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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Regional Bureau for Africa
Global Environment Facility (GEF)

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Country : Zimbabwe

Project Title: National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP),
and Country Report to the Conference of Parties (COP)

Project Number : ZIM/96/G31/A/1G/99

Expected Duration: 11 Months

Starting Date : January 1997

Implementing Agency : UNDP

Executing Agency : Government of Zimbabwe, Ministry of Environment
and Tourism

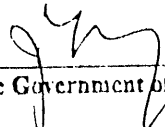
UNDP-GEF Financing : US \$ 299,456

Government Inputs : In kind

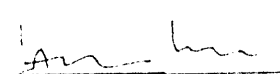
Project Summary

The Biodiversity Enabling Activity for Zimbabwe will assist the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) in developing a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP). The BSAP will build on and reinforce other existing national strategies and plans, such as the Campfire program. The project will allow Zimbabwe to meet its obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) by assisting the preparation of an Interim Report to the Conference of Parties (COP) of June 1997 and its first Country Report to the COP.

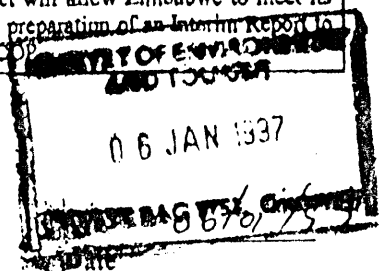
Approved:



On behalf of the Government of Zimbabwe



On behalf of UNDP



Date

7/1/97

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A. Background

In response to the Government of Zimbabwe's request for support to prepare a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) approved on 25 November a BSAP project for \$299,456 under an expedite pathway. This Project Document is the tool for the execution of the allocation, which will allow Zimbabwe to prepare its BSAP and its first Country Report to the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Zimbabwe is located between 15⁰ and 20⁰ south, 24⁰ and 33⁰ east, and it lies in the great southern African central plateau, a continental shield complex that stretches across the country from the south-west to the north-east. The country is bordered by Zambia to the north, Mozambique to the east, Botswana to the west, and South Africa to the south. There are 8 administrative provinces in the country.

Zimbabwe falls mostly in the Zambezian biogeographic zone, with Afromontane elements in the eastern highlands. The vegetation is predominantly dry miombo woodland, but it has been extensively cleared for agriculture. There are also mopane woodlands in the valleys of Zambezi, Limpopo, and Save Rivers. Grassland occurs in the center of the country, while montane grassland, heath and forests exist in the eastern highlands. The west of the country is arid, and the north-western areas are covered by Kalahari sands (IUCN, 1992).

With an area of 390,759 km², Zimbabwe has a population of 10.4 million, which is growing annually at a rate of 3.14%. It had an annual per capita income of \$568 in 1994 (United Nations Statistics Division 1994). Most people (70%) live out of agriculture and cattle farming. Agriculture contributes for 30% of the country's export earnings. Although mining, particularly gold mining, is the country's major earner of foreign currencies, the tourism industry attracted, half a million tourists to the country and generated as much as \$230 million in foreign currencies in 1990 (Zimweb 1996). This is mainly due to Zimbabwe's spectacular and diversified wildlife. Ecotourism for wildlife is becoming the country's fastest growing industry (ZERO 1991).

The extent of, and trends in, biodiversity loss have been sparsely documented in Zimbabwe. The country has at least 4,200 plant species, of which 95 are endemic. Animal life is diverse and spectacular in Zimbabwe. There are 250 species of large mammals, 640 species of birds, 122 species of fish, 153 species of reptiles, and an unknown number of insect species. Of the 12 orders of mammals that occur in Zimbabwe, the order *Artiodactyla* is most represented by two species of the *suid* family (warthog and bush pig), giraffes, hippopotamuses and 23 species of the *bovid* family. The bovid family includes buffaloes and 22 antelopes species of which 11 are believed to be threatened. Zimbabwe has Africa's largest population of black rhinos, which are concentrated in a few protected areas. There are over 50,000 elephants in the country (IUCN, 1990). A greater concentration of eagles occur in the country than anywhere else in the world. Of the 17 species, the best known are the fish eagle, the black eagle of Matopos, the marshal eagle and the colored bateleur. The number of migratory storks are declining with adverse consequences for natural pest control (IUCN 1990; ZERO 1991).

Threats to biodiversity is mainly due to habitat loss for agriculture, fires, soil erosions, and transboundary poaching. As an example, the country's indigenous woodlands have been reduced by half over this century, while the productivity of its grazing lands has been impaired. More than 3 million hectares of arable lands are completely eroded, and their continued utilization is leading to the siltation of most of Zimbabwe's major rivers. Also international poaching raids, from Zambia and Mozambique, are taking a heavy toll on the threatened species of large mammals, such as the black rhino. However, Zimbabwe is renowned for its enlightened conservation effort. As much as 13% of the country's land area have been set aside as national parks, safari areas, and recreational parks. Some of the most important critical sites in the country can be found in complexes of contiguous protected areas. Local communities and private land owners are actively participating in wildlife management. Indeed, a major recent reform, in Zimbabwe, has been the delegation of wildlife management to land owners and, in communal lands, to rural district councils through the CAMPFIRE program. Also in 1975, a Wildlife and Parks Act was promulgated, and it established a Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management (DNPWM) to ensure sound management of conservation areas in the Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET).

MET is responsible for all aspects of environmental conservation and sustainable use. There are three major departments within MET. First, DNPWM handles all aspects of wildlife and protected areas management. Second, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for monitoring the environment and exercising general supervision over the use of natural resources. Third, the Forestry Commission (FC) is responsible for the protection, conservation and management of forestry resources. The DNPWM has carried out several conservation and research activities, the best known of which is the rhino relocation program. Also FC and DNPWM have carried out forestry and captive breeding projects respectively with the collaboration of international organizations such as the WWF, ODA and IUCN. Other government institutions that are involved in plant and animal studies and research are the Institute of Environmental Studies, the National Herbarium and the Natural History Museum. There are also several ongoing projects relevant to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use as well as the SABONET (Southern Africa Botanical Diversity Network), a GEF funded initiative, which is building the capacity of botanical institutions in the region to inventory and monitor botanical resources.

Zimbabwe published its National Conservation Strategy (NCS) in 1987. This was followed in 1989 by the Policy for Wildlife Document (PWD), which defined the objectives and roles of the DNPWM. Also a country report to the UNCED conference was made in 1992. Despite these efforts there are still increasing pressures on the survival of many wildlife populations, due to habitats encroachment. Also there is need to complement the NCS and to augment sustainable use options for the country's biodiversity resources. Hence MET and DNPWM are determined to developing a cross sectoral national biodiversity strategy to address these issues and ensure sound biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing. Also the country need to meet its obligations as a signatory state of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). A national workshop, that assembled environmental experts and officials from different sectors of the country, was held on August 15 and 16, 1996 in Harare, and it

became transparent that a BSAP was timely needed. Following the workshop, the Government of Zimbabwe through MET formally requested assistance from GEF-UNDP in formulating a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP).

B. Project Objectives and Description

The project will support the participatory development of a BSAP by MET in association with relevant government ministries, local communities and NGOs. The project will build on the existing knowledge base to elaborate the BSAP through a process of participatory planning and stakeholder consultation. The BSAP will identify the current status of, pressures on, options for, and actions to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in Zimbabwe. The BSAP will complement the National Conservation Strategy and Policy for Wildlife Document and allow Zimbabwe to meet its obligations under the Convention on Biodiversity by assisting it to prepare its first national report for the COP.

Initially, the MET will establish a BSAP Steering Committee, drawn from all sectors of the society, comprising representatives from the public and private sectors, NGOs, educational and research institutions, tribal leaders, and local communities. The Steering Committee will put in place a multisectoral planning team which will undertake the work of the enabling activity. The planning team will draw upon appropriate expertise from government agencies, the private sector, NGOs, educational and research institutions. The planning team will be assisted by one lead national consultant, several national and short term consultants experienced in biodiversity issues. The lead national consultant will coordinate and facilitate project activities. The national consultants will help to run the national workshops, and the short term consultants will run the 8 provincial workshops. An international consultant will provide assistance in familiarizing the planning team in biodiversity planning, framing key strategies, drafting the BSAP and facilitating participation by all relevant biodiversity resources' stakeholders.

The planning team and consultants will initially undertake a review of WRI/IUCN/UNEP guidelines (Miller and Lanou 1995) for the preparation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. They will then compile and summarize existing information on the status of, and threats to the nation's biodiversity. Thus, together with summaries of the National Conservation Strategy, Policy for Wildlife Document, UNCED report, and biodiversity related projects, will be presented at the first national workshop.

With support from national and international consultants, the planning team will conduct the first national workshop, which will draw together the full range of actors and stakeholders relevant to biodiversity. The first national workshop will include participants from national and local government agencies and institutions, the private sector, national NGOs and local communities. The workshop participants will analyze the results of the stocktaking and inventory to select objectives, identify key issues and options as well as actors and priority areas for review.

In conjunction with the first national workshop and with the help of the lead national consultant, the international consultant will provide familiarization sessions in participatory methods, biodiversity analysis, strategic planning techniques and dissemination techniques to the planning team particularly to the national and short term consultants. Short term consultants will be hired to facilitate provincial workshops. Familiarization in participatory methods and dissemination techniques will also be provided to some civil servants and community representatives who would be attending the first national workshop.

Following the first national workshop, a detailed analysis of the issues and options will be carried out by the planning team with the help of national consultants. As part of this process, 8 provincial workshops will put together representatives from local communities and institutions, private sector and government agencies. The provincial workshops will assess various issues and options by province and involve the full range of local stakeholders in the BSAP process. The provincial workshops will be conducted primarily by the short term consultants with assistance from the planning team and the national consultants. The campfire experience will be used extensively in the provincial consultative process.

The results of the analysis and provincial workshops will then be drawn together by the planning team assisted by the short term consultants, and a draft BSAP will be prepared with the assistance of the national and international consultants. A second national workshop, to be attended by government agencies, NGOs, the private sector and local communities, will invite comment on the initial analysis and draft BSAP. New alternatives and options will be identified and developed to seek consensus among the stakeholders prior to the finalization of the details of the BSAP.

Following approval by the MET, the BSAP will be disseminated widely within Zimbabwe and a country report to the COP of the biodiversity convention will be prepared by the planning team. Because the First Country Report will not be available until November 1997, in May 1997 the planning team will draft an interim report that the Government of Zimbabwe will present at the COP meeting of June 1997.

C. Coverage Without Duplication

To complement the National Conservation Strategy and Policy for Wildlife Document, the BSAP will develop participatory strategies for conserving biodiversity, based on guidelines and methodologies recommended by IUCN/WRI/UNEP (Miller and Lanou 1995). Stocktaking will be conducted to locate and summarize information from the ongoing biodiversity projects, relevant publications and the country's report to UNCED. Also stocktaking will feed from the NCS drawn in 1987. Complementary information not available in the country will be repatriated from the United Kingdom and South Africa to feed into the BSAP. National and regional skills and expertise in biodiversity resources, inventory, collection and management available in Zimbabwean Universities and Research Institutions as well as the GEF funded SABONET will contribute to the BSAP, and there will be no duplication of activities.

Moreover BSAP will fit and benefit from other past and ongoing activities, including the GEF funded pilot phase for botanical inventories, UNDP small grant projects, and the World Bank funded projects. Results from the World Bank's biodiversity conservation project (GEF 1996) with the national park authority in Southeastern Zimbabwe, particularly at the border with Mozambique, will help frame the questions of transboundary poaching and facilitate integration of eco-tourism as a sustainable mechanism for BSAP. Finally BSAP will address the problem of fast growing human populations particularly in devising sustainable options to cope with dwindling biological resources, land degradation, and soil erosion.

D. Time Plan and Sequencing

Activities will begin in January 1997 and proceed for 11 months ending in November 1997. An interim country report will be prepared for submission to the COP by 30 June 1997. Activities will proceed as follows:

Activity/ Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Establishment of a steering committee and planning team	x										
Stocktaking and inventory of information	x	x									
Training (familiarization)			x								
First national workshop			x								
Identification and analysis of options, provincial workshops				x	x	x	x				
Preparation of draft BSAP								x	x		
Second national workshop									x		
Finalization of BSAP, dissemination										x	x
Preparation of interim report and submission to COP					x	x					
Preparation of First Country Report										x	x

E. Best Practice

The project's methodology will be based on the IUCN's "Guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity" (Glowka *et al.* 1994) and the "Guidelines for Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans" (WRI/IUCN/UNEP, Miller and Lanou 1995). The project will utilize the considerable pool of in-country expertise. With the help of national consultants, the planning team will assess existing information, organize national and regional workshops, and promote participation by all relevant stakeholder groups. The international consultant will mainly help in framing key questions, and short term national consultants will run provincial workshops.

F. Project Budget Covering UNDP-GEF Contribution (in US \$)

Country : Zimbabwe
 Project Number : ZIM/96/G31/A/1G/99
 Project Title : Zimbabwe's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, and Country Report to the Conference of Parties.

Line Item	Description	Total mm	Total (\$ US)	January	to November
				mm	1997 Amount (\$ US)
10	PROJECT PERSONNEL				
11	Experts				
11.01	GEF Project Specialist (\$500/d x 6 days)		3,000		3,000
11.02	International Consultant/Analysis of Options & Training (\$400/day x 22 days)	0.75	8,800	0.75	8,800
11.03	International Consultant/Strategy & Action Plan (\$400/day x 22 days)	0.75	8,800	0.75	8,800
11.99	Sub-Total		20,600		20,600
15	Duty Travel				
15.01	In country missions		27,623		27,623
15.99	Sub-Total		27,623		27,623
16	Mission Costs				
16.01	GEF Project Specialist (1 Air ticket @ \$4,000; DSA 113/day x 6 days)		4,678		4,678
16.02	International Consultant/Analysis of Options & Training @ \$4,000; DSA 113/days 22 days		6,486		6,486
16.03	International Consultant/Strategy and Action Plan @ \$4,000; DSA 113/days 22 days		6,486		6,486
16.99	Sub-Total		17,650		17,650
17	National Project Personnel				
17.01	1 Lead National Consultant (Project Coordinator) @ 2,500/month	11	27,500	11	27,500
17.02	National Consultants /Stocktaking (@ 2,000/m-month)	4	8,000	4	8,000
17.03	National Consultants /Identif. & Analysis of Options	5	10,000	5	10,000
17.04	Short term Consultants/Identification & Analysis Options @ 2,000/m-month	6	12,000	6	12,000
17.05	National Consultants /Strategy & Action Plan	5	10,000	5	10,000
17.06	Short term Consultants /Strategy & Action Plan	6	12,000	6	12,000
17.07	1 Secretary (@ 600/month)	11	6,600	11	6,600
17.99	Sub-Total		86,100		86,100
19	COMPONENT TOTAL		151,973		151,973
20	SUB CONTRACTS				
21.01	1st national workshop		21,000		21,000
21.02	2nd national workshop		21,000		21,000
21.03	Provincial workshops (8)		48,000		48,000
29.99	Sub-Total		90,000		90,000
29	COMPONENT TOTAL		90,000		90,000

Line Item	Description	Total mm	Total (\$ US)	January mm	to November 1997 Amount (\$ US)
30	TRAINING				
30.00	In Service Training				
30.01	Analysis, Planning, Participation		2,500		2,500
30.99	Sub-Total		2,500		2,500
39	COMPONENT TOTAL		2,500		2,500
40	EQUIPMENT				
41.00	Expendable Equipment				
41.01	Office Supply		5,000		5,000
41.99	Sub-Total		5,000		5,000
42.00	Non Expendable Equipment				
42.01	1 Computer/ 1 Printer		4,000		4,000
42.02	1 Photocopier		1,000		1,000
42.03	1 Overhead projector		500		500
42.99	Sub-Total		5,500		5,500
49	COMPONENT TOTAL		10,500		10,500
50	MISCELLANEOUS				
51.01	Operation and maintenance		7,000		7,000
52.01	Reporting, publications, promotion, dissemination		22,500		22,500
53.01	Administration, communication		4,500		4,500
53.02	Sundries		1,500		1,500
54.01	Country Office Support Costs (3%)		8,983		8,983
59	COMPONENT TOTAL		44,483		44,483
99	GRAND TOTAL		299,456		299,456

G. Deviations from Criteria and Norms

This project does not deviate from the criteria and norms for enabling activities. The preparation of the strategy and action plan will be very demanding, and several issues central to biodiversity conservation in Zimbabwe and along its border will be addressed in the BSAP. As an example, ecotourism has become the fastest growing industry in Zimbabwe, this is bringing new issues for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity that need to be addressed properly in the BSAP with suitable strategies. Also a fast growing population dependent mainly on agriculture has to be addressed properly in the BSAP. Hence the amount needed for the preparation of the strategy and action plan is close to the upper limit of the permissible range.

II. Institutional Framework and Project Implementation

The MET will establish a Steering Committee and a planning team drawing upon experts from government ministries, universities and NGOs. One lead national consultant and several national consultants will provide input into the process. A range of stocktaking, analyzing and planning activities will be carried out; two broad based and participatory national workshops and a series of 8 provincial workshops will also be conducted using CAMPFIRE experience. Costs for day to day operations of the project not supported by this GEF allocation will be borne in kind by the Government, particularly to support the planning team and the steering committee.

I. Activity Matrix

Enabling Activity Commitment	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments
	Planning, Execution	Institutional Strength.	Training		
<i>Stocktaking and Assessment, based on Existing Information</i> - biodiversity and biological resources - cross-sectoral issues - policy and regulatory framework - institutional and human capacity - analysis of root causes of BD loss - technologies for conservation and sustainable use - activities with adverse impacts - existing measures and programs - preliminary statement of objectives - identification of gaps - assessment of existing needs	x				1
	x				1
	x				1
	x				
	x				
	x				
	x				
	x				1
	x				
	x				1
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD</i> - strategies for conservation - strategies for sustainable use - strategies for benefit sharing	x	x	x	x	2
	x	x	x	x	2
	x	x	x	x	2
<i>Planning and Preparation of a Strategy and Plan</i> - national strategy - national action plan	x	x	x	x	3
	x	x	x	x	
<i>Preparation of first National Report</i> - interim report - first country report	x				
	x			x	

Footnotes to Activity Matrix:

1. The BSAP stocktaking will build on the base of information which exists as a result of initiatives and projects by WWF, IUCN, UNDP, DNPWM, FC, and DNR. However, existing information needs to be summarized and reorganized to fit into BSAP process.
2. The BSAP will extend strategies contained in the National Conservation Strategy and Policy for Wildlife Document, however it is necessary to develop broader based, participatory strategies toward meeting provisions of the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) and persistent problems of resource degradation and encroachment. For this purpose, 2 national workshops and a series of consultations, following the campfire experience, will be carried out in order to incorporate on-ground realities and needs.
3. The BSAP will effectively complement and enhance the National Conservation Strategy of 1987 and the 1989 Policy for Wildlife Document. Coordination of efforts will be made by MET, and there will be no duplication.

J. Legal Context

This project document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Service Agreement between the Government of Zimbabwe and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 27 May 1980. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement. In order to promote flexibility in the implementation and management of this UNDP project the following types of revisions may be made to this project document with the signature of the UNDP Resident Representative only, provided he or she is assured that the other signatories of the project document have no objections to the proposed changes:

- a) Revisions in, or addition of, any of the annexes of the project document;
- b) Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation; and
- c) Mandatory semi-annual revisions which rephrase the delivery of agreed project inputs, or reflect increased expert or other costs due to inflation, or take into account agency expenditure flexibility.

K. References

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