



Government of Serbia and Montenegro

Global Environment Facility

Biodiversity Strategy, Action Plan and National Report

The project enables the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro to prepare the first Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP), through two Republic Strategies, and the first National Report as the initial step to follow up on the national commitments to the Convention of Biodiversity ratified in 2002. The components of the project are: a) Stocktaking, inventory and analysis of existing information and preparation of the Country Study; b) identification and analysis of available options; c) preparation of a Strategy and Action Plan; d) submission of First National Report and launching of BSAP. The project will be implemented through a broad consultative process involving many different groups of stakeholders and thus is expected to enhance public awareness and knowledge on biodiversity-related issues and to strengthen the dialogue, information exchange and cooperation among all the relevant stakeholders including government, non-governmental, academic and private sectors.

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ACRONYMS

See the attached project proposal, appendix A

SECTION I

Part I. Situation Analysis

Please see pages 13-16 corresponding to paragraph 1-21, in the project proposal (Annex 1). Paragraphs 22-26 outline some of the existing activities that were identified when the document was written and gives an indication of what general developments the project should link to.

Note:

1. Since the project proposal document was written, the Ministry for Protection of Natural Resources and the Environment in the Republic of Serbia, following political change, has been merged into the new **Ministry for Science and Environmental Protection**, as the Directorate for Environmental Protection.
2. The GEF Political Focal Point for Serbia and Montenegro is now **Dr. Miroslav Nikcevic**, Ministry for Science and Environment Protection, Director, Directorate of Environment Protection.
3. The Country Focal Point for the Convention on Biological Diversity is: **Dr. Branko Karadzic**, Secretary of the Agency for Environmental Protection, Directorate for Environmental Protection, Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection.

Part II. Strategy

By adhering to the Convention of Biological Diversity and by producing the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (consisting of two republic strategies), the project aims at adhering to the following UNDAF outcomes (A), country programme outcomes (B) and country programme outputs (C):

A)

- 1.6 - Environmental Health and Environmental Protection Policies developed and management systems in place at all levels
- 3.1 - Sustainable Development Plans effectively respond to the need of all people, communities and the private sector and promote rural development and environmental protection
- 3.2 - Improved enabling environment for local development

B)

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Sustainable development plans/policies effectively respond to the need of stakeholders, as well as promote employment and environmental protection

C)

Improved Sustainable Development Policies

The project aims to prepare the required document(s) under Article 6a of the Convention for Biological Diversity.

Project activities can be viewed under paragraphs 27, 32-38 as well as on table 3 on page 18 in the document under Annex 1.

Part III. Management Arrangements

Management arrangements are as per stipulated in paragraphs 41-49 – Project Implementation Arrangements. However, note that in relation to paragraph 41, the initiative and request for meetings will come from the Republic Ministries through their internal consultations. The PMU is a project body separate from the steering committee and with ToRs as stipulated in the document. The steering committee ensures high-level general guidance (and can be separate for each republic), with the PMU acting as the project decision-making body, ensuring progress.

Paragraph 42 stipulates Republic Project Managers. It is strongly recommended that these individuals committed full time or at least 80% of the time, on the project. This is particularly recommended at the beginning of the project.

ToRs not included in the annexed project proposal will be drafted by the Project Managers in coordination with the Project Coordinator. The Project Coordinator will be placed in the UNDP Country Office of Serbia and Montenegro.

This project will be implemented under the UNDP DEX modality and following these guidelines.

Part IV. Monitoring and Evaluation

The primary responsibility for project monitoring and evaluation would rest with Project Managers in each Serbia and Montenegro. GEF requirement for the use of Biodiversity Tracking tools will be used for project monitoring and evaluation. Preparation of the baseline tracking scorecard will therefore constitute the first activity to be undertaken by the project to produce detailed monitoring and evaluation plan to guide possible adjustments if and when required.

Periodic field assessments have been scheduled and budgeted under the Project's Management, Monitoring, and Evaluation Component for each of the protected areas. Reporting requirements include submission of annual and semi-annual progress reports by Project Managers and a mid-term review will be carried out by April 2006.

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Part V. Legal Context

This project document shall be the instrument referred to such as in Article 1 of the Standard Basic Agreement a copy of which is available at RBEC.

The following types of revisions may be made to this project document provided UNDP is assured that other signatories of the project document have no objections to the proposed changes:

- a) Revisions in, or addition to, any of the annexes of the project document;
- b) Revisions, which do not involve significant changes in the immediate objectives, outputs or activities of a project, but are caused by the rearrangement of inputs already agreed to or by cost increases due to inflation, and
- c) Mandatory annual revisions that rephrase the delivery of agreed project inputs or reflect increased expert or other costs due to inflation or take into account agency expenditure flexibility.

Part VI. Risks and Assumptions

Pertinent risks are governmental changes and any implications this may entail towards project realisation as well as weak national capacity. Above all, political will is of importance to the implementation of this project.

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SECTION II RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

PROJECT RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

Intended Outcome as stated in the Country Results Framework: Sustainable development plans/policies effectively respond to the need of stakeholders, as well as promote employment and environmental protection			
Outcome indicator as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and target. Indicator: Responses to international conventions and agreements Baseline: Depleted and outdated capacities to respond to the Rio conventions Target: Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan produced			
Applicable MYFF Service Lines: 3.5			
Partnership Strategy: Cross sectoral issues related to agrobiodiversity, fisheries, forestry, tourism water and energy till ensure a large base of stakeholders and partners.			
Project title and ID:			
Intended Outputs	Output Targets for (years)	Indicative Activities	Inputs
Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans (BSAP) for both Republics of Serbia and Montenegro First National Report of Serbia and Montenegro (Article 26 Convention of Biological Diversity) Establish a Clearing House Mechanism	Draft on Country Study (2005, 2006) Country Study (2005, 2006) Stakeholder and Inventory of Existing Information (2005) Identification and Analysis of Options (2006) First and second drafts on BSAPs (2006) Formal launch of BSAPs	1. Select a Project Steering Committee 2. Set up BSAP teams 3. Set up Clearing House Mechanism 4. Preliminary information gathering 5. Workshop(s) on Country Study 6. Workshop(s) on priorities and options (2005) 7. Workshop(s) and consultations on action plan(s) 8. Local BSAP reviews	Subcontracts National consultants International consultants Logistics/Travel Country Office Support Translation Printing and Publication

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SECTION III – WORKPLAN AND BUDGET

Award ID:							
Award title: PIMS 1993 BD EA: BSAP S&M							
Project ID:							
Project title: PIMS 1993 BD EA: BSAP S&M							
Executing Agency: CO Serbia and Montenegro (DEX)							
Output/Atlas Activity	Resp. Partner	Source of Fund	ERP/Atlas Budget Description		Amount 2005 US\$	Amount 2006 US\$	TOTAL US\$
Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans for both Reublics of Serbia and Montenegro	UNDP	62000	72100	Contract. Serv. Comp	29600	44400	74000
	UNDP	62000	71300	Local Consultants	11660	17490	29150
	UNDP	62000	74200	Audio Visual	4860	7290	12150
	UNDP	62000	74500	Miscellaneous	780	1175	1955
	Subtotal:					46900	70355
First National Report of Serbia and Montenegro (Article 26 Convention of Biological Diversity)	UNDP	62000	71300	Local Consultants	7120	10680	17800
	UNDP	62000	74100	Professional Services	720	1080	1800
	UNDP	62000	72100	Contract. Serv. Comp	8000	12110	20110
	UNDP	62000	71600	Travel	5000	7500	12500
	UNDP	62000	74200	Audio visual	10040	15060	25100
	UNDP	62000	74500	Miscellaneous	1000	1555	2555
Subtotal:					31880	47985	79865
Establish a Clearing House Mechanism	UNDP	62000	72800	IT equipment	1880	2820	4700
	UNDP	62000	72100	Contract. Serv. Comp	920	1380	2300
	UNDP	62000	71600	Travel	600	900	1500
	UNDP	62000	71300	Local Consultants	300	450	750
	UNDP	62000	74100	Professional Serv.	400	600	1000
	UNDP	62000	74200	Audio visual	500	750	1250
	UNDP	62000	74500	Miscellaneous	720	1080	1800
	UNDP	62000	73300	Rent & Maint. IT	1520	2280	3800
Subtotal:					6840	10260	17100
Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Management	UNDP	62000	71400	Contract. Serv. Indiv	15480	23220	38700
	UNDP	62000	74100	Professional Serv.	7200	10800	18000
	UNDP	62000	71600	Travel	5000	7500	12500
	UNDP	62000	73100	Rent	3000	4500	7500
	UNDP	62000	74500	Miscellaneous	580	870	1450
Subtotal:					31260	46890	78150
TOTAL							292,370

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SECTION IV—OTHER AGREEMENTS

The project will be carried out with in-kind contribution from the republic governments of Serbia and Montenegro to the amount of 27 000 US dollars. The republic Project Managers, as stated in the proposal under the ToRs for the Project Managers, will be appointed by the republic governments respectively and will be in-kind contributions towards the realisation of this project. Any directly supporting logistics, such as office space and computers are included in this in kind contribution.

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Република Црна Гора
 Министарство заштите животне
 средине и урбана планирања
 Број: 04-3947/05-2
 Петровград 09.02.06 год.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Country: Serbia and Montenegro

UNDAF Outcome(s)/Indicator(s): 1.6 Environmental Health and Environmental Protection Policies developed and management systems in place at all levels
 3.1 Sustainable Development Plans effectively respond to the needs of all people, communities and the private sector and promote rural development and environmental protection
 3.2 Improved enabling environment for local development

Expected Outcome(s)/Indicator (s): *MYFF Goal 2 Fostering Democratic Governance*
MYFF Goal 3 Frameworks and strategies for sustainable development
MYFF Service lines 2.1 and 3.1

Expected Output(s)/Indicator(s): Country Programme Outputs:
 1.6.10 SCG member states' policies and strategies for environmental protection aligned with international agreements and country implementation plans developed.
 3.1.1 Improved methodologies and capacities for participatory strategic local development planning.

Implementing partners: Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia
 Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Republic of Montenegro




Other Partners:
(formerly implementing agencies)

Programme Period: _____
 Programme Component: _____
 Project Title: Biodiversity Strategy, Action Plan and National Report
 Project ID: YUG/04/G32, PIMS No.1993
 Project Duration: 12 months
 Management Arrangement: DEX

Budget (GEF) US\$ 292,370
 General Management Support Fee _____
 Total budget: US\$ 319,970
 Allocated resources: _____
 • Government _____
 • Regular _____
 • Other: _____
 ○ Donor _____
 ○ Donor _____
 ○ Donor _____
 • In kind contributions: US\$ 27,000
 • Unfunded budget: _____

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On behalf of:	Signature	Title	Date
Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection, Republic of Serbia	 Aleksandar Popovic	Minister	<u>NOVEMBER 10TH 2006</u>
Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Republic of Montenegro	 Boro Vucinic	Minister	<u>09.02.06</u>
UNDP SCG	 Lance Clark	Resident Representative	<u>30/11/06</u>

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ANNEX 1 ENDORSED PROJECT PROPOSAL

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ACRONYMS

BSAP:	Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
CBD:	Convention on Biological Diversity
CHM:	Clearinghouse Mechanism
CS:	Country Study
DEX:	Direct Execution Modality
FAO:	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations

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IUCN: International Union for the Conservation of Nature
PMU: Project Management Unit
SCG: State Union of Serbia and Montenegro

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Project of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro¹

BACKGROUND

1. Situated on the Balkan Peninsula, the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro (SCG) is a diverse landscape of plains and relatively low mountains. Serbia, which occupies the north and east, accounts for 86 percent of the country's land area. Rich, fertile plains cover much of this region, and limestone ranges and basins characterize the east. In the southeast, ancient mountains and hills rise up from the plains. In the southwest, where the republic of Montenegro is located, the State Union claims a brief stretch of coastline on the Adriatic Sea. A continental climate with cold winters and hot, humid, rainy summers dominates the north. In the central region a Mediterranean climate begins to emerge. The south has a Mediterranean climate along the coast, with hot, dry summers and relatively cold, snowy winters inland.

¹ the status of Kosovo is referred to under UN Resolution 1244

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2. Serbia and Montenegro constitute a State Union in which responsibilities and tasks have been distributed between the Union and state level. Foreign Affairs, Defence, External Economic Relations, Internal Economic Relations and Human Rights are responsibilities delegated to the Union while the responsibility for environmental issues has been delegated to the republics. Thus there is a Ministry for Protection of Natural Resources and the Environment in Serbia and a Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning in Montenegro. Both Ministries coordinate their activities closely see also country profile on [Annex 5](#)).

Serbia

3. Central longitudinal valleys of the rivers Tisa and Morava, and transversal ones determined by the rivers Danube and Sava, as well as Western Morava and Nisava, make the republic's main axes. There are five main geographical regions: (1) the Vojvodina lowland in the North, characterized by loess and alluvial planes and terraces; (2) the Central (hilly) region; (3) the Peri-Panonian Eastern part; (4) the Upper Morava region; and (5) Kosovo (see UN resolution 1244). The climate varies from the continental type in lowland regions to mountain and alpine types in the rest of the country. Each of these regions has its own ecosystem, including steppes, wetland habitats, mountain grasslands, and forests, bringing a rich diversity of flora and fauna species to Serbia.

Montenegro

4. It provides the State Union with a gate to the Adriatic Sea through a 200km coastline of striking beauty. The republic presents three main sub-regions (1) inland mountains, which dominate the territory, (2) the central lowland plain, characterized by the river Morača, and Skadar Lake, and (3) the Adriatic coast, which is separated from the rest of the country by the mountains of Orjen, Lovcen and Rumija. Due to such diverse relief features, the climate varies from the Mediterranean type at the coast to the Sub-Alpine one on the highest mountains, thus causing very high biological diversity concentrated in a relatively small territory.

OVERVIEW OF BIODIVERSITY

5. SCG hosts a large variety of ecosystems ranging from Mediterranean-Sub-Mediterranean evergreen forests, various deciduous forests, and coniferous woods typical of the Euro-Siberian and North American regions, to freshwater bodies and marine ecosystems on the Adriatic. This makes SCG one of the six European centres of biological diversity and home to 39% of Europe's vascular plant species, 51% of its fish fauna, 74% of its bird fauna, and 68% of its mammalian fauna. The flora and fauna of SCG is characterized by a great diversity of species including more than 8,000 plant species, 15,500 animal species, 550 species of fungi, and about 400-500 species of lichen. The exceptional richness of plant and animal species and their communities is further illustrated by the existence of around 1,400 species of freshwater algae, 1,500 species of marine algae, 565 species of moss and 650 species of macro-mycete. Around 1,600 wild plant and animal species considered internationally significant inhabit Serbia and Montenegro.

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6. The fauna of the Adriatic Sea has not been fully investigated but according to recently available data there are some 300 species of Hydrozoas, some 700 species of Crustacea, 530 species of snails, about 300 shellfish species, 23 Cephalopoda species, 408 fish species, 3 species of marine turtles and 4 species of dolphins. Several species of whales are also occasional visitors of the Adriatic.
7. A number of SCG's nature areas have been recognized as internationally significant. Among these are the Obed Swamps and the Ludas Lake, Skadar Lake and Carska bara - Stari Begej (Ramsar Wetland of International Significance). Others include the Durmitor-National Park, which includes part of the Tara River Canyon and the Kotor-Risan-Bay (a World Natural Heritage site), the Tara River Canyon (UNESCO-MAB) and the Golija Biosphere Reserve (UNESCO MAB).

Table 1: National Parks in the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro

National Parks	Municipalities	Area (ha)	Altitude (m)
Djerdap	Golubac, Kladovo and Majdan pek	64,000	70-806
Tara	Bajina Basta	19,200	1,000-1,591
Kopaonik	Raska and Brus.	12,000	640-2017
Fruska gora	Backa Palanka, Beocin, Indija, Novi Sad Sremska Mitrovica and Sic	25,400	100-539
Mountain Sara	Kacanik, Urosevac, Suva Reka and Strpce	39,000	1,220-2,585
Biogradska gora	Berane, Kolasin and Mojkovac	5,400	832-2116
Durmitor	Mojkovac, Pluzine, Pljevlja, Savi	32,000	538-2532
Lovcen	Cetije, Budva	6,220	985-1749
Lake Skadar	Podgorica, Bar and Cetinje	40,000	(depression)

8. A certain number of plant species from the flora of Serbia and Montenegro are included in the Red Lists of European and World Flora, such as *Ramonda serbica* and *R. nathaliae*, which are rare living representatives of the Tertiary tropic-subtropic flora that inhabited the Mediterranean and Europe over 500,000 year ago. Among rich dendro-flora, there are three sorts of crab apples (*Malus*), four sorts of common pear tree (*Pyrus*), and seven sorts of cherry tree (*Prunus*), which represent important genetic resources in agriculture. The richness and peculiarity of the fauna in the many caves in the Karst region (Western Serbia, Montenegro) are to be seen not only in numerous endemic species but also in endemic genera and families.
9. The country's biodiversity is further enhanced by endemic and relict varieties and ecosystems of global significance. Close to 15% of the total flora qualifies as endemic and sub-endemic plants of which a further 2-3% are endemics found exclusively in the territory of SCG or whose ranges spill over slightly into the territories of the neighbouring states. About 60% (out of a total of 417 species) of endemic Balkan flora in the territory of Serbia is endangered

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to a varying degree and by different causes. Available data indicate that out of the total of some 5000 species of vascular flora, 800-1000 (or about 20%) are endangered and that some varieties could have already become extinct.

10. The bio-geographic position of SCG on the main lines of migration of a large number of migratory animal species crossing from continental Europe to the Mediterranean and further towards Africa and Asia means that for much of the year these species, many of which are endangered or are species of international significance, are present in SCG.

IMPACTS ON BIODIVERSITY

11. In general, negative impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity can be characterized as: (i) unsustainable exploitation of forests, game and fish and use of improper methods for pest fighting (e.g. application of pesticides and herbicides, poisoning of game); (ii) mining practices with high environmental impact, notably open-cast lignite and copper ore mines; (iii) conversion of marginal lands into agriculture, drainage of swamps and marshes; (iv) water, soil and air pollution; (v) urbanization and tourism development into vulnerable habitats; (vi) infrastructure development (fragmentation of habitats), changes in the hydrological regime with impacts on refuge habitats of relict and endemic species and communities; (vi) fires, floods, accidental spills and discharges of harmful substances by industry or during transportation.
12. Some specific threats accrue to Serbia and Montenegro, respectively. In particular:
13. Serbia. Agricultural land occupies about 65% of the total territory, which was originally covered with forests, shrubs, steppe vegetation and marshes. The original vegetation was removed in order to allow either mountain pastures or lowland arable land. Marshes were drained and steppes were irrigated for agricultural crops. Even though the extent and intensity of these activities have decreased, the remaining natural vegetation is still endangered by further over-grazing by livestock, especially in the mountains.
14. Degradation and loss of forest cover have increased in the last decade due to illegal forest cutting, uncontrolled livestock grazing and forest fires. Current forest management does not ensure proper silvicultural treatment, and therefore forest quality and health are declining. The intensity of forest cut is unevenly distributed. Changes in transport costs result in that accessible forests have been over-utilized while others are not maintained. At the same time the afforestation rate has decreased by an annual rate of 12% because of poor financing.
15. Construction of river dams inflicted heavy damage to some valuable valley ecosystems (i.e. Drina, Piva, Djerdap) and their biodiversity. The new artificial water bodies have resulted in a different assemblage of fauna and flora while dams have interrupted the original species migration routes. In a similar venue, dike systems that were constructed in order to prevent floods changed the water regimes and also caused loss of wetland communities.
16. Due to economic problems, illegal hunting and fishing have increased in recent years, serving either as the source of food or income. Illegal export of birds has increased

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noticeably. It is expected that a thorough implementation of CITES will help to reverse these negative trends. Due to information gaps, there are no exact data on the state of the affected populations.

17. Montenegro. Urbanization and infrastructure constructions are the main threats to coastal and marine ecosystems. The development of tourist facilities and housing has not been accompanied by adequate nature protection measures (e.g. waste treatment). Vulnerable communities are being endangered by tourist activities. The marine ecosystem is also being threatened by the use of trawling nets, which shows a high impact on the seabed, and illegal fishing, which is sometimes carried out by explosives.
18. The financing of forest management has been decreased during the last decade and as a result forest degradation, particularly of karst forests, has been in the rise. Due to economic problems, depopulation of rural areas has intensified. Abandoned or neglected agricultural land and non-maintained forests are serious obstacles to efficient pest and fire control. Illegal forest cutting, cattle grazing and poaching additionally endanger inland ecosystems and species (although this has lessened somewhat due to the depopulation of rural areas).

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND SHORT DESCRIPTION

19. The main objective of the project is to prepare Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans for Serbia and Montenegro that identify strategic directions and actions to conserve biodiversity in the two republics. The project will produce a Country Study (CS), which will describe the critical features of the biodiversity resource, and two Action Plans, one for Serbia and another for Montenegro, which present a range of actions to facilitate their protection.
20. A key component of the BSAPs will be the involvement of stakeholders in their preparation and implementation. This participation will be through a series of public discussions and workshops that will increase understanding of biodiversity and the need for its protection, and help to develop consensus on the mechanisms required to promote conservation.
21. Finally, the BSAPs will form the basis of the First National Report of Serbia and Montenegro, which is an obligation contained in Article 26 of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

OPERATIONAL CRITERIA

Criterion 1 – Coverage Without Duplication

22. There exist a limited number of sectoral plans and publications on the status of biodiversity for Serbia and Montenegro. This Enabling Activity will take this information into account for the development of the Country Study and the Strategy and Action Plans.
23. With the support of FAO (350,000\$), Serbia is developing a forestry action plan that will allow the republic to improve the quality of its forest stands while ensuring sustainable yields. Forests account for approximately 30% of the territory of Serbia and therefore their

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protection and sustainable management are important components of an action plan for the conservation of biodiversity.

24. There is an incipient plan for biodiversity protection in Serbia developed by the Institute of Nature Protection, which is under the Ministry for Protection of Environment, Serbia². Its lines of work are of a general nature, species oriented, and for the medium term only. The plan provides a basis for further work though it needs substantive additions in the areas of ecosystem conservation, financing mechanisms, equitable sharing, institutional strengthening and public awareness.
25. Serbia has produced a red book on flora, which is harmonized with the latest IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) criteria by using the international CORINE methodology and Geographical Information System technology. There are 3665 identified taxons, of which 350-400 have so far been assessed as endangered, and about 200 at low risk of threat. However, there is no equivalent red book for fauna though there exist a list of strictly protected species. The Institute of Botany, Institute of Forestry and the Natural History Museum, among other scientific units, contain a substantial body of information on biodiversity but this data is scattered among different research groups.
26. The Ministry for Forestry Agriculture and Water Management of Montenegro is also preparing a strategy for sustainable forest management. This is of critical importance for Montenegro where approximately 45% of the country is under forest cover. There is also an undergoing revision of the physical planning for the whole of Montenegro, an activity that is of strategic significance in light of the construction boom along the coast and in key inland settlements. The academic and research units under the University of Montenegro, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning and the Ministry for Agriculture and Water Management possess a substantial amount on information on the biodiversity and the status of ecosystems.
27. This application for enabling activities will cover the additional activities that need to take place to prepare and complete the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans for Serbia and Montenegro to a satisfactory standard and prepare the First National Report to the Conference of Parties and the Convention on Biological Diversity. The BSAPs will incorporate all relevant information from existing studies and other data held by the government units, academic institutions, the private sector and NGOs. The process will involve a series of consultations with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, in workshops and round-table discussions. The process shows no duplication or overlapping with any biodiversity activities currently taking place in the country.

² The ministry has not yet adopted the plan.

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Table 3: Activity Matrix

Enabling Activity	Output	Capacity Building		Public Participation	Comments
		Inst. Strength.	Training		
Commitment					
<i>Stocktaking and Assessment (scientific and social), based on Existing Information</i>					
1. Biodiversity and Biological Resources	X				1-5. Substantial information available but scattered among an array of academic and research institutions; 6. There is ample scope for a substantive improvement on intersectoral coordination and cooperation; 7. At present, the policy framework on environmental issues is being developed. This presents this enabling activity with a strategic opportunity to collaborate in the area of policy and regulatory framework and incentives;
2. Inland Flora	X				
3. Inland Fauna	X				
4. Major Inland Ecosystem	X				
5. Affected communities including indigenous and local communities	X				
6. Cross-sectoral issues including agrobiodiversity. In particular, information from Agriculture, Fisheries, Forest, Tourism, Refugees, Energy and in particular oil, regulation of water,	X	X	X		
7. Policy and regulatory framework and incentives	X	X	X		
8. Institutional and human capacity existing and needed for biosafety; initial assessment/monitoring including taxonomy, agrobiodiversity, access to genetic resources and indigenous and local communities	X		X	X	
9. Analysis of root causes of biodiversity loss	X		X	X	
10. Technologies for conservation and sustainable use, including biosafety	X		X	X	
11. Measures for access to genetic resources			X		
12. Existing programs					
13. Preliminary statement of objectives	X			X	
14. Identification of gaps	X			X	
15. Assessment of existing needs					
<i>Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD</i>					There exist ongoing work for the development of a strategy for sustainable use of forest in Serbia as well as in Montenegro, a preliminary species-oriented action plan for biodiversity in Serbia, and a review of physical planning in Montenegro.
Strategies for conservation	X		X	X	
Strategies for sustainable use	X		X	X	
Strategies for benefit sharing	X		X	X	
<i>Planning and Preparation of a Strategy and Plan</i>					
National strategy consisting of 2 Republic Strategies	X		X	X	
National action plan consisting of 2 Republic Action Plans	X		X	X	
<i>Preparation of the first National Report</i>					
First national report	X	X	X	X	
<i>Capacity building for participation in the Clearing-house Mechanism</i>					
Capacity building for participation in the Clearing-house Mechanism	X	X	X	X	

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Criterion 2 – Appropriate Sequencing of Activities

28. All activities foreseen in the project will be completed within 12 months. The workplan has been designed to enabling the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro to ensure high levels of consultation and participation of all stakeholders.
29. The Project Management Unit (PMU) will be fully established in approximately 4 weeks after the project starting date. The PMU will act as the BSAP team and will have a Project Coordinator (placed in UNDP office) and two project managers to jointly manage activities in three thematic areas; (a) in-situ and ex-situ biodiversity conservation, (b) institutional strengthening and public awareness, and (c) economic and legal aspects.
30. There will be an initial round of meetings with project staff to refresh the process leading to the CS and BSAPs, discuss TORs of national experts, and discuss the priority themes that should be addressed during the EA process. The work plan will be reviewed and agreed, and an inception report prepared.
31. Once the project team is formed, the EA process will be formally launched. The following key stages have been identified based on existing guidelines and the experiences of other countries in the region:

Stage 1: Stakeholder, inventory of existing information and preparation of the Country Study

32. The process will be launched by first briefing the selected national consultants on the goal and methods for data collection, assessment of the socio-economic situation, status of biological diversity, threat identification, and planning techniques.
33. The information will be collected in two phases. The first one will involve a preliminary information gathering effort by local experts. Though the process of collecting and collating information will fully take into account existing data, additional information gathering and consultations will be required to clearly identify threats, root causes, trends, cross sectoral issues, and potential use and value of biological resources. No new primary research will be carried out. The results of this first information gathering effort will be discussed and assessed among national and international experts and UNDP. Based on these discussions, a second information gathering effort will fill the remaining gaps. The final analysis of the collected data will be done in collaboration between local and international experts and will lead to the identification of biodiversity and ecosystem status, threat and root causes of biodiversity loss, the impact of the policy framework and regulatory mechanisms on biodiversity, impact trend estimation, priorities areas for capacity building needs, and current available tools for mitigation. These findings will be discussed in a public workshop that will rely on the presence of relevant stakeholders.
34. The results of this process of stocktaking, inventory and analysis will be used to prepare a CS for the Republics of Serbia and Montenegro. This document will be an information source and the basis of consultations with key stakeholders to help identify the options to conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity and to plan appropriate actions. The CS will be presented in Belgrade and Podgorica and efforts will be made to ensure widespread

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dissemination of the information gathered. If required, international experts will assist in the preparation and editing of the CS, which will be printed in Serbian and English.

Stage 2: Identification and Analysis of Options

35. The identification and analysis of options is a process that will also be undertaken in two stages. The first one involves a preliminary identification and analysis of options and will involve a joint effort of local and international experts in each working group. Consultations with relevant stakeholders will be intense during this process and will constitute crucial inputs in the identification and analysis of available options. The results of the first preliminary identification of options will be discussed in public workshops in both Serbia and Montenegro and will count with the presence of UNDP and GEF representatives. Based on the results of the workshops, which are expected to provide substantive inputs to the process of identifying options, an analysis and review of identified alternatives will be carried out. International and national experts will work together in each of the working groups (in-situ and ex-situ biodiversity conservation; institutional strengthening and public awareness; and economic and legal aspects) to complete the identification of alternatives and options. The latter will be presented in a second round of public workshops in Serbia and Montenegro and will form the basis of the preparation of the BSAPs.

Stage 3: Preparation of a Strategy and Action Plan

36. The specific contents of the first draft action plans will be developed through consultations, analysis of information from CSs, and planning workshops involving the project teams with assistance of international experts. The result will be two documents having preliminary (though specific) avenues of action in Serbia and Montenegro. These documents will be discussed in two Action Planning workshops with the participation of key stakeholders, including environment and other sectors, NGOs, local authorities, donors, industry and the private sector. The BSAP team with the help of international experts will take the results of this workshop and produce the first draft action plans. These first draft action plans will clearly specify strategies and actions for conservation of biodiversity, its sustainable use and benefit sharing and available financial mechanisms to support biodiversity conservation. These draft action plans will fully take into account the work being carried out by other previous planning efforts.

37. These first draft action plans will be subjected to a further round of consultations with key stakeholders and amended and corrected as necessary. This will result in the development of second drafts of BSAPs, which will be subjected to a public review in Serbia and Montenegro. The inputs from this public review will be incorporated into the document and a final version prepared. International experts will assist in the preparation and editing of the BSAPs so as to ensure that its format complies with international standards. The documents will be printed in Serbian and English.

Stage 4: Submission of First National Report and Launching of BSAPs.

38. The BSAPs will be formally launched in a public presentation in Serbia and Montenegro and efforts will be made to ensure wide dissemination of information and public awareness about its contents. In view of the full involvement of all relevant government units in the preparation of the CS and BSAPs, the formal adoption of the document by the government is

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expected to happen soon after the public presentations of the BSAPs. Serbia and Montenegro will submit the first national report to the CBD in pursuant to decision II/17 of the Conference of the Parties. In view of fact that COP7 already requires countries to submit their Third national reports, the first national report of Serbia and Montenegro will incorporate relevant requirements from the Second and Third reports.

Criterion 3 – Best Practice

39. The Project will follow, and be fully consistent with, established and widely accepted guidelines such. These will include *Guidelines for the Preparation of Biodiversity Country Studies*, prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme, and *National Biodiversity Planning: Guidelines Based on Early Country Experiences*, prepared by the World Resources Institute, the UNEP and the World Conservation Union. All activities will also strive, within the particular conditions of the country, to:

- Be based on national priorities and in accordance with the Republics' conditions
- Be conducted in a participatory manner involving stakeholders from governmental, non-governmental and private sectors
- Become part of the Republics' normal decision-making processes
- Address the social issues of affected populations, including IDPs and other vulnerable groups, while at the same time meeting biodiversity conservation requirements
- Make use of regional and local expertise
- Build co-operation at local, regional and international levels and make use of the facilities provided by the Clearing House Mechanism of the Convention
- Promote the sustainability of project benefits and offer potential contribution to experience in the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components, and
- Facilitate access to other international, national and private sector funds and scientific and technical co-operation.

Criterion 4 – Cost-effectiveness

40. The Project will use existing information held by a wide range of governmental, research, academic and other organisations. No other research will take place within its timescale. The budget of this enabling activity is consistent with the cost benchmarks indicated in the Annex B of the GEF Operational Criteria for Enabling Activities.

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Table 2: Cost Benchmarks for Enabling Activities in Biodiversity³

Cost Benchmarks	Product (preparation and execution of an activity)		Process (Stakeholder consultation, consensus building)		Total (\$)		Explanations of Deviations
	Serbia and Montenegro EA	Cost Benchmark GEF	Serbia and Montenegro EA	Cost Benchmark (GEF)	Serbia and Montenegro EA	Cost Benchmark (GEF)	
Stakeholder and Inventory of Existing Information,	32,010	20,000-35,000	0	0,0	32,010	20,000-35,000	-----
Identification and Analysis of Options	27,326	30,000-40,000	118,663	80,000-160,000	145,989	110,000-200,000	-----
Preparation of the Strategy and an Action Plans	27,884	20,000-30,000	53,174	40,000-60,000	81,058	60,000-90,000	-----
First National Report	13,088	10,000-15,000	8,725	0-10,000	21,814	10,000-25,000	-----
Total	100,308	80,000-120,000	180,562	120,000-230,000	280,870	200,000-350,000	-----
Clearing House Mechanism					11,500	1500-14,000	-----
TOTAL (including CHM)					292,370	201,500-364,000	

Table 3: CHM Cost Benchmarks (in US\$ dollars)

Items	Estimated Cost Norm.	Actual Proposed	Comments on deviations from nom
Hardware (PC of appropriate configuration)	0 – 4000	3,700	-----
Software (Internet browsers and required software)	0 – 1000	1,000	-----
Modem	0 - 500	300	-----
Recurrent Access Costs to Internet Service Provider	0 – 3800	3,800	-----
Technician Set-Up Fees	500 - 700	700	-----
Internet and Email training	1000 - 4000	2,000	-----
Total	1,500 – 14,000	11,500	-----

³ See breakdown of budget by categories of activities in Annex 1.

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PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

41. The execution of the project will be carried out by UNDP CO through its direct execution (DEX) modality. A PMU will be established, under UNDP auspices to follow up on the project through reports every two weeks and not less than one meeting every two months.
42. The PMU will consist of the Project Coordinator and the respective Republic Ministries will appoint one project manager each. NGOs and professional institutions will also be involved in the work of the PMU. Members of this unit will be major stakeholders in the environment/biodiversity/forestry sectors.
43. The PMU will coordinate the work of the project and its outputs. Activities will focus on sub-contracts in the following three identified areas:
 - Institutional Strengthening and Public Awareness
 - Economic and Legal Aspects
 - In-situ and Ex-situ Biodiversity Conservation

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44) The sub-contracts for thematic areas will be of a length decided upon by the PMU as these may differ from thematic area and within the country.

45) The PMU will have the following main ToRs:

- Responsible for the outputs of the project as specified in the project document;
- Take decisions on further activities, related to the project document and as deemed necessary under the same, in order to achieve the outputs;
- Execute the funds in accordance to UNDP regulations;
- Implement activities as identified under the three thematic areas;
- Authority to make decisions on changes to project timetable and activities if required.

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- 46) International consultants will be recruited for short assignments in the familiarisation with biodiversity planning approaches, facilitate workshops, and to provide expertise in different issues as appropriate.
- 47) At its first meeting the PMU will decide on the organisation and undertaking of all activities required to establish the CHM. No specific working group will be established for this purpose though subcontracts may be awarded for specific technical components as creation of a website. The PMU will count with advice from national and international experts for the establishment of the CHM structures.
- 48) The United Nations Development Programme will be the GEF implementing agency and its country office will execute the project according to standard UNDP Direct Execution Guidelines. The PIU will follow standard UNDP/GEF reporting requirements. In addition, and following UNDP standard procedures, projects have to be audited by an internationally recognised firm at least once in the project lifetime. For this GEF project, there will be one audit in month 10.

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CONSULTATION PROCESS

49) There were meetings with a wide cross section of stakeholders in Serbia and Montenegro (see Annex 6). These meetings provided all background information on biodiversity to complete an application for EA. The meetings regularly highlighted (i) the need for strengthening coordination mechanisms among participating institutions, particularly at medium and field levels, and (ii) good local capacity in the natural sciences.

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ANNEX 1: BREAKDOWN OF PROJECT BUDGET INTO CATEGORIES

Cost Breakdown including all contributions (GEF plus co-financing)

Budget by type of Expenditures	US\$	%
National Exp.	75,700	25.9
International Experts ⁴	76,020	26.0
Equipment ⁵	14,150	4.8
Workshops and Training	24,620	8.4
In-country travel	26,040	8.9
Operational Costs ⁶	28,600	9.8
Publishing (including translation to English)	16,400	5.6
Auditing	15,000	5.1
Monitoring	15,840	5.4
Total	292,370	100.0

⁴ It includes travel, fees, and DSAs.

⁵ It includes equipment for the CHM component.

⁶ It includes connections costs for CHM

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ANNEX 2: WORKPLAN

<i>Activities/month</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Set Up BSAP Project Team	■											
Formalize Steering Committee	■											
Preliminary information gathering		■	■	■								
Collation of preliminary information for CS			■	■								
First Assessment of Information of CS			■	■								
Further information gathering for CS			■	■								
Workshop to present/discuss results of the information gathering effort				■								
Publish Country Study				■	■							
First Identification of priorities and options				■	■							
Assessment of Options					■	■						
Workshop to define priorities and options						■						
Action Planning WS							■					
1 st Draft of Action Plans produced							■					
Consultations on draft Aps							■					
Definition of potential financial mechanisms			■	■	■	■	■	■				
2 nd Drafts BSAP produced								■				
Local BSAPs reviews									■			
Governments adoption of the BSAPs										■	■	
Publish Biodiversity Strategy & Action Plans												■
Formal launch and promotion of BSAPs												■
Submission of 1 st Nat Rep to CBD												■

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ANNEX 3: TERMS OF REFERENCE – PROJECT COORDINATOR

The Project Coordinator will be responsible for the overall project coordination for this UNDP/GEF-funded technical cooperation project. Her/his primary function is to supervise the task of the project managers appointed by each republic, backstop the tasks of the working groups, ensure compliance with monitoring and auditing requirements, ensure transparency and accountability.

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Act as the focal point and overall responsible and accountable party for project management;
2. Coordinate, as necessary, the work of the Republic Project Managers and the thematic areas;
3. Approval of payments of project funds according to the procedures in the official DEX manual;
4. Representing the project at high level meetings as required;
5. Ensure transparency and accountability of project funds;
6. Ultimate responsible for outputs being delivered in accordance with international standards and as described in this project document.
7. Contribute to the project within his/her own field of specialization and collaborate with the PMU, including preparation of papers on key biodiversity policy and planning issues;
8. Perform any other functions that may be required for the proper implementation of the project.

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ANNEX 4: TERMS OF REFERENCE – PROJECT MANAGERS (ONE FOR EACH REPUBLIC)

As part of the PMU and in consultation with the Project Coordinator, the Project Managers will manage project activities in Serbia and Montenegro respectively. More specifically, the Project Managers will perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- Ensure that all government inputs committed to the project are available to the project;
- Assist in identifying national consultants and members of the working groups and directly oversee their work;
- Based on the schedule approved in the original project, prepare a detailed workplan for activities in Serbia and Montenegro respectively and draft terms of reference for the contracts and subcontracts;
- The Project Managers are responsible for ensuring that PMU activities are carried out on schedule; this responsibility can be partly or totally waived in case of events that are clearly beyond the capacity of the coordinator(s) and such waivers should be discussed case by case with the UNDP Country Office;
- Facilitate access and contacts with concerned national institutions, as required for the project activities; facilitate access to national data and materials regarding the situation in the environmental sector;
- Assist in organizing the workshops, training and consultations needed during the project including the identification of participants, issue of invitations and the oversight of work on related data collection, discussion papers and studies; he/she would also be responsible for organizing and supervising translation and editing any publication based on these;
- Assist in the preparation of the contribution of Serbia and Montenegro to the first national report in collaboration with government personnel and the national experts;
- Report to the Project Coordinator (and PMU) in a regular manner and as required.
- Contribute to the project within his/her own field of specialization and collaborate with the project team, including preparation of papers on key biodiversity policy and planning issues;
- Perform any other functions that may be required for the proper implementation of the project.

Qualifications and experience

- An advanced degree (at least MSc. or equivalent) in environmental management or other field relevant to the project;
- A minimum of 10 years of working experience in the area relevant to the project;
- A demonstrated ability in project management and capacity to cooperate and link with all government officials, scientific institutions, NGOs and private sector;
- Fluency in the Government official language(s) and at least working knowledge in English.

ANNEX 5: COUNTRY PROFILE

The State Union of Serbia and Montenegro



Basic facts

1. *Official name:* State Union of Serbia and Montenegro
2. *Capital:* Belgrade (Serbia); Podgorica (Montenegro)
3. *Population:* 11,200,000
4. *Population of Main Urban Areas (1991):*
 - Belgrade (1,200,000)
 - Novi Sad (180,000)
 - Nis (175,000)
 - Kragujevac (146,000)
 - Podgorica (118,000)
5. *Urbanization:*
 - Urban 58%
 - Rural 42%
6. *Life Expectancy*
 - Total 73.9 (1995 estimate)
 - Male 71.4
 - Female 76.7

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7. *Literacy rate*

- Total 93.3%
- Male 97.6%
- Female 89.2%

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ANNEX 6 CONSULTATIVE PROCESS

Meetings Serbian Counterparts

UNDP Country Office, Belgrade.

1. Representatives from UNDP and Mr Gabriel D. Labbate
2. Dr Predrag Simonović, representative of the Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
3. Milica Risojevic, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
4. Mr Siniša Mitrović, President of the Board for environmental protection in Public Assembly
1. Mr Milan Jivanovic – Ministry assistant - Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
2. Mr Vlada Djokovic – Ministry for the Agriculture and Water management
3. Mr Puzovic Slobodan – Provincial Secretariat for the Environment and Sustainable development, Vojvodina
4. Mrs Duska Dimovic – Institute for Nature Protection in Serbia
5. Mr Predrag Jovic – Directorate for Forestry, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
6. Mr Dragomir Novcic – Public Enterprise "Srbijasume"
7. Mr Delic Slobodan - Public Enterprise "Srbijasume"
8. Marija Smederevac- Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment

Institute for Botany and Botanical Garden, Jevremovac

1. Prof Dr. Mirko Cvijan, Dean
2. Prof Dr. Brigita Petrov, Director of Institute for zoology
3. Prof Dr. Slobodan Jovanovic, Director of Institute for botany
4. Prof Dr. Vladimir Stevanovic
5. Prof Dr. Ivica Radovic
6. Doc Dr. Aleksandra Cetkovic
7. Prof Dr. Ljubisa Cetkovic
8. Predrag Simonović, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
9. Milica Risojevic, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
10. Gabriel Labbate, UNDP
11. Saba Nordstrom, UNDP

Faculty of Forestry

1. Prof Dr. Ljubodrag Mihajlovic, Dean
2. Prof Dr. Dragan Karadzic
3. Prof Dr. Mihajlo Grbic
4. Prof Dr. Rade Cvjeticanin
5. Prof Dr. Dragica Obratov

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6. Predrag Simonović, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
7. Milica Risojevic, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
8. Gabriel Labbate, UNDP
9. Saba Nordstrom, UNDP

Museum of Natural Heritage

1. Dr Vojislav Vasic, director
2. Mrs Mileva koplic, assistant of director
3. Dr. Ljiljana Andjus
4. Mr Milan Paunovic
5. Mr Zoran Markovic
6. Mrs Aleksandra Savic
10. Predrag Simonović, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
11. Milica Risojevic, Ministry for the Protection of the Natural Resources and Environment
12. Gabriel Labbate, UNDP
13. Saba Nordstrom, UNDP

Roundtable Montenegro Counterparts

Podgorica, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning,
PC Vektra, Meeting room at 2nd Floor

1. Nada Mugosa, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning
2. Zlatko Bulic, Director, Institute for the Protection of the Nature
3. Prof. Dr Vukic Pulevic, Faculty of Biology
4. Prof. Dr Gordan Karaman, Faculty of Biology
5. Sreten Mandic, Director, Institute for marine Biology Kotor
6. Darko Saveljic, Center for Research of Birds
7. Vasilije Buskovic, Advisor, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Physical Planning
8. Gabriel Labbate, UNDP
9. Saba Nordstrom, UNDP
10. Miodrag Dragisic, UNDP

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ANNEX 2 LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

