



**REQUEST FOR LAND DEGRADATION ENABLING ACTIVITY  
PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER the GEF TRUST FUND**

**PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS**

EA Title:	Development and Alignment of National Action Programme to the UNCCD 10 Years Strategy and Preparation of the Fifth Reporting and Review process		
Country(ies):	Ukraine	GEF Project ID: <sup>1</sup>	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	00908
Other Executing Partner(s):	- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine (MENR); - CSO InterEcoCentre, Ukraine	Submission Date:	July 30, 2012
GEF Focal Area (s):	Land Degradation	Project Duration (Months)	24
Check if applicable	NCSA      NAPA	Agency Fee:	13,636

**A. EA FRAMEWORK**

<b>EA Objective:</b> To facilitate access to GEF funding by Ukraine for Enabling Activities to meet their obligations under the UNCCD : a) Development and alignment of NAP with 10 – Year Strategy and b) Reporting and Review process.					
EA Component	Grant Type (TA/IN/ NV)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs <sup>2</sup>	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1. NAP revision and alignment	TA	1.1 Ukraine has aligned its National Action Plan (NAP) with the UNCCD 10 year strategy and institutionalized it within future government development framework	Report on availability, assessment of sectoral development plans, policies and other documents relevant to the UNCCD and recommendation for mainstreaming DLDD in these policies/documents and sectors	12,000	20,000
			Framework document of NAP of Ukraine aligned with the Strategy	10,000	4,000
			An aligned NAP to the	17,000	32,000

<sup>1</sup>Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

<sup>2</sup> The UNEP-UNEP-GEF “Monitoring Guidelines of Capacity Development in GEF project – sept 2010” scorecard will be used to monitored project achievement at countries level.

			UNCCD 10 Year Strategy that identifies and establishes priorities in the context of development planning, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultations		
		1.2 Enhanced national capacity to assess and monitor baseline and indicators for the implementation of the Strategy and to undertake the NAP alignment	National methodology that will be applied in NAP development and alignment	12,000	13,000
			Developed and reviewed indicators for NAP alignment and implementation taking into account national peculiarities	15,000	9,000
			Trained stakeholders in use and application of indicators, monitoring and evaluation and in the gathering of data	2,000	5,000
		1.3. Improved policy and institutional framework and financing mechanisms for NAP implementation	Strengthened National capacity for Land Degradation vulnerability assessments , monitoring, coordination, knowledge development and management including useful traditional knowledge and best practices system	7,091	14,000
			Mainstreamed NAP priorities in relevant sectoral policies and investment plans, district development plans and international partners frameworks.	12,000	4,000
			Report on national assessment of financial resources available, technology transfer need, for NAP implementation, integrated investment	11,000	4,000

			framework and integrated financial strategy		
2. Reporting and Review	TA	2.1 National report for the second leg of the fourth reporting and review process prepared and submitted by Ukraine	Appropriate national consultative processes that include key national stakeholders including CSO, Gender consideration and indigenous people, held	2,000	2,000
			National report prepared for the second leg of the fourth reporting and review process	13,000	14,000
			Validation workshop held to review and finalize the report	4,000	2,000
			A national report from Ukraine on the measures taken to implement the UNCCD submitted through the PRAIS portal and published for dissemination at national level	0	1,000
			Improved linkages of UNCCD reporting and implementation with national priorities, donors frameworks and National plan to make use of the established system for long-term monitoring of the UNCCD and synergy with other processes.	4,000	1,000
			Systems/protocols for data gathering and flow, quality insurance and knowledge management for the reporting and review process developed	3,000	2,000
			Liaison with UNEP, UNCCD, GM Helpdesks for acquiring further knowledge and know-how on the	0	3,000

		UNCCD review and reporting process		
Subtotal			124,091	130,000
Project Management			12,273	20,000
Total EA Cost			<b>136,364</b>	<b>150,000</b>

**B. CO-FINANCING FOR THE EA BY SOURCE AND BY NAME**

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Project Coordination Agency	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources	In-Kind	127,300
Project Coordination Agency	Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources	Cash (State budgetary funds)	7,500
Project Executing Agency	CSO InterEcoCentre	In-Kind	4,000
GEF Agency	UNEP	In-Kind	10,000
Others	National University of Bioresources and Nature Use, Ukraine	In-Kind	1,200
<b>Total Co-financing</b>			<b>150,000</b>

**C. GRANT RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY**

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal area	Country Name/Global	EA amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) <sup>2</sup>	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Land Degradation	Ukraine	136,364	13,636	150,000
<b>Total Grant Resources</b>				<b>136,364</b>	<b>13,636</b>	<b>150,000</b>

**D. EA MANAGEMENT COST**

COST ITEMS	TOTAL ESTIMATED PERSON WEEKS/MONTH	GRANT AMOUNT	CO-FINANCING	EA TOTAL
<b>LOCAL CONSULTANTS</b>	<b>16 WEEKS</b>	<b>9,600</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>25,600</b>
<b>INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANTS</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>OFFICES FCILITIES, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, AND COMMUNICATIONS</b>		<b>1,773</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>4,773</b>
<b>TRAVEL</b>		<b>400</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>1,400</b>

<b>OTHERS</b>		<b>500</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>12,273</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>32,273</b>

## **PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION**

<p><b>A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT</b> (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):</p>	<p>Ukraine became a Party to the UNCCD in 2002. Since then different measures aimed at the UNCCD implementation have been undertaken in Ukraine. The Supreme Council of Ukraine (Parliament of Ukraine) adopted the Land Code of Ukraine (2002), laws of Ukraine “On General Scheme of Territorial Planning of Ukraine” (2002), “On Land Protection” (2003), “On State Control for Land Use and Protection” (2003), “On Land Use Arrangement” (2003), “On Ecological Network of Ukraine” (2004), Forest Code of Ukraine (2006) and others.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Supreme Council of Ukraine adopted A Strategy of the State Ecological Policy of Ukraine up to 2020 in 2010. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved in 2011 the detailed National Action Plan on implementation of this Strategy. Activities on NAP alignment, in accordance with the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy, were also included in the above-mentioned documents.</li> <li>2. Relevant State Programmes have been implementing in Ukraine as well. Among them are: State Program “Forests of Ukraine” for 2002 – 2015 (2002), State Program on Water Economy Development (2002), State Programme on Rural Development in Ukraine up to 2015 (2007) and others.</li> <li>3. The country implemented project “National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environment Management in Ukraine” (GEF/UNDP) was completed in 2007. It resulted in the elaboration of the strategic national environment document. Other outputs included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Baseline reports (climate change, biodiversity and desertification) developed;</li> <li>• Thematic reports (climate change, biodiversity and desertification) developed;</li> <li>• Synergy report and Action Plan developed;</li> <li>• “National Environmental Policy of Ukraine” document developed and launched;</li> <li>• Project “Establishment of the Joint Implementation (JI) Secretariat in Ukraine” implemented;</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Project “Raising awareness and building in-country expertise for identification and development of JI projects in Ukraine” implemented</li> </ol>
<p><b>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES</b> (The proposal should briefly justify and describe the project framework. Identify also key stakeholders involved in the project including the</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Effective management of natural resources and environmental protection are essential to preserve life supporting biological systems, improve the quality of life and reduce poverty in Ukraine. Poor environmental management in the past has resulted in an increased number of natural and man-made disasters in recent years in Ukraine, and worsened the health of the population. At present, 57.5% of the total territory of Ukraine is now eroded land, and is growing at approximately 80,000 hectares annually. At the same time, it has many natural assets in biodiversity and international</li> </ol>

<p>private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable. Describe also how the gender dimensions are considered in project design and implementation.)</p>	<p>waters of global importance and its industrial activities and energy consumption practices have important implications for global climate change. Ukraine's soil is widely recognized as a major national asset due to its tremendous fertility and outstanding agricultural qualities. According to data compiled by the State Committee for Statistics, agricultural lands occupies 71 % and forests 16% of the total land area (60.35 million ha). However, Ukraine is one of the countries that exemplify the seriousness of land degradation in the region as described in the Regional Implementation Annex for Central and Eastern Europe of the UNCCD Convention.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Over the last decades the UNCCD has undertaken a major reform process aimed at making the UNCCD process more efficient, transparent, and accountable and focused. The adoption by the Parties in 2007 of the 10-Year strategic plan and framework to enhance the implementation of the Convention (2008-2018) has paved the way for a results-based approach to global and national efforts to combat desertification. Ukraine fully supported the reform process and the Strategy. However the Government of Ukraine has very limited financial possibilities and government procurement restrictions to match the UNCCD reform process and 10-Year strategic plan and framework with national legal and institutional framework.</li> <li>7. After the successful undertaking in 2010 of the first leg of the 4<sup>th</sup> Reporting and Review process on the performance indicators, financial flows and best practices on SLM technologies, the UNCCD initiates in 2012 the second leg of the 4<sup>th</sup> Reporting cycle that will also include reporting on the strategic objectives, using the set of identified impact indicators.</li> <li>8. The project addresses directly decisions 11/COP.9, 13/COP.9, and 17/COP.9 concerning, respectively, 1) the new mandate and functions of the CRIC, 2) the establishment of a comprehensive Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System (PRAIS) and 3) measuring progress on strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3, and 4 of The Strategy through appropriate impact indicators and performance indicators through an improved process learning from the iterative process initiated for that specific purpose by COP 9. In this respect, Decision 17/COP.9 explicitly calls for inclusion of the impact indicators in future capacity-building initiatives assisting affected country Parties and requests the UNCCD Secretariat and the Global Mechanism (GM) to seek assistance from bilateral donors, relevant international organizations and financial institutions, with particular regard to the Global Environment Facility. At its ninth meeting, the CRIC<sup>3</sup> confirmed strong support for further capacity building and adequate technical and financial assistance to be provided by the GEF to UNCCD country Parties to assist them in fulfilling reporting obligations under the Convention.</li> <li>9. The project responds to the specific calls made by the committee for the Review of the Implementation (CRIC) and Conference of the Parties (COP) for adequate global capacity development measures, as well as technical and financial support to ensure long-term capacities of Parties to align their NAPs and to monitor the implementation of the Strategy and the Convention in accordance with the new reporting obligations. More in</li> </ol>
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<sup>3</sup>ICCD/CRIC(9)/16, "Report of the ninth session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, held in Bonn from 21 to 25 February 2011". Notably p. 9, paragraph s 35 and 36; p. 11, paragraph 51; p.15, paragraph 84, 87 and 88; p. 16, paragraph 91; and p. 17, paragraph 105. <http://www.unccd.int/cop/officialdocs/cric9/pdf/16eng.pdf>

	<p>particular the project aims to respond directly to the decisions 3/COP.8 which in adopting the Strategy urges and recognizes “the need for Parties to align their NAPs” and Decision 2/COP.9 on “Alignment of the action programs with The Strategy” which call for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Affected country Parties to use the alignment guidelines as the reference tool in aligning NAPs and other relevant implementation activities with the 5 operational objectives of The Strategy;</li> <li>b. The Secretariat to facilitate provision of technical assistance to affected country Parties for review, alignment and/or revision of NAPs;</li> <li>c. GM/Secretariat, in accordance with their mandates, to financially assist affected country Parties to develop integrated investment frameworks to foster resource mobilization for NAP alignment ;</li> <li>d. Developed country Parties and financial institutions to assist with funding to eligible country Parties for review, alignment and revision of NAPs<sup>4</sup>.</li> </ol> <p>10. The EA aims at assisting Ukraine in developing an aligned NAP with the UNCCD 10-Year Strategy and to undertake a second leg of the 4th UNCCD reporting and review process, including the review of indicators provisionally adopted by the COP and implemented under the PRAIS framework. The two processes (NAP alignment and reporting) will be mutually reinforcing and resulting in improved planning and monitoring of UNCCD implementation at the national level for better decision making on DLDD and sustainable land management issue. Therefore, Project objective pertaining to NAP development and alignment, review and reporting process is fully in line with key political priorities of Ukraine.</p> <p>11. Ukraine has prepared two National Reports on the UNCCD implementation. In 2006 the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted Procedures for collection, use and dissemination of information about land degradation and desertification. These Procedures, which are based on the State system of environmental monitoring, need to be updated in accordance with the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy and bearing in mind preliminary agreed sets of performance and impact indicators.</p> <p>12. There is a need to conduct in-deep analysis of measures and activities pertaining to the UNCCD implementation, which are envisaged within relevant State Programmes and Plans, to strengthen their coordination and coherence, avoid duplication and cover gaps, especially in framework of NAP development and alignment process. In addition, the policies documents mentioned above (in section A), are now out-dated and are not addressing the current land degradation and desertification problems recognized and prioritized at National and Global levels.</p> <p>13. The project objective is to elaborate the first (in Ukraine) National Action Plan to combat desertification with focus on national priorities and being in full compliance with UNCCD 10-Year Strategy adopted by the Conference of Parties per decision 3/COP 8.</p> <p>14. In preparation of the NAP all interested parties, particularly Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and private sector will be involved, in order, to ensure ownership and integrated approach. Gender and indigenous group considerations will also be key priority issues. The NAP development will</p>
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<sup>4</sup> Decision 13/COP.9 CONS O 5 target: By 2014, at least 80% of affected country Parties subregional and regional entities have formulated/ revised a NAP/SRAP/RAP aligned to The Strategy

	<p>also consider international partners/donors frameworks in order to mainstream NAP and ensure resources mobilization.</p> <p>15.The project will also support the country to put in place an enabling environment that will lift barriers for long term SLM vision, adequate policies and regulatory framework, and appropriate information and technology transfer. The project will also build capacities for sound data collection and management, proper coordination, information exchanges at all levels and establish appropriate mechanism for sustainable coordination of implementation of the Action Plan and reporting process.</p> <p>16.The project will ensure all norms regarding Civil Society participation, social and environmental safeguards including gender and indigenous people considerations by ensuring (i) inclusiveness of both men and women in project formulation and implementation of the national consultation processes; (ii) ensuring inclusiveness for marginalized and poor communities in the consultations; (iii) collecting of gender disaggregated data and information where possible, and (vi) analysis and articulation of relationship to human well being and poverty reduction, through the impact indicators and the anticipated socioeconomic impacts of the aligned NAP on the national development agenda.</p> <p>17.In order to enable UNEP to track how consideration of socio-economic benefits, indigenous people, gender dimensions are addressed by Parties, the provision will be included that these considerations including CSO participation to the process at national level, should be reflected in the aligned NAP reporting process. In addition, the UNEP Help Desk will assist in ensuring social/gender issues are integrated in the NAPs and reports.</p> <p>18.The other key national stakeholders which will be closely involved in the project implementation will include relevant departments of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine</li> <li>- State Agency of Forest Resources of Ukraine</li> <li>- State Agency of Land Resources of Ukraine</li> <li>- Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Housing of Ukraine</li> <li>- Ministry of Economic Development and Trading of Ukraine</li> <li>- State Agency of Water Resources of Ukraine</li> <li>- State Agency of Statistic of Ukraine</li> <li>- National Academy of Agrarian Science of Ukraine</li> <li>- National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine</li> <li>- CSOs in the field of ecology, protection and sustainable use of land</li> </ul> <p>19. These governmental bodies and organisations, in accordance with their respective mandates, also have responsibility in the field of development and implementation of the state policy related to combating land degradation/desertification, protection and sustainable use of natural resources, as well as on other matters pertaining to the UNCCD 10-year Strategy implementation in Ukraine to be covered in framework of the EA.In accordance with national legislation, they will be involved in elaborating of Framework Document of the NAP and analysis of data flow necessary for the Fifth reporting cycle.</p>
<b>C. DESCRIBE THE</b>	20. The objective of this project is to facilitate access to GEF funding by



<p><b>ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION</b> (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A ).</p>	<p>Ukraine for Enabling Activities to meet its obligations under the UNCCD (i) alignment of NAPs with 10 – Year Strategy and (ii) Reporting and Review process. This will be achieved through following immediate objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To enable Ukraine to develop an aligned National Action Program in light of operational and strategic objectives identified by UNCCD 10-year Strategy;</li> <li>- To enable the country and national stakeholders to undertake the necessary consultations for elaboration of the next reporting and review process</li> </ul> <p>21. The EA will conduct:</p> <p><b>A1. Stocktaking assessment and awareness raising on NAP alinement: The national Executing Agency, with support from national experts will ensure:</b></p> <p>A.1.1. Project kick-off meeting with stakeholders and assessment of needs  A.1.2. In-deep analysis of measures and activities pertaining to the UNCCD implementation, which are envisaged within relevant Sectoral State Programmes and Plans;  A.1.3. Public awareness raising on on NAP alinement, review and reporting process (web-pages, publications, trainings, workshops, etc)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outputs :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report on availability and assessment of sectoral development plans, policies and other documents documents relevant to the UNCCD and recommendation for mainstreaming DLDD in these policies/documents and sectors;</li> <li>- Support of the UNCCD implementation by national civil society</li> </ul> <p><b>A.2. Strengthening human and scientific capacity for NAP alignment and reporting:</b></p> <p>A.2.1. Based on stakeholders’ needs and agreed approach for the NAP alignment, the national experts’ team will develop joint approach on how to adapt the guidelines received through the UNCCD Secretariat and the Global Mechanism and to reflect it in the national methodology of NAP development and alignment.  A.2.2. Preparation of the national methodology and recommendations on NAP alignment process and workshop with various stakeholders to have a common understanding on how the NAP development and alignment will take place.  A.2.3. Development of a database of key stakeholders for NAP development, alignment and implementation</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outputs :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National methodology that will be applied in NAP development and alignment;</li> <li>- Developed and reviewed indicators for NAP alignment and implementation taking into account national peculiarities</li> <li>- Trained stakeholders in use and application of indicators, monitoring and evaluation and in the gathering of data;</li> </ul> <p><b>A.3. Strengthening the policy and institutional framework for NAP development, alignment, implementation, review and reporting process:</b></p> <p>A.3.1.Updating the national monitoring and vulnerability assessments system</p>
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and the national knowledge management system (including useful traditional knowledge and best practices) and development of measures for their strengthening

A. 3.2. Assessment of sectoral policies and preparation of measures for mainstreaming NAP priorities in relevant sectoral policies and partners and donors frameworks.

**Outputs:**

- Strengthened National capacity for Land Degradation vulnerability assessments , monitoring, coordination, knowledge development and management including useful traditional knowledge and best practices system;
- Mainstreamed NAP priorities in relevant sectoral policies, investment plans, district development plans and international partners frameworks and partners/donors frameworks.

**A.4. NAP development and alignment**

A.4.1. Based on the strategic and operational objectives of the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy, analyses of provisions of the existing State Programmes and Plans, trends and dynamics of land degradation and desertification, as well as assessed needs of the stakeholders, national experts' team under supervision of the executing agencies will prepare a Framework Document of NAP to be agreed on by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

A.4.2. In accordance with the framework, the NAP national experts' team under supervision of the executing agencies will **elaborate the NAP** to be also agreed on by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

A.4.3. While implementing the above-mentioned activities there will be organized appropriate consultative process (consultative meetings, dissemination of the draft documents among the governmental bodies, scientific and civil society organizations, other stakeholders, analysis of the proposals and feedbacks received etc), collection and processing necessary data as well as an validation workshop.

**Outputs :**

- Report on availability and assessment of sectoral development plans, policies, partners/donors frameworks and other documents relevant to UNCCD;
- Framework Document of NAP of Ukraine aligned with the Strategy;
- An aligned NAP to the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy that identifies and establishes priorities in the context of development planning, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectoral consultation and dialogues with international partners/donors;

**A.5. Establishment of the financial and technological framework for NAP implementation:**

A.5.1. National expert's team will assess national financial resources available for Sustainable Development that can be mobilized for NAP implementation, review existing national financial mechanisms, financial and investment strategies, frameworks, rules and procedures and prepare recommendations on their improvement for proper integration of the UNCCD priorities according to the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy.

A.5.2. Assessment of technology transfer needs for NAP alignment and implementation and development of recommendations for their realization.

This approach will enable Ukraine to accommodate a long term financial instruments that will support the implementation of the UNCCD in the country.

**Outputs:**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report on national assessment of financial resources available, technology transfer need, for NAP implementation, integrated investment framework and integrated financial strategy;</li> </ul> <p><b>A.6. Strengthening national capacity to assess and monitor baseline and indicators for implementation of the UNCCD 10 - Year Strategy which will include:</b></p> <p>A.6.1. Development and review of indicators for NAP alignment and implementation taking into account national peculiarities including donors frameworks.</p> <p>A.6.2. Development of a conceptual approach for harmonization of indicator data and knowledge bases of relevant processes including, European Union, GEF, Rio Conventions, MEA IKM and other databases relevant to land degradation and sustainable development.</p> <p>A.6.3. Workshop (training) on reviewing, development and application of baselines and indicators, monitoring, evaluation, data gathering and harmonisation.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developed and reviewed indicators for NAP alignment and implementation taking into account national peculiarities;</li> <li>- A conceptual approach for harmonization of indicator data and knowledge bases of relevant processes including, European Union, GEF, Rio Conventions, MEA IKM and other databases relevant to land degradation developed</li> <li>- Trained stakeholders in use and application of indicators, monitoring and evaluation and in the gathering of data;</li> </ul> <p><b>A.7. Preparation of National report for the second leg of the fourth reporting cycle which will include:</b></p> <p>A.7.1. Establishment of appropriate consultative processes.</p> <p>A.7.2. Preparation of the draft report.</p> <p>A.7.3. National validation workshop to review and finalize the report</p> <p>A.7.4. Submission of the report through the PRAIS portal</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Appropriate consultative processes held;</li> <li>- Draft report prepared for the second leg of the fourth reporting and review proces;</li> <li>- Validation workshop held to review and finalize the report;</li> <li>- A national report from Ukraine on the measures taken to implement the UNCCD submitted through the PRAIS portal and published for dissemination at national level;</li> </ul> <p><b>A.8. Establishment of enabling environment for preparation of national reporting cycle to the UNCCD</b></p> <p>A.8.1. Establishment of data flow to the knowledge management system and data quality insurance system before submission of reports</p> <p>A..8.2. Development of the National plan to make use of the established systems for long-term implementation, monitoring and reporting of the UNCCD taking into account national development priorities and reporting procedures</p> <p>A.8.3. Ensuring of liaison with the UNCCD Secretariat and the Global Mechanism, UNEP PRAIS Reference Centres (Helpdesks) on reviewing and reporting process</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Outputs:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improved linkages of UNCCD reporting and implementation with national priorities, donors frameworks and National plan to make use</li> </ul>
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of the established system for long-term monitoring of the UNCCD and synergy with other processes;

- Common understanding including training, by relevant national stakeholders of methodologies and their application for indicator-based reporting which comply with the reporting requirements of the UNCCD reached;
- Systems/protocols for data gathering, flow, quality insurance and knowledge management for the reporting and review process developed;
- Liaison with UNEP, UNCCD, GM and Helpdesks for acquiring further knowledge and know-how on the UNCCD review and reporting process.

#### **EA IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT**

**22. UNEP/GEF** is the Implementing Agency for this GEF Enabling Activity. UNEP/GEF shall in its role as GEF Implementing Agency, provide project oversight to ensure that GEF policies and criteria are adhered to and that the project meets its objectives and achieves expected outcomes in an efficient and effective manner. Project supervision is entrusted to the Director of UNEP/DEPI who discharges this responsibility through the assigned Task Manager who represents the Director on the project steering committee. Project supervision missions if any, by the Task Manager and/or Fund Management Officer shall constitute part of the project supervision plan. UNEP/GEF would perform the liaison function between UNEP and the GEF Secretariat and report on the progress against milestones outlined in the CEO approval letter to the GEF Secretariat. UNEP shall inform the GEF Secretariat whenever there is a potentially substantive co-financing change (i.e. one affecting the project objectives, the underlying concept, scale, scope, strategic priority, conformity with GEF criteria, likelihood of project success, or outcome of the project). It shall rate, on a periodic basis, progress in meeting project objectives, project implementation progress, risk, and quality of project monitoring and evaluation. In order to ensure overall coherence with the Convention process and taking into consideration the fact that this project is meant to support Ukraine to meet its obligations toward the Convention, UNEP/GEF through the EA, will also work in close consultation with the UNCCD Secretariat and GM through the National Focal Point on all issues relating to deadlines and deliverables under the project.

**23. UNEP** cooperates with multilateral environmental agreements, and support collaboration among such agreements, in order to facilitate their effective implementation. UNEP's baseline of work enhances the full implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building, promotes Rio Convention synergies, and promotes a Green Economy paradigm, through e.g., building home-grown (national) expertise, including capacity for South-South cooperation, environmental leadership; and Linking processes and outputs from GEF funding for Enabling Activities with cross-cutting

	<p>capacity development projects, for greater synergies, cost effectiveness and impact.</p> <p><b>24.</b> The project is fully in line with the UNEP role of catalysing the development of scientific and technical analysis and advancing environmental management in GEF-financed activities. UNEP provides guidance on relating the GEF-financed activities to global, regional and national environmental assessments, policy frameworks and plans, and to international environmental agreements. UNEP signed and MOU with UNCCD secretariat implemented the UNCCD Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation project (PRAIS) project alongside the first leg of the 4th UNCCD reporting and review project<sup>5</sup>, the piloting integrated processes and approaches to facilitate national reporting to Rio Conventions project (FNR_Rio) and has implemented the 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership project. Together, these initiatives will provide GEF with a range of relevant experiences, proof of concept, testing of ideas and access to the best available science and knowledge.</p> <p><b>25.</b> In relation to the land degradation focal area, the project is fully in line with UNEP comparative experience in reference with GEF/C 31/5 Annex H. UNEP will primarily focus on the areas of its mandate, will continue to provide scientific and technical advice to the Facility on its policies and programmes. UNEP is actually developing a Drylands Strategy which is a confirmation of commitment to support UNCCD process and put Land Degradation agenda in its core corporate works.</p> <p><b>26.</b> UNEP has history of working with Ukraine both on UNCCD and other GEF activities. On UNCCD, UNEP has supported the country during the PRAIS project and the present UNEP/GEF project built on that experience. UNEP has also recently agreed to establish an office in Ukraine.</p> <p><b>27.</b> The UNEP in-kind contribution to this project is estimated at \$10,000 over the two years project duration. This amount represent (i) the staff time to develop the project document as no PPG resources will be requested from GEF Trust Fund, (ii) as it is clear the handling of Enabling Activity both in term of investment for communication and additional Staff time to manage the SSFA will go beyond the Agency fee from this project.</p> <p><b>28. Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine (MENR):</b> As the National Coordination Agency the MENR shall take responsibility for the global coordination of the project implementation in accordance with the objectives, activities and budget and will ensure that outputs are delivered and will demonstrate its best efforts in ensuring that project outcomes are achieved. It shall also ensure that issues any raised by UNEP are addressed and rectified with respect to project execution in a timely manner. MENR shall host Project Coordinating Group (PCG). It shall also coordinate</p>
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<sup>5</sup>Most activities finalised; still awaiting terminal evaluation.

	<p>activities with the National UNCCD Focal Point and will further give guidance and technical advice to country project team during implementation of the project as required and make comments on relevant reports and other documents.</p> <p><b>29. CSO InterEcoCentre</b>, Kyiv, Ukraine is a non-profit NGO and will be the Executing Agency. The InterEcoCentre as the Executing Agency will establish a Project Management Unit (PMU). InterEcoCentre has a track of many implemented projects financed by the GEF, UNEP, Council of Europe/EU, MENR and other donors. InterEcoCentre has been implementing MENR's projects for 14 years. Among them there are two GEF/World Bank's Biodiversity enabling activities projects (Phase I and Phase II).</p> <p><b>30.</b> InterEcoCentre will provide a Project Manager and a project financial assistant. The role of the manager will be (i) to liaise with country UNCCD processes team to provide technical back up, i.e. provide one to one question and answer sessions; (ii) support country with comments on technical input and content of the reports prepared; (iii) , keeping project database, and; (iv) assisting the UNEP Task Manager on all non-oversight roles. The financial project assistant will assist the UNEP Funds Manager Officer (FMO) to finalize legal agreements, manage funds disbursed by UNEP and make it available to finance national activities indicated in project document. Specifically, InterEcoCentre will manage the project in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) InterEcoCentre will work as a Project Management Unit, e.g. will receive funds from UNEP to support the country to execute the project according to the agreed working plan and activities, ensure EA's outputs and provide necessary financial management</li> <li>ii) InterEcoCentre will be in charge of the project implementation in procurement of consultants and goods, reporting, coordination, financial issues, monitoring and will work under the MENR's global supervision and coordination.</li> </ul> <p><b>31. Project Coordinating Committee (PCC):</b> A Project Coordinating Committee will be established by MENR at the beginning of the project and the members should include UNEP Task Manager and relevant national stakeholders involved in the UNCCD implementation and reporting. Inclusion of representative of relevant Civil Society Organization (CSO) in PCC is mandatory. The PCC will ensure gender and indigenous people issues are adequately addressed both during the NAP development and alignment and the reporting process. The gender, indigenous people and CSO consideration will be particularly pointed out as an item of UNEP Small Funding Agreement with MENR. If available in the country, accredited CSO to UNCCD is automatically member of the PCC. The PCC will meet every three month and UNEP Task Manager will be participating virtually to these meetings.</p>
<b>D. DESCRIBE, IF</b>	<b>32.</b> The project will address at the same time performance and impact

<p><b>POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</b></p>	<p>indicators for the UNCCD implementation which will enable sound, rigorous and scientific reporting at national levels on not only the convention implementation, but also on the land degradation trends and the impact of mitigation measures. Furthermore, the project will allow the country to develop its first National Action Plan and align the national land degradation and Sustainable Land Management agendas with the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy. Such results will make the project very cost-effective in terms of GEF resources invested, as the enabling environment including capacity building element of the project will facilitate long term planning and investment for SLM as well as enhance synergy with the other conventions (CBD, UNFCCC) and other environment processes as a whole since the indicators based approach will explore harmonization potentials</p>
<p><b>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&amp;E PLAN:</b></p>	<p>33. The project will follow UNEP standard monitoring, reporting and evaluation processes and procedures. Reporting requirements and templates are an integral part of the UNEP legal instrument to be signed by InterEcoCentre and UNEP. The project M&amp;E plan is consistent with the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation policy. The Project Results Framework presented includes SMART indicators for each expected outcome as well as end-of-project targets. These indicators along with the key deliverables and benchmarks will be the main tools for assessing project implementation progress and whether project results are being achieved. Other M&amp;E related costs are also presented in the costed M&amp;E Plan and are fully integrated in the overall project budget.</p> <p>34. The M&amp;E plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary during the project inception workshop to ensure project stakeholders understand their roles and responsibilities vis-à-vis project monitoring and evaluation. Indicators and their means of verification may also be fine-tuned at the inception workshop. Day-to-day project monitoring is the responsibility of the PMU but other project partners will have responsibilities to collect specific information to track the indicators. It is the responsibility of the Project Manager to inform UNEP of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely fashion.</p> <p>35. The Project Coordinating Committee will receive periodic reports on progress and will make recommendations to UNEP concerning the need to revise any aspects of the Results Framework or the M&amp;E plan. Project oversight to ensure that the project meets UNEP and GEF policies and procedures is the responsibility of the Task Manager in UNEP-DEPI. The Task Manager will also review the quality of draft project outputs, provide feedback to the project partners, and establish peer review procedures to ensure adequate quality of scientific and technical outputs and publications.</p> <p>36. Project supervision will take an adaptive management approach. The Task Manager will develop a project supervision plan at the inception of the project which will be communicated to the project partners during the inception workshop. The emphasis of the Task Manager supervision will be on outcome monitoring but without neglecting project financial management and implementation monitoring. Progress vis-à-vis delivering the agreed project global environmental benefits will be assessed with the Coordinating Committee at agreed</p>

	<p>intervals. Project risks and assumptions will be regularly monitored both by MENR and UNEP. The quality of project monitoring and evaluation will also be reviewed and rated as part of the reporting process. Key financial parameters will be monitored quarterly to ensure cost-effective use of financial resources.</p> <p>37. The M&amp;E which will include project inception workshop, inception report, periodic review by the Steering committee, project implementation review, terminal evaluation and report and independent final audit. The costed item will be around US \$4,500.</p>
<b>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</b>	N/A

**TABLE: MONITORING AND EVALUATION BUDGET**

<b>M&amp;E activity</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Budget (US\$)*<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Time-frame</b>
Kick-off meeting	Awareness raising, building stakeholder engagement, detailed work planning with key groups	PMU UNEP/GEF	2,000	Within two months of project start
Inception report	Provides implementation plan for progress monitoring	PMU	0	Immediately following IW
Periodic Project Review by Steering Committee	Assesses progress, effectiveness of operations and technical outputs; Recommends adaptation where necessary and confirms forward implementation plan.	PMU UNEP/GEF		Every three months
Project Implementation Review	Progress and effectiveness review for the GEF, provision of lessons learned	PMU UNEP-GEF	0	Annually
Terminal report	Reviews effectiveness against implementation plan Highlights technical outputs Identifies lessons learned and likely design approaches for future projects, assesses likelihood of achieving design outcomes	PMU	0	At the end of project implementation
Independent Financial Audit	Reviews use of project funds against budget and assesses probity of expenditure and transactions		2,500	At the end of project implementation
<b>Total indicative M&amp;E cost*<sup>1</sup></b>			<b>4,500</b>	



**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 [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE(MM/dd/yyyy)
Mr. Vadym Pozharskyi	Deputy Head	State Environmental Investment Agency of Ukraine	July/13/ 2012

**B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION**

CONVENTIONS	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION BY UKRAINE	CONVENTION FOCAL POINT
UNCCD	2002	Mr. Yuriy Kolmaz Tel : + 380 44 206 31 48 Email : saveland@menr.gov.ua; Kolmaz@ukr.net

**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, UNEP GEF Coordination  <a href="mailto:Maryam.Niamir-Fuller@unep.org">Maryam.Niamir-Fuller@unep.org</a>		07/30/2012	Adamou Bouhari	+254 20 762 3860	Adamou.Bouhari@unep.org

**ANNEX A: CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY**

Position Titles	\$/person week	Estimated Person	Task to be performed

		week	
For EA Management (lump sum)			EA implementation in Ukraine
Local			
National Project Coordinator (Contribution of the MENR)	MENR co-financing		National Project Coordinator will be responsible for the overall coordination of all aspects of the Project.
<b>Local Experts:</b>			
1. Natural resources and biodiversity experts	500	50	1. Natural resources and biodiversity expert - gathering and analysis of relevant data, baselines, indicators, and methodologies - development of recommendations - participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process, etc. (Activities 1.1, 1.2; 2.3; 3.1, 4.1; 4.2; 6.1, 6.3)
2. Policy/Institutional experts	500	28	2. Policy/Institutional expert: - assessment of national policy and institutional set-up - development of recommendations - participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process etc. (Activities 2.1; 2.2; 3.2; 4.1; 4.2)
3. Experts on social issues, public relations and awareness raising	500	20	3. Expert on social issues and public relations: - public awareness raising on on NAP alignment, review and reporting process (web-pages, publications, trainings, workshops, etc) - development of recommendations - participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process, etc. (Activities 1.3; 4.2)
4. Experts on agriculture and soil protection	500	35	4. Expert on agriculture and soil protection - gathering and analysis of relevant data, baselines, indicators, and methodologies - development of recommendations - participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process, etc. (Activities 1.2; 3.2; 4.2, 6.3)
5. Experts on land resources and sustainable land management	500	30	5. Expert on land resources and sustainable land management: - gathering and analysis of relevant data, baselines, indicators, and methodologies - development of recommendations - participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process, etc. (Activities 1.2; 3.2; 4.2, 6.3)
6. Economic and financial experts	500	20	6. Economic and financial expert: - assessment of financial resources available for NAP implementation

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- review existing national financial mechanisms, financial and investment strategies, frameworks, rules and procedures and preparation of recommendations on how to improve them</li> <li>- participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process, etc. (Activities 4.2; 5.1)</li> </ul>
7. National Reporting to UNCCD	500	5	7. Expert for support of preparing the report for the second leg of the fourth reporting and review process