



REQUEST FOR PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF Trust Fund

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	Enabling Activities to facilitate early action on the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Myanmar		
Country(ies):	Myanmar	GEF Project ID: ¹	5182
GEF Agency(ies):	UNIDO	GEF Agency Project ID:	120402
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry	Submission Date:	2012-08-08
GEF Focal Area (s):	Persistent Organic Pollutants	Project Duration (Months)	24 months
Check if applicable:	NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/>	Agency Fee (\$):	47,500

A. EA FRAMEWORK*

EA Objective: The overall objective of the proposed Enabling Activities (EA) is to strengthen national capacity and capability to prepare a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the management of POPs with a basic and essential level of information to enable policy and strategic decisions to meet the requirements of the Stockholm Convention.					
EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Co-financing (\$)
1. Determining Co-ordinating Mechanism and Organizing Process	TA	Broad participation of concerned stakeholders in the NIP development	-Project steering committee established; -inception workshop held.	50,000	50,000
2. Inventory and assessment of national infrastructure capacity	TA	Decision makers in Myanmar use the improved knowledge and database of POPs for the priority-setting phase and for the reporting requirements under the Stockholm Convention	-Preliminary POPs inventories developed; -preliminary inventory workshop held.	270,000	270,000
3. Priority setting and formulation of NIP	TA	Improved regulatory and policy framework; Myanmar has strengthened capacity for the enforcement of the regulatory and policy framework for the	-Priorities set in terms of the use restrictions and elimination of POPs; -national priority validation workshop held; -action plan training workshop	90,000	90,000

¹ Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

		environmentally sound management and phasing out of POPs.	held; -action plans for the environmentally sound management of POPs and the strengthening of the regulatory framework formulated; -NIP document prepared.		
4. Stakeholder involvement	TA	Raised awareness on POPs related issues; stakeholders and owners of POPs are involved in the environmentally sound management of POPs.	-Press conferences held; -awareness-raising workshops held; -endorsement workshop held; -NIP document approved and communicated to stakeholders.	50,000	50,000
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
	(select)				
Subtotal				460,000	460,000
EA Management Cost²				40,000	40,000
Total EA Cost				500,000	500,000

^a List the \$ by EA components. Please attach a detailed project budget table that supports all the EA components in this table.

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

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Government	Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry	In-kind	470,000
GEF Agency	UNIDO	Grant	30,000
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			500,000

² This is the cost associated with the unit executing the project on the ground and could be financed out of trust fund or co-financing sources.

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

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	EA Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)²	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNIDO	GEF TF	Persistent Organic Pollutants	Myanmar	500,000	47,500	547,500
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
(select)	(select)	(select)				0
Total Grant Resources				500,000	47,500	547,500

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks/Months	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	12.00	10,000	15,000	25,000
International consultants*	1.50	18,000		18,000
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*		0	15,000	15,000
Travel*		12,000	10,000	22,000
Others**	Specify "Others" (1)			0
	Specify "Others" (2)			0
	Specify "Others" (3)			0
Total		40,000	40,000	80,000

* Details to be provided in Annex A. **For Others, to be clearly specified by overwriting fields (1)-(

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TABLE D, IF APPLICABLE:

If costs for office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications, travels are requesting for GEF financing, please provide justification here:

The costs for communications/ printing/ translation/ reporting costs, renting of office equipment and purchase of consumable equipment (paper, toner, etc.) and equipment maintenance are to be provided by the national co-financing. Regarding the travel expenses, it is planned that the local travel will be covered by both the GEF grant and the national co-financing contribution. It should be stressed that the country recently moved the capital to a new "greenfield" place. The Government offices have been already relocated, but many institutions, companies and technical facilities and hotspots are still reside in Yangon and other places of the country, which are difficult to reach from the new capital. That and other difficulties of travel to the country (pls.see Part II, D) result in additional travel costs for international and national consultants. GEF financing will be required to cover the travel costs of international consultants

PART II: ENABLING ACTIVITY JUSTIFICATION

<p>A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (Provide brief information about projects implemented since a country became party to the convention and results achieved):</p>	<p>1. The National Environment Policy of Myanmar was adopted in 1994. The Government formulated Myanmar Agenda 21 fulfilling its commitments to Rio Earth Summit. Myanmar Agenda 21 of 1997 includes the following activities relating to the management of toxic chemicals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- to establish a modern computer based National Register of potentially toxic chemicals containing data on toxic chemicals. This will be updated periodically assisting government agencies to make decision on toxic chemicals;- to cooperate and coordinate with international bodies to obtain sufficient information and knowledge about environmental toxicity of chemicals, their assessment and risk reduction programmes;- to strengthen the national capacity for identification of problems, assessment of hazardous and risk and improved management of toxic chemical through effective and closer coordination with various departments;- to enhance information exchange between countries producing toxic chemicals and those vulnerable to such imports;- to eliminate illegal trafficking in toxic chemicals;- to enhance public awareness of toxic chemicals through mass media;- to promote safety training and education for the management of toxic chemicals;- to enhance control of international and national traffic of chemicals and toxic substances, information exchange procedures on banned and regulated chemicals with other countries;- to enhance laboratory facilities, technical support and monitoring programmes for toxic chemicals to address future environmental pollution problems. <p>2. POPs are a new challenge for the country, since currently they are not specifically recognized by the legislation. Import, export, distribution and use of pesticides in the field of agriculture are completely unregulated, which calls for a comprehensive up-to-date act. With full support for the Stockholm Convention, Myanmar expressed its commitment to protect human health and the environment through the reduction and/or elimination of POPs substances. The current legislation, monitoring, and enforcement system will be strengthened throughout the project.</p> <p>3. This Act of the Union of Myanmar established the sound environment policies in the utilization of water, land forests, mineral, marine resources and other natural resources in order to conserve the environment and prevent its degradation. It proclaims that:</p> <p>"The wealth of a nation is its people, its cultural heritage, its environment and its natural resources. The objective of Myanmar's environment policy is aimed at achieving harmony and balance</p>
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between these through the integration of environmental considerations into the development process to enhance the quality of life of all its citizens. Every nation has the sovereign right to utilize its natural resources in accordance with its environmental policies; but great care must be taken not to exceed its jurisdiction or infringe upon the interests of other nations. It is the responsibility of the State and every citizen to preserve its natural resources in the interest of present and future generations. Environmental protection should always be the primary objective in seeking development."

4. Following the process of the ratification of the Convention the preliminary discussions held under the lead of the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry with Government officials from relevant ministries (Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Electric Power, other interested governmental bodies), academia and NGOs. The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry identified by the Government as the counterparts for the EA project.

5. The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, as the national focal point, is responsible, amongst others, for the management of environmental problems and to promotion of environmentally sound and sustainable development in Myanmar. The Ministry serves as a coordinating agency collaborating closely with government departments and international organizations in matters relating to the environment. Its mandate is:

- to provide advice to the Cabinet on the formulation of environmental policies and seek its approval;
- to issue guidelines for implementation of environmental policies;
- to provide guidance and advice to the regulatory agencies on such matters as legislation, regulations and environmental standards;
- to formulate short, medium and long-term environmental policies and strategies that take into account both the environmental needs and development requirements.

6. Myanmar is basically an agriculture country with about 69% of the population residing in rural areas. The agriculture sector provides about 61.2% of the total labor force, contributes 32% (2009-2010) of GDP and 17.5% of total foreign export earnings. In order to increase agricultural production with limited land, the use of fertilizers and pesticides is inevitable. Various pesticides belonging to Organochlorine, organo-phosphate, carbamates, synthetic pyrethroids, etc. groups have been used for years in Myanmar since long for combating pests and in vector control programmes. The general awareness on the adverse impact of these chemicals on the environment and the farming community has not been adequately addressed in Myanmar. The use of pesticides has increased in the recent years through mechanization in the agriculture and introduction of double/multi-cropping system. In the year 1992-1993, the pesticide consumption in Myanmar was about 350.0 MT and which has increased to over 3000.0 MT in the year 2009-2010.

7. The Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry prepared the initial review with the detailed description of the status of the 21 POPs in Myanmar. The POPs pesticides were never produced in the country. In order to regulate the proper management of pesticides within the country, the Government of Myanmar has set up a Pesticide Registration Board (PRB) which is the authority responsible for granting registration, banning and limiting registration of pesticides. The Government has enacted the Pesticide Law (1990) to monitor and control the selection, storage, transportation and use of pesticides to protect people, crops, other biological entities and the environment. All pesticides are registered and regulated under the Pesticide Law. So far over 1000 pesticides have been approved for registration in the country. There is a list of the pesticides, which were put under the restricted use or banned in the country.

8. The agricultural areas where POPs pesticides were used in the past (e.g. Endrin and DDT were used in cotton planted area and Aldrin was used in Groundnut fields) are needed to be surveyed and sampled for POPs analysis. Although obsolete pesticides have been prohibited for health or environmental reasons, there are hazardous stockpiles of obsolete pesticides located at different regions in the country. The largest stockpile is located in Myanmar Agriculture Service (MAS). Despite that all the organochlorine POP pesticides, except DDT, have been banned or never registered in Myanmar, the pesticide like aldrin is freely available and sold in the retail market in the country. Similarly products like heptachlor may still be in use in forestry.

9. DDT is in restricted use in the country in Vector-borne Disease Control Programme (Malaria control).

10. At present no treatment facilities exist in Myanmar to safely dispose of obsolete chemicals. Waste is basically disposed off in the landfills and partly through combustion using incinerator. It would be necessary to examine the various alternative disposal methods and adopt the most appropriate one, which would result in full destruction yet without contaminating the environment. Hazardous waste management is in its initial stage in the country. Information on hazardous waste collection, storage and disposal is also scarce. There is no hazardous waste database and environmental inspectors have no instruments to monitor POPs. The registration, filing and reporting rules on hazardous wastes have not yet been outlined.

11. The human health assessment in regards with POPs insecticides exposure has not yet been conducted. The estimates for the population exposed to these chemicals are not available. The insecticides are used in border areas of the country; Shan, Kayin, Mon, Taninthayi regions for vector control and they were used in Magwe, Sagaing and Mandalay regions (central Myanmar areas) for agricultural purposes. Residue survey in food conducted during the last ten years showed that residues detected were mainly organochlorine originated mainly from OP pesticides.

12. There are PCB containing transformers and capacitors that are still in operation. The decommissioned pieces of electrical equipment are stored in an environmentally unsound manner. Maintenance operations do not include testing for PCBs, so the cross-contamination is a “normal” practice in the energy sector. Identification, assessment and prioritization of potentially POPs contaminated sites will also be addressed as a matter of priority.

13. The Project will concentrate efforts to strengthen and enhance communication, education, information exchange, and cooperation among the different parties involved, i.e. entities from governmental, nongovernmental and private sectors.

14. The proposed project will facilitate the incorporation of POPs-related issues into the general planning process and the formulation of national strategies for public health protection and poverty reduction as well, not only as a duty but also as an opportunity to use new technologies and win-win strategies. By achieving this purpose, the project represents an effective opportunity to promote the need for including chemical safety issues in general into the planning of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals as strongly recommended by the International Community pursuant to the Action Plan of Johannesburg in 2002 and through the adoption of the SAICM in February 2006.

15. Myanmar has the significant pulp and paper industry, wood industry as well as the mining sector. These would be candidates for adopting best available techniques and best environmental practices (BAT/BEP) to address the issue of mitigating unintentional POPs releases.

16. Awareness raising is extremely important among the private sector, decision makers and the general public. There is not systematic dissemination of information on environmental issues. Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry and foreign organizations hold environment-related events, but they are mostly attended by administrators, medium-level manager and technical staff, and the results are not widely distributed to the general public. The country is in the process of compiling the state of the environment report. As a filtrate of the above, capacity building, both human resource and education, is deemed necessary for the successful implementation of the Convention. Annex F gives further details regarding the POPs status in the country.

17. Myanmar has not yet prepared its National Profile for a Sound Chemicals Management that is strongly recommended by the international community as a major prerequisite for a holistic policy for chemicals management in a country. This Enabling Activities project comes as a real opportunity for the country to fill in this major gap. With particular emphasis on the POPs issue where needed, the document will address hazardous chemicals and waste management at large and will fully take into account relevant recent international policies and agreements including: the Millennium Development Goals, the Action Plan of Johannesburg, the Strategic Approach for the International Chemicals Management (SAICM), etc.

	<p>18. Gender dimensions are also a critical component to be considered during the NIP review and update process. Recognizing that the level of exposure to POPs chemicals and its related impacts on human health are determined by social and biological factors, women, children and men might be exposed to different kinds, levels and frequency of new POPs chemicals (e.g. in the household, agriculture, industry, school, etc.); therefore, gender mainstreaming activities will be an integral part of this project. This will be addressed with due regard to UNIDO gender policy, mainly by involving women and vulnerable groups at the sector level (e.g. Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, etc.), in the project coordination unit (PCU) and national steering committee (NSC, Activity 1.2), at the stakeholder level (e.g. by involving relevant women's group in the workshops and project groups, Activities 2.2 and 2.3), at the informational level (e.g. gathering POPs inventory data on current POPs management practices, on occupational health data, and consultation about potential and practical post-NIP interventions) and public awareness activities. The national expert on socio-economic assessment will also emphasize his/her assessment (Activity 2.10) on the benefits of new POPs reduction and use on human health, especially women and children, and the environment, as well as the use of new POPs in an environmentally sound manner. These involvements and results will be summarized in the inventory reports to provide a basis for prioritization, development of action plans and drafting of post-NIP projects.</p> <p>19. As an overall conclusion, the GEF fund is necessary for capacity building and awareness raising in the country, in legislative, managerial and technical terms to initiate the obligatory inventory, monitoring, enforcement, research and development as well as reporting procedures to the Convention. Moreover, the project will consider the experience and lessons learned from other national and international programmes and projects in this field.</p>
<p>B. ENABLING ACTIVITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND ACTIVITIES (The proposal should briefly justify and describe the project framework. Identify also key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable. Describe also how the gender dimensions are considered in project design and implementation.)</p>	<p>The overall objective of the proposed Enabling Activities (EA) is to strengthen national capacity and capability to prepare a National Implementation Plan (NIP) for the management of POPs. This plan will provide a basic and essential level of information to enable policy and strategic decisions to be made, and identify priority activities that Myanmar should undertake in order to meet the requirements of the Stockholm Convention. By achieving this objective Myanmar will meet the obligations of the Convention and be enabled to manage the reduction/elimination of POPs within the overarching framework of the SC on POPs as well as the Strategic Approach of the International Chemicals Management (SAICM).</p>

<p>C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (discuss the work intended to be undertaken and the output expected from each activity as outlined in Table A).</p>	<p>1. Determination of coordinating mechanism and organizing process (the Project Implementation Plan is given in the Attachment C)</p> <p><i>1.1 . Needs assessment and strengthening of national focal point</i></p> <p>The technical and human resources of the National Executing Agency (NEA) will be assessed. A national project office will be established within the executing agency and manned by a full-time National Project Coordinator (NPC) who will provide overall project coordination.</p> <p><i>1.2. Formation of multi-stakeholder national coordinating committee</i></p> <p>The Inter-Ministerial Committee will be the steering committee responsible for the project activities. The primary members of the Committee will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry - Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation - Ministry of Health - Ministry of Industry - Ministry of Electric Power - Ministry of Mines <p>Other Governmental agencies, academia and NGOs will be invited to the Steering committee as by their scope of responsibilities. The consultations with the stakeholders and POPs owners, which are not included in the Steering Committee, will be organized on the regular basis in order to adjust the course of implementing the present EA project. The Steering Committee will continue to act as the consultation mechanism for implementing the NIP after the termination of the present EA project. Based on the priorities of the future NIP the SC will recommend to the Government the scope and consequences of the post-NIP projects, will accumulate the knowledge about local technical capacities capable to participate in these projects and through this the SC will assure the sustainability of achieved impulses for timely and efficient post-NIP actions for disposal of POPs in the country.</p> <p><i>1.3. Drawing-up overall work plan and assigning responsibilities amongst government departments and other stakeholders</i></p> <p>NEA with the guidance of the NPC and the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) will prepare the work plan for review and approval by the Steering Committee. Strong emphasis will be placed on the participation of the private sector and civil society to ensure their active involvement in the execution of the work plan.</p> <p>All responsibilities, timelines and budget (based on tenders) will be clearly spelled out in order to guarantee the fast, safe and accurate execution of the project. The parallel executable activities will underlined for time effective implementation.</p>
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	<p><i>1.4 Identification and sensitization of main stakeholders</i></p> <p>The NPC will prepare a preliminary directory of stakeholders and canvass their support and cooperation for the enabling activities. This directory will form the basis for awareness raising and information exchange activities, commencing with the inception workshop.</p> <p><i>1.5 Inception workshop</i></p> <p>A two-day workshop will be held in order to raise awareness of POPs issues and the enabling activities project amongst the widest possible range of stakeholders. An international expert will facilitate discussion amongst the project officials and the approximately 60 invitees. The agenda will focus on discussion of the planned activities and timeframes, necessary to meet the obligations of the Stockholm Convention. In addition, environmental monitoring and inventory practices, sound disposal techniques and opportunities for the phasing out of POPs substances will be presented and discussed.</p> <p>2. Establishment of POPs inventory and assessment of national infrastructure and capacity</p> <p><i>2.1 Preparation of National Profile</i></p> <p>Myanmar is in the process of preparing a National Profile to Assess the National Infrastructure for Management of Chemicals (NCMP) to assess and diagnose the existing infrastructure for the sound management of chemicals. This is an important prerequisite for systematically building national capacity. The findings of NCMP will therefore serve as a crucial input into the development of specific action plans and strategies for the NIP.</p> <p><i>2.2 Constitution of task teams responsible for inventories</i></p> <p>The following 5 task teams will be constituted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research team to undertake preliminary inventories of trade, use and distribution of POPs-containing products. - Contamination team to assess contaminated sites, obsolete stocks and disposal opportunities. - Team to prepare preliminary inventories of unintentionally produced POPs. - Institutional team to assess infrastructure, enforcement, monitoring and R&D capacities, and <p><i>2.3 Health team to assess the population's exposure to POPs Training on inventory procedures</i></p> <p>Two international experts will provide training on inventory procedures. The training will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Procedures for collecting POPs-related information; - Undertaking preliminary inventories of trade, use and stocks; - Initial survey of contaminated sites; - Monitoring and reporting methodologies using established guidelines; - Undertaking inventories of releases into air, water, soil and sediment; - Sampling for chemical analysis of POPs compounds especially POP pesticides;
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obligations of the Stockholm Convention with regards to POPs management and infrastructure; - Identification of POP-related health impacts from existing reporting schemes. <p>2.4 <i>Preliminary inventory of production, distribution, use, import and export</i> Two experts will gather relevant information regarding the import, use, distribution and export of POPs containing products from relevant institutions.</p> <p>2.5 <i>Preliminary inventory of stocks and contaminated sites, assessment of opportunities for disposal of obsolete stocks</i> Two experts will undertake an inventory on stocks, contaminated sites and assess opportunities for disposal. Where priority contaminated sites are identified, a preliminary sampling programme may be undertaken.</p> <p>2.6 <i>Preliminary inventory of unintentional releases to the environment</i> Two experts will use internationally accepted methodologies to estimate total unintentional production of POPs. They will assess the scenarios developed from different toolkits used and review their validity to Myanmar.</p> <p>2.7 <i>External independent review of initial national POPs inventories</i> 2.8 Draft versions of the preliminary inventories described above will be submitted to the Steering Committee. The Committee supported by an international consultant will review the inventories and provide comments and recommendations. The expert teams will revise the preliminary inventories taking into account the comments and recommendations received. Final preliminary inventories will be submitted to the Steering Committee for approval. <i>Assessment of infrastructure capacity and institutions to manage POPs, including regulatory controls; needs and options for strengthening them.</i> The infrastructure capacity of Myanmar will be described and assessed. The responsibilities of relevant institutions and the regulatory instruments at their disposal will be reviewed. Analysis will include the capabilities of these institutions to play a full role, within the Conference of the Parties, to propose and review candidate POPs as set out in Article 8 of the Convention. An analysis of the changes necessary to accommodate actions to meet the obligations under the Stockholm Convention will be prepared. A legal expert and one sociological expert will be engaged.</p> <p>2.9 <i>Assessment of enforcement capacity to ensure compliance</i> The technical and human resources available for the enforcement of current chemical management regulations will be assessed. The changes necessary to meet the compliance challenges of the Stockholm Convention will be determined.</p> <p>2.10. <i>Assessment of social and economic implications of POPs use and reduction; including the need for the enhancement of local commercial infrastructure for distributing benign alternative technologies/products</i> An assessment of the social implications of restricting or discontinuing POPs use and unintentional production will be made. This assessment</p>
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will be based on consideration of the indicative list of issues given in Annex F of the Convention and UNEP's assessment tool for chemicals. The identification of opportunities to transfer technology and share skills with more experienced countries will be particularly important.

2.11 Assessment of monitoring and R&D capacity

The technical and human resources available for monitoring of enterprise performance in relation to current chemical management regulations will be assessed. The changes necessary to meet the initial and continuing requirements of the Stockholm Convention will be determined. An assessment will be made of national human resources available for the analysis and evaluation of POPs-containing products. Opportunities to analyze POPs-containing products at regional facilities will be examined.

2.12 Identification of POPs related human health and environmental issues of concern; basic risk assessments

One national health expert will collate and review available health information related to environmental exposure to POPs. Additionally, in conjunction with information from other inventory teams, prepare an initial assessment of POPs-related risks faced by the population of Myanmar. Particular emphasis will be placed on communities in areas where high levels of POPs contamination or environmental release are suspected. The expert will provide recommendations for further health-related studies that may need to be undertaken

Workshop on preliminary inventories

Final draft preliminary inventories and assessments will be submitted to the Steering Committee for approval. The Executing Agency, on behalf of the Steering Committee, will organize a one-day meeting to review and discuss the outcomes. It is expected that approximately 30 persons representing all main stakeholders will be invited.

3. Priority Setting and Formulation of National Implementation Plan

3.1 Development of criteria for prioritization

A national expert will review the inventories and assessments and develop criteria for the ranking of priority actions recommended by the various expert teams. These criteria will take into account health, environmental and socio-economic impacts and the availability of alternative solutions. In preparing these criteria, the expert will take advantage of experience of risk-reducing technologies and priority setting undertaken in other countries. The proposed criteria will be submitted to the Steering Committee for review and approval.

3.2 Determination of national objectives in relation to priority POPs or issues

The national expert, who will develop these criteria, will also facilitate a meeting of the Steering Committee at which national objectives in relation to priority POPs or issues will be proposed. The expert will then prepare a draft prioritization report.

3.3 Organization of a national priority validation workshop

A one-day workshop will be organized for 60 participants to validate the criteria and national objectives established by the Steering.

	<p>Committee and to discuss and endorse the draft Prioritization Report. Following the meeting, the expert will prepare a final report, setting out criteria, national objectives and priorities taking into account the comments made by the Steering Committee and participants.</p> <p><i>3.4 Training and assigning mandates to task teams to develop proposals for addressing priorities</i></p> <p>Based on the outcome of the validation workshop, the Steering Committee will propose to the executing agency the recruitment of experts to prepare action plans necessary to address national priority issues. International experts will present training in the development of Action Plans, strategies and the NIP for the experts recruited.</p> <p><i>3.5 Identification of management options, including phasing out and risk reduction options</i></p> <p>Technical reports setting out management and risk-reduction options to address national priority issues will be prepared. These reports will take into account the increased effectiveness and efficiencies to be gained from building, wherever possible, upon current legislation, institutional structures and capabilities. Three experts will be appointed to prepare these reports for submission to the Steering Committee.</p> <p><i>3.6 Determination of the need for the introduction of technologies, including technology transfer, possibilities of developing indigenous alternative</i></p> <p>Internationally available alternative technologies, techniques and strategies will be reviewed and their ability to meet requirements for the elimination, reduction and disposal of POPs in Myanmar assessed. This review will use criteria based, inter alia, upon those set out in part V of Annex C (unintentional production) of the Convention in order to select best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) most appropriate to Myanmar and include consideration of indigenous methods that provide protection from pests and diseases for which POPs chemicals may be currently employed.</p> <p>A national expert will be recruited to undertake this review and prepare reports for the Steering Committee.</p> <p><i>3.7 Assessment of the costs and benefits of management options</i></p> <p>Cost benefit analyses will be prepared to evaluate the economic feasibility and costs associated with the recommended management options set out in the technical reports prepared during the activities above. A national expert will prepare these reports for the Steering Committee.</p> <p><i>3.8 Development of a national strategy for information exchange, education, communication and awareness raising</i></p> <p>A national strategy for information exchange, education, communication and awareness raising will be prepared in accordance with Article 9 and 10 of the Convention. A focal mechanism for information exchange will be proposed. A national expert will be engaged to prepare this strategy and submit it to the Steering Committee. Ministry of Education will include POPs-related issues in educational programme.</p> <p><i>3.9 Defining expected results and targets</i></p> <p>The technical, management, BAT and cost-benefit reports, together with the strategy for information exchange will be discussed by the Steering</p>
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Committee. Proposed actions will be presented by the Steering Committee for discussion and endorsement at a fourth stakeholder workshop.

3.10 Development and formulation of a detailed implementation plan, including action plans for unintentional by-products, PCBs and, where appropriate, for DDT and other POPs as prioritized

Preparation of the NIP will begin in the 18th month with the collation of all component reports prepared in earlier activities. It will take into account decisions of the Steering Committee as well as comments and endorsements received from the various stakeholder workshops. The draft NIP will be presented to the Steering Committee for review.

Three experts will be engaged for three months to prepare the draft NIP and make any necessary revisions. The revised draft will be submitted for review by an independent consultant.

3.11 Preparation of initial funding request package for implementation, including cost estimates and incremental costs

Proposed actions identified in the NIP will be calculated and funding request packages prepared. These funding packages will establish implementation timetables consistent with Myanmar meeting its obligations under the Convention. A team of experts will be engaged in the 21st month to undertake this activity.

3.12 Expert review of implementation plan

An independent consultant will review and comment on the revised draft NIP taking into account, in particular, the requirements set out in Article 7 of the Convention.

4. Endorsement of NIP by stakeholders

4.1 Submission of final draft NIP to stakeholders for comments

To facilitate review and the building of consensus around the NIP, stakeholders will be invited to provide written comments during a two weeks consultation period. The circulation, with the revised draft NIP, of a questionnaire prepared by the independent consultant who reviewed the document, will aid this process. Written submissions will be gathered by the Steering Committee and taken into account in the preparation of the final draft NIP.

4.2 Final workshop to review and endorse of the NIP

A workshop will be organized for all stakeholders and relevant governmental bodies to review and endorse the final draft NIP. The workshop will also seek to obtain stakeholder commitment of the resources necessary for the successful implementation of the NIP. Approximately 100 people, including high-level governmental officials, national decision makers and international development partners will be invited for this one-day meeting.

4.3 Submission of the NIP to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat

Following the workshop, the NIP will be submitted, in English, to the Secretariat of the Convention.

5. Information dissemination

5.1 National information center

As Article 10 of the Convention suggests, Myanmar will establish a national information centre. The centre will implement new strategies, which will be developed as part of the NIP, and include the following:

- education programmes for teachers and medical doctors, since they are the key sources of health related information to the public;
- detailed database and information library on POPs and POPs inventories of the country accessible for the public;
- training programmes for employees at industries working with POPs;
- programmes for the identification and proposal of new possible POPs candidates for international action as per Article 8 of the Convention.

5.2 Other information dissemination activities

A press conference will be held to inform the public. The NIP in the local language will be publicly available. Based on the results of the NIP leaflets, publication in media will be promoted. Owners of POPs will be consulted concerning the practical ways of implementing the priorities on the NIP.

6. Social and participation issues

6.1 Interministry cooperation

Because the POPs issue is a multi-stakeholder issue, many of the activities set out in this project require the willing participation and coordinated efforts of a broad range of stakeholders. In general, many least developed countries face problematic inter-ministerial cooperation and broader coordination with civil society groups and the industry. In Myanmar the initial participation of other agencies has started during the developing the present document for the EA project with the leading role of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, which is responsible for the design and the oversight of the environmental policy of the government, ensuring co-ordination of national programmes dealing with the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements including the Stockholm Convention and chemical safety issues at large.

6.2 Participation of local communities. Gender issues

The participation of civil society groups will be assured through receiving from them feedback/comments/proposals for the results of inventories. It will be especially relevant for cases where contamination areas are located within habitats or where POPs could penetrate to the food chain, and the local communities will be made aware about such hot spots. The project in the first run addresses these cases to evaluate and plan activities to prevent contacts of people with POPs and to restrict their releases to the environment. The local communities will be advised and assisted to introduce the most necessary preventive measures until the programme will start the activities for containing and disposal of POPs. Local NGOs will be invited to participate in the awareness programme of the EA. Their representatives will be invited to attend the events of the EA and through this they will receive training and will be provided with printed materials for conducting their awareness programmes.

The results of the inventory will be reviewed in the first run to assess the present exposure and risks of female population to POPs at their work places and habitats, and work out priority measures for reduction of this exposure.

The project represents an opportunity to establish additional employment for women participating in analytical/inventorying components of this and future POPs-related projects.

<p>D. DESCRIBE, IF POSSIBLE, THE EXPECTED <u>COST-EFFECTIVENESS</u> OF THE PROJECT:</p>	<p>The project will lay the ground for implementing the obligations of the country under the SC for POPs. The results of the assessment of the POPs availability in the country are necessary for planning the activities for their disposal. The human and analytical capacities to be build during the project will serve as the main moving force for implementing the future works towards the achieving the compliance with the requirements o the The implementation of the EA will be supported by available capacities. In particular, the national consultant and experience of local environmental organization gained in the course of implementing projects for the Montreal Protocol will be used for the present project.</p> <p>The budget calculation based mostly on using their services for all local activities for updating the regulation, collection of samples for testing, analysis of contaminated equipment, soil and other materials and composing the plans of actions for the NIP.</p> <p>At the same time the budget contains the financial resources required for procurement chemicals and some laboratory equipment, which is not avaiable in the country and required for making analysis of contaminated material for POPs (like express analysis for POPs), or sending samples for testing by a certified laboratory abroad (like analysis for dioxins and furans).</p> <p>It is calculated in the budget that the international travel costs to Myanmar are very expensive. For example cost for an air ticket from Europe to Myanmar starts from US\$8,000. It is planned that whenever is possible trained consultants from countries of the Asian region might be used. This permits to reduce the total travel costs to the available budget.</p> <p>The travel of foreigners to Myanmar is complicated by the fact that the country has a very few consulates abroad, and foreign specialists, as a rule, have to stop for 2 nights in Bangkok to receive visas for visiting Myanmar.</p>
<p>E. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M&E PLAN:</p>	<p>M&E will be implemented following the procedures of UNIDO for projects under US\$ 1 mln., which includes the project inception workshop, regular monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the project by the indicators, project reporting and through mid-term and terminal tripartite meetings.</p> <p>The Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar agrees to apply to the present project, mutatis mutandis, the provisions of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between the United Nations Development Programme and the Government, signed and entered into force on 17 September 1987.</p>
<p>F. EXPLAIN THE DEVIATIONS FROM TYPICAL COST RANGES (WHERE APPLICABLE):</p>	<p>None</p>

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


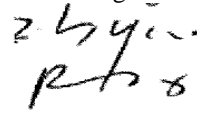
A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):
(Please attach the [country endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this template).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (Month, day, year)
Mr. Hla Maung Thein	Director, Environment Division, Planning and Statistic Department, GEF Operational National Focal Point	MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY	09/21/2011

B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT
UNCBD		
UNFCCC		
UNCCD		
STOCKHOLM CONVENTION	04/19/2004	HLA MAUNG THEIN, GEF NATIONAL OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT, DIRECTOR, PLANNING AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for Persistent Organic Pollutants Enabling Activity approval.					
Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	Date (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Mr. Dmitri Piskounov, Managing Director PTC, UNIDO GEF Focal Point		01/23/2013	Mr. Zhengyou Peng 	+43-1- 26026 3831	Z.Peng@unido.org

CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>\$/ Person Week</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
For EA Management			
Local			
Project coordinator	500	48	Responsibility for the management, monitoring and coordination of the Enabling Activities; establish task teams and national experts as necessary and appoint tasks using terms of reference (TOR) agreed by the National Steering Committee; provide information about the implementation process and the disbursement of project funds to UNIDO on a continuous basis; submit workplans to the National Steering Committee for review; prepare the progress report; serve as publicly accessible National Information Centre on new POPs
International			
Launching the project and organizing the works	3,000	4	The international consultant at the initial stage of the project will assist in defining the national project team, conducting the training of the team in the format of the NIP to be prepared and the UNIDO/GEF administrative and financial rules governing the project, setting the TORs for the Steering committee, holding the inception workshop
Evaluation of final and completion of the project	3,000	2	M&E following the rules of UNIDO
For Technical Assistance			
Local			
Legal expert/project coordinator	500	76	In addition to the management of the project (please see above) the national consultant will conduct the evaluation of the existing legislation for POPs, prepare the recommendations for its improvement and facilitate their approval by the Government. He/She organizes the activities of the project and formulation of the NIP.
Inventory and technical experts	500	32	Technical project groups for inventory of pesticides, PCBs and dioxin/furans, "new" POPs and laboratory improvement.
International			

Consultants in technical capacity building for inventory, analysis and priority setting	3,500	28	Training and assistance in organizing and conducting inventory, analyzing the samples, establishing the data base of the results and preliminary evaluation of the most efficient approaches (priorities) to implementing the requirements of the SC.

OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE TO FOCAL AREA ENABLING ACTIVITIES

Biodiversity

- [GEF/C.7/Inf.11, June 30, 1997, Revised Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities](#)
- [GEF/C.14/11, December 1999, An Interim Assessment of Biodiversity Enabling Activities](#)
- [October 2000, Revised Guidelines for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activities \(Expedited Procedures\)](#)

Climate Change

- [GEF/C.9/Inf.5, February 1997, Operational Guidelines for Expedited Financing of Initial Communications from Non-Annex 1 Parties](#)
- [October 1999, Guidelines for Expedited Financing of Climate Change Enabling Activities – Part II, Expedited Financing for \(Interim\) Measures for Capacity Building in Priority Areas](#)
- [GEF/C.15/Inf.12, April 7, 2000, Information Note on the Financing of Second National Communications to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)
- [GEF/C.22/Inf.15/Rev.1, November 30, 2007, Updated Operational Procedures for the Expedited Financing of National Communications from Non-Annex 1 Parties](#)

Persistent Organic Pollutants

- [GEF/C.17/4, April 6, 2001, Initial Guidelines for Enabling Activities for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants](#)
- [GEF/C.39/Inf.5, October 19, 2010, Guidelines for Reviewing and Updating the NIP under the Stockholm Convention on POPs](#)

Land Degradation

- [\(ICCD/CRIC\(5\)/Inf.3, December 23, 2005, National Reporting Process of Affected Country Parties: Explanatory Note and Help Guide](#)

National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)

- [Operational Guidelines for Expedited Funding of National Self Assessments of Capacity Building Needs, September 2001](#)
- [A Guide for Self-Assessment of Country Capacity Needs for Global Environmental Management, September 2001](#)

National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA)

- [GEF/C.19/Inf.7, May 8, 2002, Notes on GEF Support for National Adaptation Plan of Action,](#)