

## II. BOTSWANA

### ENABLING BOTSWANA TO FULFILL ITS COMMITMENTS TO THE UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

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#### BACKGROUND

Botswana ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) on January 27, 1994. The Department of Meteorological Services (DMS), the national focal point for climate change issues in Botswana, requested assistance from UNDP/GEF to support Botswana to fulfill its commitments to FCC

GEF Focal Area:	Climate Change
Country Eligibility:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eligible under financial mechanism for FCCC/CBD
	<input type="checkbox"/> Eligible under paragraph 9(b) of the Instrument
Total Cost:	
GEF Funding:	\$ 350,000
Implementing Agency:	UNDP
Executing Agency:	Government of Botswana
Tentative Approval Date:	June 1995
Project Duration:	2 Years

The parties of the FCCC have made a commitment to fulfill the objective of stabilization of greenhouse gas (GHG) concentrations in the atmosphere at a harmless level. In order to achieve this, signatories need to prepare national inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and sinks using internationally comparable methodologies. They need to report what measures they have taken or plan to take to fulfill the commitments of FCCC. The signatories also need to report how vulnerable they are to adverse impacts of climate change and inform on how they prepare to adapt to these changes.

In addition to the national use of the reports, the GHG inventories will provide a benchmark for the global negotiations for controlling GHGs. At a later stage these reports are the backbone for the monitoring activities. Thus, the national capacities for collecting, reporting and dissemination of information on climate change are vital to the success of the fulfillment of the objectives of the FCCC.

At independence in 1966, Botswana was one of the poorest countries in the world. With the discovery of large diamond and other mineral deposits, its GDP has grown fast and it has an annual *per capita* GDP of

\$2,224. Botswana will be classified this year as middle income country. Its agricultural potential is poor partly because water is scarce. 5% of land is arable and 80% of the land surface is covered by Kalahari desert. With a population of 1.3 million Botswana is one of the most sparsely populated countries in the world. Botswana already has uneven and erratic rain patterns. Climate change can make these patterns even more erratic and temperature raise would increase the probability of the encroachment of Kalahari desert. As the population is small and the University of Botswana has been in operation for a fairly short time, the relatively few people with knowledge of environmental issues are burdened by work.

The peculiarity of Botswana is that it imports all its electricity from South Africa. Firewood produces 60 % of domestically supplied energy. Thus, burning of biomass is the major contributor to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

The Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) of the Department of Mines in Botswana will receive assistance from the USCS. The study comprises the development of inventories of anthropogenic emissions of GHGs, the assessment of the vulnerabilities to climate change and the evaluation of response strategies for mitigating and adapting to climate change. The preliminary inventory report will be ready in mid 1995, the field studies by the end of 1995 and the rest of the study at the end of 1996.

## GEF ACTIVITY OBJECTIVES

Enablement of the Government of Botswana to fulfill its commitments of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC). The immediate objectives of the project are (i) the improved technical capacity of the organizations linked to the FCCC; (ii) the increased public awareness of climate change issues; and (iii) strengthened capacity to prepare climate change projects.

## GEF ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The project does not have a specific *target group* because the total population of Botswana will benefit from the project. However, specific components of the project are targeted to different groups of people. The vulnerability assessment component addresses the needs of the often poor people living on agriculture and livestock in climatically marginal conditions in rural areas. The institutional capacity strengthening activities are targeted at the people working in organizations which support climate change activities. The target group in the increasing of the awareness of decision makers is in particular the parliamentarians and decision makers in major organizations either causing or being affected by climate change.

The project *covers* the whole nation, the project headquarters are at the DMS in Gaborone.

*Activities.* The duration of the project is 2 years. The following key activities will be carried out in the project:

- produce a report on the experience and experts available in climate change,
- prepare and implement a detailed work plan,
- hold seminars in particular with researchers and decision makers,
- disseminate research results,
- by pulling together all constituents, prepare country communication,
- hold public awareness campaigns on climate change issues (in particular vulnerability),
- prepare guidelines to identify priority areas in climate change issues, and

- identify potential financiers and projects and prepare documentation on climate change projects.

*Evaluation.* A midterm evaluation will be conducted externally about 12 months after the start of the project. The purpose of the evaluation is to review the overall success of the project and suggest modifications to the implementation of the project during the remaining part. It is vital, that the recommendations from the evaluation mission are disseminated immediately, so that appropriate action can be taken without delay. A mid-term review seminar has been designed for this purpose.

*Inputs.* Inputs from Botswana are literature, USCS supported country study on climate change, national experts, National Working Group on Climate Change Activities (NWGCCA) members, other staff from departments and institutions and space for consultants and for seminars. Inputs from UNDP/GEF are literature, consultants from Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa, international consultants, equipment, printing costs for public awareness campaigns, logistical support.

*Outputs.* The project will produce the following main outputs:

- a report on experience and expertise available on climate change issues,
- strengthened national institutions (DMS and NWGCCA),
- IPCC standardized inventories of GHG sources and sinks adopted,
- country communication,
- increased awareness of decision makers and public on climate change issues, and
- 4 high quality climate change project proposals.

## STRATEGY

The strategy of the project is to improve the skills of the organizations to prepare the communications as required by the FCCC by increasing access to national, regional and international expertise on a consulting basis. The USCS supported country study will provide crucial input to many of the components that need to be communicated according to the FCCC. The project has been designed together with the USCS country study team in order to avoid overlap and to ensure complementarity of the activities. For instance, the USCS support in training is targeted to relatively few high cadre people and implemented outside Botswana. The strategy of this project is to pick up from there and assist in the dissemination of information and knowledge within Botswana. It is clear that both kinds of training are required and thus, the GEF/UNDP and USCS supported activities complement each other.

Parallel with the enhancement of the capacities of the institutions to deal with the commitments of Botswana to FCCC, the strategy is to broaden the climate change dialogue from a nucleus of technical experts to a national forum by increasing public awareness of in particular the effects of climate change to Botswana. In particular, the desertification aspect will be important in sensitizing the public.

## **INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

By the nature of the problem of climate change, the institutional arrangements are complex. The National Conservation Strategy Agency (NCSA) coordinates overall environmental policy formulation and introduces new initiatives in environmental management in Botswana. The agency is headed by a Board whose membership includes representatives from some government ministries, the University of Botswana, NGOs, the private sector, and local authorities. The staff of the agency is currently limited in number and this limits its effectiveness. Each ministry has an Environmental Liaison Officer. The Board of NCSA has been in operation for two years, but the Environmental Liaison Officers are yet to be given a clearly defined role.

This project will be linked with NCSA so that its functions in climate change issues will be strengthened. Although DMS is not member in the Board of NCSA, it is frequently requested to participate in the Board meetings to report on activities in climate change. The project will be implemented in cooperation with the Environmental Liaison Officers.

The national focal point on climate change issues in Botswana is the DMS. It convenes and chairs the National Working Group on Climate Change Activities (NWGCCA), whose membership includes the representatives of several ministries, including the Office of the President, and the Environmental Sciences Department of the University of Botswana. The NWGCCA will monitor the progress of the project.

USCS is a programme developed as part of the US governments commitment to FCCC. It supports the countries' efforts to establish a process for developing and implementing national mitigation and adaptation policies. The USCS supported country study is coordinated and supervised by the APCD with the assistance of Climate Change Reference Committee, which has been established for the project.

The National Institute for Development Research and Documentation (NIR) at the University of Botswana will be able to provide much of the material and data for the different activities of the project. Active cooperation with NIR will be exercised during the implementation of the project.

Several NGOs, such as Kalahari Conservation Society, Forestry Association of Botswana, Tuano Lefatsbeng and Wildlife Clubs Association, are particularly concerned with the environment. Cooperation both formally and informally with them will be crucial in order to achieve the objectives of the project.

The authorities in Botswana may seek assistance from many international organizations or programmes which have acquired knowledge on climate change issues.

## **DEVELOPMENT DIMENSIONS**

Botswana ratified the FCCC on January 27, 1994 and has started to adapt its national plans and policies towards the fulfillment of the objectives of the convention. The project complies with two of the six UNDP development themes, namely building and strengthening national capacity in environmental problems and natural resource management as well as in transfer and adaptation of technology for development.

## **SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICABILITY**

The required appropriate institutions and personnel already exist in Botswana. In addition to the UNDP/GEF support, the USCS supported country study strengthens these institutions and personnel. The collaboration between these institutions will produce sustainable results. The project is replicable in approach. However, the institutional context will vary from country to country.

## **RATIONALE FOR GEF SUPPORT**

Botswana has deposited the letter of participation with GEF, ratified the FCCC and it is committed to meet the obligations of the convention. This has been demonstrated by the fact that Botswana is currently preparing the national inventory, vulnerability assessment and mitigation options of climate change.

By working in Botswana closely with USCS supported country study on climate change, GEF will be able to gain experience in funding and implementing enabling activities.

This project will establish links with other climate change enabling activities in other countries being carried out by the GEF and by other multilateral and bilateral organizations. It will also, by participating in the informal consultative mechanism being set up by the UNFCCC secretariat, ensure that results and outputs of this project will be shared among all actors involved in climate change activities in order to enable such actors to mutually benefit from one another's activities for the present and for the future.

This project is consistent with the enabling activity and capacity building objectives listed in INC Document (A/AC.237/90/Add.3), prepared jointly by the interim secretariat of the UNFCCC and the GEF Secretariat in order to facilitate coordinated and timely assistance to countries for the implementation of the Convention. This project responds to such objectives by implementing an activity needed to enable this country to fulfill its commitments to implement the Convention.

As the activities described in the proposal would not have been undertaken by Botswana to address their developmental goals but are required on account of the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the baseline does not involve any action or expenditure. The Incremental costs for this project, consequently, are the full costs.

## TECHNICAL REVIEW

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#### RELEVANCE TO GEF

Assisting Botswana in building its capacity to implement the FCCC on a long term basis is highly relevant.

#### OBJECTIVES

The project objectives are focused on capacity building and increasing awareness of climate change issues by the public. They should be achievable given the activities outlined. It will be important to ensure that the activities are well performed and adhere to the time scales proposed.

#### APPROACH

The approaches are clearly defined and appropriate to a large semi-arid country which is sparsely populated and has a very specific energy balance. climate change influences on pastoral communities are also acknowledged as being crucial to the ability of Botswana to respond to such changes.

#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Sufficient information on Botswana is included and the most important country-based sources of information are identified.

#### FUNDING LEVEL

This seems appropriate for a two-year project.

#### INNOVATION

The recognition of the unique energy and environmental status of the country and the inadequate national capacity for implementing the FCCC is an important basis from which to start the project.

#### STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES

The most important strength is that noted under "Innovation" and the ability to interact closely with the USCS (US Country Studies) Programme.

A weakness which is recognized and can be addressed during the project is the temptation to try to accomplish too much within the project time frame. Good quality personnel and consultants and good management should alleviate this problem.

## BUDGET

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The preliminary budget to the project is as follows:

Budget category	National inputs in Pula (Pula 1 = USD 0.36)	External inputs in US dollars
Personnel	120,000	135,000
Travel	30,000	50,000
Training	20,000	45,000
Materials, equipment	30,000	90,000
Miscellaneous	25,000	30,000
Total	225,000	350,000

#### Notes:

The consultants daily fee in Botswana ranges from 400 to 800 Pula. The consulting fees in Zimbabwe are somewhat lower and in South Africa somewhat higher than in Botswana. The budget has been prepared by using the mean daily consulting rate of 600 Pula per day. The international consultants fee is calculated at \$350 per day. Training costs include the rent of the rooms, travel and food for the participants as well as logistical support (printing of materials etc.). The materials for public awareness campaigns will be supported.

The contribution from the Government of Botswana towards the project will be in the form of

- (i) salaries, allowances and time of government personnel involved in the project;
- (ii) transport of government officers; and
- (iii) office accommodation.

The detailed budget for the contributions will be prepared in the project document.

UNDP/GEF project does not support the APCD of the Department of Mines to carry out inventories of anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases, assessment of the vulnerabilities to climate change, and evaluate response strategies for mitigating and adopting to climate change, because these activities are supported by the USCS.

