



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

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	Support to the Alignment of National Action Programme to the UNCCD 10 Years Strategy and Reporting Process		
Country(ies):	Yemen	GEF Project ID:	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01280
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, UNEP Regional Office for West Asia (ROWA)	Submission Date:	10 June 2014
GEF Focal Area (s):	Land Degradation	Project Duration (Months)	24
Check if applicable		Agency Fee:	13,014

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: To support Yemen meets its obligations under the UNCCD through a) review 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	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1. NAP revision and alignment	TA	1.1 Yemen has aligned its National Action Plan (NAP) with the UNCCD 10 year strategy and institutionalized it within future government development frameworks	1.1.1. A report on baseline information and assessment of national and sectoral plans and policies relating to land degradation (including the existing) NAP elaborated	10,000	18,000
			1.1.2. Yemen NAP updated and aligned to the UNCCD 10-Years Strategy, relevant national and sectoral development plans, through a participatory sector-wide process	25,000	26,000
		1.2 Enhanced national capacities to assess and monitor baseline and indicators to undertake NAP alignment and to	1.2.1. Training of stakeholders on data collection methodologies, analysis and application of indicators for monitoring and implementation of NAP and the 10-year Strategy, conducted	12,000	8,000

		implement the UNCCD Strategy	1.2.2. Relevant biophysical and socio-economic baseline information on desertification and land management compiled and list of indicators developed and adopted by stakeholders	16,442	18,000
		1.3. Improved policy and institutional framework and financing mechanisms for NAP implementation	1.3.1. Guidelines developed (in Arabic) for mainstreaming NAP priorities into relevant sectoral plans, national development plans and policies and international partners frameworks	7,091	10,000
			1.3.2. Report on national assessment of financial resources available, technology transfer needs for NAP implementation and integrated financial strategy elaborated	12,000	4,000
			1.3.3. Inter-sectoral national (linked to local actions) platform for collaboration, information and knowledge sharing, in support of combating desertification and reporting proposed and its implementation initiated	11,000	4,000
			1.3.4. A national communication and outreach strategy for NAP implementation to facilitate dissemination of information and technologies to stakeholders elaborated	3,000	2,000
2. Reporting and Review	TA	2.1 Improved capacities for regular and institutionalized national reporting and review process to the UNCCD	2.1.1. Training of stakeholders on reporting requirements of the UNCCD, including data gathering, quality assurance, application of methodologies, procedures and tools for indicator-based reporting conducted	7,000	2,000

		2.1.2. A national report on impacts and measures taken to implement the UNCCD in Yemen through a consultative process prepared, validated and submitted via the UNCCD PRAIS Portal	17,000	16,000
		2.1.3. A national plan for the long-term monitoring system of UNCCD implementation in Yemen established	4,000	2,000
Subtotal			124,533	110,000
Project Management			12,453	40,000
Total EA Cost			136,986	150,000

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
Government of Yemen Agency	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation	In-Kind	101,000
Government of Yemen	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation	Cash (State budgetary funds)	7,800
Government of Yemen	Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	In-kind	1,200
GEF Agency	UNEP ROWA	In-Kind	40,000
Total Co-financing			150,000

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) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEF TF	Land Degradation	Yemen	136,986	13,014	150,000
Total Grant Resources				136,986	13,014	150,000

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

COST ITEMS	TOTAL ESTIMATED	GRANT AMOUNT	CO-FINANCING	EA TOTAL
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	PERSON WEEKS/MONTH			
LOCAL CONSULTANTS	16 WEEKS	9,600	16,000	25,600
INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANTS		0	20,000	20,000
OFFICES FCILITIES, EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, AND COMMUNICATIONS		1,773	3,000	4,773
TRAVEL		580	1,000	1,580
6060OTHERS		500	0	500
TOTAL		12,453	40,000	52,453

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

<p>A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):</p>	<p>Yemen became a Party to the UNCCD in 1996. Since then different measures aimed at the UNCCD implementation have been undertaken. The Supreme Council of Yemen (Parliament of Yemen) adopted the Land Code of Yemen (2002), laws on "General Scheme of Territorial Planning of Yemen" (2002), "On Urban Planning" (1995), "State Control for Land Use and Protection" (2003), "Land Use Arrangement" (2003), Forest Code of Yemen (2006), Endowment Law of 1992 and others.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Parliament adopted the National Strategy for Environment Sustainability of Yemen up to 2020 in 2010. The Cabinet of Ministers of Yemen approved in 2011 the detailed National Action Plan on implementation of this Strategy. Activities to undertake NAP alignment, in accordance with the UNCCD 10 Year Strategy, were recommended in the above-mentioned documents. 2. Relevant Government programmes have been implementing in Yemen as well. Among them are: State Program "Forests of Yemen" for 2002 – 2015 (2002), State Program on Sustainable Water Strategy (2002), State Programme on Rural Development in Yemen up to 2015 (2007) and others. 3. The country implemented the project on "National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environment Management in Yemen" (GEF/UNDP) and was completed in 2007. It resulted in the elaboration of the strategic national environment document. Other outputs included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline reports (climate change, biodiversity and desertification) developed; • Thematic reports (climate change, biodiversity and desertification) developed; • Synergy report and Action Plan developed; • "National Environmental Policy of Yemen" document developed and launched; • Project "Establishment of the Joint Implementation (JI) Secretariat of the Rio Conventions in Yemen" implemented;
<p>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES (The</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. 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 Yemen. Poor environmental

<p>proposal should briefly justify and describe the project framework. Identify also key stakeholders involved in the project including the 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>management in the past has resulted in an increased number of natural and man-made disasters in recent years, and worsened the health of the population. At present, 57.5% of the total territory of Yemen 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 waters of global importance and its industrial activities and energy consumption practices have important implications for global climate change. Yemen’s soil is widely recognized as clay and sandy –loam However, Yemen is one of the countries that exemplify the seriousness of land degradation in the region as described in the Environment Outlook in Arab region prepared and published by UNEP in 2010.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. 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. Yemen fully supported the reform process and the Strategy. However the Government of Yemen has very limited financial and technical possibilities to fulfil the UNCCD obligations, especially on reporting and NAP alignment. 6. After the successful undertaking in 2010 of the first leg of the 4th 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 4th Reporting cycle that will also include reporting on the strategic objectives, using the set of identified impact indicators. 7. This Enabling Activities (EA) 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 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. 8. 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 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
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	<p>programs with The Strategy” which call for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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; b. The Secretariat to facilitate provision of technical assistance to affected country Parties for review, alignment and/or revision of NAPs; 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 ; d. Developed country Parties and financial institutions to assist with funding to eligible country Parties for review, alignment and revision of NAPs. <p>9. The EA aims at assisting Yemen in developing an aligned NAP with the UNCCD 10-Year Strategy and to undertake its next 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 desertification and sustainable land management issue. Therefore, the project objective pertaining to NAP development and alignment, review and reporting process is fully in line with key political priorities of Yemen.</p> <p>10. So far, Yemen has prepared four National Reports on the UNCCD implementation. In 2006 the Cabinet of Ministers of Yemen 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, in addition to be outdated, 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>11. There is a need to conduct in-deep analysis of measures and activities pertaining to the UNCCD implementation, which are envisaged within relevant national 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 policy 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>12. The project objective is to review and update Yemen National Action Plan (Programme) to combat desertification with focus on national priorities and being in full compliance and aligned with UNCCD 10-Year Strategy adopted by the Conference of Parties per decision 3/COP 8.</p> <p>13. In preparation of the NAP, all interested parties, particularly Civil Society Organizations 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 also consider international partners/donors frameworks in order to mainstream NAP and ensure resources mobilization.</p> <p>14. The project will also support the country to put in place an enabling environment that will lift barriers for long term SLM vision, adequate</p>
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	<p>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>15. 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>16. Within the framework of its support to Parties in NAP alignment and reporting, UNEP will pay particular attention to tracking how consideration of socio-economic benefits, indigenous people, gender dimensions are addressed in these documents and processes. UNEP Help Desk will assist in ensuring social/gender issues are integrated in the NAPs and reports.</p> <p>17. 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"> - Environment Protection Authority - General directorate of forestry, rangeland and desertification control - Agriculture Research and Extension Authority - Ministry of planning and international cooperation - Yemen Farmers' Cooperative Union. - General Authority for Land Survey and Urban Planning - National Water Resources Authority - Regional development Authorities (e.g Tihama) - CACBANK (Cooperative Agriculture Credit Bank) <p>18. 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 Yemen to be covered in framework of the EA. In accordance with national legislation, they will be involved in elaborating of the framework document of the NAP and analysis of data flow necessary for the reporting cycle.</p>
<p>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected)</p>	<p>19. The objective of this project is to facilitate access to GEF funding by Yemen 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"> - To enable Yemen to develop an aligned National Action Programme in light of operational and strategic objectives identified by UNCCD 10-year Strategy;

from each activity as outlined in Table A).

- To enable the country and national stakeholders to undertake the necessary consultations for elaboration of the next reporting and review process

20. The EA is divided into two components according along the line of the two immediate objectives: 1) Update and Alignment of NAP, and 2) National Reporting and Review. Built within the project, activities and structures aiming at sustaining both processes beyond this reporting cycle. For example, the project will establish an inter-sector collaboration mechanisms and platforms, develop integrated financing and communication strategies and conduct training and consultation workshops to ensure ownership, participation of key stakeholders and mainstreaming into the wider development process.

21. The project will start with an inception workshop bringing all relevant stakeholders including CSO, academia and the private sector as appropriate. The NAP Alignment process, reporting and the UNCCD 10-Year will be introduced, a stocktaking of existing information, projects and plans will be undertaken and an institutional and stakeholders mapping will be performed. The second step is to collate data, information and conduct the necessary assessment and analysis. A NAP framework document will be prepared in order to guide the process, create the logical framework following the UNCCD Strategy, assist with prioritization and identify entry points for mainstreaming. The NAP and the National Report will then be elaborated through a consultative process , validated in a national workshop and submitted to the Government for adoption. Awareness raising and training activities will be conducted in parallel.

Component 1: NAP Revision and Alignment

Outcome 1.1 Yemen has aligned its National Action Plan (NAP) with the UNCCD 10 year strategy and institutionalized it within future government development frameworks

Key Indicators:

- The extent of the Aligned NAP meeting UNCCD Guidelines and utilizing global best practices
- The Adoption of the NAP by the Government

Outputs:

1.1.1. A report on baseline information and assessment of national and sectoral plans and policies relating to land degradation including the existing NAP elaborated

1.1.2. Yemen NAP updated and aligned to the UNCCD 10-Years Strategy, and relevant national and sector development plans, through a participatory sector-wide

Outcome 1.2 Enhanced national capacities to assess and monitor baseline

and indicators to undertake NAP alignment and to implement the UNCCD Strategy

Key Indicators:

- The existence of the baseline and indicators' system within the structure of the assigned government entity
- The number of trained Yemeni experts on the subject and the indications that such training have been utilized

Outputs:

- 1.2.1. Training of stakeholders on data collection methodologies, analysis and application of indicators for monitoring and implementation of NAP and the 10-year Strategy, conducted
- 1.2.2. Relevant biophysical and socio-economic baseline information on desertification and land management compiled and list of indicators developed and adopted by stakeholders adopted

Outcome 1.3. Improved policy and institutional framework and financing mechanisms for NAP implementation

Key Indicators:

- The number and frequency of citation of NAP process and its outcomes into national and sectoral plans and processes
- The degree of commitment to financing and institutional collaboration as shown in relevant statements, decisions and pledges from national and international partners

Outputs:

- 1.3.1. Guidelines (in Arabic) for mainstreaming NAP priorities into relevant sector plans, national development plans and policies and international partners frameworks, developed
- 1.3.2. Report on national assessment of financial resources available, technology transfer need for NAP implementation, integrated framework and integrated financial strategy, elaborated
- 1.3.3. Inter-sectoral national, linked to local actions, platform for collaboration, information and knowledge sharing, in support of combating desertification reporting proposed and its implementation initiated
- 1.3.4. A national communication and outreach strategy for NAP implementation to facilitate dissemination of information and technologies to stakeholders, elaborated

Outcome 2.1 Enhanced capacities for regular and institutionalized national reporting and review process to the UNCCD

Key Indicators:

- Completeness and quality of information included in the National Report
- Adherence to national report submission deadlines set by the UNCCD

- The existence of agreed system of regular reporting in Yemen

Outputs:

- 2.1.1. Training of stakeholders on reporting requirements of the UNCCD, including data gathering, quality assurance, the application of methodologies, procedures and tools for indicator-based reporting, conducted will conduct:
- 2.1.2. A national report on impacts and measures taken to implement the UNCCD in Yemen through a consultative process prepared, validated and submitted via the UNCCD PRAIS Portal
- 2.1.3. A national plan for the long-term monitoring system of UNCCD implementation in Yemen established

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 Yemen 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>24. 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, 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>25. 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>26. UNEP has history of working with Yemen both on UNCCD and other GEF activities on biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation. On UNCCD, UNEP has supported the country in its 4th National Report..</p> <p>27. The UNEP in-kind contribution to this project is estimated at \$40,000 over the two years project duration. This amount represent (i) the professional services of UNEP staff to provide technical guidance and coordination on the implementation of the project, and to (ii) operational costs related to project management including work planning, budget and logistical support to travel, workshops and recruitment of international consultants.</p> <p>28. Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI): As the National Coordination Agency shall take responsibility for the national 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 raised by UNEP are addressed and rectified with respect to project execution in a timely manner. The MAI shall host Project Expert Group (PEG). It shall also coordinate 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>
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	<p>29. UNEP ROWA will be the Executing Agency for the Project. It will provide 10% of the time of a Project Manager, 10% of the time of a project financial assistant and 10% of administrative support staff. The role of the manager will be (i) to liaise with the 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, UNEP ROWA will manage the project in the following manner:</p> <p>i) UNEP ROWA will receive funds from UNEP/DEPI to support the country to execute the project according to the agreed working plan and activities, identify and recruit national and international consultants, assist with reporting and provide necessary financial management and ensure that the EA’s outputs are delivered according to the plan and of high quality.</p> <p>30. Project Coordinating Committee (PCC): A Project Coordinating Committee will be established by Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation 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 and gender representation 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 consideration will be particularly pointed out as an item of UNEP Small Funding Agreement with The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.. The PCC will meet every three month and UNEP Task Manager will be participating virtually to these meetings.</p>
<p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROJECT:</p>	<p>31. The project will address at the same time performance and impact 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>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:</p>	<p>32. 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 UNEP ROWA and UNEP. The project M&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&E related costs are also presented in the costed M&E Plan and are fully integrated in the overall project budget.</p> <p>33. The M&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>34. 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&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>35. 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 intervals. Closer monitoring will be provided by UNEP/ROWA through its established mechanisms with the Government . Project risks and assumptions will be regularly monitored both by MAI 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>36. The M&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 \$9,986.</p>
<p>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM</p>	<p>N/A</p>

TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):	
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TABLE: MONITORING AND EVALUATION BUDGET

M&E activity	Purpose	Responsible Party	Budget (US\$)*¹	Time-frame
Kick-off meeting	Awareness raising, building stakeholder engagement, detailed work planning with key groups	MAI UNEP/ROW A	4,986	Within two months of project start
Inception report	Provides implementation plan for progress monitoring	MAI UNEP/ROW A	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.	UNEP/ROW A		Every three months
Project Implementation Review	Progress and effectiveness review for the GEF, provision of lessons learned	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	MAI UNEP/GEF UNEP/ROW A	0	At the end of project implementation
Independent Financial Audit and evaluation	Reviews use of project funds against budget and assesses probity of expenditure and transactions	UNEP/GEF	5,000	At the end of project implementation
Total indicative M&E cost*¹			9,986	

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)
Khaled Al Shaibani	Chairman & GEF Operational Focal Point	ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY (EPA)	26/5/2014

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

CONVENTIONS	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ACCESSION BY YEMEN	CONVENTION FOCAL POINT
UNCCD	14 January 1997	Dr. Alladeen Mohamad Abdalla Al-Sharjabi Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (General Directorate of Forest and Desertification)

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
Brennan Van Dyke, Director, UNEP GEF Coordination		June 10, 2014	Adamou Bouhari Task Manager	+254 20 762 3860	Adamou.Bouhari@unep.org

ANNEX A: CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

Position Titles	\$/person week	Estimated Person week	Task to be performed
For EA Management (lump sum)			EA implementation in Yemen
Local			
National Project Coordinator (Contribution of the MAI)	200	40	National Project Coordinator will be responsible for the overall coordination of all aspects of the Project.
Local Experts:			
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.
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.
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.
4. Experts on agriculture and soil protection	600	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.
5. Experts on land resources and sustainable land management	460	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.
6. Economic and financial experts	500	20	6. Economic and financial expert: - assessment of financial resources available for NAP implementation - review existing national financial mechanisms, financial and investment strategies, frameworks, rules and procedures and preparation of recommendations on how to improve them - participation in NAP alignment, review and reporting process, etc.
7. National Reporting to UNCCD	540	5	7. Expert for support of preparing the report for the second leg of the fourth reporting and review process
International Experts			
NAP Alignment Expert	1,500	10	Provide guidance and training on NAP alignment, share global best practices, review and ensure quality of final products
Reporting, Monitoring & Indicators Expert	1,500	5	Guide the development of the monitoring and indicators framework, guide and provide training on reporting, indicators and monitoring implementation of UNCCD strategy