



**THE STATE OF ERITREA  
MINISTRY OF LAND, WATER AND ENVIRONMENT**

**PROJECT DOCUMENT**

<b>Project Title:</b>	Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori-Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation
<b>UNDAF Outcome 7:</b>	Increased sector capacity for sustainable resources management with the participation of primary resource users
<b>UNDP Strategic Plan Environment and Sustainable Development Primary Outcome:</b>	Mobilizing environmental financing
<b>UNDP Strategic Plan Secondary Outcome:</b>	Mainstreaming environment and energy
<b>Expected CP Outcome(s):</b>	Eritrea on track towards the achievement of MDG targets for environmental sustainability (MDG 7)
<b>Expected CPAP Output (s):</b>	Protected Areas (Pas) for natural resources conservation and management established in Northern and Southern Red Sea Regions
<b>Executing Partner:</b>	Department of Environment
<b>Implementing</b>	Forestry and Wildlife Authority
<b>Responsible Partners:</b>	Ministries of Agriculture; Marine Resources

**Brief Description:**

The project goal is to ensure the integrity of Eritrea's diverse ecosystems in order to secure the viability of the nation's globally significant biodiversity. The project objective is to create policy and institutional conditions to operationalize the national protected area system.

As a young nation, Eritrea has yet to establish a contemporary system of protected areas. Eritrea hosts a wealth of globally significant biodiversity, including remnant populations of African wild ass, highland forests unique to the Horn of Africa, and an extensive, ecologically intact Red Sea marine environment. A national system of protected areas would contribute substantially to securing the long-term survival of Eritrea's globally significant biodiversity.

The project objective will be achieved through three outcomes: establishment of necessary protected area policy and institutional frameworks; emplacement of required protected area management capacity and experience; and, generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to restore/maintain ecosystem services required to support achievement of protected area conservation objectives.

The GEF alternative will set in place the basic elements required by policy makers, protected area managers, and rural communities to conserve large, ecologically viable terrestrial and marine areas. The immediate result will be an effective regime of national conservation areas covering nearly one million hectares of currently un-protected terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

<b>Programme Period:</b>	84 months	<b>Total resources required (total project funds)</b>	US\$16,328,000
<b>Atlas Award ID:</b>	TBD	<b>Total allocated resources (UNDP managed)</b>	US\$ 8,878,000
<b>Project ID:</b>	TBD	Regular (UNDP)	US\$ 3,000,000
<b>PIMS #:</b>	4816	GEF	US\$ 5,878,000
<b>Start date:</b>	October 1, 2013	Other (partner managed resources)	
<b>End Date:</b>	October 1, 2020	<b>Government (total)</b>	US\$7,450,000
<b>Management Arrangements:</b>	NEX	In cash in local currency	US\$4,050,000
<b>PAC Meeting Date:</b>	TBD	In-Kind	US\$3,400,000

Agreed by Ministry of National Development:  
(Government Coordinating Body)

28/02/2014  
Date/Month/Year



Agreed by Ministry of Land, Water and Environment:  
(Executing Agency)

Date/Month/Year



Agreed by Forestry and Wild Life Authority:  
(Implementing Agency)

ABRAHA GABTA  
GENERAL MANAGER  
27/01/2014  
Date/Month/Year

Signature

Agreed by United National Development Programme (On behalf of GEF):

27/1/2014  
Date/Month/Year

Signature



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## **Acronyms and Abbreviations**

AED.....	Agricultural Extension Department
AF.....	Adaptation Fund
CITES.....	Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species
CLMP.....	Community and Landscape Management Project
COMAT.....	Coastal Marine Technology
DOE.....	Department of Environment
DOL.....	Department of Land
ECMIB.....	Eritrean Coastal, Marine Island Biodiversity
FAO.....	Food and Agriculture
FWA.....	Forestry and Wild Life
GDP.....	Gross Domestic Product
GEF.....	Global Environment Facility
GoSE.....	Government of the State of Eritrea
HAC.....	Hamelmallo Agricultural College
ICAM.....	Integrated Coastal Area Management
IUCN.....	International Union for Conservation of Nature
M&E.....	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDG.....	Millennium Development Goals
METT.....	Monitoring Effectiveness Tracking Tool
MoA.....	Ministry of Agriculture
MoLWE.....	Ministry of Land, water and Environment
NARS.....	National Agricultural Research Systems
NGO.....	Non-Governmental Organization
PERA.....	Proclamation for the Establishment of Regional Administration
SIP.....	Strategic Investment Program
ToR.....	Terms of Reference
UNDAF.....	UN Development Assistance Framework
UNDP.....	United Nations Development Program
WRD.....	Water Resources Department

## SECTION 1: ELABORATION OF THE NARRATIVE

### 1. PART 1: SITUATION ANALYSIS: Context

#### 1.1. Country Background

1. Eritrea is located in what is referred to as the Horn of Africa. The country borders Sudan, Ethiopia, Djibouti, and the Red Sea. The land area is approximately 124,300 km<sup>2</sup>. The territorial waters encompass approximately, 120,000 km<sup>2</sup> including more than 365 islands of which the Dahlak Archipelago is predominant. Elevation ranges from 120 meters below sea level to over 3,000 meters above.
2. Eritrea has an internal population of about roughly 3.5 million. Most of the population live in the rural areas with small percent living in the cities. The majority of the Eritrean population lives in the central highlands. The remaining live along the extensive coastal zone. Eritrea has a rich cultural diversity with numerous small ethnic groups.
3. Eritrea's per capita GDP in 2007 is considered low and classified as a developing country. GDP is likely composed of agriculture, industry, services, and internal and external trade. The country is on the cusp of a substantial mining boom (gold, phosphate, etc.). Canadian, Chinese, and Australian firms are all actively vying for positions. Eritrea currently has one operational mine.
4. The country is on track to achieve the MDG targets regarding child health, maternal mortality, HIV/AIDS, malaria and other major diseases, and access to safe water. The goals of eradicating extreme poverty and achieving universal primary education remain elusive though there is possibility that universal primary education might be achieved as targeted. The adult literacy rate is approximately 36.8% while that of 15-24 year-olds is over 80%. According to the 2009 Human Development report, 75.8% of Eritreans not have access to improved water. Life expectancy is 63 years in 2010 (HDI, 2013). Eritrea is currently a net-food importer as a supplement to local production. An estimated 38% of children under five are underweight for their age. In the 2010 population and health survey (EPHS), due to be launched before end of 2013 will indicate if the target will be achieved by 2015.
5. Rural households are the most severely affected by both poverty and food insecurity. Most Eritreans depend upon subsistence level smallholder grazing and/or cultivation. Approximately 680,000 ha are farmed with 10% irrigated. Remaining croplands are rain fed. Despite livelihood challenges, rural communities display remarkable resilience. There are strong traditions to protect the poor. During times of extreme stress, wealthier households regularly dispose of assets, mainly livestock.
6. Eritrea is divided into six agro-ecological zones: (i) Moist Highlands, (ii) Arid Highlands, (iii) Sub-Humid Highlands, (iv) Moist Lowlands, (v) Arid Lowlands and (vi) Semi-Desert. Annual rainfall varies greatly. Approximately half of the country receive less than 300 mm annually and the other half 500 mm. However, 10% of the country receives more than 600 mm and some parts of the eastern escarpment receives more than 1000 mm. This reflects the nation's topographical and climatic diversity and contributes to the nation's wealth of biological diversity.

#### Globally Significant Biodiversity

7. Eritrea is part of both the Eastern African Highlands and Horn of Africa global biodiversity hotspots. The nation benefits from a highly diverse range of globally unique and significant terrestrial ecosystems. These include: East Sudanian savannah, Eritrean/Ethiopian highland forests, Eritrean/Ethiopian highland grasslands and woodlands, Eritrean/Ethiopian xeric grasslands and shrub, Somali Acacia-Commiphora bush and thickets, and Sahelian Acacia savannah.
8. The biodiversity resources of Eritrea are not well studied and/or documented. The country has recorded 126 mammal, 90 reptile and 19 amphibian species. Notable terrestrial species include the world's only viable

population of free ranging African wild ass, a unique northern Africa elephant population, and remnant Juiperus-Olea forests. Large carnivores include leopard, hyena and jackal. The nation has 577 bird species. Approximately 320 species are resident with the remaining migratory. There are 12 species of birds of global conservation concern recorded in Eritrea and 13 species regarded as 'regional endemics' (Ethiopia and Eritrea). The Hawakil archipelago supports significant numbers of Crab Plover, a species with very few breeding sites outside Eritrea. Other summer breeding visitors include the Bridled tern, White-eyed Gull, Lesser-crested Tern and Green-backed Heron. The Bay of Bera'soli supports globally important numbers of White-eyed Gull, Brown noddly, Socotra cormorant and Brown booby.

9. Contemporary data on flora is difficult to find. Some experts suggest that there may be 700 species of plants. Eritrea is a center of origin and diversity for cereal crops, notably sorghum, wheat and barley. The inventory is incomplete, but 20 varieties of sorghum, 8 maize, 6 barley, 5 teff, 3 pearl millet, 3 finger millet, 3 sesame and 2 Niger (Nihug) have been described. In the late 1990's, FAO described the nation's vegetation types as 0.8% highland forest, 11.3% close, medium and open woodland; 63.8% grassland/wooded grassland/ and bushland; and, 1.6% riverine and mangrove forests.
10. Eritrea is endowed with vast marine resources. Many consider this region one of the earth's most important repositories of marine biodiversity. The nation has nearly 2,000 km of fairly relatively pristine Red Sea terrestrial coastline of 1,200 excluding that of more than 365 islands. The nation's thousands of kilometres of undeveloped and under-exploited coastal areas are defined by diverse mangrove, coral reef, sea grass and intertidal habitats. The Red Sea has perhaps the world's highest-level of endemism and the highest species diversity west of Indonesia. There are over 1,100 fish species and 44 genera of hard corals being recorded. The reef features include abundant aquatic life, platforms, lagoons, and cylinders. Most international experts agree that Eritrea's marine resources are not only globally significant, they are showing surprising resilience to climate change. This marine environment can provide valuable lessons for how these important systems may or may not withstand the challenge of climate change.
11. The coastal zone provides migratory and breeding habitat for many globally significant bird species such as crab plovers (*Dromas ardeola*). Healthy populations of dugongs (*Dugong dugon*) inhabit the coastal areas. There are extensive groves of mangrove forest contributing to marine health and the mitigation of global climate change. The globally endangered Whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) is observed on a regular basis within the waters of Eritrea and particularly the sites covered by this proposed project. The islands of Hawakil to the east of Buri, included within this project's target areas, host all of these attributes: rich mangrove habitats, corals and sea grass beds, diverse fish species, sea turtles and dugongs. The Bay of Bera'soli harbors breeding habitats for great numbers of bird species, including flamingos. The bay also hosts significant varieties of a globally endangered fish species such as Hump-head wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*).
12. Five of the seven sea turtle species known to exist globally are found in Eritrean waters and the proposed project areas: Green (*Chelonia mydas*), Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), Loggerhead (*Caretta caretta*), Olive ridley (*Lepidochelys olivacea*) and Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*). There are many nesting sites, including the world's largest hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricate*) breeding colony. At the Buri Peninsula, turtles nest on the outlying islands of Shumma and Delemi and to a lesser extent on Assarka Black and Assarka White. While in Hawakil archipelago, the main nesting site is Umm Namus and Dergamman Seghir. Hawksbill and Green turtles also nest at Umm Adjuz, Umel-Nayim (Saribo) and Ras Hawakil. Ras terma, an area close to the Bera'soli bay, is the only place in the Red Sea where Olive Ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys imbricata*) is recorded as attempting to nest.

#### Institutional and Policy Context

13. As a young country, Eritrea has an incomplete set of environmental laws and policies. The Constitution of Eritrea (1997) gives the state responsibility for all resource management. The Land Reform Proclamation (1994) determines that all land is owned by the State with citizens having usury rights. The Forestry and Wildlife Conservation and Development Proclamation (2006) provides the framework for the conservation and development of forests and wildlife resources. The law states that tree tenure rights belong to persons planting trees on usury lands and opens opportunities for individuals and/or communities to establish sustainable harvest woodlots. The Eritrean Water Law (2010) promotes integrated water resources management. The Fisheries Proclamations (1998) support the conservation of marine biological diversity and

regulates the development and management of the marine sector. The proclamation provides a framework for the development, management and conservation of the Eritrea fisheries. This includes establishment of closed seasons and closed fisheries for areas with strong conservation and ecological values including rare, threatened and endangered species.

14. The Land Proclamation of 1994 provided farmers a lifetime right of usufruct over currently held land, removing the previous risks associated with periodic redistributions of land. The proclamation guarantees the right of all Eritrean to enjoy usufruct without discrimination because of gender, belief, or ethnicity. Although implementation of the Proclamation has been very slow, the GEF Land Degradation Project is piloting models to speed up the implementation, which is expected to accelerate land use planning. The ownership of all land however remains vested in the state and the state has the power to set conditions for usufruct, lease, or other forms of use. Both the new and the traditional regimes have an egalitarian theme. Both account for land quality in determining allocations, but neither allows for market transactions of land based on private ownership.
15. Between 1928 and 1940, three protected areas (“absolute reserves”) were established under Italian rule to conserve the wildlife of the northern highlands and southwestern lowlands. There is little record as to the extent any of these reserves were actively managed beyond the appointment of wardens. With the annexation of Eritrea to Ethiopia in 1962, the legislation that established these reserves was nullified and the Reserves ceased to exist.
16. Modern Eritrea does not have a protected-area system and/or any protected areas gazetted. In 2006, the Government recognized the right of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Minister of Marine Resources to establish protected areas. The 2006 Forestry and Wildlife Conservation and Development Proclamation states that the MoA may establish and manage terrestrial protected areas. The 2006 Fisheries Proclamation states that the Ministry of Marine Resource may establish marine protected areas. However, to date, no protected area has been designated and/or operationalized. The reasons for this are discussed in the barriers section below.
17. Several national institutions share responsibility for basic biodiversity conservation issues. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) oversees most issues related to terrestrial biodiversity. The MOA’s Agricultural Extension Department (AED) supports agricultural production and capacity building nationally, including sustainable land management. Three departments within the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment (MoLWE) have conservation related responsibilities. The Water Resources Department (WRD) generally oversees water resources management, including irrigation and ground and surface water allocations and monitoring. The Department of Land (DoL) is responsible for land use planning, recording, and management. The Department of Environment (DoE) is responsible for environmental policies, plans, environmental assessments and enforcement. The Ministry of Marine Resources (MoMR), and specifically the Fisheries Department, oversees all issues related to fisheries and marine conservation. The MoMR has approximately fifty (50) field agents that work to oversee and enforce implementation of fisheries regulations.
18. The Forestry and Wildlife Authority (F&WLA) is the newest member of the national institutional pantheon. Established in 2012, the FWA is technically mandated to issue licenses and otherwise oversee the use of biodiversity resources. The F&WLA is staffed with a group of ten (10) talented professionals with knowledge regarding most fundamental aspects of conservation, including science, monitoring, enforcement, and planning. A national cadre of approximately FWA 150 forest guards work on the field level. The F&WLA is being groomed to have at least partial responsibility for the management of Eritrea’s new protected areas system.
19. Additional national institutions of interest include the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Energy and Mines, Ministry of Tourism, and Ministry of Local Government. The national Union of Eritrean Women is important to the integration of gender issues within conservation. Please see Annex C for a more complete summary of all institutions and mandates relative to conservation.
20. Governance in rural Eritrea is divided into six regions (*zobas*) and subdivided into districts (*sub-zobas*) organized according to hydrological boundaries: Northern Red Sea, Southern Red Sea, Debub, Anseba, Central and Gash-Barka regions. National institutions have representation at each of these levels. The

Government enacted Proclamation No. 86 for the Establishment of Regional Administrations (PERA) in 1996. According to PERA, the core responsibility of line ministries are policy, regulations, human resource development, research, and technical support, while all operational and implementation functions fall under the mandates of zobas/regions. Zoba administrations are key implementing agencies for all agricultural and rural development programs. They are the lead agency for agricultural, rural development, and natural resources management. The administrations oversee planning, implementation and monitoring of government activity. This includes providing support and monitoring for lower levels of government including Sub-Zoba and kebab administrations.

#### Traditional Institutions

21. Much of this project will be taking place in locations with Afar tribes. Most Afar residents at the proposed project sites practice a mixture of pastoralism and fishing. Cultivated agriculture is very limited. Livestock is comprised of goats with limited numbers of cattle. Goats are the primary cash animals. Donkeys and camels are used for transport and burden, e.g., transporting water from wells. Fishing is done primarily using non-motorized boats and throw-nets. Most fishing is for subsistence, although this is changing with commercial fishing cooperatives promoted and supplied with commercial fishing equipment and refrigeration facilities. Traditional law and culture still predominates within these communities. The Afar tribes have a strong tradition of venerating nature. For instance, they will not allow the harvest of living trees and/or the killing of wild animals. Domestic and wild ungulates often graze the same pastures. Seven (7) traditional Afar chiefs oversee communities within the Buri project areas. These hereditary leaders are largely responsible for decisions regarding resource use, including grazing and fisheries management.

#### Pilot Sites

22. Eritrea has made initial steps to identify potential protected areas. The FAO – GoE Technical Assistance Program undertook a pre-investment study in 1997 identifying potential protected areas as did a 2006 IUCN survey. The recently completed and GEF supported coastal zone conservation project (ECMIB) identified and prioritized several proposed marine protected areas. As noted below in Section 2.8 (Project Consistency with National Priorities/Plans) and Annex F (pilot site descriptions), each of the sites identified for this project are very high priorities for conservation.
23. The project has identified three areas to focus on-the-ground efforts. Each of these areas was selected because they offer an outstanding opportunity to conserve globally significant biodiversity. Please see the annexes for an extensive summary of the social, economic, and ecological aspects of each proposed site:

#### **Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri Green Belts:**

24. Located in the central highlands of Eritrea, these areas house some of the last remaining tropical coniferous and broad-leaved forest along the Horn of Africa. Main tree species include *Juniperus Procera* and *Olea Africana*. There are also 20 mammal species, including greater kudu, klipspringer, bushbuck, Ethiopian and common genet, leopard, Hamadryas baboon, spotted and striped hyena. This is an important bird area harboring 66 resident and migrant species. Bird species include the White-cheeked turaco, a beautiful and charismatic bird found only in forested highlands of Eritrea, Ethiopia and Sudan.

#### **Buri Peninsula:**

25. Located along the central coast, this pilot site includes the marine areas of Hawakil Bay and Dissei Island. The total area of Buri peninsula and associated coastal area is greater than 2500 km<sup>2</sup>. The region represents one of Eritrea's most important storehouses of biodiversity. The coastal area has significant mangrove forests, sea-grass, and coral. There are green and hawksbill turtles, Dugong, flamingo, and a host of other marine and avian species. The terrestrial area is defined by Acacia scrub. The area holds large mammals such as Sommering and Dorcas Gazelle, ostrich, hyena, and jackal. The vast and under populated Aoli plain provides habitat for the last viable population of the critically endangered and very reclusive African wild ass (*Equus africanus somaliensis*). This is a CITES Appendix I species under high risk of extinction.

#### **Bera' sole Bay:**



26. Located along the southern Red Sea coast, this coastal wetland provides habitat for tens of thousands of migratory and resident wading birds. During low water seasons, the increased surface of the intertidal areas expose vast mud flats and rock flats that support flamingo, crab plover, bridled tern white-eyed gull, brown noddy, lesser-crested tern and green-backed heron and brown booby. The bay likely has the potential to become Eritrea's first internationally recognized "important bird area." However, very little rigorous information is available precisely recording species numbers.

## 1.2. Threats, Root Causes, and Impacts

### Threat #1: Habitat Loss and Competition:

27. The primary threat to wildlife in Eritrea is habitat loss. Unsustainable grazing, cultivation, and forestry practices drive this threat. Emerging drivers of habitat loss include mining and tourism development. Each activity degrades habitat and displaces wildlife. Encroachment increases conflicts and competition between humans and wildlife. This generally lowers climate change resilience by limiting areas of refuge. The cumulative impact of this gradual tearing of the nation's ecological fabric is a persistent loss of ecosystem services critical to sustain both human and wildlife populations. In the end, the survival of Eritrea's globally significant biodiversity is marginalized.
28. Deforestation is a very substantial threat, particularly in the highland "green belt". The nation is only sparsely forested. A century ago, 30% of Eritrea was covered by forest, but less than 1% of this remained by 1995. Deforestation has resulted from a wide variety of sources, including the expansion of agriculture and construction of materials-intensive traditional houses. Forest fires often started by fumigating honey collectors contribute to deforestation and forest degradation. However, fuel-wood consumption is likely the primary driver of deforestation and forest degradation. Live tree cutting and charcoal making are legally banned in Eritrea. However, approximately 90% of all Eritreans depend on fuel wood to cook their staple foods, heating and often lighting. Foresters estimate that the country must plant at least 1,500 ha of indigenous forests every year in the Green Belt and Buri-Irrori-Hawakil conservation areas to compensate for current levels of consumption. The rate of deforestation accelerates ecological degradation, including loss of ecosystem services related to land and water impoverishment.
29. Cultivation has taken place in the populated central highlands of Eritrea for thousands of years. Much of the landscape is dominated by cultivated agriculture, including terracing, for a variety of grain. Where rain-fed cultivation is conceivable, the land has been transformed into agriculture. Production is characterized by mono-crop or limited crop production systems, often resulting in nutrient depletion. Soil nutrition is highly dependent on the use of organic manure. An estimated 24,000 cattle and 82,000 sheep/goats graze the Semienawi and Debubawi Bahri (green belt), far more than this system can sustain. Growing populations and more constrained land availability does not allow rest/rotation to occur.
30. The desire to intensify agriculture is understandable in a country where food security is paramount. However, this region holds some of the last remnants of the great forests that once spread across the Ethiopian and Eritrean highlands. With rising rates of food insecurity, a growing agrarian population, and diminished productivity agriculture land demands are increasing with farms expanding into increasingly marginal areas. Many farmers perceive forested areas as having higher rates of rainfall. This attracts farmers to clear steep, forested slopes that are highly vulnerable to erosion. In these areas, soil degradation is prevalent and rampant. Domestic livestock that decrease vegetation cover and stymie forest regeneration quickly follow abandoned agriculture. Expanding agriculture causes both habitat loss and fragmentation.
31. Habitat loss is slightly different at the Red Sea plains. Migratory and semi-migratory pastoralists dominate Eritrea's lowlands. Agriculture is very limited. Large agricultural lands however do occur where seasonal highland rivers meet the plain, creating alluvial fans of high-nutrient soil. Limited spate irrigation is being introduced to small coastal settlements such as Menkailile, Menhaso and Engel. The seasonal wetland, Wengebo valley, was converted to agriculture in 2010 and displaced herds of wildlife that once relied upon the wetland during the dry season.
32. There is very little cultivated agriculture within the biologically important Buri Peninsula. Crop production is constrained due to unsuitability of the soils, frequent and severe droughts, and high heat stress. Livestock grazing is the main land use and habitat threat in the Buri region. There are an estimated 41,989 livestock in

Sub Zoba Ghelalo. Most of this herd is composed of goats with limited ownership of camels, donkeys, sheep, and cattle. Nomads living in the lowlands are generally tolerant of wild animals and wild and domestic animals are commonly seen sharing pastures. Livestock, other than camels, are corralled at night limiting predation by jackals, hyena, and other predators. Livestock and goats in particular, are a very important income source for local residents required to generate cash for school fees and the purchase of simple commodities. For a more complete summary of all livestock, including valuation, please see the Project Document's annex. Overgrazing is a serious threat to the Buri region, evidenced by the substantial gully erosion and soil loss. This is particularly distressing since erosion resulting from over-grazing seems to be leeching into proximate marine areas. Silt appears to be stressing the biodiversity rich marine ecosystem.

33. Traditional, oral agreements on rangeland use determined by local tribal leaders bind both Buri peninsula residents and migratory herder. As domestic herds increase, grazing territories, and periods expand, and climate change weakens an already vulnerable system, the increased competition for water and graze between wild and domestic animals is becoming a serious issue. New water sources are being introduced in locations where human prevalence was previously seasonal. Even the well-intentioned construction of watering points for wildlife in Buri peninsula by MoA has created potential conflicts and competition between domestic livestock and wildlife such as African wild ass. Where water is available, overgrazing is often the norm. Invasive plants are colonizing over-grazed areas.
34. Tourism development is both an emerging opportunity and potential threat to Eritrea's unique coastal system. There is pressure to expand the scope and scale of tourism particularly along the coastal zone. Plans include developing infrastructure (e.g., roads, airports, hotels, etc.) to support high volume tourism. Eritrea is dedicated to protecting its biologically rich coastal waters and the current pace of tourism development is slow. However, there is a need to quickly get ahead of this problem to make certain that the natural resources upon which tourism is predicated are also fully protected. This includes the need to identify and conserve marine areas of highest ecological value.
35. Habitat loss and degradation due to mining is of immediate concern. Eritrea is thought to have vast mineral wealth and active intentions to expand the mining sector. The extent of commercial mining activity is currently limited with only one industrial gold mine operational. However, numerous international investors are coordinating with the government to set-in-place operations for gold, phosphate and other minerals. If not carefully planned and managed, these mining operations will adversely impact globally significant wildlife. It is estimated that Eritrea has approximately 400 wild asses divided into a northern (Buri peninsula region) and southern herd. A phosphate mine will soon be constructed near the core-habitat of Eritrea's southern population of wild ass. These animals are very sensitive to human encroachment and particularly vehicle traffic. The mine's proposed transport route will likely pass directly through core area of the southern African wild ass population. This means that the southern herd will almost certainly be displaced from their core habitat. Scientists working with the IUCN believe that this southern population will likely move seventy kilometres north, creating an even more urgent need to secure and conserve habitat in the Buri region.
36. Invasive species are degrading habitats, particularly for the marine environment. Invasives are entering principally through aquaculture, mariculture and ballast water. One endeavour has introduced at least four exotic species including *Distichlis stricta/spicata* (saltgrass or desert saltgrass), *Spartina alterniflora* (cordgrass), *Sesuvium spp.* (seapurslane) and *Rhizophora spp.* (mangrove). There are proposals to propagate the introduced species *Prosopis juliflora* or *P. chilensis* (mesquite) to provide shade for local villagers. The majority of these species, with the possible exception of the mangrove species, appear to have been selected because of their hardiness and ability to grow and spread rapidly, which are all criteria for damaging invasive species.

Threat #2: Overexploitation or "Direct Take"

37. As noted, the rate of deforestation is unsustainable. There is some evidence of limited harvest of rare plants for food and medicine. The direct harvest of most other terrestrial biodiversity is relatively low. Eritrea endured many years of armed conflict, during which wildlife numbers declined substantially. Terrestrial wildlife has been slow to recover because of the difficult climate and limited habitat. Very few Eritreans

practice hunting for sport or subsistence. The Afar people living on the Red Sea plain strictly forbid the harvest of wildlife or even the chopping down of live trees. Foreign hunters reportedly engaged in over-harvest of wildlife. This was halted at the urging of the Afar. As a result, gazelle populations are rebounding within the Buri region. Vigilant law enforcement by the government further minimizes the threat of over-exploitation.

38. Marine resources, however, are very vulnerable to over-harvesting by both subsistence and commercial fishing enterprises. The fisheries system is monitored within the financial and capacity constraints of government. Nearly all fishing within the proposed project areas appears to be for subsistence, using low impacting, non-motorized boats and throw nets. There are reports however, that local communities incidentally harvest sensitive species such as Dugong. Sharks, sea turtles and sea cucumbers are high value marine species targeted by both local and non-local collectors.
39. Commercial fishing on the rise, with the active encouragement of the government, which is encouraging the expansion of commercial fishing. It has supported the creation of community-based commercial fishing cooperatives. Many of these cooperatives are supplied with nets and outboard motors. The government is also creating fish landing stations, complete with refrigeration units. Two such stations have been established along the Buri peninsula. If not managed properly, both commercial and subsistence fishing constitute very real and growing threats.

### **Threat #3: Climate Change**

40. The final threat to Eritrea's biodiversity is climate change. There is little data regarding the impact of climate change to Eritrea's globally significant biodiversity. However, the impacts are quite easy to intuit. Climate change will certainly compound and accelerate the reduction of ecosystem resilience. With the quality of most habitats already degraded and/or facing imminent threats, there is little resilience within the system to withstand the addition of climate change's negative impacts. The unfortunate result will be ecologically untenable. Both the frequency and severity of extreme weather events will increase. Climate change will amplify the already perilous water situation caused by expanding livestock herds, overgrazing, poor agricultural practices and deforestation. Eritrea's reefs and marine systems are global treasures. These systems are particularly vulnerable to climate change and require advanced and aggressive conservation measures to make certain elasticity exists to promote their long-term survival. Mangroves, forest areas, and grasslands will be critical to both mitigate climate change and maintain valuable ecosystem services to ease adaptation. Although some progress is being made under the baseline, overexploitation and habitat loss will persist.

### **1.3. Long-Term Solution**

41. Safeguarding the globally significant species of Eritrea requires conserving the habitats upon which they depend. The establishment of a contemporary system of protected areas is a critical step. Due in part to the country's highly varied elevations, Eritrea has condensed layers of habitat. Eritrea quickly morphs from upland forests to marine. Many species rely upon this variability to seasonally move from lowland to upland. The new protected area system will need to be geographically large to incorporate these diverse habitats, including overlap. The mosaic system should incorporate a complex variety of ecological systems, reflecting the naturally diverse mountain forest, desert plain, and marine ecosystems found in the country. This will include capturing within the system habitats that reflect the survival needs of Eritrea's wide-ranging and site-specific species, such as the native forests, African wild ass, whale sharks, corals, and dugongs.
42. Eritrea is not highly populated country. For many centuries rural populations and wildlife have relied upon and shared the same ecosystem services for their existence for many centuries. Accomplishing the long-term vision, therefore, requires establishing a protected area legal framework that incorporates humans and wildlife. This can only be achieved with a protected areas system that allows for a spectrum of conservation approaches that may be applied to both terrestrial and marine scapes. The spectrum must offer a suite of options that allow decision-makers and local communities to tailor conservation approaches to fit specific biodiversity conservation needs with varying degrees of restrictive and less-restrictive uses. The approach should secure the future of biodiversity while also enhancing the quality of life for local residents, e.g.,

maintenance of critical ecosystem services such as soil productivity, climate change resilience, and improved water resource management. The development and management approach must be inclusive. The framework must accommodate the variability that will accompany climate change. Importantly, the framework will need to be creative in order to make certain financing is secured to support required conservation activities. This will require scaling conservation to match local absorptive capacity so that by project close the system is fully operational without requiring large-scale, external investment.

43. Once the framework is in place, high capacity national and field institutions must exist to ensure professional implementation. This will require a substantial strengthening of the existing baseline. Skeleton frameworks now exist for biodiversity management such as the Forestry and Wildlife Authority and Ministry of Marine Resources. These institutions require strengthening to reach their potential to secure globally significant biodiversity. The joint abilities and strengths of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Land, Water and Environment and local government institutions will need to be harnessed and coordinated to support the elucidation and achievement of conservation objectives. These organizations must benefit from hands on experience of creating, managing, and monitoring the conservation effectiveness of protected areas in a variety of locations that cover diverse habitat and social challenges.
44. Local communities must be part of the long-term solution. These are the persons most likely to delay and/or benefit from the biodiversity conservation. The long-term vision includes providing opportunities for local resource users of all economic levels involved in fishing and agriculture to find better pathways to realize an improved quality of life that sustains, rather than degrades, the ecosystem services upon which they depend.
45. Eritrea has several competitive advantages when it comes to realizing this long-term solution. Although much of the country's terrestrial habitat is degraded, it is not beyond hope of restoration. Wide ranging and charismatic species such as the African wild ass can serve as flagship and indicator species for protected area success. The marine environment allows an opportunity for the world to promote an early conservation intervention, building conservation areas that encompass large and diverse habitats not yet degraded. The nation struggles economically. However, the people and government of Eritrea support conservation. There is sincere motivation to protect globally significant biodiversity. As a relatively new country, Eritrea has the opportunity to build upon best available international conservation lessons, principles, and practices generated over the past several decades.

#### **1.4. Barriers to Achieving the Solution**

46. There are three very barriers that stymie baseline efforts to establish a national system of conservation areas.

##### ***Barrier #1: Limited capacity to design and implement a regulatory framework to support establishment of a national system of conservation areas***

47. Eritrea does not currently have the institutional capacity required to design and implement the laws and policies required to support the establishment of a national system of conservation areas. As noted, both the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Marine Resources have the authority through separate proclamations to establish protected areas. However, the proclamations do not provide a clear framework for how these protected areas are to be established. They do not reflect modern principles and practices related to stakeholder driven and supportive processes. There is no framework to guide management of protected areas once they are established, including requirements for management and business planning. Most importantly, the existing framework does not define protected area categories, e.g., IUCN I – VII. There is no mechanism describing how protected areas will operate and be financed. This regulatory barrier makes it very difficult for decision-makers at all levels to move forward with the designation and operationalization of landscape level conservation. Managerial and administrative capacity is low. Biologists, veterinarians, foresters and/or agronomists with little or no managerial or administrative training or experience staff the departments of key ministries. The institutional capacity to develop and evaluate business plans for a conservation area system as well as individual PAs is largely absent. The objective of achieving financial sustainability across the protected area system will be challenging unless this is addressed. As a result, Eritrea does not benefit from a modern system of conservation designed to manage land and seascapes to safeguard the long-term survival of globally significant biodiversity.

**Barrier #2: Limited experience and capacity to successfully establish and manage conservation areas**

48. There is no practical knowledge and/or experience with the successful establishment and management of conservation areas. This compounds the policy and institutional barrier. Even if Eritrea benefitted a strong legal platform from which to build a system of conservation areas, the country has no practical experience with the establishment and management of conservation areas. Only those few people that worked with in Ethiopia (prior to Eritrean independence in 1991) gained in situ experience of managing protected areas. Fewer still have any experience planning, developing, establishing or administering protected areas. Thus, while the process of establishing the two (pending) marine protected areas provides some lessons, much has still to be learnt about on-the-ground process of planning, financing, establishing, managing and operating protected areas. The nation does not have examples of protected areas supported by adaptive management and business plans. There is no history of conservation service and/or protected area management. If Eritrea were to establish protected areas, there would be very little capacity in the country to actually manage these protected areas. There is very little experience with community outreach and integration. The country has a few highly educated conservation professionals, including persons who have conducted wild life surveys for both terrestrial and marine habitats. However, these professionals have no working experience with the establishment and management of protected areas. A substantial capacity gap that contributes to the existence of this barrier.

**Barrier #3: Limited rural community capacity to maintain ecosystem services and conserve biodiversity**

49. In modern times, conservation does not mean deprivation. Most locations in the world are now becoming aware that conservation of globally significant biodiversity also results in conservation of locally important ecosystem services. Tools such as sustainable land management and sustainable fisheries management can be applied within the mosaic of a conservation area to enhance the quality of life for local residents while protecting important habitat and ecosystem functionality for wildlife. This creates incentives for local communities to actively participate in and support conservation efforts. Eritrea has very little experience with these models. Incorporating large land and seascapes generally requires encompassing areas where sustainable natural resource use must be tolerated and setting in co-management tools to achieve this.

50. There is a need to improve the existing fishing, farming, and grazing techniques and innovate new technologies that respond to the needs of resource users as well as environmental protection and conservation. This is particularly challenging in Eritrea where rates of poverty and resource dependence are high and on-the-ground resource management is limited. Traditional natural resource management practices have largely fallen into decline. A range of projects and institutions promote individual activities related to sustainable land management, but none have targeted the development of comprehensive models that support the important conservation elements of SLM. There are no effective communications strategies for sharing best practices and lessons learned with rural stakeholders.

51. Because the nation has yet to establish a system of protected areas, extension officers have no practical knowledge and/or experience working with local resource users to generate natural resource systems that conserve ecosystem services, promote biodiversity conservation, and enhance quality of life. Without access to the skills and knowledge required to set in place such systems, there is little chance that protected areas once established will be able to encompass areas large enough to be ecologically viable.

**1.5. Stakeholder Analysis**

52. The following table summarizes key stakeholders. For a more comprehensive analysis of stakeholders, please see Annex E.

<b>Stakeholder Organization</b>	<b>Relevance to Project</b>
Government	
The Ministry of Land water and Environment (MoLWE)	The MLWE would be responsible for the overall coordination and management of Pas, developing standards and ensuring that environmentally sustainable practices are pursued in the development of the PAs. The Ministry also prepares land use plans for the Pas and monitors its proper implementation in and around the Pas.

Ministry of National Development (MND)	The Ministry oversees the project's relevance with the national development plans, policies, strategies and priorities.
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	The MoF is a key partner in reviewing and approving budgets; it will assist the project in reviewing and, where necessary, revising financial regulations and procedures to support improved and diversified financial management of PAs
Forestry and Wildlife Authority (FWA)	FWA is a recently instituted organization with the mandate of managing and coordination issues related to forestry and wildlife. It is potentially one of the lead agencies of the project outputs in collaboration to all stakeholders. The Authority particularly focuses whether the activities are implemented at ground.
Ministry of Agriculture	<p>Would be responsible for conservation in the terrestrial environment - provisionally constituting the area down to the high watermark; the MOA constitutes the lead institution for the overall coordination and management of PAS</p> <p>In connection with the PAs system, it is expected to introduce environmentally friendly farming systems (cropping systems, livestock husbandry) and management of terrestrial ecosystems at large and within and around the peripheries of the PAs. Moreover, it reviews budget allocations, oversees implementation of the community plantation forestry Program using indigenous species which supports the use of forest management through protection contracts and reforestation activities. Furthermore, it will undertake stocktaking assessment and conduct monitoring and evaluation on the dynamics of the vegetation within and around the PAs; carries out surveys, plans and develops investment projects for establishing Forests.</p>
Ministry of Marine Resources (MoMR)	<p>The MoMR has an overall management and regulatory function, and M&amp;E of the Coastal and marine eco-systems. It also undertakes stocktaking assessment on the status of plant and animal species as well as the marine environment at large. Hence it will have direct contribution in the implementation of the proposed project particularly to those adjacent to the sea (Coastal and marine areas management)</p> <p>MoMR will work in close cooperation with DOE. It will contribute to the project through administration and management of coast and Marine PAs. The Ministry of Fisheries would be responsible for the planning and conservation of the marine environment and will be the lead agency for the Marine Protected Area.</p>
Ministry of Tourism	Has the responsibility in developing tourism plans at large and eco-tourism in particular as related to access to tourists in the PAs. It will encourage in integrating the PAs within the framework of development to generation and allocation of tourism revenues. It leads Business plan in ecotourism, tourist information and promotion of ecotourism. It will also foster the promotion of educational tourism to pupil and students and raise their awareness on the role of PAs.
Ministry of Information (MoI)	The project will cooperate with MoI on public awareness issues through radio, newspapers and TV. Other lessons from different sources could also be a good media of awareness.
Local Communities	Custodians and beneficiaries of the PAS, pasturelands, forests, fishing grounds. Local communities will be participating in planning and management, especially identifying and implementing adaptation and SLM/SFM techniques, income generating activities and monitoring.
Private sector	Would be responsible for advancing business, particularly in tourism and other income generating activities. The private project will especially cultivate the participation of the private sector as sector as a critical sustainability mechanism.
Administrative Offices	Would be responsible for provision of administrative backup and services
<b>International Development Organizations</b>	
UNDP	<p>The pivotal roles and responsibilities of UNDP revolve around the following issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensuring professional and timely implementation of the project outcomes, outputs and activities; delivering reports and other outputs identified in the project document;</li> <li>2. Assisting and supporting project implementing institution and other relevant stakeholders in organizing, coordinating and hosting project meetings at all levels; manage and take the responsibility of financial, administration to realize the envisioned targets.</li> <li>3. It will also establish effective network between project national stakeholders, international organizations and the donors.</li> </ol>
Civil Society (NGO's, etc.)	

National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW)	Would be responsible for mobilizing women for participation in project planning and implementation. NUEW will be critical in mobilizing local communities (especially women) in identifying and implementing adaptation, SLM/SFM techniques and income generating activities. Also in participation in planning and monitoring.
Academic and Scientific Organizations	
Hamelmallo Agricultural College (HAC)	One of the lead agricultural institute which could cooperate with the project during its business management plan by undertaking Stalk taking assessment of the flora and fauna, sharing knowledge on SLM and SFM practices. It has also interest to use the site as demonstration for students and farmers.
Eritrea Institute of Technology: Department of Biology	Could cooperate with the project during its business management plan by undertaking Stalk taking assessment of the flora and fauna, sharing knowledge on marine environment. Could support the project in Herbarium collection, identification of species
National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS)	Preservation of the Genetic materials in the gene bank.
Marine Science Technology (COMAT)	Coastal and marine biodiversity studies Use the site as demonstration site for students
Local and Indigenous Communities	
Traditional Leaders	Traditional leaders, particular in the Afar regions, will be critical to the success or failure of this project. Within the Aoli and Buri regions, Afar chiefs are largely responsible for making decisions regarding land use, including grazing and fisheries.
Local communities (villages)	Inhabitants within the PAs and surroundings will be made aware of the issues and invited to take part in the decision making process. Their cooperation will be sought in implementing project activities including protection and alternative income development (ecotourism, sustainable harvesting of natural resources), awareness raising, Sustainable use of the protected area, Protection against intruders etc.  Custodians and beneficiaries of the PAS, pasturelands, forests, fishing grounds. Local communities will participate in planning and management, especially identifying and implementing adaptation and SLM/SFM techniques, income generating activities and monitoring.
Private Sector	
Tourist Services	Development of small- and medium -scale tourist service providing hotels and restaurants and associated travel and curio goods need to be licensed and operate as per the guidelines of the ministry of tourism. This component is an essential element in the sustainability of the PAs in generating income to manage them properly.  Would participate in promoting business, particularly in tourism and other income generating activities. The private project will especially cultivate the participation of the private sector as sector as a critical sustainability mechanism.

## 1.6. Baseline Analysis

53. If the current situation persists, Eritrea will continue to harbor and conserve globally significant biodiversity. Unfortunately, this is not enough. Continuing the status quo means that degradation will continue and be accompanied by the decline of both terrestrial and marine ecosystem integrity. Species found in the highlands, coastal plains, and marine areas will suffer from ever-more degraded and fragmented habitat. Climate change will certainly compound species and habitat loss. The impacts of climate change will be particularly acute in areas where weakened habitat integrity has already eroded resilience. Under the baseline or “no intervention” scenario, the likelihood of conserving marine and terrestrial habitats required to safeguard globally is highly unlikely.

54. Eritrea has shown a willingness to address biodiversity conservation challenges. The current level of annual conservation investment by the Government of Eritrea is estimated to be very significant (around \$10.0M). This roughly consists of the following: budgets for MOA, MLWE, FWA, and MOMR for the six years of project duration.
55. From the nation's inception in the early 1990's, Eritrea has done many things to promote biodiversity and habitat conservation. The country has a national soil conservation program (part of the National Food Security Program) in which the government invests upwards of US\$ 4 million annually. Under this program, a total ban on cutting live trees, hunting or the capture of wild animals and also on charcoal making was introduced and is still in force. Parallel to these control measures, Eritrea mobilized the rural population and high school students to plant the hillside catchment areas and encouraged the closure of denuded hills and forests and woodlands for natural regeneration, planting along roadsides and on homesteads. The Forestry and Wildlife Conservation and Development Proclamation was promulgated in 2006. Eritrea developed, and is implementing the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan.
56. Government staff monitors wildlife, albeit within serious capacity and financial constraints. MoA experts in collaboration with experts from IUCN have since 2000 studied the population dynamics of African wild ass. Forest guards and forestry and wildlife inspectors employed at site level by the MoA protect many locations identified as potential protected areas. In 2007, Eritrea began providing training to forest and wildlife inspectors and scouts twice each year. There are currently 155 forest and wildlife inspectors spread throughout the country. These persons control the illegal activities such as charcoal and fuel wood trade. Conservation work includes producing and distributing awareness raising materials such as brochure, poster, and signpost to enhance the conservation of forest and wildlife.
57. Eritrea is working to slow the rate of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as to enhance water and soil conservation. On-going efforts include the introduction of drought resistant tree species, catchment management, and water harvesting practices, and construction of small dams for irrigation as livestock watering points. This work focuses upon measures designed to enhance adaption to pending climate change. Forest/wooded land enclosure management system has been developed to enhance natural regeneration and accordingly provide benefits to local communities living adjacent to the enclosures such as collection of grass through cut and carry system, collection of dried wood for fuel, erecting bee hives for honey production. All in all there are 216,152 ha of enclosures.
58. The MoA and Department of Environment (DoE) have begun the introduction and expansion of energy saving stoves. The rate of the introduction of improved traditional stoves is increasing every year. Between 2000 and 2008 the numbers of improved stoves have been reported to increase from 44,000 to 100,000 (56%) with more than 130,000 efficient stoves currently in use. There is progress on wood fuel substitution with special emphasis on kerosene, LPG and rural electrification coverage since 2000.
59. Since 1994 Eritrean students have participated in afforestation and soil conservation campaigns during summer vacation organized by the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Agriculture. To date, 6,800 ha of degraded land have been rehabilitated through afforestation and re-afforestation and construction of soil and water conservation physical structures. A national tree planting campaign was started in 1998 and then continued being as an integral part of the Warsay-Yikealo development campaign under the coordination of MoA. To date, a total of 40,000 ha of land have been afforested. Large-scale public soil and water conservation works and afforestation programs have been implemented involving farm forestry, community forestry, village woodlots and popular participation resulting in 110,000 ha of permanent forest closures and 70 million tree seedlings planted. There are indications that Eritrea's highland forest cover may now be approaching 1% owing to the recent government actions to prohibit the cutting of live trees for energy purposes and by designating over 100 thousand ha forest areas as enclosures.
60. Work progresses to better understand wild varieties of food crops. The National Agricultural Research Institute has collected more than 3,000 samples of cereals, legumes, forage, oil crops, fiber crops, medicinal plants and vegetables and represented in the gene bank through in-country collection from 2000-2008. In addition, more than 100 samples of forage species, common beans and groundnuts acquired to the gene bank through donation (donated by CIAT and CLIMA) from 2000-2008.



61. The country is also trying to address invasive species. The Regulatory Service Department of the MoA has tried to strengthen the existing quarantine stations at Asmara Airport, Massawa and Assab seaports by providing equipment such as microscopes, refrigerators, and computers worth US\$ 34,762. An additional quarantine station is also established at Tessenei, a town near the border of Sudan to effectively quarantine crop, livestock and their products. To maximize economic exploitation and simultaneously control the expansion of invasive species particularly prosopis, the MoA has issued a special permission for the production of charcoal from Prosopis to the most vulnerable and disabled people. A Management Plan for the riverine forests of the western lowland of Eritrea was prepared and endorsed in 2000 to promote conservation of riverine forest resources including Doum palms. Actions include establishment of enclosure of Doum Palm scrub; planting indigenous species in riverine areas; controlling invasive species such as Prosopis juliflora.
62. Although regulations are incomplete, Eritrea has been practicing and enforcing some regulatory actions to preserve marine ecosystems. The export of live corals and spear fishing were banned in the 1990's. Trawling is limited to a depth of greater than 30m. A Marine Resources Database and monitoring programs had been established in areas selected as hot spots for protection. Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) capacity was built by the CMI biodiversity project in 2007 with an Integrated Coastal Area Management Plan produced. A memorandum of understanding is signed with Indian Ocean and South East Asia (IOSEA) on marine turtle and dugong conservation. Networking has been established with convention on migratory species of wild animals focusing on Shark.
63. The country's Tourism Development Program will operationalize the National Tourism Development Plan of 2000-2020. The government has planned a substantial amount of budget annually, until 2020, to construct tourism infrastructure such as road networks, ports, airports, building complexes, communications, service-rendering institutions, etc. This is in recognition of the fact that tourism can be a stimulus for conservation of the country's natural environment and cultural heritage. Natural features comprise the primary attractions for tourists. The government also recognizes that if it is not carefully planned, developed and managed, tourism can also generate problems of environmental degradation, loss of economic benefits and social distortions. To minimize negative impacts on biodiversity from tourism, the number of islands accessible to tourists is limited to 21 from a total of 390. However, as noted, there is great pressure from national and international developers to greatly expand the scope and scale of tourism particularly along the coastal zone. This includes plans for substantial infrastructure (e.g., roads, airports, etc.) and large-scale tourism developments.
64. The country has several locations poised to become conservation areas. Yet none have been established due to existing barriers:
65. The Ministry of Marine Resources is eager to establish Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Marine biodiversity hot spot areas such as Hawakil bay, Bera'soli Dissie-Madote, Musseri, Ras Fatuma and Green (Sheik Saeed) Islands have been proposed as protected areas, yet no forward action has occurred due to the identified barriers. The recently completed Eritrea Coastal, Marine and Island Biodiversity (ECMIB) project funded in part by GEF submitted to the Ministry of Justice proposals for two protected areas: the Sheik Seid and Dissie National Parks. None have been established.
66. In 2010 Ministry of Land, Water and Environment issued a directive that the Semanawi and Debubawi Bahri remain under permanent enclosure. Nearly 40% of the proposed protected areas (40,000 ha) are now under permanent enclosure. However, these areas are yet to be demarcated and officially gazetted as protected.
67. Eritrea has identified and demarcated, but not yet gazetted, 44,000 hectares in the Gash Setit area as an elephant sanctuary.
68. The ICZMP was developed during the Eritrean Coastal Marine and Island Biodiversity (EMCIB) project, which identified Buri Peninsula and surrounding coastal zone as a high priority conservation area. No progress has yet been made.

- In 2006 Eritrea announced it would become the first country in the world to turn its entire coast into an environmentally protected zone. The 1,347 km (837 mi) coastline, along with another 1,946 km (1,209 mi) of coast around its more than 365 islands, will become part of the national protected management areas. This has yet to become reality.
69. With extremely limited resources, Eritrea has worked hard to set the stage and create a baseline for the implementation of this long-awaited project. Eritrea is endowed with wonderful biodiversity. However, the country has not been unable to remove the barriers between the current situation and the objective of creating a national system of conservation areas. Moving this situation forward towards the long-term vision requires outside investment.
  70. At present, there are no significant donor investments that specifically target conservation. The project is consistent with and complements the overall UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF). It will in particular respond to its goal of support to pro-poor economic growth; reducing food insecurity; and support for sustainable management of the environment, natural resources and energy. Community and Landscape Management Project (CLMP) funded by GEF-IFAD has close working relationship and actively working with the MoA. (IFAD has been working long time in the country) which will permit sharing of experience and coordination of further development. The European Commission is a major donor and its current focus is on technical support to strengthen MoA institutional capacity, rehabilitation of small dams, and production of seeds. The proposed project includes initiatives of such type in the PAs. Even though EU is yet to define the details of its operations, there will be a need to establish close working relation with EU to ensure further collaboration.
  71. The project is built upon the key conclusions and lessons learned from the UNDP/GEF “Conservation Management of Eritrea’s Coastal, Marine and Island Biodiversity” project (ECMIB) completed in early 2008. The project struggled during its first five years of implementation, and nearly got closed at the mid-term evaluation. However, the management challenges were addressed and the project made a dramatic turn-around prior to project completion, generating excellent lessons for adaptive management of the proposed project. The ECMIB focused upon four objectives: 1: Up-to-date biodiversity information is used in CMI planning and management activities; 2: Awareness increased at all levels (community groups, managers, administrators, and private sector) of the need for, the benefits of, and mechanisms to sustainably use and manage Eritrea’s coastal, marine and island biodiversity resources; 3: Policies for ICM programs developed and ICM approaches implemented in priority areas; and, 4: A core of a national MPA network and species conservation programme established, and management of exotic species improved. The project managed to complete most activities and achieve all objectives except for Objective 4 related to establishment of a marine protected area network. The final evaluation reported that the project simply did not have the time to complete the activity.
  72. The ECMIB generated draft guidelines for national marine protected areas and other outputs that will be very useful as a baseline for this proposed project. This includes the formulation of the draft National Coastal Policy and the draft Integrated Coastal Area management proclamations. There is also draft National Coastal Policy (DNCP) that discusses marine protected areas in Eritrea. Areas designated as protected areas are “outstanding remarkable areas and biologically important public lands that are habitats of rare and endangered species of plants and animals, biogeographic zones and related ecosystems, whether terrestrial, wetland or marine”. The draft Integrated Coastal Area Management proclamation of 2006 provides intends to endow local government units with greater responsibility and capacity to manage environment and natural resources.
  73. The Government of Eritrea with the support of UNDP is implementing the GEF “SIP SLM Pilot Project”. This five-year project commenced in 2010. The US\$ 4 million project has a US\$ 1.8 million GEF investment. Major cofounders include NORAD, UNDP, and GoE. Project activity will directly affect 28 villages in the Central Highlands Zone. A portion of this area overlaps with the proposed protected areas project.
  74. The SIP SLM Pilot Project has four outcomes: Outcome 1: Replicable models of SLM are developed and representative communities use them to manage land in 15 villages of the central highland that are representative of the major agro-ecological zone for Central highlands, reducing the rate of land degradation. Outcome 2: A system of knowledge management (KM) for SLM is developed and used to achieve SLM

through mainstreaming of SLM principles into the regional and national development programs, projects, strategies, policies and legislation. Outcome 3: Capacity for adoption of improved land management techniques and for upscaling to non-project areas provided at all levels. The project's emphasis upon SLM skills training, improved enabling environment, and knowledge management link nicely with this proposed project's need to strengthen the SLM/SFM capacity of rural communities living in and/or near protected areas. These projects, both implemented through UNDP, will be closely aligned and synergized.

75. Eritrea is in the early processes of implementing a five-year (2012 – 2017) US\$ 6.2 million Adaptation Fund Project "Climate Change Adaptation Programme in water and agriculture in Anseba Region, Eritrea". The project has excellent political and local support and will be implemented in two sub-zobas (Haboro and Hamelmalo) of Anseba. This region does not overlap with the proposed protected area project. The AF project is focuses on brick and mortar interventions, expressed in four outcomes, namely:
- Increased water availability and erosion control through floodwater harvesting and irrigation technologies;
  - Enhanced climate-resilient agricultural and livestock production;
  - Improved climate risk information and climate monitoring used to raise awareness of and enhance community preparedness to climate change hazards;
  - Lessons learned and shared and policy influenced through knowledge management system.
76. Under the AF project, floodwater will be harvested, water storage will be developed and soil erosion control measures and irrigation will be introduced. Climate-smart technology will be implemented; including drought-resistant and early maturing crops, by means of enhanced extension services. Rangeland management systems will be enhanced. Improved information on climate change risks will be generated and integrated into farmer and pastoralist practices. The programme will improve knowledge and understanding of climate change impacts among stakeholders; develop a community-based early warning system to reduce climate risks, and an action research approach linking traditional and scientific knowledge through the use of seasonal forecasts. The AF and proposed protected area project will build synergies, particularly in terms of coordinating training program activities and lessons learned.

## **2. PART II: STRATEGY**

### **2.1: Policy Conformity: Fit with GEF Focal Area Strategy and Strategic Program**

#### GEF Strategy

77. This project is consistent with GEF Biodiversity Strategic Objective One (Improve Sustainability of Protected Area Systems) and Outcome 1.1 (Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas). The project is requesting financing support from the GEF for technical assistance to operationalize a national system of terrestrial and marine conservation areas. The project will contribute to removing the existing barriers that hinder the conservation of a host of globally significant species and associated habitats. It will facilitate the emplacement of a comprehensive regulatory framework to support the strategic establishment and effective management of this new protected area network. The project has devised several interventions at systemic and pilot level and GEF resources will be used to facilitate those improvements. The project will incentivize conservation by working with local communities within and proximate to newly established protected areas. These communities will be coordinated and supported by the Zoba (regional) Administration in their efforts to improve natural resource management so that ecosystem services are restored and maintained, improving the quality of life of rural communities and safeguarding globally significant biodiversity. By helping to remove the identified barriers, the project will contribute to achievement of the objectives stated in national strategies and action plans as well as the goals of relevant international conventions. Proposed interventions are seen as long-term investments and therefore financing support will be provided as a grant.
78. The new PA estate will encompass terrestrial and coastal protected areas covering 1,009,600 ha. None of these systems currently benefit from conservation-oriented management. The protected areas will include ecosystems currently under-represented globally, including unique and significant ecosystems such as the

forested highlands and Red Sea marine and coastal regions. Functional conservation areas will safeguard currently vulnerable habitat for a number of globally significant and threatened species including the critically endangered African wild ass, Dugong, and several species of sea turtle. The project will assist the conservation of Sommering and Dorcas gazelle, both globally vulnerable species. Improved conservation status will be secured for a host of globally important bird species. Conservation improvements will generate replicable models of financial sustainability and cost-effective management strategies.

79. The Project represents a significant advancement towards fulfilling the agreements made at the Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD. The Project will contribute to the achievement of each of the goals of Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PoWPA) in particular: Goal 1.4: To substantially improve site-based protected area planning and management; Goal 2.1: To promote equity and benefit-sharing; and Goal 2.2: To enhance and secure involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders; and to meet the Target 11 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: “ecologically representative and well-connected systems of protected areas integrated into the wider landscapes and effectively and equitably managed”.

#### UNDP Country Office Strategy

80. This project falls within the parameters of the UN Common Country Programme Action Plan for 2012-2016 (CPAP), CCA, and UNDAF and the UNDP Country Programme document. This GEF project fits within these parameters by addressing the following complimentary issues to increase sector capacity for sustainable resources management, with the participation of primary resource users. UNDP and Eritrea Country Programme Action Plan (CPAP) for 2007-2011 lead towards the promotion of sustainable management of natural resources, renewable energy and the environment, UNDP specifically supported the Government efforts to (a) promote and use renewable and other energy sources; (b) ensure sustainable management of Eritrea’s coastal, marine and island biodiversity; and (c) implement selected elements of the National Action Programme on Desertification. These had been very good lessons for the development of the current country programme document (CPD) and Partnership Cooperation Framework (SPCF).
81. The proposed project is directly related to the UNDP’s Strategic Partnership Cooperation Framework (SPCF) 2013-2016 particularly to Environmental Sustainability (MDG-7). This will focus mainly on strengthening the capacity of national institutions to establish the management systems of protected areas, forest trees restoration, mangrove and biodiversity species protection system, sustainable land management system, and reduction of forest deterioration. It supports studies and assessments on natural resource and environmental management issues.
82. This project fits UNDP’s priority areas on Draft CPD for the State of Eritrea 2013 – 2016 anchored on the GoSE-UN Strategic SPCF 2013-2016 aligned with the national development priorities articulated in sector plans, strategies and policies. The project fits three priorities:
83. *National Capacity Development:* The project enhances international relations, policy formulation which will improve the policy regulatory environment and thus contribute to attracting foreign direct investment and in strengthening its human and institutional capacities in national policies and strategies. This includes engaging in advocacy and policy dialogue in areas related to sustainable livelihoods and agriculture, and integrated water resources management.
84. *Sustainable Livelihoods:* The project develops long-term empowerment of local communities through area-based development and integrated approaches. The major area of intervention will be strengthening communities’ productive capacity and PA management. It will also support building local leadership capacity over a wide range of areas including planning, programming, management and efficient utilization of resources as well as raising awareness of legal frameworks that benefit the poor.
85. *Environmental Sustainability:* The project is linked to UNDP’s support to contribute to the implementation of GoSE’s overall strategy on integrated land, water and environmental resources management. The specific areas of support will be: i) Integrated water resource management (watershed management ii) Conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and biodiversity through the establishment of new protected areas (PAs) and application of sustainable land management system (SLM). iii) Increasing community resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change through implementation of appropriate mitigation and adaptation programmes aimed at reducing climate change risks and communities’ vulnerability. iv) Support in advocacy

and awareness raising on the effects of climate change and building adaptive capacity of national institutions to undertake adaptive and mitigation assessments to generate information for decision-making.

86. UNDP seeks to strengthen developing countries capacity to manage the environment and natural resources; integrate environmental dimensions into poverty reduction strategies and national development frameworks; and strengthen the role of communities and of women in promoting sustainable development. This project specifically fits UNDP's priority areas on a) sustainable land management to combat desertification and land degradation; and b) conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In the UNDAF document for the period 2006-2011 pertaining to Eritrea, "Conservation of marine resources and sustainable land-use management" are cited as priority areas for UN support to the government. The project fits this criteria and is in compliance with GEF 5 Focal Area Strategies on Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation (Desertification and Deforestation), and Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)/REDD+). The project contributes to UNDP strategy to "support, develop and protect the environment and natural resources (UNDAF, 2010) and the achievement of Millennium Development Goals". The project will benefit from the knowledge, practical experience and coordinating skills of UNDP Country Office head of Environment and Sustainable Development who will be in charge of overall supervision of the project.
87. The government selected UNDP to be the GEF implementing agency for this project for several reasons. 'Protected Areas' remains one of UNDP's signature endeavours under its Biodiversity and Ecosystems Programme. UNDP will provide in kind support (e.g., environment and sustainable development section technical staff). UNDP will co-finance this project with US\$ 3 million cash.

## **2.2: Project Rationale and Summary of GEF Alternative**

88. The GEF alternative will address the three primary barriers restricting Eritrea from establishing an effective conservation system to safeguard globally significant biodiversity. By clearing the regulatory barrier, the GEF investment will facilitate the expansion of conserved land and seascapes. This will include incorporating some of the world's best preserved marine areas, globally unique African highlands, and the habitat needs of wide ranging species such as African wild ass and a host of migratory birds. By removing the existing capacity barrier, the GEF investment will help ensure the existence of the skills and knowledge required to establish, manage and expand conservation areas into the future. Rural communities will be empowered with the tools required to maintain and enhance their quality of life, improving the maintenance of ecosystem services while addressing identified biodiversity threats. Links between successful conservation of biodiversity and economic benefits accruing to the local communities will be quantified and demonstrated. The GEF alternative will allow for conservation to be based upon a spectrum of land and marine use designations, designed to give policy makers the tools required to conserve large, ecologically viable areas.
89. The immediate result will be an effective regime of national conservation areas covering over one million hectares of currently un-represented ecosystems. Additional results will include reduction of immediate threats to several species, a more harmonized management regime, a strong institutional framework and focal point designed specifically to support conservation and protected areas, prototypes of a suite of management improvement tools to prepare protected area managers, and an efficient and informed management system. Improvement management pathways will be institutionalized and lessons learned will be amplified throughout the national system of conservation areas. The government agencies at all levels will be motivated to integrate conservation objectives within their planning and policy frameworks. None of these elements critical to effective conservation would likely be realized without GEF inputs.

## **2.3: Project Goal, Objective, Outcomes and Outputs**

90. The project goal is to ensure the integrity of Eritrea's diverse ecosystems to secure the viability of the nation's globally significant biodiversity. The **project objective** is to create policy and institutional conditions to operationalize the national protected area system. This objective will be achieved through three outcomes: establishment of necessary protected area policy and institutional frameworks;

emplacement of required protected area management capacity and experience; and, emplacement of SLM/SFM capacity required to restore/maintain ecosystem services and support achievement of conservation objectives.

91. The total cost of the project-including co-funding and GEF funds, amounts to US\$ 16,328,000, including the in-kind contribution. Of this total, co-funding constitutes 64.00% or US\$10,450,000. This includes US\$ 3 million in cash from UNDP/Eritrea. The GEF financing comprises the remaining 36.00% of the total, or US\$ 5,878,000.

**Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system**

*Total Cost: US\$ 2,200,000; GEF US\$ 800,000; Cofinancing: 1,400,000 (UNDP US\$355,000)*

92. This outcome will address the first identified barrier: limited capacity to design and implement a regulatory framework to support establishment of a national system of conservation areas. Eritrea has long strived to move forward with the establishment of a modern system of protected areas. The nation has lacked the ability and/or catalyst required to move beyond the institutional and legal barrier. Removing this barrier will be the project's first priority to make certain subsequent investments remain on target to deliver the project objective. The project will remove this barrier by setting in place a comprehensive regulatory framework for conservation area designation and management that embodies each of IUCN's seven protected area categories. The detailed legal framework will provide decision-makers with the tools required to designate expansive marine and terrestrial protected areas that incorporate the shared needs of rural communities and wildlife. Institutions and professional capacities necessary to implement the new legal framework will be set in place. A national protected areas management body will be created. A national training program will be established to build capacities for existing professionals and to educate a cohort of new and young conservation professionals. The project will establish professional, disciplined and informed management practices. A national protected areas strategy and annual report will help ensure financial sustainability and strategic/efficient management. The effectiveness of the entire protected area system will be measured by the achievement of precise biodiversity conservation objectives and indicators. The project will build a highly organized national biodiversity conservation monitoring program to make certain decision-making is well-informed. The component will be delivered through the following outputs:

***Output 1.1 Regulatory framework for protected areas management***

93. The project will set in place a comprehensive regulatory framework to support the establishment and management of a national system of protected areas. The framework will cover the conservation of both marine and terrestrial habitats. The framework will facilitate the creation of large protected areas that encompass ecologically meaningful land and seascapes. The framework will follow the basic guidance and reflect the intent of IUCN categories I-VII ranging from areas designated as strictly protected to areas where well-regulated use of natural resources occurs, e.g., fishing, hunting, grazing, etc.
94. The legal framework will comprehensively detail:
- Designation and approval process, including conservation objectives and protocols for certification and mapping;
  - Resource conservation and use benefits, rights and responsibilities, including methods for transfer of resource use rights, parameters of use, and coordination with national and regional strategies for biodiversity conservation;
  - Types of allowed and preferred management regimes, including establishment of representative and accountable legal entities, collective proprietorship, and alternatives for co-management with proximate protected areas, local governments, and local stakeholders;
  - Roles and responsibilities of national, zoba, and sub-zoba governments, including designation, oversight, and support functions and integration with other management regimes;
  - Protocols for addressing biodiversity threats, including establishing and maintaining livestock carrying capacities, stabilizing wildlife and fisheries use/harvest, climate change adaptation, and mitigating the negative impacts of extractive industries and associated activities;
  - Resource management and planning requirements, including, land use planning/zoning, natural resource management planning, and monitoring, reporting and evaluation responsibilities;

- Financing and budget management, including guidelines for the equitable generation and distribution of benefits.
95. The regulatory framework will also detail all necessary institutional responsibilities and coordination arrangements. The regulatory framework will describe and mandate protected management responsibilities between Forestry and Wildlife Authority and the Ministry of Marine Resources. This will include establishing: (i) a single protected areas administration nested within the FWA; or (ii) twin agencies in both the FWA and MRR responsible for terrestrial and marine protected areas respectively with joint management protocols describing each agency's mandate.
  96. The legal framework should be holistic and recognize that activities in sectors such as wildlife management, water management, economic development and poverty alleviation, agriculture, transportation, mining and a host of others will affect the success of conservation areas. The legal framework will describe responsibilities and clarify issues related to protected areas management and the role of local government and national Ministries of Development, Land, Water and Environment, Tourism, and Agriculture. The framework will cover issues such as management planning, resource use, training, enforcement, monitoring, information sharing, jurisdiction and trans-boundary coordination. Linkages between government agencies responsible for regulating these various sectors with direct impacts on community conservation areas resources will be addressed and strengthened. This will likely include the establishment of a national protected areas consultative forum. The forum would be comprised of representatives from key government agencies, and would be charged with the responsibility of advising and supporting the protected area agency on the achievement of the national protected area network's conservation objectives. It would meet semi-annually to discuss on-going protected area management issues.
  97. The legal framework will make certain that any natural resource use within the conservation areas is based upon reliable natural resource monitoring and inventory. To maintain an ecosystem wide perspective, the national government will retain ultimate authority to describe natural resource use parameters. The legislation will reserve within the national government the responsibility to monitor biodiversity conservation activities and describe parameters to ensure that community-based decision-making supports national biodiversity conservation objectives.
  98. The framework will describe conservation financing pathways. This will include setting in place innovative mechanisms to capture future revenue from resource-based development such as mining and tourism. The framework will set in place the legal requirements necessary to establish a conservation trust fund. Project implementers will be charged with working to identify and acquire funding for this trust fund. Funding will be linked directly to protected area management and business plans developed under Component 2. These will be collated into a single funding request submitted annually to government for approval. The funding request will detail the precise funds required, the purpose for this funding, and the ramifications should this funding to be acquired.
  99. Because the conservation approach will encompass large land and sea-scapes within a mosaic of use designations, the incorporation of rural communities as conservation partners will be critical. The framework will detail how communities will engage with and benefit from the protected area regime. The regulatory framework will reflect that fact that rural Eritreans rely upon nature for their well being. The framework will build pathways to increase community awareness of conservation and for community participation in management decisions. The framework will work through existing rural decision-making structures and build new requirements for public notice and comment on key strategic decision points (e.g., protected area management plans). The framework will establish formal consultative institutions such as community advisory committees. The framework will address issues related to ecosystem services by integrating lessons learned through the implementation of both project Outcome 2 and Outcome 3. Key issues such as local peoples' rights to land and resource use, benefit and power sharing in co-management within and between different actors, as well as the need for clear conflict resolution mechanisms will be fully taken into consideration.
  100. Activities to be financed through this project will include providing necessary international level technical expertise currently unavailable in Eritrea and building capacity within Eritrea. This expertise will lead the completion of a comprehensive review of existing community-based conservation initiatives and related law and policy. The project will support the generation of capacities required to understand the

conservation ramifications of current successes and challenges. This will include identifying gaps and providing counsel for how to apply best international and national principles and practices to set in place effective conservation areas.

101. The regulatory framework and implementation approach will be organic, providing opportunities for adaptation and improvement over time. This will include a review of the framework during the project implementation period. The review will provide an opportunity to integrate lessons learned to adapt and build the framework's sophistication. A draft regulatory framework will be completed by project year one. The final framework will be presented to government for approval prior to project year two. The framework will be fully operational by project year 2.5. The framework will be reviewed and updated prior to the close of project year 5.

#### ***Output 1.2 National administration for protected areas management***

102. The project will build capacities necessary to establish and operationalize a national agency to oversee protected areas management. Effort will include providing strategic guidance for the identification of necessary staff, skills gaps analysis, and a training program to address identified gaps. The project will support the establishment and initial equipping of a protected areas administration office.
103. During project year one, a project strategy will be completed for building the capacity of the national protected area administration. The capacity building strategy will assess capacity gaps relevant to the responsibilities described under the national legal framework. The strategy will map out a comprehensive training program to be implemented during project years 3 – 7.
104. As noted in Output 1.1, establishment of a national agency will require coordinating efforts between the FWA (terrestrial protected areas) and MMR (marine protected areas). Capacity building approaches will in some ways depend upon whether the national regulatory framework opts for a single protected areas agency or two agencies. Regardless of which tactic is selected, to lower costs and increase effectiveness the agency will draw upon expertise that exists within both of the FWA and MMR. Individual positions may be moved to a single agency. Individuals may be loaned to the agency to support the implementation of specific tasks. The project will help to support the creation of protocols to describe these management needs and relevant relationships.
105. The project's technical team will work with the new agency to generate an operations manual. The operational manual will describe functional responsibilities of staff, including terms of reference. The manual will describe monitoring and reporting requirements related to the generation and submission of the national protected areas strategy and the annual national protected areas/biodiversity conservation status report. The manual will include templates for the development, implementation, and reporting requirements of both protected areas management and business plans. The first manual will be completed during project year three, allowing adequate time for the agency to be legally established and initial project supported capacity building efforts to commence. An updated manual will be completed prior to the close of project year seven to integrate best practices and lessons learned.

#### ***Output 1.3 National biodiversity conservation monitoring program***

106. This output will set in place the institutional capacity to design and oversee a biodiversity and ecosystem-monitoring program. There is a need to build national biodiversity monitoring capacity. Monitoring is required to inform and prioritize conservation activity, including protected areas management. Monitoring will enhance the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of protected areas management. The purpose of this program is making certain capacities exist to inform protected area managers regarding the challenges and successes of various conservation investments. This information will inform decision-makers and other stakeholders regarding progress made towards the achievement of biodiversity conservation objectives.
107. The monitoring help direct future protected area design. The monitoring institution will help to strategically align research and monitoring activity to fill information gaps and deliver information priorities. Capacity will also be built so that persons within the protected area administration and other related institutions can support protected area managers, community members, and other "on-the-ground" stakeholders to design low-cost monitoring programs that will inform national and local conservation



strategies. Setting this capacity in place will allow protected area managers and others to monitor and evaluate achievement of management objectives in ways better matched to Eritrea's current economic realities. This may include working with fishing groups to self-monitor catch rates, grazing groups to monitor herd information, and/or farming groups to monitor soil and water quality.

108. Capacity will also be built so that persons within the protected area administration concerned with both terrestrial and marine protected areas can better manage data and report findings. This will include providing critical information to inform both the protected area strategy and individual management plans. In addition, the persons responsible for research within the national protected area administration(s) will serve as a focal point for gathering, collating, and distributing relevant conservation information within and between government relevant agencies. The focal point will also help in the process of identifying species of concern and prioritizing research efforts designed to answer important questions necessary to inform policy decisions. This will be particularly important in light of pending climate change impacts.
109. Project support will include providing the technical support required to build capacity to design and oversee research programming. The project will help to set in place within the protected area administration(s) capacity needed to support programming as described. The project may assist local communities to maintain functional connectivity across landscapes is secured to increase resilience. The project will identify and invest in low-cost and low-maintenance tools such as improved water monitoring stations that will increase local ability to assess climate change impacts and the status of ecosystem health. This may include providing assistance required measuring the status of grasslands, forests, water, biodiversity, and agricultural productivity.
110. Once these persons are in place within the protected areas administration(s), the project's technical team will work with the focal point to design protocols and guidelines for community-level monitoring. Using the results of this output, the project will trial the implementation of a protected area and community-level monitoring program for each of the protected areas designated under outcome 2. This program will be designed to monitor and inform implementation of the protected area management plan, including data gathering and analysis for each of the model protected areas established under Outcome 2. The results of these model monitoring programs will be shared widely with stakeholder communities to help these communities understand how species and ecosystem monitoring within and proximate to the protected area helps to maintain critical ecosystem services.

#### ***Output 1.4 National strategy for protected area conservation and financing***

111. The project will support the establishment of institutional capacities to generate a strategic approach to national protected areas management. This will include providing technical assistance to generate a three-year national protected area conservation strategies and annual implementation status reports.
112. The national protected areas agency's efforts will be guided by a national protected areas conservation strategy. The national strategy will summarize national biodiversity conservation challenges. The strategy will detail how the protected areas system is helping the nation to address these challenges. The strategy will describe clear protected areas management and conservation objectives. The objectives will be supplemented with impact-oriented indicators to help PA managers, local stakeholders, and national agencies to understand conservation horizons and how their management decisions can help or detract from the achievement of project and conservation objectives. The national protected areas conservation strategy will be updated every three years.
113. The strategy will describe technical, financial, and conservation gaps in the current protected area system and map out how the national agency will address and fill these gaps. A section of the strategy will be dedicated to protected area financing, drawing a clear nexus between the availability of funding and the achievement of conservation objectives. A section of the strategy will be dedicated to local community benefits, drawing a nexus between the existence of the protected area system and measured improvements to the quality of life of rural community members living within and/or proximate to established conservation areas. This will include summaries of best practices and lessons learned through the implementation of Outcome 3.

114. Achieving financial security for the protected areas network will be a key element of each strategy. Capacity will be built so that protected area managers possess the tools to make strategic justifications to maintain and increase adequate government financial support for protected area conservation. The capacity built and information and planning tools established from a variety of project outputs (e.g., management planning, business planning, monitoring, etc.) will generate a significantly improved understanding of the status and importance of protected areas. They will allow protected area managers to identify for the first time strategic conservation financial needs. This will fundamentally improve the capacity of protected areas to justify strategic investment by government and other sources. Using the results of project outputs, each three-year strategy will present to government a concise financial needs assessment to: (i) clarify the social, economic, and biological value of protected areas, (ii) the financial requirements to maintain and protect these values, (iii) potential revenue sources and pathways for improving government financial support for conservation, and, (iv) detailing the impacts and benefits of these investments. This will include elucidating current funding challenges and the impacts of potential funding shortfalls.
115. An annual status report will be generated by the protected areas agency. The report will detail progress being made towards the achievement of the national protected areas conservation strategy objectives. The report will summarize the status of biodiversity within each of the nation's protected areas and will detail both conservation success and threats to each represented ecosystem. The status report will describe the status of key indicator species and habitats, e.g., mangroves, highland zone forests, elephants, dugong, sawfish and African wild ass. This will include the status of these species and habitats both within and beyond protected areas boundaries. This will help flag and address issues such as "source-sink" populations and truncated corridors before they have an opportunity to take root. Importantly, the annual status report will describe whether the protected areas system is achieving its financial goals and commensurate conservation impacts. The annual status report will describe the activities completed during the previous year and activities to be implemented in the coming year.
116. The three-year strategies and annual progress reports will both inform and be informed by the protected areas management and business planning process established under Outcome 2. The findings and objectives of individual protected area management and business plans will be collated as a foundation for the three-year strategy and annual progress reports. This will include helping to set of national protected area system objectives. The strategy and progress report will be based upon on-going national and individual protected areas assessments. The strategy will identify and map the expansion of the protected area system beyond the several protected areas envisioned under this project. This will include a process of identifying priority conservation areas based upon maintenance of habitats required for protecting globally significant biodiversity and associated habitats.
117. The three-year strategy and annual progress reports will also inform and be informed by the national biodiversity monitoring and assessment program set in place through Output 1.3. The strategy and annual progress report will summarize the findings of the monitoring and assessment program. The strategy will help define priorities for the monitoring and assessment program, including the identification of species and habitats meriting higher scrutiny. The strategy will include a section dedicated to the addressing issues related to the conservation and recovery of priority species and habitats. This will include species and habitats both within and outside of the protected area boundaries. This effort will help inform and prioritize needs for improved management and expansion of the national protected areas regime.
118. The strategy and status reports will serve as implementation, monitoring and evaluation guides for the national system of protected areas. Both reports will be submitted to key national agencies for their review and counsel. Ideally, this will be done through the consultative forum established under Output 1.1. The protected areas administration will approve these reports.
119. The newly created national agency will require substantial financial and technical support from the project during the early phases of establishment. However, project effort must be directed towards phasing out this support so that the agency is fully functional and self-reliant prior to project close. "Hand-over" will be a critical element of the operational manual described in Output 1.2 and protected area management and business plans described in Outcome 2. Both the national strategy and annual status reports will incorporate hand-over plans specifying how the new protected areas agency's operations will be self-reliant prior to project close. This will include a very forthright assessment of existing technical, personnel, conservation,

and financing gaps and a road-map for how these gaps will be addressed without continuing GEF project support.

120. The project will provide the technical assistance required to support the initial completion of both the national protected areas conservation strategy and annual status reports. That national strategy will be updated every three years. The first national strategy will be completed prior to the close of project year four. The second will be completed prior to the close of project year seven.

**Output 1.5 National protected area regulatory implementation guidelines**

121. This output will set in place the tools and understanding required to successfully implement the new protected areas regulatory framework. The national legislation team will be tasked with generating guidelines for the implementation of the regulatory framework. The guidelines will be comprehensive. The national protected area administration, protected area managers, Zoba and sub-Zoba level government officials and rural community members will be the intended audience. The regulatory guidelines will be in the form of a handbook so that they may serve as an easily accessed reference tool. The guidelines will provide protected area managers with implementation guidance and detailed information regarding the complete protected areas regulatory framework. The guidelines should contain the sum of basic information required to understand the regulatory framework and apply this framework to effectively manage protected areas.
122. The reference materials will include standardized forms and templates for items such as:
- Official description and certification
  - Model constitutions and/or by-laws for community consultation committees
  - Management and business plans
  - Species management and recovery plans
  - Natural resource conservation agreements for key sectors such as agriculture, livestock, water, wildlife, tourism, extractive industry, and forestry
  - Annual monitoring, evaluation, and performance reports to be submitted to the national agency
  - Protocols for conducting climate change vulnerability assessments
  - Protocols for integrating issues related to gender mainstreaming and transparent decision-making
  - Zoning designation
123. Copies will be made available electronically and via print media. The implementation guidelines will be distributed to key national stakeholders and the administrators of every Zoba and sub-zoba. Copies will be made available to community consultative committees. The materials will provide detailed information regarding the form and function of new protected areas, including zonation and resource use directives. Information will help community level stakeholders understand enforcement responsibilities, community ranger programs and biodiversity monitoring protocols. The guidelines will help stakeholders to understand management benefits and responsibilities. The guidelines will explain the rights and responsibilities of management entities. Performance standards required of all protected areas will be listed. Examples of best national and international management practices will be referenced. The handbook will be updated every three years to reflect and summarize the most recent national strategy (Output 1.4).
124. Project support will include providing the technical resources required to generate the initial guidelines and to build the capacity required to regularly update and improve the guidelines. An initial draft of the guidelines will be compiled prior to the close of project year four. A second draft will be completed prior to the close of project year seven.

**Output 1.6 National biodiversity conservation training program**

125. The project will support the establishment of two formal training programs; each designed to build capacity of a future Eritrean biodiversity conservation contingency. The project will support the creation of a biodiversity conservation survey course at the University of Asmara. This course will be designed to introduce under-graduate level students to the basic concepts of biodiversity conservation. This will include course-work covering best international principles and practices as well as the unique conservation challenges faced by Eritrea. The university level course will include fieldwork at each of the project's pilot sites. Fieldwork will inform and monitor the protected area management plans.

126. The project will support the establishment of a vocational training program for protected area staff. This in-service training program will be presented as modules. This will allow government staff to maintain their positions while building skills necessary to support protected area operationalization. A module approach will allow the program to be tailored to the needs of staff groups, e.g., administrators, field officers, etc. An intensive module approach will allow each topic or course to be upgraded and enhanced over time as lessons are learned and skills and capacities grow. This will also make it possible to transfer key aspects of the training program to the field. The module approach will create the ability for protected areas staff to become expert in one training issue. This will allow these persons to become trainers, responsible for the individual module.
127. During project year 1, the project will complete a formal strategy to guide training and monitoring capacity-building efforts. During project years 2 - 3, the project's technical team will support the initial design and teaching of the monitoring and training programs. This will include generation and supply of required reference materials. Formal training courses will be co-taught with national and international lecturers. During project year 3, the project will consider expanding the formal training program to cover additional topics and courses. The project will do so at the discretion of the project management team. Commencing with project year 4 - 7, the courses will be taught by national lecturers with continuing project support and technical oversight.
128. A key aspect of the national training and capacity building process will be capturing of results and lessons. The project will be tasked during year one with drafting a "lessons capture" strategy to be implemented during the project implementation period. The brief strategy will detail how the project will record and capture the process of facilitating the creation of a protected area system from inception to existence. This will include using both print and electronic media to file project outputs (e.g., training materials) and record project activities. The final product will include a full compilation of project training materials, planning materials, etc. and a summary of project activity and lessons learned. These materials will be generated in formats suitable to inform future conservation professionals in Eritrea and abroad.

**Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system**

*Total Cost: US\$ 7,500,000: GEF US\$2,800,000; Co-Financing US\$ 4,700,000 (UNDP US\$ 1, 110,000)*

129. This outcome will address the second identified barrier: limited experience and capacity to successfully establish and manage conservation areas. Once the government has passed a legal framework allowing for establishment of complex system of protected areas and responsible management entity, there will be a need to assist Eritrea to build the capacity and experience necessary to efficiently and effectively operate a modern protected area. The project will help remove this barrier by starting literally from the ground up. First, at least three new protected areas will be established using the guidance of the new regulatory framework. These new protected areas will reflect a diverse set of Eritrean habitat types, including both terrestrial and marine areas. These protected areas will be large to reflect the needs of wide-ranging species and incorporate adequate habitat to help ensure ecological function and climate change resilience. The new protected areas will be staffed with trained professionals and a training program to make certain capacities continue to expand and improve will be set in place. The new protected areas will benefit from modern management and business plans that reflect best international principles and practices. The barrier will be further removed by setting in place a process for monitoring management effectiveness, reporting on this effectiveness broadly and adjusting management approaches based upon lessons learned. Because the project foresees the establishment of protected areas that encompass living land and seascapes where economic and subsistence use of resources will continue, the inclusion of local stakeholders in the management process is critical to barrier removal. Therefore, the project under this outcome will set in place specific mechanisms to facilitate and motivate inclusion of local stakeholders within the management and decision-making process. This will cover both formal and traditional governance structures.

***Output 2.1 Three new protected areas officially recognized and launched***

130. The project will support the establishment of Eritrea's first three protected areas. These areas will cover approximately 1,009,100 hectares. They will include both terrestrial and marine sites. The three sites will be: Buri Peninsula and Irrori/Hawakil Bay (867,000 ha); Semienawi/Dehubawi Bahri Greenbelt (129,000 hectares); and, Bara'soli Estuary (13,100 hectares). Please see Annex G for a detailed description of each pilot site.
131. Eritrea has intended to protect each of these sites for several years. Preliminary agreement exists between national government organizations, *zoba*, judiciary, private sector, and other technical and financial partners. The sites have not been designated as protected areas because Eritrea has not yet addressed the regulatory and institutional framework barrier. During project years 1 – 2, this barrier will be removed under Outcome One and particularly Output 1.1. The establishment of a new regulatory framework will clear the way to establish national protected areas.
132. During the first year of implementation, the project will facilitate the completion of a strategy detailing the specific steps to be taken to finalize establishment of each national protected area. The strategy will outline the process required to build a strong foundation for protected area design and establishment; e.g., wildlife and habitat surveys, specific threats identification, species conservation and recovery planning, community consultations and stakeholder inclusion, proposed zonation and demarcation, preferred management arrangements, community consultative committee set-up, resource use protocols and parameters, management capacity gap assessments, training requirements, equipment requirements, etc.
133. The project will implement the protected area establishment strategy during project year 2. This will include completion and submission of a comprehensive baseline assessment of each potential protected area. The new regulatory framework will be set in place under Outcome 1 by the close of project year 2. Each protected area will be officially established during project year 3 based upon the results of the establishment strategy and baseline assessment. The process of protected area establishment will be well documented using print and electronic media. The finalized baseline assessment, process and principles/practices used will be evaluated. Lessons learned will be captured and applied; this will create a pathway to inform the creation and expansion of future national protected areas. The establishment strategies and results will form a strong foundation for both the formal creation of the protected areas and the generation of initial management plans.

**Output 2.2 Model training program implemented for protected area management and staff**

134. All project outputs are designed to build the capacity of protected area staff to conserve biodiversity. As part of this effort, the project will initiate a formal training program for professional protected area staff within each of the protected areas. Formal training programs will increase capacity to address the following key conservation issues: (i) administrative and regulatory procedures to improve cost-effective conservation, including participatory decision-making; (ii) strategic management planning, including the ability to design, implement and monitor management plans; (iii) strategic financial planning, including the ability to innovate new revenue streams and plan, administer, and report protected area financing; (iv) biodiversity monitoring; and, (v) public awareness and education.
135. The protected area staff training program will be based upon a concise, formal, training plan to be completed during the project's first year. The plan will be implemented during project years 2 – 7. The plan will be guided by several principles; and, will cover best international principles and practices for protected areas management, drawing upon global examples. International technical assistance provided by the project will be integrated into the training program. Training should improve the capacity of protected areas to measure achievement of conservation objectives relative to investments, enhancing both cost-effectiveness and understanding of the conservation results from specific expenditures. Programs will include mechanisms for information transfer along horizontal and vertical management lines to integrate core sectors, including private industry, local communities and a broad range of government agencies.
136. The training program will also build capacities required to maintain ecosystems and their natural functions. The training program will address the following key conservation issues:
- Strategic management and financial planning, including the ability to design, implement and monitor results based management and business plans
  - Participatory planning and management, including public outreach, awareness and education

- Spatial planning and management
  - Administrative and regulatory procedures, including permitting, oversight, law enforcement and conflict resolution
  - Integrated ecosystem-based conservation, including identifying, monitoring, mitigating and reporting on the impact of anthropogenic and natural threats
  - Species monitoring and recovery with particular emphasis upon globally significant biodiversity
  - Resource use monitoring and management (e.g., species, seasons, locations, methods, enforcement, and permitting) covering issues related to wildlife, forestry, fisheries, tourism, and water
137. The project will sponsor semi-annual national level “replication” workshops to disseminate project findings and activities. These workshops should serve as a forum for enhanced training and inter-active learning to expand replication effect further, by summarizing for a national level audience of diverse stakeholders the successes and failures of project activity at each of the three project sites. Protected area staff with backstopping from project technical staff will be responsible for presenting to their peers’ implementation updates.
138. Training will be well documented to institutionalize a culture of in-service training that continues to build capacity beyond the life-span of this project. This should include tangible training tools that capture lessons and allow training experiences to be re-visited, improved, and widely disseminated throughout the protected area system. All training programs will be summarized and incorporated into the management handbook. This should include tangible training tools – including a website - that capture lessons and allow training experiences to be re-visited, improved, and widely disseminated throughout the provincial protected area system. Training will dove-tail with project outputs and activities so that all project activities are approached as capacity building exercises. This will include integration with output 1.6 (national training) and implementation of SLM/SFM programming developed under Outcome 2.

**Output 2.3 Three model protected area management plans**

139. The protected areas supported through the implementation of this project will be Eritrea’s first. The project will help set in place a contemporary management planning system for each of the pilot sites. These plans will enable protected area managers to address emerging challenges to globally significant biodiversity in a coordinated and strategic manner. Management plans will particularly focus on ensuring the survival of globally significant species and associated habitats. They will clearly define conservation of habitat and globally significant biodiversity as the primary management objective. The management plans will identify short, medium and long-term objectives and define annual work plans. The management plans will be well-informed. They will give the protected areas context and a platform for tactical generation and allocation of monetary resources. Activity under this output will result in the creation of up-to-date management plans that incorporate best international principles and practices, but scaled to fit Eritrea’s unique situation.
140. Management planning will cover basic operational issues such as resource monitoring, annual work plans, performance standards, and terms of reference for protected area staff. The planning process will detail conservation priorities, including improving oversight and regulation of infrastructure development, fisheries, wildlife use, forestry, grazing, cultivation water resources management, species recovery, climate change vulnerabilities, and other key impacting sectors. The management plans will integrate spatial land and sea use plans. These land/sea use plans will incorporate large area. They will reflect each protected area’s overall objective of maintaining and improving ecosystem services, including ecological functionality. Spatial planning will demonstrate a mosaic of uses that encompass both humans and wildlife. Tourism development will be a particular focus for coastal areas. Tourism management will follow progressive government intentions to encourage only the development of “high end – low impact” models. These will be similar to successful examples implemented in both Botswana and Bhutan. Tourism will be confined to small areas. Each tourism area will anchor and catalyze the conservation of expansive marine and coastal habitats. The success or failure of each tourism development will be measured by the success or failure of conserving proximate coastal and marine biodiversity.
141. The new management plans will define time-bound activities and identify implementation responsibilities. To enhance implementation, the plans will be realistically scaled to match local capacities. Management planning will incorporate zoning, identifying core areas, appropriate economic use areas, and

the establishment of buffer zones equivalent to IUCN categories IV – VI. The management plans will also incorporate species survival and recovery plans for key species, including mangroves and wild ass.

142. The planning process will be used as a tool to increase public awareness and engagement. The process will be inclusive, working with stakeholders within and beyond the protected area borders to determine appropriate resource use and carrying capacity. A key element will be incorporating issues of poverty alleviation and gender. The plans will identify mechanisms for local income-generation and business opportunities related to rational use of resources that support conservation while setting in place strategies for phasing out commercial activity that is conservation negative. These efforts will include close integration and reference to Outcome 3 activities.
143. The newly minted protected areas will require support in terms of planning, training, and monitoring. A critical measure of success will be the institutionalization of a modern management process that is organic, responsive, and adaptive. Implementation of each management plan will be objective/goal oriented. This will include a set of indicators to measure both process and impact. The monitoring program established under Outcome One will assist protected area managers and other key stakeholders to monitor and evaluate implementation progress. This will, in turn, inform protected area managers to better understand whether decision-making and resource allocation is working to achieve biodiversity conservation objectives. Protected areas will establish and monitor biological indicators (e.g., tree and mangrove diversity and coverage, species status, etc.), physical indicators (e.g., soil, water quality/quantity), and social indicators (e.g., income, nutrition, access to education, etc.). These results will be captured and lessons learned used to inform both management decision-making and training programs. Results will link back to and inform the national strategy, resource management strategy, and protected areas planning.
144. The new protected areas will also need to have initial support with the implementation of initial and basic conservation routines. The project will provide financial and technical support required to help bring the protected areas up to an initial operational level. This will include provision for the implementation of priority actions under the formalized protected area management plans. It is envisioned that this support may include providing basic equipment such as uniforms, computers, and other monitoring equipment.
145. Management plans will grow in sophistication over time. The first drafts will be completed by the end of project year three. These plans will be based in large part upon the results of the baseline assessments completed under Output 1. The management plans will be reviewed and updated annually during the project tenure. Each year, the protected area administrations will provide a summary progress report to the national protected areas administration. Commencing with project year seven, the individual protected areas will continue to submit annual progress reports. However, the management plans will be updated and designed to cover three-years. This will match the national conservation strategy and inform the national conservation strategies completed under Outcome 1.
146. A feature of the process will be identifying capacity building needs, financial requirements and proposing appropriately scaled and realistic means to addressing these challenges. The process of generating management plans will build capacity and culminate in a technically stronger cadre of protected area managers and senior government staff. The project will provide technical support for the generation of the management plan. Importantly, the project will capture lessons learned and process results. This will be included a management planning handbook. This handbook will cover both management and business planning (Output 2.3). The handbook will provide templates for plans and outline process for plan development and monitoring. The handbook will target protected area managers and staff. The first generation planning handbook will developed during project year 3 and updated during project year 7.
147. An important part of this effort will be the development of management planning standards that will apply to all protected areas within the new system. This template for management planning will streamline the system and allow for more seamless comparison of conservation advances and incorporation of management objectives in the higher-level national conservation strategies to be developed under Outcome 1.

#### **Output 2.4 Three model protected area business plans**

148. The new protected areas will require an operational financial planning model linking income and expenditures to achievement of global conservation objectives. To address this issue, the project will support the formulation of model business plans covering each of the pilot protected areas. Each business plan will increase conservation effectiveness and equip protected area managers with the tools required to make fact-based arguments for increasing and/or maintaining conservation investment. By project end, each pilot site will have institutionalized an operational model and on-going process for systematically improving financial management required to secure the future of globally significant biodiversity.
149. Each business plan will address issues related to the generation and allocation of financial resources. Business plans will cost operational and capital needs and identify revenue sources. Financial planning will interlock with protected area management planning. The business plans will function as a financial addendum to the newly created adaptive management plans. The plans will help inform, prioritize and adapt management actions to make certain allocations are optimally used to achieve prioritized conservation needs. Business plans will emphasize and demonstrate cost-effective approaches to conserving the integrity of associated ecosystems and associated globally significant biodiversity.
150. The project will support the generation of formal business planning guidelines and procedures. Guidelines will provide realistic, locally scaled approaches based upon best international principles and practices. The process will fully involve key stakeholders and decision-makers sometimes alienated from conservation investment frameworks, e.g., local and national government agencies responsible for finance. Technical assistance will ensure that similar approaches are applied in each target area. This will enhance replication, promote peer-to-peer learning and streamline both monitoring and budget appropriations. Financial planning will help coordinate and build synergies between currently disparate management institutions. Guidelines will include mechanisms for integrating concerns and knowledge from diverse stakeholders, including site managers, other agencies, resource users, community leaders, and project experts.
151. A core part of each business plan will include well-reasoned studies examining and quantifying the precise social, economic and ecological value of the protected area. These values are sometimes poorly understood and quantified. A lack of understanding makes it difficult to accurately identify the true costs and risks of resource use and development. This hinders the ability of protected area managers and other conservation advocates to promote and justify conservation improvements. The project will help build capacities to identify and tabulate the both the economic and “non-monetary” values of protected areas, including cultural merit, subsistence reliance, and international conservation significance. The economic value of ecosystem services and the role of biological systems to mitigate impacts from challenges such as climate change will be well elucidated. This knowledge will increase awareness of the importance of conservation and help make the case for prioritizing conservation investments, particularly to maintain the ecosystem services upon which most rural Eritrean’s rely on. By project close, protected managers will be capable of assessing the ecological, social, and economic costs/benefits of various management decisions so that resource use becomes better balanced with long and short-term ecological needs.
152. Business planning will strive to diversify funding sources. The project will pay special attention to assisting managers to capture prospects associated with proposed commercial uses. During the project implementation period, significant revenue contribution opportunities from ecosystem services will likely arise via tourism. Much of the value of this tourism is directly linked to the conservation of Eritrea’s intact Red Sea ecosystem. This is a strong justification for reinvestment in conservation. Business plans will identify innovative pricing schemes for the use and alteration of resources that will defray protected areas management costs and create incentives for pro-conservation activity.
153. Business plans will identify opportunities to expand and diversify sustainable local economies founded upon successful conservation of wetlands ecosystems. The business planning process will assess and apply, as appropriate, economic incentives to improve resource management. Each business plan will stress phasing out conservation negative commercial activity within the boundaries of protected areas while enhancing the quality of life of local residents.
154. Project support for the generation of business plans will mirror the process used for generation of management plans. Business plans will grow in sophistication over time. The first drafts will be completed by the end of project year three. These plans will be based in large part upon the results of the baseline



assessments completed under Output 1. They will be incorporated within and reported as part of the management plans. The plans will be reviewed and updated annually during the project tenure. Each year, the protected area administrations will provide a summary progress report to the national protected areas administration. Commencing with project year seven, the individual protected areas will continue to submit annual progress reports. However, the management plans will be updated and designed to cover three-years. This will match the national conservation strategy and inform the national conservation strategies completed under Outcome 1.

**Output 2.5 Integrated and inclusive management mechanisms established**

155. Conserving globally significant biodiversity and associated habitats at scales that are ecologically meaningful necessitates the incorporation of productive landscapes within the conservation area regime. This requires that each protected area contain a range of land and sea use designations. These multiple-use zones will encourage economic and subsistence activities that maintain cultural values and biodiversity conservation as the highest form of resource use. The new protected areas will overlap the jurisdictions of a host of government agencies. There will be a need to create integrated and coherent conservation approaches. This highly diverse and sophisticated management environment increases the need for improved stakeholder integration.
156. People have been a part of Eritrea's natural landscape for eons. Eritrea is committed to creating a management environment that actively integrates stakeholder desires and concerns into the management decision-making process. The project will help set in place a formal institutional mechanism to help government conservation managers and other stakeholders to deliberate conservation and resource use options in an inclusive and coordinated manner predicated upon the survival of globally significant species and associated habitats. This output will address the issue by assisting in the development of: an establishment charter, stakeholder consultation commission, and management agreement for each pilot site. The process established by the project will be used as a replicable model for stakeholder inclusion future protected areas.
157. Each site will benefit from an establishment charter and cooperative management agreement. The charter will describe the protected area's purposes so that all stakeholders clearly understand. Cooperative management agreements will be concluded with local governments and communities for each protected area. To support the completion of this process, the project will generate a formal management agreement covering key government agencies and key community and economic interests for each new protected area. The activity will help make certain that protected area management is efficient and inclusive. The management agreements will help make certain all private and government parties understand and agree to support the achievement of conservation objectives.
158. Each agreement will concisely detail: (i) management objectives; (ii) regulatory, monitoring, planning, and enforcement responsibilities and authority; (iii) comprehensive review and permitting process for resource use to making certain anthropogenic activity meets conservation objectives; (iv) pathways for conflict resolution; (v) mechanisms for improving biodiversity monitoring and information sharing; (vi) transparent and inclusive decision-making, and, (vii) sustainable financing, including financial management, planning and revenue generation. By specifying the management tasks of individual agencies and the requirement for all action to comply with the protected area management plan, the agreement will allow for government budget allocations to more precisely match management responsibilities.
159. The project will facilitate the creation of community-level consultative committees for each new protected area. Project staff will work with relevant government and private stakeholders to identify the most appropriate method of structuring the committees and their tasks. The voluntary committees will have an advisory role. A key purpose of each will be to help coordinate conservation activity, identify conservation challenges, and promote cooperative solutions. Each committee will be tasked with supporting protected area managers by reviewing and commenting on proposed and on-going activities within protected areas. This will include vetting management and business plans. Committee insights will help inform the activities of government managers, including assisting with securing of funding required to implement conservation programming. The committees will serve as a public-private stakeholder board meeting at least twice annually. Membership will target local resource users, regional governance bodies, and others

concerned with conserving Eritrea's globally unique biodiversity. This will likely include relevant local government agencies as well as representation from NGO's, CBO's, academic organizations, and private interests such as the agriculture, tourism and fisheries sectors.

160. The project will facilitate and provide technical support for the creation of the consultative committees as well as the cooperative management agreements. The consultative committees, including terms of reference and membership parameters, will be set in place by the close of project year two. These committee can then serve as a consultative body during the initial process of protected area design and establishment. It is envisioned that the project's site level board and/or technical advisory committee will initially serve this purpose. The establishment charter and cooperative management agreements will be finalized during project year four. The initial agreement will have a durability of two years. During project year seven, the agreements will be revisited and a new agreements with a durability of five years will be concluded.

**Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas**

*Total Cost: US\$ 5,419,000; GEF US\$ 2,019,000; Co-financing US\$ 3,400,000(UNDP \$1,312,000)*

161. This outcome will address the third identified barrier: Limited rural community capacity to maintain ecosystem services and conserve biodiversity. The project will support barrier removal by establishing a learning platform for communities to obtain knowledge regarding best international sustainable land and fisheries management practices while integrating best national and local knowledge. The platform will built upon the establishment of farm/fishing field schools (FFS). The objective of this platform will be to help communities to maintain the ecosystem services upon which the livelihoods of both rural communities and globally significant biodiversity rely. The FFS will be modelled upon similar, successful endeavours from other parts of the world. The FFS will include both formal and informal instruction with a strong emphasis upon peer-to-peer training and training designed in suit local needs, e.g., Afar language, audio-visual training, etc. One of the major highlights of the FFS program will be the establishment of women cohorts. This approach will provide a pathway for inclusion, emphasizing the special needs of rural women and creating opportunities for women to gain capacity and apply this capacity to decision-making processes.
162. Once the FFS platform is in place, local communities will generate ecosystem conservation strategies describing how they propose to apply elevated capacities in ways to support both the improvement of local life qualities and the achievement of participatory protected area management plans. Importantly, the project will provide venture capital for local communities to invest in the best ecosystem conservation ideas that percolate as result of FFS capacities and the finalized community ecosystem services conservation strategy. To make certain that investments remain on track to remove the identified barrier, the project will provide technical support to both implement and monitor model ecosystem services conservation endeavors. By project close, there should be an excellent prototype in place to develop and apply rural stakeholder capacity to support protected areas conservation.

**Output 3.1 Farm/Fishing Field Schools established to build local SLM/SFM capacity**

163. The project will support the creation of farming and fishing field schools (FFS). The FFS will be to create loci for learning. The FFS will be designed to build the capacity of rural communities within and near the new protected areas to improve their knowledge of SLM and SFM. The project will facilitate the establishment of 20 FFS. It is envisaged that each FFS will include approximately 200 households, but this will be adjusted, using adaptive management principles, if the number of households is found to be large for effective learning and beneficiation. To address gender specific issues and challenges, each FFS will have a women cohort.
164. The FFS will offer a unique opportunity to integrate biodiversity conservation as part of SLM and SFM capacity building. The model curriculum and approach will integrate best international and national SLM/SFM concepts with biodiversity conservation principles and practices. The FFS will raise the level of local knowledge and facilitate public participation in the protected area management process. The training will enhance the ability of local resource users to understand and maintain ecosystem services. The training will be tailored to fit specific resource management and biodiversity conservation challenges, e.g., grazing

systems and models, climate smart agriculture, water resources management, forest and fuel-wood management, fisheries, wildlife monitoring, mangrove conservation, etc. The FFS models will coordinate closely with both religious organizations and established Eritrean “Green Clubs”. The Green Clubs – with over 9,000 members nationally – have been particularly active in the Green Belt where they support reforestation efforts.

165. The program will augment and substantially improve current MOA extension approaches such as demonstration plots. The FFS will integrate tools designed specifically to address climate change adaptation. The FFS will stress the use of low-cost ecosystem based approaches. Concepts will improve the farm and fishing family’s quality of life while supporting the protected area’s long-term conservation objectives. The training will assist rural communities to raise their levels of food security and potentially diversify their livelihood options. The curriculum will build farmer knowledge of practical adaptation practices such as improved crop varieties. The curriculum will assist farmers to identify and apply opportunities to improve practices related to tillage and soil conservation, site-specific nutrient management, water use, fisheries and livestock management. The knowledge tool will help provide farmers with information regarding increased productivity and crop diversification to enhance food security and improved nutrition. The model curriculum will assist farmers to generate livelihood options based upon climate smart practices. This may include identifying more cost-effective production methods and improve financial management, product marketing and business planning.
166. The FFS module will offer a conduit to bring the best international principles and practices related to SLM/SFM improve on-the-ground action. The FFS curriculum will be innovative, combining a host of advanced learning methodologies. The curriculum will include on-the-ground practices and models with reference to initiatives funded under Output 3.3. Importantly, the curriculum will be available in languages that target stakeholders within the zones of the new protected areas (primarily Tigrinya and Afar). The curriculum will be designed to incorporate local stakeholders who are illiterate. The curriculum will integrate formal and informal learning, stressing the facilitation of peer-to-peer or circle learning among field school participants (e.g., farmer demonstration competitions, field fairs, peer evaluations, etc.). The strategy will stress cooperation and peer-to-peer learning both within and between pilot areas. This may include the provision of multi-media tools such as tablets (e.g., I-Pad) that allow farmer field school participants to digitally record and share progress and lessons learned. These tools will facilitate the ability of FFS to access and share international and national sources of information.
167. The FFS women cohorts will benefit from a specific curriculum and approach targeting the needs of women. By project close, the FFS women cohort-training module will be fully integrated as a section within the FFS curriculum. Project technical staff will generate and support the piloting of women specific FFS curriculum and learning. Each FFS' women cohort will provide a foundation for organizing knowledge building. The cohort approach will offer rural women opportunities to benefit from women-centered knowledge building and information exchange. FFS will enhance the agricultural skills of established FFS women cohorts. Gender specific FFS modules for women cohorts will be guided by opportunities for woman-to-woman learning both within and between pilot sites. The FFS curriculum designed for women cohorts will address gender specific issues related to nutrition and food security, including food use and stability. Innovative knowledge tools will assist rural women to share traditional knowledge, increase their awareness of conservation issues, and reduce their vulnerability to climate change. For each FFS, at least one demonstration site established specifically for women, ideally on a farmstead owned and/or operated by a woman headed household.
168. International and national technical experts will work closely with protected area staff, key MOA extension officers and other relevant persons from MOA, MELW, and MMR to develop and implement the FFS modules. The project will also coordinate very closely with both the SLM and AF projects implemented with support of UNDP. Together, these parties will inform and vet the curriculum developed for the FFS. The FFS curriculum will be team-taught using a combination of international and national project staff, extension services, protected area staff, and local stakeholders. Protected area and extension officers from MOA, FWA, and MMR will be fully incorporated. In this way, the FFS process will make certain these persons are fully capable of supporting the implementation and continual improvement of the FFS model. By project close, a cohort of at least 15 government staff will have sufficient knowledge and capacity to support the sustainable replication of the established FFS curriculum.

169. During project years 1 – 2, the project team will design the FFS curriculum and mobilize establishment of FFS at each of the pilot sites. The curriculum will be developed based upon international practices. The curriculum will integrate biodiversity conservation specific issues and knowledge building. The curriculum will be developed based upon a needs assessment. This will include reference to the baseline assessment completed under Outcome One. The curriculum developers will work closely with both the Adaptation Fund and SLM/GEF projects being implemented with UNDP support. The development team will include representatives from key national and local government agencies, including: MOA, FWA, MMR, and MELW. A draft curriculum will be completed by the close of project year two.
170. During project years 3 – 4, the curriculum will be rolled out and tested with the newly established FFS. It is envisioned that each FFS will be convened monthly. As feasible, the FFS will be tested as well through both the Adaptation Fund and SLM projects. Trial implementation will be closely monitored with both successes and challenges assessed by the curriculum development team and FFS participants. These results will be used to insure sustainability and broad-scale replication. The assessment will disaggregate results by gender to make certain impacts are unbiased.
171. At the close of project year 4, successful interventions will be used to improve and modify the curriculum. The curriculum will be updated to integrate lessons learned and reflect any necessary improvements. The revised curriculum will continue to be trialed during years 5 – 6. At the close of project year 6, the FFS approach will again be assessed and updated. Prior to the close of project year seven, the FFS will be ready for national upscaling. By project close, FFS implementation should be fully supported by protected area staff working with extension officers. The project will design a strategy for FFS establishment. This strategy will describe how capacities will be built and responsibilities transferred. This will include mechanisms for sustainable financing.

**Output 3.2 Community ecosystem services conservation strategies**

172. The project will provide technical support for each FFS established under Output 3.1 to design annual ecosystem services conservation strategies. These community-based plans will be coordinated with and help inform the protected area management plans. The non-binding plans will be presented to the relevant Zoba and sub-Zoba authority. This will assist the authorities to strategically plan and regulate productive sector activities in order to maintain ecosystem functionality. The plans will be developed with and in reference to traditional management regimes.
173. These plans will outline economic, social and ecological challenges related to key risk factors impacting the security of local livelihoods and the ecological integrity of protected areas. These risk factors include unsustainable practices related to grazing, agriculture, fisheries, water management, and forestry. The interface of climate change, biodiversity conservation, and rural livelihoods will be a critical element of each plan. The plans will serve as climate change adaptation vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies. The process will build the capacities needed for rural communities to identify emerging threats to the ecosystem services upon which they depend, generate effective manage responses, and mobilize action in unison with protected area managers. The planning process will be designed to catalyze community involvement and response. The output will serve as a training program for vulnerability assessment designed to build rural capacity to monitor, assess and respond to climate change risks. Activities will provide FFS stakeholders with the tools necessary to effectively design and implement integrated ecosystem based adaptation management and planning. Local level decision-makers, resource users and other stakeholders will receive the tools and training required to monitor the health and status of their ecosystem.
174. Once threats and potential responses are identified, each plan will prioritize how the FFS members would like to address these challenges using best available SLM and SFM techniques. This will include community-defined opportunities to improve management of fisheries, forestry, grazing, water use, etc. The project's technical team will be highly involved in this process. National and international experts will be engaged to serve as mentors. By twinning international and national expertise with local community knowledge, the proposed responses will be tailored specifically to the local situation while benefitting from the integration of best international principles and practices.
175. The broad objective of each plan will be to maintain and restore ecosystem services in order to conserve biodiversity, augment climate change resilience, and improve food security. The incentive is that prioritized

actions that fit within the management objectives of protected areas will be trialed under Output 3.3. The non-binding plans will represent a practical way for local stakeholders to apply capacities built through the FFS curriculum. Each plan will identify and prioritize a set of demonstrations to be implemented within and/or near the protected area. The proposed interventions will support achievement of the overall protected area management plan's conservation objectives. Plans will describe and prioritize activity necessary to protect ecosystem services. They will motivate community participation and support plan for conservation areas, e.g., biodiversity monitoring, community reporting, etc.

176. Project technical experts will be tasked with working with communities to detail necessary resource monitoring protocols and transferring monitoring, assessment and reporting skills to rural stakeholders. International and national experts will work with local stakeholders to complete comprehensive watershed level baseline vulnerability assessments. These assessments will generate the information required for sound EBA decision-making, including physical, social/economic, and biological data. The assessments will confirm successful adaptation practices identified for implementation, including lessons learned from past and on-going initiatives. The assessment will be designed to monitor and assess priority information related to climate change resilience such as ground and surface water quality/quantity, status of riparian vegetation, status of keystone species, vegetation diversity/pastureland health, forest cover, status of marine resources, and other issues related to securing ecosystems services to build resilience within stakeholder communities.
177. Annual strategy assessment by each FFS will be used throughout project duration to assist with monitoring and evaluation. The initial assessments will be revisited and updated annually during project implementation to increase data sophistication, incorporate the results of on-going project activities and firmly establish good monitoring practices. This information will then feed into and inform the protected area management process. To help ensure sustainability and replicability, guidelines will be generated outlining the resource management planning process. These guidelines will be adopted as a reference to be used by pilot site communities as well as a manual for other communities to develop similar planning regimes. These guidelines will be incorporated within the FFS curriculum created under Output 3.1. The gauge for output success will be the ability and willingness of local stakeholders to successfully institutionalize and carry out the planning and management regime without project support.
178. The first plans will be completed no later than the close of project year three. These plans will help to inform the initial protected area management plans generated under Outcome 2. Plans will be updated annually. The plans will form the basis for implementation of model ecosystem service conservation measures to be funded and implemented under Output 3.3.

### ***Output 3.3 Implementation of model ecosystem service conservation measures***

179. The project will trial a number of sustainable land management and sustainable fisheries management interventions at each project pilot site . These interventions will be designed to support the long-term management objectives of the relevant protected area. The interventions will be based upon priority actions identified through the community ecosystem service conservation plans.
180. The project will offer financial support to stakeholder rural households willing to trial ecosystem friendly production methods. This financial bridge will help limit the exposure and risk that farmers might otherwise face when transitioning from “known” production methods to “ecosystem friendly” production methods. This new way of doing business will support achievement of protected area conservation objectives. Each intervention will be strategic and aligned with the conservation objectives of the newly created protected areas. The interventions will be based upon the priorities of local stakeholders. Intervention concepts will be generated by individual FFS with technical support from project staff. Each intervention will be approached as a community-wide capacity and knowledge-building tool, implemented and monitored by FFS participants. Model interventions will empower communities to assess and respond to potential climate change impacts in an effort to maintain ecosystem resilience. By project close, the model interventions should be delivering tactical responses to conservation needs and providing tangible examples of how conservation of ecosystem services results in social, economic, and environmental improvements. These interventions will serve as an incentive to promote conservation of both terrestrial and marine protected areas.

181. All interventions will be based upon the results of protected area plans and sustainable resource management plans. As noted under output 3.2, each FFS will prioritize activities based upon a community natural resource conservation plan. These plans will be completed no later than the close of project year three. Trial interventions will be implemented during project years 3 – 7. The project budget will set aside approximately US\$110,000 to fund model ecosystem conservation interventions.
182. During the project’s first year of operation, a clear set of guidelines will be developed for the allocation and monitoring of funding to individual FFS. It is foreseen that funding will be provided annually to each FFS to support implementation of prioritized interventions. Prior to receiving funding, each FFS will be responsible for generating a proposal detailing how they intend to implement desired activities and manage funding. FFS proposals will be developed with the technical support of FFS instructors. The proposals will be submitted to the Project Board for final approval. The proposal will include a monitoring plan with specific indicators and targets. Each proposal will clearly explain the intended conservation and social benefits. The proposal will explain how the proposed intervention will support achievement of protected area management objectives.
183. Each activity will be closely monitored to determine if desired objectives are being met. In addition, monitoring activities under Outcome 1 and Outcome 2 will help to inform FFS investments. This “learning circle” will help align on-the-ground activity with the achievement of protected area conservation objectives. The intervention proposals will describe how the FFS expects to monitor these benefits. Recipients will be charged with providing monthly progress/business reports to the FFS. Investment monitoring and evaluation will be linked to and success measured by improved conservation of ecosystem services. In this way, livelihood improvements will be informed by and support protected area planning activities under Outcome 2 community economic and subsistence actions with protected area management objectives. The proposal will describe how the FFS intends to report on results each year. The FFS will be responsible for reporting results to the Project Board at the end of each year. These reports will be a pre-requisite for the receiving additional funding.
184. Funded activities will draw upon successful national and international principles and practices showing practical methods for maintaining and restoring ecosystem functionality in agricultural, grazing and fishing areas. Investments will be designed to maintain, rather than alter, natural ecosystem function. Effort will focus upon making certain that water provisioning is sustained through natural means. The project may support placement of physical interventions that are designed to maintain and/or restore natural ecosystem functionality and the delivery of associated services. This will include efforts to decrease land and forest degradation, reduce erosion, siltation and maintain natural temperature regulation to increase resilience. Riparian degradation is a major contributor to the vulnerability of water provisioning ecosystem services impacting both terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Both upland and lowland riparian damage from cropping, forestry, livestock and fuel-wood collection is pervasive. Techniques will include assisted natural regeneration and enrichment planting of native vegetation along riparian areas and degraded lands to increase water retention and ground cover productivity. In upland areas, effort may include assistance with expanding and improving drought resistant cropping practices and community forest plots.
185. Activity in the lowland areas will focus upon addressing threats to both terrestrial and marine areas caused by over-grazing and unsustainable fishing practices. The project will support improved grazing management regimes, working through traditional decision-making structures where practical. The project will support implementation of sustainable fisheries management, including working with communities to better understand the ecological function of marine systems and the positive/negative impacts resulting from resource management decisions. Community marine conservation programs will focus upon maintaining the health of highly valuable sea grass, mangrove, and coral reef habitats while continuing to provide important nutritional services to local community members. As identified, the project will support communities to shift income-generating activities to lessen land and sea degradation.
186. The project may employ innovative cropping and ecosystem friendly agricultural production and fishing techniques that will reduce land degradation, increase water security, improve resilience, and assist the achievement of biodiversity conservation objectives. Where gully erosion is taking place, the project may invest in construction of small-scale erosion controls to rehabilitate and maintain riparian habitat. This may include water harvesting with earthen weirs based upon successful international approaches designed to slow

flow rates, retain soil, and restore/maintain natural flow and vegetation. The project may invest in physical improvements to existing small-scale water retention and/or management schemes that increase efficiency, reduce waste, and maintain natural in-stream flow required for biodiversity and human needs. Where ground water extraction is occurring, the project may work with stakeholders to improve extraction and application technologies while monitoring water use and increasing efficiency. The project will work with individual FFS to implement improved grazing management regimes. This may be coupled with improved marketing that leads to higher incomes, better herd quality, and lower ecosystem degradation.

187. The implementation of activities under this output will serve as training and capacity building effort. Where appropriate the project will work in tandem with other on-going investments. This includes coordinating with both the Adaptation Fund and SLM/GEF projects to build synergies and leverage impacts. Implemented activities will be used to build the capacity of all FFS cohort members. This will include specific attention and allocations for women cohorts. The project will use these exercises as a training tool, including institutionalization of a strategic peer-to-peer learning approach. The selected projects will be highly scrutinized by project technical staff and cohort members. The project’s technical team will closely monitor each party that receives project support to implement interventions. The project will support the annual completion of a handbook detailing all aspects and results of the physical investments. This will describe individual project approaches, costs, benefits, lessons and best practices. The purpose will be to create a record that can be followed by other community members and communities. This handbook will be vetted by local participants and distributed broadly. The strategy will describe in detail how the project will capture and disseminate lessons learned.

## 2.4: Project Indicators

188. The project indicators contained in the Strategic Results Framework include only impact (objective) indicators and outcome (performance) indicators. Each indicator is ‘SMART’: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound. During project inception and as part of the 7-yearS implementation work plan, the project will develop process-oriented indicators to augment the ‘M&E framework’ at the site level. The ‘site-level M&E framework’ will help guide and monitor project implementation. The project’s overall M&E framework will build upon GoSE-UNDP’s existing M&E Framework for biodiversity programming.

189. The logframe presumes that the cumulative impact of achieving the project’s outcomes will ultimately result in achievement of the project’s objective. This well-reasoned logic is based upon the analysis of barriers and root-causes completed during the PPG phase and elaborated in this project document. The logframe’s indicators are premised upon two key criteria: (i) their pertinence to the above presumption; and (ii) the feasibility of obtaining, producing and updating the data necessary to monitor and evaluate the project through those indicators.

## 2.5: Risks and Assumptions

Risk/Assumptions	Rating Impact/ Probability High: 5 Low: 1	Mitigation Measure
Capacity is too low to implement project. The low absorptive capacity results in significant delays in implementation.	Impact: 3 Prob: 3	<p>There are several very capable professionals in Eritrea. Many in the Ministry of Marine Resources benefited from previous GEF investments. Some, like the Department of Forestry and Wildlife, have worked for years with national and international conservation experts. However, this field is not deep. Eritrea has an acute shortage of skilled human power for the development and implementation of conservation areas.</p> <p>The project is designed with a technically strong and supportive project management team. The project is set-up to build capacity within existing ranks and to provide training opportunities, including formal college and</p>

Risk/Assumptions	Rating Impact/ Probability High: 5 Low: 1	Mitigation Measure
		<p>vocational training, for up and coming conservation professionals.</p> <p>The project's exit strategy is critical for all components and activities. This strategy will help insure that successful work implemented during the project period does not abruptly stop at the time of project close.</p> <p>A draft exit strategy will be completed prior to the project's mid-term review. This will make certain that the project is formulating an exit strategy from the start and on-track to implement this strategy well prior to project close.</p>
<p>The Government of Eritrea does not establish the three pilot sites as protected areas.</p>	<p>Impact: 4 Prob: 2</p>	<p>As noted, Eritrea has identified many locations for conservation areas but has yet to formally recognize any. This is largely due to the barriers this project is designed to address. However, there is a risk that the government will not move forward with designation of the three pilot sites. This project is set up to alleviate this risk. Outcome One (enabling environment) is designed to create a much more cohesive approach to protected area design and establishment. The project is designed so that investments under Outcome Two do not move forward until the protected area designation is finalized. To accommodate any delays in designating the protected areas, the project period has been extended from 60 months to 72 months. Outcome Three is designed to move forward regardless of Outcomes One and Two. This will serve to mobilize and build the conservation capacity and awareness of local resource users as a foundation for future protected area establishment. This multi-pronged approach should help make certain that resources are not expended without realization of the project's core conservation objectives.</p>
<p>The Government of Eritrea does not to allocate sufficient resources to maintain the protected area system</p>	<p>Impact 4 Prob 3</p>	<p>This project is focused upon setting in place a national conservation program that is built around protected areas, fits local absorptive capacities, and allows for the gradual increase in sophistication of conservation approaches as financing becomes available in the future.</p> <p>Eritrea is currently cash poor. Rapidly expanding mineral development may quickly change the financial equation. Regardless, national institutions and local stakeholders are very excited about the prospects of this project. They are eager to see conservation of this scale and seriousness occurs. In addition, the government recognizes the cost savings (e.g., improved water resource management, increased food security, etc.) associated with the social and ecological benefits delivered by this project. The project has been designed to catalyze the initial establishment of the protected areas. A key aspect of the project design at all three outcome levels is setting in place programs that are feasible to continue given the financial capacities and realities of the local situation.</p> <p>Again, the exit strategy will be critical to the hand-over process. This includes setting in place exit strategies for continuation of management activities, prioritizing and costing those activities, and identifying cost-effective way for their funding.</p>
<p>Institutional agreements among key ministries and other stakeholders and partners do not function properly, thereby undermining protected area governance</p>	<p>Impact 3 Prob 2</p>	<p>Addressing this risk is one of the central pillars to the project. Each of the outcomes and associated activities are designed to set in place a framework for more integration which is more cooperative, efficient, and cost-effective. The formation of resilient and sustainable partnerships among organizations – this is strongly supported and has emerged independently from the government organizations involved in this project; mechanisms for conflict resolution will be established from the outset; the monitoring and evaluation framework will be sufficiently sensitive to determine partnership functionality. Already, during the project design</p>



Risk/Assumptions	Rating Impact/ Probability High: 5 Low: 1	Mitigation Measure
		period, these institutions began the process of working more closely in order to achieve the shared desire of seeing conservation succeed.
Participation of all key stakeholders, particularly communities, is not achieved.	Impact 3 Prob 2	Rural Eritrea is sparsely populated. However, these persons are generally very poor and entirely reliant upon the natural world for their subsistence. Working with these persons to improve their resilience and quality of life is paramount. The project is and will continue to work closely with resource users within the three pilot site locations to make certain that interventions are designed to maintain ecosystem services that deliver benefits to both humans and wildlife. Any conservation program risks alienating local resource users. This project has and will continue to address this challenge through a smart project design that is predicated upon inclusiveness.
Severity of climate change impacts undermine conservation effectiveness, increasing pressures for already food-insecure populations and accelerating depletion of globally significant biodiversity and associated habitat	Impact 3 Prob 5	The project will strengthen the resilience of Eritrea’s terrestrial and marine ecosystems to climate change impacts. Ecosystem functionality is currently at a bare minimum with water stress, species loss, deforestation, and general habitat degradation. This makes Eritrea highly vulnerable to climate change. By improving ecosystem-based conservation approaches and establishment of improved management objectives and standards, the project will help create the elasticity and ecological safeguards required to strengthen the capacity of Eritrea’s natural systems to continue to function, adapt, and provide resilience in spite of climate change induced impacts.

## 2.6: Incremental Reasoning and Expected Global, National, and Local Benefits

### Expected Global Benefits

190. Eritrea is a bastion of species wealth and diversity. The country has a diverse geography ranging from below sea level to over 3,000 meters. The nation’s thousands of kilometers of undeveloped and under-exploited coastal areas are rich with mangroves, coral reefs and sea grass beds with great biological diversity and remarkable numbers of endemic species. These are some of the only reefs in the world to currently evincing resilience to climate change. The central highlands house some of the last remaining tropical coniferous and broad leaved forest along the Horn of Africa, including species such as Juniperus Procera and Olea Africana. The coastal wetlands of Eritrea provide refuge for hundreds of thousands of birds representing hundreds of species. The lowland areas have the last viable population of African wild ass. None of this habitat critically important to Eritrea’s internationally valuable biodiversity benefits from formal protection. The project will contribute to the mitigation of climate change, e.g., conservation of forests, grasslands, and mangroves. The project will result in the conservation of major land and seascapes representing each of these highland, lowland, and marine ecosystems, covering over 1 million ha. The project will set in place mechanisms for additional habitat to be included in an ever expanding and strengthened system of protected areas.

### Expected National Benefits

191. Eritrea stands to benefit greatly from this project. The nation will receive the international support required to move forward with national objectives to conserve biodiversity and associated ecosystem services. Eritrea’s rich biodiversity heritage will be conserved for the use and enjoyment of future generations. Ecosystem services critical to the provisioning of water, marine resources, forest resources, mitigation of natural disasters, and climate change resilience will be preserved. Arresting current resource degradation (water, land, forests) trends in the project areas will create more productive pastures and fisheries, resulting in local livelihood improvements, greater food security, and increased incomes for men

and women in degraded areas. In the future, protected areas could be poised to become tourism attractions, creating jobs and increasing incomes.

192. With capacities built for protected areas establishment and management under all three outcomes, the country will improve the ability to launch similar conservation efforts in other geographic areas. The capacity to move forward with the conservation of additional habitats and species will have both global and national benefits. As government agencies are more closely aligned and coordinated, the impacts of a strengthened regulatory and institutional framework will be amplified through other sectors such as forestry, soil, agriculture and water management. Management and decision-making will become more efficient and effective. As a result of emplaced monitoring capacities, the nation will have a much stronger knowledge base upon which to build informed policy and management decision-making.
193. The results of community involvement and capacity building efforts, and particularly the impacts of Outcome 3 will be replicated nationally. This will enhance the ability of hundreds of thousands of Eritreans to elevate their ability to maintain ecosystem services through improved conservation and wise-use of land, water, and biodiversity resources. Ideally, this ability will result in an improved quality of life for numerous communities as measured by greater food security and reduced vulnerability to external forces such as climate change.

#### Expected Local Benefits

194. Approximately 35,000 people live within and/or proximate to the proposed project areas: these local residents will reap the immediate benefits of improved conservation of the natural resources upon which their existence depends. This will include efforts at each site to empower rural communities to alleviate threats identified during the project design phase. This includes mitigating the negative impacts of over-harvest, grazing and cultivation, forest loss, infrastructure development, and climate change. As detailed in the project document annex, most of these persons are very poor. Their daily lives and livelihoods are tied directly to the land and sea. Growing human populations are placing increasing burdens upon the upland, lowland, and marine ecosystems within the project domain. These persons are becoming progressively more vulnerable as unsustainable resource management practices and emerging climate change threats take their toll.
195. The protected areas will encompass large areas while applying a spectrum of conservation zones. Pathways will be created to integrate local traditional knowledge while upholding national conservation objectives. Residents will be provided with the tools required to enhance and maintain, rather than degrade, critical ecosystem services. The project will assist and empower local residents to reduce their vulnerabilities to climate change. The project has set in place numerous mechanisms to inform and engage stakeholders of on-going activity, fostering an environment of full disclosure. This strong emphasis upon stakeholder involvement will ensure that any emerging environmental and/or social risks are identified early. This will greatly assist local stakeholders to implement early mitigation measures. Community members will have greater information upon which to inform decision-making. The field school models will endow rural community members with advanced skills. These training programs will be tailored specifically to elevate local constraints by applying proven international principles and practices. Management planning regimes for both protected areas (Outcome 2) and resource use (Outcome 3) will establish real pathways to apply improved capacities and increase economic and food security.

#### Issues of Gender

196. The project is designed with very special consideration given to ensuring that benefits are equitably distributed across gender lines. As detailed in the project document's comprehensive assessment found in the annex, some of the poorest of Eritrea's rural poor are women and women headed households. At the same time, these persons are often disenfranchised from opportunities to capitalize upon capacity building efforts and/or participate fully in decision-making processes. Approximately thirty-percent of households in Eritrea are headed by women. On average, female employees earn less than half the amount earned by males. A majority of poor women in the rural areas are engaged in low-paying manual labor. Female-headed households have fewer household assets including livestock. Rural women are less likely to be literate.

Approximately 40% leave school at an early stage due to marriage. Rural women often do not receive antenatal care and suffer from poor nutrition.

197. For these reasons, the project will set in place specific women field school cohorts as detailed in Outcome 3. These women cohorts will benefit from access to training programs designed specifically for the needs of rural women. In addition, special attention will be made to include women within national level training and capacity building programs. Project strategic planning at inception as well as for Outcome specific activities will pay special attention to issues of gender, including incorporation of special chapters and/or sections dedicated to identifying gender specific challenges and mitigation measures related to protected areas conservation, climate change vulnerabilities, and sustainable land, forest, and marine resource management. The project's hiring practices will be highly inclusive, making certain that women are afforded equal opportunities to access key positions both within newly established and existing government agencies (e.g., protected area administrations) and project posts. Implemented training programs will provide a forum for women to build their capacities to understand their potential, ability and the importance of conserving ecosystem functionality and services. This will be achieved through gender specific peer-to-peer and formalized learning. Women will benefit from greater access to decision making and livelihood improvements, including food security. The project will initially benefit many hundreds of women within the project area. The impacts will be amplified as established programs and lessons-learned are up-scaled nationally.

## **2.7: Cost-Effectiveness**

198. This project represents a total GEF investment of approximately US\$ 6.03 million. This investment is coupled with another US\$ 3 million in cash from UNDP that will be used to directly support GEF desired outcomes. Together, this investment will catalyze the improved use of annual conservation investments by the Eritrean government of US\$ 7.45 million. Although this may seem small, for an economically challenged country, this is a very large portion of their annual expenditures.
199. During project design, several alternative scenarios were considered from the point of view of cost-effectiveness. These included construction of well sites, creation of large hydrological infrastructure, extensive purchase of hardware and other tactical equipment, construction of major facilities for administration and tourism, restoration programs, and expensive international training programs. Stakeholders eventually abandoned these options after carefully considering conservation priorities relevant to a limited budget. In the end, the highly precise and, therefore, cost-effective investment rested on a number of principles, each integrated within the activities and expenditures of this proposed project. The relatively small investment is targeted to catalyze a substantial course change.
200. Paramount was the desire to build the regulatory, management and financial capacity required for Eritrea to independently maintain effective conservation efforts. This catalytic effect coupled with the objective of sustainability makes the GEF investment highly cost-effective. The project's relatively small investment will serve to help Eritrean conservationists elevate to the level required to sustain conservation into the future. This incremental movement has to date been absent. The project's investments will result in the conservation of vast land and seascapes. The value alone of Eritrea's natural marine treasure is almost immeasurable. Not making this investment would risk the irretrievable loss of these biodiversity resources. The project will set in place the national capacities required to manage, monitor and ultimately conserve this international and national treasure. To further increase cost-effectiveness, each of the full-time project staff persons will be housed within the government departments. This will ensure that capacity building is taking place on a daily basis. In addition, this will make certain that the government is well positioned to absorb lessons learned and carry forward and expand the coverage of project outcomes and outputs. The result is a relatively small amount of financing potentially will leverage the long-term conservation of critical landscapes and associated global benefits.

## 2.8: Project Consistency with National Priorities/Plans

201. The project is in line with all national development frameworks, and contributes directly to the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2000). It also supports the NAPA and the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP), which depicts the government's commitment to poverty reduction and sustainable natural resources management. Other measures include the preparation of the Agricultural Sector Development Programme (2008-2013), Food Security Strategy (FSS, 2004). It will contribute to the country's commitments to the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES, 1995), Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC, 1995), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD, 1996), Convention to combat desertification (CCD, 1999), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA, 2002), Convention on Migratory Species (CMS, 2005), and Kyoto Protocol of the Climate Change Convention (2005).
202. The Eritrean constitution (1997) addresses the issue of sustainable development, fair and equitable share of resources. In this case enable citizens to improve their livelihood in a sustainable manner, through their participation (article 8) and the right of equal access to publicly funded social services (article 21). In line to this fact, the proposed project addressed a number of Laws, policies regulations and priorities on Sustainable management of natural resources of the Government of Eritrea. It supports the Eritrean Macro-policy adopted in 1994 guided and formulated approaches towards attaining sustainable development and towards the restoration, enhancement and preservation of Eritrea's ecological integrity. It addresses the environmental consequences and the need of major investment decisions to promote the rehabilitation, conservation, development and proper exploitation of natural resources.
203. Eritrea has prepared its NBSAP and submitted its First to fourth National Reports on Implementation of Article 6 of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD). This project is fully in line with NBSAP, which identifies the creation and management of terrestrial and marine protected areas as one of the 10 biodiversity strategic elements and calls for immediate action for clarification of the legal responsibilities and procedures for gazettement of protected areas and formalize the process for establishing protected areas system appropriate for the current and future Eritrean conditions. It will also contribute towards the rehabilitation of degraded terrestrial ecosystems and promote income-generating activities.
204. The project is aligned with the National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) of 2007 identifies the five most vulnerable sectors in Eritrea: agriculture, forestry, water resources, marine and coastal environment and human health. The project supports the Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP), which depicts the government's commitment to poverty reduction and sustainable natural resources management. The project supports the Eritrean of economic development and poverty reduction, by Seeking to unleash the future economic potential of PAs (through tourism development, or by securing ecological services) and laying a major foundation for tourism growth and hence employment. This support will contribute directly in achieving the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) No. 7 (ensuring environmental sustainability) at national level including in the development and management of land, forestry and wildlife.
205. By addressing the objectives of managing the environment and natural resources and defining institutions responsible in the management and integration of environmental protection and sustainable development, the project supports the Draft Eritrean environmental proclamation (2002) and the national Environmental Management Plan (1996). The National Environmental Management Plan identified the three PAs as priority areas for protection (Buri-Irrori, Semienawi and Debubawi Bahri and Bay of Bera'soli).
206. The Government of Eritrea completed a National Portfolio Prioritization Process, through which a multi-agency steering committee identified this project (Operationalization of Protected Areas) as the sole GEF 5 investment. The project was selected on the basis of the critical role biodiversity can play in sustainable development of the country and that this potential is underutilized due to the current absence of a national framework for protected areas. The decision was also in recognition of the fact that although the coastal zone is a biodiversity storehouse for the country, over extraction of resources is threatening the long-term conservation, particularly of the African wild ass.

## 2.9: Country Ownership: Country Eligibility and Country Driveness

207. Eritrea ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1996 and actively participates in its process: it also completed its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 2000.

Convention/Agreement	Signed
Convention on Biological Diversity	1996
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)	1995
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification	1996
Framework Convention on Climate Change	1995
Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change	2005
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity	2005
Convention to Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitats [Ramsar]	Not Signed
World Heritage Convention on Nature and Culture Sites under UNESCO	2001
Conservation on Migratory Species (CMS) of Wild Animal	2005
International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	2002
The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal	2005
The Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIP) for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade	2005
Stockholm Convention for the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	2005
Vienna Convention for the protection of the Ozone Layer, Vienna, 22 March 1985	2005
Montreal Protocol on Substance that Deplete the Ozone Layer , Montreal, 16 September 1987	2005
The London Amendment to Montreal Protocol, London, 29 June 1990	2005
The Copenhagen Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, Copenhagen, 25 November 1992	2005
The Montreal Amendment to The Montreal Protocol, Montreal, 17 September 1997	2005
The Beijing Amendment to The Montreal Protocol, Beijing, 3 December 1999	2005
MOU on conservation of marine Turtle in IOSEA	2006

## 2.10: Sustainability and Replicability

### Environmental and Social Impacts

208. The Environmental and Social Screening Procedure (ESSP) was followed during the PPG, as required by the ESSP Guidance Note of the UNDP. The results of the ESSP for this project are summarized as follows. Please see Annex for the full ESSP summary.

209. **Environmental Impact:** Protected areas will be operationalized to reduce threats to biodiversity. This project will help ensure the integrity of habitats for globally significant species, including one of the world's most intact coastal areas and remnants of remaining Eritrean highlands, critical migratory bird habitat, and the last refuge of species such as the African wild ass. As a result of conservation measures of natural habitat, the population of several endangered species is expected to increase at the target sites upon project completion.

210. **Social impact:** Complemented by upstream policy and legislative interventions, the project will enhance resilience of rural communities by promoting their conservation interests and addressing capacity gaps. Well-regulated ecosystems will help generate ecologically viable opportunities for improving agriculture and fisheries management. Improvements in ecosystem resilience, will contribute to reducing vulnerabilities to climate change. To ensure the maintenance of social cohesion, the project and all project related results will focus upon engendering inclusive and participatory decision-making. This will include multiple and continuing opportunities for community members at the site, regional, and national level to generate and access information to make better informed natural resource management and conservation decisions.

### Sustainability

211. **Financial Sustainability:** This is an issue of great concern given the project size relevant to the national absorptive capacity. The financial sustainability of this project will in part depend upon the Government's

continued support for implemented projects. Therefore, this project is purposefully designed to act as a catalyst. The project will do the heavy lifting necessary to raise protected areas a level required to conserve globally significant biodiversity. Once this plateau is achieved, the project is designed and will continue to be designed to create appropriately scaled interventions that (a) only require financing at a level the Government has shown a past ability to afford; and, (b) build fiscal capacity to identify and capitalize upon sustainable sources of funding. The project is supporting the generation of management and business plans for each of the pilot areas. These management plans will specifically detail and prioritize costs and funding sources for each PA. This combination of safeguards should result in end of the project sustainability. Once the initial path to the creation and management of protected areas is made clear (i.e., creation steps clarified, legal parameters described, management principles elaborated, operational capacities built) the financial burdens of creating and managing additional conservation areas will be eased. However, the project will be tasked with completing a very detailed exit strategy. This strategy will specify levels of funding required to continue efforts to sustain and advance conservation success, will identify funding sources, detail progress made toward guaranteeing the acquisition of required funding, and identify any challenges and recommended mitigation steps.

212. *Institutional Sustainability*: Building the ability of institutions to sustainably support the establishment and long-term sustainability of Eritrea's national system of protected areas is paramount to the project design. This includes helping to build the legal and institutional framework required to support protected area management. The project will positively impact and build the capacity of institutions on the community, regional, and national level. Direct capacity building will take place through training programs. In-direct capacity building will result from implementation of various project activities. Much of the project's efforts are focused upon providing institutions with the tools required for long-term institutional integrity. Strengthening the country's legal framework will alleviate current institutional issues that challenge the establishment of a national system of protected areas.
213. *Social Sustainability*: This project is designed to enhance social wellbeing. Community members will be provided with better ways to manage the land, water, and marine resources in order to maintain life-supporting ecosystem services. Eritrea's natural areas (including associated land, water and biodiversity resources) will be better able to provide the reliable ecosystem services required for social well being. This will include, as noted, the ability to strengthen food security and climate change resilience. Existing livelihoods will be improved through advanced capacities and access to knowledge resources. Community members will receive greater inclusion in decision-making processes.
214. *Environmental Sustainability*: This project's intent is to improve environmental sustainability on a number of fronts. The project will result in improving the environmental sustainability of protected area networks. The project will help to reverse current negative trends that threaten habitats across Eritrea.

#### Replicability

215. The premise for this project is the need for replicable models for the creation and management of protected areas. The project will set in place the national institutional framework, policies, and capacity required to support protected area management and replication. Each pilot and all associated activity is designed specifically to serve as a replicable model. Each site will serve as a forum and classroom for national level discussion and learning. Training programs, improvements to the legal framework, and institutional strengthening activities will each create a solid base for the construction of new protected areas based upon lessons learned from this project. During implementation, the project will sponsor the development of several knowledge building and dissemination tools. The training materials developed at each training session will be gathered, collated, and used to build a reference for future skills building. At close, the project will leave behind operating models for future replication as well as tangible products such as training guides, management plans, and a lessons learned documents each of which will leave a record to guide future replication and improvement on project outcomes. There are several locations in Eritrea where biodiversity is currently vulnerable due to the absence of the creative, multiple use, landscape level protection measures that this project will model. The potential for replication is great.

### **3. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

#### **3.1: Institutional Arrangement**

216. The Ministry of Land, Water and Environment is the country GEF focal point and will help oversee implementation. Government Project Executing Agency (EA) will be the Forestry and Wildlife Authority (F&WLA). The Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Marine Resources and Forest and Wildlife Authority

will be the main implementing partners responsible for the achievement of most project outcomes and outputs.

217. UNDP is the GEF implementing agency (IA) for this project. The UNDP Country Office in Eritrea will support the project's implementation by maintaining the project budget and project expenditures, contracting project personnel, experts and subcontractors, carrying out procurement, and providing other assistance to the National Executing Agency. A team composed of MND, MLWE, IP and UNDP will also monitor the project's implementation and achievement of the project outputs and ensure the proper use of UNDP/GEF funds. Financial transactions, reporting and auditing will be carried out in compliance with the national regulations and UNDP rules and procedures.

### **3.2: Project Implementation Arrangement**

218. The project will be executed under NEX according to the standards and regulation for GoSE-UNDP cooperation in Eritrea. Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment will sign the project document with UNDP for an efficient and effective use of project resources and the achievement of the project goals, objectives and outcomes according to the approved work plan.

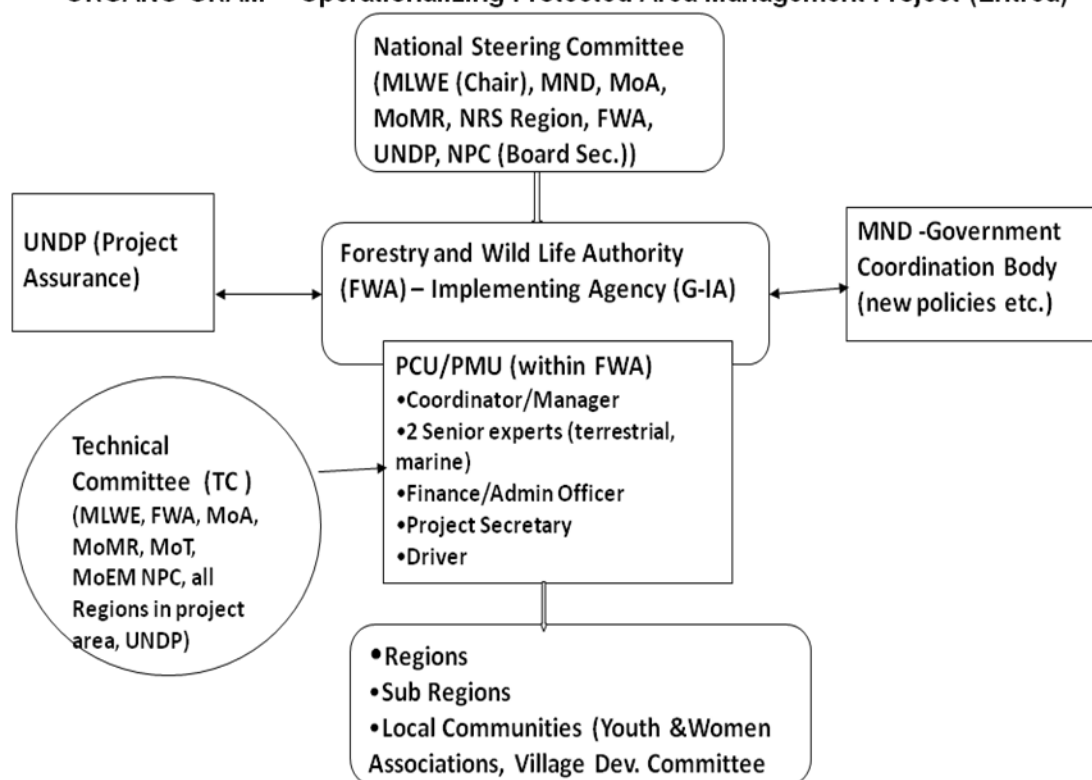
219. The duration of the project will be seven (7) years. The Project will comprise the following management, oversight and coordination structures: (i) A Project Board with strategic decision-making, non-executive powers would tentatively be composed of representatives of the MLWE (GEF focal point), MND, F&WLA, MOA, MOMR, NRS Region, UNDP and the NPC. Other members may be co-opted at the discretion of the permanent membership. The GEF Project coordinators from other partner projects, including GEF funded projects, will be invited to participate in sessions as observers to ensure proper project coordination and cross-fertilization if necessary. (ii) A Project Coordination Office (PCO) will be responsible for directing, supervising and coordinating the project implementation. The PCO will be located in Asmara.

220. In terms of key Project staff, a nominated senior Forestry and Wildlife Authority (FWA) staff will become the National Project Director, while a National Project Coordinator (NPC) (full-time) will be contracted by the Project Board based on a recruitment process and will be responsible for the day-to-day Project implementation, leading and managing the PCO. In addition to the Project Manager, the PCO will be composed of the following staff: administrative assistant (part-time) and accountant (part-time). Administrative and professional personnel collaborating as advisors will interact on an ongoing basis with the NPC and the PCO technical and professional teams, according to needs arising during project implementation. An important and common part of the staff TORs will be to identify measures on how to sustain the capacity development activities and results beyond the Project duration. The initial part of these measures will be integrated into the project work plans.

221. A 6-month Inception Phase will be used to carefully plan the whole project implementation process, culminating in the Inception Workshop. In addition, the necessary communication structures will be established between the main project components and partners to ensure optimal coordination and that key stakeholders are in full agreement with project objectives and hence committed towards the outcomes to be achieved.

222. UNDP will provide technical support to the PCO and will be responsible for the required budget revisions, donor reporting, advance of funds, and monitoring of the project. UNDP will act as the GEF Implementing Agency for this project; the responsibility for managing GEF funds will therefore rest with the UNDP CO. UNDP will during first year of project do payments through cash transfer and direct payment modality while building capacity of the Forestry and Wildlife Authority, the PCO and other project structures to facilitate cash advances. Based on the progress and results of the HACT micro assessment in 2014 UNDP in the second year will utilize the Cash advance modality of funds to the PCO. At the end of each three-month period, the PCO will submit a report on activities and a financial report for expenses incurred along with a request for funds for the next period. UNDP will also facilitate communication between the PCO, the Implementing Partner and the GEF as and if required. Other services support that UNDP can offer is outlined in the Implementation Support Services (ISS).

## ORGANO-GRAM – Operationalizing Protected Area Management Project (Eritrea)



## 4. PART IV: MONITORING AND EVALUATION

223. The project will be monitored through the following M& E activities. The M& E budget is provided in the next pages.
224. Project start: A Project Inception Workshop will be held within the first 6 months of project start with those with assigned roles in the project organization structure, UNDP country office and where appropriate/feasible regional technical policy and program advisors as well as other stakeholders. The Inception Workshop is crucial to building ownership for the project results and to plan the first year annual work plan.
225. The Inception Workshop will address a number of key issues including: (a) Assist all partners to fully understand and take ownership of the project. (b) Detail the roles, support services and complementary responsibilities of UNDP CO and RCU staff Vis à Vis the project team. (c) Discuss the roles, functions, and responsibilities within the project's decision-making structures, including reporting and communication lines, and conflict resolution mechanisms. (d) The Terms of Reference for project staff will be discussed again as needed. (e) Based on the project results framework and the relevant GEF Tracking Tool if appropriate, finalize the first annual work plan. Review and agree on the indicators, targets and their means of verification, and recheck assumptions and risks. (f) Provide a detailed overview of reporting, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) requirements. The Monitoring and Evaluation work plan and budget should be agreed and scheduled. (g) Discuss financial reporting procedures and obligations, and arrangements for annual audit. (h) Plan and schedule Project Board meetings. Roles and responsibilities of all project organization structures should be clarified and meetings planned. The first Project Board meeting should be held within the first 2 months following the inception workshop.



226. An Inception Workshop report is a key reference document and must be prepared and shared with participants to formalize various agreements and plans decided during the meeting.
227. Project Implementation Workplan: Immediately following the inception workshop, the project will be tasked with generating a strategic workplan. The workplan will outline the general timeframe for completion of key project outputs and achievement of outcomes as detailed within this project document. The workplan will map and help guide project activity from inception to completion. This will include process indicators to monitor project activity. These time-bound indicators will serve as benchmarks to measure progress towards achievement of intended project outcomes and outputs. The updated workplan and related progress report will be submitted annually to the Project Board and UNDP/RTA for review. To ensure smooth transition between project design and inception, the inception workshop and work planning process will benefit from the input of parties responsible for the design of the original project, including as appropriate relevant technical advisors.
228. Quarterly: Progress made shall be monitored in the the Government and UNDP team. Based on the initial risk analysis submitted, the risk log shall be regularly updated in ATLAS. Risks become critical when the impact and probability are high. Note that for UNDP GEF projects, all financial risks associated with financial instruments such as revolving funds, microfinance schemes, or capitalization of ESCOs are automatically classified as critical on the basis of their innovative nature (high impact and uncertainty due to no previous experience justifies classification as critical).
229. Annually (Annual Project Review/Project Implementation Reports (APR/PIR)): This key report is prepared to monitor progress made since project start and in particular for the previous reporting period (30 June to 1 July). The APR/PIR combines both Government, UNDP and GEF reporting requirements. The APR/PIR includes, but is not limited to, reporting on the following: (a) Progress made toward project objective and project outcomes - each with indicators, baseline data and end-of-project targets (cumulative); (b) Project outputs delivered per project outcome (annual); (c) Lesson learned/good practice; (d) AWP and other expenditure reports; (e) Risk and adaptive management; (f) ATLAS QPR; (g) Portfolio level indicators (i.e. GEF focal area tracking tools) are used by most focal areas on an annual basis as well.
230. Periodic Monitoring through site visits: A team consisting of MND, MLWE, IP and UNDP will conduct visits to project sites based on the agreed schedule in the project's Inception Report/Annual Work Plan to assess first hand project progress. Other members of the Project Board may also join these visits. A Field Visit Report/BTOR will be prepared by the the visiting team and will be circulated no more than one month after the visit to the project team and Project Board members.
231. Mid-term of project cycle: The project will undergo an independent or external Mid-Term Evaluation during the mid-point of project implementation. (October - November 2016). The Mid-Term Evaluation will determine progress being made toward the achievement of outcomes and will identify course correction if needed. It will focus on the effectiveness, efficiency and timeliness of project implementation; will highlight issues requiring decisions and actions; and will present initial lessons learned about project design, implementation and management. Findings of this review will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project's term. The organization and terms of reference of the mid-term evaluation will be decided after consultation between the parties to the project document.
232. The Terms of Reference for this Mid-term evaluation will be prepared by the IP and UNDP based on guidance from the Government, Regional GEF Coordinating. The terms of reference will be completed one-year before the planned mid-term. The international evaluator/team leader will be recruited through Government and the Regional GEF Coordinating Unit. The international independent expert will be recruited at least eight-months prior to the planned commencement of the mid-term evaluation. The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed during the mid-term evaluation cycle.

233. **End of Project:** An independent Final Evaluation will take place three months prior to the final Project Board meeting and will be undertaken in accordance with UNDP and GEF guidance. The final evaluation will focus on the delivery of the project's results as initially planned (and as corrected after the mid-term evaluation, if any such correction took place). The final evaluation will look at impact and sustainability of results, including the contribution to capacity development and the achievement of global environmental benefits/goals. The Terms of Reference for this evaluation will be prepared by the IP and UNDP based on guidance from the Regional Coordinating Unit and UNDP-GEF.
234. The Terminal Evaluation should also provide recommendations for follow-up activities and requires a management response that should be uploaded to PIMS and to the UNDP Evaluation Office Evaluation Resource Center (ERC). The relevant GEF Focal Area Tracking Tools will also be completed during the final evaluation.
235. During the last three months, the project team will prepare the Project Terminal Report. This comprehensive report will summarize the results achieved (objectives, outcomes, outputs), lessons learned, problems met and areas where results may not have been achieved. It will also lay out recommendations for any further steps that may need to be taken to ensure sustainability and replicability of the project's results.
236. **Learning and knowledge sharing:** Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through existing information sharing networks and forums. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation though lessons learned. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. Finally, there will be a two-way flow of information between this project and other projects of a similar focus.
237. **Audit Clause:** The Audit will be conducted according to Government and UNDP financial regulations, rules and audit policies.

M&E Workplan and Budget

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Time frame
Inception Workshop and Report	National Project Coordinator UNDP CO, UNDP GEF GEF operational / political focal points	Indicative cost: \$50,000	Within first two months of project start up
Measurement of Means of Verification of project results.	National Project Coordinator will oversee the hiring of specific studies and institutions, and delegate responsibilities to relevant team members.	To be finalized in Inception Phase and Workshop. \$ 75,000	Start, mid and end of project (during evaluation cycle) and annually when required.
Measurement of Means of Verification for Project Progress on <i>output and implementation</i>	National Project Coordinator and team	To be determined as part of the Annual Work Plan's preparation.	Annually prior to ARR/PIR and to the definition of annual work plans
ARR/PIR	National Project Coordinator and team UND/GEF	None	Annually
Periodic status/ progress reports	National Project Coordinator and team	None	Quarterly
Mid-term Evaluation	Project manager and team GEF/UNDP E?evaluation team)	Indicative cost: \$50,000	At the mid-point of project implementation.

Type of M&E activity	Responsible Parties	Budget US\$ <i>Excluding project team staff time</i>	Time frame
	GEF operational focal point		
Final Evaluation	National Project Coordinator and team GEF-UNDP External Consultants (i.e. evaluation team)	Indicative cost: \$50,000	At least three months before the end of project implementation
Project Terminal Report	National Project Coordinator and team Local consultant UNDP-GEF	None	At least three months before the end of the project
Audit	UNDP CO National Project Coordinator and team	Indicative cost -per year: \$3,000	Yearly
Visits to field sites	Government and UNDP-GEF representatives UNDP RCU (as appropriate)	For GEF supported projects, paid from IA fees and operational budget	Yearly
<b>TOTAL indicative COST</b> Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff and travel expenses		US\$ 285,000 (+/- 5% of total budget)	

## 5. PART V: LEGAL CONTEXT

238. This Project Document shall be the instrument referred to as such in Article I of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA) between the Government of Eritrea and the UNDP, signed by the parties on June 1994. The host country-implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the SBAA, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.

239. The UNDP Resident Representative in Eritrea is authorized to effect in writing the following types of revision to this Project Document, provided that he/she has verified the agreement thereto by the UNDP-EEG Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;
- Revisions which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of the project, but are caused by the rearrangement of the inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation;
- Mandatory annual revisions which re-phase the delivery of agreed project inputs or increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility; and
- Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document.
- Inclusion of some constructive Project Board recommendations to overcome challenges that totally halt or impede project progress towards its intended results under certain difficult unforeseen conditions.

## 6. SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	End of Project target	Source of Information	Assumptions
Project Objective: Create policy and institutional conditions to operationalize the national protected area system	Total annual government financing for management and conservation of national protected area system.	Baseline: US\$ 0	Target: US\$ 1,000,000/annual*  * cumulative for national PA administration and individual PA management	National government budget reports. Annual national protected area management reports. National protected area conservation strategy and update.	National support for establishment of international standard protected areas to conserve globally significant biodiversity will remain steadfast.
	Total hectares legally designated as a national protected area conforming to basic IUCN standards/categories	Terrestrial: 0 Marine: 0	Terrestrial: 649,100 ha Marine: 360,000 ha	Laws proclaiming protected area establishment. Annual national protected area management reports. National protected area conservation strategy and update.	
	Total hectares of critical habitat conserved within newly established national protected areas.	Hectares of: Native highland forest: 0 Native mangrove: 0 African wild ass habitat: 0 Turtle nesting sites: 0 Sea grass: 0	Hectares of: Native highland forest: 55,000 Native mangrove: 12,000 African wild ass habitat: 80,000 Turtle nesting sites: 1300 Sea grass: 2,300	Annual national protected area management reports. National protected area conservation strategy and update. Results of national biodiversity conservation monitoring program.	

Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system	National government law/proclamation legalizing the application of IUCN based designations for establishment of terrestrial and marine protected areas.	Baseline: 0	Target: 1	National law register	National support for establishment of international standard protected areas to conserve globally significant biodiversity will remain steadfast.
	Number of wildlife monitoring surveys/studies conducted and reported annually by protected area administration for key species and habitats within national protected areas.	Number of annual surveys, assessments, and reports for: Wild ass: 0 Mangrove: 0 Land use/degradation: 0 Forest cover: 0 Turtle nests: 0 Water quantity/quality: 0 Marine fisheries: 0 Coral reef : 0 Sea grass: 0	Number of annual surveys, assessments, and reports for: Wild ass: 7 Mangrove: 8 Land use/degradation:5 Forest cover: 7 Turtle nests: 7 Water quantity/quality: 7 Marine fisheries: 7 Coral reef : 7 Sea grass: 7	Results of national monitoring program. National protected areas management strategy and annual updates.	Human resource capacity and interest remains high in order to fill required positions.  Key government ministries and agencies are able to agree to form and function of protected area administration (e.g., division of responsibilities between terrestrial and marine protected areas). This agreement provides for efficient and effective management without undue duplication of
	Number of trained professional staff employed full-time by the Government as part of the protected areas administration to manage the national protected area system.	Baseline: 0	Target: 10*  * Terrestrial and Marine PA's	National protected areas management strategy and annual updates. Physical verification. Review of staffing plan and recruitment.	

	Number of national protected area conservation strategies and annual reports completed and updated by the national protected area administration(s).	Strategies: 0 Annual status reports: 0	Strategies: 2 Annual status reports: 4	National strategy and updates. Project reports.	effort.
	Number of Eritreans annually enrolled in national university accredited biodiversity conservation training course.	Baseline: 0	Target: 30		
<p>Outputs:</p> <p>1.1 Regulatory framework for protected areas management</p> <p>1.2 National administration for protected areas management</p> <p>1.3 National biodiversity conservation monitoring program</p> <p>1.4 National strategy for protected area conservation and financing</p> <p>1.5 National protected area regulatory implementation guidelines</p> <p>1.6 National biodiversity conservation training program</p>					
Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system	METT scores for at least three marine/terrestrial protected areas increase by 25%	METT Scores: Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 29 Buri: 32 Bera'sole Bay: 22	METT Scores: Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 80 Buri: 82 Bera'sole Bay: 71	METT scores will be tabulated by project staff at mid-term and final.	Protected areas will be officially designated in a timely manner.
	Number of protected area management and business plans operational, assessed and updated by each protected area administration.	Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 0 Buri: 0 Bera'sole Bay: 0	Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 3 Buri: 3 Bera'sole Bay: 3	Project reports. Physical verification of plan completion.	Best possible international/national staff will be recruited for implementation and Government will support international staff with permits required to completed

	Number of trained professional staff employed full-time by the Government to manage individual protected areas.	Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 0 Buri: 0 Bera'sole Bay: 0	Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 10 Buri: 15 Bera'sole Bay: 5	Project reports. Physical verification of staffing plan and recruitment.	necessary fieldwork.
	Individual protected areas receive annual financial support adequate to implement PA management plan priorities and conserve globally significant species.	Total annual government PA budget:  Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: 0 Buri: 0 Bera'sole Bay: 0	Total annual government PA budget:  Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri: US\$ 250,000 Buri: US\$ 300,000 Bera'sole Bay: US\$ 100,000	Project reports. Government reports. Physical verification. Updated protected area management and business plans. National protected areas conservation strategy.	
<p>Outputs</p> <p>2.1 Three new protected areas officially recognized and launched</p> <p>2.2 Model training program implemented for protected area management and staff</p> <p>2.3 Three model protected area management plans</p> <p>2.4 Three model protected area business plans</p> <p>2.5 Integrated and inclusive management mechanisms established</p>					
Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas	Number of project area residents who are participating members of farm/fisheries field (FFS) schools.	Men: 0 Women: 0	Men: 750 Women: 750	FFS participation reports  Project reports	Community level support and enthusiasm for improved livelihoods coupled with

	Number of FFS participant households and women reporting increased levels of food security.	FFS households: 0 FFS Women: 0	FFS households: 500 FFS Women: 500	<p>The project will design and implement a formal survey to monitor and evaluate project impact upon food security as a measurement of ecosystem services security and climate change resilience.</p> <p>The tool will be dis-aggregated by gender.</p> <p>The survey will adapt established international assessment tools, apply these annually and incorporate findings within project progress reports</p>	<p>conservation of critical ecosystem services will be maintained.</p> <p>Best possible international/national staff will be recruited for implementation and Government will support international staff with permits required to completed necessary fieldwork.</p>
	Number of farm and fishing field school participants adopting ecosystem conservation practices as detailed in the community ecosystem services conservation plans.	Baseline: 0	Target: 1,000	<p>Community ecosystem services conservation strategy implementation reports.</p> <p>FFS participation reports</p> <p>Model ecosystem services model conservation measure reports.</p>	
	Total hectares of native forest cover within the Green Belt.	Baseline: 31,680 ha	Target: 55,000 ha	<p>Results of national monitoring program.</p> <p>National protected areas conservation strategy and updates.</p> <p>Protected area management plans and updates.</p> <p>Results of community monitoring programs.</p>	



	Surface water quality/quantity of main upland streams improved to more closely meet needs of natural ecosystem function.	Water quality/quantity target sites and baseline standards TBD at inception	Water quality/quantity target sites and standards TBD at inception.	Results of national monitoring program. National protected areas conservation strategy and updates. Protected area management plans and updates. Results of community monitoring programs.	
	Total number of grazing species found within project's coastal areas.	Numbers of: African wild ass: ≈ 200 Dorcas Gazelle: TBD Soemmoring Gazelle: TBD	Numbers of: African wild ass: ≈ 250 Dorcas Gazelle: TBD Soemmoring Gazelle: TBD	Results of annual Eritrea/IUCN supported surveys. Results of national monitoring program. National protected areas conservation strategy and updates. Protected area management plans and updates. Results of community monitoring programs.	
<p>Outputs</p> <p>3.1 Farm/Fishing Field Schools established to build local SLM/SFM capacity</p> <p>3.2 Sustainable resource management plans</p> <p>3.3 Implementation of model ecosystem service conservation measures</p>					

## 7. TOTAL BUDGET AND WORKPLAN

### 7.1: Total Budget and Work Plan

<b>Award ID:</b>		TBD			<b>Project ID(s):</b>	000.....						
<b>Award Title:</b>		TBD										
<b>Business Unit:</b>		ERI10										
<b>Project Title:</b>		Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori- Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation										
<b>PIMS no.</b>		4618										
<b>Gov. Exe. Agency</b>		Forestry and Wold Life Authority (F&WL)										
<b>GEF Implementing Partner</b>		UNDP										
Outcome	Responsible Party	UNDP B/L	UNDP B/L Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	Amount Year 6 (USD)	Amount Year 7 (USD)	Total (USD)	Note
Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system	GEF	71200	International Consultants (GEF)	80 000.00	30 000.00	14 000.00	9 000.00	9 000.00	9 000.00	9 000.00	<b>160 000.00</b>	1
		72200	Equipment and Furniture (GEF)	15 000.00	20 000.00	15 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	2
		71300	Local Consultants (GEF)	21 500.00	25 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	<b>86 500.00</b>	3
		71600	Travel (GEF)	20 000.00	15 000.00	10 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	<b>65 000.00</b>	4
		72100	Contractual Services-Companies (GEF)	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	<b>220 000.00</b>	5
		73400	Rental & Maint of Other Equip (GEF)	10 000.00	10 000.00	6 000.00	5 000.00	-	-	-	<b>31 000.00</b>	6
		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs (GEF)	17 000.00	17 000.00	17 000.00	12 000.00	6 000.00	12 000.00	54 000.00	<b>135 000.00</b>	7
		75700	Training (GEF)	10 000.00	10 000.00	5 000.00	4 500.00	1 000.00	1 000.00	1 000.00	<b>32 500.00</b>	8
	<b>SUBTOTAL GEF OUTCOME 1</b>				<b>213 500.00</b>	<b>167 000.00</b>	<b>117 000.00</b>	<b>90 500.00</b>	<b>56 000.00</b>	<b>57 000.00</b>	<b>99 000.00</b>	<b>800 000.00</b>
	UNDP	72100	Contractual Services-Companies (UNDP)	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	<b>105 000.00</b>	9
		71200	International Consultants (UNDP)	30 000.00	45 000.00	20 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	<b>115 000.00</b>	10

		71300	Local Consultants (UNDP)	10 000.00	5 000.00	-	-	-	-	-	<b>15 000.00</b>	11	
		72200	Equipment and Furniture (UNDP)	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	<b>120 000.00</b>	12	
	<b>SUBTOTAL UNDP OUTCOME 1</b>			<b>75 000.00</b>	<b>85 000.00</b>	<b>55 000.00</b>	<b>35 000.00</b>	<b>35 000.00</b>	<b>35 000.00</b>	<b>35 000.00</b>	<b>355 000.00</b>		
	<b>OUTCOME 1 SUBTOTAL</b>			<b>288 500.00</b>	<b>252 000.00</b>	<b>172 000.00</b>	<b>125 500.00</b>	<b>91 000.00</b>	<b>92 000.00</b>	<b>134 000.00</b>	<b>1 155 000.00</b>		
Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system	GEF	71200	International Consultants (GEF)	35 000.00	55 000.00	162 000.00	75 000.00	75 000.00	75 000.00	55 000.00	<b>532 000.00</b>	13	
		71300	Local Consultants (GEF)	10 000.00	10 000.00	11 500.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	10 000.00	<b>86 500.00</b>	14	
		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (GEF)	30 000.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	<b>210 000.00</b>	15
		71600	Travel (GEF)	20 000.00	30 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	<b>250 000.00</b>	16
		72100	Contractual Services-Companies (GEF)	53 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	65 000.00	65 000.00	65 000.00	65 000.00	65 000.00	<b>393 000.00</b>	17
		72200	Equipment and Furniture (GEF)	-	60 000.00	220 000.00	210 000.00	142 000.00	140 000.00	104 000.00	104 000.00	<b>876 000.00</b>	18
		73400	Rental & Maint of Other Equip (GEF)	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	<b>140 000.00</b>	19
		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs (GEF)	5 000.00	5 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	20 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	20
		75700	Training (GEF)	15 000.00	15 000.00	45 000.00	55 000.00	55 000.00	27 500.00	30 000.00	30 000.00	<b>242 500.00</b>	21
		<b>SUBTOTAL GEF OUTCOME 2</b>			<b>188 000.00</b>	<b>265 000.00</b>	<b>578 500.00</b>	<b>520 000.00</b>	<b>462 000.00</b>	<b>422 500.00</b>	<b>364 000.00</b>	<b>2 800 000.00</b>	
		UNDP	72200	Equipment and Furniture (UNDP)	-	-	88 000.00	133 000.00	133 000.00	133 000.00	133 000.00	<b>620 000.00</b>	22
			72300	Materials and Goods (UNDP)	90 000.00	-	90 000.00	-	100 000.00	-	-	<b>280 000.00</b>	23
			71300	Local Consultants (UNDP)	-	-	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	-	-	<b>15 000.00</b>	24
			71200	International Consultants (UNDP)	-	-	35 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	<b>115 000.00</b>	25
	73400		Rental & Maint of Other Equip (UNDP)	15 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	15 000.00	<b>80 000.00</b>	26	
	<b>SUBTOTAL UNDP OUTCOME 2</b>			<b>105 000.00</b>	<b>10 000.00</b>	<b>228 000.00</b>	<b>168 000.00</b>	<b>268 000.00</b>	<b>163 000.00</b>	<b>168 000.00</b>	<b>1 110 000.00</b>		
	<b>OUTCOME 2 SUBTOTAL</b>			<b>293 000.00</b>	<b>275 000.00</b>	<b>806 500.00</b>	<b>688 000.00</b>	<b>730 000.00</b>	<b>585 500.00</b>	<b>532 000.00</b>	<b>3 910 000.00</b>		

Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas	GEF	71200	International Consultants (GEF)	30 000.00	30 000.00	105 000.00	75 000.00	75 000.00	75 000.00	75 000.00	<b>465 000.00</b>	27	
		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (GEF)	30 000.00	30 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	40 000.00	<b>260 000.00</b>	28
		71300	Local Consultants (GEF)	-	-	2 500.00	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2 500.00</b>	29
		71600	Travel (GEF)	22 000.00	22 000.00	22 000.00	22 000.00	22 000.00	22 000.00	22 000.00	22 000.00	<b>154 000.00</b>	30
		72100	Contractual Services-Companies (GEF)	30 000.00	30 000.00	215 000.00	215 000.00	215 000.00	130 000.00	110 000.00		<b>945 000.00</b>	31
		73400	Rental & Maint of Other Equip (GEF)	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	32
		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs (GEF)	2 500.00	2 500.00	30 000.00	15 000.00	12 500.00	15 000.00	10 000.00		<b>87 500.00</b>	33
		75700	Training (GEF)	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	<b>35 000.00</b>	34
	<b>SUBTOTAL GEF OUTCOME 3</b>				<b>129 500.00</b>	<b>129 500.00</b>	<b>429 500.00</b>	<b>382 000.00</b>	<b>379 500.00</b>	<b>297 000.00</b>	<b>272 000.00</b>	<b>2 019 000.00</b>	
	UNDP	71300	Local Consultants (UNDP)	10 000.00	10 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	15 000.00	10 000.00		<b>90 000.00</b>	35
		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (UNDP)	17 000.00	17 000.00	17 000.00	17 000.00	17 000.00	17 000.00	5 000.00		<b>107 000.00</b>	36
		71600	Travel (UNDP)	18 000.00	18 000.00	18 000.00	18 000.00	18 000.00	18 000.00	18 000.00	18 000.00	<b>126 000.00</b>	37
		72100	Contractual Services-Companies (UNDP)	-	-	79 000.00	143 000.00	143 000.00	143 000.00	50 000.00		<b>558 000.00</b>	38
		71200	International Consultants (UNDP)	30 000.00	30 000.00	-	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	20 000.00	<b>140 000.00</b>	39
		72200	Equipment and Furniture (UNDP)	-	-	50 000.00	50 000.00	20 000.00	18 000.00	8 000.00		<b>146 000.00</b>	40
72300		Materials and Goods (UNDP)	-	-	75 000.00	-	-	-	-		<b>75 000.00</b>	41	
73400		Rental & Maint of Other Equip (UNDP)	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	42	
<b>SUBTOTAL UNDP OUTCOME 3</b>				<b>85 000.00</b>	<b>85 000.00</b>	<b>264 000.00</b>	<b>273 000.00</b>	<b>243 000.00</b>	<b>241 000.00</b>	<b>121 000.00</b>	<b>1 312 000.00</b>		
<b>OUTCOME 3 SUBTOTAL</b>				<b>214 500.00</b>	<b>214 500.00</b>	<b>693 500.00</b>	<b>655 000.00</b>	<b>622 500.00</b>	<b>538 000.00</b>	<b>393 000.00</b>	<b>3 331 000.00</b>		
Project Management	GEF	71400	Contractual Services - Individ (GEF)	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	43	
		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (GEF)	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	5 000.00	<b>35 000.00</b>	44

		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (GEF)	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	45
		72200	Equipment and Furniture (GEF)	14 000.00	9 333.00	9 333.00	9 333.00	9 333.00	9 334.00	9 334.00	<b>70 000.00</b>	46
		74500	UNDP Cost Recovery Charge (GEF)	2 000.00	2 000.00	2 000.00	2 000.00	2 000.00	2 000.00	2 000.00	<b>14 000.00</b>	47
		<b>SUBTOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT (GEF)</b>		<b>41 000.00</b>	<b>36 333.00</b>	<b>36 333.00</b>	<b>36 333.00</b>	<b>36 333.00</b>	<b>36 334.00</b>	<b>36 334.00</b>	<b>259 000.00</b>	
	UNDP	71400	Contractual Services - Individ (UNDP)	7 143.00	7 143.00	7 143.00	7 143.00	7 143.00	7 143.00	7 142.00	<b>50 000.00</b>	48
		72200	Equipment and Furniture (UNDP)	15 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	10 000.00	<b>75 000.00</b>	49
		71600	Travel (UNDP)	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	<b>21 000.00</b>	50
		74100	Professional Services (UNDP)	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	<b>21 000.00</b>	51
		74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs (UNDP)	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	3 000.00	<b>21 000.00</b>	52
		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (UNDP)	2 143.00	2 143.00	2 143.00	2 143.00	2 143.00	2 143.00	2 143.00	<b>15 001.00</b>	53
		71400	Contractual Services - Individ (UNDP)	2 857.00	2 857.00	2 857.00	2 857.00	2 857.00	2 857.00	2 857.00	<b>19 999.00</b>	54
		<b>SUBTOTAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT (UNDP)</b>		<b>36 143.00</b>	<b>31 143.00</b>	<b>31 143.00</b>	<b>31 143.00</b>	<b>31 143.00</b>	<b>31 143.00</b>	<b>31 142.00</b>	<b>223 000.00</b>	
	<b>PROJECT TOTAL (GEF)</b>			<b>572 000.00</b>	<b>597 833.00</b>	<b>1 161 333.00</b>	<b>1 028 833.00</b>	<b>933 833.00</b>	<b>812 834.00</b>	<b>771 334.00</b>	<b>5 878 000.00</b>	
	<b>Project Total (UNDP)</b>			<b>301 143.00</b>	<b>211 143.00</b>	<b>578 143.00</b>	<b>507 143.00</b>	<b>577 143.00</b>	<b>470 143.00</b>	<b>355 142.00</b>	<b>13 000 000.00</b>	

## 7.2: Summary of Co-financing

	GEF (\$)	%	Co-Financing (\$)	%	Total (\$)
Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system	800,000	69.26	355,000	30.674	1,155,000
Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system	2,800,000	71.61	1,110,000	28.39	3,910,000
Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas	2,019,000	60.61	1,312,000	39.39	3,331,000
Project Management	259,000	53.73	223,000	46.27	482,000
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>5,878,000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,878,000</b>

N.B. Excludes – Government cash and in-kind contributions = \$7,450,000

Name of co-financier	Classification (Government, NGO, Donor)	Type (cash, in-kind)	Amount (\$)	Status	
				Confirmed	Un-confirmed
UNDP-Eritrea	Donor	Cash	3,000,000	X	
Government of Eritrea	Government	(cash- local currency)	4,050,000	X	
Government of Eritrea	Government	In-kind	3,400,000	X	
<b>Total</b>			<b>US\$10,450,000</b>		

### 7.3: Budget Notes

Item	Budget Notes
1-8	<p>Budget items (1-8) will finance outcome 1, which will support the establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system. Given the low capacity for PA management in Eritrea, the budgets will be used to contract international and national technical skills to facilitate the formulation of Regulatory framework for protected areas management; establish national administration for protected areas management and national biodiversity conservation monitoring program. The international and national skills will also support the formulation of a national strategy for protected area conservation and financing and national protected area regulatory implementation guidelines. Finally, the budget items will support the formulation and implementation of a national biodiversity conservation training program. More specifically, the budget items will be used to procure the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget note 1 –International consultants – to acquire technical skills to assist with all the outputs. These will constitute Senior Technical Advisor with extensive experience in the establishment of Protected areas, who will provide overall assistance to the national teams. s/he will be supported by a Biodiversity Conservation Law Expert, Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor:, a Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist, an SLM and Rural Extension Specialist, and, an International M&amp;E Specialists:</li> <li>• Budget note 2: acquiring basic equipment to support national monitoring program (Output 1.3);</li> <li>• Budget note 3: National consultants: The project will build the capacity for PA management in Eritrea. This will include building capacity of consultants in the field of PA management. budget note 3 will support the recruitment of national consultants, who will work together with international consultants in order to provide local context while increasing their own capacities. They will include National Project Advisors, a Biodiversity Conservation Law and Policy Specialist, a Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Specialist, a Community Extension and Ecosystem Services Conservation Specialist, and a National M&amp;E Specialist:</li> <li>• Budget notes 4 and 6: The project covers a large part of Eritrea, involving three implementation sites. Public transportation in Eritrea is still rudimental and in-country travel expensive. This budget item will support travel and DSA, including travel to Zobas for PA consultations related to national policy and regulatory implementation guidelines and TA support.</li> <li>• Budget note 5: Given the low levels of skills in Eritrea for PA management, this budget item will support the development and implementation of national training program (Output 1.6); it will also support the development and updating of National PA Strategy (Output 1.4);</li> <li>• Budget note 7: Further support to the development of the training material. This item will support the printing of training materials, guidelines, strategies, etc.;</li> <li>• Budget note 8: further support to training. This item will support the Protected area policy training for national decision makers (Output 1.1).</li> </ul>
9-12	<p>Budgets 9-12 refer to UNDP’s co-finance, in support of GEF contribution to outcome 1. These budget items will support the items covered under budget notes 1-8 in the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget note 9: Development and implementation of national monitoring program (Output 1.3). The budget will develop capacity to enable people within the protected area administration and other related institutions to support protected area managers, community members, and other “on-the-ground” stakeholders to design low-cost monitoring programs that will inform national and local conservation strategies.</li> <li>• Budget note 10: The budget item will co-finance GEF support provided under budget</li> </ul>

Item	Budget Notes
	<p>note 1, and will be used to supplement the acquisition of international advisors on: Senior Technical Advisor: Biodiversity Conservation Law Expert: Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor: Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist: SLM and Rural Extension Specialist: and an International M&amp;E Specialist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget note 11: Will be used to complement GEF contribution as described in budget note 2. It will acquire national advisors as follows: Biodiversity Conservation Law and Policy Specialist: Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Specialist: Community Extension and Ecosystem Services Conservation Specialist: National M&amp;E Specialist;</li> <li>• Budget note 12 – will support the provision basic national PA administration; e.g., computers, cameras, communications equipment, basic monitoring equipment, camera traps, etc. (Output 1.2)</li> </ul>
13-21	<p>Budget items 13-21 will support outcome 2, which will establish at least three new protected areas, using the guidance of the new regulatory framework. The new PAs need to reflect a diverse set of Eritrean habitat types, including both terrestrial and marine areas, as well as be large to reflect the needs of wide-ranging species and incorporate adequate habitat to help ensure ecological function and climate change resilience. PA work in Eritrea will start literary from the ground up and the budget items will be used to emplace operational capacity, skills, equipment and business plans needed to manage the 3 PAs as well as expand and improve biodiversity conservation in the country. Specifically, the budget items will be used as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget note 13: once the legal framework is established under outcome 1, further support will be required to actually set up and manage the 3 PAs effectively. This budget item will support acquisition of international advisors, needed to supplement the very low capacity base (for PA management) available in Eritrea. These will include: a Senior Technical Advisor: a Biodiversity Conservation Law Expert: a Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor: a Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist: an SLM and Rural Extension Specialist: and, an International M&amp;E Specialists:</li> <li>• Budget note 14: this budget will be used to support a two pronged approach to capacity building (for PA management) in the country. National advisors will be hired to work along the international advisors, to ensure the project stays in context while boosting capacity for national consultants in the field of PA management. The budget item will therefore acquire national advisors in the fields of Biodiversity Conservation Law and Policy Specialist, Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Specialist, Community Extension and Ecosystem Services Conservation Specialist, National M&amp;E Specialist.</li> <li>• Budget note 15: This budget item will finance the production of three model protected area management plans; Three model protected area business plans and the establishment of integrated and inclusive management mechanisms that allow relevant agencies and communities to work in tanden to secure biodiversity within the PAs while improving livelihoods. these budget items will support the participatory consultation processes that lead to effective management and business plans and sustainable integrated management mechanisms ((Output 2.3, 2.4, 2.5).</li> <li>• Budget note 16: The project will be implemented in three different sites in a country that is expansive, with a rudimentary public transport system, and where in-country travel is quite expensive. This budget item will support the travel required to design and establish the three PAs; including travel, DSA and other costs related to travel.</li> <li>• Budget note 17: This item will support the establishment of an ecosystem monitoring system, which will include surveys – to be done in the context of outputs 2.3 and 2.4.</li> <li>• Budget note 18, 19 and 22: Eritrea has no formal protected areas today, and the</li> </ul>



Item	Budget Notes
	<p>institutions which will be responsible for managing the new protected areas have no capacity or equipment to enable them effectively manage PAs and protect biodiversity. This budget item will be used to acquire basic protected area management equipment and infrastructure for three protected areas including uniforms, monitoring equipment, cameras, computers, binoculars, etc. Funding to be determined with project technical assistance and defined in national protected area strategy and individual PA management/business plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget note 20 and 21: As explained under budget notes 18 and 19, Eritrea has no PA now and establishing capacity for effective PA management will start from the ground up. the two budget items will be used to support the development of training materials for management planning, inclusive management, public awareness, etc. Including production of education materials for school children, etc. (20) and the implementation of comprehensive training program for PA staff (Output 2.2) May include international training/exposure and/or degree training as deemed necessary by training strategy (21).</li> </ul>
22-26	<p>Budget items 22-26 is the UNDP's cash-cofinance to outcome 2. It will be used to supplement the GEF investment in outcome 2 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget note 22: UNDP co-finance on the acquisition of basic protected area management equipment and infrastructure for three protected areas, including uniforms, monitoring equipment, cameras, computers, binoculars, etc. Funding to be determined with project technical assistance and defined in national protected area strategy and individual PA management/business plans;</li> <li>• Budget note 23 and 26: UNDP co-finance on the travel costs of the project. Given the limited public transport system and the fact that the project is in three sites coordinated from the capital (Asmara), this budget item will support the purchase of Field Support Vehicles, including 4x4, motorcycles, and marine craft. It will also support in-country travel and DSA for all components under outcome 2.</li> <li>• Budget note 24: UNDP co-finance on the capacity building of the national project advisors. It will support GEF investment in acquiring and training (on the job training) for the Biodiversity Conservation Law and Policy Specialists: Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Specialists, Community Extension and Ecosystem Services Conservation Specialists, National M&amp;E Specialists, etc.;</li> <li>• Budget note 25: UNDP co-finance on the acquisition of International Advisors: these include the Senior Technical Advisor: Biodiversity Conservation Law Expert: Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor; Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist: SLM and Rural Extension Specialist: International M&amp;E Specialists; etc.</li> </ul>
27-34	<p>These budget items will support the building of capacity for rural communities neighboring the newly established PAs to maintain ecosystem services and conserve biodiversity, while improving livelihoods. This will be achieved via establishment of a learning platform for communities to obtain knowledge regarding best international sustainable land and fisheries management practices while integrating best national and local knowledge (based on FFS model); development and implementation of community ecosystem services conservation strategies. This implementation will include biodiversity and ecosystem service conservation measures. Specifically, the budget items will support acquisition of skills, planning (conservation strategies), training and monitoring, as described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget 27 and 29: As explained in previous sections, Eritrea has no PAs currently; experience and skills to manage PAs is non-existent; and, although local communities are highly aware of the importance of conserving biodiversity (and actively safeguard survival of biodiversity), capacity and skills for facilitating community participation in modern PA based conservation does not exist. These budget items will support the hiring of international advisors (27) and national advisors (29) to facilitate community</li> </ul>

Item	Budget Notes
	<p>engagement in PA based biodiversity conservation. Building on the traditional resource management systems, the budget items will support the formulation of FFS as the learning mechanisms, the formulation of biodiversity and ecosystem services conservation and their implementation. International advisors will be needed in the areas of community participation in biodiversity conservation, SLM and rural extension specialist, Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor; Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist; International M&amp;E Specialists;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget 28: Budget item will support the development and monitoring of community resource management plans, monitoring of social, ecological impact, capture and dissemination lessons learned and best practices (Output 3.2);</li> <li>• Budget 30: Travel, DSA, and TA support</li> <li>• Budget 31 and 32: Development and implementation of Farm/Fish Field Schools (Output 3.1); Implementation of model measures (Output 3.3); specific expenditures to be determined with project technical support and defined in PA management plan and community ecosystem services conservation strategy (Output 3.2); budget 32 will support travel related to the output.</li> <li>• Budget 33: Publication of Farm/Fish Field School materials; Purchase of tablet technology as medium for oral and visual learning, etc. (50 tablets for FFS); production equipment for video recording of curriculum and for community capture of progress, solar chargers, etc.</li> <li>• Budget 34: Capture of lessons learned; national replication workshop; presentations by community members to national level stakeholders of lessons learned</li> </ul>
35-42	<p>These budget items are UNDPs cash co-finance to component 3 and will provide further budgetary resources to the budget notes described in the above section, as outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget 35: UNDP cash-cofinance to the acquisition of national project advisors (with a double objective of capacity building). These include Biodiversity Conservation Law and Policy Specialist, Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Specialist, Community Extension and Ecosystem Services Conservation Specialist, National M&amp;E Specialist., etc.</li> <li>• Budget 36: UNDP cash-cofinance to the development and monitoring of community resource management plans, monitoring of social, ecological impact, capture and dissemination lessons learned and best practices (Output 3.2);</li> <li>• Budget 37: UNDP cash-cofinance to Travel, DSA, and TA support;</li> <li>• Budget 38: UNDP cash-cofinance to support for implementation of model ecosystem services conservation measures (Output 3.3): Specific expenditures to be determined with project technical support and defined in PA management plan and community ecosystem services conservation strategy (Output 3.2);</li> <li>• Budget 39: UNDP cash-cofinance to the acquisition of international project advisors including Senior Technical Advisor, Biodiversity Conservation Law Expert, Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor, Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist, SLM and Rural Extension Specialist, International M&amp;E Specialists:</li> <li>• Budget 40: UNDP cash-cofinance on the Ecosystem monitoring equipment to determine baseline and impact of community ecosystem conservation activity, e.g., boats, water quality/quantity monitoring, etc. (Output 3.3);</li> <li>• Budget 41: UNDP co-finance to support development of FFS training materials;</li> <li>• Budget 42: UNDP co-finance to support Field travel to support component activity.</li> </ul>
43-47	<p>These budget items will support project administration and management, which will ensure effectiveness and delivery of impacts, as well as the establishment of mechanisms to sustain project initiatives, results and impacts. The details are as follows:</p>

Item	Budget Notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget 43: Project Manager – the budget item will be used to hire the services of a project manager (ToRs in prodoc annex);</li> <li>• Budget 44: to hire the services of a Project Administrator/Accountant;</li> <li>• Budget 45: will be used to hire the services of site coordinators (ToRs for all project staff are included in the annexes);</li> <li>• Budget 46: will be used to purchase equipment for the PCO, including computers, phones, email and internet connections, etc.</li> </ul> <p>Budget 47: Will be used to finance estimated UNDP Direct Project Service/Cost recovery charges for consultant recruitment services and service and equipment procurement as requested by the MEGD as indicated Annex I of the Project Document. In accordance with GEF Council requirements, the costs of these services will be part of the executing entity's Project Management Cost allocation identified in the project budget. DPS costs would be charged at the end of each year based on the UNDP Universal Pricelist (UPL) or the actual corresponding. Estimated service cost. The amounts here are estimations based on the services indicated, however as part of annual project operational planning the DPS to be requested during the calendar year would be defined and the amount included in the yearly project management budgets and would be charged based on actual services provided at the end of that year.</p>
48-54	<p>These budget items are UNDP cash cofinance to the the GEF investment and will provide further investment in project management, project monitoring, establishment of exit strategies to ensure sustainability of PAs and impacts. This investment is required because there is a dearth of project management know-how in the country, which cannot be adequately addressed by the GEF investment, which is limited to less than 5% of the total project budget. Yet, without building strong project management support, implementation may suffer and results and impacts may be hard to sustain. The budget items will be used as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget 48: additional support to hire and train Site Coordinators (one coordinator for each of three sites);</li> <li>• Budget 49: additional investment to purchase equipment for project partners, training on computer and other equipment use, etc.</li> <li>• Budget 50: Further investment to finance Project Oversight Visits (public transport is rudimentary and travel is very expensive in Eritrea);</li> <li>• Budget 51 – To finance auditing;</li> <li>• Budget 52: Further investment to support production of project reports, including technical reports. This will also include costs of publishing and dissemination;</li> <li>• Budget 53: Further support to hire project staff, for example assistant project admin/accountant (at each project site). These officers will be needed to improve efficiencies of the project sites.</li> <li>• Budget 54: Further support to hiring the project manager (the GEF budget is inadequate to hire a high caliber project manager).</li> </ul>

## 8. SECTION IV: Annexes

### Annex A: Consultants to be hired for the project using GEF resources<sup>1</sup>

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
<b>For Project Management</b>			
Local			
Project Manager	\$300	333.33	<p>Full-time position. Experienced project manager with a technical background in biodiversity conservation policy. The Project Manager is the certifying authority responsible for overall management and implementation of the project on a day-to-day basis and for effective and efficient use of resources, as well as for facilitating information to the stakeholders and board. This person will provide oversight and technical support, direction and leadership for all project activities. This person will contribute as needed to the completion of project outputs. The candidate will be an expert in biodiversity conservation principles and practices. The ideal candidate will have a background in protected areas management and/or conservation policy.</p> <p>Deliver results and manage funds in line with the work plan approved by management body; Analyze and evaluate achieved results regularly to ensure that the project is meeting the target beneficiaries' needs, and communicating them to management body; Record and resolve project issues occurring during the implementation within the tolerance level initially defined by management body; Report issues to management body with recommendations for solutions to project issues that exceed the defined tolerance level; Discuss and deal with local and national authorities on matters pertaining to activities described in the project document; Ensure timely preparation and submission of yearly and quarterly project work plans and reports; Lead the recruitment process of the necessary local experts in the areas identified in the project document in accordance with UNDP rules and regulations; Collect, register and maintain information on project activities by reviewing reports and through firsthand sources; Advise all project counterparts on applicable administrative procedures and ensures their proper implementation.</p> <p>Responsible for generating/compiling project strategic implementation work plan, completing an annual progress report, and updating the work plan annually as necessary.</p>
Project Administrator/Accountant	\$200	336	<p>Administrative Assistant. This is a full-time, unshared staff position. The Project Administrator allows the Project Manager to support the development of outcomes. Will provide administrative support to the Project Manager in UNDP-GEF reporting, financial management, and logistical support. Collect, register and maintain all information on project activities; Contribute to the preparation and implementation of</p>

<sup>1</sup> The Technical and Managerial Consultancies (both national and international) are supported by both GEF and UNDP co-finance funding. Therefore the number of weeks, indicated in the table in Annex A, represents the total amount of time required for each consultant to performed the required tasks.

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			progress reports; Monitor project activities, budgets and financial expenditures; Advise all project counterparts on applicable administrative procedures and ensures their proper implementation; Maintain project correspondence and communication; Support the preparations of project work-plans and operational and financial planning processes; Assist in procurement and recruitment processes; Assist in the preparation of payments requests for operational expenses, salaries, insurance, etc. against project budgets and work plans; Follow-up on timely disbursements by UNDP CO; Receive, screen and distribute correspondence and attach necessary background information; Prepare routine correspondence and memoranda for supervisor' signature, check enclosures and addresses; Assist in logistical organization of meetings, training and workshops; Prepare agendas and arrange field visits, appointments and meetings both internal and external related to the project activities and write minutes from the meetings; Maintain project filing system; Maintain records over project equipment inventory; Provide support to management body, project manager, and others to make certain all financial records are properly maintained and support necessary reporting requirements. Perform other duties as required.
Project Field Coordinators	\$150	1008	Three field coordinators will be recruited. Field coordinators will be in charge of implementing project activities on the ground on a day-to-day basis and report to NPC. Coordinators are expected to work closely and coordinate project activities with local Government, provide support to local communities get organized and become capable to manage conservation areas.
International			
N/A			
Justification for travel, if any: Significant travel will be required from Asmara to various project sites to monitor and support implementation activity. Some regional travel may be required to participate in activities promoting greater cooperation on landscape level conservation initiatives.			
<b>For Technical Assistance</b>			
Local			
Biodiversity Conservation Law and Policy Specialist	\$300	330	Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to legal and institutional reforms. Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with design of regulations, agreements and contracting frameworks for protected area management and community-based conservation. Should have extensive experience with designing legal frameworks to secure biodiversity conservation objectives. Should evince substantial knowledge of community-based conservation initiatives. Will be knowledgeable regarding the design of biodiversity conservation frameworks for multiple use protected areas, including tourism, fisheries, grazing management, forestry, species recovery and stakeholder inclusive management. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs, and other project initiatives as required.

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p>Working under the direction of the project management team this position will be responsible for the oversight and successful completion of all activities under Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system.</p> <p>This will include ultimate responsibility for making certain following outputs are delivered professionally and in a timely manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1 Regulatory framework for protected areas management</li> <li>1.2 National administration for protected areas management</li> <li>1.3 National biodiversity conservation monitoring program</li> <li>1.4 National strategy for protected area conservation and financing</li> <li>1.5 National protected area regulatory implementation guidelines</li> <li>1.6 National biodiversity conservation training program</li> </ul> <p>This position will provide critical technical support for all activities under:</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system.</p> <p>And;</p> <p>Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas</p> <p>Responsible for generating/compiling project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome One delivery, completing an annual progress report, and updating the work plan annually as necessary.</p>
Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Specialist	\$300	330	<p>Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to biodiversity conservation and protected area management activities, including management planning, biodiversity monitoring, and oversight of sustainable resource use. Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with design of biodiversity conservation frameworks for multiple use protected areas, including tourism, fisheries, grazing management, forestry, species recovery and stakeholder inclusive management. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs and other project initiatives as required. Proven ability to design and implement ecosystem-based conservation measures resulting in successful ecological maintainance and restoration.</p> <p>Working under the direction of the project management team this position will be responsible for the oversight and successful completion of all activities under:</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system.</p>

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p>This will include ultimate responsibility for making certain following outputs are delivered professionally and in a timely manner:</p> <p>2.1 Three new protected areas officially recognized and launched  2.2 Model training program implemented for protected area management and staff  2.3 Three model protected area management plans  2.4 Three model protected area business plans  2.5 Integrated and inclusive management mechanisms established</p> <p>This position will provide critical technical support for all activities under:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system</p> <p>And;</p> <p>Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas</p> <p>Responsible for generating/compiling project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome Two delivery, completing an annual progress report, and updating the work plan annually as necessary.</p>
Community Extension and Ecosystem Services Conservation Specialist	\$300	300	<p>Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to SLM/SFM capacity building, including resource management planning, biodiversity monitoring, and oversight of sustainable resource use. Will be knowledgeable regarding the design of biodiversity conservation within multiple use protected areas, including tourism, marine/fisheries, grazing management, forestry, species recovery and stakeholder inclusive management. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs and other project initiatives as required. Responsible to support outcomes and project activities related to the generation and dissemination of biodiversity conservation knowledge, including proven ability to generate and execute training programs. Proven ability to design and implement ecosystem-based conservation training for rural communities that results in successful ecological maintenance and restoration.</p> <p>Working under the direction of the project management team this position will be responsible for the oversight and successful completion of all activities under:</p> <p>Outcome 3: Generation of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas</p> <p>This will include ultimate responsibility for making certain</p>

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p>following outputs are delivered professionally and in a timely manner:</p> <p>3.1 Farm/Fishing Field Schools established to build local SLM/SFM capacity  3.2 Sustainable resource management plans  3.3 Implementation of model ecosystem service conservation measures</p> <p>This position will provide critical technical support for all activities under:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system</p> <p>And;</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system</p> <p>Responsible for generating/compiling project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome Three delivery, completing an annual progress report, and updating the work plan annually as necessary.</p>
National M&E Specialist	\$ 300	25	Primary duty will be supporting the completion of the project's mid-term and final evaluation. TOR's to be developed according to M&E plan.
<b>International</b>			
Senior Technical Advisor	\$3,000	60	Responsible to provide technical support to project management team for all project outcomes and activities. Will assist with project oversight, helping to make certain project is on-track to have desired impacts. Will work closely to support and communication with both UNDP/Eritrea and UNDP/RTA towards this end. Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with design of management frameworks for multiple use protected areas and community-base management regimes, including tourism, mining, wildlife use, marine/fisheries, forestry, and grazing/livestock management. Will have working experience with sustainable land management. Will have at least 15 years experience with GEF projects, including project management, design, and/or evaluations. Will technically support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs and other project initiatives as required. Will back-stop national project management team to provide technical assistance with project implementation, including project inception, support for on-going monitoring/evaluation, development and monitoring of strategic project implementation work-plan for all three Outcomes and the overall project.
Biodiversity Conservation Law Expert	\$3,000	40	Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to legal and institutional reforms. Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with



Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p>design of regulations, agreements and contracting frameworks for protected area management and community-based conservation. Should have at least 15 years of international experience with designing legal frameworks to secure biodiversity conservation objectives. Should evince substantial knowledge of community-based conservation initiatives. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs, and other project initiatives as required.</p> <p>Principle contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system</p> <p>Ancillary contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system</p> <p>Outcome 3: Emplacement of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas.</p> <p>Responsible to support completion of project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome One delivery, including annual progress report and update as necessary.</p>
Biodiversity Conservation and Protected Areas Management Advisor	\$3,000	144	<p>Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to biodiversity conservation and protected area management activities, including management planning, biodiversity monitoring, and oversight of sustainable resource use. Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with design of management frameworks for multiple use protected areas and community-base management regimes, including tourism, mining, wildlife use, and grazing/livestock management. Will have working experience with sustainable land management. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs and other project initiatives as required.</p> <p>Principle contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system</p> <p>Ancillary contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system</p> <p>Outcome 3: Emplacement of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas.</p>

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			Responsible to support completion of project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome Two delivery, including annual progress report and update as necessary.
Marine, Fisheries and Coastal Zone Conservation Specialist	\$3,000	100	<p>Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to marine conservation and fisheries. Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with marine protected area management and community-based conservation. Should have at least 15 years of international experience. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs, and other project initiatives as required. Must have proven ability to design/implement training and extension programs for rural communities and artisanal fishing industry. The results and focus of this capacity must be focused upon the interface of biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem services. Must also have working knowledge of climate change and particularly vulnerability assessments.</p> <p>Principle contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 3: Emplacement of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas.</p> <p>Ancillary contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system</p> <p>Responsible to support completion of project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome Three delivery, including annual progress report and update as necessary.</p>
SLM and Rural Extension Specialist	3,000	100	<p>Responsible to support and assist with oversight of outcomes and project activities related to SLM, including community forestry, agriculture, and grazing.</p> <p>Will be knowledgeable of and have hands-on experience with terrestrial protected area management and community-based conservation. Should have at least 15 years of international experience. Should evince substantial knowledge of community-based conservation initiatives, ideally in similar nomadic and/or semi-nomadic cultures. Will support training programs, completion of strategies, capacity building programs, and other project initiatives as required.</p> <p>Must have proven ability to design/implement training and extension programs for rural communities with particular emphasis up rangeland management. The results and focus of this capacity must be focused upon the interface of biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem services. Must</p>

Position Titles	\$/Person Week	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p>also have working knowledge of climate change and particularly vulnerability assessments.</p> <p>Principle contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 3: Emplacement of SLM/SFM capacity required to support national system of protected areas.</p> <p>Ancillary contributor to:</p> <p>Outcome 1: Establishment of protected area policy and institutional frameworks to operationalize national protected areas system</p> <p>Outcome 2: Emplacement of management capacity and experience required operationalize national protected area system</p> <p>Responsible to support completion of project strategic implementation work plan for Outcome Three delivery, including annual progress report and update as necessary.</p>
International M&E Specialists	\$3,000	25	Conduct project final and mid-term evaluation. TOR's to be developed according to M&E plan.
<p>Justification for travel, if any:  Significant travel will be required from Asmara to various project sites to monitor and support implementation activity. Some regional travel may be required to participate in activities promoting greater cooperation on landscape level conservation initiatives.</p>			

## Annex B: Co-financing Letters

United Nations Development Programme



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

8 April 2013

PRO/300/PPG/1291.13

Dear Madam/Sir,

**Subject: Commitment of UNDP Funds to GEF FSP ON Protected Area**

In connection with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) co-funding requirement, I am pleased to inform you that UNDP is committed to financially and technically support the project proposal entitled, "Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori- Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation"; a full-sized project proposal to be submitted to the GEF for approval. The development of the proposal was made possible after the GEF approved PIF/PPG enabling documents, which were jointly prepared, closely managed, and supported by the Government of Eritrea and the UNDP-Eritrea Country Office.

We are pleased to note that UNDP is committed to contribute a total of \$3.0 million for the realization of the objectives of this important 5-year project once finalized.

We look forward to further expand our mutual development cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Christine N. Umutoni'.

Christine N. Umutoni  
Resident Representative



The Global Environment Facility (GEF Secretariat)  
1818 H Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20433  
USA  
Tel.: (202) 473 - 0508  
Fax: (202) 522 - 3240/3245  
E-mail: [gef@gefweb.org](mailto:gef@gefweb.org)

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Tel: +291 1 151166 | Fax: +291 1 15 1081 | E-mail: [registry.er@undp.org](mailto:registry.er@undp.org) | Internet: [www.er.undp.org](http://www.er.undp.org)

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دولة ارتريا  
وزارة الأراضي والمياه والبيئة

THE STATE OF ERITREA  
Ministry of Land, Water & Environment

ዕለት 5.06.2013  
Date  
ቁ.መ. M/LWF/01/79/13  
Ref.

التاريخ  
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The Honorable Dr. Naoko Iishi  
CEO and Chairperson  
GEF

Subject: Eritrean Government's Commitment to Co-finance GEF FSP for Operationalizing Protected Area Management Project

Honorable Dr. Iishi

As per the co-funding requirements of GEF, I am pleased to inform your good office that the Government of the State of Eritrea is committed to contribute to the proposed project known as *Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori-Hawakkil Protected Area System*. The development of the project document was made possible after the GEF approved the related PIF/PPG documents, which were prepared by the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment in close cooperation with national stakeholders and the UNDP- Eritrea Office.

The total contribution of the Government of the State of Eritrea will be \$7.45M, out of which \$3.4M will be provided in kind and \$4.05M in cash which will be used to cover the costs of conducting relevant baseline activities. Besides this, I would like to note that UNDP-Eritrea's confirmed pledge to contribute a total of \$3.0M in support of the implementation of the said project.

After due review, the project document shall be submitted to your good office for funding approval and your usual support and cooperation is highly appreciated.

With best regards;

Sincerely your

Tesfai Ghebreselassie  
Minister of Land Water and Environment



CC: UNDP- Eritrea Country Office, Asmara

UNDP	
ASMARA - ERITREA	
FILE NO. M/LWF/01/79/13	
05 JUN 2013	
ACTION	INFO

Tel. 126712  
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Asmara - Eritrea

## Annex C: Extended Summary of Institutional and Policy Context Related to Protected Areas

### National Policies and Programs

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
<b>National</b>	
Macro policy (1994)	<p>As stated in the Macro-Policy document (chapter 16) gives attention to: Potential environmental consequences of investment decisions made; Land use planning to reduce land degradation and biotic loss; water use; protection of environmental hazards; moreover, it promote a balanced approach between resource use and conservation for the attainment of sustainable growth and development.</p> <p>The macro policy provides a background for the country’s national economic growth strategy and states the guiding principles for human centered, efficient, sustainable and equitable development. This document clearly states the need for environmental impact assessments to determine the potential environmental consequences of major investment decisions. It recognizes the negative impacts of some traditional farming practices on crop productivity, as well as progressive environmental degradation attributed to increasing demands for fuel wood, and inadequate soil and water conservation measures. In addition it states the commitment required from the government to allocate financial resources to promote the rehabilitation, conservation, development and proper exploitation of natural resources.</p>
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) [CBD] (1996)	<p>The overall goal of the Eritrean National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) states <i>“The overall biodiversity of Eritrea restored, conserved and managed so that it provides environmental services and natural resources that contribute to sustainable and socially fair national economic developments”</i>.</p> <p>The NBSAP lists a comprehensive set of actions to be taken in the area of biodiversity. It recognizes three core areas: terrestrial, marine and agricultural biodiversity. Most actions are still ‘planned’ except in marine biodiversity where action is underway with GEF funding. A key theme is integrated planning: for wildlife to be effectively conserved, different ministries have to agree on a co-ordinate policy.</p> <p>Eritrea has now put in place its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)<sup>2</sup>, adopted in July 2000. The NBSAP was formulated through the active participation of relevant stakeholders. There are capacity limitations in implementing the NBSAP but these are being overcome through multilateral and bilateral agreements. Under the biodiversity enabling activity project, the DoE has compiled available biodiversity information “Biodiversity Stocktaking Assessment Report” as well as undertaking an economic assessment of biodiversity.</p> <p>a) Expansion of improved traditional stoves has contributed significantly in improving the vitality and integrity of the habitat as well as regenerative capacity of the forest resources.</p>

<sup>2</sup> DoE (2000). *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan: For Eritrea*. Asmara: Franciscana.

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
	<p>b) Initiating the establishment of the baseline data of the Coastal Marine Island and developing Integrated Coastal Area Management (ICAM) through Eritrean Coastal Marine and Islands Biodiversity (ECMIB)</p> <p>c) Establishment of baseline data on the Green Belt (Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri), Buri, Irrori and Borasoli bay.</p> <p>d) The substantial amount of work with communities including socio-economic surveys, awareness raising programs, the sharing of information has also contributed for current status trend of Eritrea's biodiversity.</p> <p>e) Sensitization of policy and decision makers was made on the importance of riverine forest conservation.</p>
<p>Action Plan for Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) in Eritrea (2009-2016)</p>	<p>The IWRM Action Plan was developed at end of 2009. The document covers a range of the management actions that are important to establish knowledge on effective control over the countries water resources, management and development. About 95 IWRM barrier removal action/project portfolios focused on enabling environment, institutional framework and management instruments have been developed and categorized into a short term, medium term and a longer term planning horizon (2009-2016). This action plan was approved by the MoLWE, published and broadly disseminated to pertinent stakeholders.</p> <p>The aim of the action plan are: to enhance the creation of an appropriate enabling environment for water resources management, development and use; to facilitate the creation of institutional frameworks for water resources management and the development and use at national, regional, sub regional and community levels; to improve the knowledgebase on which rational water resources decisions will be made; to improve the water resources assessment capabilities of the water sector through the introduction of appropriate analytical tools and upgrading the institutional and human resources capacity; facilitate the implementation of the framework for water resources management for the future; and to prioritize and classify action plans in terms of short, medium and long term.</p> <p>The action plans elaborate these approaches and set out specific objectives, strategies, actions and activities that would be taken to support IWRM for the sustainable economic development of Eritrea. The development and implementation of these actions/project portfolios will complement the government's present actions and policies, strategies and action plans to reduce poverty, food security and sustainable economic development.</p> <p>The action plans proposed in this document have focused on seven thematic/action area identified in previous stages of the IWRM process. The thematic/action areas are: water resources assessment, development and protection; water resources allocation and water use; disaster management; enabling environment; implementation and financing mechanism; research and information exchange; and basin Management Plan.</p>
<p>National Action Program (NAP/UNCCD) (2002)</p>	<p>In pursuant to Article 5 of the convention to UNCCD, have prepared a national action program (NAP) that identifies factors contributing to desertification and practical measures necessary to combat it and mitigate the effect of drought. NAP has given particular attention to preventive measures. The actions under NAP have entailed both policy and institutional measures to facilitate the establishment of an enabling environment at the national level for sustainable resource use, as well as local level development activities to preserve and/or restore the resource base and improve livelihood security of the affected</p>

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
	<p>populations. In relation to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. NAP has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified key concerns and threats to flora and fauna;</li> <li>• Emphasized the need for creation of protected area system (in situ conservation) and identified four priority areas for conservation of biodiversity (The Semenawi Bahri, North of the river setit, reverine habitat along the Gash and Barka Rivers and the Buri Peninsula);</li> <li>• Proposed actions that make effective enough the traditional practices and customary laws in conserving and sustainable use of the natural flora and fauna of Eritrea;</li> <li>• Recommended actions that strengthen the ex-situ conservation capacity of the nation on biodiversity resources;</li> <li>• Identified actions related to laws that promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;</li> <li>• Identified ways to establish international cooperation with international organizations with respect to technical assistance, scientific research and financial support; and</li> <li>• Identify actions required to improve, conserve and use sustainably the agricultural, livestock, rangeland and forest resources of the country.</li> </ul> <p>The NAP Action Plan recognized five important steps or priority actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The improvement of the knowledge base on land degradation.</li> <li>• Empowering people to take action, initially coping with drought and desertification and eventually in taking measures to arrest land degradation.</li> <li>• Take concerted action to address the concerns of vulnerable groups affected by land degradation, particularly women and pastoralists.</li> <li>• The reduction of poverty through income generating activities.</li> <li>• Activities related to arresting land degradation particularly degradation of productive agricultural land.</li> </ul>
National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA/UNFCCC) (2007)	<p>Eritrea's NAPA has identified highest priority actions/ projects (102 adaptation projects) that are urgently needed to Adapt to climate change. It addresses also that each priority project will need strong donor support coupled with effective local project implementation, monitoring and evaluation programs.</p> <p>The following are goals and major activities of UNFCCC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote sustainable management, conservation and enhancement, as appropriate, of sinks and reservoirs of all GHG including biomass, forests and oceans as well as other terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems;</li> <li>• Promote and cooperate in the development, application and diffusion including transfer of technology that control, reduce or prevent anthropogenic emissions of GHG in key source sectors;</li> <li>• Develop and elaborate appropriate and integrated plans for coastal zone management, water resources and agriculture and for the protection and rehabilitation of areas affected by drought and desertification as well as floods;</li> <li>• Take climate change considerations into account in relevant policies and actions, and employ appropriate methods;</li> <li>• Promote and cooperate in scientific, technological, technical, socio-economic and research, and development of data archives related to the climate system; and</li> <li>• Promote and cooperate in education, training and public awareness related to climate change and encourage the widest participation in the process, including that of non-governmental organizations.</li> </ul>
The National Environmental	The National Environment Management Plan provides the basic policy document for action in the environmental sector and lays out strategy conservation



Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
Management Plan (NEMP-E) (1995)	<p>activities. Its guiding principles include recognition of the strategic importance of conserving natural resources and maintaining environmental quality as part of national economic growth and development process, to develop integrated and multiple uses of natural resource use strategies at the same time ensuring local involvement and equity in environmental management.</p> <p>The guiding principle outlined in the plan include: (i) Recognition of the strategic importance of a good management of renewable terrestrial, coastal and marine resources and maintaining environmental quality as part of the national economic growth and development; (ii) importance of developing strategies for integrated and multiple uses of natural resources while ensuring local involvement and equity in environmental management; and (iii) the need to balance broad-scale management (e.g., national and regional environmental legislation, and economic incentives and disincentives) with targeted management (e.g., establishment of protected area and rehabilitation of heavily degraded ecosystem)</p>
National Economic Policy Framework and Program (NEPFAP), 1998 - 2000	<p>NEPFAP has a number of strong statements about environmental policy, notably the following: restoration, enhancement and preservation of Eritrea's ecological integrity". The objective is to be achieved through: (i) · "prudent utilization of land, forest, air and water resources; (ii) establishment of sound environmental standards; (iii) · introduction of sustainable land management practices; (iv) adoption and implementation of a comprehensive national environmental policy framework; (v) sustainable exploitation of Eritrea's fishery resources; and (vi) monitoring and protection of Eritrea's Red Sea coastline.</p>
<p>The State of Eritrea Ministry of Land, Water and Environment, Department of Environment Eritrea's Five Year Action Plan (2011-2015) For The Great Green Wall Initiative (Draft)</p>	<p>The five year action plan describes the initiative on The Great Green Wall that focuses to combat desertification for countries bordering along the Sahara desert (Senegal, Niger, Nigeria, Burkinofaso, Mali, Mauritania, Chad, Sudan, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Djibouti) aimed to fight for the advancement of the Sahara desertification and its consequences.</p> <p>Eritrea's five year action plan focuses on activities that help in mitigating land degradation, reducing desertification, adapting climate change, increasing agricultural products so as to improve the lively-hood of the people. This action plan includes implementation of sustainable natural resources management (land, water, forest &amp; wildlife) in the six zones (Maekel, Debub, Anseba, Gash-Barka, NRS &amp; SRS) through afforestation, soil and water conservation, establishment and management of enclosures as well as promotion and establishment of nursery sites.</p> <p>The action plan also included the establishment of protected areas such as; Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri (100,000 ha), Buri-Irrori-Hawakil Islands (180,780 ha), Bara'soli (800 ha), including Riverine habitat along Gash and Barka Rivers (195,024 ha), and Nakfa Reserves (16,390 ha).</p>
National Agricultural Development Strategy and Policy document, 2005. MoA	<p>Provides strategic and policy issues on how to develop and manage agriculture without impacting adversely the environment; Recommends expansion of forest enclosures and provide villages forest tenure rights; Undertake programs to educate villagers on the benefits of better forest management; Establish corridors for livestock grazing and access for water in land concession agreements; Allocate land on the basis of productivity equivalences. For those villages with small endowments of land it would be important to assist them to undertake activities that are not land-intensive; clarify the policy issue of renting other land since provisions in Article 26, and 27, article 23 contain prohibition against usufructuary cultivating more land than has been allotted; Establish clear cut, permanent tenure rights of forest land, for villages to create incentive to manage it sustainably; Since agricultural concession sizes sometimes have been quite large ranging up to 1,000 hectares it is recommended on designing concessions</p>

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
	of more moderate size; Revise existing guidelines for land clearing to include adoption of windbreak technologies, riverine and drainage pathway protection and contour structures to slow down surface water flows.
Agricultural Development Program, MoA (2008-2010)	The MoA has developed a comprehensive development program (2008-2010) through consultative process conducted in the six administrative regions of the country. In this program, biodiversity considerations such as: enhancing natural regeneration through establishment of enclosures, afforestation and reforestation, strengthening regulatory activities like plant and animal quarantine etc. are well addresses under the natural resources, regulation and enforcement sections.
Land Use Planning, 1999	Land use planning regulatory framework document prepared based on the experience of the Land Use Unit of the Department of Land. Encourages the best use of land use planning without adversely impacting natural resources. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classifies land use into traditional and scientific land use systems and argues that traditional land use is carried out without land use plan, whereas scientific land use is based on land use plan and its implementation.</li> <li>• Based on the above characteristics it classifies land into 8 levels. Based on these levels, land classification of 13 villages around Asmara was carried out.</li> </ul>
Draft Land Use Policy, (2007)	The objective is to promote improved land stewardship by rural and urban land users by better defining and strengthening land and resource tenure rights. It also aims to provide a coordinated, national approach to sustainable land use and planning and to prepare national and local land-use plans to help guide land-use decisions in an environmentally sound, economically sustainable and socially acceptable way.
Draft National Coastal Policy (2006).	The objective is to provide for the sustainable use of the coast for housing, tourism, recreation, ocean access, maritime industry, commercial and other activities in appropriate designated areas. The National Coastal Policy is formulated as a framework designed to direct the elaboration of: (i) the preparation of a Proclamation detailing the National Coastal Area Management and Development Directives including the Institutional Structure necessary for its implementation; (ii) Eritrea's National Integrated Coastal Area Management Plan; and (iii) the requisite Regulatory framework necessary for the implementation of the Plan: the Coastal Management Proclamation.
Programme of Action National Adaptation (2007)	Eritrea's NAPA has identified highest priority actions/ projects (102 adaptation projects) that are urgently needed to Adapt to climate change. It address that each priority project will need strong donor support coupled with effective local project implementation, monitoring and evaluation programmes.
National Tourism Development Plan (2000-2020)	The plan document addresses with special sections for the coastal areas and the islands. This plan embedded in the context of national policies and perspectives and also reflects the objectives of National Economic Framework and Program (NEPFP). At the national level the Ministry of Tourism has planned different tourism development activities including construction of basic infrastructure and different type and size of hotels and of recreational centers. Besides, each regional/zoba has been considered separately in order to facilitate the implementation of the activities and to incorporate them into regional/zoba administration and development policies. Within this plan, for the Northern Red Sea Region/Zoba, among the many sites considered include: (i) the proposed protected areas of <i>Buri Peninsula</i> and of the Danakil depression for some infrastructure; and (ii) the inland, the <i>Akwar and Mai-Wooi</i> hot springs are of interest for developing spa health resorts.
Agriculture Sector Policy (Draft)	The agriculture Sector Policy aims to promote equal opportunities, market liberalization and support services to the private sector, especially to small holders and small to medium-scale commercial farmers. Specific objectives of

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
	the policy are to: (i) rehabilitate and maintain the natural resource base (including biodiversity resources) for agriculture; (ii) promote rational exploitation and proper management of natural resources (including biodiversity resources); (iii) stimulate private investment in agriculture to boost production; (iv) boost employment and income levels in rural areas; (v) realize food security; (vi) increase foreign exchange earnings; and (vii) increase the supply of all agricultural products to agro-industries.
Forest and wildlife Policy (Draft)	Draft forestry and wildlife policy, as a section of the comprehensive agriculture sector policy, has been prepared through intensive consultative process involving all stakeholders in 2005. This document stipulates many aspects of biodiversity issues such as:- enhancing forest regeneration by reducing overgrazing; ameliorating the conflict between agriculture and forests; securing forest tenure rights; promoting afforestation and community participation in forest management; providing incentives in maintaining forests on critical areas; developing programs to reduce forest fires; promoting none wood forest products; establishing and developing protected areas; institutional improvement; and developing conservation education and law enforcement.
The Tourism Development Policy and Strategy	This document specifies many aspects of biodiversity issues such as: (i) the need to develop tourism in a manner that encourages conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, especially protection of scenic areas, watersheds, ecosystems, biodiversity, and expansion of forests and wildlife populations; (ii) encourages the involvement of local communities in conservation programs that have linkage with the development and management of tourism; (iii) development of tourism in a sustainable manner through conserving the natural archaeological/historic, cultural resources of tourism, maintaining and improving the environmental quality of tourism areas and sharing of the benefits of tourism as widely as possible through out the society; (iv) the need of suitably designed and environmentally appropriate good quality tourist facilities, service and infrastructure that serve the needs of quality tourism and do not result in environmental problem; (v) the need to ensure the effective management of tourism based on cooperation between the public and private sector and coordination among central, regional, municipal and local governments; and (vi) . Develop effective organizational structures legal and other institutional arrangements, controlling socio-economic and environmental impacts and monitoring all aspects of the progress of tourism.
National Environmental Assessment Procedures and Guidelines (Procedures and Guidelines for Environmental Clearance of Projects ; and M7E of Projects) 1997	This national environmental assessment procedures and guidelines focuses mainly: (i) to assess the significance of potential impacts which the implementation of a project may have on the environment; (ii) to reduce delays in project approval by providing a standardized and transparent system for environmental assessment; (iii) to improve project design and performance; (iv) maximizing potential for recovery and recycling in waste management; (v) avoiding long-term decline in project performance by assessing likely environmental changes over an extended time-frame; and enhancing worker productivity through provision of cleaner working environments..
Water Policy (2010)	Water use is subject to the overlapping of water development interests of the Ministries of Agriculture, Public Works, and local government. A water policy was drafted but has not yet been finalized. The draft policy outlines the institutional and regulatory issues, water use, water rights, and water quality. The following objectives of the draft water policy which are relevant to the Project include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Resources Protection - Ensures that the ground water resources are adequately protected from deterioration in quality and from over exploitation.</li> <li>• Environmental Protection - Incorporates environmental conservation and</li> </ul>

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
	<p>protection requirements as integral parts of water resources management. Encourages also that EIA and protection requirements serve as part of the major criteria in all development projects including water resources development projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Quality Control - Establishes and adopts water quality standards and proper assessment procedures for the control and preservation of the water resources base, including the control of indiscriminate discharges of untreated effluents into natural watercourses.</li> <li>• Watershed Management - Promotes appropriate and efficient watershed management practices to maximize groundwater recharge and maintain water quality.</li> <li>• Water Harvesting Technologies: Standardization and Sustainability - Formulates and adopts national standards and criteria for the design, installation, construction, operation, maintenance, inspection and other activities in all water resources development and management undertakings.</li> <li>• Industrial Effluents - Regulates the treatment of effluents that can affect the surrounding water sources; Ensures that effluents are treated to acceptable levels and standards before discharging them into natural streams.</li> <li>• Domestic Waste and Storm Water - Integrates drainage issues and waste disposal within the domain of water resources management.</li> <li>• Water Resources Allocation and Water Use - Ensures water resources management in the country is progressively integrated. The hydrological cycle in its entirety downstream and upstream interests are taken into account (basin-wide, also across national borders), as well as surface and groundwater sources. The full range of sectorial interests and future needs as legitimate claims for future generations shall be taken into full account. Ensures water resources management plans are based on a participatory approach involving decision makers, users, planners and policymakers. Develop systems for the harmonious co-existence of the indigenous land and water use practices of the local people and irrigation projects. Ensures that the exploitation of groundwater shall be based on abstraction of the maximum amount equal to the sustainable yield.</li> <li>• Water Allocation (Section 5.2.2) - At all times and under any circumstances, top priority is given to domestic water supply, sanitation, domestic livestock, environmental requirements and other social sectors such as education and health services.</li> <li>• Water Use Planning - Considers agricultural water uses, industrial water uses, and other economic sectors' use, such as tourism and recreation resources as an integral part of the national water sector plan.</li> <li>• Public and Private Institutions - Encourages the participation of the private sector in the provision of water supply, water resources development, operation and maintenance of the water supply systems.</li> </ul> <p>There are also clauses within the draft policy around pricing, institutions to manage and monitor water resources, and information management and exchange.</p>
<p><b>Local</b> Local conservation strategy, species recovery plans, fisheries management plans, etc.</p>	
<p>MoA , SKB Branch office five years agricultural strategic plan (2013-2017)</p>	<p>The Ministry of Agriculture has been exerting all possible efforts to restore the environment by developing the capacity of farmers and extension agents. Therefore, in order to tackle this crucial problem the Ministry of Agriculture has conducted a Rapid Agricultural Production Situation Assessment (RAPSA)</p>

Policy, Strategy, or Plan	Description
	which focuses on collecting basic data at Sub-Zoba level. The data which was collected in this assessment was useful for the development of 5 years strategic plan of the sector at local level.
<b>Protected Area (for each pilot site)</b>	
Pre-investment study TCP/ERI/6712 (F) 1997	<p>A number of initiatives and intervention was carried out to protect the biodiversity of each protected area site by the State of Eritrea since independence, and same progress has been achieved to restore the terrestrial and marine ecosystem of the protected area.</p> <p>The study has been undertaken under the FAO/TCP ERI/6172 Project Support to forestry and wildlife sub sector which aims at gathering sufficient and reliable information on natural forest and wildlife resources in Eritrea for the purpose of management planning, a detailed proposal was carried out for the sector development to be funded by donor organizations.</p>

## National Legislation

Law or Regulation Title	Description
<b>National</b>	
The Eritrean Constitution (1997)	In the context of sustainable development and equity the Constitution has provided important provisions. In this context Article 8, paragraph 2 states that <i>“The state shall work to bring about a balanced and sustainable development throughout the country, and shall use all available means to enable all citizens to improve their livelihood in a sustainable manner, through their participation”</i> And Article 8(3) provides that the state <i>“shall be responsible for managing all land, water, air and natural resources and ensuring their management in a balanced and sustainable manner, and for creating the right conditions to secure the participation of the people in safeguarding the environment.”</i> Since the constitution is the highest law of the nation its reference to environmental issues is very important. It is the base for further laws and ground for the government’s commitment to sustainable management of the environment.
Land Reform Proclamation, No.58/1994.	<p>This Law provides that all land is owned by the State and citizens have use right only. Peasant farmers have the right to use land for a lifetime and if significant investment has been made on the land then priority is given for closer relatives to inherit the property and to continue farming the land. Considering past experiences with the Diessa system of land ownership, this Proclamation appears to create conducive environment for better management of the land.</p> <p>In further elaborating the implementation of the Proclamation the Eritrean Government also introduced Legal Notice No. 31/1997,</p>

	<p>which provided the legal bases for methods of land allocation and land administration. This Legal Notice mandates the Ministry of Land, Water and Environment, in collaboration with other ministries, to prepare land use and area development plan. According to such plans agricultural lands, particularly those to be reserved for irrigation, protected areas, and national parks, areas for afforestation programs, mining areas, and etc. could be identified. This important task has not been possible in practise yet. <i>(Taken from “Analysis of existing policy documents and legal instruments related to environment, biodiversity and natural resources in Eritrea.</i></p> <p>This Proclamation provides tenure security and has been described as a framework for the evolution of grassroots action against land degradation.</p> <p>At the macro level, the government has formulated important laws on land management. These include: This Proclamation provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A good basis for security of land tenure, which in turn provide an incentive for better land husbandry and for increased long-term investment in land improvement;</li> <li>• An equitable and fair distribution of land resources amongst men and women; and</li> <li>• Improved access to land for those groups which had been traditionally denied such access.</li> </ul>
<p>The Proclamation for the Establishment of Regional Administrations (No. 86/1996</p>	<p>This proclamation empowered local administrations to tackle the problem of land degradation at a grassroots level. the Proclamation for the Establishment of Regional Administrations (No. 86/1996) also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• empowers framework for action at the national, sub-national and Village/Area levels;</li> <li>• A clear mandate to local-level officials – especially sub-national and Village/Area levels; and</li> <li>• A framework for the evolution of grassroots action against land degradation.</li> </ul>
<p>The Forestry and Wildlife Conservation and Development Proclamation No 156/2006’</p>	<p>This Proclamation, in association with the regulations for the issuance forestry permits (Legal Notice 111/2006) and regulations for the issuance of wildlife permits (Legal Notice 112/2006) provides the framework for the conservation and development of forests and wildlife resources of the country.</p> <p>Eight Articles from the proclamation have particular relevance to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity resources. These articles: (i) Mandates the MoA to properly implement the Proclamation (Article-4) and to establish and manage protected areas for the conservation of biodiversity, sites of special scientific interest or preservation of landscapes (Article-16 &amp; 17); (ii) Secures tree tenure to a person who plants trees on any land which that person has a legal right to use (Article-23); (iii) Provide legal rights to individuals or communities to use a specified land area, for the creation or management of woodlots’ (Article 24); (iv) prohibits unauthorized exploitation, transporting and processing of wood and none wood forest products for commercial purposes, cutting live trees for domestic use and clearing land for agriculture and</p>

	<p>other purposes (Article-21); (v) Prohibits the importation of exotic trees and wildlife and their products without getting permits. It requires verifying that the exotic species is not invasive and does not affect the conservation and sustainable management of the indigenous species and ecosystem.</p>
<p>Eritrean Water Law, Proclamation, No. 162/2010</p>	<p>Objectives are directly related to PAs that to promote:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the rational management and use of the water resources of Eritrea;</li> <li>• The provision of clean, safe and sufficient supply of water;</li> <li>• Development of water resources without harming the environment.</li> </ul> <p>The stated objectives of the Water Proclamation are paraphrased as follows: conservation and protection from pollution and related risk factors of the country's water resources; systemization of studies and documentation of data on water resources; Promotion of integrated water resources management and development as well as judicious prioritization of allocation and use of the same; establishment of pertinent legal framework and institutions with clear mandate in consonance with the principles of integrated water resources management; Promotion of public awareness and participation in water conservation, protection and management and proper utilization; and ensuring equity in the use, management and development of the resources. The following articles (paraphrased for brevity) were identified as having particular relevance to the development of the Project:</p>
<p>Plant Quarantine Proclamation No 156/2006.</p>	<p>Plant Quarantine Proclamation No 156/2006 has also been enacted in order to prevent the introduction and spread of pests through the importation of plants and plant products; take appropriate measures for the control of introduced pests; and prevent the presence of pests in plants and plant products during exportation. This proclamation sets requirement for importation like import permit, phytosanitary certificate and made responsible plant quarantine officer to inspect the imported items.</p>
<p>The Fisheries Proclamation No. 104/1998, The Fishery Product Proclamation No. 105/1998</p>	<p>The marine and coastal sector is covered by two proclamations and thirteen Legal Notices (Regulations), all promulgated in 1998 and 2003, and these are: The Foreign Fishing Vessel Regulation: Legal Notice No. 38/1998; (a) The National Fishing Vessel Regulation: Legal Notice No. 39/1998; (b) The Fishery Product Regulation: Legal Notice No. 40/1998; (c) The Fishery Product Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points Regulation: Legal Notice No. 41/1998; (d) The Potable Water Regulation: Legal Notice No. 42/1998; (e) The Aquaculture Products Regulation: Legal Notice No. 64/2003; (f) The Additives Regulations: Legal Notice No. 65/2003; (g) The Heavy Metals Regulations: Legal Notice No. 66/2003; (h) The Factory Vessel Regulations: Legal Notice No. 67/2003; (i) Potable Water Regulations in Fishery Product Activities: Legal Notice No.68/2003; (j) The Fishery Product Importation and Exportation Regulations: Legal Notice No 69/2003; (k) Regulations issued to amend the Foreign Fishing Vessels Regulations (Legal Notice No. 38/1998): Legal Notice No. 70/2003; (l) Regulations issued to amend the Fishery Product Regulations (Legal Notice No.40/1998): Legal Notice No. 71/2003.</p> <p>These laws and regulations provide comprehensive coverage about the development and management of the marine sector in Eritrea and contain a numbers of Articles relevant to the</p>

	protection, conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity, including the establishment of marine protected areas.
Eritrean National Environmental Assessment Procedures and Guidelines (NEAPG) 2000	<p>The NEAPG demands that adequate level of environmental assessment take place for all development projects with potentially negative environmental consequences.</p> <p>The EIA guidelines, when applied rigorously have proved to be an effective mechanism for ensuring an integrated approach for development. The objectives of the National Environmental Assessment Procedures and Guidelines are: to assess the significance of potential impacts which the implementation of the project may have on the environment; to reduce delays in project approval procedures by providing a standardized and transparent system for environmental assessment; to improve project design and performance, thus improving overall economic efficiency, to promote sustainable economic development without unnecessary decline in environmental quality.</p>
<b>Local</b>	
Local government	<p>Zoba Semienawi Keih Bahri, together with other stakeholders has set temporary regulations to manage and preserve the protected area especially for Semienawi and Debubawi Bahri PAs.</p> <p>Within those enclosures; temporary land use classification, grazing and cultivable areas has been discussed and delineated together with local communities.</p>
<b>Protected Area(s)</b>	
Sub Zoba and local community level	<p>In the Debubawi Bahri area, the Sub Zoba administration together with Branch offices of the line ministries (MoA, and MoLWE) and key stakeholders have set local regulations on how to temporarily manage the protected area which had been practically materialized.</p> <p>Kebabi administration and local area communities have taken the responsibility of managing their own protected areas within their vicinity. Communities were able to recruit forest guards from their own sources.</p> <p>Besides, the local communities in the Buri, Irrori and Hawkil PAs have their traditional and rich customary laws and regulations on how to manage and protect the natural resources particularly on the forestry and wildlife resources. According to this tradition and culture, along the coastline, it is not acceptable to harm or hunt Gazelle, ostrich and other wildlife animals. Wildlife often lives close to human settlements and graze in harmony together with livestock. With regards to forest conservation, the tradition does not allow to cut live trees. Firewood collection (dry wood) is only allowed through the permission of the elderly and local government. Violation of this tradition leads to punishment.</p> <p>The customary law the local communities should be further researched document and shared to other communities.</p>



## Institutional Context

Institution	Description
<b>National</b>	
Ministry of National Development (MoND)	The MoND has the overall responsibility of donor coordination and collaboration. The MoND maintains close linkages with all development partners and ensures coordination of donor-supported development initiatives in the country. It ensures its integration within the GOE and donor supported Integrated Rural Development Program. MoND will be a key institution for the future of PAs sustainability and operations in Eritrea.
Ministry of Agriculture (MoA)	<p>It is responsible to fulfilling a clearly defined mandate covering strategic planning; developing and managing Agricultural resources; impart regulation; conducting research; and promoting Forestry and wildlife component around the PAs. Supported by all Zoba and sub-zoba institutions is responsible for coordinating and overseeing the implementation of the PA components. MoA has also the authority to declare protected areas in terrestrial areas. It is also responsible to play a facilitative role supporting the further development of an enabling environment, including policy formulation, regulation, research and technical support for regions and sub-regions. The MoA would be responsible for conservation in the terrestrial environment - provisionally constituting the area down to the high watermark; the MOA constitutes the lead institution for the overall coordination and management of PAS.</p> <p>MoA through Agricultural Extension Department (AED) will assist the PA will be responsible to the overall extension activities including: (i) provision of technical support and advise on water conservation, natural resources restoration, crop, livestock, animal and plant health, migratory pests; (ii) assist the development and restoration of natural resources; (iii) develop potential irrigation areas; (iv) preparation of guidelines, manuals, project proposals and Agricultural Road Map; (iv) provision of agricultural inputs; (v) provision of training; (vi) monitoring and evaluation; (vii) reinforcing documentation and database system; (viii) prevention and controlling of plant/animal pests/diseases; (ix) enhancing of food related and energy saving technologies and proper utilization of agricultural products; (x) and collaborate with national, regional, international organizations.</p> <p>Regulatory Service Department (RSD) of the MoA is responsible for the formulation of policies, laws, regulatory instruments and standards; undertake review process on proclaimed ones; undertake effective inspection and certification services on animals and plants and their products as well as animal feed, drugs, biologics and agrochemicals; provide standardized animal and plant quarantine services; strengthening linkages with relevant regional and international organizations; upgrading human resource capacity; introduction of management information system; and conduct monitoring and evaluation activities.</p>
National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI)	The National Agricultural Research Institute (NARI) is the principal entity involved in agricultural research and also collaborates with all

Institution	Description
	<p>international and national entities in making trials and seed multiplication.</p> <p>The institute is structured to conduct (on a demand-driven bases) area-specific, commodity-based research within the fields of natural resource management, crop and livestock resources, and agricultural engineering. The PA would benefit as it ensures demand-driven technology development.</p>
Ministry of Finance	The Ministry of Finance had the responsibility to review the submission of and approval of budgets, including securing the Government contribution to the program
Ministry of Land, Water and Environment (MoLWE)	<p>Would be responsible for developing standards and ensuring that environmentally sustainable practices are pursued in the development of the PAS. This ministry will have lead role in coordinating institutions involved in the PA systems.</p> <p>The responsibility of the Ministry is to support the further development of an enabling environment, including policy and proclamation formulation, regulation, research and technical support for regional/subzobas government related to land, water, and environmental natural resources and management at national level.</p> <p>The Water Resources Department (WRD) of the MOLWE is responsible for water resources development and different uses. It is responsible in performing water resources potential assessment, studies and researches; carry out surface and ground water works; accomplish study on water balance in basins; developing regulatory instruments, including water resources and water effluent related directives, standards, guidelines; enhance national water resources information database and management system; and Develop institutional and human capacity and Improve work system.</p> <p>The Department of Land (DoL) the MoLWE is responsible in developing and reviewing land related laws, directives, standards, guidelines, manuals, and forms; perform land use planning at national, regional, sub sub-regional and village level; carry out parcel based land use studies based on demand of land for different purposes; prepare land use classification and cadastral maps; develop integrated and reliable Information System; accomplish research, monitoring and evaluation of land related activities (land use, allocation and right of holders etc) versus land law; and develop institutional and human capacity and improve work system</p> <p>The DoE of the MoLWE is responsible to (i) develop and implement environmental regulatory instruments; (ii) review and approve environmental impact assessments for developmental projects; (iii) conduct environmental awareness programs; (iv) strengthen environmental information; (v) perform environmental assessments on Biodiversity; (vi) perform environmental assessments on climate change; (vii) perform environmental assessments on Chemicals and waste management; (viii) carry out capacity building; and (ix) promote international cooperation and coordination.</p>
Ministry of Marine Resources	Would be responsible for the planning and conservation of the

Institution	Description
(MoMR)	<p>marine environment. The MMR will be the lead agency for the Marine Protected Area. The MoMR is entrusted with the functions and authority to develop and manage the sustainable utilization of the country's marine and coastal resources, protect and preserve the marine habitat and work towards integrated coastal area management (ICAM) including the island areas.</p> <p>The Fisheries Department of the MoMR is responsible to (i) direct and guide the implementation of mechanisms and policies on fisheries development; (ii) direct and guide criteria for classification of species-habitat conservation zones and aquatic nature reserves; (iii) decentralize the management of conservation zones of national and international importance; to promulgate regulations on the management, exploitation and protection of fisheries resources; and (iv) direct aqua-cultural activities according to plans.</p> <p>The Coastal Area Development Department of the MoMR is responsible to (i) direct and guide the implementation of planning, programs, mechanisms and policies on development of the processing industry in combination with production activities and the markets of commodity lines in the domains under its state management; and policies on development of mechanical engineering, and trades in association with cooperatives; and (ii) to direct, guide, inspect and evaluate the development of the processing industry, mechanical engineering and post-harvest preservation activities within the scope of its state management.</p>
Forestry and Wildlife Authority (FWA)	FWA is technically mandated for issuing licenses and rational utilization of forest resources. Currently, FWA is working on its full fledged functions, duties and responsibilities. However, in due course it has the overall responsibilities of PAs management such as coordination, technical backup, resources mobilization, monitoring and evaluation forestry and wildlife including the PAs. The government is in the process of legally institutionalizing as an independent authority with clear mandates and responsibilities.
Ministry of Energy and Mines	The Department of Energy under the Ministry of Energy and Mines is responsible for alternative source of energy, is mandated to conduct research on energy alternatives, disseminating more efficient stoves and promoting the purchase of stoves dependent on alternative energy sources together with other line Ministries.
Ministry of Local Government (MoLG)	As a decentralised administrative system, the MoLG oversees the activities of the various line ministries.
Ministry of Tourism	The Ministry of Tourism is the National Tourism Administration (NTA) of Eritrea. The Ministry has vested responsibility to regulate tourism and any tourism related activities. As a slowly growing body the Ministry has been engaged in laying down infrastructure and drafting regulations and guidelines.
National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW)	NUEW would be responsible for mobilizing women for participation in project planning and implementation. NUEW will be critical in mobilizing local communities (especially women) in identifying and implementing adaptation, SLM/SFM techniques and income generating activities. Also in participation in planning and monitoring.

Institution	Description
	<p>NUEW represented in local government structures, from the kebab level upwards, and acts as an Effective in mobilizing and organizing women in PAs. In this respect, NUEW will play an important role in implementation of the Programme, including representation on the Project implementation Committee.</p> <p>The NUEW is the lead implementing agency for poverty reduction activities geared at women. NUEW activities concentrate on mobilizing, training, and related activities related to PA management and income generating activities.</p>
<b>Local</b>	
Regional Administration	<p>The regional administration will assume overall responsibility for implementation at the regional/zoba level. A coordination office at the zoba level will ensure coordination including planning, financial management, and M&amp;E.</p> <p>The lead agency for agricultural and rural development is the Zoba administration and as well creates mechanism to the processes for planning, implementation and monitoring of the development program and involves a decentralized arrangement involving Sub-Zoba and kebab administrations. Zoba administrations are key implementing agencies for all agricultural and rural development programmes.</p> <p>At zoba level the natural resources management responsibility rests on the zoba administration in coordination with the branch offices of the concerned line ministries.</p>
Branch of Ministry of Finance under the Regional Administration	<p>The branch of MoF at regional level has the responsibility to review the compliance and approval of budgets in their respective zobas/regions. They also take the lead, in coordinating all zonal government branches in the financial directives, investment areas and project arrangements</p>
Branch of MoA under the Regional Administration	<p>Would be responsible for conservation in the terrestrial environment provisionally constituting the area down to the high watermark; the MOA constitutes the lead institution for the overall coordination and management of PAS. It is also expected to provide technical assistance to the project implementation and management processes.</p> <p>The branch is responsible for the supervision and management of the region/zoba forestry development, soil and water conservation, reservoir construction and the development of irrigation, conduct surveys, undertake M&amp;E for Agricultural resources, soil and water conservation and related issues.</p>
Branch of MoLWE under the Regional Administration	<p>Would be responsible for developing standards and ensuring that environmentally sustainable practices are pursued in the development of the PAS. It will have lead role in coordinating institutions involved in the PA systems.</p> <p>At Zoba level is responsible to the implementation, prevention, control of environmental pollution and ecological damage, implementation of the environmental impact assessment of projects and programs, including the restoration improvement and development of the environmental resources. It is also responsible</p>

Institution	Description
	for the implementation and safeguarding the rational development and utilization of the water resources of the Zoba. The execution of land use planning at Zoba, Sub Zoba and village level; carry out parcel based land use studies based on demand of land for different purposes; prepare land use classification are also the responsibilities of the zoba branch of the Ministry of Land, water, and environment.
Branch of Ministry of Tourism under the regional Administration	The branch of Ministry of Tourism is responsible to any related tourism activities at the region/zoba level. These include permit for operating hotels, permit for restaurants and food catering, permitting travel agencies including setting up of infrastructure and development planning.
NUEW	The NUEW is the lead implementing agency for poverty reduction activities geared at women. NUEW activities concentrate on mobilizing, training, and related activities related to PA management and income generating activities.
NUEYS	Play a prominent role in mobilizing work force and campaign work activities such as planting, earth works soil and water conservation etc.
Sub Zoba Administration	In PA the active involvement of the local communities in close follow up of the sub-zoba administration and relevant branch ministries' office representatives. The local communities will be represented local development committee such water committee afforestation committee...etc elected by general public at village level. The role of the local community will include active participation areas that enhance the PA project implementation such as tree planting, construction and other soil and water conservation works.
Branch of Ministry of Finance under Sub Zoba Administration	The branch of MoF at Sub Zoba level has the responsibility to review the compliance and approval of budgets in their respective sub Zoba's. They also take the lead, in coordinating all Sub Zoba's government branches in the financial directives, investment areas and project arrangements.
Branch of MoA under the Sub Zoba Administration	<p>MoA through its extension officers provide technical assistance: advice, and training at project area level. It is also responsible for the implementation, supervision and management of the PA development, soil and water conservation, construction and developing irrigation schemes, farmers' organization, monitoring and evaluation of agricultural resources, intensive works in catchment rehabilitation activities.</p> <p>The MOA constitutes the lead institution for the overall implementation of PAs.</p>
Branch of MoLWE under the Sub Zoba Administration	At Sub Zoba level, the branch is responsible to the implementation, prevention, control of environmental pollution and ecological damage, implementation of the environmental impact assessment of projects and programs, including the restoration improvement and development of the environmental resources. It is also responsible for the implementation and safeguarding the rational development and utilization of the water resources of the Sub Zoba.
NUEW at Sub Zoba	The NUEW at Sub Zoba is responsible to the activities related to gender mainstreaming and mobilization, including training, and other activities related to PA management and income generating activities.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Description</b>
NUEYS at Sub Zoba	Play a prominent role in mobilizing work force and campaign work activities such as catchment rehabilitation and other conservation activities.
The kebab administration	<p>The kebab administration sets up a Planning and Implementation Committee (PIC) to formulate the Kebab Development Plans. The PIC is headed by the Kebab Administrator assisted by the local Zoba assembly members. PIC receives technical support from the Sub-Zoba line ministries/agencies. Local projects are identified, planned and consolidated.</p> <p>They are custodians and beneficiaries of the PAs, pasturelands, forests, fishing grounds. Local communities will be participate in planning and management, especially identifying and implementing adaptation and SLM/SFM techniques, income generating activities and monitoring</p>
<b>Protected Area(s)</b>	
Local Communities	<p>Local communities, particularly in the farming areas bring to the process unique indigenous knowledge on preservation of biodiversity. The community is to identify and prioritize its problems and define development actions to address them</p> <p>Custodians and beneficiaries of the PAs, pasturelands, forests, fishing grounds. Local communities will be participate in planning and management, especially identifying and implementing adaptation and SLM/SFM techniques, income generating activities and monitoring.</p>

## Annex D: Description of Relevant Sector Investments

Project Title	Principal Donor/Agency	Dates	Budget US\$	Project Objective and Primary Activities	Project Coordination Measures
<b>Summary of Relevant Government Projects (Forestry, Water Department, etc.)</b>					
Enclosure management	The state of Eritrea (MoA)	1991-current )	900,060	Forestry and wildlife conservation for enhancing biodiversity	The GEF project will expect to supplement for the ongoing government initiatives operated with little financial resources
Catchment rehabilitation , Debubawi Bahri project site)	Local government	2011-current	876,843	Soil and water conservation and tree planting on Debubawi Bahri Project area	The GEF project will expect to supplement for the ongoing government initiatives operated with little financial resources
Catchment rehabilitation (Buri)	Local government	2011-current	554,273	Hillside terracing in Buri peninsula site	The GEF project will expect to supplement for the ongoing government initiatives operated with little financial resources
Wild life conservation and development	Local government of Zoba S/K/B	2010-2011	32,667	-Borehole drilling for wildlife water points in Buri Peninsula site	The GEF project will be expected to supplement for initiatives undertaken by the government.
<b>Summary of Relevant Donor Projects (GTZ, SIDA, UNDP, World Bank, etc.)</b>					
Nursery development	Norwegian Church Aid( NCA)	2011	554,273	Seedling raising Provision of modern beehives Borehole drilling Provision of energy saving improved stoves	
Agricultural development in Debubawi Bahri Project site	Oxfam GB	2008-2011	1,069,003	Soil and water conservation and pasture development Provision of modern beehives to the communities in the project site Provision of goats for the needy widows Provision of cereal and vegetable seeds Maintenance of spate irrigation canals and equipment Provision of energy saving improved stoves Training of farmers	
<b>Summary of Relevant NGO and Private Sector Projects (WWF, TNC, Birdlife International, etc.)</b>					
Nursery development	Norwegian Church Aid( NCA)	2011	554,273	Seedling raising Provision of modern beehives Borehole drilling Provision of energy saving improved stoves	
Agricultural	Oxfam GB	2008-2011	1,069,003	Soil and water	

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Principal Donor/Agency</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Budget US\$</b>	<b>Project Objective and Primary Activities</b>	<b>Project Coordination Measures</b>
development in Debubawi Bahri Project site				conservation and pasture development Provision of modern beehives to the communities in the project site	



## **Annex E: Stakeholder Involvement Plan**

240. The project was designed through a multi-stakeholder participation at national, regional, sub-regional and village levels. The PA will cast its effect on virtually all the people of Eritrea as most of the Eritrean people depend on the resources of the proposed PA for life's essentials- mainly fuel wood, crop production as well as livestock grazing. Hence, it is mandatory to make the project design process very participatory.
241. The participatory nature of the project design started quite earlier during the preparation of the PIF where representatives of various local institutions (government ministries, civil societies and NGOs) and community representatives were involved in drawing the essential components included in the PIF and subsequently the concept note. Project objectives and the expected outcomes were widely shared in the spirit of making the PA contextually relevant and locally acceptable. Throughout the design process it has been widely agreed that sheer will and decisions at the upper government echelons alone will not sustain the established PAs- hence communities, through their various levels of government, must provide environmental protection as a public service in the same manner that they provides health, education, defence and legal systems. Failure to provide these public services impoverishes the quality of life for individuals and indeed for entire nation.
242. The consultation process preceding the preparation of this PPG started with initial roundtable expert discussions at the office of the UNDP on 16 November 2012, where representatives of some key stakeholders also participated. In this meeting the strategies, objectives and merits of the project were discussed and ideas exchanged on the way forward towards preparing the PPG. The discussion led to a consensual decision of forming the study teams, harmonizing work schedule as well as the preparation of the list of potential stakeholders to consult throughout the project design process.
243. An essential part of the design process was the reconnaissance visit to the project sites by three consultants and their teams. Meetings during the reconnaissance visit involved consultation with the governor of the Northern Red Sea and her constituent higher officers. In this meeting the technical feasibility of the various solutions proposed, the desired stakeholder commitment and the practice of adaptive management were discussed. Throughout the reconnaissance visit counterpart stakeholders and local communities expressed their understanding and acceptance of the project objectives.
244. The inception workshop was another forum that consolidated the commitment and participation of the stakeholders in project design. As preparation for this workshop, the team of consultants met with the ministers of the three principal Ministries (Ministry of Land, Water and Environment, Ministry of Marine resources, and the Ministry of Agriculture, and the head of the forestry and wild life authority. The ministers confirmed their high support for the project. Essentially, the inception workshop was the crux of counterpart participation in project design. The Project Inception Workshop was conducted with the full participation of the National consultants as members of the project team, UNDP team and relevant government counterparts, as well as community representatives. A total of about 50 participants representing different stakeholders and communities participated in this workshop. More importantly though, the communities were consulted in identifying the project components during the development of the PIF, which essentially forms the backlog of this project.
245. The key project partners to this project are the Ministry of Land, water and Environment; the Ministry of Agriculture; The Ministry of Marine Resources; the Forestry and Wildlife Authority; the Ministry of Tourism and the Regional (Zoba) Administrations of Northern Red Sea, Maekel and Anseba regions. However, since the establishment and management of PAs entails tradeoffs between economic or social development and environmental quality, all local institutions are of interest to the project design. These trade-offs should not be limited to specific stakeholders. Because the project must address the consequences of these tradeoffs, it is only just that they understand and have a voice in any tradeoffs that are ultimately made. For these reasons the

inception workshop was highly participatory and the consultative process of designing this project was very intensive, with 70% of the process being done at the PA sites.

246. Following the inception workshop the communities and stakeholders were adequately consulted for the preparation of the socio-economic assessment, biodiversity assessment, issues on management and finance. Communities were consulted through PRA sessions and household interviews. Over the course of the project design phase, an estimated 400 people were consulted at all levels (national, Zobas, subzobas, and PAs sites) of which the 100 were key informants from the different local stakeholders and government representatives.
247. In sum, project design involved strong and effective two-way exchange of ideas between relevant stakeholders at all stages (national, Zobas, sub Zobas and PAs sites). The full project will continue the involvement of stakeholders in the process of the project design, development and implementation phases. All the way through the project life it includes significant investment in a Knowledge Management system, for coordinating the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of a wide range of information related to conservation resources, and particularly focused on the management of protected areas. In order to ensure the absolute best use of resource within the PAs, the project design followed careful planning and sustainable lines of communication between communities, professionals and other stakeholders.
248. Project preparation emphasized stakeholder participation. Over one hundred representatives of government agencies, donors, and local community groups were engaged through dozens of formal and informal discussions at the national and field level. A results framework workshop generated in-depth discussions and agreement regarding project strategy. Government staff facilitated the METT scoring exercise. The project design is fully vetted and stakeholder supported.
249. Project implementation will carry forward the same spirit of participation and inclusivity. Formal implementation guidance will be offered by a project steering committee (board) comprised of representatives of key organizations. A technical advisory board will further enhance participation. Stakeholder committees will be established at each project site to formalize participation. A much broader range of stakeholders will be integrated within project inception, planning, monitoring, and evaluation activities. Project management tools such as the project inception work plan, mid-term review, and final evaluation will be made available to all interested stakeholders. The project management office will be responsible for catalyzing both formal and informal stakeholder participation. This will include working daily to engage key stakeholders within all relevant agencies.

*National Project Steering Committee (Project Board)*

<i>Member Organization</i>	<i>Organization Representative (Job title/position)</i>
Ministry of Land, Water and Environment (MOLWE) – Department of Environment	Director General (DoE), chairperson
F&WLA	Head of F&WLA, Secretary
MoA, Extension Department	Director General, Member
MoMR (Development Department)	Director General, member
Project Manager	Member/Secretary
UNDP	Environment and Sustainable Development Unit-Member
MOA-NRS	Head, Member
NRS regional Administration	Economic Development Department-Member
PAs representative	Member

National Project Technical Committee

<b>Member Organization</b>	<b>Organization Representative (Job title/position)</b>
Local Government	Economic Development Expert-member
MoA	Extension/Regulatory Department -Member
MoMR	Marine Development Department -member
MoEM	Energy Development and Planning expert-member
Ministry of Tourism	Tourism Development Expert-member
Ministry of Land Water and Environment	Director-Chair
Project Manager	Secretary
Other relevant agencies: UNDP, NGOs, Civil societies and associations	Members
PA representative	Member

Zoba (pilot site) Level Project Advisory Committees

<b>Member Organization</b>	<b>Organization Representative (Job title/position)</b>
MoLG	Chair
MoLWE	Member
MoA	Member
FWLA	Member
MoMR	Member
MoT	Member
Project Coordinator	Secretary
Representative of PA communities	Member

Pilot Site Technical Advisory Committees

<b>Member Organization</b>	<b>Organization Representative (Job title/position)</b>
HAC, CMR, EIT, CASS Adikeyh	Member
MOA	Secretary
MoMR	Member
Ministry of Tourism MoA (AED, RSD & NARI)	Member
Sub Zonal Administration	Chair
Project Coordinator	Member
Local communities of Semenawi & Debubawi Bahri and surrounding	Member

Stakeholder Organizations

<b>Stakeholder Organization</b>	<b>Relevance to Project</b>
Government	
Ministry of Agriculture	Would be responsible for conservation in the terrestrial environment - provisionally constituting the area down to the high watermark; the MOA constitutes the lead institution for the overall coordination and management of PAS

	In connection with the PAs system, it is expected to introduce environmentally friendly farming systems (cropping systems, livestock husbandry) and management of terrestrial ecosystems at large and within and around the peripheries of the PAs. Moreover, it reviews budget allocations, oversees implementation of the community plantation forestry Program using indigenous species which supports the use of forest management through protection contracts and reforestation activities. Furthermore, it will undertake stocktaking assessment and conduct monitoring and evaluation on the dynamics of the vegetation within and around the PAs; carries out surveys, plans and develops investment projects for establishing Forests.
Ministry of Marine Resources (MoMR)	The MoMR has an overall management and regulatory function, and M&E of the Coastal and marine eco-systems. It also undertakes stocktaking assessment on the status of plant and animal species as well as the marine environment at large. Hence it will have direct contribution in the implementation of the proposed project particularly to those adjacent to the sea (Coastal and marine areas management) MoMR will work in close cooperation with DOE. It will contribute to the project through administration and management of coast and Marine PAs. The Ministry of Fisheries would be responsible for the planning and conservation of the marine environment and will be the lead agency for the Marine Protected Area.
The Ministry of Land water and Environment (MoLWE)	The MLWE would be responsible for developing standards and ensuring that environmentally sustainable practices are pursued in the development of the PAS. This ministry will have lead role in coordinating institutions involved in the PA systems.  Department of Environment (DOE) being a focal for the two UN environmental conventions (UNFCCC, CBD) Hence, it will have a say in the overall implementation of the project.  The Department of Land prepares Land Use plan for the PAs, and takes the lead to oversee land allocation for different purposes and regulate Land Use planning, and monitor its proper implementation in and around the PAS. It has overall regulatory functions at all levels.
Forestry and Wildlife Authority (FWA)	FWA is a recently instituted organization with the mandate of managing and coordination issues related to forestry and wildlife. It is potentially one of the lead agency of the project outputs in collaboration to all stakeholders. The Authority particularly focuses whether the activities are implemented at ground.
Ministry of Information (MoI)	The project will cooperate with MoI on public awareness issues through radio, newspapers and TV. Other lessons from different sources could also be a good media of awareness.
Ministry of Finance (MoF)	The MoF is a key partner in reviewing and approving budgets; it will assist the project in reviewing and, where necessary, revising financial regulations and procedures to support improved and diversified financial management of PAs
Ministry of Tourism	Has the responsibility in developing tourism plans at large and eco-tourism in particular as related to access to tourists in the PAs. It will encourage in integrating the PAs within the framework of development to generation and allocation of tourism revenues. It leads Business plan in ecotourism, tourist information and promotion of ecotourism. It will also foster the promotion of educational tourism to pupil and students and raise their awareness on the role of PAs.
Local Communities	Custodians and beneficiaries of the PAS, pasturelands, forests, fishing grounds. Local communities will be participate in planning and management, especially identifying and implementing adaptation and SLM/SFM techniques, income generating activities and monitoring.
Private sector	Would be responsible for advancing business, particularly in tourism and other income generating activities. The private project will especially cultivate the

	participation of the private sector as sector as a critical sustainability mechanism.
Administrative Offices	Would be responsible for provision of administrative backup and services
International Development Organizations	
UNDP	The pivotal roles and responsibilities of UNDP revolve around the following issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensuring professional and timely implementation of the project outcomes, outputs and activities; delivering reports and other outputs identified in the project document;</li> <li>2. Assisting and supporting project implementing institution and other relevant stakeholders in organizing, coordinating and hosting project meetings at all levels; manage and take the responsibility of financial, administration to realize the envisioned targets.</li> <li>3. It will also establish effective network between project national stakeholders, international organizations and the donors.</li> </ol>
Civil Society (NGO's, etc.)	
National Union of Eritrean Women (NUEW)	Would be responsible for mobilising women for participation in project planning and implementation. NUEW will be critical in mobilizing local communities (especially women) in identifying and implementing adaptation, SLM/SFM techniques and income generating activities. Also in participation in planning and monitoring.
Academic and Scientific Organizations	
Hamelmallo Agricultural College (HAC)	One of the lead agricultural institute which could cooperate with the project during its business management plan by undertaking Stalk taking assessment of the floral and fauna, sharing knowledge on SLM and SFM practices. It has also interest to use the site as demonstration for students and farmers
Eritrea Institute of Technology: Department of Biology	could cooperate with the project during its business management plan by undertaking Stalk taking assessment of the floral and fauna, sharing knowledge on marine environment. Could support the project in Herbarium collection, identification of species
National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS)	Preservation of the Genetic materials in the gene bank.
Marine Science Technology COMAT)	Coastal and marine biodiversity studies Use the site as demonstration site for students
Local and Indigenous Communities	
Local communities (villages)	Inhabitants within the PAs and surroundings will be made aware of the issues and invited to take part in the decision making process. Their cooperation will be sought in implementing project activities including protection and alternative income development (ecotourism, sustainable harvesting of natural resources), awareness raising, Sustainable use of the protected area, Protection against intruders etc.  Custodians and beneficiaries of the PAS, pasturelands, forests, fishing grounds. Local communities will participate in planning and management, especially identifying and implementing adaptation and SLM/SFM techniques, income generating activities and monitoring.
Private Sector	
Tourist Services: Hotels, restaurants, Travel agencies and Tourist guides	Development of small- and medium -scale tourist service providing hotels and restaurants and associated travel and curio goods need to be licensed and operate as per the guidelines of the ministry of tourism. This component is an

	<p>essential element in the sustainability of the PAs in generating income to manage them properly.</p> <p>Would participate in promoting business, particularly in tourism and other income generating activities. The private project will especially cultivate the participation of the private sector as sector as a critical sustainability mechanism.</p>
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## Annex F: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

### QUESTION 1:

**Has a combined environmental and social assessment/review that covers the proposed project already been completed by implementing partners or donor(s)?**

Select answer below and follow instructions:

**NO** → Continue to Question 2 (do not fill out Table 1.1)

**YES** → No further environmental and social review is required if the existing documentation meets UNDP's quality assurance standards, and environmental and social management recommendations are integrated into the project. Therefore, you should undertake the following steps to complete the screening process:

1. Use Table 1.1 below to assess existing documentation. (It is recommended that this assessment be undertaken jointly by the Project Developer and other relevant Focal Points in the office or Bureau).
2. Ensure that the Project Document incorporates the recommendations made in the implementing partner's environmental and social review.
3. Summarize the relevant information contained in the implementing partner's environmental and social review in Annex A.2 of this Screening Template, selecting Category 1.
4. Submit Annex A to the PAC, along with other relevant documentation.

**Note: Further guidance on the use of national systems for environmental and social assessment can be found in Annex B.**

### QUESTION 2:

**Do all outputs and activities described in the Project Document fall within the following categories?**

- Procurement (in which case UNDP's [Procurement Ethics](#) and [Environmental Procurement Guide](#) need to be complied with)
- Report preparation
- Training
- Event/workshop/meeting/conference (refer to [Green Meeting Guide](#))
- Communication and dissemination of results

Select answer below and follow instructions:

**NO** → Continue to Question 3

**YES** → No further environmental and social review required. Complete Annex A.2, selecting Category 1, and submit the completed template (Annex A) to the PAC.

### QUESTION 3:

**Does the proposed project include activities and outputs that support *upstream* planning processes that potentially pose environmental and social impacts or are vulnerable to environmental and social change (refer to Table 3.1 for examples)? (Note that *upstream* planning processes can occur at global, regional, national, local and sectoral levels)**

Select the appropriate answer and follow instructions:

**X NO** → Continue to Question 4.

**YES** → Conduct the following steps to complete the screening process:

1. Adjust the project design as needed to incorporate UNDP support to the country(ies), to ensure that environmental and social issues are appropriately considered during the upstream planning process. Refer to Section 7 of this Guidance for elaboration of environmental and social mainstreaming services, tools, guidance and approaches that may be used.
2. Summarize environmental and social mainstreaming support in Annex A.2, Section C of the Screening Template and select "Category 2".
3. If the proposed project **ONLY** includes upstream planning processes then screening is complete, and you should submit the completed Environmental and Social Screening Template (Annex A) to the PAC. If downstream implementation activities are also included in the project then continue to Question 4.

<b>TABLE 3.1</b>	<b>EXAMPLES OF UPSTREAM PLANNING PROCESSES WITH POTENTIAL DOWNSTREAM ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS</b>	Check appropriate box(es) below
1.	Support for the elaboration or revision of <b>global-level</b> strategies, policies, plans, and programmes. <i>For example, capacity development and support related to international negotiations and agreements. Other examples might include a global water governance project or a global MDG project.</i>	
2.	Support for the elaboration or revision of <b>regional-level</b> strategies, policies and plans, and programmes. <i>For example, capacity development and support related to transboundary programmes and planning (river basin management, migration, international waters, energy development and access, climate change adaptation etc.).</i>	
3.	Support for the elaboration or revision of <b>national-level</b> strategies, policies, plans and programmes. <i>For example, capacity development and support related to national development policies, plans, strategies and budgets, MDG-based plans and strategies (e.g. PRS/PRSPs, NAMAs), sector plans.</i>	X
4.	Support for the elaboration or revision of <b>sub-national/local-level</b> strategies, policies, plans and programmes. <i>For example, capacity development and support for district and local level development plans and regulatory frameworks, urban plans, land use development plans, sector plans, provincial development plans, provision of services, investment funds, technical guidelines and methods, stakeholder engagement.</i>	X

## QUESTION 4:

**Does the proposed project include the implementation of *downstream* activities that potentially pose environmental and social impacts or are vulnerable to environmental and social change?**

To answer this question, you should first complete Table 4.1 by selecting appropriate answers. If you answer "No" or "Not Applicable" to all questions in Table 4.1 then the answer to Question 4 is "NO." If you answer

“Yes” to any questions in Table 4.1 (even one “Yes” can indicated a significant issue that needs to be addressed through further review and management) then the answer to Question 4 is “YES”:

**NO** → No further environmental and social review and management required for downstream activities. Complete Annex A.2 by selecting “Category 1”, and submit the Environmental and Social Screening Template to the PAC.

**X YES** → Conduct the following steps to complete the screening process:

1. Consult Section 8 of this Guidance, to determine the extent of further environmental and social review and management that might be required for the project.
2. Revise the Project Document to incorporate environmental and social management measures. Where further environmental and social review and management activity cannot be undertaken prior to the PAC, a plan for undertaking such review and management activity within an acceptable period of time, post-PAC approval (e.g. as the first phase of the project) should be outlined in Annex A.2.
3. Select “Category 3” in Annex A.2, and submit the completed Environmental and Social Screening Template (Annex A) and relevant documentation to the PAC.

**TABLE 4.1: ADDITIONAL SCREENING QUESTIONS TO DETERMINE THE NEED AND POSSIBLE EXTENT OF FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT**

<b>1. Biodiversity and <u>Natural</u> Resources</b>	<b>Answer</b> (Yes/No/ Not Applicable)
<b>1.1</b> Would the proposed project result in the conversion or degradation of <u>modified habitat, natural habitat or critical habitat</u> ?	No
<b>1.2</b> Are any development activities proposed within a legally protected area (e.g. natural reserve, national park) for the protection or conservation of biodiversity?	No
<b>1.3</b> Would the proposed project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	No
<b>1.4</b> Does the project involve natural forest harvesting or plantation development without an independent forest certification system for sustainable forest management (e.g. <i>PEFC, the Forest Stewardship Council certification systems, or processes established or accepted by the relevant National Environmental Authority</i> )?	No
<b>1.5</b> Does the project involve the production and harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species without an accepted system of independent certification to ensure sustainability (e.g. <i>the Marine Stewardship Council certification system, or certifications, standards, or processes established or accepted by the relevant National Environmental Authority</i> )?	No
<b>1.6</b> Does the project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction.</i>	No
<b>1.7</b> Does the project pose a risk of degrading soils?	No
<b>2. Pollution</b>	<b>Answer</b> (Yes/No/n.a)
<b>2.1</b> Would the proposed project result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and transboundary impacts?	No
<b>2.2</b> Would the proposed project result in the generation of waste that cannot be recovered, reused, or disposed of in an environmentally and socially sound manner?	No
<b>2.3</b> Will the propose project involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international action bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions</i>	No



<b>TABLE 4.1: ADDITIONAL SCREENING QUESTIONS TO DETERMINE THE NEED AND POSSIBLE EXTENT OF FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT</b>	
	<i>such as the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, or the Montreal Protocol.</i>
<b>2.4</b>	Is there a potential for the release, in the environment, of hazardous materials resulting from their production, transportation, handling, storage and use for project activities?
	No
<b>2.5</b>	Will the proposed project involve the application of pesticides that have a known negative effect on the environment or human health?
	No
<b>3. Climate Change</b>	
<b>3.1</b>	Will the proposed project result in significant <sup>3</sup> greenhouse gas emissions? <i>Annex E provides additional guidance for answering this question.</i>
	No
<b>3.2</b>	Is the proposed project likely to directly or indirectly increase environmental and social vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? You can refer to the additional guidance in Annex C to help you answer this question. <i>For example, a project that would involve indirectly removing mangroves from coastal zones or encouraging land use plans that would suggest building houses on floodplains could increase the surrounding population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding.</i>
	No
<b>4. Social Equity and Equality</b>	
	<b>Answer</b> (Yes/No/n.a)
<b>4.1</b>	Would the proposed project have environmental and social impacts that could affect indigenous people or other vulnerable groups?
	Yes
<b>4.2</b>	Is the project likely to significantly impact gender equality and women's empowerment <sup>4</sup> ?
	No
<b>4.3</b>	Is the proposed project likely to directly or indirectly increase social inequalities now or in the future?
	No
<b>4.4</b>	Will the proposed project have variable impacts on women and men, different ethnic groups, social classes?
	No
<b>4.5</b>	Have there been challenges in engaging women and other certain key groups of stakeholders in the project design process?
	No
<b>4.6</b>	Will the project have specific human rights implications for vulnerable groups?
	No
<b>5. Demographics</b>	
<b>5.1</b>	Is the project likely to result in a substantial influx of people into the affected community (ies)?
	No
<b>5.2</b>	Would the proposed project result in substantial voluntary or involuntary resettlement of populations? <i>For example, projects with environmental and social benefits (e.g. protected areas, climate change adaptation) that impact human settlements, and certain disadvantaged groups within these settlements in particular.</i>
	No
<b>5.3</b>	Would the proposed project lead to significant population density increase which could affect the environmental and social sustainability of the project? <i>For example, a project aiming at financing tourism infrastructure in a specific</i>
	No

<sup>3</sup> Significant corresponds to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions greater than 100,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). Annex E provides additional guidance on calculating potential amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

<sup>4</sup> Women are often more vulnerable than men to environmental degradation and resource scarcity. They typically have weaker and insecure rights to the resources they manage (especially land), and spend longer hours on collection of water, firewood, etc. (OECD, 2006). Women are also more often excluded from other social, economic, and political development processes.

<b>TABLE 4.1: ADDITIONAL SCREENING QUESTIONS TO DETERMINE THE NEED AND POSSIBLE EXTENT OF FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT</b>	
	<i>area (e.g. coastal zone, mountain) could lead to significant population density increase which could have serious environmental and social impacts (e.g. destruction of the area's ecology, noise pollution, waste management problems, greater work burden on women).</i>
<b>6. Culture</b>	
<b>6.1</b>	Is the project likely to significantly affect the cultural traditions of affected communities, including gender-based roles? <b>No</b>
<b>6.2</b>	Will the proposed project result in physical interventions (during construction or implementation) that would affect areas that have known physical or cultural significance to indigenous groups and other communities with settled recognized cultural claims? <b>No</b>
<b>6.3</b>	Would the proposed project produce a physical “splintering” of a community? <i>For example, through the construction of a road, powerline, or dam that divides a community.</i> <b>No</b>
<b>7. Health and Safety</b>	
<b>7.1</b>	Would the proposed project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions? <i>For example, development projects located within a floodplain or landslide prone area.</i> <b>No</b>
<b>7.2</b>	Will the project result in increased health risks as a result of a change in living and working conditions? In particular, will it have the potential to lead to an increase in HIV/AIDS infection? <b>No</b>
<b>7.3</b>	Will the proposed project require additional health services including testing? <b>No</b>
<b>8. Socio-Economics</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	Is the proposed project likely to have impacts that could affect women's and men's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources and other natural capital assets? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their development, livelihoods, and well-being?</i> <b>No</b>
<b>8.2</b>	Is the proposed project likely to significantly affect land tenure arrangements and/or traditional cultural ownership patterns? <b>No</b>
<b>8.3</b>	Is the proposed project likely to negatively affect the income levels or employment opportunities of vulnerable groups? <b>No</b>
<b>9. Cumulative and/or Secondary Impacts</b>	<b>Answer (Yes/No/n.a)</b>
<b>9.1</b>	Is the proposed project location subject to currently approved land use plans (e.g. roads, settlements) which could affect the environmental and social sustainability of the project? <i>For example, future plans for urban growth, industrial development, transportation infrastructure, etc.</i> <b>No</b>
<b>9.2</b>	Would the proposed project result in secondary or consequential development which could lead to environmental and social effects, or would it have potential to generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? <i>For example, a new road through forested land will generate direct environmental and social impacts through the cutting of forest and earthworks associated with construction and potential relocation of inhabitants. These are direct impacts. In</i> <b>No</b>

**TABLE 4.1: ADDITIONAL SCREENING QUESTIONS TO DETERMINE THE NEED AND POSSIBLE EXTENT OF FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REVIEW AND MANAGEMENT**

<p><i>addition, however, the new road would likely also bring new commercial and domestic development (houses, shops, businesses). In turn, these will generate indirect impacts. (Sometimes these are termed “secondary” or “consequential” impacts). Or if there are similar developments planned in the same forested area then cumulative impacts need to be considered.</i></p>	
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**ANNEX A.2: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING SUMMARY**

**Name of Proposed Project:** Network of Managed Resources Protected Areas (MRPA)

**A. Environmental and Social Screening Outcome**

*Category 3a: Impacts and risks are limited in scale and can be identified with a reasonable degree of certainty*

**B. Environmental and Social Issues** (for projects requiring further and management)

In this section, you should list the key potential environmental and social issues raised by this project. This might include both environmental and social opportunities that could be seized on to strengthen the project, as well as risks that need to be managed. You should use the answers you provided in Table 4.1 as the basis for this summary, as well as any further review and management that is conducted.

*This project was developed with the support of international and national experts with more than twenty-years experience working in rural Africa and Eritrea. The project design process engaged stakeholders at all levels, including substantial fieldwork. All environmental and social benefits, impacts and risks are factored into project design. The project is designed to have no measureable negative environmental and/or social impacts. The project will improve environmental integrity and social welfare, including advancements in gender equality, participatory decision-making, reduction of environmental degradation and improved climate change resilience. The project will help generate opportunities for diversifying rural livelihoods predicated upon maintaining the integrity of ecosystem services. The project is designed to safeguard, rather than risk the interests of vulnerable communities including traditional peoples and women/women headed households.*

*However, as noted in 4.1 above, the proposed project may have environmental and social impacts that could affect indigenous people or other vulnerable groups. The project must be professionally managed and implemented. The project must benefit from the application of best available international and national practices related to community-based conservation initiatives. If this does not occur, the project may have negative ramifications for rural Eritreans. Negative impacts may include management practices and regulatory frameworks that diminish access to natural resources (e.g., water, grazing areas), lower investment incentives for pro-conservation economic activities, and increase social and economic vulnerabilities. The project implementation team must be diligent, making certain proposed conservation management changes do not adversely impact social issues such as food security. The project must take care not to destabilize communities. Proposed management improvements should reflect and respect traditional community values and decision-making structures while promoting habitat conservation and the maintenance of critical ecosystem services.*

**C. Next Steps** (for projects requiring further environmental and social review and management):

In this section, you should summarize actions that will be taken to deal with the above-listed issues. If your project has Category 2 or 3 components, then appropriate next steps will likely involve further environmental and social review and management, and the outcomes of this work should also be summarized here.

*The project will benefit from an international and national support team fully knowledgeable of Eritrea’s cultural and ecological landscape. These technical experts will monitor project direction, outputs, and results to make certain the project remains on-track to avoid any possible negative environmental and/or social impacts. This approach will further minimize exposure to social and*

*environmental risks. The project design comprehensively reflects the needs and desires of local communities. The project has a solid stakeholder engagement plan that covers and integrates national, regional, and local level stakeholders. The project has set in place numerous mechanisms to inform and engage stakeholders of on-going activity, fostering an environment of full disclosure. This strong emphasis upon stakeholder involvement will ensure that any emerging environmental and/or social risks are identified early and mitigated directly. The project will be subject to on-going project review/evaluation. At these junctures, project overseers will want to be certain the project remains within parameters as described within this project document. The evaluations will include a consultative process with stakeholders at all levels, and particularly in rural areas, directly engaged and opinions solicited. Should the project move beyond intended parameters, a supplementary environmental and social review may be required by the evaluation team.*

**D. Sign Off**

**Project Manager**

**Date**

**PAC**

**Date**

**Programme Manager**

**Date**

## **Annex G: Description of Project Sites**

**(Separately Attached with graphics and maps)**

**Annex H. Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT)  
Assessment**

<b>No</b>	<b>Protected Area</b>	<b>Protected Area Type</b>	<b>METT Score (2013)</b>
1	Semenawi and DebubawiBahri Protected Area	Proposed	29
2	Buri peninsula-Irrori-Hawakil Protected Area	Proposed	32
3	Bara'soli Bay Protected Area	Proposed	22

## **I. Letter of Agreement on UNDP Direct Project Services**

**(To be prepared)**