

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GLOBAL MECHANISM (GM)
AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)

A. PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Title: National Strategy and Action Plan (NSAP) for Combating Desertification including an Integrated Financing Strategy (NSAP-IFS)
Time frame: The Project will be implemented from December 2009 - December 2010
Location: occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)
Contribution amount: US\$ 50,000 (inclusive of cost recovery)
Donor: The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD (GM) at IFAD
Recipient Agency: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Executing Entity: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The contribution governed by this Agreement shall be utilized exclusively for the Project (see Annex 1). It will be used by the recipients to contribute to the development of the National Strategy and Action Plan (NSAP) for Combating Desertification including an Integrated Financing Strategy. This contribution will be administered in accordance with the regulations and rules applicable to UNDP.

C. CONTRIBUTIONS AND SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

This contribution will be allocated in two instalments for a total of US\$50,000. The total contribution is inclusive of UNDP's fee to recover the costs of general management support services [7%] and all direct costs of implementation, including the costs of executing entity or implementing partner, will be identified in the project budget against a relevant budget line and borne by the project accordingly. The project budget is found in Annex 2. The GM will inform UNDP/PAPP when the contribution is paid via an e-mail message with remittance information to Sameer Jibril – sameer.jibril@undp.org

D. UNDP REPORTING

- Substantive Progress

Substantive reports shall detail achievements, constraints and impacts with regards to the utilization of this contribution. The substantive report shall be submitted within six months after the date of completion of the activities. This report will be accompanied by a financial report signed by the Special Representative of the Administrator of UNDP/PAPP in oPt.

- Financial

The Financial reports signed by the Special Representative of the Administrator of UNDP/PAPP in oPt shall be submitted by the end of every fiscal year and a final report within six months of the completion of project activities.

Financial reports signed by the Special Representative of the Administrator will provide information according to the following categories:

- a. Amount received
- b. Staff and other personnel costs
- c. Travel
- d. Contractual services
- e. Procurement
- f. Fellowships, Grants and other
- g. Sub-total
- h. Cost recovery
- i. TOTAL EXPENDITURES

At the termination of the project, any unexpended or uncommitted part of the contribution will be returned to the GM, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the parties.

E. PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

The first instalment of USD 40,000 shall be paid upon receipt of this signed Agreement, the remaining amount will be paid after 5 months from signature. Funds shall be paid into the following account:

Bank Name: JP Morgan Chase
Address: 1166 Avenue of the Americas, 17th Floor. New York, NY 10036-2708
ABA No.: 021-000021
Wire Routing Number: N/A
SWIFT Code: CHASUS33
Account No.: 015-002284
Account Name: UNDP Contributions
Reference: PAL 10 #00072866

F. CERTIFICATION AND AGREEMENT BY UNDP

UNDP/PAPP certifies that the statement herein, under the heading "Project description and implementation", is an accurate description of the Project and that agreement and acceptance of the terms and conditions of this Agreement Document is indicated by the duly authorized signature below.

Signed: Jens Toyberg-Frandzen

Special Representative of the Administrator



Date: _____

G. CERTIFICATION BY THE GM

It is hereby certified that the activities described in this document are consistent with the objectives of the GM and that agreement and acceptance of this Agreement Document is indicated by the duly authorized signature below.

Signed: Christian Mersmann, Managing Director

Date: _____

ANNEX 1

Project Description

Development of National Strategy and Action Programme (NSAP)
and Integrated Financing Strategy
for Combating Desertification

occupied Palestinian territory (oPt)

Prepared by

The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD
Asia and Pacific Desk
in consultation with the
Environment Quality Authority – Palestine
and UNDP/PAPP - oPt

August 2009

I. The UNCCD: objectives and principles

The international community concluded negotiations on 17 June 1994 on a global agenda for action to address land degradation and desertification. The UNCCD was born out of these negotiations, and entered into force on 26 December 1996.

The Convention pioneers a bottom-up approach in international environmental law. It is designed to 'forge a global partnership to reverse and prevent desertification/land degradation and to mitigate the effects of drought in affected areas in order to support poverty reduction and environmental sustainability'. The UNCCD is founded on the principle that solutions to desertification and drought should emanate from the affected populations, supported by partnerships with national and international stakeholders. These solutions and partnerships should be undertaken within the National Strategy and Action Programme (NSAP) process, since the NSAP is the main instrument for implementing the UNCCD at the national level.

For the UNCCD, success depends on the specialized contribution the Convention can make at the national level to effective resource mobilization for rural development and sustainable natural resource management, and on the acknowledgement of this contribution in national development programming. The UNCCD's contribution to development priority setting, development programming and the achievement of global objectives such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) depends on the extent to which UNCCD implementation can be integrated into these frameworks at the country level.

Ten years after the Convention entered into force, the international community renewed its commitment to combating desertification and land degradation. At the most recent session of the Conference of Parties (COP) in Madrid in 2007, country Parties adopted a 10-year Strategy to enhance UNCCD implementation at all levels. The 10-year Strategy will seize opportunities to create revitalized common ground for all UNCCD stakeholders.

II. The Global Mechanism of the UNCCD

The Global Mechanism (GM) was established under the authority of the conference of the Parties (COP) of the UNCCD. The GM acts as a hub for a dynamic network of partners, committed to focusing their energies, resources and knowledge on combating desertification. The GM not only mobilizes financial resources, but also channels their flow, thereby facilitating increased financial effectiveness and efficiency and ensuring a holistic and equitable approach to resource distribution.

Drawing on GM experiences in the different regions and also, the changing environment at the international and national levels in development financing, a consolidated strategy for resource mobilisation has been conceptualised. The GM support to countries is based on this strategy with the following components:

The GM support to the oPt for UNCCD implementation is operationalised through the promotion, development and implementation of the National Strategy and Action Programme (NSAP) and the Integrated Financing Strategy (IFS) that provides a comprehensive framework to enable countries to identify sources of financing and ways to gain access to financing for agreed upon national priorities in the medium term within a structured plan of action. A central part of the strategy is to create a network of partners for resource mobilization.

III. National Strategy and Action Programmes to Combat Desertification (NSAP)

National Strategy and Action Programmes (NSAP) are one of the key instruments in the implementation of the Convention. National Strategy and Action Programmes are developed in the framework of a participative approach involving the local communities and they spell out the practical steps and measures to be taken to combat desertification in specific ecosystems.

IV. Integrated Financing Strategy for Combating Desertification (IFS)

While helping to develop the appropriate blend of funds – namely internal, external and innovative – the IFS also uncovers potential barriers in resource identification, allocation, and disbursement. It highlights aspects in the occupation, policy, fiscal, legal, institutional, and human resource environments that may act as barriers to implementing certain actions in resource mobilization or program execution. Within the directions provided for mobilizing finances from the three main sources, the strategy additionally recommends a number of actions for overcoming the potential barriers in the enabling environment.

The **IFS** is a guiding framework for locating and developing a mix of financial resources to fund programs and projects related to Sustainable Land Management (SLM).

It is important to note that the financing strategy is neither a recipe for program development nor a timed action plan for funding a specific activity. Rather, the strategy represents a generic tool that can be used to find and raise financial resources for any range of programs/projects related to SLM.

Within the strategy, an action plan is elaborated to summarize the activities recommended in the course of raising the different financial resources. It provides the elements of a new approach to financing programs/projects; an approach that is meant to be adopted by planners and decision makers in the course of addressing SLM in their respective institutions.

For this new approach to be adopted and in order for the strategy to be successful, the concepts that the strategy puts forth have to be disseminated across the various institutions that are concerned with SLM. The subsequent level of cooperation and coordination among the various stakeholders in developing programs and raising finances as well as the blend of resources that will be mobilized will serve as important indicators of the success of the strategy.

V. Objective

The specific objective is to assist the Palestinian Authority to develop a National Strategy and Action Programme (NSAP) to combat desertification in arid, semi-arid, and dry sub humid regions with a view to meet its priorities and help implement the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The NSAP will be combined with its Integrated Financing Strategy.

The aim of such exercise is to draft a NSAP document that will be a comprehensive and robust strategic paper to be used in combination with the IFS at the policy and programmatic levels for implementing the UNCCD as well as land degradation activities in the Palestinian Authority.

VI. Scope of Work

The development of the National Strategy and Action Programme to combat Desertification and its Integrated Financing Strategy will be mainly undertaken by the Environment Quality Authority and the national committee for combating desertification in the oPtPalestine with support and guidance being provided by the Global Mechanism directly and through appointed consultants.

VII. Terms of Reference

1. Review relevant available documents and guidelines pertaining to NSAP and IFS development.
2. Review the "Assessment of the Climate Change in the oPt", "The Climate Change Adaptation Strategy" and the "Palestinian Adaptation Programme of Action" developed by UNDP/PAPP and EQA.
3. Undertake a "Sustainable Land Management" stakeholder's analysis to identify main partners to be consulted during the development and implementation.
4. Undertake a SWOT analysis for the capacity of the EQA to develop and implement a NSAP and IFS looking into the institutional linkages and available capacity to embark on the task. The SWOT analysis will help identify gaps and barriers in drafting, validating and implementing a NSAP and IFS. It will also identify needs for external support to EQA for drafting a NSAP and IFS.
5. Identify external technical assistance needs.
6. Initiate a targeted awareness campaign on SLM issues in order to bring all stakeholders up to speed on the topic.
7. Undertake required studies and reviews in order to collect data needed for the NSAP and IFS as described below.
8. Agree with all the stakeholders on a *modus operandi* for NSAP and IFS drafting, feedback and validation processes.
9. Hold meetings/workshops in West Bank and Gaza with pertinent national and development co-operation partners to develop key strategic aspects of the NSAP and IFS and ensure conformity with needs and priorities of all relevant stakeholders.
10. Draft a NSAP and IFS taking into consideration the below criteria:
 - a. Ensure that the NSAP is inline with the new 10 year strategy of the UNCCD
 - b. Ensure that the NSAP and IFS Documents contains relevant information on the aspects referred to in the UNCCD requirements;
 - c. The NSAP document should reflect a bottom-up, partnership, participatory and consultative process vis-à-vis a descriptive, top-down, scientifically-focussed strategy for formulation of NSAP. The NSAP framework should address both anthropogenic and climatic aspects to land degradation and desertification;
 - d. The NSAP should elaborate on the ways and means of integrating UNCCD priorities in the main national development policy and programmatic frameworks (e.g. agricultural or rural development, national socio-economic plans, etc.);
 - e. The NSAP should contain strategic perspectives on integrating the UNCCD process into bilateral and multilateral co-operation planning frameworks;

- f. Links and possibilities for synergies with other Conventions (UNCBD, UNFCCC, ITPGR, Ramsar, etc.) should be defined in the NSAP; building on the work previously implemented by UNDP/PAPP and EQA.
 - g. Assess whether the participation of affected populations should be a priority and the NSAP strategy should be a reflection of UNCCD stakeholders' needs and priorities;
 - h. Ensure that existing policies, strategies and legislative environment, institutional arrangements and their implementation status are clearly highlighted in the NSAP;
 - i. Ensure that programmes and projects identified in the NSAP are prioritized, have a timeframe for implementation and have a cost estimation associated to them.
 - j. Ensure that policies, strategies, programmes and projects identified are included in the next PRDP or any other planning/strategic document developed by the PA.
 - k. Ensure that the IFS is inline with the country capacity to mobilize internal and external funds
11. Present draft NSAP and IFS to stakeholders in West bank and Gaza for comments and validation.
 12. Publish validated NSAP and IFS and disseminate to relevant stakeholders in West bank and Gaza.

VIII. Proposed Outline of the NSAP/IFS

The draft annotated outline for the NSAP /IFS is presented in Annex 1.

IX. Expected Outputs

The expected outputs are:

- a) Finalised draft of the NSAP/IFS Document, ready to be submitted for validation by Environment Quality Authority of the Palestinian National Authority. The Draft NSAP/IFS shall be a robust strategic framework that reflects the national collective priorities as well as the principles of the UNCCD.
- b) A methodological approach paper, "based on the SWOT analysis, - for partnership building and resource mobilisation that will address potential areas of collaboration with key bilateral and multilateral donors in the Palestinian Authority that are engaged in supporting anti-desertification activities as well as potential national funding partners, with the identification of ongoing and planned programming and projects as well as areas of potential interest for future funding of UNCCD/NSAP priorities.

X. Timeframe

A period of 12 months is required to execute the task starting from the signature of the agreement between UNDP and the GM.

XI. Qualification of the Drafting Team

The drafting team should be composed of a team leader supported by experts in relevant fields, holding the following qualifications:

- The team leader will have over 10 years of expertise in environmental policy, natural resource management, land management, socio-economics, as well as with formulation and implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements specially UNCCD.
- Experience working in the occupied Palestinian territory preferred, with knowledge about the Environmental sector.
- Experience in strategic planning and programming, coordination and partnership building;
- Experience in national budgeting processes and mechanism;
- Experience in resource mobilization from multilateral organizations, bilateral donors, the private sector and with innovative financing mechanisms and instruments;
- Experience in drafting strategies, and undertaking consultative approaches and participatory planning;
- Excellent communication and reporting skills preferably with English language. Arabic will be considered an asset (*“important for the stakeholders engagement”*)
- Good knowledge of Environmental Agreements, preferably the UNCCD.

XII. Reporting

Progress and final reports submitted to the Global Mechanism and EQA shall be in English. The reporting schedule will be agreed upon at a later stage.

ANNEX 2: Budget Breakdown

Category Description	UNDP Budget Account	Budget (USD) from the GM	Budget (USD) from UNDP/PAPP TRAC
Contractual services	71400	35,000	
Travel	71600	6,000	
Miscellaneous/Operational costs	74500	5,500	
UNDP GMS	75100	3,500	
Total		50,000	50,000

VENDOR PROFILE FORM

Date/ data 8th December 2009
Name/Nome United Nation Development Programme
Surname/Cognome
Address/Indirizzo 4 A Yaqubi Street,
Zip code/ CAP 91151
City/ Città e provincial Jerusalem
Country/ Stato oPT
Phone number/ Telefono 00970-2-626-8200
Fax n. / Fax 00970-2-626-8222
e mail address/ indirizzo e mail jens.toyberg-frandzen@undp.org

BANKING INSTRUCTIONS/COORDINATE BANCARIE

BANK NAME & ADDRESS/ BANCA E INDIRIZZO JP Morgan Chase 1166 Avenue of the Americas, 17th Floor New York, NY 10036-2708
CITY/ COUNTRY- CITTA'/STATO New York / U.S.A
BANK BRANCH/ AGENZIA 1166 Avenue of the Americas, 17th Floor, New York
CODICE ABI- (identifier for Italian Banking System) N/A
CODICE CAB (identifier for Italian Banking System) N/A
SWIFT CODE/CODICE SWIFT ABA# 021-000021 021-000021
BANK IDENTIFIER CODE / IBAN N/A
CHECK DIGIT/CIN Checking Account
ACCOUNT NAME/ INTERSTAZIONE CONTO UNDP/PAPP

ACCOUNT NUMBER/ NUMERO DI CONTO

Account# 015-002284