



PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

PROJECT TYPE: (choose project type)

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TRUST FUND

Submission date: August 17, 2012

GEF PROJECT ID:

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY (IES): Mongolia

PROJECT TITLE: Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, SFM and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia’s productive forest landscapes.

GEF AGENCY (IES): FAO

GEF FOCAL AREA(S): Biodiversity, Land Degradation + SFM/REDD

A. PROJECT PREPARATION TIMEFRAME

Start date of PPG	09/15/2012
Completion date of PPG	11/30/2013

B. PROPOSED PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES (\$)

The PPG will co-finance the following preparatory activities as listed below. This PPG builds upon and is co-financed by both the Government’s baseline program in forest management work and by FAO’s own Technical Cooperation Project funding directly.

The PPG/project preparatory process will engage stakeholders and will support activities that will result in the preparation of the Full Project Document CEO Endorsement Request for the Full-Size Project (FSP) "Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation, SFM and carbon sink enhancement into Mongolia’s productive forest landscapes". This document will be submitted to the GEF at the end of the information gathering and stakeholder consultation process, and will be accompanied by co-financing confirmation letters.

The respective executing agencies and co-financers will be involved into the project design phase through one-on-one consultations, working group meetings, and participating in project development workshops. Some of the PPG workshops will be conducted as part of workshops planned by co-funders. In this way, the involvement of co-funding partners will be ensured in order to design appropriate implementation arrangements and ensure their interest in taking part in the execution and co-financing of the project.

The PPG and co-funded preparatory activities will consolidate and supplement the existing information on the biophysical, technical and economic context of the Project. A detailed profile of the forest sites will be compiled, addressing the physical, environmental and socioeconomic context, biodiversity significance, threats, management barriers and suggested actions for improvement. The project’s technical feasibility and economic viability will be assessed as well as the risks associated with its implementation.

The following is a summary of the types of review and analysis work that the PPG will support in order to elaborate the suite of interventions under each of the project’s four components:

1. Component 1: Strengthened institutional, policy and regulatory frameworks. Preparatory activities under this component will contribute to the full design of the project’s Component I. Detailed assessments will be conducted of the institutional and law and policy environment at the national/regional levels with respect to forest management and biodiversity conservation in forestlands.

1. At the national law, policy and planning level, the preparatory activities will include:

- (i) a thorough assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of forest management legislation, policy, regulations and standards with the view of introducing and/or improving the coverage of SFM aspects in these regulations;
- (ii) information gathered, synthesized and analyzed on: a) forest resource use planning and management, including forest biodiversity; b) forest management institutions and law, policies and programmes relevant to sustainable forest management (SFM) at the central and (as relevant) aimag levels, taking into account international best practice;
- (iii) analysis of the strengths/weaknesses and opportunities/pitfalls related to integrating SFM into this institutional, law, policy and programmatic baseline;
- (iv) analysis of the potential conflicts between baseline land uses and SFM objectives; mechanisms/ recommendations developed to address the conflicts; and
- (v) assessment of the extent to which existing law and policy requires or allows for the assessment and consideration of the full value of ecosystem services rendered by healthy forestlands in the northern aimags;
- (vi) recommendations of strategic entry points for new minimum management standards for biodiversity conservation and SFM in forests; new by-laws for existing law and policy; recommendations for practical monitoring and enforcement mechanisms for the same;
- (vii) assessment of the level of interest and support for piloting different types of agro-environmental incentives. This will involve presenting different types of agro-environmental incentives to key stakeholder groups within the Government of Mongolia for consideration and brainstorming during the PPG process.
- (viii) risk assessment and recommendations for mitigation measures.

At the aimag level the PPG assessment will focus on the 7 north-central forested aimags of Mongolia and will assess and describe:

- (i) Aimag policies and regulatory frameworks affecting the proposed project plans; special consideration will be given to policies on the benefit sharing mechanisms that may or could incentivize SFM at local levels;
- (ii) Past experience in the aimags on introduction and enforcement of environmental protection and specifically SFM related regulations; take stock of the willingness of aimag (state) and sum (county) and bag (local) authorities to cooperate on SFM solutions and to be demonstration areas for the project.
- (iii) Forest management budgets, staffing levels and capacity at the local levels.

2: With respect to existing institutions, the preparatory activities will include an assessment of the systemic and institutional capacity for forest management. Funding support from the PPG will be used to conduct a stakeholder analysis regarding the:

a) national and aimag-level roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholder institutions (Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism (MNET) and its Forestry Agency (FA), other agencies, responsible for forest management, the regulation, planning, operations and performance monitoring of forest management; the governance, cooperation and partnership arrangements between these institutions and organizations;

b) capacity constraints in supporting or implementing SFM activities. A rapid review will be conducted of the existing operational framework for forest management, including an assessment of the capacity of the MNET and FA and its subsidiary bureaus (and other relevant national and regional government agencies) related to the planning, establishment and management of participatory forest management, and of conserving biodiversity as part of that forest management work to ensure better mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation into the broader forest management planning processes. A Capacity Development Scorecard will be used to focus of this assessment on identifying the capacity development needs at the national, aimag and local/forest user group (FUG) level to ensure the sustainability of project investments beyond the term of the project.

Preparatory work under this component will also review any existing guidance available to forest management

practitioners in Mongolia pertaining to SFM and participatory SFM. The sectoral planning process and operational procedures will also be reviewed focusing on the sectors that have direct impact on forests. The focus of this assessment will be on identifying potential incentives and the capacity development needs of the different stakeholder groups to ensure the sustainability of project investments beyond the term of the project.

2. Component 2: Models for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and benefit sharing into SFM demonstrated in priority forest areas of Mongolia. Preparatory activities under this component will contribute to the full design of the project's Component II. Existing information assessments will be conducted of:

- a) current forest management practice vis-à-vis biodiversity conservation
- b) existing capacity of forest management institutions, including FUGs to integrate biodiversity conservation goals, objectives and practices into planning and participatory management of forestlands.
- c) Status of forest biodiversity, of monitoring and reporting needs, and requirements for the development of a biodiversity health index.

Working towards a forest biodiversity health index for Mongolia's northern forests, this activity will list the principal species of significant global biodiversity that form the target of the project. For project target sites, a baseline survey will be undertaken which will also select indicators and target species for subsequent surveys. These indicator species should be suitable for assessing conservation impacts of management prescriptions. Monitoring and reporting needs for these species should be specified including methodology, periodicity and localities for monitoring under the project. Indicators should include key forest birds, mammals, healthy forest mosaics; selected indicator insects; endangered mammals; plant communities. Biodiversity health is reflected in the ability of a site to maintain its biodiversity values. This will vary significantly from site to site. The biodiversity index to be developed under this project will include two components: 1) score of habitat suitability for important biodiversity and 2) status of important biodiversity. The score does not necessarily indicate stability; forest systems can change and many animals are highly mobile, but the focus will be upon the ability of the biota to adapt to or even thrive with the changes. This will become increasingly important as climate patterns change.

The following also will be appraised:

- (i) Existing and potential incentives (and disincentives) for stakeholders to integrate biodiversity and SFM considerations into existing practice; the level of interest in, and influence on the proposed project activities;
- (ii) The capacity of these institutions to implement and sustain biodiversity conservation work, including recommendations for the ongoing development of capacity in the project design to address any gaps; and

3. Component 3: Models for sustainable forest management and enhancing carbon storage in forest biomes demonstrated in pilot forest areas. Preparatory activities under this component will contribute to the full design of the project's Component 3. The preparatory activities under this component are key for defining the detailed barrier-removal strategy and specifics of forest-level work in Components II & III of the proposed FSP. The outputs will be: (i) baseline analysis of the state of technology, know-how and information barriers for SFM, affecting global benefits related to improved management of forests; improved vegetative cover of such; avoided emissions and enhancement of carbon stocks; (ii) pressures qualified and quantified on forestland mosaics; (iii) selection of pilot aimags, and particular SFM challenges and opportunities represented in each aimag; (iv) Tracking Tool completed; (v) demonstration activities elaborated in each of the pilot areas. Detailed assessments will be conducted of the baseline forest management assessments in the project's pilot forests.

Specifically, the activities covered under this component will:

- (i) Analyze and document in more detail the threats to forest health and their impacts as described in the PIF,

- including erosion, reduced size/health of forest derived products, etc...;
- (ii) Analyze the macroeconomic and political context at the national level (key business sectors, socio-economic development, political environment), and its current and future impacts on SFM plans;
 - (iii) Identify/confirm the technical and knowledge barriers to effective integration of SFM objectives into aimag-level plans and operations;

Under component 3, the focus of the PPG will be on the implementation design for the planned pilot sites (and the specific number of hectares of forest to cover) and how the PES will support the implementation of these activities.

- (iv) collect baseline data on distribution, activities and the socio-economic situation of local communities living within and adjacent to the demonstration FUG areas. It will develop plans for monitoring key impacting human activities. Guided by global and national experiences and lessons learned on participatory forest management (PFM), appropriate levels and mechanisms of PFM activities with local communities will be designed, as well as required improved livelihood interventions.
- (v) Finalize the selection of the project pilot forest areas. For each pilot area, the PPG will
 - Define the spatial extent of the proposed project areas and calculate carbon values at baseline levels;
 - Determine the current spatial distribution of forest uses and levels of use in the aimags, existing and potential conflicts among land uses affecting SFM objectives,
 - Refine forestland indicators of success that are “SMART” with particular focus on unique species and communities of species that “indicate” healthy pasture or forest;
 - Analyze the land-use development plans, projects, programs and initiatives affecting or impacting on the proposed project activities;
 - Reach preliminary agreement with government on implementation of demonstration projects;
 - Select SFM impact indicators (with baseline values) to measure the project progress;
 - Develop monitoring plan for each site, taking into account that the key monitoring instrument for the whole project is going to be the relevant tracking tool.
- (vi) Produce preliminary maps based upon existing information of the extent of forest cover in the pilot forests and well as across the region. The maps will be used to inform project design and illustrate the project documentation.

4. Component 4: Knowledge development; education, awareness; monitoring, evaluation and dissemination of best practices. Preparatory activities under this component will contribute to the full design of the project’s Component 4. The following assessments will be conducted:

a. Assessment of forest information and data management system.

This activity will evaluate the existing forest information and data management system in Mongolia, with the aim of establishing a viable data sharing platform for enhanced management of forestlands and forest biodiversity. The activity will involve evaluation of the possible data holders of forest and forest biodiversity information to assess which departments/bureaus should be involved in collating and managing biodiversity and forest data for the purposes of undertaking a review and gap analysis, planning for adding climate change resilience as a management objective and the monitoring of biodiversity health status through the lifetime of the project. On the basis of current capacity (GIS etc.) and data quality (species and habitat distribution and status), this activity should develop plans for increasing capacity to the level of a data sharing platform as required by the project.

b: Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Survey, community participation and gender assessment

Design and conduct sampling by directly interviewing representative samples of local communities, local media and local government officers within priority sites and around the proposed demonstration sites. The survey should assess current pre-project levels of knowledge of forest and biodiversity importance; and attitudes towards conservation and development of forest areas and practices that currently impact on forest health and functionality. The results of this survey will lead to the design of an appropriate awareness campaign and communication strategy for the project and also can be used in monitoring awareness impacts later in the life of

the project. This activity will also conduct local stakeholder consultations in preparation for the co-management component development. In the consultation process, a gender assessment will be incorporated reviewing the role of both females and males in the project development and implementation and potential impacts of the project on each gender group.

5. Activity 5: Feasibility analysis and budget

PPG funding will be used to assess the feasibility and to develop the detailed budget for the proposed project strategy. Preparatory activities under this overall Activity #5 will cover: (i) Detailed description of the baseline project on forest management and biodiversity conservation; (ii) incremental reasoning analysis and “GEF alternative” to address the gaps, threats and barriers identified and elaborated in Baseline project; (iii) assessment of the social, economic and financial sustainability of proposed outputs and activities; (iv) quantification of tangible socioeconomic benefits with gender dimensions; (v) risk analysis; (vi) assessment of complementary initiatives and coordination strategies; (vii) replication strategy for project activities; (viii) monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan and budget; (ix) financing plan, including co-financing commitments and incremental costs analysis; (x) assessment of cost-effectiveness of project outputs and outcome; (xi) an initial set of ToRs for project inputs; (xii) BD, LD and SFM tracking tools prepared; (xiii) results framework elaborated with SMART indicators of success; (xiv) ensure that implementation arrangements, partnership strategies and capacities are in place and adequate for successful project implementation and sustainability; (xv) environmental screening completed (with FAO resources). This will include the detailed description of the preferred implementation and governance arrangements for the project.

List of Proposed Project Preparation Activities	Outputs of the PPG Activities	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (a)	Co-financing (b)	Total c = a+b
1. Assessment of the legal environment at the national/ regional levels with respect to forest and pastureland management.	(i) detailed description of the legal baseline with respect to the forest management in the northern forests of Mongolia, including an analysis of primary law and policy constraints of gaps hampering stakeholders’ ability to adopt SFM and mainstream biodiversity into forest management; (ii) detailed plan of activities to address the legal bottleneck hampering the introduction of: (a) SFM and biodiversity conservation measures in baseline project forest management; (b) standards and by laws with healthy forest ecosystem criteria and standards for SFM; (c) guidelines for enforcement; (d) benefit sharing regulations to incentivize SFAM at local levels. (iii) Indicative outline for a national program for forest biodiversity conservation and process steps to develop this program including key stakeholders and mechanisms; (iv) key areas in need of addressing at the policy level for wildlife/ biodiversity (wi-bi) (v) recommendations for the most appropriate, sustainable and cost effective solution to enabling wi-bi management at the forest agency level, including capacity needs; (vi) capacity needs assessment for Participatory forest management with training program outlined and budgeted; (vii) ecosystem services valuation in one	GEF TF	6,000	15,000	21,000

	priority site; (viii) complete GEF BD Tracking Tool for BD-2 and LD Tracking Tool.				
Activity 2: Elaborate baseline project description, and analysis of capacity needs and key gaps preventing the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and benefit sharing into SFM and propose the elements of a model to demonstrate this in pilot forest areas.	(i) Conduct capacity needs assessment of existing FUG and elaborate robust outline of a capacity building program for FUGs on biodiversity monitoring and conservation. (ii) Assess gaps related to business planning at the FUG level and elaborate key steps and process (who how when how much?) for enabling 100 FUGs to elaborate business plans under the project, including ToR for key expert input under the project. (iii) elaborate key steps and process (who how when how much?) for enabling 10 FUGs to elaborate participatory wildlife management plans under the project, including ToR for key expert input under the project. (iv) elaborate peer-to-peer training approach to utilize in the above work and to capture and disseminate good practice for PWM; (v) choice of priority pilot sites finalized with clear criteria/rationale, stakeholder agreement.	GEF TF	5,000	15,000	20,000
Activity 2a: Biodiversity status and forest ecosystem health assessment and assessment of monitoring and reporting needs, adaptation of national level biodiversity health index.	Interagency technical workshop report with a summary of recommendations and inputs for the design of a biodiversity and ecological health monitoring programme for the northern Mongolian forests considering monitoring activities already undertaken by the sector agencies. Work under this activity will also: (i) assess the biodiversity status, monitoring and reporting in the forest system; (ii) list of the principle species of significant global biodiversity importance that form the target of the project, providing the baseline data including basic distribution and population and threat status data; (iii) select suitable indicator species that can be used to assess conservation impacts of management prescriptions; (iv) specify monitoring and reporting needs for these species including methodology, periodicity and localities for monitoring, roles and responsibilities for data collection and processing, and activities and costs for its implementation.	GEF TF	4,000	15,000	19,000
Activity 3: Elaborate baseline project description, and analysis of capacity needs and key gaps preventing SFM and enhanced carbon storage in forest biomes and propose the elements of a model to demonstrate this in pilot forest areas.	(i) Conduct capacity needs assessment of existing FUG and elaborate robust outline of a capacity building program for FUGs on SFM. (ii) Assess gaps related to SFM planning at the FUG level and elaborate key steps and process (who how when how much?) for enabling 100 FUGs to elaborate SFM plans under the project, including ToR for key expert input under the project.	GEF TF	3,000	12,000	15,000

	<p>(iii) elaborate key steps and process (who how when how much?) for enabling FUGs to implement practical SFM plans under the project, resulting in measurable improved participatory multi-functional forest management (PmFM), including ToR for key expert input under the project. (iv) Carbon storage and CO2 emissions from forest degradation measured using existing data/ExAct Tool; (v) elaborate clear and practical steps for the project to take in enabling stakeholders to improve SFM across at least 100,000 ha and to contribute to carbon storage improved carbon storage at the level promised in the PIF. (vi) REDD+ actions outlined for implementation in each pilot forest, and clear steps outline for measuring biodiversity and social benefits derived from REDD+ actions; (vii) elaborate peer-to-peer training approach to utilize in the above work and to capture and disseminate good practice for SFM and PmFM; (viii) choice of priority pilot sites finalized with clear criteria/ rationale, stakeholder agreement, and clear illustrative maps provided for project proposal.</p>				
<p>Activity 4. Assessment forest information and data management system.</p>	<p>Assessment report on forest information and data management system, including; (i) review of the existing forest data base and data flow at the national and aimag levels, and recommendations for improvements to support PFM and biodiversity mainstreaming; (ii) review of current data platforms available for forest management and environmental and biodiversity monitoring, and data sharing mechanisms at the national, aimag and sum/bag levels, and evaluate the data quality and capacity of the various data platform holding agencies; (iii) evaluation of the possible data holders of forest land and biodiversity information to assess which agencies should be involved in collating and managing forest and forest biodiversity data for purposes of undertaking forest health reviews, planning for adding climate change resilience to forest management goals and monitoring of biodiversity health status through the lifetime of the project and beyond; (iv) plans for increasing capacity to the level of data sharing platforms as required by the programme, including software needs, sources of data and costs. The platform may be a virtual platform involving several data holders rather than a single dedicated new database.</p>	<p>GEF TF</p>	<p>6,000</p>	<p>14,000</p>	<p>20,000</p>

<p>Activity 4a: Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Survey, community participation and gender assessment</p>	<p>(i) KAP survey baseline results at provincial and local levels, indicating understanding among decision makers and the public on the value of healthy forests and forest biodiversity and forest-based carbon sequestration, and identifying areas where awareness and knowledge management needs to be strengthened; (ii) assessment of level of access that stakeholders at national, aimag and local level have to knowledge and data, social networks regarding forest management, forest resources, sustainable use, etc.. (iii) assessment of the income of the forest users and determination of the baseline and target; (iv) review of global and national lessons learned from participatory forest management and assess community co-management opportunities in pilot sites with associated ToR for technical inputs; elaboration of targeted awareness raising and education program to improve improve knowledge, attitudes and practices; (v) outline primary elements of the type of scientific studies needed to support SFM and biodiversity mainstreaming and viable mechanism to support this under the project; (vi) elaborate M&E system to measure project progress and impact; (vii) Complete Capacity Development Scorecard; (viii) Record of community consultations and community participation plans for the projects with a thorough gender analysis integrated in the plan.</p>	<p>GEF TF</p>	<p>7,000</p>	<p>15,000</p>	<p>22,000</p>
<p>Activity 5: Feasibility Analysis & Budget</p>	<p>(i) Detailed description of the baseline project on forest management and forest ecosystem and biodiversity conservation in Mongolia's northern forests; (ii) incremental reasoning analysis and "GEF alternative" to address the gaps, threats and barriers identified and elaborated in Baseline project; assessment of the social, economic and financial sustainability of proposed outputs and activities; (iii) quantification of tangible socioeconomic benefits with gender dimensions; (iv) risk analysis; (v) assessment of complementary initiatives and coordination strategies; (vi) replication strategy for project activities; (vii) monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan and budget; (viii) financing plan, including co-financing commitments and incremental reasoning and analysis; (ix) assessment of cost-effectiveness of project outputs and outcome; (x) project implementation arrangements detailed; (xi) stakeholder analysis and participation plan detailed.</p>	<p>GEF TF</p>	<p>19,000</p>	<p>37,000</p>	<p>56,000</p>

	(xii) an initial set of ToR for project inputs. (xiii) BD and LD tracking tools and capacity assessment scorecard prepared; (xiv) results framework elaborated with SMART indicators of success; (xv) completion of environmental screening form in accordance with FAO environmental impact assessment guidelines.				
Total project preparation financing			50,000	123,000	173,000

C. FINANCING PLAN SUMMARY FOR PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT: (\$)

	Project Preparation	Agency Fee
Grant Amount	50,000	5,000
Co-financing	123,000	
Total	173,000	5,000

D. PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREAS AND COUNTRY ¹ N/A

TRUST FUND	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
GEF	FAO	Biodiversity	Mongolia	25,000	2,500	27,500
GEF	FAO	Land Degradation	Mongolia	12,500	1,250	13,750
GEF	FAO	Multi-focal area	Mongolia	12,500	1,250	13,750
Total PPG Requested				50,000	5,000	55,000

¹ No need to provide information for this table if it is a single focal area, single country and single GEF Agency project.

E. PPG BUDGET REQUEST

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks for Grant (PW)	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	Total (\$)
Local consultants *	8.5	8,500	41,000	49,500
International consultants*	9.5	27,000	20,000	47,000
Travel		14,000	17,000	31,000
Workshops and consultations		0	30,000	30,000
Map and data production		0	5,000	5,000
Translation		500	10,000	10,500
Total PPG Budget		50,000	123,000	173,000

* Annex A for Consultant cost details should be prepared first before completing this table. See notes on Annex A for the required detailed information. This table is the sum of all local and international consultants presented in Annex A.

F. GEF AGENCY (IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (<i>Month, day, year</i>)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Garry Smith, OiC Investment Centre Division, Technical Cooperation Department FAO Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153, Rome, ITALY Barbara Cooney FAO GEF Coordinator Email: Barbara.Cooney@fao.org Tel: +3906 5705 5478		August 17, 2012	Jeffrey Griffin	+39 065 7055680	jeffrey.griffin@ fao.org

Annex A

i) Consultants Financed by the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) & ii) FAO Co-financed Consultant Input

A-i: Consultants Financed by the Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	\$/ Person Week ¹	Estimated PWs ²	Tasks to be performed
Local ¹	Knowledge Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Survey	1000	4.5	<p>The KAP survey will measure Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices regarding SFM of the public (including groups from government officials, rural community people, enterprise managers, NGO staff, media journalists, and university students), as the baseline value. Additional KAP surveys will be conducted under full project implementation to measure the change in knowledge, attitudes and practice related to forest management and biodiversity health in forest lands. The NGO or expert will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consult with the local communities on the project plans to solicit their full input and ensure their consent to the project and participation; 2. Conduct KAP survey at provincial and local levels, indicating understanding among decision makers and the public on the value of forestlands, and identifying areas where awareness and knowledge management needs to be strengthened; 3. Collect baseline data on and review the socioeconomic situations of the local communities in project target areas in particular the areas around priority forests, and their livelihood activities, and assess the extent of pressure on biodiversity and forestlands; 4. Assess the income of the forest area residents in pilot areas and determination of the baseline and target; 5. Design any required improved livelihood interventions for the project including the firewood production option; 6. Ensure a balanced gender approach in stakeholder consultations – ensure KAP integrates gender with respect to forest resource use and management in Mongolia to clear description of existing situation and areas for improvement 7. Conduct a gender analysis, examining the role of both genders in project implementation and potential gender impacts of the project to complement KAP data; 8. Develop plans for monitoring key impacting human activities; 9. Identify communication needs for the project including key messages, target audiences, channels of communication, communication training needs, and technical and human resource needs; 10. Record of community consultations and community participation plans for the projects with a thorough gender analysis integrated in the plan. 11. Prepare TOR for communications input under the full project. 12. Prepare proposal outline on pilot financial sustainability instruments to be piloted in certain FUGs.

¹ Other co-funded local consultant positions listed in Annex Aii.

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	\$/ Person Week ¹	Estimated PWs ²	Tasks to be performed
Local	Biodiversity Conservation Specialist	1,000	4	<p>In close collaboration with the team leader and the forest management specialist, the specialist will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assess the biodiversity status, monitoring and reporting in forest management system with particular emphasis on the northern forests; 2. Compile a list of the principle species of significant global biodiversity importance that form the target of the project, providing the baseline data including basic distribution and population and its trends, as well as threat status data; 3. Select suitable indicator species that can be used to assess conservation impacts of management prescriptions in forestlands; 4. Specify monitoring and reporting needs for these species including methodology, periodicity and localities for monitoring under the projects; 5. Specify any training that would be required to upgrade forest agency staff or local collaborators to undertake monitoring and reporting work; 6. Calculate baseline biodiversity health index and targets to be achieved by the project; 7. Prepare ToR for technical input under relevant components of the project. 8. Prepare biodiversity tracking tools.
International	Forest Management and Restoration / Carbon Sequestration Specialist (FMR-CSS)	3000	<p>2</p> <p>Note: This position to be co-funded by FAO with 5 additional weeks added using FAO resources. See Annex Aii.</p>	<p>The project is addressing several focal area objectives under the GEF: Among them being: Biodiversity Objective 2; Land Degradation Objective 2; SFM/REDD+ Objective 1. The main role of this position is to enable the project design to deliver the expected outcomes listed under the PIF and highlighted in the GEF Programmatic Guide for GEF-5 under SFM-REDD, particularly global biodiversity benefits; enhanced carbon sink benefits (tCO₂e) and policy and legal/regulatory framework effectiveness for SFM.</p> <p>Through two missions to Mongolia and support from home base, the expert will work closely with the LNFM Specialist/FBC, and other experts to do the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with the LNFM in collecting baseline data and engaging project stakeholders agree on list of key stakeholders prior to first mission, participate in relevant consultation process and comment on reports and other products from the remainder members of the PPG team. 2. Supplement baseline information collected by the NPFM with additional analysis and information to the extent needed and identify specific opportunities and constraints for SLM and SFM practices into the forest management baseline; 3. Take the lead on refining and clarifying the final baseline and target figures in terms of LD benefits (improved land/forest cover) and SFM-REDD benefits (t CO₂e and the enhancement of carbon stocks and the avoidance of GHG emissions) from the adoption of SFM in the northern forests. Work with LNFM to model/measure GHG emissions likely to be avoided and amount of carbon likely to be sequestered as a result of the project's inputs. 4. Document baseline carbon data for pilot forest sites. 5. Produce a refined set of forest indicators for the project based upon the PIF figures and the Key Expected Outcomes under each relevant GEF Objective. These will be discussed and refined further in

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	\$/ Person Week ¹	Estimated PWs ²	Tasks to be performed
				<p>consultation with the LNFM and the ITL;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Analyze and document threats and impacts to forest and ecosystems building upon the analysis included in the PIF – provide additional data and information to detail these; consider the socio-economic context and barriers to SFM; 7. Complete the SFM/REDD+ and LD Tracking Tool as a baseline for future project M&E at the implementation phase; 8. Develop practical, affordable monitoring plan for northern forests, taking into account the GEF SFM tracking tool. 9. Prepare stakeholder analysis table (format to be provided). 10. Assessment of national action plan to combat desertification – strengths/weaknesses. Elaborate short list of activities for updating it. 11. Assessment of existing forest management institutional environment and practices/policies/requirements. Identify strengths and weaknesses in this. Summarize institutions and their roles in collaboration with LNFM and other experts. 12. Suggest types of by-laws that would be appropriate for improving the effectiveness of the policy environment in improving land management and forest management. 13. Assess willingness of primary institutions in forest management – primary willingness to consider agro-environmental incentives and recommend 1-2 types of incentives that would be acceptable in Mongolia. 14. Explore potential for amending relevant laws and programs to allow a pilot of SFM practice and how to strengthen SFM aspects of pastureland leasing requirements and enforcement. Consult with international expert on this. 15. Assess existing capacities for SFM, taking cues from the capacity assessment scorecard. 16. Suggest mechanism for peer-to-peer learning, systematic long-term capacity building and disseminating information on SFM practices. 17. Design appropriate forest management practices to restore and enhance carbon stocks in forests. 18. Assess and recommend how carbon flow monitoring protocols can be integrated into a new national forest monitoring system in Mongolia, including methodological approaches to carbon stock field assessment. 19. Integrate international best practices into the project’s design with respect to sustainable grazing in forests, SFM, carbon measuring and monitoring, management practices that enhance carbon storage in forests. 20. Help build international contacts and cooperation with international conservation agencies involved in sustainable forest management and REDD. 21. Suggest possible collaborative approaches in Mongolia with other relevant international initiatives. 22. Assess existing and potential incentives (and disincentives) for SFM projects to integrate SFM considerations. <p>Deliver:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalized description of environmental context; Finalized baseline analysis for SFM in the northern forests region. <p>The collation of baseline information for the four proposed project areas will primarily involve a desk review of existing data and</p>

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	\$/ Person Week ¹	Estimated PWs ²	Tasks to be performed
				<p>reports. This will then be supplemented by focused interviews and consultations with key stakeholders. No new field research or surveys will be conducted with PPG funding support. The Tracking Tool will be completed as a baseline for future project M&E at the implementation phase;</p> <p>Part of this will include the assessment of existing roles and how to engage key stakeholders including the national government agencies, private sector, civil society organizations, local communities, and their respective roles, as envisioned.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Core outputs and activities under Component 2 and Component 3 of the project: elaborate the who, how and what for developing and implementing pilot SFM in the pilot aimags and for demonstrating enhanced carbon storage potential under Component 3. 3. SMART indicators of improved forest health, extent, coverage, and improved management of forest lands. 4. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels. 5. 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 6. Develop an overall site-level monitoring plan, taking into account that the key monitoring instrument for the whole project is going to be the land degradation tracking tool. 7. Detailed ToR for key technical consultants to be programmed in the full project. 8. Working with the FBC to determine global environmental benefits in LD & BD focal areas per each new/proposed land use practice (see notes on indicators above).
International	Forest Biodiversity Conservation (FBC) and Strategic Planning Specialist	3,000	5.5 Note: This position to be co-funded by FAO with 5 additional weeks added using FAO resources. See Annex Aiii below.	<p>The specialist will serve as team leader collating the inputs of different team specialists and take the lead in collaboration with key baseline project stakeholders and with implementing and executing agencies, in designing the full project document. The FBC specialist will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate with baseline project stakeholders to ensure project design is complementary to baseline project and tied closely to baseline project co-funding. 2. Evaluate current levels of management effectiveness of stakeholder agencies and evaluate budget levels and sustainability of funding for core operations essential for good governance and management of forestlands - using BD-2 Tracking Tool score sheets to establish baselines and targets for the project; 3. Review policy and legal framework in relation to establishing and adopting an SFM/biodiversity mainstreamed approach to forest management, identifying contradictions or critical gaps which may hamper the progress of implementation, and suggest measures to remove the barriers; 4. Assess staffing levels and current levels of competence; identify staff recruitment needs and additional training required under the project, and assess needs for revision of existing draft competence standards vis-à-vis SFM; 5. Recommend priority activities to be covered under the project in support of strengthening the law enforcement system, and suggest

Type of Consultant	Position / Titles	\$/ Person Week ¹	Estimated PWs ²	Tasks to be performed
				<p>appropriate indicators with baseline information;</p> <p>6. Determine key equipment or infrastructure that should be provided under co-financing;</p> <p>During the process, the specialist will:</p> <p>7. Ensure full stakeholder consultation including communities in the target landscape so as to ensure project ownership and full participation in implementation through generating buy-in on the project contents;</p> <p>8. Review baseline information delivered by the local experts;</p> <p>9. Develop the threats and root causes matrix, and the description of the barriers to the effective management of forestlands;</p> <p>10. Carry out an incremental analysis and cost effectiveness analysis of the project strategy;</p> <p>11. Assess the sustainability of suggested project outcomes and outputs;</p> <p>12. Confirm and consolidate the description/calculation of global environmental benefits to be generated by the project;</p> <p>13. Propose a project monitoring and evaluation framework with a set of measurable impact and progress indicators;</p> <p>14. Conduct environmental screening in accordance with FAO EIA guidelines;</p> <p>15. Ensure linkages with other government, donor and GEF projects in the region; and finalize budget inputs for the project</p> <p>16. Prepare necessary ToRs for the project staff and key consultancies;</p> <p>17. Take the lead in collating the inputs of different team specialists and draft the full project document and CEO request. Revise as necessary to satisfy all parties.</p>
International	Financial management/ analyst	2,500	2	<p>1. Working with the project preparation team, collect and compile cost information and prepare a detailed FAO-GEF results-based budget, and complete all budget tables required by FAO and GEF;</p> <p>2. Carry out an analysis of the cost-effectiveness of the entire project approach.</p>

1. Provide dollar amount per person week.

2. Provide person weeks needed to carry out the task.

A-ii: FAO Co-financed Project Preparatory Input

National Experts	
National Forest Management (NFM) 20 weeks	<p>The lead national expert under the FAO funded technical project will provide NFM expertise and will provide an overall coordination role in collecting and compiling baseline information by other PPG experts.. In this aspect of the consultant’s work, collaboration with the other national (and international) experts will be required. NFM input will require the following work:</p> <p>Primary tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe in concise detail the forestland environmental context of Mongolia’s northern forests as summarized in the PIF. Conduct detailed review of existing data and reports and gather information through interviews and consultations with key stakeholders on: the spatial extent of forest lands, the varying condition of forestlands, primary plant and animal species, ecosystem processes, protected areas in pilot areas. 2. Collect and analyze available ecological data on target forest lands. This study will serve as the up-to-date description of globally significant biological and ecological diversity. This will also result in the elaboration of a preliminary list of and map of “key forest areas” in the northern forests; 3. Define the geographic boundary of the northern forests more specifically for the project and quantify the hectares of concern to the project (area of concern, area of forest cover). Oversee a specific quantification of the number of hectares of forestlands together with the mapping expert. 4. Produce a refined set of forest indicators for the project based upon the PIF figures and the Key Expected Outcomes under each relevant GEF Objective. These will be discussed and refined further in consultation with the international forestland expert; 5. Analyze and document threats and impacts to forest ecosystems building upon the analysis included in the PIF – provide additional data and information to detail these, in particular w/respect to climate change; consider the socio-economic context and barriers to SFM; 6. Complete the Tracking Tool as a baseline for future project M&E at the implementation phase; 7. Develop practical, affordable monitoring plan for forests, taking into account the GEF SFM tracking tool. 8. Prepare stakeholder analysis table (format to be provided). 9. Assessment of national action plan to combat desertification – strengths/weaknesses with respect to how it relates to forestlands. Elaborate short list of activities for updating it, if relevant. 10. Assessment of existing forest management institutional environment and practices/policies/requirements. Identify strengths and weaknesses in this. Summarize institutions and their roles. 11. Suggest types of by-laws that would be appropriate for improving the effectiveness of the policy environment in improving land and forest management. 12. Assess willingness of primary institutions in forest management– primary willingness to consider agro-environmental incentives and recommend 1-2 types of incentives that would be acceptable in Mongolia. Together with the international consultant, prepare recommendation for PES scheme to be implemented by the project in the pilot sites. 13. Explore potential for amending forest management law to allow a pilot of SFM practice and how to strengthen SFM aspects of forest management and use enforcement. 14. Assess existing capacities for SFM based upon overall areas of inquiry highlighted in the capacity

	<p>assessment scorecard.</p> <p>15. Suggest mechanism for peer-to-peer learning, systematic long-term capacity building and disseminating information on SFM practices.</p> <p>16. Work with FMR-CSS to document baseline carbon data for 2 pilot forest sites and to design appropriate forest management practices to restore and enhance carbon stocks in forests.</p> <p>17. Work with FMR-CSS to model/measure GHG emissions likely to be avoided and amount of carbon likely to be sequestered as a result of the project inputs.</p> <p>18. Work with FMR-CSS to assess and recommend how carbon flow monitoring protocols can be integrated into a new national forest monitoring system in MN, including methodological approaches to carbon stock field assessment.</p> <p><u>Data and information management</u></p> <p>1. Review the current data platforms available for forest health monitoring and data sharing. Review the existing forest management data base and data flow at the national and aimag levels and make recommendations for further consolidation under the project;</p> <p>2. Review current data platforms available for forest management and environmental and biodiversity monitoring, and data sharing mechanisms at the aimag and sum levels, and evaluate data quality and the capacity of the various data platform holding agencies;</p> <p>3. Evaluate the possible data holders of forest and forest biodiversity information to assess which agencies should be involved in collating and managing biodiversity and forest data for purposes of undertaking forest management review and gap analysis, planning for adding climate change resilience to forest management system and monitoring of biodiversity health status through the lifetime of the project and beyond;</p> <p>4. Develop plans for increasing capacity to the level of data sharing platforms required by the programme. The platform may be a virtual platform involving several data holders rather than a single dedicated new database.</p>
<p>Institutional Capacity Input</p> <p>9 weeks</p>	<p>Undertake analysis on systemic (legal/policy) and institutional capacity at the national, aimag and sum levels for managing forests. Facilitate an interagency forest management and coordination workshop and prepare workshop report summarizing main comments, inputs and recommendations on: (a) coordination and management constraints and opportunities; (b) policy and legal constraints/gaps; and (c) capacity needs for strengthening relevant agencies participation in the conservation and management of forest ecosystem. In addition:</p> <p>1. Analyze the roles, functions and/or responsibilities of Forestry Agency and its subsidiary departments as appropriate in the forest land management with the focus on integrating SFM practices;</p> <p>2. Produce capacity assessment with respect to the SFM-relevant institutions, programs, and policies. Complete the Capacity Assessment Scorecard in consultation with ITL. Use scorecard issues of inquiry to structure your capacity assessment. The study will target the Ministry of Nature, Environment and Tourism and any other relevant national-level institutions as well as aimag-level government and other institutions (private or civil society) in targeted area with a view to identifying the capacity development needs of the different stakeholder groups to ensure the sustainability of project investments beyond the term of the project.;</p> <p>3. Summarize the roles, functions and responsibilities of other relevant institutions and organizations in the regulation, planning, management, enforcement and performance monitoring of forestland management, wildlife and biodiversity conservation in forests, as well as carbon flow monitoring and REDD-related work;</p> <p>4. Assess and describe existing levels governance, cooperation and partnership arrangements among these institutions and organizations for SFM nationwide and in the project area (northern forests);</p> <p>5. Assess the capacity of these institutions to implement and sustain the proposed project activities & develop</p>

	<p>project design recommendations for the systematic development of capacity to address any capacity gaps.</p> <p>6. Analyse forest sector planning process and operational procedure and identify areas for improvement to better support implementation of the forest-related and other important laws relevant to SFM, forest health and to biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>7. Compile a profile and analysis of relevant institutions at national, aimag and sum levels, with clear roles in project implementation, based on a thorough assessment using the capacity scorecards;</p> <p>8. Outline a long-term overall management institutional structure for wi-bi management identified that is practical and sustainable in the Mongolian context. Identify activities, affordable costs, and TOR.</p> <p>9. Describe the forest governance at the aimag and sum levels including planning, decision making and budgeting processes;</p> <p>11. Analyse and recommend institutional capacity development activities to strengthen their forest management planning and management capacity and coordination between the agencies;</p> <p>12. Recommend appropriate mechanisms for peer-to-peer learning, systematic long-term approaches to capacity building, and disseminating information on SFM practices in Mongolia. How can the project improve stakeholders' access to improved knowledge and data (at national, aimag and sum level) in order to better manage sustainably the forest resources?</p> <p>13. Propose institutional framework for improved forest wildlife and biodiversity management, defining roles and responsibilities. Propose cost-effective institutional arrangements for project implementation defining specific roles and responsibilities of project partners.</p>
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International Experts	
Forest Management and Restoration/Carbon Sequestration Specialist	5 weeks additional time to the ToR in the PPG, Annex A-i.
Forest Biodiversity Conservation and Strategic Planning Specialist	5 weeks additional time to the ToR in the PPG, Annex A-i.