

UNDP submission to partner with ITPGRFA Benefit Sharing Fund

SECTION 1: CONTACT DETAILS

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SECTION 2: BACKGROUND

Provide a brief introduction of the organization, its comparative advantages and approaches to support food security and rural sustainable development. Describe the work and portfolio of the organization relevant to the conservation and sustainable utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. Give a few examples which illustrate the range of the organization's work in this regard and its potential to mainstream plant genetic resources into major national and regional plans and programmes (food security, poverty alleviation, climate change, biodiversity). Describe the organization's networks and cooperation relevant to the Treaty (scientific community, policy makers, civil society and stakeholder groups,...). The suggested maximum length of this section is of 1500 words.

UNDP is the UN's global development network. It is on the ground in 166 countries, working with them on their own solutions to global and national development challenges. UNDP firmly believes that climate change and poverty reduction are the two key, and interlinked, challenges of the twenty-first century. In this regard, climate change is fundamentally a development issue. It reaches into all aspects of human development, and it is impossible to address poverty reduction without addressing climate change. It is also impossible to address climate change without significant investment in poverty reduction. Unless developing countries have the necessary institutional capacity to address climate change, and their people have basic access to essential ecosystem services, and water, sanitation, food and energy, then they will not be able to address a changing climate. UNDP's goal is to align human development and climate change management efforts by promoting mitigation and adaptation activities that do not slow down but rather accelerate socio-economic progress. With full awareness of climate change risks to the

hard-won development gains made by developing countries, UNDP places climate change in the centre of its poverty reduction efforts.

UNDP's proposal to the Benefit-Sharing Fund of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture falls squarely within this strategy and builds on the accumulated experience, lessons and accomplishments of 19 years of work in biodiversity conservation and use, sustainable land management, water governance and, more recently, climate change adaptation. For the purpose of brevity and detail, this proposal will focus primarily on the areas of biodiversity management and climate change adaptation to illustrate UNDP's strength, depth and potential as a partner in the operationalization of the Benefit-Sharing Fund.

Poor people, especially those living in areas with low agricultural productivity, depend heavily and directly on genetic, species and ecosystem diversity to support their livelihoods. This support includes contributions to health and nutrition, reduced vulnerability to climate variability and natural disasters, crop and stock development, and off-farm resource use. As a consequence, biodiversity loss undermines efforts to reduce poverty and can be a cause of impoverishment.

In a vicious cycle, poverty may also lead to biodiversity loss. The poor, living on the margin, are unable to forego unsustainable uses of natural resources, as so doing might have life and death consequences (at the very least adverse welfare impacts) if there are no alternatives available. They are unlikely to be receptive to measures to change land and resource use practices if the immediate risks and costs are high.

Biodiversity loss may also foreclose future development options in poor countries with limited development opportunities. These may include the options to maintain forestry, agriculture and fisheries that are dependent on ecological goods. Without such opportunities, these countries may not be able to lift the poor out of poverty. Attenuating biodiversity loss is thus a critical strategy for mitigating poverty and achieving sustainable development: ultimately, the only real solution for eradicating poverty.

In biodiversity conservation alone, UNDP's biodiversity portfolio, mainly funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), consists of 115 projects currently under implementation, with a total value of US\$1.95 billion, including US\$466 million in GEF funding and US\$1,151 million in other finance attached to these projects.

At the same time, UNDP has more recently leveraged over US\$ 800 million (including more than \$300 million in grants) to support 75 developing countries with climate change adaptation initiatives. Multiple sources of finance have been employed, including from UNDP's core resources, GEF managed funds, and bilateral donor funding.

These achievements have been made possible by a strong, dedicated team of over 150 global technical advisors and support staff located in six regional centers around the world (and New York), and a decentralized network of UNDP Country Offices in 166 countries with experts in a wide variety of disciplines essential to project success.

As one of the three GEF Implementing Agencies, UNDP has also been providing assistance to over 100 countries to prepare national climate change vulnerability assessments and national communications to the UNFCCC. Based on their National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs), UNDP has supported participatory processes in 26 LDCs, resulting in the identification of consensus-based priorities and agreement on urgent needs. It has also helped these countries to access resources from various sources, including the UNFCCC Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) managed by GEF.

With GEF financing, UNDP has assisted over 90 countries to formulate national strategies and action plans and national reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity. As part of the GEF's *Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Development*, UNDP worked with 111 countries to carry out their National Capacity Self Assessments, followed by recent approval of 20 projects to help countries build capacities to implement the conventions. In 1999, the GEF and its implementing agencies recognized that achieving environmental sustainability required a more targeted focus on capacity development. In 2003, the GEF adopted the Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Development to provide clear programming pathways for country support, the first of which was a comprehensive assessment of countries' foundational capacities to meet global environmental objectives.

Over the past years, UNDP has financed a number of projects explicitly targeting the conservation of plant genetic resources. These include projects in Ethiopia, Georgia, Peru, Argentina and other countries.

An example of these projects is the initiative in Georgia titled *Recovery, Conservation, and Sustainable Use of Georgia's Agrobiodiversity*. The project goal is the conservation and sustainable utilization of threatened local plant genetic resources important to food and agriculture in Georgia. with two immediate objectives: the in-situ and ex-situ conservation of selected local agricultural biodiversity in Samtskhe-Javakheti on a pilot demonstration basis; and a strategy agreed and under implementation for replication in other Georgian regions of best practice and lessons learned in conservation and utilization of local agricultural biodiversity. The project was implemented by Association ELKANA, an established NGO that provides technical, distribution and marketing support to organic farmers, with long-standing contacts with distributors and organic associations in Europe.

Another example is the recently approved project in Ethiopia titled *Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity Conservation in the Farming Systems* whose aim is to provide farming communities with incentives (policies, capacity, markets and knowledge) to mainstream conservation of agro-biodiversity, including crop wild relatives into the farming systems of Ethiopia. The overall goal of the project is "Improved in situ conservation of agro-biodiversity resources (including crop wild relatives) secures biodiversity values, ensures food security and sustains human well being". To achieve this, the conservation values of Ethiopia's rich agro-biodiversity endowment have to be considered in agricultural sector planning and development, so that farm productivity and food security are improved while simultaneously securing the survival of important agro-biodiversity.

A third example is an initiative in Argentina titled *In-Situ Conservation of Andean Crops and their Wild Relatives in the Humahuaca Valley*, the Southernmost Extension of the Central Andes. The objective of the proposed project is to ensure that indigenous farmers in the Humahuaca Valley of Argentina adopt improved on-farm conservation and management, based on traditional production practices that contribute to in-situ conservation of selected globally significant Andean crop varieties and their wild relatives.

These initiatives, as well as others, approach the conservation of biodiversity in productive landscapes strategically through the integration, or 'mainstreaming,' of biodiversity-friendly objectives into key production sectors. If these sectors, such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism and the like, fail to see biodiversity conservation as positive for their economic well being, then the landscapes in which they occur will likely be transformed and their biodiversity lost. Communities, businesses and government sectoral and finance institutions need to be persuaded that there is a link between the value of ecosystem goods and services – including from agro-ecosystems - and sustainable economic development. UNDP is tackling this need through pilot activities in a number of production sectors in which there are interested government institutions, receptive private businesses and communities ready to invest in conservation.

Key mainstreaming activities include systemic level interventions that aim to influence the policy framework governing agriculture and other production sectors, as well as institutional level interventions designed to enhance capacity to address biodiversity management needs in these economic sectors. Barriers are addressed by: funding the development of more integrated planning systems; strengthening regulatory authorities; building management expertise; and strengthening monitoring and reporting capacities.

At an individual level, UNDP works to increase skills to determine the boundaries of sustainability for production and use of ecosystem services, and establish and adapt management strategies and mechanisms. Barrier removal activities can also include building skills at individual level to design and pilot integrated land management models. An important focus is on working with champions in each sector who have shown willingness to engage around sustainable use and conservation issues and who may serve as role models for the particular production sector and stimulate replication of successful interventions. Since traditional financial capital markets will not usually finance biodiversity-friendly production activities if their performance remains unproven, UNDP works to sensitize financial managers to the investment opportunities offered by eco-friendly businesses. It also empowers communities by building their capacity, often through cooperatives, so that they can apply to credit institutions for funding or establish their own micro-credit facilities.

UNDP also stimulates schemes aiming at internalizing the benefits derived from better biodiversity management in production practices to provide an incentive for sound stewardship. At the same time, these schemes assist communities and entrepreneurs to access 'green' markets that value commodities that have been produced in a biodiversity-friendly manner.

With specific respect to adaptation, UNDP's overarching goal is pro-poor and pro-growth adaptation that supports sustainable economic development and livelihoods. UNDP has a proven track-record in this field; as mentioned above, UNDP is leveraging hundreds of millions of dollars to support developing countries with adaptation initiatives.

UNDP priorities derive principally from the differing demands of program countries. UNDP has strong experience in cross-cutting work that ties together the sectoral efforts of development actors and supports national policy dialogue and design, institutional strengthening and local action. The adaptation work of UNDP strategically focuses on developing adaptive capacities of institutions and local communities. This is achieved through UNDP support to integrate adaptation measures into poverty reduction plans and program as well as to develop and implement social, market, and fiscal instruments to mobilize and direct financial resources towards climate resilient development.

As part of its poverty reduction work, UNDP brings extensive experience and expertise in area-based development and decentralization processes; offering these as programmatic foundations for adaptation support to sub-national authorities, local institutions and community groups. UNDP has substantial experience in working not only with national institutions and decision-makers but also with poor communities to increase their resilience to weather-related impacts.

In addition to a wide geographic spread, the thematic coverage of the current portfolio of adaptation projects ranges from the sectoral and cross-sectoral areas of water resource management, agriculture and rural development, coastal area management, ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction. In these thematic areas UNDP's key focus has been on building the capacity of developing countries, at all levels, to embed climate resilience into domestic policies, investment decision-making processes and nature conservation practices.

UNDP has been actively involved in developing a number of strategic tools and knowledge products to assist developing countries in formulating, implementing and monitoring and evaluating adaptation strategies, policies and measures to ensure human development in the face of climate change.

UNDP is a partnership institution, entering into a wide array of concrete associations with institutions and organizations of different kinds both in terms of specific projects as well as strategic initiatives. For example, UNDP works with the private sector on projects to develop markets for green commodities (e.g. international chocolate producers), with the national and international NGO communities to assist communities and decentralized institutions to conserve biodiversity and manage land sustainably, with governments to strengthen institutions and develop capacities to access, combine and sequence financing streams for conservation, and with international agencies and institutions to identify support arrangements and mechanisms to promote environmental governance, positive poverty-environment synergies and other concerns.

UNDP is the largest source of technical assistance on environment and energy in the UN system. It is one of the three founding Implementing Agencies of the Global Environment Facility, as well as the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol. UNDP has established the MDG Carbon Facility, which offers a comprehensive package of project development services to developing country partners for developing greenhouse gas emission reduction projects and bringing them to market. UNDP is one of three UN agencies leading the UN-REDD partnership to assist countries to prepare for increased financing to conserve forest carbon. UNDP, with UNEP, is implementing the Poverty-Environment Initiative, a joint programme to provide financial and technical support to countries to build capacity for mainstreaming poverty-environment linkages into national development planning processes for poverty reduction and pro-poor growth.

UNDP currently manages a variety of facilities and programs that will complement or generate synergies with the Benefit-Sharing Fund. These include the Small Grants Programme with over 12,000 grants for projects in 122 countries in the biodiversity, climate change and land degradation focal areas; UN-REDD, the UNDP-UNEP-FAO partnership to reduce deforestation and forest degradation active in a rapidly growing number of countries; the recently piloted and now formally established UN Community Based Adaptation aimed at supporting the generation of local solutions to ecosystem (including agro-ecosystems) and community vulnerability to climate change; and the Green Commodities Facility aimed at influencing production of global commodities and markets by harmonizing and connecting activity across producer countries and vertically up the supply chains to include major buyers and consumers and not only producers and governments.

SECTION 3: OPERATIONS OF THE BENEFIT-SHARING FUND

SECTION 3.1: OVERSIGHT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS

Describe the institutional capacity of the organization to:

a) Identify and develop projects and project proposals

Checklist:

Evidence of institutional systems, procedures and policies for the identification and development of projects and project proposals.

UNDP has comprehensive and country-led institutional systems, procedures and policies for the identification and development of projects and project proposals. UNDP priorities derive from the demand from programme countries and this demand differs by region and individual countries.

The process for identifying and developing projects begins with asking, “Is the project scope realistic for UNDP to deliver clear and measurable results within the specified time

frame? And how can the expected results be delivered most cost effectively by the project?” To answer these questions, a draft Project Document is prepared and is appraised in a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) meeting especially convened for this purpose. The draft Project Document outlines the project scope, expected outputs in the form of a completed results framework, management arrangements, and project approach incorporating capacity development strategies. The draft Project Document shall also take into account the principles and approaches for development effectiveness as outlined in the Strategic Plan. During the PAC, the project shall be reviewed based on key considerations for quality programming that applies to all phases of the programming process (this is designed as a Checklist for Quality Programming available through the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP). The UNDP POPP on Project Management requires the PAC meeting to specifically appraise the project in terms of the clarity in project objective and the clarity in definition of measurable and achievable results, among others.

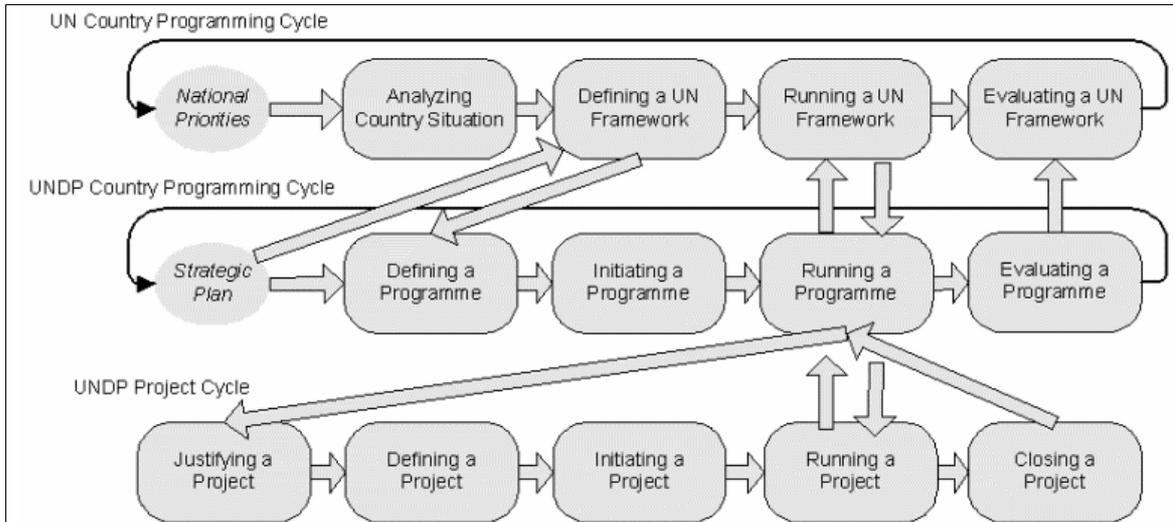
During this process, an Initiation Plan may be created and submitted for appraisal in the PAC along with the draft Project Document if financial resources are required prior to the actual start of the project (i.e., during the Initiating a Project process). If this is the case, and following the endorsement of the Initiation Plan, a budget shall be approved and signed by UNDP in the form of an Annual Work Plan (AWP). If a project does not require a budget for the Initiating a Project process, the Initiation Plan is not required.

An important element of this process includes the identification and selection of the Implementing Partner, based on an assessment of their capacity to effectively manage the project and deliver the intended outputs.

The UNDP POPP provides a comprehensive report of the policies which cover the project identification and development process including:

- Stakeholder participation
- Required documentation
- Defining project results
- Implementation modality and management arrangements
- Risk management
- Project appraisal
- Atlas considerations
- Project evaluation
- Initiation plan
- Micro-finance policy

Figure 1 illustrates the relationships between the UN country programming cycle, the UNDP country programming cycle, and the UNDP project cycle. Each cycle “layer” identifies the processes (shown as rounded-corner rectangles) required to deliver results (it should be noted that these would not always follow a sequential flow, e.g. evaluation could happen during Running a Programme or Running a Project).



In the diagram, the *UN Country Programming Cycle* is concerned with setting and measuring results in achieving a country's national development priorities consistent with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in collaboration with the government and within the UN Common Country Programming Cycle (this cycle is described in the UNDG website, www.undg.org). The results expected from members of the UN Country Team, including UNDP and its Associated Funds and Programmes, are identified as the outcomes and outputs expected from the UNCT and formally agreed by the government in the UNDAF results matrix. The *UNDP Country Programming Cycle* is concerned with effectively contributing to realising outcomes through UNDP interventions at the country level. The Strategic Plan describes the Executive Board mandated set of areas of interventions and the modalities through which UNDP can contribute to any given country programme. The *UNDP Project Cycle* is concerned with delivering the outputs required to contribute to the programme-level outcomes through UNDP interventions.

Web links:

UNDP POPP: "Project Management" in "Programme and Project Management" available at: <http://content.undp.org/go/userguide/results/project/?lang=en#top>

b) Manage or oversee the execution of projects and programmes

Checklist:

Evidence of institutional systems, procedures and policies for managing or overseeing the execution of projects and programmes;

Experience in managing or overseeing the execution of projects and programmes for other bilateral or multilateral donors.

UNDP employs a number of programme / project implementation modalities based on country demand, the specificities of an intervention, and a country context. The flexibility in execution modalities, described below, that can be tailored to country specific contexts, offer the most appropriate, effective and efficient arrangements for varied conditions:

National Implementation is used when there is adequate capacity in the national authorities to undertake the functions and activities of the programme or project. The execution of the projects requires that the national institution acting as Implementing Partner has the technical and administrative capacity to assume the responsibility for mobilizing and applying effectively the required inputs in order to reach the expected outputs. On the other hand, the use of the National Implementation modality substantially contributes to build national capacities. National Implementation is the most applied modality of implementation and rather unique to UNDP, compared to many other organizations that implement projects directly. UNDP also offers NGO Implementation as an option when a national or international NGO holds a strong specialized comparative advantage in a given thematic area and is a preferred arrangement for greater outreach and community participation.

Agency Implementation enables UNDP to partner with one or number of specialized UN agencies and is employed when an agency holds strong specialized knowledge and technical capacity in a given thematic area. UNDP may take on the role of executing agent, through the Direct Implementation modality. This modality is generally only applied in the crisis or post crisis situation countries and is not widely spread in UNDP's portfolio.

UNDP is one of three implementing agencies for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) which provides grants and concessional financing to assist countries to meet the costs of achieving their commitments under global environmental conventions. UNDP currently delivers approximately US\$250 million per year of GEF funds to countries to support the strengthening of national, sub-national, and regional institutional and financial capacities. As of April 2010, UNDP's GEF-supported portfolio stood at over US\$13.3 billion (including over US\$ 3.5 billion in GEF grants). In addition, UNDP provides over US\$37 million per year to more than 1,000 community level projects in 119 countries through the Small Grants Programme (SGP).

UNDP GEF supported programmes and projects are mainstreamed into overall UNDP operations and are primarily managed by the organization's network of over 140 country offices. These are supported by regional technical specialists located in Bangkok, Bratislava, Dakar, Panama, and Pretoria, and coordinated and supported by a central UNDP environment team in New York.

Web links:

UNDP POPP "Project Management" available at:
<http://content.undp.org/go/userguide/results/?lang=en&urlLang=en>

c) Undertake monitoring and evaluation

Checklist:

Evidence of institutional systems, procedures and policies for monitoring and evaluating projects and project proposals.

Refer to any supporting documentation from the organization and if possible provide web links to such documents.

UNDP's monitoring policies are described in the "Programme and Project Management" section of the UNDP POPP. UNDP's Evaluation Office is the custodian of UNDP's Evaluation function (www.undp.org/eo). It prepares, reviews and updates UNDP's Evaluation policy, which is based on the evaluation norms and standards established by the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG). UNDP's monitoring and evaluation policies are also described in UNDP's 2009 "Handbook on Planning, Monitoring and Evaluating for Development Results." Also note that a new UNDP Accountability System was approved by the Executive Board in September 2008 to support increased transparency, clarity and alignment of all organizational activities. It has two major components: The Accountability Framework and the Oversight Policy. It includes mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation.

Accountability in UNDP is premised on its responsibility to stakeholders, programme countries and donors, and on its contribution to the achievement of national development priorities. This is operationalized at the country level through its development activities and at the corporate level through its accountability to the Executive Board. The UNDP accountability framework is based on a hierarchy of three tiers of accountability with clearly defined responsibilities and supporting mechanisms at organizational, programmatic and staff levels.

Web links:

UNDP POPP "Programme and Project Management" available at:
<http://content.undp.org/go/userguide/results/?lang=en#top>

"The Evaluation Policy of UNDP" dated May 2006, available at:
<http://www.undp.org/evaluation/documents/Evaluation-Policy.pdf>

"The UNDP Accountability System" available at:
<http://www.undp.org/execbrd/pdf/dp08-16Rev1.pdf>

SECTION 3.2: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF PROJECTS

Describe the institutional capacity of the organization to:

a) Produce forward-looking financial plans and budgets

Checklist:

Evidence of preparation of corporate budgets;

Experience of producing financial plans and budgets for donors or as implementing agency of other multilateral environmental funds.

UNDP is one of the largest brokers of environmental grants in the developing world, having disbursed US\$1.58 billion directly and leveraged over US\$ 3 billion in co-financing from public and private sources to support sustainable development during 2004-2007. At the corporate level, UNDP's Strategic Plan for the 2008-2013 period sets the overall strategic vision and programme objectives of UNDP for this period and provides direction for support to programme countries to achieve development objectives. The current strategic plan is aligned with the four-year programme budget (referred to as the 'programming arrangements') and the two-year support budget (referred to as the 'biennial support budget'). This means that the Executive Board and other stakeholders will be able to see a clear link between the strategic priorities outlined and the resources required to achieve them. The plan includes regular and other resources.

All UNDP financial statements are prepared in accordance with the United Nations System Accounting Standards, as adopted by the Administrative Committee on Coordination. These standards are based to a large extent on relevant international accounting standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Committee. Where differences from the International Accounting Standards exist, it is mainly because of the essentially non-commercial nature of UNDP activities. Nevertheless, UNDP, along with the rest of the UN system, will soon start preparing financial statements in accordance with IPSAS (International Public Sector Accounting Standards). UNDP plans to adopt IPSAS standards by January 2012.

Web links:

UNDP's Strategic Plan available at: http://www.undp.org/execbrd/word/dp07-43_updated.doc

“United Nations Development Programme Financial report and audited financial statements for the biennium ended 31 December 2007 and Report of the Board of Auditors”:

Please note that this document is internal to UNDP only. If you require a copy of this document please advise and we will seek the necessary clearance to do so.

UNDP's IPSAS Adoption Strategy dated 4 September 2009 available here: http://www.undp.org/about/ipsas/doc/IPSAS_strategy.pdf

b) Manage and disburse funds efficiently and with safeguards to recipients on a timely basis

Checklist:

Evidence that a control framework for managing and disbursing funds is in place, with define roles, identification of duties and procedures.

UNDP has an Internal Control Framework (ICF) which covers key control factors such as planning, monitoring, communication, policies, procedures, segregation of duties, individual authorities and accountabilities. The ICF:

- Safeguards assets from inappropriate use and loss from fraud and error;
- Helps ensure the quality of internal and external reporting, through the maintenance of proper records and information flows; and
- Facilitates compliance with applicable laws, regulations and internal policies.

Web links:

UNDP's "Internal Control Framework":

Please note that this document is internal to UNDP only. If you require a copy of this document please advise and we will seek the necessary clearance to do so.

c) Accurately and regularly record transactions and balances in a manner that adheres to broadly accepted good practices, and are audited periodically by an independent firm or organization

Checklist:

Existence of internal and external auditing of transactions and balances, in accordance with international recognized standards;

Existence of capacity to produce reliable financial statements.

By Resolution 74 (I) of 7 December 1946, the General Assembly established the United Nations Board of Auditors to audit of the accounts of the United Nations organization and its funds and programmes. The mandate of the Board of Auditors is to express an opinion on the Financial Statements of UNDP for the biennium (i.e., every 2 years). The latest was 31 December 2007.

UNDP's Office of Audit & Investigation (OAI) carries out internal audits in accordance with internationally recognized standards as prescribed by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). The mandate of the OAI covers all activities undertaken by UNDP country offices, regional centres as well as units at Headquarters in New York and other locations. The two main functions of OAI, internal audit and investigations, are managed by a Directorate with a quality assurance function. OAI's overall operational framework has been formalized in a Charter that was approved by the Administrator on 8 February 2008.

UNDP uses "Atlas," an enterprise resource planning system devised through collaboration

with the UN Population Fund and the UN Office for Project Services. Atlas categorises all expenditures using chartfields of accounts. Because each expenditure item has a chartfield, we have access to expenditure information from across all of UNDP.

Web links:

“United Nations Development Programme Financial report and audited financial statements for the biennium ended 31 December 2007 and Report of the Board of Auditors”:

Please note that this document is internal to UNDP only. If you require a copy of this document please advise and we will seek the necessary clearance to do so.

“Charter of the Office of Audit and Investigations”:
Please note that this document is internal to UNDP only. If you require a copy of this document please advise and we will seek the necessary clearance to do so.

Background document on Atlas: *Please note that this document is internal to UNDP only. If you require a copy of this document please advise and we will seek the necessary clearance to do so.*

d) Manage procurement procedures which provide for transparent practices, including in competition.

Checklist:

Evidence of procurement policies and procedures, consistent with recognized international practices;

Existence of dispute resolution procedures.

Refer to any supporting documentation from the organization and if possible provide web links to such documents

UNDP has comprehensive procurement policies and guidelines as outlined in the “Contracts, Assets and Procurement” section of the UNDP POPP. These address each phase of the procurement process:

- Procurement Planning
- Requisitions
- Sourcing of Suppliers
- Procurement Methods
- Solicitation and Evaluation of Offers
- Contract Review Committees
- Award of Contract
- Contract Management
- Asset Management

These apply to all UNDP offices and we note that contract management procedures include dispute resolution procedures. UNDP dispute resolution procedures cover the handling of procurement complaints from general inquiries, to bidder debriefings and bidder complaints. Procurement protest is defined in this context as any allegations made by an individual or entity with respect to failure of UNDP or any of UNDP staff to comply with relevant procurement procedures and uphold the basic principles and standards of integrity, transparency and fairness expected in the public procurement context. The full procurement process and dispute resolution procedures are outlined in the UNDP POPP.

Web links:

UNDP POPP – “Contract, Asset & Procurement Management” available at:
<http://content.undp.org/go/userguide/cap/?lang=en#top>

UNDP POPP – “Handling of Procurement Complaints” available at:
<http://content.undp.org/go/userguide/cap/awd-cnt/handling-complaints/?lang=en#2.0%20Relevant%20Policies>

SECTION 4: STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE BENEFIT-SHARING FUND

Indicate possible areas and innovative approaches for partnerships between the organization and the Secretariat of the Treaty to support the further development of the Benefit-sharing Fund, including: technical support to further develop the programmatic approach of the Benefit-sharing Fund; strategic cooperation to integrate the Benefit-sharing Fund into broader multilateral agendas; investment into the calls for proposals of the Benefit-sharing Fund through co-financing of projects and joint resource mobilization.

UNDP has substantial expertise in the development and negotiation of programmatic approaches for funding entities, acquired from, among other things, its close, 20-year collaboration with the World Bank and UNEP in developing and implementing the criteria, guidelines, procedures and modalities of the GEF, as well as involvement in the implementation of the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol.

As a founding member of the GEF partnership, UNDP was and has been a strong and active participant in the development of GEF policy and proposals to the GEF Council, including support for GEF engagement with the global environmental conventions. The priorities of the global conventions form the basis for UNDP’s Strategic Plan and its growing sustainable development program and portfolio. As this program and portfolio have grown, UNDP’s engagement with the Convention Secretariats has become more direct, especially as other, non-GEF funding has been mobilized and applied and as it has become clear that Convention objectives are integral to truly sustainable development. In

that sense, UNDP has played an important role in leveraging country commitment to the Global Conventions and their goals.

A key role for UNDP in assisting countries to move to environmentally sustainable human development is helping identify, access, combine and sequence multiple sources of funding to achieve project results. From a cofinancing and resource mobilization perspective UNDP normally leverages a minimum of three US Dollars for every dollar contributed by any particular party, ie. UNDP has a minimum leverage ratio of 3:1 for every financing partner. UNDP's Global Environmental Finance team is now mobilizing resources for country projects from a wide variety of funding sources including the Adaptation Fund, the Clean Development Mechanism, UN-REDD, the private sector, bilateral donors and a number of others. UNDP's success at resource mobilization is based on long experience, its network of partners and its credibility as a technically competent agency that is impact-oriented.

As a global partner for the development of the Benefit-sharing Fund of the Treaty, UNDP's proven experience in approaching donors and mobilizing resources will assist the BSF to engage directly with donors across the spectrum of institutions and organizations ranging from IFIs, multilateral development agencies and bilateral donors to foundations, NGOs and other organizations of civil society at global, national and local levels.

Joint approaches by UNDP and the BSF would provide additional credibility to resource mobilization efforts. This partnership approach would help to position the BSF in the constellation of emerging financial mechanisms post-Kyoto, and the on-going dialogue thus established with prospective donors and other partners would generate valuable strategic programming and policy inputs to the Fund.

In addition, UNDP is particularly interested in working with the BSF in helping farmers adapt to climate change through the management of plant genetic resources and intends to commit more than USD 10 million to this work.

A particular opportunity UNDP sees for the Benefit Sharing Fund (BSF) is to initially link its work supporting the development of national, sub-national, and ecoregional strategies for adaptation to climate change to the interests of the Fund. Consultative strategy development processes are being conducted in a number of regions and include climate downscaling and prospective planning exercises which result in climate adaptation strategies for these regions. Agriculture and food security are generally key components of these. Using BSF funds to extend these into a specific exploration of the role plant genetic resources can play in maintaining food production, and how this role might be played, would enable BSF strategies for helping farmers stay ahead of the climate change curve to be nested in broader spatial strategies. Follow up work by the BSF could then be fully integrated into the implementation of these strategies, resulting in very considerable leverage for the Fund.

UNDP brings experience and expertise from a broad range of professional skills and backgrounds to the analyses and discussions related to plant genetic resource

conservation, climate change adaptation and rural livelihoods. The typical program approach advocated by UNDP is results-centered, multifocal or crosscutting, inclusive and partnership-based, phased and adaptive. UNDP supports national and sub-national planning and programming frameworks to identify and drive investment towards low carbon, climate resilient development. UNDP's staff includes economists, foresters, agronomists, hydrologists, governance experts, political scientists, and other professions with highly developed project and program development and negotiation skills.

UNDP recognizes a number of barriers impeding the conservation and sustainable utilization of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, especially in the context of the vulnerability of agro-ecosystems of all sizes and scales to climate change. These include barriers at the:

Systemic level: There may be weaknesses in the policy framework governing crop production and conservation of important plant genetic resources, which may also impede pursuit of integrated conservation and production approaches. Disincentives for good stewardship of these resources on agricultural lands need to be removed.

Institutional level: The capacity of institutions off-farm to assist farmers to pursue conservation objectives may be limited. This includes government regulatory agencies and industry associations. Coordination capacity may be limited.

Individual level: This barrier relates to the capacity of individuals to manage conservation activities in ways that are compatible with production objectives. The absence of capacities to manage agro-ecosystems in ways that improve productivity while protecting plant genetic resources for food and agriculture is also a handicap.

Market: The lack of information on market conditions can impede the ability of farmers to access markets for commodities produced in a manner that is compatible with plant genetic resource management, or profit from higher prices obtainable in niche markets (to compensate for the marginal costs of mainstreaming).

UNDP adopts a broad conceptual approach of barrier removal with the aim of empowering the individuals, organizations and institutions required to leverage positive change. By forging stable and long lasting partnerships with these actors and entities, UNDP ensures solutions to agro-ecosystem adaptation to climate change and plant genetic resource conservation are participatory, evidence-based, adaptive, and sustainable. At the same time, UNDP promotes the necessary systems and mechanisms that provide its partners at the local level with the knowledge and motivation they need to be successful land and resource managers.

Consistent with the successful brokering services it provides to applicants to funds such as the Global Environment Facility or the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol, UNDP's technical advisors and support team, as well as its Country Office and project staff, would engage directly with potential applicants to the BSF to assist them in national, sub-national and local policy dialogues, programming and planning, including

development of national and regional strategies and integration of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture into broader programs, plans and strategies; project and program identification and design; engagement with possible co-financing and other strategic partners; project implementation, monitoring and reporting; and generation of and dissemination of knowledge through its web of Country Offices and Regional Centers, as well as through its network of partners and collaborators around the world.

This intensive engagement with applicants to the BSF from across the spectrum of institutions and organizations at global, national and sub-national levels, provides the BSF, through UNDP, with valuable information and feedback regarding on-the-ground priorities and capacities, vital to the success of its policy development and programming.