



REQUEST FOR PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

THE GEF TRUST FUND

Date of submission: April 11, 2008

Re-submission date: June 30, 2008

GEFSEC PROJECT ID¹: 3450

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: 604145

COUNTRY(IES): Islamic Republic of Iran

PROJECT TITLE: Rehabilitation of forest landscapes and degraded land with particular attention to saline soils and areas prone to wind erosion

GEF AGENCY(IES): FAO

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Forest, Rangeland and Watershed Management Organization (FRWO) and Forest Range and Agriculture Research Institutions (of the Iranian Government), FAO

GEF FOCAL AREA: Land Degradation, Biodiversity

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM: BD SP-3, LD SP-2

NAME OF PARENT / PROGRAM / UMBRELLA PROJECT: n.a.

A. PROJECT PREPARATION IMPLEMENTATION TIMEFRAME:

Start date	September 2008
Completion date	February 2010

B. PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES (\$)

Describe the PPG activities: Project preparation activities will consist of: (1) assessment of the current situation and identification of priority areas for intervention; (2) organization of a participatory workshop and technical consultations; (3) assessment of planned initiatives and preparation of an incremental analysis and a financing-plan; and (4) establishment of baseline data and preparation of a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan. The main outputs that will contribute to the preparation of the FSP will consist of relevant data and information collected during the preparation period, workshop minutes and consultants and technical reports. The final product will be the full-size project in the FAO-GEF Project Document format and the CEO endorsement/approval template.

List project preparation activities	GEF Grant	Co-financing	Total
1. Activity: Assess the current status of degraded forest landscapes and lands (physical, ecological and socio-economic parameters; extension and level of damages; major inherent causes -unsustainable harvesting of fuel wood, overgrazing, clear cutting for agriculture/livestock uses-). Identify major barriers and constraints to wider implementation of the sustainable land and forest management (SLFM) techniques (social, political, organizational, and institutional). Identify appropriate techniques (soil and water conservation, sustainable forest management (including the identification of	70,000	50,000	120,000

¹ Project ID number will be assigned initially by GEFSEC. If PIF has been submitted earlier, use the same ID number as PIF.

potential new forest reserves), policy development, capacity-building activities) to address the barriers and constraints. Delineate most potential areas for project intervention/implementation. Draft a Project Log frame;			
2. Activity: Conduct a participatory workshop, with all concerned stakeholders, to: (i) agree on the project's objectives, outcomes, outputs and activities in light of information and the results produced under Activity 1; (ii) agree on project components and prepare the draft Logframe; (iii) identify criteria for selection of project sites; and (iv) identify priority areas for implementation of SLFM techniques and the creation of forest reserves, as appropriate.	40,000	60,000	100,000
3. Activity: Assess on-going initiatives and prepare an incremental analysis and a financing-plan, including the mobilization of co-financing required for the finalization of project design;	30, 000	20, 000	50, 000
4. Activity: Collect and establish baseline data and preparation of a costed Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan;	60,000	30,000	90,000
5. Activity: Finalize project design and documentation (printing, binding); present and disseminate information.	00	40,000	40,000
Total project preparation financing	200,000	200,000	400,000

C. PPG BUDGET REQUESTING FINANCE BY GEF :

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks (PW)	GEF (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	Total (\$)
Local consultants*	96	37,921	37,255	75,176
International consultants*	51	53,982	51,589	105,571
Travel **		67,414	51,024	118,438
Other miscellaneous		40,683	60,132	100,815
Total PPG Budget		200,000	200,000	400,000

* Split between local and international consultants might be indicative and subject to the procurement guidelines of the Agencies. Additional information regarding consultants should be provided in Annex A.

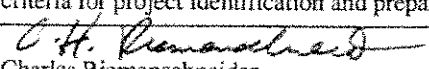
** Covers travel costs for:

- international consultants: Airfares (USD 29,920) , DSA (USD 58,876 -Tehran rates) and terminals (USD 1,440)
- Local staff/national consultants/personnel (USD 15, 000)

Note: No changes occurred in the consultancies characteristics (total estimated person weeks, number/kind/type of consultants). However, slight amendments, related to duration/individual consultant, could be expected, at the beginning of the effective phase

of the project, upon the finalization of the terms of reference of the overall consultants, by the Team Leader and the National Project Coordinator, as proposed in Annex A.

D. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for project identification and preparation.	
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Date: June 20, 2008	Date :

Annex A**Consultants Financed by the Project Preparation Grant (PPG)**

Position Titles	\$/ Person Week	Estimated PWs	Tasks to be performed
Local			
Arid zone /forest rehabilitation and management specialist (National Project Coordinator)	862	23	Provide technical input to the assessment of land and forest degradation in the proposed areas for intervention and the identification of potential zones for implementation; support closely the FAO team leader and international consultants in implementing the different activities and preparation of the project document.
Socio-economic expert	750	15	Address and study the socio-economic aspects and make sure that these are taken into consideration throughout the different preparatory phases and to provide required support to the international team, notably in the assessment of the current status of degraded forest and lands and the identification of the potential areas. The expert is expected to assist in the organization of the participatory workshop.
Soil and water conservation/ watershed management specialist	750	15	Assess the soil and water conservation activities under implementation or planned in the project's areas and, working in close collaboration with the international expert on soil and water conservation and the team leader, assist in designing appropriate soil and water activities to reduce soil erosion and improve water resources management
Rural development specialist	770	13	Review rural development programs under implementation or planned in the area and propose relevant development programmes with emphasis on the improvement of local peoples' living conditions. He will work, in close collaboration with the preparation team, particularly in the assessment of the current status of degraded forest and lands and the identification of the potential areas
Training Specialist	750	13	Provide needed support required to ensure the active participation of stakeholders in project preparation , including capacity-building activities. Assist the team leader in the preparation and dissemination of related material throughout the formulation phase.
Communication/ extension specialist	770	17	Act as facilitator for the consultation process, prepare an awareness-raising and communication plan to promote the objectives of the full-size project and the dissemination of lessons learned. The communication/extension specialist will work, in close consultation with the Training Specialist and other team members.
International			
Agro-economist/ Team Leader	2,243	23	1. Working in close collaboration with the National Project Coordinator and preparation team, the Team Leader is expected to: (i) assess the current status of

			<p>degraded forest landscapes and lands; (ii) identify the most prevailing barriers/constraints to wider implementation of the sustainable land and forest management (SLFM) techniques (social, political, organizational, and institutional); (iii) delineate potential areas for demonstration and implementation of proposed SLFM techniques and the creation of forest reserves; (iv) prepare the Project Logframe through participatory processes; and (iv) conduct a participatory workshop to agree on the projects objectives, outcomes, outputs and activities, criteria for the selection of project sites, and potential project sites.</p> <p>2. Coordinate the activities of the international and local consultants and control the quality of their deliverables.</p> <p>3. Assist project proponents in finalizing project design and documentation, present and disseminate information.</p>
Forest ecosystems conservation and rehabilitation specialist	2,243	6	<p>Lead the assessment of the present situation with respect to the status forest ecosystems in potential project areas, including the extent of desertification. Design appropriate action plans for the control of land and forest degradation, including the establishment of forest reserves, as appropriate, in the potential project areas in particular and provide recommendations for appropriate intervention and and for the development of appropriate policies at the national and local levels.</p>
Soil and Water Conservation/ Watershed Management Specialist	1,842	6	<p>Working in close collaboration with the national specialist on soil and water conservation and other team members, the international expert will design appropriate integrated soil and water conservation and integrated management plans for improved natural resource management, taking into account the upland-lowland interactions.</p>
Economist/ Financial Analyst	1,842	10	<p>Working in close collaboration with the team, prepare the incremental cost reasoning/analysis and the project financing plan, including a detailed inputs budget with unit costs and an activities/outputs budget. The consultant will also analyze the project's cost-effectiveness and prepare a costed monitoring and evaluation plan with the support and direct input of the team (national and international specialists).</p>
Land-use planning specialist	1,842	6	<p>In collaboration and consultation with the local and international consultants, the consultant will provide appropriate models for integrated and sustainable land-use plans that are technically sound and socially acceptable. and the consultant will assist the Team Leader and other consultants in the identification of potential project areas with the active participation of the stakeholders.</p>