



Project Document

UNDP-GEF Enabling Activities Project

Government of Romania

United Nations Development Programme

Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and development of CHM PIMS no 3955

Brief description

The project objective is to enhance the national capacity to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provision through addressing institutional and human capacity gaps and adopting a more integrated approach to biodiversity conservation.

The main components of the project are:

- Aligning the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity with legal obligations under the CBD.
- Strengthening Romania's CHM.
- Undertaking detailed capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority to the CBD implementation.

The approach will be highly participative through broad consultation of relevant stakeholders. Mechanisms of voluntary cooperation will be explored in order to improve the biodiversity related information flow between the institutions. Tailor-made training modules will be design targeting the key stakeholders responsible with the CBD implementation.

Table of Contents

SECTION I: Elaboration of the Narrative 4
 PART I: Situation Analysis 4
 PART II: Strategy 4
 PART III : Management Arrangements..... 4
 PART IV: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget 6
 PART V: Legal Context..... 6
SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK, SRF 8
SECTION III: Total Budget and Workplan..... 10
SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION 13
SIGNATURE PAGE 38

Acronyms

AWP	Annual Work Plan
BIMS	Biodiversity Information Management System
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CHM	Clearing House Mechanism
COP	Conference of the Parties
EA	Enabling Activities
EC	European Commission
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
IBIS	Integrated Biodiversity Information System
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
MESD	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCSA	National Capacity Self Assessment
NEA	National Executing Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSC	National Steering Committee
PM	Project manager
PMU	Protected Management Unit
UNCCD	United Nations Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP-CO	United Nations Development Programme Country Office
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

SECTION I: Elaboration of the Narrative

PART I: Situation Analysis

1. Convention on Biological Diversity was ratified by the Romanian Government and enforced through law no. 58 of 1994. Romania's first National Strategy for Biodiversity was elaborated in 1996 and revised in 2001. The Strategy and its associated Action Plan is however outdated and needs urgent revision and alignment to CBD and national priorities. Romania has only made modest steps to establish a comprehensive CHM. The Convention Focal Points were nominated. However, the data that these focal points can provide is limited by a lack of technical/human resources. The National Capacity Self Assessment process (2004-2005) process identified the needs for further development in this area. Currently, there is a lack of cooperation among various stakeholders, there are not enough partnerships established and the scientific community is insufficiently involved. There are not many data sharing agreements established with other neighboring countries and although some data is collected and stored, data sharing is hampered by a lack of data sharing protocols.

PART II: Strategy

2. The project will align the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity with legal obligation under the CBD by looking also into the possibility of integrating the BSAP into the country's national development priorities. Through this process which will be highly participatory involving the relevant institutions the project will address also institutional fragmentation through streamlining and clearer definition of mandates and responsibilities, especially for protected areas; the need to improve inter-ministerial communication on biodiversity-related issues; and the need to adopt a more integrated approach to biodiversity. Specific issues regarding the in-situ and ex-situ conservation and management of information will constitute one of the main focuses of the needs assessment exercise in the framework of this project. The existing CHM will be strengthened and detailed capacity needs assessment in the priority areas for CBD implementation will be undertaken followed by the design of training modules.

PART III: Management Arrangements

3. The project will be implemented over a period of 18 months. The project execution will adhere to UNDP national execution (NEX) project requirements.

4. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is the focal point for coordinating UNDP's technical cooperation in Romania.

5. The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development will serve as the National Executing Agency (NEA) responsible for project implementation. The NEA is accountable to the focal point and UNDP for the government's participation in the project. The NEA will ensure that internal monitoring and review systems are in place. The NEA staff and/or experts will be utilized when needed in accordance with UNDP guidelines, and will facilitate interaction among relevant public organizations, research institutions and private organizations.

6. The Ecological University will be delegated by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development as executing agency. The Ecological University may form consortium for the implementation of this project if need may be. The project management unit will be hosted by the Ecological University of Bucharest. The NEA will work in close partnership with the Ecological University and UNDP CO and will be responsible for substantive quality of the project outcomes, as well

as for the proper use of project resources, regardless of whether it directly implements project activities or delegates others to do so.

7. The NEA will ensure that project planning, review, monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements are met. The NEA will also manage the project budget, including components implemented by partner agencies and sub-contractors. The National Executing Agency (NEA) will establish a National Steering Committee (NSC) to advise and guide project implementation.

This will be formed by:

- an executive – The National Project Director (NPD) nominated by the NEA in consultation with UNDP. The NPD will be a government employee whose salary will not be paid through this project.
- a senior supplier – who will be UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
- senior beneficiary – representative of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development

8. The Project assurance function will be played by the Head of Energy and Environment Section of UNDP Romania while the project support will be ensured by the Programme Assistant of Energy and Environment Section of UNDP Romania.

9. UNDP: Working closely with the NEA and the Ecological University, UNDP Country Office (CO) will be responsible for: overseeing project budgets and expenditures, recruiting and contracting project personnel and consultant services and/or procuring equipment (when not done by the NEA), and project evaluation and reporting, results-based project monitoring, and organizing independent audits to ensure the proper use of UNDP/GEF funds. Financial transactions, auditing and reporting will be carried out in compliance with national regulations and UNDP procedures for national execution.

10. Day-to-day Project Management and Implementation.

The NEA will establish a small Project Management Unit (PMU) in consultation with UNDP. The PMU will be located within the Ecological University of Bucharest. The PMU will consist of following two national staff members: the project manager, and a project assistant. The PMU staff salaries will not be paid from this project. The PMU will be strengthened with national and international short-term experts. GEF funds will pay the costs associated with international and national expert input to the project. Recruitment of expert input for the project will be done in consultation with UNDP.

11. The PMU will assume the day-to-day management responsibility for the project implementation and coordination with other partner organizations. The Project Manager will be responsible for facilitating UNDP's project monitoring duties, preparing technical and financial reports to UNDP and GEF, and confirming the quality of the project's outputs. One of the most important responsibilities of the PM will be working effectively with members of the NSC to ensure that project activities and coordination with project partners are on schedule.

12. The National Steering Committee . The NEA delegated executing agency will identify the relevant partner institutions and establish the composition of NSC and assume the role of chair of the NSC. The NSC will serve also as a forum for stakeholder input and discussion; will oversee the project implementation, meeting twice a year to review project progress and approve annual project work plans. Any major changes in project plans or programs will require approval from the NSC. NSC members will facilitate the implementation of project activities relevant to their respective organizations, ensure that cooperative activities are implemented in a timely manner, and facilitate the mainstreaming of relevant results into the existing programs and practices. The NEA delegated executing institution will report to the NSC at each meeting. Representatives of partner and co-funding organizations not represented in the NSC should be invited to attend NSC meetings should the need arise.

13. In order to award proper acknowledgement to GEF for providing funding, a GEF logo should appear on all relevant GEF project publications, including among others, project hardware and vehicles purchased with GEF funds. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by GEF should also accord proper acknowledgment to GEF. The UNDP logo should be more prominent - and separated from the GEF logo if possible, as UN visibility is important for security purposes.

PART IV: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Budget

Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the project team and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO).

14. Day to day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the Project Coordinator based on the project's Annual Work plan and its indicators. The local Project team will inform the UNDP-CO of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion. Quarterly Progress Reports: Short reports outlining main updates in project progress will be provided quarterly to the local UNDP Country Office and to the Project Board through Project Assurance using the standard report format established by GEF.

15. Periodic monitoring of implementation progress will be undertaken by the UNDP-CO through quarterly meetings with the project proponent, or more frequently as deemed necessary. This will allow parties to take stock and to troubleshoot any problems pertaining to the project in a timely fashion to ensure smooth implementation of project activities.

16. An issues log shall be activated in Atlas and updated by the Project Manager to facilitate tracking and resolution of potential problems or requests for change. A risk log shall be activated in Atlas and regularly updated by reviewing the external environment that may affect the project implementation.

17. A Final Evaluation will be conducted by an independent contractor within six month of finishing all project activities in order to assess project achievement against goals and expected results. Results of the evaluation will be provided to other countries in the region and through GEF learning network. Audit of project expenditure will be done in accordance with agreed UNDP requirements, every year by a recognized auditor.

PART V: Legal Context

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 Romania and the United Nations Development Programme, signed by the parties on 23 January 1991. The host country implementing agency shall, for the purpose of the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement, refer to the government co-operating agency described in that Agreement.

The UNDP Resident Representative in UNDP offices, UN House, Blvd Primaverii 48 A, Bucharest, Romania 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-GEF Unit and is assured that the other signatories to the Project Document have no objection to the proposed changes:

- a) Revision of, or addition to, any of the annexes to the Project Document;

- b) 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;
- c) 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
- d) Inclusion of additional annexes and attachments only as set out here in this Project Document

SECTION II: STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK, SRF

Objectives/Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Target	Verification means/data collection strategy	Assumptions/Risks
Aligning the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity with legal obligations under the CBD.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of stakeholders consulted and number of consultative meetings held • Barriers to biodiversity conservation identified and addressed 	Strategy and the associated Action Plan is outdated and needs immediate revision. Not all the relevant stakeholders were consulted during its formulation.	Updated BSAP that reflects the current state of biodiversity and key habitats in Romania with a feasible action plan (clear timelines and responsibilities) that is in line with country's development priorities.	Consultations and discussions with stakeholders involved; meetings reports; NBSAP document; interviews	Ministries will be able to work efficiently together; information and data made available by relevant institutions
Strengthening Romania's CHM. This will help the country to develop its CHM network and will enable the transfer of technologies related to sustainable biodiversity conservation and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectiveness of CHM established • Number of staff trained • Number of stakeholders using the CHM • Improved understanding of stakeholders on biodiversity data access 	<p>The data bases currently developed within the Ministry of Environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIMS (Biodiversity Information Management System), • IBIS and • Natura 2000. <p>No linkages between data bases; weak efficiency of data storing and retrieving and no data sharing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established biodiversity information system as part of a national Biodiversity Clearing-House mechanism with clear linkages with EC CHM • Training of staff on data base use • Data sharing voluntary agreement or policy endorsed by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the proposed CHM functionality; effectiveness; • Interviews regarding the efficiency of CHM; • Data access and retrieval; 	Access to all relevant biodiversity data; willingness of the hosting institutions to share data;

		policy	the relevant institutions		
Undertaking detailed capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority to the CBD implementation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training modules tailor-made for staff responsible with the implementation of national commitments under CBD • Number of staff trained 	Insufficient institutional and human capacity to respond to national commitments under CBD provisions	Capacity needs identified effectively and addressed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job description fiches; training modules; improved reporting under CBD 	Institutionalization of training modules and improved job description fiches training of relevant staff within the Ministry of Environment ; staff turn-over.

SECTION III: Total Budget and Workplan

Award ID:	00049180
Award Title:	PIMS 3955 CC EA: Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and to development of CHM
Business Unit:	ROU10
Project ID:	00059788
Project Title:	PIMS 3955 CC EA: Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and to development of CHM
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency)	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development- Ecological University

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/ Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Total (USD)	Budget notes
OUTCOME 1: Aligning the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan with the legal obligations under CBD	Ecological University /UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants		10 000	10 000	a
				71300	Local Consultants	40 000	44 000	84 000	b
				72100	Contractual services		30 000	30 000	c
				74200	Publications and printing		15 000	15 000	d
				71600	Travel	2 000	2000	4 000	e
				74500	Miscellaneous	500	1500	2 000	
					Total Outcome 1	42 500	102,500	145 000	

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Total (USD)	Budget notes
OUTCOME 2: Strengthening Romania's Clearing House Mechanism	Ecological University /UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	15 000	15 000	30 000	f
				71600	Travel	5 000	5 000	10 000	
				71300	Local Consultants	20 000	20 000	40 000	g
				72100	Contractual services	20 000	10 000	30 000	h
				72800	IT Equipment	20 000	24 000	44 000	
				72500	Office Supplies	2 000	1 000	3 000	
				Total Outcome 2	82 000	75 000	157 000		
OUTCOME 3: Capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority for CBD implementation	Ecological University /UNDP	62000	GEF	71300	Local Consultants	46 000	40 000	86 000	i
				72 400	Communications	1 000	1 000	2 000	
				74500	Miscellaneous	1 000	1 000	2 000	
					Total Outcome 3	48 000	42 000	90 000	
MONITORING & EVALUATION	Ecological University UNDP CO	62000	GEF	74100	Professional Srvcs (audit)		10,000	10,000	
		62000	GEF	72100	Contractual Srvcs (evaluation)		30,000	30,000	
			Total M&E	0	40,000	40,000			
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	Ecological University	62000	GEF	72400	Communications	1 500	2 500	4,000	
		62000	GEF	72500	Office supplies	1 500	1 500	3 000	
			Total Project Management	3,000	4,000	7,000			
PROJECT TOTAL						175,500	263,500	439,000	

GEF	175,500	263,500	439,000
Government in kind	8 000	13,000	21,000
TOTAL			460,000

Budget Notes

- a Specialized consultant to be contracted to assist in the final phase of BSAP development. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- b National consultants that will be assisting in the entire process of BSAP development and national conditions assessment. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- c National workshops to be organized during the course of the project, for a broader stakeholders consultation and validation of the final draft documents.
- d Consultants to develop information posters, brochures and other means to popularize the new BSAP; printing costs .TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- e Non-management related; travel costs for consultants.
- f International consultants to assist in developing linkages of national data to CHM and other EU databases. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- g National consultants to assist in the assessment of the effectiveness of existing biodiversity information and provide training as necessary.
- h Consultancy companies selected to develop and implement CHM and a training plan of government officials.
- i National consultants hired to assist in the assessment of capacity needs related to BSAP priorities within the larger development context in Romania. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.

Summary of funds:	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Total (USD)
GEF	175,500	263,500	439,000
Government (in-kind)	8,000	13,000	21,000
TOTAL	183,500	276,500	460,000

SECTION IV: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



PROPOSAL FOR GEF FUNDING (EA+ADD ON)

AGENCY'S PROJECT ID: 3955
GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3421
COUNTRY: Romania
COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY: Ratified CBD in 1994
PROJECT TITLE: Support to alignment of NBSAP with
 CBD obligations and development of CHM
GEF AGENCY: UNDP
NATIONAL EXECUTING AGENCY: Ministry of
 Environment and Sustainable Development
CBD OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT: Mr. Silviu Stoica,
 Secretary of State, Ministry of Environment and
 Sustainable Development
DURATION: 18 months
GEF FOCAL AREA: Biodiversity
GEF OPERATIONAL PROGRAM: BD: Enabling
 Activities
GEF STRATEGIC PRIORITY: CB1 ENABLING
 ACTIVITIES
ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: March 2008
ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE: September 2009
IA FEE: \$ 43,900

FINANCING PLAN (US\$)	
GEF PROJECT/COMPONENT	
Project (add-on)*	439,000
<i>Sub-Total GEF</i>	439,000
CO-FINANCING	
GEF Agency	0
National Contribution	21,000
Other	0
<i>Sub-Total Co-financing:</i>	21,000
<i>Total Project Financing:</i>	460,000

* indicate below amount and date of originally approved Enabling Activity

Date: (Month, day, year)	N/A
--------------------------	-----

RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT:

Mr. Silviu Stoica,
 GEF Operational Focal Point
 Ministry of Environment and Rural Development
 Ms. Mihaela Antofie
 CHM Focal Point

Date: 09.07.2007

This proposal has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies and procedures and meets the standards of the GEF Project Review Criteria for Biodiversity Enabling Activity approval.

Y. Glemarec

Yannick Glemarec
Executive Coordinator.

Keti Chachibaia, Regional Technical Advisor
 Tel: +421 59 337 422
 e-mail: keti.chachibaia@undp.org

Date: January 10, 2007

Background/Context

1. Romania is a Central Eastern European Country with a total surface of 23,839,100 ha and has significant biodiversity and natural resources. It has the most number of EU bio-geographic regions in Europe (5) (2 of them only present in Romania) and great species diversity with about 3,700 species of flora and 33,800 species of fauna, including significant populations of large mammals, such as bear, wolf and lynx. Of the total Romanian territory, 31% is represented by mountains, 36% by hills and plateaus and 33% by plains and meadows. Romania is rich in freshwater and coastal resources, including the Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve, the 22nd largest protected area in the world and the 3rd largest in Europe. The hydrological network has a total length of 65,000 km. All of the above resources continue to decline due to poorly planned development.
2. As a consequence of its geographical location, Romania is a country with unique and high ecosystem, species, and genetic diversity. The EU CORINE Biotope Program has identified 783 habitat types in 261 areas throughout the country. Among the 783 habitat types, 94 have been designated as special conservation areas, while 25 of these are priority habitat types.
3. At present natural and semi-natural ecosystems cover approximately 47% of Romania's territory. Significant proportions of these are highly degraded. Agricultural lands cover some 30% of the country. Native steppe and steppe-associated wet meadows have been systematically converted to cropland and pastures. Forests cover about 30% of the country. Romanian forests face a serious challenge in the immediate future as approximately 30% of standing forests are slated to be restituted to families of former land owners.
4. These forests, which have been under state control for over 50 years, are virtually intact and provide crucial habitat required for large mammals, watershed protection, and substantial economic reserves if sustainably harvested. Current forecasts, modeled on initial restitution efforts that resulted in wide-scale deforestation, indicate that future forest owners may denude up to 20% of forests restituted for immediate economic gain. Such an activity will result in forest fragmentation, which will disrupt genetic flow and habitat suitability throughout Romania's forests. Deforestation will also contribute to global and local climate change, which in turn is disruptive to forestry and agriculture.
5. Streams, rivers, and wetlands have been negatively affected by sedimentation and chemical runoff associated with the new agriculture dominated landscape and urban influences. These combined with poaching and dredging has contributed to a significant loss of commercial fishing in recent years. Draining of wetlands, elimination of native riparian vegetation, impoundment, and channeling of streams and rivers have all taken a serious toll on local aquatic resources in Romania. Many of the species and ecosystems threatened in Romania are under siege throughout their range; some are threatened with extinction from pollution and habitat encroachment. Invasive species, a growing problem in some natural systems, have a negative impact on agriculture, forests and fisheries.
6. As of 2004, Romania has designated 955 protected areas, covering 7% of the country's area in accordance with the rules of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Protected areas include three biosphere reserves, national parks, natural areas, national monuments and strictly protected scientific reserves. Regarding the Law 5/2000, the total surface of protected areas was 5.18% of the country area. By the Government Decision 2151/2004 this surface grew up to 7%. Therefore, the number of protected areas increased by 11.9% and surface by 30.2%.

7. Romania has a comprehensive legal framework directly or indirectly concerned with environmental protection. Recent legislation is derived from the new Romanian Constitution, international treaties and the requirements of the EU membership. Convention on Biological Diversity was ratified by the Romanian Government and enforced through law no. 58 of 1994. A National Focal Point within the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development has been designated and the Third National Report has been submitted to the Convention Secretariat (with UNDP GEF support).

Enabling Activities

8. Romania has benefited before from GEF technical and financial assistance for enabling activities. There were two UNDP implemented projects upon which the current proposal is going to build:

- Romania's National Capacity Self Assessment. The project was implemented during 2004-2005. Three thematic reports and a cross cutting report have been developed for all three Rio Conventions: CBD, UNCCD, UNFCCC. The main result of the NCSA project was the National Report and the Action Plan. Both documents were endorsed by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and consequently they formed the foundation of other official documents such as the National Communication to UNFCCC.
- Support to Developing the 3rd National Report to the CBD. This was a global initiative from which Romania benefited financially in 2005. In close partnership with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and UNDP, a group of experts worked and developed the report. The report was submitted to the Secretariat and it is now available on line.

9. Romania's first National Strategy for Biodiversity was elaborated in 1996 and revised in 2001. Currently this Strategy and the associated Action Plan is outdated and it should be revised. Romania took only some initial steps in order to develop a clearing house mechanism (CHM) and therefore much remains to be done in order to comply with CBD. At the time of development of National Strategy for Biodiversity, 9 strategic components were identified and these are listed below:

- Development and implementation of a detailed management plan in 1-2 national parks or biosphere reserves which contain natural habitats and elements of biodiversity including forests, grasslands and a rich fauna, representative for the bio-geographic area of Romania. These management plans will afterwards be used as models for the management of other parks and reserves;
- Completion of a national network of protected areas with new areas with valuable ecosystems that have not yet been awarded a legal protection status;
- The reintroduction of some key species that have previously been considered extinct from Romania;
- Completion of the inventory of the biodiversity in the primary types of ecosystems (forests, grasslands, and wetlands) using a common and well defined methodology.
- Assessment of the economic and social value and of the costs and benefits of biological diversity conservation in forest ecosystems used for production and in those that are under protection status;
- Assessment of the economic and social value and of the costs and benefits of biological diversity in the agro-ecosystems used for production
- Assessment of the costs and benefits of biological diversity conservation in the protected areas.
- Assessment of the costs and benefits of ex-situ biological diversity protection

- Organization of a network for the ex-situ conservation of biological diversity.
- Elaboration of a model administration (for 5 - 6 agro-ecosystems districts with representative bioclimatic zones and layers) for the sustainable management of agro-ecosystems in a manner consistent with the principles and actions required under the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- Elaboration of a model administration (for 1-2 grassland administration districts) for the sustainable management of grasslands consistent with the principles and actions required under the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Romania prepared and submitted the National Reports to the CBD as follows:

- First National Report prepared and submitted to the Convention Secretariat in
- The Second National Report was prepared and submitted in May, 2001
- The Third National Report was prepared with UNDP GEF assistance in 2005 and submitted to the Secretariat Convention in May, 2005.

10. As noted Romania has only made modest steps to establish a comprehensive CHM. The Convention Focal Points were nominated. However, the data that these focal points can provide is limited by a lack of technical/human resources. Between 2004 -05 the NCSA process identified the needs for further development in this area. Currently, there is a lack of cooperation among various stakeholders, there are not enough partnerships established and the scientific community is insufficiently involved. There are not many data sharing agreements established with other neighboring countries and although some data is collected and stored, data sharing is hampered by a lack of data sharing protocols.

11. The country has a substantial capacity to implement the CBD, and has undertaken some assessments of capacity gaps. Between 2004 and 2005, with UNDP GEF support, a National Capacity Self-Assessment process was implemented. The NCSA Final Report contains capacity development Action Plans for each UN convention and a Joint Action Plan for all three, specifying 25 priority objectives and actions, under the seven priority themes. Among the CBD Thematic Assessment Recommendations, priority is given to addressing institutional fragmentation through streamlining and clearer definition of mandates and responsibilities, especially for protected areas; the need to improve inter-ministerial communication on biodiversity-related issues; and the need to adopt a more integrated approach to biodiversity and other environmental and sectoral issues. However, these assessments have been largely cross-cutting in nature, looking into the common issues of institutional set up and policy and legislative frameworks. Therefore there remains a need to undertake more detailed assessments of capacity needs in areas solely related to implementation of the CBD, which will be undertaken through this project. Such specific issues as in-situ and ex-situ conservation will constitute one of the main focuses of the needs assessment exercise in the framework of this project.

Project Objectives and short Description

12. The objective of the project is to strengthen Romania's capacity to implement the CBD.

The project has three components as follows:

Component 1. Aligning the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity with legal obligations under the CBD.

As prioritized by the BSAP of Romania the main methodological approach of an update exercise will be to look into the possibilities and entry points for the BSAP integration into the wider

development of Romania, such as country's national strategy as well as local and sectoral strategies, plans, programmes and policies for the country development. The main deficiency of the existing BSAP is that the document was formulated by a limited number of local experts without broader consultation and stakeholder involvement. The document therefore contains not only outdated information but is also largely based on expert judgments and views on priorities and threats to biodiversity. No major gap analysis has been undertaken during the BSAP preparations. Therefore, as part of the add-on project Romania will be given an opportunity to do a consultative and participatory in-depth analysis of critical gaps and barriers to effectively bringing the conservation agenda forward.

Component 2. Strengthening Romania's CHM. This will help the country to develop its CHM network and will enable the transfer of technologies related to sustainable biodiversity conservation and use.

13. As Romania is now an EU member state, access to similar networks developed by the other EU countries should be much easier. There is a clear potential to put in place an effective mechanism to access information, by developing integrated database harmonized with the ones used by more advanced EU member countries. There also will be easier access to research facilities of the other EU member states.

14. Romania uses three main national databases for biodiversity: BIMS (Biodiversity Information Management System), IBIS and Natura 2000. BIMS was established in 2003, as part of the **GEF/World Bank "Biodiversity Conservation Management"** project and is collecting all available data generated by the biodiversity projects. BIMS was established in order to encourage the digital information exchange and partnerships. The data stored in BIMS is used to support the decision-making at the MoEWM.

15. Through the **Phare project CBC "Protection of the Danube – a pilot project for Cama Dinu islet"** an inventory of species and habitats along the Danube River bordering Romania and Bulgaria was undertaken. The **Integrated Biodiversity Information System (IBIS)** was developed based on the BIMS. IBIS-Web is the Internet web portal for presenting biodiversity data and communicating the project results (e.g. documents, progress reports and web-based maps).

16. Natura 2000 informational system was structured in a way that it can provide necessary information for the evaluation of the Natura 2000 network and make the process disclosed to multiple users. It also provides for a platform to exchange views by submitting comments on-line and different individual records, data analysis, verification, validation and public consultation on sites selections.

17. Despite existing databases there is no coordination point to provide for integrated data and information management system for biodiversity conservation in Romania. The existing efforts are important but not consolidate in support of decision-making. Therefore a comprehensive CHM is an urgent priority to overcome the current deficiency in the system.

Component 3. Undertaking detailed capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority to the CBD implementation.

18. As noted above the NCSA identified number of priorities under the biodiversity thematic area. However, more in depth analysis needed and because 3 years have been already passed, a

validation/updating process should take place. For example: Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy and implementation of measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use – capacities needs will be carefully analyzed following with the design of a training and capacity building modules. With changing legal framework for ownership rights and land use these issues requires particular attention. Table 1. provides more detailed description of priority areas identified for CBD requirements implementation.

Table 1. Priority issues for assessment of capacity building needs

Priority	Reasons for priority	Work to be done	Product expected
1. General measures for conservation and sustainable use (Article 6)	Romania National Strategy for Biodiversity was elaborated in 1996 and revised in 2001. Currently this Strategy and the associated Action Plan is outdated and needs immediate revision	a) to review of the BSAP; NCSA reports; policy and legislative framework and other relevant documentation in order to identify the key gaps and shortfalls of the current BSAP; b) to update BSAP based on broad consultations and discussions with key stakeholders;	Updated BSAP that reflects the current state of biodiversity and key habitats in Romania with a feasible action plan (clear timelines and responsibilities) that is in line with country's development priorities.
2. Establishment of the Clearing House Mechanism and enhancement of Romania's participation in CHM including biodiversity information systems.	There is number of databases but there is no coordination point to ensure integrated data and information management in support of decision-making for biodiversity conservation.	a) to evaluate the current situation and develop an action plan for establishment of common biodiversity information system and Clearing-House Mechanism at national level. b) to establish a biodiversity information system as part of a national Biodiversity Clearing-House Mechanism within the MESD of Romania. c) To establish Clearing-House Mechanism at National level and creation of the CHM website	a) Action plan for establishment of common biodiversity information system and Clearing-House Mechanism at national level. b) Established biodiversity information system as part of a national Biodiversity Clearing-House mechanism. c) Fully operational website

3.1 Assessment and monitoring programmes (Article 7)	The monitoring system for all protected areas and species is not yet established in Romania	To establish a framework system to monitor the conservation status of protected natural habitats and wild species	a) The conservation status of natural habitats and wild species updated; b) A set of recommendations on capacity-building activities to be taken to improve or establish monitoring system in practice and make it useful and effective for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.
3.2. <i>In-situ</i> conservation (Article 8)	Lack of established strategy and action plans: a) in order to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and promote the recovery of threatened species, inter alia, through the development of plans or other management strategies b) to eradicate the alien/invasive species which threatens ecosystems, habitats or native species c) to preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and	a) to undertake an in-depth capacity for in-situ conservation; b) to identify the gaps and priority action to addressing them; c) to identify and agree on means to put the identified measures into practice.	The BSAP will include measures related to <i>in-situ</i> conservation: a) in order to rehabilitate and restore degraded ecosystems and promote the recovery of threatened species, inter alia, through the development of plans or other management strategies b) to eradicate the alien/invasive species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or native species c) to preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations

	practices.		
3.3. Sustainable use of components of biological diversity (Article 10)	Not yet established mechanisms in order to: a) support the local populations to develop and implement remedial action in degraded areas where biological diversity has been reduced; b) encourage cooperation between its governmental authorities and its private sector in developing methods for sustainable use of biological resources	To undertake consultation with stakeholders and establish cooperation platforms identify the needed actions.	Established measures in order to ensure the sustainable use of biodiversity.
3.4. Incentive measures (Article 11)	Lack of established economically and socially sound measures that act as incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of components of biological diversity	Identification of compensatory measures and formulate regulations in order to put them into practice	Compensatory measures for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity components identified and in place.
3.5. Research and training (Article 12)	Promote and encourage research which contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	Involvement of the authorities responsible in order to set up the research programs. Formulate a targeted research strategy.	Research strategy in line with the requirements for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity
3.6. Public education and awareness (Article 13)	A strategy for public awareness was set up, but there is a need to develop more public awareness campaigns	Identification of the priority target groups, issues to be address and an outreach strategy	Established set of thematic public awareness campaign, including the targeted areas and groups
3.7. Impact assessment and minimizing adverse impacts (Article 14)	No clear methods or guidelines for mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into the EIA procedures	Assessment of the latest EIA procedures and establish guidelines for biodiversity issues consideration.	Biodiversity considerations mainstreamed into the EIA procedures
3.8. Agricultural biodiversity	With a great agro-biodiversity	To assess the status and trends of	Assessment report and measures

	resources Romania has done limited study and / on-the ground measures for agrobiodiversity conservation	Romania's agrobiodiversity, key threats and causes, and local knowledge of and means for its sustainable management	as part of the BSAP action plan
--	---	---	---------------------------------

Table2. Tentative Schedule of Activities - The project is designed to be completed in 18 months to ensure effective and successful consultation processes.

Activity / month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Project inception phase and reporting																		
Establishment of the Project Board																		
Establishment of the project management unit																		
Preparation of project management plan including monitoring, evaluation and reporting																		
Endorsement of the plan by project board project inception workshop																		
1. BSAP Update and approval																		
Stocktaking of existing biodiversity legislation, policies and assessment of existing biodiversity reports																		
analysis of BSAP gaps and shortfalls during consultation processes with the relevant stakeholders																		
synthesis and collation of findings into a consistent document; preparation of an up-dated BSAP draft and submission for approval to stakeholders																		
stakeholders comments inclusion, preparation of final draft and submission for external review																		
final BSAP validation workshop																		

2. CHM Strengthening																	
Establishment of a working group on CHM																	
assessment of the relevance and effectiveness of the current existing biodiversity data and the latest CBD requirements																	
determine through consultation with stakeholders the data /metadata to be added on to the existing database within MESD;																	
development of the database /metadatabase building on existing data-bases within MESD;																	
Development of the national CHM and linkages with the global CHM; establishing common formats and controlled vocabulary																	
training of staff in order to ensure future CHM functionality																	
3. Assessment of capacity needs in the areas of priority for CBD implementation																	
assessment of NCSA reports, policies and programmes																	
review of existing institutional/human capacity needs for the implementation of BSAP priorities																	
Development of a training strategy related to the CBDpriority area identified																	
approval of the training strategy by stakeholders																	

Activity Matrix - and other information related to Criterion 1 (Coverage without duplication)

19. The project will draw on existing capacity and will make use of existing information gathered through various projects and programmes.

Table 3. Activity Matrix (Note: ✓ means that the activity has been undertaken; X means that it requires further action)

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments
		Inst. Strength.	Training		
Commitments	Planning and Execution				
Stocktaking and Assessment (scientific and social): evaluate existing information on the status, trends, and existing needs					
• Biodiversity and biological resources	✓	✓		✓	
• Cross sectoral issues	✓	✓	X	✓	
• Affected communities, including local communities embodying traditional lifestyles	X	X	X	✓	
• Policy, regulatory framework	✓	✓	X	✓	
• Institutional and human capacity	X	X	X	✓	
• Analysis of root causes of BD loss	✓	✓	✓	✓	
• Technologies for conservation and sustainable use	X	X	X	✓	
• Activities with adverse impacts	✓	✓	X	✓	
• Existing measures and programmes	✓	✓	✓	✓	
• Preliminary statement of objectives	✓	✓	✓	✓	
• Identification of gaps	✓	✓	✓	✓	
• Assessment of existing needs	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments
		Inst. Strength.	Training		
Commitments	Planning and Execution				
Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategies for conservation Strategies for sustainable use Strategies for benefit sharing 	X	X	X	X	
	X	X	X	X	
Preparation of the Third National Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First national report Second National report Third National report 	Done Done Done	Done Done Done	Done Done Done	Done Done Done	
Capacity building for participation in the Clearing-house Mechanism (CHM)	X	X	X	X	

Time plan and other information related to Criterion 2 (appropriate sequencing)

20. The project will be implemented over a period of 18 months. A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be fully established in approximately 4 weeks after the project starting date. The PMU will consist of an overall coordinator, and three officers, each responsible for one component of the project. The activities to be undertaken under each component are:

1. Aligning the National Strategy and Action Plan on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity with legal obligations under the CBD.
 - The provisions of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan will be compared with obligations under the CBD and decisions of the CoP. Although most stocktaking required for this purpose has already been undertaken there is a need for a re-assessment due to recent legislative and administrative changes required by the EU accession process.
 - After the stock-taking process is completed, consultations will be held with larger stakeholder groups to take account of experiences to date with biodiversity conservation and problems encountered. Required amendments to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan will be discussed during further workshops to produce the first draft which will be subjected to a further round of consultations with key stakeholders and amended and corrected as necessary.
2. Strengthening Romania's CHM.

21. A national CHM website should contain all national biodiversity-related information that is required to assist policy makers and interested stakeholders to meet obligations under the Convention and to conserve and sustainable use biodiversity. The Romanian Clearing House Mechanism will be part of the Global Clearing House Mechanism. The main goal of creating a National CHM will be to provide direct links to biodiversity information or to indicate where such information can be found.

- a working group will be established to initiate consultation on the development of the CHM. Biodiversity data are currently fragmented among different institutions, incomplete and the matter is worsened by the lack of data sharing policy and of information on data and their availability; consultations are needed in order to identify the relevant data and their place of storage and establish the most user friendly data/metadata structure which will form the basis of the future national CHM

- Development of CHM will build upon the existing databases in the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development;

- Linkages where possible will be made with the European Community Clearing-House Mechanism Website (EC CHM) and its Portal Toolkit (CHM PTK) which were officially launched at the CBD Clearing-House Mechanism and European Community Clearing-House Mechanism Joint Regional Meeting for Central and Eastern Europe, which was held in Tallinn, Estonia from 13 to 15 December 2005. The EC CHM website was developed to assist the European Community to more effectively implement its Biodiversity Strategy and the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

- Development of a training plan regarding the use of the biosystematic data. Much of biodiversity data is currently locked away in user-unfriendly, outdated or in non-digital formats. This project seeks to address this issue in the process of the development of CHM, by assessing the country's capacity needs on these issues

- and suggesting appropriate ways to integrate and expand national information system.

- A panel of experts will be established to review CBD controlled vocabulary and develop a glossary on biodiversity-related terms in national languages. Once this process is complete, a series of training workshops will be held on interoperability issues, including the use of the controlled vocabulary.

3. Undertaking detailed capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority to the CBD implementation

22. For the implementation of these activities, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development will lead a process consisting of few important steps such as:

- Stock taking of and inventory of biodiversity related capacity needs reports, policies and programmes. Previous GEF biodiversity related project results will be considered as well as the Third National Communication.

- National consultations involving interested parties such as various ministries and agencies with environmental responsibilities, NGOs, private sector, universities and research institutes

- Development of the national strategy and action plan. These documents will be developed during consultations with key stakeholders, taking into account the NCSA lessons learned.

Table 4. CHM Component of Enabling Activity Proposal

	Estimated Cost Norm.	Actual Proposed
	(US \$)	(US \$)
Groups I and II [1]		
<i>Option A (direct assistance):</i>		
Hardware (PC of appropriate configuration)	0 - 4000	
Computer		2000
Printer		500
Scanner		250
Shipping		
Plotter (for printing maps etc)		1000
Software (MS Office)	0 - 1000	550
ArcGIS 9.2 *		2000
Modem	0 - 500	200
Recurrent Access Costs to Internet Service Provider	0 - 3800	2500
including storing of national CHM web site on server		2500
Other recurrent costs to end of CHM Pilot Phase		2000
Technician Set-Up Fees	500 - 700	500
Internet and Email training	1000 - 4000	
Total	1,500 - 14,000	14,000

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

23. Project monitoring and evaluation will be conducted in accordance with established UNDP and GEF procedures and will be provided by the project team and the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO). This project will be effectively monitored by assessing progress against a Monitoring and Communication Plan together with the Results and Resource Framework. The Monitoring and Communication Plan is a tool that project staff, project partners and managers can use to plan and implement the systematic collection of data for monitoring, learning and reporting.
24. As per Results Management Guide, the Standard Project Progress report will be used to monitor achievements. Within the annual cycle, monitoring will be as follows:

Day to day monitoring of implementation progress will be the responsibility of the UNDP Programme Officer based on the project's Annual Work plan and Logical Framework and its indicators. The local Project team (National Coordinator and three officers for each component) will inform the UNDP-CO of any delays or difficulties faced during implementation so that the appropriate support or corrective measures can be adopted in a timely and remedial fashion.

Quarterly Progress Reports: Short reports outlining main updates in project progress will be provided quarterly to the local UNDP Country Office and to the Project Board through Project Assurance using the standard report format established by GEF.

25. An issues log shall be activated in Atlas and updated by the Project Manager to facilitate tracking and resolution of potential problems or requests for change. A risk log shall be activated in Atlas and regularly updated by reviewing the external environment that may affect the project implementation. A Communication and Monitoring Plan shall be activated in Atlas and updated to track key management actions/events. A quality log shall record progress towards the completion of activities, using the Atlas Activity Definition page.
26. A Final Evaluation will be conducted by an independent contractor within six month of finishing all project activities in order to assess project achievement against goals and expected results. Results of the evaluation will be provided to other countries in the region and through GEF learning network. Audit of project expenditure will be done in accordance with agreed UNDP requirements, every year by a recognized auditor.

Information related to Criterion 3 (best practice)

27. Romania has benefited before from GEF and other donor's assistance for various biodiversity related activities. This project will build upon the existing information and best practices, will use the NCSA reports and action plan as a starting point. Among lessons learned from other biodiversity related projects which are going to be considered in the process of up-dating the National Biodiversity Strategy are:
 - Mainstreaming of biodiversity issues into sustainable development initiatives,
 - Involvement of a broader range of stakeholders including, NGOs and the private sector
 - Making use of regional and local expertise;
 - Building cooperation at the sub-regional, regional and international level to make use of the facilities provided by the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention.

Project financing, budget, and other information related to Criterion 4 (cost-effectiveness)

28. This project will follow UNDP GEF rules and regulations regarding financial and project management and will apply the least-cost means of achieving the project's objectives, transparency and accountability.

TABLE 5: Costs for project activities consistent with original guidelines, June 1997 (in US\$)

	Product	Process	Total
<i>Stocktaking and Inventory of Existing Information, including social assessment</i>	25,000	0	25,000
<i>Preparation of a Strategy and Action Plan</i>	50,000	70,000	120,000
<i>Total BSAP alignment</i>			145,000
<i>Clearing-House Mechanism</i>			

Table 6 **Costs of project activities consistent with Revised Guidelines of October 2000 (US \$ 000)**

ACTIVITY	PRODUCT	PROCESS	TOTAL
Request related to original guidelines (From Table 2, above)			
• Original EA ¹ , less costs of CHM activities	(no entry required)		145,000
• CHM support (provided through add-on module or project itself)			
Total requested support			145,000
Additional request			
1. Assessment of Capacity-building needs for			
• <i>Implementation of measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use</i>	15,000	30,000	45,000
• Methodologies to evaluate and mitigate specific threats to biodiversity components			
• <i>Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy</i>	15, 000	30,000	45,000
• Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity important for agriculture			
• Incentive measures			
• Access to genetic resources, benefit-sharing and formulation of mechanisms for these purposes			
• Preservation/ maintenance of biodiversity related knowledge of indigenous and local communities with traditional lifestyles			
Sub total:			90,000
2. Country-driven project for participation in the CHM	50,000	107,000	157,000
Monitoring and Evaluation		40,000	40,000
Project Management		7,000	7,000
Total additional funding request			<u>294,000</u>
TOTAL			<u>439,000</u>

¹ Included as part of current request.

Explanation for deviations from criteria and norms (where applicable)

29. There are no deviations from criteria and norms provided in the documents “Revised Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities”, June 1997, or “Revised Guidelines For Additional Funding Of Biodiversity Enabling Activities (Expedited Procedures)”, October 2000.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

30. The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development will be the National Executing Agency (NEA) and Ecological University will be the delegated executing agency. The Ecological University may form consortium for the implementation of this project if need may be. The project management unit will be hosted by the Ecological University of Bucharest. The NEA will work in close partnership with the Ecological University and UNDP CO and will be responsible for substantive quality of the project outcomes, as well as for the proper use of project resources, regardless of whether it directly implements project activities or delegates others to do so.
31. The NEA will ensure that project planning, review, monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements are met. The NEA will also manage the project budget, including components implemented by partner agencies and sub-contractors. The National Executing Agency (NEA) will establish a Project Board (NSC) to advise and guide project implementation. This will be formed by:
- an executive – The National project Director nominated by the NEA in consultation with UNDP. The NPD will be a government employee whose salary will not be paid through this project.
 - a senior supplier – who will be UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
 - senior beneficiary – representative of the MESD
32. The Project assurance function will be played by the Head of Energy and Environment Section of UNDP Romania while the project support will be ensured by the Programme Assistant of UNDP Romania.

UNDP: Working closely with the NEA and the Ecological University, UNDP Country Office (CO) will be responsible for: overseeing project budgets and expenditures, recruiting and contracting project personnel and consultant services, procuring equipment (when not done by the NEA), and project evaluation and reporting, result-based project monitoring, and organizing independent audits to ensure the proper use of UNDP/GEF funds. Financial transactions, auditing and reporting will be carried out in compliance with national regulations and UNDP procedures for national execution.

33. In order to award proper acknowledgement to GEF for providing funding, a GEF logo should appear on all relevant GEF project publications, including among others, project hardware and vehicles purchased with GEF funds. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by GEF should also accord proper acknowledgment to GEF. The UNDP logo should be more prominent - and separated from the GEF logo if possible, as UN visibility is important for security purposes.

Annex 2. Total Budget and Work Plan

Total Budget and Work Plan -

Award ID:	00049180
Award Title:	PIMS 3955 CC EA: Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and to development of CHM
Business Unit:	ROU10
Project ID:	00059788
Project Title:	PIMS 3955 CC EA: Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and to development of CHM
Implementing Partner (Executing Agency)	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development- Ecological University

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Total (USD)	Budget notes
OUTCOME 1: Aligning the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan with the legal obligations under CBD	Ecological University /UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants		10 000	10 000	a
				71300	Local Consultants	40 000	44 000	84 000	b
				72100	Contractual services		30 000	30 000	c
				74200	Publications and printing		15 000	15 000	d
				71600	Travel	2 000	2000	4 000	e
				74500	Miscellaneous	500	1500	2 000	
					Total Outcome 1	42 500	102,500	145 000	

GEF Outcome/Atlas Activity	Responsible Party/Implementing Agent	Fund ID	Donor Name	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Total (USD)	Budget notes
OUTCOME 2: Strengthening Romania's Clearing House Mechanism	Ecological University /UNDP	62000	GEF	71200	International Consultants	15 000	15 000	30 000	f
				71600	Travel	5 000	5 000	10 000	
				71300	Local Consultants	20 000	20 000	40 000	g
				72100	Contractual services	20 000	10 000	30 000	h
				72800	IT Equipment	20 000	24 000	44 000	
				72500	Office Supplies	2 000	1 000	3 000	
				Total Outcome 2	82 000	75 000	157 000		
OUTCOME 3: Capacity needs assessment in the areas of priority for CBD implementation	Ecological University /UNDP	62000	GEF	71300	Local Consultants	46 000	40 000	86 000	i
				72 400	Communications	1 000	1 000	2 000	
				74500	Miscellaneous	1 000	1 000	2 000	
					Total Outcome 3	48 000	42 000	90 000	
MONITORING & EVALUATION	Ecological University UNDP CO	62000	GEF	74100	Professional Srvcs (audit)		10,000	10,000	
		62000	GEF	72100	Contractual Srvcs (evaluation)		30,000	30,000	
					Total M&E	0	40,000	40,000	
PROJECT MANAGEMENT	Ecological University	62000	GEF	72400	Communications	1 500	2 500	4,000	
		62000	GEF	72500	Office supplies	1 500	1 500	3 000	
					Total Project Management	3,000	4,000	7,000	
PROJECT TOTAL						175,500	263,500	439,000	

GEF	175,500	263,500	439,000
Government in kind	8 000	13,000	21,000
TOTAL			460,000

Budget Notes

- a Specialized consultant to be contracted to assist in the final phase of BSAP development. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- b National consultants that will be assisting in the entire process of BSAP development and national conditions assessment. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- c National workshops to be organized during the course of the project, for a broader stakeholders consultation and validation of the final draft documents.
- d Consultants to develop information posters, brochures and other means to popularize the new BSAP; printing costs .TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- e Non-management related; travel costs for consultants.
- f International consultants to assist in developing linkages of national data to CHM and other EU databases. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.
- g National consultants to assist in the assessment of the effectiveness of existing biodiversity information and provide training as necessary.
- h Consultancy companies selected to develop and implement CHM and a training plan of government officials.
- i National consultants hired to assist in the assessment of capacity needs related to BSAP priorities within the larger development context in Romania. TOR will be prepared by Project Coordinator.

Summary of funds:	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Total (USD)
GEF	175,500	263,500	439,000
Government (in-kind)	8,000	13,000	21,000
TOTAL	183,500	276,500	460,000

Note: In kind government co-financing will provide furnished office space, clerical and admin/finance support to the project.

Part 2: Other agreements

ROMANIA



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

12, Libertatii Blvd., RO-040129, Bucharest 5

Tel./Fax: +40 21 336 69 54

CABINET OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

No. 11374/ISSI/08.05.2004

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

To: Yannick GLEMAREC
GEF Executive Coordinator OIC
United Nations Development Programme
One United Nations Plaza
304 east 45th St.
FF Bldg., 10th Floor
New York, NY 10017

Re: *Biodiversity Enabling Activity Proposal: "Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and to development of CHM"*

Dear Mr. Glemarec,

On behalf of the Government of Romania we hereby endorse the project titled "*Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and to development of CHM*" to be presented through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for funding.

The project's focus is threefold: 1. up-dating of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 2. assessment capacity needs in priority areas of CBD implementation in Romania and 3. strengthening the biodiversity information system and CHM.

The Government of Romania highly appreciates the continuous support of UNDP and the GEF to national initiatives for global environmental benefits.

We look forward to a fruitful cooperation and successful project implementation.

Sincerely yours,

Silviu STOICA

GEF Operational Focal Point
Ministry of Environment and
Sustainable Development
Romania

Mihaela ANTOFIE

CHM Focal Point
Ministry of Environment and
Sustainable Development
Romania

PART II: Terms of References for key project staff

1. Project Coordinator

General

The Project Coordinator (PC) shall be responsible for day-to-day management, co-ordination and supervision of the implementation of the project activities.

He/she will be responsible for, but not limited to the following activities:

Responsibilities

- Ensure the timely implementation of planned activities under the project as stipulated in the work plan. The PC should provide the lead role in implementing such activities;
- Supervise and delegate work to full time and contract (if any) staff members on the PMU;
- Prepare quarterly and annual project reports
- Develop scopes of work and terms of reference and other procurement documentation required to solicit the procurement of technical assistance and other services, if such should be required;
- Responsible for project financial management and reporting
- Liaise with partners (MESD, UNDP) on project implementation
- Co-ordinate, facilitate meetings, workshops and awareness raising activities as stipulated in the work plan;
- Interact closely with relevant stakeholders and support the involvement of all stakeholders in the activities of the project.

Qualifications

- Advanced degree in environment-natural resources or agriculture related studies or other related disciplines;
- Good understanding of biodiversity and related issues in Romania.
- Six years experience relevant to the project;
- Demonstrated experience in working with government, NGOs, private sector, donors and the United Nations system;
- Excellent inter-personal skills as well as working well within a team environment;
- Fluency in English (written and oral);
- Familiarity with computers and relevant software;

2. Project Assistant

General

The Project Assistant (PA) shall assist the Project Coordinator (PC) with day-to-day management, co-ordination and implementation of the project activities. The PA will report directly to the PC.

His/her responsibilities will include, but not limited to the following:

- Participate in implementation of planned activities under the project as stipulated in the work plan;
- Assist the PC wherever needed
- Liaise with partners (MESD, UNDP) on project implementation

- Co-ordinate, facilitate meetings, workshops and awareness raising activities as stipulated in the work plan;
- Interact closely with relevant stakeholders and support the involvement of all stakeholders in the consultation processes.

Qualifications

- A Bachelor's degree in environment-natural resources, agriculture, community development related studies or other related disciplines;
- Good understanding of biodiversity and other environmental issues in Romania;
- Preferably three years experience relevant to the project;
- Demonstrated experience in working with government, NGOs, private sector, donors and the United Nations system;
- Excellent inter-personal skills;
- Familiarity with computers and relevant software
- Good written and spoken English skills;

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: **Romania**

UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s):

Capacity Building for Good Governance: By 2009, administrative capacity is strengthened at central and local level to develop, implement and monitor sustainable policies and programmes-emphasizing transparency, accountability and participation-in the areas of public service delivery, environmental governance and the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups.

Expected Outcome(s)/Indicator (s):

Improve national capacity to negotiate and implement global environmental commitments

(CP outcomes linked t the SRF/MYFF goal and service line)

S13.1: Frameworks and strategies for sustainable development

Expected Output(s)/Indicator(s):

Environmental governance strengthened and greater compliance with EU environmental standards and international conventions achieved

Implementing partner: Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
(designated institution/Executing agency)

Other Partner: UNDP Romania

Programme Period: March 2008-September 2009
Programme Component: Environmental Governance
Project Title: Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and development of CHM
Project ID: 00059788
Project Duration: 18 months
Management Arrangement: NEX

Total budget: 439,000 US\$
Allocated resources:
• Government
• Regular
• Other:
 ○ GEF 439,000 US\$
• In kind contributions 21,000 US\$

Agreed by Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development:

Agreed by (UNDP):
