



REQUEST FOR MSP APPROVAL (1-STEP PROCEDURE)

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: Multi-Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	GMS Forest and Biodiversity Program (GMS-FPB): Creating Transboundary Links Through a Regional Support Project		
Country(ies):	Regional (Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Vietnam, People's Republic of China, Myanmar)	GEF Project ID: ¹	
GEF Agency(ies):	AsDB(select)(select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	44323
Other Executing Partner(s):	GMS Environmental Operations Center; Participating govt agencies, inter-governmental agencies; non-governmental organizations	Submission Date:	2014-04-08
GEF Focal Area (s):	Multi-focal Areas	Project Duration(Months)	48
Name of parent program (if applicable):	Greater Mekong Sub-region Forests and Biodiversity Program (GMS-FBP)	Project Agency Fee (\$):	82,569

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK²:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
(select) SFM/REDD-1	Outcome 1.1: Enhanced enabling environment within the forest sector and across sectors (Components 1.1; 1.2; 1.3)	Output 1.3: Types of services generated through SFM	GEFTF	458,715	23,738,000
CCA-1(select)	Outcome 1.1 Mainstreamed adaptation in broader development frameworks at country level and in targeted vulnerable areas (Components 1.1; 1.2; 2.1)	Output 1.1.1: Adaptation measures and necessary budget allocations included in relevant frameworks	SCCF	229,358	2,500,000
CCA-2(select)	Outcome 2.1: Increased knowledge and understanding of climate variability and change-induced threats at country level and in targeted vulnerable areas (Components: 1.3; 2.1; 2.2)	Output 2.1.1: Risk and vulnerability assessments conducted and updated	SCCF	229,358	4,500,000
(select)(select)			(select)		
(select)(select)			(select)		
(select)(select)			(select)		
(select)(select)			(select)		
(select)(select)			(select)		
(select)(select)			(select)		
(select)(select)			(select)		
Total Project Cost				917,431	30,738,000

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

¹Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

²Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework and LDCF/SCCF Framework](#) when filling up the table in item A.

Project Objectives: To strengthen transboundary cooperation for the sustainable management of a network of priority conservation landscapes in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)

Project Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Grant Amount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)
<p>Component 1: Strengthened cooperation on management of focal transboundary landscapes</p> <p>SFM-1</p>	<p>TA</p>	<p>1.1 Biodiversity conservation strategies and management links developed for six (6) priority forest transboundary landscapes, i.e.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) North and Central Annamites; ii) Eastern Plains Dry Forest; iii) Sino-Vietnamese Limestone Landscape; iv) Mekong Headwaters; v) Tenasserim Mountain Landscape; and vi) Tri Border Forests. <p>1.2 Collaborative arrangements established for management of transboundary landscapes.</p>	<p>1.1.1 Conduct biodiversity assessments and develop a monitoring strategy for biodiversity in GMS landscapes (CEP-BCI)</p> <p>1.1.2 Consolidate information on biodiversity, key biodiversity areas (KBAs), threats, ecosystem functions, natural resource use and management in the priority landscapes to inform transboundary landscape management. (GEF)</p> <p>1.1.3 Conduct multi-criteria spatial analysis through participatory stakeholder consultation producing (6) transboundary forest landscape spatial plans. (GEF)</p> <p>1.2.1 Promote regional collaboration on environment in the GMS (CEP-BCI)</p> <p>1.2.2 Support establishment of multi-sector technical and policy working groups in six conservation landscapes (GEF)</p> <p>1.2.3 Establish bi- and tri -lateral country collaborative arrangements (such</p>	<p>GEFTF</p>	<p>308,715</p>	<p>21,738,000</p>

			as MOUs) supporting transboundary landscape management (GEF)			
SFM-1	TA	1.3. Regional knowledge base and exchange mechanisms created to enabling conservation of transboundary landscapes	1.3.1 Develop an Environmental Information System (EIS) for the GMS, linked to CEP-BCI website (CEP-BCI) 1.3.2 Create a regional forum for dialogue and knowledge exchange among the conservation landscape community of practice, building on best practices from GEF national projects and other baseline projects. (GEF)	GEFTF	150,000	2,000,000
CCA-2	TA	(1.3 cont.)	1.3.3 Develop knowledge products and tools, including ones which integrate EBA, to support transboundary landscape conservation. (GEF)	SCCF	150,000	2,000,000
Component 2: Climate resilience and ecosystem based adaptation (EBA) measures integrated into management of focal transboundary landscapes CCA-1, CCA-2	TA	2.1 Framework and approach developed to integrate EBA in transboundary landscape conservation strategies.	2.1.1 Customize available EBA frameworks for landscape level application. (GEF) 2.1.2 Develop guidelines and recommendations supporting EBA in transboundary landscape conservation plans. (GEF) 2.1.3 Identify and prioritize climate vulnerable components in transboundary landscapes, providing inputs to	SCCF	108,716	2,500,000

			community level pilots (GEF/CEP-BCI).			
CCA-1, CCA-2	TA	2.2 Climate vulnerability assessments conducted for the six transboundary landscapes.	2.2.1 Conduct climate vulnerability assessments at the community level (CEP-BCI) 2.2.2 Conduct landscape scale (desktop) assessments of projected climate impacts on biodiversity and major ecological functions in each priority landscape. (GEF) 2.2.3. Create awareness and advocacy for climate-integrated conservation strategies, linking assessment outputs in 2.2.2 to climate integrated conservation strategies (expected outcome 1.1) and the regional forum on transboundary landscape conservation (expected outcome 1.3) (GEF)	SCCF	200,000	2,500,000
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
		Subtotal			917,431	30,738,000
		Project Management Cost ³		(select)		
		Total Project Cost			917,431	30,738,000

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

³PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project grant amount in Table D below.

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
GEF Agency	AsDB	Investment	13,000,000
GEF Agency	World Bank	Soft Loan	11,900,000
CSO	WWF (TBD)	(select)	5,838,000
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Cofinancing			30,738,000

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

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
AsDB	GEFTF	Multi-focal Areas	Greater Mekong Subregion	458,715	41,285	500,000
AsDB	SCCF	Climate Change	Greater Mekong Subregion	458,716	41,284	500,000
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				917,431	82,569	1,000,000

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

²Please indicate fees related to this project.

E. CONSULTANTS WORKING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COMPONENTS:

Component	GrantAmount (\$)	Cofinancing (\$)	Project Total (\$)
International Consultants	390,000 (Includes Perdiem)	2,600,000	2,990,000
National/Local Consultants	30,000	2,470,000	2,500,000

F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT?No

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF Trust Fund).

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. Project Overview

A.1. Project Description. Briefly describe the project, including ; 1) the global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline , the GEFTF, LDCF/SCCF and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF, NPIF) and adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

The Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)⁴ is one of the most biologically and culturally diverse regions on earth. The GMS encompasses nearly 100 million hectares of forest ecosystems, maintaining globally significant carbon stocks and populations of threatened species. Recent new species discoveries indicate that the subregion's biodiversity is still not fully documented.

GMS forests provide a variety of ecosystem services and benefits essential to both short- and long-term well-being of the subregion's 300 million people. The forested watersheds are closely linked to the hydrological flows and productivity of the world's largest (\$1.4-\$3.9 billion/year) and most biodiverse inland fisheries, surpassing even the Amazon.⁵ However, the cumulative effects of economic growth, overexploitation of forest natural resources and poor land use and forest management have resulted in severe deforestation and degradation of the GMS' globally important ecosystems, biodiversity and carbon stocks. Across the GMS, about 8 million hectares of forests were lost between 1990 and 2010 (and up to seven times this figure if forest degradation is taken into account⁶).

Moreover, the geographic and socio- economic features of the GMS make it particularly vulnerable to global climate change. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) forecasts a 2.4-2.7°C rise in mean annual temperature, a 7% increase in wet season rainfall, and longer and drier dry seasons in the Southeast Asian region by the end of this century. Global Circulation Models predict that in Lower Mekong Basin mean annual temperatures could increase by 0.4 - 1.20° C by 2050, with an increase in the number of days over 33°C. Mean annual rainfall may increase by 80 mm, but with wide variability at local scales.^{7,8} Increased weather variability and extreme events associated with climate change are projected to result in negative impacts on the subregion's ecosystems, and compound transboundary impacts from other threats (e.g. infrastructure development). At the landscape level, degraded and exposed watersheds in the GMS will be more vulnerable to increased run-off, erosion, and landslides under conditions of extreme weather events. Climate change is also expected to have impacts on biodiversity in the form of species extinctions, range shifts, and changes to species compositions and

⁴Comprising the Kingdom of Cambodia, Yunnan and Guangxi Provinces of the PRC, Lao Peoples Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam
⁵<https://www.cbd.int/doc/nbsap/fisheries/Coates.pdf> Accessed March 2013

⁶ Although the effective rate of forest loss is estimated at about seven times more if forest degradation is also taken into account. FAO 2010. Cited in Forests And Forestry In The Greater Mekong Subregion To 2020. Subregional Report Of The Second Asia-Pacific Forestry Sector Outlook Study. FAO, ADB. Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission. Rap Publication 2011/04 2011.

⁷ TKK (Helsinki University of Technology) and SEA START RC (Southeast Asia START Regional Center). 2009 Water and climate change in the Lower Mekong Basin: diagnosis and recommendations for adaptation. Espoo: Water & Development Publications, Helsinki University of Technology.

⁸ Hoanh, C. T., Jirayoot, K., Lacombe, G. and Srinetr, V. (2010) Impacts of climate change and development on Mekong flow regime. First assessment 2009. MRC Technical Paper No. 29. Vientiane: Mekong River Commission.

dynamics of ecological communities.⁹ Two to 41% of endemic plants and vertebrate species in the Indo-Burma Hotspot, which includes the GMS region, may become extinct due to climate change over the next century.¹⁰ The large range of the estimate is due to the unpredictability of the climate trajectories, complexity of the associated ecological dynamics, and relative lack of knowledge about the biodiversity; a common problem with climate projections. However, preliminary and limited vulnerability assessments for forest and wetland habitats and species in the GMS provide some insights, such as the loss of distinctive riparian vegetation because of changes to river flows, and changes in the dynamics of wetlands.^{11,12}

Therefore, maintaining the integrity and resilience of GMS forest ecosystems in the face of economic development and global climatic change remains a critical task, requiring more strategic and effective conservation approaches. While national actions for conservation are required, there is a great need for regional-scale cooperation and coordination because the forested landscapes and ecological processes and services transcend national boundaries. The regional coordination should also be supported by knowledge exchange mechanisms.

The Regional Support Project (RSP) is designed to complement and augment a set of four GEF baseline national projects implemented under the *Greater Mekong Sub-region Forest and Biodiversity Program* (GMS-FBP). The four national projects focus on biodiversity conservation, and sustainable land and forest management in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Viet Nam,¹³ while the RSP will create the regional linkages and perspectives by identifying and strengthening transboundary links to facilitate collaboration and regional knowledge exchange for conservation of transboundary landscapes in the GMS. The RSP will overarch, link to, and build on the GEF national baseline projects to create synergies that fill important thematic and spatial gaps. The RSP will do this by: i) strengthening international cooperation and collaboration in transboundary conservation through collaborative mechanisms; ii) facilitating knowledge exchange with regional platforms or forums for discussion; iii) developing spatial conservation plans and strategies for transboundary landscapes; and vi) addressing climate change impacts on the landscapes with ecosystem-based approaches. The RSP will also bring regional perspectives and a programmatic approach for capacity building and landscape monitoring to complement work under the national projects.

The RSP will complement other key biodiversity conservation and landscape management baseline projects in the GMS, including the:

- The Core Environment Program and Biodiversity Conservation Corridors Initiative (CEP-BCI) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) which aims to achieve “an environmentally friendly and climate resilient GMS Economic Cooperation Program (ECP).” Currently, CEP-BCI is in Phase II (2012-2016);
- Projects and programs of the World Bank (WB), Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), and other baseline projects. (Please refer to A.6 in this template and *Annex F* for further description of GEF-funded national projects of the GMS-FBP and other associated baseline projects).

With its regional mandate that includes the six GMS countries, the RSP will create partnerships and

⁹ Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. Ecosystem Profile. Indo-Burma Biodiversity Hotspot. 2011 Update (Final version, October 2012). http://www.cepf.net/Documents/final.indoburma_indochina.ep.pdf. Accessed Feb 14 2013

¹⁰ Malcolm, J. R., Liu, C., Neilson, R. P., Hansen, L. and Hannah, L. 2006. Global warming and extinctions of endemic species from biodiversity hotspots. *Conservation Biology* 20: 538-548.

¹¹ Blate, G. 2009. *The Greater Mekong and climate change: biodiversity, ecosystem services and development risk*. Vientiane: WWF Greater Mekong Programme.

¹² MRC. 2010. *State of the basin report 2010*. Vientiane: Mekong River Commission Secretariat.

¹³ Child projects will be administered by two GEF Agencies, with ADB supporting the Regional Support Project and national projects in Cambodia and Vietnam, and the World Bank supporting child projects in Lao PDR and Thailand

collaboration in transboundary conservation in six (6) transboundary landscapes: 1) Mekong Headwaters (China, Lao PDR, and Myanmar); 2) Sino-Vietnamese Limestone (China and Viet Nam); 3) Annamites (Lao PDR and Viet Nam); 4) Eastern Plains Dry Forests (Cambodia and Viet Nam); 5) Tenasserim Mountains (Myanmar and Thailand); and 6) Tri Border Forests (Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam). These landscapes were prioritized because of their transboundary spatial location, representation of all six GMS countries, representation of globally important forest ecoregions, and climate vulnerability. (See *Annex G* for profiles on the six *focal landscapes of the RSP*)

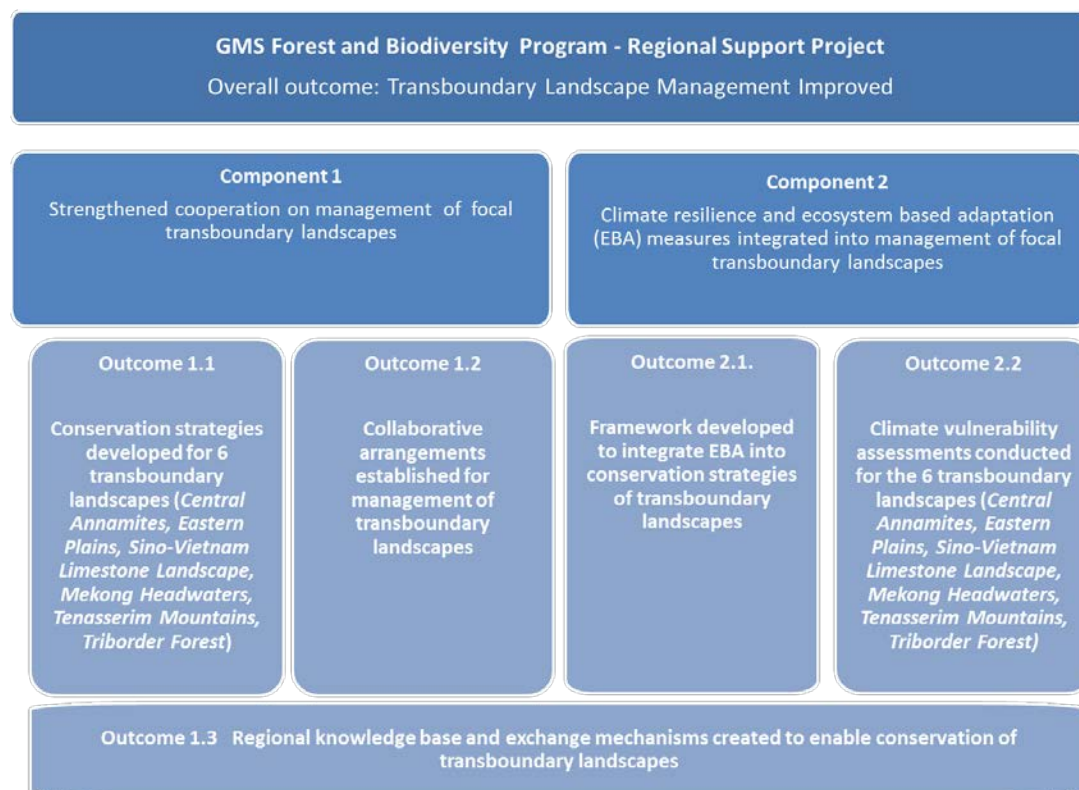
The RSP has two major components (Figure 1, below): 1) strengthened cooperation on management of focal transboundary landscapes and; 2) climate resilience and ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) measures integrated into management of focal transboundary landscapes. Together, the components will help strengthen landscape management and create climate-integrated conservation strategies for transboundary landscapes in the region.

The RSP activities will also benefit communities living within the six landscapes. As ecosystem services from these landscapes form a key element of the communities’ livelihoods, healthy ecosystems could also help reduce vulnerability of the communities to climate change impacts. Therefore, incorporating EBA into landscape management strategies will contribute towards community resilience to climate change, eliciting positive feedback from the communities for better management and conservation stewardship of the landscapes to sustain provision of ecosystem services.

In addition, the regional knowledge base and knowledge exchange mechanism, which overarch both components of the RSP, will provide a conduit for sharing of experiences, tools, approaches, and intelligence for managing the landscapes across national boundaries and protecting endangered biodiversity.

Please refer to *Annex H* for additional details on components, outcomes and activities.

Figure 1: GMS-FBP Regional Project.



The request for GEF funding for incremental/additional costs is based on the following reasoning:

- (i) The GMS Forests and Biodiversity Program (GMS FBP) would not be able to take advantage of the synergies and leverage larger scale impacts from the four national GEF projects and related baseline projects without support at the regional level;
- (ii) The RSP will overcome the limitations of national projects and programs in addressing transboundary and regional-scale issues required for conserving landscapes of regional and global significance;
- (iii) The RSP will link the four national GEF projects and baseline projects to promote spatial and thematic integration that combine GEF focal area objectives;
- (iv) The RSP will promote EBA methods which can be scaled up to more effectively capture ecosystem services that transcend national boundaries; and
- (v) Knowledge management and learning activities of the RSP will provide a platform for regional sharing of lessons learned and best practices currently being developed independently within the four national GEF projects and baseline projects.

The rationale for a regional program was confirmed in discussions with GMS country stakeholders who have highlighted the value of: (i) support for advancing progress on transboundary conservation cooperation in the subregion; (ii) the cost-effectiveness of regional spatial analysis and preparation (updating) of landscape and species profiles that could inform national programs; (iii) a strategic regional approach to habitat corridor conservation and rehabilitation for species of global and regional significance; (iv) transboundary and regional cooperation to address timber and wildlife trade; (v) exchanges between countries on landscape conservation and financing experiences; and (vi) the co-financing benefits of partnerships with ADB, World Bank and other programs.

Associated global environmental benefits of the RSP include: (i) strengthened regional cooperation on conservation of transboundary forest landscapes for carbon sequestration; (ii) maintenance and restoration of transboundary landscapes supporting globally significant species (e.g. Tiger, Gaur, Elephant, and Saola); and (iii) creation of a regional knowledge base on climate-integrated conservation, contributing to global knowledge.

The RSP is innovative in that it provides an overarching umbrella for integrating several national GEF projects and other baseline projects. The regional approach promoted by the RSP will also encourage national and sub-national actors to apply and scale up methodologies and processes for climate-integrated conservation. Therefore, the RSP represents a unique opportunity for GEF to use a programmatic approach to help mainstream and scale up climate resilience into conservation to protect, sustain, and enhance regional forest ecosystem functions and services. The RSP will also provide a regional platform to synthesize and disseminate best practices and approaches, contributing to the improvement and harmonization of conservation practices in the GMS.

A.2. Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders (including civil society organizations, indigenous people, gender groups, and others as relevant) and describe how they will be engaged in project and/or its preparation.

- At the national level, the government agencies that are responsible for biodiversity conservation and forestry will be engaged in developing spatial plans for the focal landscapes and prioritizing areas for conservation interventions. Relevant line agencies and ministries, (such as agriculture, land use planning, irrigation, economic development etc.) will be engaged in the conservation planning processes through the transboundary working groups facilitated by the RSP.
- At the provincial level, agencies with a mandate on forest conservation and land use planning in the border provinces of the focal landscapes will be engaged in the conservation planning processes and

the design of mechanisms for transboundary collaboration.

- At the regional level, the GMS Working Group on Environment (WGE), which oversees the CEP-BCI program, will help with steering and coordinating transboundary collaboration under the RSP, especially with developing the transboundary agreements. Other regional stakeholders that will be engaged to foster multi-sectoral integration and coordination are the national GMS Secretariats and the GMS Economic Cooperation Program (ECP) focal point agencies, the GMS Working Group on Agriculture (WGA), the Regional Power Trade Coordination Committee, the GMS Energy Forum, Mekong Tourism Coordination Office, and the Subregional Transport Forum.
- Several multilateral and bilateral development agencies invest resources in the GMS landscapes. The RSP will engage with these agencies for coordinating interventions and promoting thematically and spatially strategic investments in the landscapes.
- The RSP has and will continue to be informed by civil society stakeholders which work at the provincial, national and regional levels in the GMS.

A.3. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund/NPIF) or adaptation benefits (LDCE/SCCF).:

Natural resources from the subregion's forests and river systems are important sources of economic and social well-being for the people and countries in the GMS. At the national level, the RSP aims to protect and enhance this economic base, and mitigate the impacts of development pressures and climate change on these natural resources through appropriate climate-integrated conservation interventions. At the regional level, the RSP will overcome the limitations of national projects and programs in addressing transboundary and regional-scale issues required for conserving landscapes of regional and global significance, and are ones which provide global environmental benefits such as carbon sequestration;

At the local level, improved forest and watershed management and enhanced climate resilience will contribute to more stable ecosystems that support agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors, food security, livelihoods and employment for GMS communities. Most of the people affected by climate change will be poor, rural communities, who are most dependent on natural resources for livelihoods and have limited access to technical or financial resources for adaptation. Intact ecosystems are more climate-resilient, and will also be in a better position to support the livelihoods of rural, natural resource-dependent communities in the wake of climate change.

Therefore, the RSP will promote climate-integrated conservation of GMS ecosystems, including restoration of key degraded forests, within GMS transboundary landscapes. The proposed SCCF grant will support interventions at the landscape-level i.e. climate vulnerability analyses at landscape scales and the integration of ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) into conservation strategies of key transboundary landscapes in the GMS. These landscape-scale activities will also indirectly benefit communities supported by the baseline initiatives. As ecosystem services from the key transboundary landscapes form a key element of the communities' livelihoods, healthy ecosystems protected by climate-integrated conservation could help reduce vulnerability of the communities covered under the baseline initiatives to climate change impacts.

Specifically, the landscape-level interventions under this SCCP grant would contribute to CEP-BCI's effort to identify and prioritize climate-vulnerable components in the transboundary landscapes, providing inputs to CEP-BCI pilots at the community level. These community-level pilots will aim to implement climate change adaptation options, including ones which incorporate EBA approaches such as watershed rehabilitation etc. The pilots are expected to benefit approximately 150 communities in the Biodiversity Conservation Corridors (BCC) investment project sites in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam. In the three countries, the BCC project covers an area of more than 1.93 million hectares (ha) involving 22 communes in Cambodia, 69 villages in the Lao PDR, and 34 communes in Viet Nam with a total

population of 172,000 or 35,000 households, with 58% identified as ethnic minorities and more than 50% considered poor.

However, given the small amount of the SCCF grant (450,000 USD), it's unlikely that the one-time interventions through the grant would reduce much vulnerability of the GMS communities by itself in the immediate terms. Instead, the true value-added of this grant lies in generating analyses, tools, transboundary linkages and knowledge exchanges which support pilot demonstrations through the baseline projects, and in turn leverage future investments to scale up and mainstream climate-integrated conservation and EBA in the GMS in the long run. Without this grant, there would not be resources for the analyses and tools and exchange to support the scaling up and mainstreaming.

Project ownership and beneficiaries are detailed further in Table 1, below:

Table 1: Project Ownership and Beneficiaries.

Level of Beneficiary	Type of benefits expected
National and provincial agencies	Improved capacity to collaborate on the management of transboundary forest landscapes, and to integrate climate considerations and EBA approaches into conservation plans, strengthening the climate resilience of ecosystems within transboundary landscapes of the GMS.
Conservation professionals in the GMS	Improved capacity from knowledge products and exchanges on climate-integrated conservation facilitated by the regional forum.
Civil society	Strengthened capacity of civil society organizations which benefit from the regional knowledge exchange and sharing mechanisms on approaches and best practices in transboundary landscape conservation, EBA etc.
Economic sectors in the GMS sub-region	Sustained and climate-resilient ecosystems and services, underpinning economic growth.
Communities in conservation landscapes	Sustained and climate-resilient natural resources and ecosystem services, underpinning livelihood opportunities for community members, including women and ethnic minorities.

Opportunities to promote gender equality will be proactively pursued. Gender will be considered in recruitment processes and disaggregation of the RSP outputs and impacts. The RSP will also conform to GEF gender and safeguard policies consistent within commitments of the ADB.

A.4 Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and if possible, propose measures that address these risks:

Main risks to the RSP are associated with maintaining effective partnerships and communications. Primary risk and management strategies are summarized, within Table 2, below:

Table 2: GMS-FBP Regional Support Project Risk Management

Risk	Risk Management Strategy	Risk Level
Impact and Outcome Level Risks		
Rapid increases in economic growth dramatically increase environmental pressures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic benefits of sound environmental management will be highlighted and used to promote policy dialogue for sustainable development. 	H3
Surges in foreign direct investment (FDI) and rapid economic growth outpaces environmental response times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RSP will engage agencies responsible for planning and investments in the conservation strategy development processes under RSP. The agencies are also targeted for institutional capacity development via the RSP's linkage with CEP-BCI. 	H3
Short-term income needs and investment priorities override longer-term environmental and conservation concerns.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RSP will engage agencies responsible for planning and investments in the conservation strategy development processes under RSP. The agencies are also targeted for institutional capacity development via the RSP's linkage with CEP-BCI. 	M2
Component 1: Strengthened cooperation on management of focal transboundary landscapes.		
Biodiversity and socio-economic impacts of the program cannot be properly measured and monitored.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lessons learned from the CEP-BCI Phase I (2006-2011) have been analyzed, and monitoring frameworks improved accordingly. The improved frameworks will be applied to the RSP. Support will be provided for national agencies on spatial analysis, data collection and assessments, underscoring appropriate and practical monitoring of biodiversity and socio-economic impacts in the project landscapes. 	M3
Lack of funding and government support for Protected Areas in the biodiversity in the corridors negates conservation benefits accruing from the corridors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The RSP targets priority trans-border protected areas. Close integration with baseline projects enhancing Protected Area opportunities. 	M3
Regionalization of environmental standards puts undue pressure on some countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regionalism will not be forced, but opportunities for synergies will be identified and targeted (e.g., regional SFM/REDD+ development benefits all countries and has positive spin-offs for biodiversity conservation, poverty, ethnicity and gender). 	M2
Poor enforcement allows leakage and illicit cross-border trade in wildlife and timber.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement and capacity development for law enforcement agencies will be implemented. Institutional support will provided to strengthen national obligations to MEAs, including CITES, etc. 	M2
Component 2: Climate resilience and ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) integrated into management of focal transboundary landscapes.		
Climate-proofing technologies and approaches are too expensive for GMS countries to adopt.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic and development advantages of climate-proofing and climate change adaptation approaches will be demonstrated. Simple, cheap, transferable climate-resilient technologies and approaches will be promoted by the project. 	M3

Risk that EBA and adaptation options will not continue following the life of project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work under this project will be based upon need assessments and building ownership in project interventions. • Project partners of the RSP will work in collaboration with existing projects to build climate-integrated conservation strategies. 	L2
--	--	----

Likelihood: L = low, M = medium, H = high; **Potential impact:** 1 = low, 2 = medium, 3 = high

A.5. Explain how cost-effectiveness is reflected in the project design:

Under Phase I (2006-2011), CEP-BCI piloted the biodiversity conservation corridors concept in key conservation landscapes in GMS countries, helped the countries institutionalize the corridors through legislation, and leveraged ADB resources to scale up investments in the corridors in Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Cambodia. Building on the Phase I success, CEP-BCI Phase II (2012-2016) will further integrate sound environmental planning, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience in the management of biodiversity conservation landscapes in the GMS. CEP-BCI Phase II has also been carefully coordinated with the GMS Economic Cooperation Strategic Framework (2012-2022), which places a high priority on the environment and emphasizes the need for better balancing of development and environment across all sectors.

The RSP will take advantage of the regional implementation modality, capacities, and monitoring framework that have already been developed through CEP-BCI. The RSP will be integrated with CEP-BCI Phase II, and work closely with other baseline projects, to ensure that there is complementarity and synergy, thereby maximizing the project’s impact while ensuring cost-effectiveness.

A.6. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF financed initiatives [not mentioned in A.1]:

In addition to the four national GEF baseline projects, there are 19 other GEF projects which are relevant to the RSP, of which three are in Cambodia, two in China, four in Lao PDR, two in Thailand, five in Viet Nam and three are regional. (*See the detail in Annex I*) The RSP will coordinate with these projects, if their activities are within the focal transboundary landscapes of the RSP, or if there are lessons that can be learned that would be applicable to climate-integrated conservation of the transboundary landscapes.

A.7. Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation:

The ADB is the lead GEF agency implementing this RSP. The RSP is carefully aligned with ADB’s support to CEP-BCI Phase II, which was included in the GMS Regional Cooperation Operations Business Plan.¹⁴ The RSP will be implemented for 48 months from the time of official GEF CEO Endorsement of the project.

The ADB’s Environment Operations Center (EOC) in Bangkok--which implements CEP-BCI under the guidance of the GMS Working Group on Environment (WGE) comprising environment ministries of six GMS countries-- is responsible for timely and effective delivery of the RSP. The EOC will implement the RSP through the implementation arrangements established for CEP-BCI. The EOC will collaborate with GMS governments, working groups, local communities, development partners, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and service providers.

The annual work plans and budgets (AWPBs) of this RSP will be prepared by the EOC as part of the overall AWPBs of CEP-BCI Phase II, which will be adopted at the WGE annual meetings. Progress of the AWPBs will be reviewed at the semi-annual WGE meetings. Activities included in the AWPBs will

¹⁴ADB. 2010. *Regional Cooperation Operations Business Plan: Greater Mekong Subregion 2011–2013*. Manila.

be implemented through contracting arrangements and letters of agreement between the ADB and, as appropriate, the WGE focal agency in each GMS country, other national or subnational sector line agencies, firms, NGOs, and academic or research institutions. National Support Units (NSUs) established by CEP-BCI will facilitate coordination of the RSP activities. The NSUs are staffed with technical and administrative national consultants, recruited according to the ADB's Guidelines for the Use of Consultants.

The GEF-FBP program overview and implementation arrangements were presented for discussion at several regional consultations which brought country representatives and development partners together. EOC also facilitated country-focused consultations held in each country.

The list of consultations included:

- Regional GEF Consultation on the GMS Forests and Biodiversity Program, 10 – 11 May 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
- 17th Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Environment, 24 and 25 May 2011, Siem Reap, Cambodia
- 6th Semi-Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Environment, 14 December 2011, Bangkok, Thailand
- Country focussed consultations carried out in October 2012 by ADB and EOC
- 7th Semi-Annual Meeting of the GMS Working Group on Environment, 25 October 2012, Beijing, PRC

On 2 August 2013, EOC circulated the Draft CEO Endorsement Template for the Regional Support Project (RSP) to the GEF FBP, which contains more details of the proposed activities and implementation arrangements, to focal points in all the GMS countries for review and comments. No additional feedback was received.

B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

B.1 National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAs, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSA, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, etc.

- **CBD NBSAPs:** The RSP will support conservation planning and provide information that supports the updating of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and preparation of 'Fifth National Communications' under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The updated landscape profiles and technical information on endangered species from the GMS-FBP will contribute toward the revisions in the national NBSAPs, and particularly in Lao PDR, Cambodia and Viet Nam.
- **UNFCCC NAPAs:** The project is consistent with and supports *National Adaptation Plans of Action* (NAPA) follow-up programs in the participating GMS countries. Integrated biodiversity, climate change mitigation (deforestation and degradation avoidance) and adaptation, and sustainable forest management will be implemented in conjunction with national NAPAs.
- **UNFCCC NCs and SFM/REDD+ strategies:** The project will facilitate selected follow-up actions associated with the *Second National Communications* (SNC) in the participating countries, particularly in promoting climate resilient development and livelihoods, and conservation of forest as carbon stocks recommended within SNC reports. SFM/REDD+ strategies related to *Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry* (LULUCF) that will be supported at the national and regional level are detailed in *Annex J*.

- **UNCCD NAPs:** The project will support selected national sustainable land management (SLM) projects where opportunities exist to address priorities within country National Action Plans that are aligned with the project outcomes.
- **PRSPs and National Development Plans:** The project will enhance forest-based livelihoods development and related sustainable development and poverty reduction within the project sites.

Please see *Annex J* for additional and specific information for each GMS country.

B.2. GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities

The primary linkages between the RSP and the GEF focal areas are described in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Key relationships with GEF Focal Areas		
GEF-5 Focal Area Priorities	<i>Component 1: Strengthened cooperation on management of focal transboundary landscapes.</i>	<i>Component 2: Climate resilience and ecosystem-based adaptation (EBA) measures integrated into management of focal transboundary landscapes.</i>
CCA-1 Reducing Vulnerability: Reduce vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global level.	The project will promote improved recognition of the importance of transboundary connectivity of ecosystems and the multiple benefits provided by ecosystem services to strengthen climate resilience in transboundary conservation landscapes.	The project will promote EBA approaches which can be adopted in landscape conservation strategies, contributing to reduced vulnerability of transboundary landscapes in the GMS to the adverse impacts of climate change. But because ecosystem services are best captured at landscape scales, these EBA assessments should be conducted at scales appropriate to capture the important ecosystem processes and services. The increased resilience of the landscapes will in turn reduce the vulnerability of local communities and biodiversity to climate change. Communities that benefit from EBA are more likely to be better stewards of conservation of the ecosystems that increase their resilience.
CCA-2 Increasing Adaptive Capacity: Increase adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change, including variability, at local, national, regional and global level		The project will assess climate change impacts on prioritized regional ecosystems, with link to CEP-BCI's activity on mainstreaming climate change adaptation in the GMS sectors and communities. Knowledge products will be produced on approaches to address risks of climate change to ecosystems and community livelihood impacts. Improved knowledge strengthens capacity to make adaptation decisions in the GMS.
SFM/REDD+1 Forest	The project will contribute to improved conservation and management in six (6)	

Ecosystem Services: Reduce pressures on forest resources and generate sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services	transboundary forest landscapes by facilitating dialogue between GMS countries on development of transboundary conservation strategies, and providing forums for experience sharing between the countries. Maintaining connectivity in transboundary landscapes helps reduce pressures on forest ecosystems and sustain the flow of ecosystem services to economic sectors and communities.	
--	---	--

B.3 The GEF Agency’s program (reflected in documents such as UNDAF, CAS, etc.) and Agencies comparative advantage for implementing this project:

Since 2005, the ADB has been implementing CEP-BCI, which has been developed as a joint initiative of the six GMS member countries to effectively manage their shared environment and economic development. The RSP is fully compatible with the ADB's current role in mainstreaming environmental considerations, biodiversity conservation, and climate resilience in the GMS through the CEP-BCI. In implementing the RSP, the ADB can use its technical capacity and leverage existing investments at the national level to support the goals of environment sustainability, forest biodiversity conservation and climate resilience at the regional level. The interventions proposed under the RSP are embedded within the ADB’s Country Partnership Strategies (CPS) with each of the GMS member countries, and are consistent with the ADB’s Strategy 2020, the ABD Environment Operational Directions 2013–2020, the GMS Economic Cooperation Program Strategic Framework (2012-2022) and the implementation of the GMS Regional Investment Framework (RIF).

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M &E PLAN:

The M&E processes for the RSP will follow all standard ADB procedures for monitoring, evaluation and reporting of CEP-BCI Phase II. This includes implementation of an M&E and reporting framework using a results-based management strategy to monitor and report on progress towards achieving agreed GMS-FBP results. In addition to the CEP-BCI’s M&E framework, the GEF-5 Tracking Tools have been utilized at the project’s outset and provide another means of tracking project progress.

These M&E activities will be coordinated and delivered in a consolidated report format by the ADB to meet GEF reporting requirements. Objective, outcome, output and activity indicators will be monitored as described in the project Design and Monitoring Framework (DMF) which follows a standard format of the ADB (*Annex A*). As the project progresses, the EOC will refine the monitoring framework, update the GEF-5 tracking tools (as required in mid-term and final evaluations), confirm achievable targets, and firm up monitoring and recording arrangements.

A summary plan and budget of the M&E activities relevant to GEF is provided below.

TABLE 4: BUDGETED OUTLINE M&E PLAN

Type of M&E Activity	Description	Responsible Parties	Project Budget (Excluding Project Team Staff Time)	Time Frame
Inception workshop/report for GEF regional project activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review RSP logframe; discuss and revise indicators. Develop detailed first year work plan and broader overview work plan for the whole implementation period. Report to include detail on the responsibilities of respective agencies, budgets and project implementation mechanisms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ADB EOC National-regional government counterparts 	USD 20,000	Immediately following project start-up.
M&E and reporting framework	<p>Results-based management strategy developed and implemented under CEP-BCI Phase II. Ongoing M&E to encourage learning and national-regional adaptive management Aligned with CEP-BCI M&E baseline</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> M&E Specialist/EOC 	CEP-BCI	Ongoing.
Project Implementation Report (PIR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To follow GEF guidelines. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government counterparts. ADB EOC 	None.	Annually.
Annual review workshops through WGE meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GMS country and regional consultations Review of project progress on implementation and outputs; detailed work plan development for the following year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government counterparts. ADB EOC 	CEP-BCI	Annually.
Mid-term review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress towards achievement of outcomes and impacts; identify course corrections where needed. Focus on implementation effectiveness, efficiency, etc; highlight issues requiring decisions and actions etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> External consultants ADB EOC 	USD 20,000	Project mid-point.

Project Completion Report (PCR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive report summarizing activities, achievements, and lessons learnt, objectives met or not achieved, structures and systems implemented, etc. • Lay out recommendations to be taken to ensure sustainability and replication of project activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADB • EOC 	USD 30,000	Project closure
Project termination evaluation report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following GEF requirements • Describe anticipated sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and achievement of global environmental benefits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External consultants • ADB • EOC 	USD 20,000	Six months before or after project closure
Audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Per ADB procedures • Detailed progress reports and financial reports with justification of any change (if required). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ADB • EOC 	None.	Two reports/year (July 31 and January 31). Final progress and financial report within 60 days of project closure.
Total indicative COST Excluding project team staff time and ADB staff and travel expenses			USD 90,000	

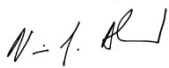
PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template. For SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE(MM/dd/yyyy)
1. Dr. Asdaporn KRAIRAPANOND	Director	OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT BANGKOK, THAILAND	SEE ATTACHED
2. Mr. Lonh HEAL	Technical Director	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA	
3. Mr. Khampadith KHAMMOUNHEUANG	Deputy Director General	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES VIENTIANE, LAO PDR	
4. Dr. Nguyen Van TAI	Director General	INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGIC POLICY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT HA NOI, VIET NAM	
5. Ms. Jiandi YE	Deputy Director	MINISTRY OF FINANCE IFI, DIVISION III INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT SAN LI HE ST. XICHENGQU BEIJING, CHINA	SEE ATTACHED

6. Mr. Hla Maung THEIN	Joint Secretary	NATIONAL COMMISSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS NAY PYI TAW, MYANMAR	SEE ATTACHED
------------------------	-----------------	--	---------------------

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF criteria for project identification and preparation.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE(MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Nessim Ahmad Director, Environment and Safeguards concurrently Practice Leader (Environment) Asian Development Bank		04/08/2014	Sanath Ranawana, Senior Natural Resources Specialist	+855 265 341	sranawana@adb.org
Karin Shepardson, Program Manager, ENVGC, World Bank			Jiang Ru	+1-202-473-8677	jru@worldbank.org

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

Design Summary	Performance Targets and Indicators with Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
<p>Impact</p> <p>Improved biodiversity conservation and climate resilience across the GMS</p>	<p>Compared to 2011 baselines by 2022:^a</p> <p>Forest patch sizes maintained in GMS biodiversity conservation corridors and landscapes</p> <p>Climate change adaptation and disaster risk preparedness improved in at least 700 communities in GMS conservation landscapes</p>	<p>National and FAO forestry reports</p> <p>EPA reports</p> <p>Provincial and local development plans</p> <p>BCC socioeconomic baseline in Cambodia, the Lao PDR, and Viet Nam</p> <p>CEP-BCI progress reports</p>	<p>Assumptions</p> <p>GMS governments remain committed to inclusive growth and sound environmental practices.</p> <p>Investment financing (public and private) is available.</p> <p>Risk</p> <p>Impact of rapid economic growth outpaces environmental response times</p>
<p>Outcome</p> <p>Environmentally friendly and climate-resilient GMS ECP</p>	<p>Compared to 2011 baselines, by 2016:</p> <p>ECP portfolio comprises at least 25% of pro-environment and climate-resilient investments</p> <p>Livelihoods (cash and noncash elements) of at least 60% of participating households in the conservation landscapes are improved, with at least 35% women beneficiaries</p>	<p>GMS sector and line agency reports</p> <p>Regional, national, and sector publications on economic indicators</p> <p>Reports to GMS ministers meetings and EMM</p> <p>CEP-BCI progress reports</p>	<p>Assumptions</p> <p>GMS governments remain committed to mainstreaming environmental concerns.</p> <p>Community and local agency support and ownership of activities continue.</p> <p>Risk</p> <p>Short-term development needs override long-term sustainable development priorities.</p>
<p>Outputs</p> <p>Environmental planning systems, methods, and safeguards improved</p>	<p>By 2016:</p> <p>Environmental and social considerations included in at least 12 GMS sector or corridor strategies and plans</p> <p>At least 150,000 people in the GMS economic corridors benefit from environmental measures, with at least 35% of them being women</p> <p>At least 150 agency staff (at least 35% women) able to implement safeguard assessments</p> <p>At least two new or updated legal instruments (laws or regulations) at a sector or national level supporting SEA or related tools prepared in GMS</p>	<p>GMS sector plans and strategies</p> <p>National environmental and social safeguards regulations and guidelines</p> <p>GMS country state of the environment reports</p> <p>CEP-BCI progress reports and baseline database</p>	<p>Assumption</p> <p>Sector agency support is received for environmental initiatives.</p> <p>Risk</p> <p>Sector authorities promote unsustainable development for short-term revenue target gains.</p>

Design Summary	Performance Targets and Indicators with Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
	<p>countries</p> <p>At least five GMS strategic plans and environmental reports supported by the EOC Environment Information System</p>		
<p>Management of transboundary biodiversity conservation landscapes and local livelihoods improved</p>	<p>By 2016:</p> <p>Biodiversity corridors are gazetted in at least three GMS countries</p> <p>Management and operational plans are formulated and implemented in at least three biodiversity conservation corridors</p> <p>Payment for environmental services guidelines developed in at least two countries</p> <p>Innovative livelihood interventions are tested in at least three biodiversity conservation corridors</p>	<p>Provincial regulations, decisions</p> <p>Provincial land-use plans</p> <p>GMS program evaluation reports</p> <p>Program baseline and progress reports</p> <p>Socioeconomic surveys</p>	<p>Assumption</p> <p>GMS cooperation on cross-border conservation activities</p> <p>Risks</p> <p>Conservation and sustainable livelihoods gains negated by ad hoc development</p> <p>Growing demand for wildlife and forest products</p>
<p>Climate-resilient and low-carbon strategies developed</p>	<p>By 2016:</p> <p>At least four national, provincial or city-based MRV systems developed</p> <p>At least four^b investment proposals on low-carbon technologies and / or climate change adaptation prepared</p> <p>Additional financing indicators:</p> <p>Climate change coping strategies tested in and benefitted by at least 150 community groups, with at least 35% women beneficiaries</p> <p>Annual carbon emissions of participating companies or households in pilot projects reduced by at least 10%</p>	<p>ADB climate change fund progress reports</p> <p>GMS ECP sector progress reports</p> <p>GMS country REDD reporting</p> <p>GMS business forum reports</p>	<p>Assumptions</p> <p>Availability of funds for climate change activities</p> <p>Sufficient demand for low-carbon and energy-efficient growth</p> <p>Risk</p> <p>Affordability and accessibility of climate-proofing technology</p>
<p>Institutions and financing for sustainable environmental management improved</p>	<p>By 2016:</p> <p>NSUs fully operational in at least five countries</p> <p>At least 50% of EOC professional staff are from GMS, at least 40% of them women</p> <p>At least two bankable private sector projects in environment and natural resources developed and collaboration secured</p> <p>At least two joint projects involving WGE and other GMS sector agencies implemented</p>	<p>Government circulars</p> <p>CEP-BCI progress reports</p>	<p>Assumption</p> <p>Sufficient financial resources and support for environmental service delivery</p> <p>Risk</p> <p>Sustainable financing systems generate only limited income, with high transaction costs</p>

Activities with Milestones	Inputs (\$'000)														
Output 1: Environmental planning systems, methods, and safeguards improved															
1.1 Build subregional and national environmental planning capacities, with at least two SEAs/environmental assessments per year completed by 2016	ADB and Cofinanciers: 29,390														
1.2 Build capacity for environmental safeguards, through engagement with at least ten projects and/or programs in the GMS by 2014															
1.3 Conduct safeguard training for at least 150 transport and energy sector officials and practitioners by 2016	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1493 228 1764 305">Item</th> <th data-bbox="1764 228 1974 305">Amount (\$'000)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 305 1764 381">Consultants (International and National)</td> <td data-bbox="1764 305 1974 381">18,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 381 1764 414">Equipment</td> <td data-bbox="1764 381 1974 414">895</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 414 1764 462">Training</td> <td data-bbox="1764 414 1974 462">2,895</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 462 1764 511">Surveys</td> <td data-bbox="1764 462 1974 511">540</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 511 1764 625">Miscellaneous administration and support costs</td> <td data-bbox="1764 511 1974 625">4,415</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1493 625 1764 716">Contingencies</td> <td data-bbox="1764 625 1974 716">1,745</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Item	Amount (\$'000)	Consultants (International and National)	18,900	Equipment	895	Training	2,895	Surveys	540	Miscellaneous administration and support costs	4,415	Contingencies	1,745
Item	Amount (\$'000)														
Consultants (International and National)	18,900														
Equipment	895														
Training	2,895														
Surveys	540														
Miscellaneous administration and support costs	4,415														
Contingencies	1,745														
1.4 Strengthen country environmental monitoring processes, with protocols and/or guidelines for at least four national systems established by 2016															
Output 2: Management of transboundary biodiversity conservation landscapes and local livelihoods improved															
2.1 Improve and update biodiversity profiles in conservation landscapes, with at least one profile completed by 2013															
2.2 Support value chain development based on ecosystem goods and services, with recommendations for four investment projects by 2015, and testing of interventions in at least three conservation landscapes by 2016															
2.3 Strengthen biodiversity conservation corridor management and monitoring in biodiversity conservation landscapes, establishing cross-border management arrangements, including zoning and gazetting plans, in at least three transboundary landscapes by 2016															
2.4 Improve compliance with multilateral environmental agreements on the movement of wildlife, timber, and other natural resources by supporting at least two cross-border initiatives by 2015															
Output 3: Climate-resilient and low-carbon strategies developed															
3.1. Support climate-resilience measures and synergies between adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies in key development sectors by integrating adaptation considerations into at least two investments by 2014 and by identifying at least two adaptation projects for financing by 2016															
3.2. Support low-carbon strategies and MRV frameworks in energy and transport sectors, with at least three investment proposals developed by 2015															
3.3. Test institutional and financial mechanisms related to low-carbon transport and climate change adaptation for agrarian communities, with pilot projects established in at least three countries by 2016 ^c															
3.4. Support country REDD readiness and piloting, with REDD readiness plans supported in at least three countries by 2016															
Output 4: Institutions and financing for sustainable environmental management improved															
4.1 Strengthen capacity for environmental management and monitoring, with particular emphasis on the roles of the WGE and NSUs, with NSUs functional in at least five GMS countries by 2015															
4.2 Policy and institutional support for sustainable financing of conservation and ecosystem management, with at least two payment for ecosystem services scheme initiated by 2015															
4.3 Facilitate PPPs for conservation and ecosystem management, with at least two PPP financing arrangements developed by 2015															

