



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

## NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

5 November 2021

**DR. SELVA RAMACHANDRAN**

Resident Representative

United Nations Development Programme

14/F North Tower, Rockwell Business Center Sheridan

United and Sheridan Streets, Barangay Highway Hills

Mandaluyong City

**SUBJECT : Implementing the National Framework on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in the Philippines**

Dear **Resident Representative Ramachandran**:

This is to transmit the NEDA-signed project document for the **Implementing the National Framework on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in the Philippines** of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, with a total funding of USD 4,384,000 from the Global Environment Facility.

The project is aligned with the UNDP's Country Programme Document for 2019 to 2023, which supports the achievement of the country's targets outlines in the Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015 to 2028.

We would appreciate receiving updates on the implementation of the project, for NEDA's information and monitoring.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

**MERCEDITA A. SOMBILLA**

Undersecretary

NEDA Regional Development Group

**CC: SECRETARY ROY A. CIMATU, DENR**



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**United Nations Development Programme  
Project Document template for projects  
financed by the various GEF Trust Funds**

<b>Project title:</b> Implementing the National Framework on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources and Associated Traditional Knowledge in the Philippines	
<b>Country(ies):</b> Philippines	<b>Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Entity):</b> Department of Environment and Natural Resources Biodiversity Management Bureau (DENR-BMB)
<b>Execution Modality:</b> National Execution (NIM)	
<b>Contributing Outcome (UNDAF/CPD, RPD, GPD)</b> Country Programme Outcome 2: Urbanization, economic growth, and climate change actions are converging for a resilient, equitable and sustainable development path for communities	
<b>UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Category:</b> Medium risk	<b>UNDP Gender Marker:</b> GEN 2
<b>Atlas Award ID:</b> 00100511	<b>Atlas Project/Output ID:</b> 00103437
<b>UNDP-GEF PIMS ID number:</b> 6275	<b>GEF Project ID number:</b> 10079
<b>LPAC meeting date:</b> 06 August 2021	
<b>Latest possible date to submit to GEF:</b> May 2021	
<b>Latest possible CEO endorsement date:</b>	
<b>Planned start date:</b> 11 July 2021	<b>Planned end date:</b> 11 July 2027
<b>Expected date of Mid-Term Review:</b> 12 July 2024	<b>Expected date of Terminal evaluation:</b> 11 April 2027
<b>Brief project description:</b> The project aims to strengthen the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol (NP) in the Philippines by strengthening the national Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) framework, building national and local capacities and developing critical experience in ABS agreements. The project seeks to increase economic opportunity and biodiversity conservation for local communities and indigenous peoples in the Philippines stemming from fair and equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits through three main components:	
<b>Component 1:</b> Strengthening the national framework for implementing ABS in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol: This component aims to: (1) update the current national ABS framework in accordance with the	

Department of Agriculture Region 5	USD 2,752,600
Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development	USD 907,692
Local Government Unit-Province of Albay	USD 1,000,000
Local Government Unit-Province of Sorsogon	USD 1,000,000
Academic and Research Institutions (Sorsogon State College and Central Luzon State University)	USD 6,527,247
Industry - Phil Pili Industry Board	USD 3,508,800
Industry - Pharmalytics	USD 134,232
Industry - Herbanext	USD 226,200
UNDP	USD 110,417
(3) Total confirmed co-financing	<b>USD 21,631,787</b>
(4) Grand-Total Project Financing (1)+(2)	<b>USD 26,015,787</b>

**SIGNATURES**

Signature:  MERCEDITA A. SOMBILLA Undersecretary Regional Development Group	Agreed by Government Development Coordination Authority	Date/Month/Year:  7 Nov 2021
Signature:  Roy Cimatu Secretary, DENR	Agreed by Implementing Partner	Date/Month/Year:  SEP 23 2021
Signature:  Selva Ramachandran, Resident Representative, UNDP	Agreed by UNDP	Date/Month/Year:  03-Sep-2021

**Key GEF Project Cycle Milestones:**

**Project document signature:** within 25 days of GEF CEO endorsement

**First disbursement date:** within 40 days of GEF CEO endorsement

**Inception workshop date:** within 60 days of GEF CEO endorsement

**Operational closure:** within 3 months of posting of TE to UNDP ERC



Nagoya Protocol and (2) harmonize current policies on bioprospecting and scientific research and development on and commercialization of genetic resources and their associated traditional/indigenous knowledge. The project will enhance multi-sectoral and inter-agency collaboration with regard to on-going research up until its potential for commercialization to promote ABS agreements. Institutional mechanisms that inform and cross-check with other agencies any research undertaking and link these with the private sector for possible uptake will be established. Additionally, support information system such as developing a database on research on genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge/ indigenous knowledge will be undertaken under this component.

**Component 2:** Awareness raising and capacity building for implementation of the national ABS framework: A nation-wide information dissemination, education and public awareness campaign on ABS and its related policies and procedures will be undertaken under this component. The capacity building will include: strengthening capacities crafting and enforcing policies on ABS, strengthening national systems on intellectual property rights of researchers and indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs); improving capacities of national government agencies and IPLCs to engage with private sector with regard to ABS; strengthening capacities in assessing research proposals; monitoring and tracking bioprospecting of Philippine genetic resources and its associated traditional knowledge (TKs) after permits have been issued; strengthening capacities of IPLCs in using provisions of the Intellectual Property Right Act (IPRA), Cultural Heritage Act, etc. to ensure the recognition of their rights over their genetic resources (GR) and associated Indigenous Knowledge System and Practices (IKSPs) and TKs, including rights to full, effective and meaningful participation in decision-making processes; strengthening capacities of IPLCs in biodiversity conservation and protection of IKSPs/TKs associated with GRs so that they may sustainably enjoy its benefits; establishment of a model research and development practice that promotes ABS.

**Component 3:** Demonstrating benefit-sharing agreements : Under this component, a key outcome is to facilitate the negotiation of at least one ABS agreement. The project will support the design and review of ABS agreements so that they are in line with the national ABS framework in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol. This component will also support community protocols of securing Prior Informed Consent and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (PIC/FPIC) and Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT) and ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of both monetary and non-monetary benefits for the use of the genetic resources and its associated traditional/indigenous knowledge. Further under this component, conservation strategies of specific resource covered by the ABS agreement will be planned. To this end, the project will develop at least 2 bio-products from local genetic resources of *Pili tree (Canarium ovatum and Canarium luzonicum)* and *Banaba (Lagerstroemia speciosa)*.

Through the above components, the project seeks to increase economic opportunity and biodiversity conservation for local communities and indigenous peoples in the Philippines stemming from fair and equitable sharing of biodiversity benefits thereby contributing to the following impacts:

1. Increased wealth creation through safeguarding Philippines' biological resources and its genetic diversity from unfair exploitation;
2. Recognition, Respect, Protection and Promotion of Customary Law and Indigenous Knowledge and Practices System on access to genetic resources; and
3. Improved management and sustainable use of genetic resources and biodiversity.

<b>(1) Financing Plan</b>	
GEF Trust Fund	USD 4,384,000
<b>(1) Total Budget administered by UNDP</b>	<b>USD 4,384,000</b>
<b>(2) Co-Financiers that will deliver Project Results included in the Project Results Framework</b>	
Department of Environment and Natural Resources	USD 5,464,599