gh sub-national and local
the steps necessary in undertaking NBSAP	consultations" Is clearly reflected in the entire Outcome 2.1 and	supported by Outcome 2.2.
revision, i.e. the participatory stocktaking and	- Step 12 "Establishment/ strengthening of national coordination s	structures" were considered
assessment. Other outcomes/outputs/activities are	under Outputs 1.1.1 and 2.2.1.	
related but could better be supported by the STAR		
resources as additional activities. Please follow	However, UNDP recognises that some elements remained too impl	
closely the GEF guidelines on NBSAP revision	stocktaking, threat analysis and even the work on sectoral integration	
and related activities, and revise the	Hence, a new output that will support the NBSAP development, as	well as the development of
component accordingly.	implementation plans and related activities has been proposed.	
	An annex indicating exactly how the project has incorporated the G	EF and CBD guidance for
	the preparation of NBSAPs has now been appended to the PRODO	
	GEF Guideline (modules and steps)	Integrated into

Comments	Responses			
	I. Preparation II Setting national	Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports Identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness 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 Setting national targets, principles, & main	Integrated into 1.2.1	
	targets, principles, & main priorities of the strategy	priorities of the strategy though national consultations		
	III. Strategy and action plan	the agreed targets though national consultations	1.1.2 New Output	
	development	6. Application of the NBSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local consultations	2.1.1	
		7. Sectoral integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations	1.1.2 New Output	
	IV. Development of Implementation plans and related activities	 8. Development of a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation. 9. Technology needs assessment 10. Development of a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP. 11. Development of a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation 	1.1.2 New Output	
	V. Institutional, monitoring,	12. Establishment/ strengthening of national coordination structures	1.1.1 and 2.2.1	
	reporting and	13. Clearing House Mechanism development.	1.2.2	
	exchange	14. Development of indicators and monitoring approach	1.1	
		15. Fifth national report	1.2	
		15. Fifth national report	1.2	
on undertaking assessment of national biodiversity h		bringing existing information as opposed to undertation to the revised <i>Output 1.2.1</i> in results framework a ent		

Comments	Responses
levels of government. Per CBD guidelines for the revision of NBSAPs, this process should focus more on bringing together existing information through improved coordination, rather than focusing on conducting new researches.	Output 1.2.1: The causes and consequences of biodiversity loss assessed Activities under this output include forming working groups to prepare thematic studies to fill key information available and to identify knowledge gaps. The focus of the work will be on bringing together existing information through improved coordination and stakeholder participation. The assessment work will highlight the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human well-being and will also include rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports; identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness, and preparation of thematic reports on wildlife trade, protected area management experience, biodiversity financing, incentive frameworks driving decision making at provincial levels to feed into NBSAP and 5 th National Report
- Please further elaborate on how the multi- sectoral approach/mainstreaming of biodiversity would be pursued at the national level.	The multi-sectoral approach to mainstreaming biodiversity at national level will occur through several approaches: • Involving relevant sectors into the planning process: this will include the participation of all key sectors under the: An Inter-Ministerial Drafting Committee (IMDC) comprising the representatives from various ministries, such as MONRE, MARD, MPI, MOF, National Assembly, Office of Government, etc, will be set up to support the project implementation, review contents of NBSAP, and make sure that the final NBSAP is to be in line with government and sectoral policies as noted in the project implementation structure, which is also highlighted under Outcome 1.1 in the UNDP project document • Secondly, the project will also establish relevant technical working groups, particularly for Output 1.2.1 to undertake thematic studies under and for 1.1.2 for plans development, that will involve technical experts from different sectoral institutions • Thirdly, the project supported consultations will include participation of all key relevant sectors
-In following the GEF guidelines mentioned above, please clarify if any activities will be undertaken for updating the CHM. Will the biodiversity database being established by the co financing funds be used to update the CHM?	Yes – the revised framework makes this explicit, in Output 1.2.2 National biodiversity database framework and Clearing House Mechanism established with updated, geo referenced information on biodiversity conditions at national and sub-national levels
-GEF funding is not eligible for the preparation of the annual State of Environment reports, which is not a CBD obligation. Please revise.	The GEF funds will not be used to preparing the SOE reports but to integrate biodiversity reporting fully. As noted in the response on capacity building, the SOE is presented to the National Parliament and is thus one of the key ways for MONRE to account for its work to it. Thus, it is highly strategic to ensure that biodiversity issues are explicitly and well presented in the SOE.

Comments	Responses		
Component 2: - Please clarify the rationale for linking Component 1 and 2 within the Enabling Activity proposal. While we find merit in the activities under component 2, it may make more operational sense to implement these activities (land use and sector/development planning) under GEF-5 BD objective 2 through a MSP or FSP. Please clarify.	components in question. It was the government. Component 1 is well framework, the links to the GEF's NBSAP revision, this link has been There is a strong drive from the Genational level, which is the subject particular Outcome 2.1 is very mu on BD EA ("Application of the NE consultations"). While Component 2 could in many mainstreaming, we have argued the constitute a stand-alone mainstream outputs in Component 2 are primare implementation and reporting. Obviously, if Viet Nam had decide national level (in lieu of maintainin hypothetical project would need to was not case. In particular, cost-eff maintaining Components 1 and 2 in	y in deciding to present the project as MSP and with the two eresult of several discussions between UNDP and aligned with typical BD EA and in the revised project and CBD's guidance on the several steps pertaining to made stronger. OV to extend the biodiversity planning exercise to the sub matter of Component 2. The entire second component, in ch in line with step # 6 of the guidance from GEF and CBD BSAP to sub-national entities through sub-national and local by respects be interpreted as fitting with SO2 on at the proposed activities would not in and on themselves ming project. The tangible results from the activities and rily in terms of 'plans' and 'capacity' for NBSAP bed to propose a separate mainstreaming project for the sub-ng Component 2 in the present proposal), the design of this propose more robust mainstreaming results. However, this fectiveness considerations contributed to the decision of anto a single integral project. This will ensure that the anning would be in place, including at the sub national level.	
17 Is public participation, including CSOs and in	ndiganous naonla, takan into consi	ideration, their role identified and addressed properly?	
Key project stakeholders including CSOs have	The following has been added:	actation, then fore identified and addressed property:	
been identified. However, there is no mention of local communities in the consultation processes for revision or implementation of NBSAP. Please address.	Local communities	Local communities are the direct custodians and users of biodivers these resources effective, and in some case also the causes of biodi equitable participation and benefit sharing from sustainable use of principles of the CBD. The project will ensure that community vo biodiversity planning and target setting. Relevant community repre organization, youth organization, women's organization) will be in consultations. Viet Nam has pioneered the use of FPIC in its work principles will also be integrated in the revised NBSAP.	
23. Is funding level for project management cost	appropriate?		
Project management cost is 10 % of the project sub-total amount and considered appropriate.	Tables A, B, E and F in Part I of the CEO Approval Request have been updated to reflect: • The correct co-funding for project management and its break-down		
sub-total amount and considered appropriate.	The correct co-fullding for	project management and its break-down	

Comments	Responses
The fee for the local and international consultants under table E should be applied for both GEF and co financing amounts. If not, please clarify the reason for not integrating them.	 The exact break-down of co-financing per project component The numbers presented in Annex C of the CEO Approval Request (numbers are now fully harmonised). The number of consultants' weeks shown in Tables E and F refer to GEF only. For more details on co-financiers contribution in terms of national and international consultants, refer to Annex C.
24 . Is the funding and co-financing per objective ap	propriate and adequate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?
Although overall project co financing ratio of 1:5 is adequate, there is significant difference between the two Components. Co financing for Component 2, which implements on-the ground capacity building activities, is rather low. Please explore possible options for increasing. 25. At PIF: comment on the indicated co financin -Please refer to question 24 on co financing per Component. According to the attached government letter, the Vietnamese government will provide co financing in -cash and in - kind. Please make this clear in Table C that the government co financing grant will be both in-kind and in-cash.	Table B in Part I of the CEO Approval Request has been updated to reflect the exact breakdown of co-financing per project component and project management. Table A was also revised accordingly. g; At CEO endorsement: indicate if confirmed co-financing is provided. This has been revised.
- CEPF cannot be considered as co finance to this project (even excluding the GEF amount) as it would be considered double counting the co finance (i.e. towards GEF contribution to the CEPF and this project).	The CBPF co-finance has been removed.

ANNEX C: CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE PROJECT USING GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES⁷

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
For EA Management			
Local			
National Project Director (NPD) (30%) - contribution from government (approx 43 weeks, estimated at \$21.5K)	n/a	n/a	The NPD is appointed by the Government of Vietnam. He/she will be accountable to both the Government and the UNDP. The main duties and responsibilities are: • Ensures that the expected results of the project are of satisfactory substantive quality and that they contribute to the achievement of the intended outcome identified in the UN One Plan. This will be discharged through the (i) approval of project work plans, TORs, reports, (ii) follow-up on the implementation of recommendations made by regular project reviews and/or external evaluations, and (iii) conduct of internal reviews and evaluations as/if needed. • Ensures that project resources, national as well as international, are effectively utilized for their intended purposes through the (i) verification of project budgets and payments, (ii) approval of budget revisions within the agency flexibility limit, (iii) follow-up on the implementation of recommendations made by external audits and (iv) conduct of internal audits as/if needed. • Ensures that counterpart funds are made available by the Implementing Partner in sufficient quantities and in a timely manner to support project implementation. • Ensures that project parties, particularly national parties (including the Implementing Partner) fully participate in project implementation, effectively collaborate in project activities and duly benefit from project results. • Ensures that the results achieved and lessons learned by the project are properly documented, proactively disseminated to and duly shared with all project parties, particularly national parties. • Selects, arranges for the appointment of and supervises the Project Coordinator (PC), in consultation with UNDP, to make sure that the PC and other national project staff are empowered to effectively perform their day-to-day project duties. • Selects, arranges for the appointment of International Consultants, in consultation with UNDP, to make sure that international project personnel contribute expert inputs of the highest quality to the

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⁷ Note: Split between local and International consultants is indicative and subject to procurement guidelines of Agencies and Governments. Project staff/consultants will be paid according to the standards of the execution modality and the applicable rates, terms and conditions for each contract. Contracts will be drawn according to the applicable rules and regulations, which consider the profile and number of years of experience of the candidates vis-à-vis the TOR. 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.

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
Project Coordinator (PC) (full time)	300	144	Overall, the PC will be responsible for the day-to-day running the project, including overall coordination, planning, management, implementation, monitoring & evaluation and reporting of all project activities: 1. Prepare and update project work plans (AWP and QWP), and submits these to the NPD and UNDP for clearance. 2. Ensure that all agreements with implementing agencies are prepared, negotiated and agreed upon. 3. Prepare TORs for key inputs (i.e. personnel, sub-contracts, training, and procurement) and submits these to the NPD and UNDP for clearance, and administers the mobilization of such inputs. 4. With respect to external project implementing agencies/ sub-contractors: a. ensuring that these agencies mobilize and deliver the inputs in accordance with their letters of agreement or contracts, and b. Providing overall supervision and/or coordination of their work to ensure the production of the expected outputs. 5. Assume direct responsibility for managing the project budget by ensuring that: a. project funds are made available when needed, and are disbursed properly, b. expenditures are in accordance with the project document and/or existing project work plan, c. required financial reports are prepared, d. financial operations are transparent and financial procedures/regulations for NEX projects are properly applied; and 6. Assume direct responsibility for managing the physical resources (e.g. vehicles, office equipment, and furniture) provided to the project staff and local or international short-term experts/consultants working for the project. 8. Prepare project progress reports of various types and the Final Project Report as scheduled, and organizes review meetings and evaluation missions in coordination with UNDP. 9. Report regularly to and keeps the NPD and UNDP PO up-to-date on project progress and problems. Selection criteria • University degree (preferably post-graduate degree) in environment management, natural resources management or related fields; • Knowledge of Result-base

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
	511,51	,	 Working level of English language is an absolute necessity; Familiarity with technical assistance projects and UNDP programme in Viet Nam is an asset.
Project Accountant and Assistant (PAA) (part-time)	250	84	This Project Accountant/Assistant Position has two roles: as an Administrative Assistant and as an Accountant with the following duties a. As a Project Assistant 1. Provide assistance in the operational management of the project according to the project document and the NEX procedures. 2. Provide support in preparing project events, including workshops, meetings (monthly, quarterly and annual), study tours, trainings, etc., as required. 3. Take care of project telephone, fax, and email system; 4. Assist with preparation of TORs and contracts for consultants for project activities. b. As a Project Accountant 1. Prepare quarterly advance requests to get advance funds from UNDP in the format applicable. 2. Assist the PC and NPD in project budget monitoring and project budget revision. 3. Set up accounting system, including reporting forms and filling system for the project, in accordance with the project document and the NEX procedures; 4. Maintain petty cash transactions. This includes writing of receipts, preparation of payment request form, receipt and disbursement of cash and clearance of advances; 5. Prepare cheques and withdraw money from the bank; 6. Prepare project financial reports and submit to PC and NPD for clearance and furnish to UNDP as required; 7. Enter financial transactions into the computerised accounting system; 8. Reconcile all balance sheet accounts and keep a file of all completed reconciliation; 9. Check and ensure that all expenditures of projects are in accordance with NEX procedures. This includes ensuring receipts to be obtained for all payments; 10. Check budget lines to ensure that all transactions are booked to the correct budget lines; 11. Follow up bank transfers. This includes preparing the bank transfer requests, submitting them to the bank and keeping track of the transfers; 12. Ensure Petty Cash to be reviewed and updated ensuring that there is up-to-date records; 13. To continuously improve system & procedures to enhance internal controls to satisfy audit r
			15. Maintain the inventory file to support purchases of all equipment/assets.

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
			 16. Undertake other relevant matters assigned by the NPD. Selection criteria University degree in accounting, finance or related fields; Solid experience of budgeting, planning and reporting on foreign funded project. Knowledge in administrative and accounting procedures of the Government Good computer skills in common word processing (MS Word), spreadsheet (MS Excel), and accounting software. Appropriate English language skills, both spoken and written.
Support to project activities from managerial personnel from central government and Provinces, estimated at \$150K	n/a	n/a	As part of the Government's co-financing to the management of the project, several managerial staff within MONRE, VEA, BCA and ISPONRE, MARD, as well as in the Provinces and protected areas' authorities, will be involved in the project, including through the provision of logistical and local coordination support.
International -	-	-	
For Technical Assistance			
Local			
Capacity Development/Training expert	750	49,6	 To develop and deliver training curriculum to support NBSAP implementation and mainstreaming at provincial levels (Outputs 1.2.2, 2.1.1 and 2.2.1). The key tasks are: Develop a plan for capacity development for NBSAP implementation. Develop a communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP. Develop training curriculum to facilitate NBSAP implementation at provincial level and the incorporation of NBSAP priorities and targets into provincial level planning. Include in the curriculum guidelines and tools and techniques developed under this project for in cooperation/mainstreaming of biodiversity priorities into provincial development and land-use planning Develop links with regional training institutions and programs to capture and apply best practice in adult education. Design and deliver training workshops using the international best practices in the areas of adult education. Design and carry out tests to assess the impact of the workshops in terms of increased knowledge and skills. After the workshops follow up with individual trainees as required. Develop Clearing House Mechanism Any other duties assigned by the NPD that have direct relevance to the project. Selection criteria: should have a BA in environmental management, biodiversity conservation management and/or related

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
			field with a minimum of 10 years experience in biodiversity training, strategic planning and policies and legislation. Proficiency in biodiversity; Good spoken and written English.
Policy expert	750	61	 To advise on biodiversity policy in both the preparation of the NBSAP and NBSAP mainstreaming at provincial levels (Outputs 1.2.1, 2.1.1, and 2.2.1). The key tasks are: Review all key policy and legal documents relevant to biodiversity conservation and management in Vietnam, including international policies and legal document Carry out and/or supervise specific policy studies as requested by the NPD. Research policy gaps, barriers and incentives frameworks in the extractive another high biodiversity impacts sectors. Lead research into the incentive frameworks governing land use planning at the provincial level. Design and test explicit biodiversity criteria in performance evaluation systems for provincial officials. Work with international consultants to ensure national biodiversity policies and legislation are reflected in the NBSAP and its mainstreaming process Undertake an assessment of opportunities of mainstreaming into selected sectoral plans such as development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations and develop plans to undertake such mainstreaming Selection criteria: should have a BA in legislation, environmental management, or related field with a minimum of 10 years experience in policy and legislation area. Experience in working with ODA projects and donors; Good spoken and written English.
Financing expert Planning expert	750 750	24	 To advise on biodiversity financing policy and mechanisms in both the preparation of the NBSAP and NBSAP mainstreaming at provincial levels (Outputs 1.2.1, 2.1.1, and 2.2.1). The key tasks are: Review all key policy and legal documents relevant to biodiversity financing in Vietnam and internationally. Carry out and/or supervise specific biodiversity financing studies as requested by the NPD. Recommend specific financial policies and instruments for use in NBSAP. Working with international consultant to support government development financial mobilization plan Develop a plan for resource mobilization for NBSAP implementation Selection criteria: should have a BA in environmental economy, economy, environmental management, or related field with a minimum of 10 years experience in environmental financing. Experience with projected area financing in Viet Nam including PES systems is desired; work experience in development projects and donors; Good spoken and written English. To advise on strategic biodiversity planning, including

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
			 mainstreaming and land use planning, in both the preparation of the NBSAP and NBSAP mainstreaming at provincial levels (Outputs 1.2.1, 2.1.1, and 2.2.1). The key tasks are: Review all key planning documents including guidelines relevant to biodiversity conservation in Vietnam. Review the latest data and information from state and non-state sources to assess key land cover changes over past 15 years. Identify the major threats and gaps that current planning policy and practice pose to biodiversity. Carry out and/or supervise specific biodiversity planning studies as requested by the NPD. Provide specific policy recommendations for use in NBSAP development and mainstreaming. Support the selected provinces in mainstreaming biodiversity conservation priorities into provincial planning Capture lessons learnt from NBSAP preparation, implementation and mainstreaming On the job training to provincial staff in biodiversity mainstreaming Selection criteria: should have a BA in environmental management, natural resource management or related fields with a minimum of 10 years experience in environmental and/or biodiversity strategic planning. Experience in working with ODA projects and planning system in Vietnam. Good spoken and written English.
Biodiversity expert	750	137	To support the international biodiversity expert in all matters related to the preparation of the NBSAP and NBSAP mainstreaming at provincial levels (all Outputs except Output 2.3.1) with specific reference to biodiversity data and information. The key tasks are: • Compile and review all reports in Vietnamese on biodiversity in Viet Nam published over the last 15 years. • Liaise with government agencies to capture the latest information and insights on biodiversity conditions and trends. • Carry out and/or supervise specific biodiversity analyses as requested by the international biodiversity expert. • Participate in all relevant NBSAP preparation meetings to capture stakeholder feedback. • Support the selected provinces in mainstreaming biodiversity conservation priorities into land-use plan. • Work with planning expert to support the selected provinces in mainstreaming of biodiversity priorities into provincial land-use plan • Support the project to capture lessons learnt from NBSAP preparation, implementation and mainstreaming. • Undertake Technology needs assessment

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
			Selection criteria: should have a BA in biology, zoology, or related field with a minimum of 10 years experience in assessing biodiversity data and information. Experience with the IUCN Red List and plant and animal taxonomy in Viet Nam desired. Work experience in ODA projects and international donors including UNDP; Good spoken and written English desired.
Support to project activities from technical personnel from central government and Provinces, estimated at \$300K	n/a	n/a	As part of the Government's co-financing to the technical implementation of the project, several technical staff within MONRE, VEA, BCA and ISPONRE, MARD, as well as in the Provinces and protected areas' authorities, will be involved in the project in all of its activities. Their role, as recipients of training, but also as key contributors to the products to be prepared (e.g. NBSAP, 5NR, CHM etc.) has been estimated. Without this contribution, the project would not be feasible.
International			
Biodiversity and planning expert	3,000	24	 To advise on all matters related to the preparation of the NBSAP and NBSAP mainstreaming at provincial levels (all Outputs except Output 2.3.1). The key tasks are: Guide and advice BCA and key stakeholders preparing the NBSAP and its mainstreaming into provincial level Advise BCA in development of guideline and tools/techniques for mainstreaming of biodiversity priorities into development and land-use planning. Review the draft NBSAP to make sure its quality and consistency with BDC and national policies and legislation related to biodiversity conservation. Coordinate with IUCN to access the latest species status assessments and identify major information gaps. Liaise with local and international NGOs to capture the latest information and insights on biodiversity conditions and trends. Carry out and/or supervise specific biodiversity analyses as requested by the NPD. Provide specific policy recommendations and advice for use in NBSAP. Undertake an assessment of the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss, highlighting the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and their contribution to human well-being; Rapid stocktaking and review of relevant plans, policies and reports; Identification of stakeholders; consultations and awareness, Guide overall development of Implementation plans and related activities Ensure quality of the final NBSAP, both in contents and in English. Selection criteria: should have a MS in biology, zoology, or related field with a minimum of 10 years experience in NBSAP preparation, training and strategic planning. Experience with the

Position Titles	\$/Person- Week [GEF only]	Estimated Person- Weeks [GEF only]	Tasks to be Performed
			IUCN Red List and plant and animal taxonomy in Viet Nam desired. Work experience in ODA projects and international donors. Excellent spoken and written English required. Good computer skills.
Support to project activities from international technical staff: from JICA (estimated at \$300K) and IUCN international (estimated at \$200K)	n/a	n/a	These two co-financing agencies will assist MONRE's in the work to prepare a National Biodiversity Database (JICA international staff) and in the updating of the conservation status of selected species, which will be (re)assessed based on international criteria, e.g., Red List (IUCN international staff). Both are particularly important for Outcome 1.1, but also for other expected outcomes and products under the project. The time that these staff will dedicate to the project, with tangible outputs to be more closely defined during the inception phase, has been duly estimated as a technical contribution to the project of international calibre from the project's co-financiers.

ANNEX D: Total budget and workplan

Award ID:	00063449	Project ID(s):	00080525			
	ž •	rsity Strategy and Action Plan an	d Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Provincial			
Award Title:	Planning.					
Business Unit:	VNM10					
	Viet Nam Developing National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Provincial					
Project Title:	Planning.					
PIMS no.	4811 Implementing Partner (F	Executing Agency)	MONRE			

GEF Component (Outcome)/ Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/ Implementi ng Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ERP/ ATLAS Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Total Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Budget Notes
		62000	GEF-10003	71200	International Consultants	40,000	30,000	10,000	0	A
Component 1: New		62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	93,000	78,000	15,000	0	В
NBSAP and 5th National		62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	12,000	8,000	4,000	0	С
Report to CBD prepared in compliance with	BCA/VEA (MONRE)	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	56,800	46,000	10,800	0	D
Biodiversity Law and CBD Strategic Plan 2011- 2020		62000	GEF-10003	72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equipment	4,000	3,000	1,000	0	Е
		62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	6,000	3,000	3,000	0	F
	GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 1 (Component 1)					211,800	168,000	43,800	0	
	BCA/VEA (MONRE)	62000	GEF-10003	71200	International Consultants	32,000	0	15,000	17,000	G
		62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	161,700	25,000	80,000	56,700	Н
		62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	25,000	6,000	15,000	4,000	I
Component 2: Provincial commitment and capacity strengthened to implement NBSAP		62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	310,700	40,000	200,700	70,000	J
		62000	GEF-10003	72400	Communic & Audio Visual Equip	10,000	5,000	5,000	0	K
		62000	GEF-10003	72500	Supplies	10,000	2,000	4,000	4,000	L
		62000	GEF-10003	72800	Information Technology Equipmt	8,000	8,000	0	0	M

GEF Component (Outcome)/ Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/ Implementi ng Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	ERP/ ATLAS Budget Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Total Amount (USD)	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Budget Notes
		62000	GEF-10003	74200	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs	52,000	5,000	32,000	15,000	N
		62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	5,246	1,000	2,246	2,000	О
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 2 (Component 2)					614,646	92,000	353,946	168,700		
	BCA/VEA (MONRE)	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Local Consultants	64,200	21,400	21,400	21,400	P
Project Management		62000	GEF-10003	72200	Equipment and furniture	5,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	Q
		62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel*	8,000	2,000	3,000	3,000	R
		62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous*	5,445	1,445	2,000	2,000	S
	Sub-total Project Management					82,645	26,845	28,400	27,400	
	GEF PROJET TOTAL					909,091	286,845	426,146	196,100	

Summary of Funds: 8

GEF	286,845	426,146	196,100	909,091
UNDP (through another award)	50,000	200,000	50,000	300,000
IUCN	150,000	70,000	30,000	250,000
JICA	1,000,000	2,000,000	800,000	3,800,000
Government	50,000	100,000	50,000	200,000
TOTAL	1,536,845	2,796,146	1,126,100	5,459,091

 $^{^{8} \}textit{Summary table should include all financing of all kinds: GEF financing, co-financing, cash, in-kind, etc.} \\$

Budget No	otes
Comp 1	
A	International Consultants: International Biodiversity expert @3000 dollars per week for 13 weeks. This consultant will also contribute to Outcome 2 and thus the total budget has been separated into the two components.
В	Local Consultants: Training and communication experts@ 750 dollars per week for 14 weeks Policy expert@750 dollars per week for 25 weeks Planning expert@750 dollars per week for 20 weeks Biodiversity expert@750 per week for 65 weeks
С	Travel: at least one most economical return international air fare and per diems in Viet Nam for the international consultant
D	Contractual Services-Companies: This contact will be for the final preparation, layout of NBSAP in English and Vietnamese languages and their distribution as well as for National GIS based map of key biodiversity information.
Е	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs: This will be for the purchase of audio-visual equipments (1 set) so that awareness on the process and outcomes of NBSAP can be shared at meetings and workshops at national level
F	Miscellaneous Expenses: Communications, photocopies etc.
Comp 2	
G	International Consultants: Same consultant as A for Component 2; at 3000 dollars per week for 10.7 weeks. This includes 2-week for final evaluation of the project.
Н	Local Consultants:
	Training and communication expert @750 dollars per week for 35.6 weeks
	Policy experts@750 per week for 36 weeks
	• Financing experts@750 dollars per week for 24 weeks
	 Planning experts@750 dollars for 48 weeks Biodiversity experts@750 dollars per week for 72 weeks
I	Travel: This will include local travel and per diems for consultants to organize meetings/ consultations nationally, and at least one most economical return international air fare and per diems in Viet Nam for the international consultant
J	Contractual Services-Companies: NGOs, academia, institutions, etc. to support mainstreaming process, do researches, including preparation of guideline, tools and techniques for mainstreaming of biodiversity into land-use planning as mentioned in outputs 2.1.1 and 2.2.2; and to assist provinces to draft and implement mainstreaming plans with assistance of NGOs, national consultants and others as well as for the preparation of Spatial Biodiversity Assessment Maps

Budget N	lotes
K	Communic & Audio Visual Equip: This will be for the purchase of audio-visual equipments (2 sets) so that awareness on the process
	and outcomes of NBSAP can be shared at meetings and workshops at sub-national level
L	Supplies: Computers, photo copy machines for the two pilot provinces
M	Information Technology Equipmt: GIS software for the two pilot provinces
N	Audio Visual & Print Prod Costs: Support to provincial government to widely disseminate the importance of biodiversity conservation through development and production of locally suitable communication materials/products (videos/ pamphlets) and their dissemination, and training materials.
O	Miscellaneous Expenses: job advertisements, ad hoc travels, unexpected activities, telephone cost, postages costs, etc.
Project N	Anagement Technologies (1997)
P	Service contract – individuals: this is for salary of (1) Project Coordinator and (2) project accountant and assistant
Q	Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*: computers, photo and fax machine, office furniture, stationeries
R	Travel*: travel costs for the project team
S	Others*: bank transfer fees, telephone costs, postages costs, insurance and security costs, plus unforeseen expenses, including exchange rate fluctuations etc.

ANNEX E: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS

A. EXPLAIN IF THE PPG OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH THE PPG ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN. N/A

B. DESCRIBE FINDINGS THAT MIGHT AFFECT THE PROJECT DESIGN OR ANY CONCERNS ON PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION, IF ANY:

N/A

C. PROVIDE DETAILED FUNDING AMOUNT OF THE PPG ACTIVITIES AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION STATUS IN THE TABLE BELOW:

N/A

ANNEX F: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

N/A