



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF) ¹

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Umbrella Programme for National Communication to the UNFCCC		
Country(ies):	Global: 22 Small Island Developing countries and Least Developed Countries namely Afghanistan , Angola, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau , Guyana, Haiti, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi , Mozambique, Nepal, Palau, Sierra Leone, Saint Lucia, Swaziland and Zambia. The list of countries attached as Annex I	GEF Project ID: ²	4498
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	00707
Other Executing Partner(s):	National Governments and UNEP	Submission Date:	15-September-2011
GEF Focal Area (s):	Climate Change	Project Duration (Months)	48
Name of parent program (if applicable): ➤ For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/>		Agency Fee (\$):	1133000

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK³:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
CCM-6 (select)	(1) Adequate resources allocated to support enabling activities under the Convention	- Twenty two (22) NC project proposals submitted by participating countries to UNEP for approval	GEFTF	440000	88000
CCM-6 (select)	(2) Human and institutional capacity of recipient countries strengthened	- Twenty two (22) National communications completed and submitted to the UNFCCC which meet convention requirements and national sustainable development needs	GEFTF	10560000	1760000
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)			(select)		
(select) (select)	Others		(select)		
Sub-Total				11000000	1848000
Project Management Cost ⁴			GEFTF	330000	165500
Total Project Cost				11330000	2013500

¹ It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

² Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

³ Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework](#) when filling up the table in item A.

⁴ GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project.

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

Project Objective: The project will provide financial and technical support for the preparation of National Communications (NCs) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 22 non-Annex I Parties that have completed preparation of their current national communications. The proposed project will seek to strengthen the information base and institutional capacity of the national institutions involved in the development of national communications in order to integrate climate change priorities into development strategies and relevant sector programs. The project will ensure that countries not covered under the current National Communications umbrella project under GEF-4, and which seek support from UNEP will have expedited access to financial resources for their National Communications. It will also ensure continuity in the strengthening of national capacities and institutional mechanisms for the preparation of National Communications by building on previous achievements and addressing gaps.

Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
1 st : National stocktaking and stakeholder consultations for formulation of NC project proposals	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhanced national ownership of the National Communications process throughout institutions relevant for addressing climate change - Improved National Communications project proposals responsive to national development needs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Self-assessments of previous/on-going activities related to the preparation of NCs carried out by 22 countries; - Stakeholders consultations held at the country level to ensure that project activities are responsive to CoP guidance, national development needs and thus strengthen the nexus between national plans and policy development; - Consensus on gaps and priority areas to be addressed by the NCs, including agreed workplan, implementation arrangements, and coordination mechanisms; - Best practices for each area covered under NC developed and shared with stakeholders in order to guide NC preparation - Twenty two (22) NC project proposals submitted by participating countries to UNEP for approval. 	GEFTF	440000	88000
2 nd : Preparation of National Communications	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support provided to non-Annex I Parties to meet their reporting obligations pursuant to Articles 4.1 and 12.1 of the UNFCCC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Updated and improved national inventories of greenhouse gas - Mitigation analysis enhanced and updated including proposals of potential mitigation actions (based on updated GHG inventory) including the 	GEFTF	10560000	1760000

		<p>technical, institutional, environmental, social, financial and economic analysis of these options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved and updated vulnerability and impact assessments for different climate change scenarios carried out for priority sectors/ regions building on findings from previous NCs - Potential adaptation options in areas/sectors identified as particularly vulnerable to climate change identified and technical, institutional, social, financial and economic analysis of these options - Capacity of institutions involved in developing NCs strengthened - Gaps identified in previous NCs addressed - Other reporting obligations as per the UNFCCC guidelines completed - Twenty two (22) NC report submitted to the UNFCCC - Findings from National Communication process integrated into national development policies, sectoral plans and climate change strategies <p>- Linkage between climate change and development priorities/planning process strengthened through the NCs (NCs inform/guide the process of developing climate change strategies and sectoral plans)</p> <p>Strengthened capacity of relevant institutions in preparing and using NCs including in the use/application of improved climate modeling and observation systems</p>				
	(select)		-	(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
Sub-Total					11000000	1848000

Project Management Cost ⁵	GEFTF	330000	165500
Total Project Costs		11330000	2013500

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Government	National Governments (Ministries of Environment in 22 countries)	In-kind	1848000
GEF Agency	UNEP	In-kind	165500
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Cofinancing			2013500

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

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Climate Change	Global	11,330,000	1,133,000	12,463,000
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				11,330,000	1,133,000	12,463,000

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table

² Please indicate fees related to this project.

⁵ Same as footnote #3.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.1 the GEF focal area strategies:

The project is in conformity with the GEF's strategy to support enabling activities and capacity development in climate change and is fully consistent with GEF 5 priorities of enhancing national ownership of climate change activities and to strengthen countries' capacities to fulfill their reporting commitments under the Convention. The project supports studies/assessments in the areas of national greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories, GHG mitigation, and Vulnerability and Adaptation to climate impacts, and will lead to the development of relevant policy instruments which will inform and guide the formulation of cost-effective project proposals in the areas of GHG mitigation and climate change adaptation that are responsive to both convention obligations and national sustainable development needs relating to minimizing climate risk and implementing low carbon strategies.

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.:

The project directly addresses Article 12.1 of the UNFCCC which stipulates that Parties to the UNFCCC shall communicate to the CoP through the secretariat, the following elements of information: (a) A national inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, to the extent its capacities permit, using comparable methodologies to be promoted and agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties; (b) A general description of steps taken or envisaged by the Party to implement the Convention; and (c) Any other information that the Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention and suitable for inclusion in its communication, including, if feasible, material relevant for calculations of global emission trends. The project also responds to relevant COP decisions requesting the GEF to ensure continuous financial and technical support to Non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of their NC.

At the national level, countries have highlighted the need to link their NC process more effectively with policy-making to address climate change concerns. Furthermore, countries have set up national climate change committees and climate change units, usually supported by a formal institutional structure, to facilitate the preparation of their NC on a continuous basis. Although in most countries the institutional capacity for the preparation of NCs has increased in the past few years, the climate change enabling activity projects continue to play a pivotal role in the consolidation and continuation of these institutional structures. As governments pay increasing attention to the threat of climate change to development, national communications are beginning to play a more prominent role in shaping the climate change agenda at many levels, including sectors and regions.

Moreover, the project activities to be carried out by participating countries will be in line with national development priorities and will help inform and guide other relevant initiatives including:

- The linkages between climate change and poverty reduction efforts;
- The development of national Human Development Reports in the context of the climate change threats;

- The new initiatives most countries are putting in place to tackle climate change at different levels, including national, sectoral, local levels including development of water management strategies, development drought resistant crops, and development of renewable energy resources
- The capacity building efforts national governments have developed to increase their participation in the climate change negotiations;
- The development of regional programmes and strategies to address climate change in a more concerted manner, where appropriate;
- The climate change mainstreaming initiatives to enhance national decision-making processes on climate change;
- The linkages between the NCs and other equally relevant initiatives, such as adaptation projects, the National Adaptation Programme of Actions (NAPA); mitigation projects, sectoral planning, among others.
- Linkages with other reporting frameworks or requirement as may be adopted by the CoP.
- Support for the goals of technology transfer activities, as it seeks to identify important socio-economic sectors which form the basis of current and future national efforts to prioritize technology needs through robust Technology Needs Assessments and implementation of national action plans to promote transfer of technology which are also funded by the GEF.

The project is designed to complement other ongoing and planned projects and programmes such as some of those outlined above without duplication. UNEP will play a pivotal role in assisting country teams to set-up appropriate national implementation modality, supervising implementation, and mitigating project risks to ensure effective work delivery.

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B.1. Describe the baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address:

Pursuant to Articles 4.1 and 12 of the UNFCCC, all Parties must report on the steps they are taking or intend to undertake to implement the Convention. The preparation and submission of national communication is the most important provisions of the Convention of making climate relevant information available to the CoP of the UNFCCC. In accordance with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibilities" enshrined in the Convention, the required contents of these national communications and the timetable for their submission are different for Annex I and non-Annex I Parties. These reports include information on: sustainable development and the integration of climate change concerns into medium-and long-term national planning frameworks; inventories of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases; measures contributing to addressing climate change; research and systematic observation; climate change impacts, adaptation measures and response strategies; and education, training and public awareness. Presently there are 153 non-Annex I Parties to the Convention and as of 20 June 2011, one hundred and forty one (141) of them have submitted their initial national communications, 45 their second national communications, two parties have submitted their third national communications and one Party has submitted its fourth national communications. In addition, 92 non-Annex I Parties are presently engaged in the preparation of their second national communications and over 80% of them are expected to complete their draft national reports before December 2011.

An umbrella project approved under GEF-4 guaranteed the funding needed for the preparation of NCs in 50 countries that were most advanced in the preparation of their Second NCs. It is

anticipated that the funding under the GEF-4 Umbrella Project will be fully allocated by June 2011. This umbrella project proposes to support 22 additional countries to prepare their national communications. As these countries finalize their current round of NCs, there is concern that a funding gap may hinder the progress countries have made to consolidate the NC process.

The SBI at its thirtieth session recognized the importance of the continuity of the National Communication preparation process. In its draft conclusions, under Agenda item 4 (c) Provision of financial and technical support of National communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, the SBI “encouraged non-Annex I Parties to submit project proposals for the funding of their subsequent national communications before completion of their current national communications, in order to avoid a lack of continuity in project financing. In the same conclusions the SBI “...urged the GEF, in accordance with decision 4/CP.14, to ensure, as a top priority, that sufficient financial resources are provided to meet the agreed full costs incurred by developing country Parties in complying with their obligations under Article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention, noting and welcoming that a number of non-Annex I Parties plan to initiate the preparation of their third or fourth national communications by the end of the fourth replenishment of the GEF.”

In order to make the necessary funding provision for these countries, and in alignment with GEF Policies and Procedures, the proposed new umbrella project under GEF-5 will guarantee timely access to GEF resources for countries choosing to work with UNEP for their NC projects. Similar to the GEF-4 NC umbrella project, these NCs will continue to provide detailed and improved greenhouse gas emission inventories, mitigation analysis and vulnerability and adaptation assessments. Strong emphasis will be placed on how the NCs can inform and guide priority mitigation and adaptation actions and policies as well as foster the integration of climate change into development strategies and sector programs. Given that no new guidance for NCs are available as yet, the NC projects will be based on the UNFCCC Guidelines for the preparation of NCs, adopted in 2002 at the Eighth Conference of the Parties (CoP), which are contained in the annex to Decision 17/CP.8.

Based on the agreements reached at CoP 16 at Cancun Mexico in December 2010 on national communications and the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations under the Conventions, Parties will likely agree on new reporting requirements, especially in the areas of the greenhouse gas (GHG) and mitigation analysis. UNEP will be following closely the Conventions discussions to advise these countries on any potential adjustments to the project design and implementation, as appropriate. In the meantime, the existing UNFCCC User Manual will assist countries to prepare their NCs of non-Annex I Parties until new reporting guidelines are adopted by the CoP.

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:

NCs contain information on emissions and removals of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and details activities that a Party has and/or envisages undertaking to implement the Convention. Under the NCs programme, countries are supported to conduct an inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases (GHGs) not controlled by the Montreal Protocol. Based on the outcomes of national GHG inventory, countries assess

GHG mitigation options and elaborate programmes containing measures to mitigate climate change by addressing anthropogenic emission by sources and removals by sinks of all relevant greenhouse gases especially CO₂, CH₄ and N₂O. Countries also do carry out impact analysis and vulnerability assessment in climate sensitive sectors of the national economy and identify measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change. In many cases, these analyses provide the basis for formulating project proposals for funding and promoting development and transfer of climate change technologies. In addition, NCs provide information on national circumstances, and any other information considered relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention in these countries, such as, climate change research and systematic observations, information, networking, capacity building, education, training and public awareness at country level.

Even though incremental reasoning is not applicable to this kind of project, NCs can indirectly be associated with global benefits through capacity development mainly in the areas of GHG inventories and emission reductions. In the absence of the project, once countries complete their current National Communication, the teams and the structures created in most of the cases on project basis, will be spread out and may be lost. Timely funds availability, through this project will contribute to an enhanced and maintained capacity of the non-Annex 1 countries as well as a better quality of subsequent National Communication report. Better reports and enhanced capacities of non-Annex 1 countries means a better response to the implementation process of the UNFCCC and its treaties.

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 a background information, read Mainstreaming Gender at the GEF.":

National Communications generate a wealth of climate change related data and strengthen national capacities in producing, assessing and using this information for their policy making process. Adaptation policies and actions identified through national communications have social benefits since they are aimed at reducing vulnerability to climate change impacts and increasing climate resilience of most vulnerable groups and sectors. In the field of mitigation, identified priority options help countries move towards a low carbon development pathways. Many adaptation and mitigation measures provide win-wins and multiple benefits, such as economic savings, improvement of local environments, and avoidance of expensive corrective measures in the future. Thus, national communications have the potential to play a key role in maximizing these benefits by producing data that guides the design of priority adaptation and mitigation policies and actions and that informs development strategies and sector programs.

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 NC is the only obligation of Non-Annex I Parties under the Convention. Thus the risk of countries not delivering the project outputs can be considered none or minimal. Furthermore, the majority of countries participating in the project would have already completed two NCs with only a handful of countries initiating their SNC. Thus most countries have already established a reasonable technical and institutional basis to prepare their subsequent NCs. The main project risk, however, is related to the depth and quality of the studies carried out as well

as the consultation and institutional processes established for the preparation of the NCs. Additionally there is also the risk that countries may not be able adequately internalize the National Communications so that the NC could not be used as a tool for guiding national actions on climate change. Although technical capacities have been developed through the previous NC process and institutional arrangements have been set up, countries still face limited capacities given the complexities of some of the areas to be addressed under the NCs. There is also a risk of staff turnover which can in turn affect the quality of the studies.

To reduce this risk, UNEP will work closely with the national teams and responsible institutions to ensure adequate support and follow up at the technical level. Through regular monitoring of project activities at the national level and identification of technical bottlenecks, UNEP will through supervisory and troubleshooting to assist in project implementation and timely delivery of project outputs.

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:

A comprehensive stakeholder involvement and consultation processes is critical to the success of the project both at the project proposal preparation and project execution stages. An effective engagement of key stakeholders also enhances ownership of the National Communication process and makes the national report more responsive to national needs. The NC preparation process involves the active participation of relevant institutions and stakeholders at the national and to some extent at the local levels. Executing Agencies will be expected to report on the expected role of stakeholders' and elaborate on appropriate institution arrangement for the engagement in the NCs process based on the respective areas of expertise and competence of key stakeholders. These stakeholders may include government ministries and agencies, universities/academia/research institutions, NGOs, CBO, private sector, etc

B.6. Outline the coordination with other related initiatives:

The project will coordinate closely with the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) and will draw on their work regarding guidelines and training materials for the preparation of NC. The project will use methodologies recommended by the UNFCCC (see reference to the UNFCCC User Manual) and will build on the work carried out under previous NC, as well on the workshops and guidance materials developed by the NCSP. Where appropriate, coordination will be ensured with Technology Needs Assessments, National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) follow-up projects, and other relevant initiatives, to avoid the duplication of work. Other relevant work supported by the UNDP and UNEP at the national level will be used to provide necessary linkages with development priorities.

C. DESCRIBE THE GEF AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:

UNEP have extensive experience in the providing technical backstopping to countries for the preparation of their NCs and has helped more than 50 countries in the preparation of their Initial and Second NCs since 1998.

UNEP has more than twenty years of experience working on climate change. UNEP helped establish the IPCC with the World Meteorological Organization in the 1980s and conducted assessments of the scientific understanding of climate change in preparation for the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. UNEP also supported the negotiation of the

UNFCCC, which entered into force in 1994. Beyond its support for science and legal mechanisms, UNEP's work has concentrated on efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, mainly by promoting renewable energy and improved energy efficiency, and spurring development of a carbon market. UNEP has also been active in efforts to reduce the risks of, and improve society's resilience to, climate change, notably through its support to the preparation of national communications and NCSAs as well as the development of NAPAs. These reports have not only assisted countries meeting their reporting requirements under the UNFCCC but more importantly have helped them link scientific assessments of climate change to national policies aimed at contributing to reducing GHG emissions and promoting adequate adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change whilst ensuring sustainable development of their national economies.

UNEP have provided substantive support and training to countries in the UNFCCC negotiations, carrying out a number of workshops at the regional and sub-regional levels. Most significantly UNEP have effectively worked together to provide technical backstopping to countries within and outside the frame of the GEF funded the National Communications Support Programme. This has been a key factor in the support to the NC process at the national level and to other key activities under the Convention.

C.1 Indicate the co-financing amount the GEF agency is bringing to the project:

This is a Climate Change Enabling Activity and in accordance with convention guidance is implemented on an agreed full cost basis requiring only in-kind contribution by GEF-eligible countries. The project responds to a specific UNFCCC decision regarding the GEF support to non-Annex I Parties for the preparation of their National Communications to the UNFCCC.

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 project which will be implemented by the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE), is fully consistent with UNEP's strategy, expected accomplishment and outputs of the climate change subprogramme of UNEP's Medium Term Strategy as well as its 2010-2011 programme of Work, in particular as it relates to expected accomplishments (a) and (b). DTIE has undertaken numerous national enabling activity projects funded by the GEF. The Technology Needs Assessment project now underway is helping 36 countries evaluate options and prepare action plans for priority mitigation and adaptation technologies, again with close links to the GEF's climate change priorities in GEF 5. In addition, DTIE is the lead division for half of the thematic areas in the UNEP's Programme of Work (PoW) and accordingly already provides a cross-divisional coordination function in many areas important to the GEF.

To ensure effective work delivery an institutional framework would be set up to allow the other divisions of UNEP namely the Division of Early Warning and Assessments (DEWA), Division of Regional Cooperation (DRC), Division of Environmental Policy and Implementation (DEPI), and Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELC) place at the disposal of countries, expertise available within the divisions to prepare good quality national communications. DELC as UNEP's lead division supporting the implementation of MEAs and facilitating interlinkages and synergies between the MEAs has a growing portfolio of activities relating to Policy and Interlinkages, Climate and Energy Law which will result in mutual strengthening the implementation of GEF funded national communications report and the work of the Division particularly as it relates to IEG and capacity building.

Division of Environmental Policy and Implementation (DEPI) has an ongoing work in the area of adaptation to climate change, ecosystem services and economics, fresh water and terrestrial ecosystems, marine and coastal ecosystems as well as environmental education and training.

Division of Early Warning and Assessments' (DEWA) role identifying emerging environmental threats and conducting rigorous scientific assessments to inform the science-policy interface is an asset for the GEF Enabling Activities which draw from existing information and numerous environment assessments to inform national policy processes. Due to its cross-cutting nature and existing regional presence, there is a natural fit between the required technical and substantive roles of UNEP in supporting the implementation of GEF funded Enabling Activities.

Division of Regional Coordination (DRC) through its strategic presence and close interface with countries is well able to help in identifying regional, subregional and national priorities and trends which effectively contribute to the development and delivery of appropriate interventions. This capability undoubtedly provides an important platform for strengthening the coordination and implementation of GEF funded climate change enabling activities which require intensive engagement at the national and regional levels. The division's support and coordination of UNEP's engagement in UN common country programming processes provides an excellent conduit for linking UNDAF process not only to GEF funded EA/CDs projects in support of the MEAs, but also provides an appropriate entry point to UNEP's Programme of Work.

UNEP Execution Activities to be covered by the 3% Project Management Costs

Administrative support

Most LDCs and SIDs have been preparing their national communications for the past 10 years, however due to frequent change of governments and associated staff turnovers as well as natural attrition of trained/qualified personnel, these countries are still in need of qualified experts that are capable of preparing good quality reports that meet the requirements of the UNFCCC and national and sectoral planning needs. UNEP will upon request assist eligible countries conduct search for suitable national and sub-regional/ international climate change experts (by means of advertisements, website, roster of experts) capable of carrying out the requisite thematic assessments in the areas of GHG Inventories, Mitigation Analysis and Adaptation strategies. UNEP will help in preparing TORs and assist in supervising performance/work outputs.

There are high transactional costs in managing projects in LDCs and SIDs. As a result of very high staff turnovers, and limited professional expertise, a number of project managers in LDCs and SIDs are still not proficient in progress and financial reporting which undermines effective work delivery and consequent delays in project completion. These project personnel will need help from the UNEP out posted task managers and Nairobi based finance team. The finance team will also make direct payments and thus ensuring flow of funds for project activities. All these support will be provided through e-mails and phone follow-ups to help countries meet basic UNEP reporting standards.

Capacity building

UNEP will support nationally funded country level and sub-regional workshops to train country teams / experts on GHG methodologies, use of climate and socio-economic scenarios, use of bio-physical models for V&A assessments in water resources, agriculture, forestry and rangelands, fisheries, etc and integration of climate change issues into national and sectoral planning frameworks. This support will include designing the course agenda with the trainers,

reviewing training materials and vetting trainers to ensure they have the necessary skill and expertise to deliver high quality and targeted training. This is all designed to improve the capabilities of national teams/experts in delivering sector strategies, National Inventory Reports, etc. UNEP will however not be able to directly participate in these workshops to assist in the training programmes

Need for additional Support Programme


Although the scope of assistance listed above go a long way to help countries with weak institutional and human resources capabilities to prepare their national communications, they are far less than what must be provided to these countries to prepare national reports that can be used for planning purposes at the national, sectoral and community level to address the problems of climate change. Assistance will therefore need to be provided through a separate request for a support programme which would include amongst others the provision of technical backstopping on thematic assessments, technical review of assessment reports, and onsite visits to countries to provide hands-on-training on tools and methodologies for cross-sectoral assessments, mainstreaming of climate change issues into development plans, etc.

PART III: 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)

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (mm/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Maryam Niamir-Fuller Director, GEF Coordination Office, UNEP		March 18, 2011	George Manful Senior Task Manager	+254.20.762.5085	George.Manful@ unep.org

ANNEX 1: TWENTY TWO (22) SIDSs AND LDCs TO BE SUPPORTED BY UNEP TO PREPARE
THEIR NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS UNDER THE UNFCCC

1. Afghanistan
2. Angola
3. Burundi
4. Cambodia
5. Central African Republic
6. Chad
7. Congo
8. Djibouti
9. Guinea
10. Guinea-Bissau
11. Guyana
12. Haiti
13. Lesotho
14. Liberia
15. Malawi
16. Mozambique
17. Nepal
18. Palau
19. Saint Lucia
20. Sierra Leone
21. Swaziland
22. Zambia