

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
PROJECT DOCUMENT

PROJECT TITLE: Globally Important Ingenious Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)

PROJECT NUMBER: GLO/02/G41/A/1G/12

COUNTRY(IES): Global

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EST. END DATE: April 2002

ACC/UNDP SECTOR: ENVIRONMENT POLICIES PLANNING AND
LEGISLATION - ENVIRONMENT

EXECUTING AGENCY: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

| On behalf of : | <i>Signature</i> | <i>Date</i> | <i>Name/Title</i> |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Executing Agency: FAO | | | |
| UNDP | | | |

Global Environment Facility Request for PDF Block A

| PART I – ELIGIBILITY | |
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| 1. Project name: Globally Important Ingenious Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) | 2. GEF Implementing Agency: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) |
| 3. Country or countries in which the project is being implemented: Global | 4. Country eligibility: Countries that qualify for GEF funds will have ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) |
| 5. GEF focal area(s): Biodiversity also highlighting crosscutting issues of land degradation and integrated ecosystem approaches. | 6. Operational program/Short-term measure: Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity of importance to agriculture (OP 13) with relevance to the cross-cutting theme of land degradation |
| <p>7. Project Linkage to National Priorities, Action Plans, and Programmes:</p> <p>The aim of this project is to identify and mobilise recognition and support for the conservation and sustainable use of globally important agricultural heritage systems and landscapes and their associated agricultural biodiversity and knowledge systems. The systems will be initially selected on the basis of their ingenious management of biodiversity within- and between- species and at ecosystem level in regions with a high level of autochthonous agro-biodiversity.</p> <p>The project will contribute to national and international efforts to implement the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in particular, regarding the CBD agricultural biodiversity work programme (COP decision V/5, May 2000), sustainable use of biological diversity (decision V/24), and the knowledge innovations and practices of local and indigenous communities (decisions on Article 8j). It will play a key role in strengthening collaboration between line institutions in the environmental and agricultural sectors and national CBD mechanisms, through contributing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • national actions to implement National biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) and for improving information on the status, management, trends and threats to domestic animal diversity and wildlife through the ongoing assessment of the State of the World's Animal Genetic Resources; • the development of the ecosystem approach and understanding of local knowledge and management practices that contribute to conserving and sustaining plant and animal genetic resources, ecological processes and agro-ecosystem services; and • the identification of policy and incentive measures and opportunities that allow populations to enhance their livelihoods through the conservation and sustainable use of resources and ecosystems in productive landscapes. <p>Through improving understanding of threats that such agricultural systems face, and identifying ways to mitigate risks of land degradation and desertification, the project will also contribute to national and international efforts in implementing Agenda 21 and the desertification and climate change conventions (UNCCD and UNFCCC). Through enhancing the benefits derived by local populations from conservation and sustainable use of their resources and their ingenious systems, the project will also contribute to national and global priorities to alleviate poverty and enhance food security. Finally, through partnerships and co-operative arrangements (e.g. among agricultural research, technology development, land use planning and environmental bodies, indigenous groups, farmers associations, etc.) the project will strengthen capacities of national and international programs and institutions.</p> | |
| <p>8. GEF National Operational Focal Point Review and Date of Country Endorsement: (Global project proposal- countries yet to be identified).</p> | |
| <p>9. Project Rationale and Objectives</p> <p><u>Global significance:</u> In many countries specific agricultural systems and landscapes have been created,</p> | |

shaped and maintained by generations of farmers and herders based on diverse species and their interactions and using locally adapted, distinctive and often ingenious combinations of management practices and techniques. Building on dynamic local knowledge and experience, these ingenious agri-“cultural” systems reflect the evolution of humanity and its profound harmony with nature. They have resulted not only in outstanding aesthetic beauty, maintenance of globally significant agricultural biodiversity, resilient ecosystems and valuable cultural inheritance but, above all, in the sustained provision of multiple goods and services, food and livelihood security and quality of life.

Such **agricultural and agro-silvo-pastoral systems** can be found, in particular, in highly populated regions or in areas where the population has, for various reasons, had to establish complex and innovative land-use/management practices e.g. due to geographic isolation, fragile ecosystems, political marginalisation, limited natural resources, and/or extreme climatic conditions. These systems reflect often rich and sometimes unique **agricultural biodiversity**, within and between species but also at ecosystem and landscape level. Having been founded on ancient agricultural civilisations, certain of these systems are linked to important **centres of origin and diversity** of domesticated plant and animal species, the conservation of which is of great global value. The commonality among such systems includes: (a) the ecosystem resilience and robustness that has been developed and adapted to cope with change (human and physical) so as to ensure food and livelihood security and alleviate risk and (b) the human management strategies and processes that allow the maintenance of biodiversity and essential ecosystem services (water recharge and quality, nutrient recycling, soil conservation, pest control, etc.).

The wealth and breadth of accumulated **knowledge and experience** in the management and use of resources is a globally significant resources that needs to be preserved as well as allowed to evolve. These agricultural "landscapes" typically evolve in parallel with their associated “lifescapes”. They are characterised by **continuous technological and cultural innovations, as well as adjustment of management practices and uses** of resources and ecosystems, through their transfer between generations, exchanges with other communities and ecosystems and in response to natural events and to changing social, technological and political context.

Threats: The focus over recent decades on increasing agricultural production through specialisation, rapid technological change and internationally marketed commodities, and associated neglect of externalities, has led to a relative and generalised neglect of diversified, ingenious systems, lack of promotion of sustainable management practices, and neglect of research and development services for ingenious systems. Moreover, the rapidity and extent of today's **technological and economic changes threaten many of these agricultural heritage systems, including the biodiversity on which they are based, and their societies**. A range of pressures are already, or are at risk of, leading to the adoption of unsustainable practices, overexploitation of resources and declining productivity, as well as agricultural specialisation and adoption of exotic domesticated species, leading to genetic erosion and loss of local knowledge systems. This poses the risk of loss of unique and globally significant agricultural biodiversity and associated knowledge, socio-economic destabilisation, poverty and threats to livelihoods. In some areas, there are spill over effects from marginalization and increasing poverty in productive landscapes, onto wild biodiversity (e.g. land degradation, illegal hunting, over-harvesting of natural resources and uncontrolled bio-prospecting in wildlife, plants, minerals and soil). The social and environmental integrity and resilience of such livelihood systems, and their associated biodiversity, depends on the adaptive capacity of concerned communities but also, on the enabling environment provided by policies and development strategies.

The **driving forces and root causes** of the adoption of unsustainable practices, overexploitation of resources, genetic erosion, loss of local knowledge, impoverishment and unviable livelihood systems, and socio-economic instability, vary from one system to another. They essentially include population pressure and poverty, inappropriate policies and legal environment, especially insecure land tenure and external market forces, and lack of capacity to adapt land use-livelihood systems to the rapidly changing environment while preserving the cultural and natural heritage. The root causes may include *inter alia*:

- a focus on short term economic goals rather than long-term socio-economic and environmental goods and services and sustainable agricultural and rural development;
- reduced community involvement in landscape/resource management decision making processes;
- inadequate attention to local knowledge and experience, and valuation of GIAHS and their associated biodiversity by research and development services;
- inadequate support for the conservation and sustainable use of significant agricultural biodiversity

(within and between species and at ecosystem level); and

- lack of marketing expertise to ensure that adequate value is placed on local cultivars and races and local produce, and so forth.

Baseline: Work is ongoing world-wide for mitigating land degradation and promoting sustainable agricultural and rural development, and through a few specific projects, promoting the *in situ* conservation of genetic resources by working with local and indigenous communities and their specific resource management systems. Existing projects and programmes include support for shade coffee, fishing practices that allow restocking, reducing off-farm pollution, protecting ingenious technologies for on-farm soil conservation, conserving wild relatives of cultivars and races. However, **only *ad hoc* support has been directed to sustaining such ingenious agricultural systems** as there is inadequate recognition of, or attention to, their global importance and the important knowledge and agricultural biodiversity they maintain. This situation and increasing pressures, including, in some cases, opposition to tradition, are resulting **in serious gaps in transmission of this important global heritage, constraining farmer/herder innovation, and potentially blocking the evolution of domesticated species**. A few ingenious agricultural systems have already been lost and there is a serious risk that many more of these systems and their heritage will soon disappear. Without modest but critical interventions that promote the maintenance of these alternative systems and maintain their viability, it is likely that losses will accelerate.

Scientific evidence showing that GIAH systems can be viable and sustainable alternatives to systems that rely on mono-cropping, exotic breeds and high external inputs is increasing. Valuation techniques have shown the comprehensive advantages of such systems in food production in the medium and long term. This argument has recently been indirectly strengthened through agricultural crises in the North (e.g. excessive hormone and fertiliser use in North America, mad cow disease in Europe, etc.), and is reflected in recent guidance from the CBD and GEF's Operational Programme 13.

In the absence of the project, the contribution of ingenious agricultural systems to the production and maintenance of agro-biodiversity will not be broadly recognised, supported or disseminated. Development policies will continue to favour mono-cropping and other practices that threaten preservation of biodiversity of importance to agriculture, and enabling environments will therefore continue to be unsupportive of agrobiodiversity conservation. *In-situ* dynamic conservation of selected viable ingenious systems on a demonstration basis, diagnosis, documentation and dissemination of knowledge and best practices, as proposed here, is not perceived as being of high national importance in many countries where such systems exist, due to competing development priorities. Although there is increasing *ad-hoc* recognition of the value of GIAHS, through for example, scientific media, CBD and CCD, this is not translating into a widespread acceptance and coordinated support on a worldwide basis.

Alternative: There is an urgent **need to promote both local and world-wide recognition of the cultural and natural patrimony provided by GIAHS, to mobilise concerted efforts to dynamically conserve such systems and their associated biodiversity, and to disseminate knowledge and experience that may have replicability in addressing common problems**. The underlying strategy for "dynamic conservation" will be to maintain the essential ingenious, remarkable and sustainable characteristics of these systems, while at the same time preserving the internal processes that **allow their necessary evolution to adapt to changing circumstances, and enhancing the socio-economic development of resource users and capturing the related national and global benefits**. There is also a need to identify, with governments and local communities, ways and means to promote sustainable practices and maintain these ingenious and biodiverse land use systems and landscapes. This includes identifying opportunities to enhance the socio-economic benefits realised by residents and promoting sustainable agricultural and rural development.

The overall project goal is thus to identify and safeguard globally important ingenious agricultural heritage systems and landscapes and their associated agricultural biodiversity through mobilising global recognition and support for such systems and enhancing local, national and global benefits derived through their dynamic conservation. This will be achieved, by building on the baseline, through:

Objective 1: Improving understanding of globally important ingenious agricultural heritage systems (GIAHS), of their diverse environmental, socio-economic and cultural attributes, their global importance and knowledge systems with regard to agricultural biodiversity as well as their landscape diversity, cultural

and natural heritage, and dynamic evolution;

Objective 2: Generating increased recognition by multiple stakeholders of the global significance of these agricultural systems and their harvested and non-harvested biodiversity and thereby to leverage policy, institutional and financial support for their safeguard, sustainable evolution and, as appropriate, the replication of valuable attributes.

Objective 3: Building the capacity of national and local institutions and providing support to local communities and populations in selected, global priority sites, for the demonstration and development of strategies and management techniques and the creation of opportunities and incentives to promote the preservation of such biodiverse land-livelihood systems. Such support efforts to promote their dynamic conservation and sustained viability would include:

(a) the conservation and sustainable use and, where necessary, rehabilitation of their agricultural biodiversity and genetic patrimony, ecosystem services and landscape heterogeneity;

(b) the safeguarding and recognition of the dynamism provided by the combination of local knowledge systems, cultural inheritance and social organisation;

(c) mitigating threats of degradation and root causes of dysfunction and enhancing environmental and socio-economic benefits at local and global levels and;

(d) adding economic, environmental and cultural value to products, artefacts and knowledge systems of GIAHS through supportive policies and local area development strategies that provide incentives for their sustainability.

Project Strategy

The project will aim to establish the basis for recognition, conservation and sustainable management of GIAHS and their associated biodiversity throughout the world, through specific action programmes in approximately **6 pilot sites/ systems** and activities to leverage global, regional and national policies and institutional support. It will be implemented by governments of the participating countries, through NGOs and local community based organisations in close cooperation with relevant government bodies. Coordinating arrangements will be established to facilitate liaison and cooperation between the individual countries with a view to developing strong national initiatives and sharing experiences and expertise among countries to strengthen efforts. These combined outcomes will be further supported through lobbying and other mechanisms (e.g. agricultural world heritage systems) to gain greater global recognition.

This project will target **a selection of agricultural systems that represent a range of globally important ingenious agricultural heritage systems** with regard to their autochthonous agricultural biodiversity and related heritage system, innovative management practices and livelihood strategies and the different biomes in which they occur. Initially **up to six pilot sites** will be selected, from a list of potential sites submitted by interested countries, on the basis of a number of criteria including, for example: (a) evidence of dynamic co-evolution of the ecosystem, its biodiversity and agricultural heritage system; (b) evidence that the management regime that is now in place has contributed to creating and maintaining the significant agricultural biodiversity that is currently present (i.e. indigenous domesticated plants and animals and associated ecosystems) and has good prospects for future maintenance; and (c) demonstration value and replicability of management practices, knowledge systems and processes (e.g. social organisation) with regard to their capacity to maintain biodiversity and sustain livelihoods, cultural values and quality of life and their adaptability to pressures and change (sustained productivity; economic viability, robustness; resilience).

Rigorous criteria for selection of priority sites will be developed during the PDF B, subject to in-depth analysis with stakeholders and site-based collaborating organisation and other partners. Examples of targeted GIAHS could include the following “types”:

- Outstanding terraced mountain sides with rice and complex agro-ecosystems in Asia, such as the Cordillera Mountain Range, Philippines (diverse rice varieties/genotypes, swidden fields, woodlots and communal forest); biodiverse systems in the Himalayas and Andes; and Mediterranean fruit gardens
- Complex agro-silvo-pastoral and aquatic systems and diverse tropical/subtropical home gardens, with trees, shrubs and plants for multiple foods, medicines, ornamentals and materials, e.g. East Kalimantan and Butitingui, Indonesia; highlands of Rwanda and Uganda; Titicaca in Peru; Kayapo in Brazil.

- Traditional soil and water management systems for agriculture including ancient water distribution systems allowing specialised and diverse cropping systems in Iran and associated endemic blind fish species living in under-ground waterways of the canals (*Kanat*); traditional valley bottom and wetland management e.g. Lake Chad, Niger river basin and interior delta (e.g. floating rice system).
- Specialised dryland agricultural systems, including outstanding rangeland/pastoral systems for the management of grasses, forage, water resources and adapted indigenous animal races e.g. Maasai in East Africa; pastoral systems in Ladakh, high Tibetan plateau, India, and parts of Mongolia and Yemen, as well as oases in deserts of North Africa and Sahara and ingenious systems in pays Dogon, Mali, and pays Diola, Senegal.

Sites will target areas and systems that have allowed the *in-situ* conservation and management of areas of origin and diversity of domesticated plant and animal species (including wild relatives, associated biodiversity and ecosystem functions and associated knowledge and heritage). Site selection will also be determined on the basis of analysis of the GEF portfolio in order to avoid duplication and build synergies.

Attention will be paid to **all components of agricultural biodiversity** including: (a) the diversity of wild and domesticated plant and animal species that have originated from both indigenous and introduced germplasm and been adapted to suit local conditions and land use systems; (b) non-harvested animal, plant and microbial species in the productive landscapes that may be beneficial in a given environment, such as a wide range of soil biota, predators, pollinators that provide specific functions and ecological niches, as well as the management of detrimental species, such as weeds, pests and invasive species; (c) the landscape dimension, including the maintenance of essential ecological functions and interaction with the wider ecosystem (watershed; buffer zones, protected areas, etc.) and (d) the local knowledge and resource management practices that contribute to food and livelihood security, including access to resources and benefit-sharing arrangements. A focus will be placed on productive systems, including local practices for indigenous livestock management (e.g. reindeer or yak), for harvesting wild plant species (e.g. wild rice) and for the *in situ* conservation and sustainable use of landraces.

The maintenance of the agricultural landscape depends on the integrated management of the diverse resources (biological, soil and water and human) and consideration of the functioning and health of the ecosystem as a whole. Thus, although the selection criteria for demonstration sites will be led by agrobiodiversity criteria, once selected, the entire ecosystem will be the target. This requires an **integrated ecosystem management approach** that takes into account the human management dimensions as well as the biophysical considerations. In this regard, the problem of **preventing land degradation** is a key cross-cutting issue, as its severity and extent is influenced by a wide range of factors including the demographic and socio-economic situation, policies regarding land and agriculture that influence land use practices, as well as climate change. There is need for support, not only to ensure the continued viability of such systems through maintaining sustainable land use management practices but, in many cases, also to allow the restoration/ rehabilitation of degraded land resources.

The underlying strategy will be to avoid or reverse the loss or degradation of essential features and attributes of these systems especially their biodiversity **while allowing their necessary evolution and enhancing the socio-economic development of resource users and national benefits**. This will require diagnostic studies, *inter alia*, to improve understanding of the evolution of these agricultural systems and their inheritance, the causes and risks of degradation and ruptures in landscape and biological evolution and their impacts on the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity and livelihood systems of the concerned populations. It will also require careful consideration of the critical issue of how to meet often-conflicting goals of conservation and development, for instance: avoiding creating "museums"; preserving key characteristics of such systems while enhancing their dynamic evolution and viability; meeting aspirations of local populations and national goals through technical improvements, incentive measures and opportunities. This is a challenging and innovative approach, which the project will develop and demonstrate in several priority sites.

This will require **participatory processes** in the identification of ways and means to conserve such biodiverse systems, while keeping them dynamic and viable through farmer innovation and increased benefits to local communities. It will require measures and opportunities for enhancing the returns and livelihood security of concerned populations and generating their interest in, and capacity to conserve their resources and systems. A key issue that will need to be addressed is the **equitable sharing of benefits and farmers' rights** to ensure that local communities are not exploited by more powerful interest groups and

that the benefits are realised by all concerned social groups including landless peasants and marginalized groups (e.g. ethnic, gender and economic factors). It is often these marginalized segments of society that possess the most ingenious local knowledge. Success will also depend on **empowering and enabling local communities** to sustainably manage their land resources and to maintain their significant biodiversity, landscapes and ingenious land use systems. This will require community-based activities, as well as appropriate policies and legislature, including raising awareness of the factors impacting on biodiversity, land degradation and land use change and strengthening community structures, land tenure reform, where possible building on local experiences and through capacity building with the support of local NGOs.

This is a complex but urgent challenge requiring the identification of opportunities and **policy support and legal measures** including consideration of land tenure and farmers' rights and incentive measures. Specific conservation and sustainable use practices would be promoted (e.g. through management guidelines and codes of conduct), the identification and provision of **new or alternative livelihood options** (e.g. alternative energy sources, innovative use of local resources, value added processing, as appropriate, etc) as well as appropriate **incentive measures** (e.g. through eco-tourism, eco-labelling, tax relief, pricing subsidies to ensure environmental and social benefits) to safeguard the processes that maintain ecosystem diversity and its components. The project preparatory phase will also investigate the feasibility of accessing benefits derived through carbon sequestration/trading arrangements and other relevant mechanisms.

These systems deserve greater **global and national recognition** in view of their remarkable agricultural biodiversity, landscapes and land use management systems that have sustained (and if supported will continue to sustain) important populations and critical processes. Their success, as expressed in the ingenious systems of resource management and land use, is also a reflection of their important knowledge systems, the significant agricultural biodiversity they maintain and the combined natural and cultural heritage that has been handed down and developed over generations. Global and national support to such agricultural systems is timely and will strengthen an important dimension of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) that are being developed and implemented by countries that have ratified and are committed to implementation of the CBD. The justification for a regional project is based on the fact that there are many commonalities between countries on how they approach (or ignore) viable ingenious systems. By selecting 6 demonstration sites, the project will be able to tie-in concrete actions on the ground, and lessons learnt from dynamic conservation at these sites, to activities at the regional level designed to increase understanding, recognition, and support for conservation of ingenious agrobiodiversity. A concerted regional approach will be able to garner more weight for global recognition of this important issue, than ad-hoc national projects. The project will also liaise with existing (and pipeline) agrobiodiversity projects in the GEF portfolio, in order to enhance its capacity to lobby on the regional and global scale. The PDF A participatory process will determine the 6 sites, and associated GEF projects, and the PDF B participatory process will determine exactly how these linkages will be developed for the Full project.

The attention to **local knowledge systems** is opportune in view of increasing recognition that is being paid to Indigenous Peoples and to the effective involvement of local and indigenous communities in decision making processes, in accordance with Article 8j of the CBD and other human rights fora. Natural heritage and cultural heritage have separately been the subject of much attention over the recent decades through UNESCO's Man and Biosphere (MAB) Programme and its designation of, and support to, Biosphere Reserves and the designation of outstanding sites and protected areas under the World Heritage Convention. However this project aims to increase recognition of the combined cultural and natural agricultural heritage that is maintained in outstanding agricultural systems, including the landscape, *in situ* conservation of species, knowledge and management systems and the often unique and renowned produce of such systems. The GEF Alternative could support a global process, for instance, through mobilising interest and leveraging appropriate policy, institutional and financial support for the sustainability of GIAHS. For example, their eventual consideration as a new generation of World Heritage sites, which combine "natural and cultural" agricultural heritage. This would require a redefinition of the concept of preservation covering dynamic evolution and the real association of conservation and development. It is expected that such formal global recognition will directly assist in leveraging additional political and financial support for sustainability of GIAHS.

GEF Increment: Expected global benefits will arise from the preservation of globally significant biodiversity of importance to agriculture, within agro-silvo-pastoral landscapes, including the associated knowledge systems and heritage values, the prevention of land degradation and the maintenance of

ecosystem services and the benefits they generate (e.g. quality of soil, fertility, resilience, carbon sequestration), water (purity, recharge, availability) and air (reduced GHG, wind erosion) as well as human life (landscape, aesthetics). GEF incrementality is justified on the basis of achieving these global benefits, and on reducing barriers to the safeguard and dynamic conservation of selected GIAHS sites, as well as building global consensus, developing and demonstrating methods for identifying such ingenious systems, and analysing and disseminating best practices and lessons learnt on a global scale. GEF support is needed to finance those costs that relate to maintaining global biodiversity benefits that will not generate direct local revenues. In addition to achieving direct impact on the ground in at least 6 demonstration sites, GEF would also finance the costs of: (a) knowledge generation, documentation and generating recognition of their value and importance; (b) developing and demonstrating methods for the safeguard of such ingenious agricultural systems (identification and analysis, demonstration of their multiple benefits and externalities and relieving pressures or lifting barriers); and (c), dissemination of ingenious practices that may have replicability beyond the local project areas. The precise incremental costs of the maintenance of such systems will vary from one demonstration site to another, and will be the subject of indepth analysis during the PDF B stage.

Co-financing will be required to support national actions and efforts with a view to providing convincing evidence of the importance of such systems, mobilising national and local support mechanisms for their conservation and sustained evolution, enhancing enabling environments where appropriate, and replicating results of the project. In addition, co-financing will be sought to complement GEF funding for global recognition of GIAHS. Preliminary consultations during the PDF A will serve to raise awareness on the need for co-financing. The PDF B process will be used to identify and confirm interested co-financiers.

In order to redress the history of limited and *ad hoc national* support to GIAHS, as mentioned in the baseline section, it is important to develop **a concerted, global programme that builds on synergies and lessons learnt across several sites** (both baseline and project activities), and binds them together into a strong action for lobbying and global recognition. This is why the current proposal is conceived of as a global program, rather than separate small projects. Furthermore, this approach will allow a systematic selection and prioritisation of demonstration sites, so that meaningful and comparative lessons learnt can be generated during the life of the project. Finally, this approach will provide the necessary influence and weight to promote global recognition of GIAHS.

10. Expected Outcomes of the Project:

The full project will be implemented over a **5-7 year period** with the expectation that the GEF Alternative (GEF increment and co-financing) will generate the following outcomes (these outcomes will be verified and fine-tuned during the preparatory stages):

Outcome A: Improved knowledge, understanding and global awareness of GIAHS and their associated biodiversity leading to enhanced support for their conservation and sustainable management. This will take into account their resource management practices, local knowledge systems, the rationale of farmers' and local communities and their needs and priorities, the multiple goods and services of such systems in terms of local and national benefits, and above all, their global contributions in terms of agricultural biodiversity and natural and cultural heritage. The information, exchange of experiences, consultation and raised awareness, will take place among a range of stakeholders from all levels (e.g. local and national authorities, policy and technical bodies, NGOs, associations of farmers and indigenous peoples', international bodies). This will lead to the development and use of, *inter alia*, codes of conduct, guidelines, indicators and assessment tools for policy and decision makers, for sustainable and biodiverse land use systems and management practices.

Outcome B: Development workers and technical specialists have greater capacity for the participatory diagnosis, with local farming communities in selected project sites (e.g. governmental and non-governmental planning, research, extension workers). This includes greater awareness of their complex agricultural systems and the identification and development of strategies and actions to support the conservation of GIAHS and their associated biodiversity through development of and training in appropriate tools and methods. Particular focus will be placed on opportunities for increased income, household food security and well being of indigenous communities and farmers by for example, developing eco-marketing, agro-tourism, introduction of environmentally friendly and low cost/low risk technologies, improved access rights, gender consideration and benefit-sharing arrangements.

Outcome C: Local communities, with the support of development bodies, are able to conserve and ensure the sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity. As a main outcome of the project, this component will contribute to increased local awareness of the opportunities, improved management practices for, and increased socio-economic benefits from, *in situ* conservation and multiplication of species, sustainable use of biological, soil and water resources and enhanced ecosystem services. The focus will be on enhancing capacities and interests of local populations in the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity and the cultural and natural patrimony of the systems. Efforts will ensure due responsiveness to gender and other socio-economic differentiation in the society. It will include partnerships and networking among GIAHS communities to share lessons learnt, for example, contribution to a network of *in-situ* conservation areas, in accordance with the Global Plan of Action on plant genetic resources and Global Strategy on animal genetic resources.

Outcome D: Revised policies and institutional mechanisms at global, national and local levels, including global recognition to support the dynamic conservation of GIAHS and their associated biodiversity and the sustained development of concerned populations. This would include the review and harmonisation of relevant policies (agricultural, environmental, social and economic), improved institutional mechanisms (organisations, rules and regulations and decision making processes) and incentive measures with an emphasis on maintenance of *in situ* biodiversity. It would also include leveraging global policy and institutional support for the conservation of GIAHS, with a view to protecting their biological diversity, landscape value, cultural integrity, local knowledge systems and quality of life, while sustaining their development potential. The possibilities for establishment of a new generation of World Heritage Sites will be explored during the preparatory stages.

11. Planned Activities to Achieve Project Outcomes

The following activities are indicative and will be further developed following consultation with potential partners to be facilitated by the PDF-A, and the PDF B preparatory processes.

Outcome A: Improved knowledge, understanding and global recognition of GIAHS

Activity A1: *Solicit case studies and develop an inventory and knowledge base of GIAHS sites for information sharing and monitoring their status and trends.*

Activity A2: *Prepare targeted documentation for different stakeholders including site descriptions, detailed diagnostic studies and case studies of selected pilot sites building on specialist expertise, popular belief and local knowledge that highlight the specific relationship between local practices and biodiversity conservation and sustainable resources management.*

Activity A3: *Share and consolidate experiences and practices among GIAHS sites (local stakeholders and development partners), and among partner institutions, key individuals and the wider public, including the use of existing networks to disseminate information on the methods, the findings and achievements of the project and, above all, the importance of conserving GIAHS, as well as the required policy, institutional and technical support for their conservation.*

Activity A4: *Generate global awareness of GIAHS through networking, awareness raising activities and consensus building with a view to mobilising supportive policies, codes of conduct, and mechanisms to help sustain such land use systems and biodiversity management practices.*

Outcome B: Improved capacities of development workers and technical specialists

Activity B1: *Development of, and training in the use of participatory research and development tools and approaches in partnership with farmers and herders, including materials for the diagnosis, characterisation and assessment of GIAHS (e.g. indicators and checklists) and for guiding the development process (e.g. principles, ecosystem approach, conflict resolution, overcoming bias against tradition).*

Activity B2: *Training, together with farmers and herders (see C3), on adaptive research processes for identifying and developing production and resource management techniques and marketing opportunities which support increased production and income but are compatible with maintaining the landscape diversity, technological innovations, and ecosystem functions. Options should build on farmers' strategies*

and innovations and scientific knowledge as well as available incentive measures for example, in regard to conservation agriculture, in situ genetic resource conservation, integrated plant nutrient management, integrated pest management, biosafety and so forth.

Activity B3: Information and advisory seminars on opportunities, provided through relevant environmental, agricultural and socio-economic policies and programmes, for supporting increased/alternative incomes as incentives to local resource managers to maintain their landscapes and land use systems in the face of globalisation/ new technologies (e.g. benefit sharing arrangements for biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration, combating desertification, resource mobilisation, financial incentives, eco-labelling, agro-tourism, etc.).

Activity B4: Developing methods and tools for participatory monitoring and evaluation of the project by a multi-stakeholder team comprising members of the local community, local authorities and technical specialists.

Outcome C: Enhanced capacities of farmers' and local communities (including farmers' associations and indigenous groups) to conserve and ensure the sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity

Activity C1: Information exchange and dialogue to enhance local awareness and understanding of the status and trends of their agricultural systems and their agricultural biodiversity and their global genetic, cultural and natural inheritance.

Activity C2: Conduct participatory review and diagnosis of the management practices and local knowledge systems of local communities in regard to threats and root causes of such threats to agricultural biodiversity and ecosystem services.

Activity C3: Identify and pilot test with farmers', together with development workers (see B2), actions that allow the maintenance of visual landscapes and main elements of the agricultural system while enhancing the in-situ dynamic conservation and sustainable use of important agricultural biodiversity and agro-ecosystem services, as well as agricultural productivity, income and food security (e.g. selection and maintenance of germplasm, management practices for improved nutrient cycling and pest/disease control drawing on scientific research and local knowledge).

Activity C4: Review of local organisations, norms governing access to and use of resources and decision making processes, and identify benefit sharing arrangements for the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity (plant varieties, animal races and ecosystem functions) with a view to empowering local communities and further mobilising their positive innovations and adoption of measures to conserve and sustain their agricultural biodiversity and systems.

Outcome D: Revised policies and institutional mechanisms at international national and local levels

Activity D1: Provision of advice in the review and harmonisation of relevant policies and institutional mechanisms including the mainstreaming of landscape, integrated resources management, local knowledge systems, biodiversity conservation and carbon sequestration dimensions in agricultural and environmental development processes.

Activity D2: Assistance in the formulation of national policies and actions to support GIAHS taking into account agriculture, environment, biodiversity, socio-economic, equitable access and benefit sharing, and cultural perspective and incentive measures to support positive practices and mitigate negative impacts of agriculture on biodiversity, land and water resources, ecosystem functions and sustainable development.

Activity D3: Informing local governments and communities of opportunities (e.g. incentives and support measures and benefit sharing arrangements for biodiversity conservation), identify and establish partnerships, mechanisms and measures that help provide a conducive environment for conservation and sustainable use by local land users and communities.

Activity D4: Development of codes of conducts, guidelines and indicators that can be used to help build global and regional consensus, through networking, workshops and other fora, of the need to support and globally recognise GIAHS and to identify possible mechanisms to provide an enabling environment, for example, their eventual consideration as a new generation of global cultural/natural heritage sites.

12. Stakeholders involved in project:

- (a) Local and indigenous farming communities;
- (b) Representatives of farmers' associations, indigenous groups, NGOs, relevant networks e.g. Plant Genetic Resources, and other civil society organisations; nature conservation and cultural heritage societies;
- (c) Representatives of governmental agencies in different regions (e.g. agriculture, environment and land use planning bodies and research/academic institutes);
- (d) International Agencies that are partners and provide support (e.g. FAO, UNESCO, UNDP, GEF, CBD Secretariat, Diversitas and others, see potential partners below);
- (e) Private sector bodies interested in eco-marketing/eco-tourism etc.;
- (f) Scientific partners including universities, foundations and organisations such as Diversitas;

Potential partners for PDF B and the main project

- Partnership with UNFIP for co-financing of this project under its Programme Framework on Biodiversity will be explored. Of particular note is its Programme Component 1: Natural World Heritage in view of the project focus on integrated ecosystem management around GIAHS, and potentially direct benefits to biodiversity conservation.
- It is anticipated that certain CGIAR centres (e.g. ICRAF, ICRISAT, CIAT, IPGRI, TSBF) would provide technical support, in particular, through their field programs that address eco-regional approaches, natural resources management, genetic resources conservation and sustainable use.
- The project could be linked to UNESCO's Man and Biosphere Programme (MAB) in such cases where ingenious agricultural systems would be identified in close proximity to or within MAB Reserves. The project could benefit from models and approaches that have been developed for improving the relationship between people and their environment and promoting the wise use of biodiversity building on scientific research and indigenous knowledge. An example is the effective association of conservation and development and local community participation in buffer zone management in the Mananara-Nord Biosphere Reserve, Madagascar.
- The project will maintain close liaison with the Convention on the Protection of the World's Cultural and Natural Heritage (WHC, 1972) which, since 1992, has included "cultural landscapes of outstanding universal value" in the World Heritage list. This would require due consideration of GIAHS as sites exhibiting outstanding common "cultural and natural" heritage, that are threatened and require dynamic conservation as they provide unique testimonies to an enduring past and their disappearance would be an irreparable loss for humankind (e.g. creative genius in terms of resources management, exceptional beauty; outstanding examples of a traditional way of life, a certain culture and major stage in the earth's history).
- Other potential partners include international NGOs working in agricultural and environmental development such as Survival International, CARE and IUCN; CIRAD, ENGREF and bilateral donors.

PART II – INFORMATION ON BLOCK A PDF ACTIVITIES

13. Activities to be financed by the PDF A:

The PDF A grant (Phase I), with the support of FAO and other partners, will facilitate the involvement of a range of stakeholders in the conceptual thinking and project development process, with a view to:

(a) raising awareness and soliciting interest in GIAHS through mobilisation of global institutional support mechanism; and (b) developing a consensus among key partners on the project approach and process and identification of co-funding arrangements. The specific activities include:

- **Supporting the preparation and collection of case studies for consideration during a Technical Workshop** through networking and funding at least one case study in each of "x" regions, and soliciting additional cases from partners by organising discussion forums and e-mail conferences;
- **Organising a Technical Workshop** with members of the scientific community, NGOs, representatives of indigenous groups/civil society, interested partners/donors and selected resource experts/country

representatives familiar with potential sites/systems. The purpose of this workshop will be to: (i) discuss criteria for site identification and evaluation and review existing case studies; (ii) define a participatory and transparent process for soliciting nominations or applications for candidate sites; (iii) build consensus on the project strategy, actions and time frame and (iv) develop an outline for the PDF B proposal and agree on the process and schedule for elaboration of the PDF B proposal, including the selection of a PDF B drafting committee.

- **Finalization of the PDF B proposal.** This will be done through collaboration between partners in the drafting committee, and will adhere to GEF project review criteria for pipeline entry.

PDF B grant (Phase II - 24 months) is expected to be used for the further development of the global project strategy and formulation of project documents. PDF B activities would include: (i) preparation of an inventory and selection of sites for the exploratory phase and the main project; (ii) preparation of specific regional and national demonstration projects; (iii) identification of collaborative mechanisms and partnership arrangements at regional and national levels; (iv) developing/refining project methods and tools for the participatory research and development process, improving understanding of the issues and opportunities and identification of ways and means to support GIAHS; (v) leveraging additional financing; and (vi) formulation of the Full Size GEF Project proposal, including . (A wide range of stakeholders will be involved, *inter alia*, members of the scientific community; civil society organisations, representatives from potential sites and decision-makers from agriculture and biodiversity sectors, including farmers' associations and indigenous groups. The roles and responsibilities of international partner organisations will be determined (e.g. FAO, UNDP and others such as UNFIP, CGIAR, UNESCO, Diversitas, NGOs, bilateral donors, etc.).

14. Expected outputs and completion dates:

The principal outputs of the PDF A will be a partnership arrangement, documentation of the process and criteria for site identification and a PDF B grant proposal for the development of the global project, based on the outcome of the above workshop and consultations. It is expected that the Concept Paper and PDF B application will be reviewed at the April 2002 bilaterals with UNDP/GEF. Specific outputs by the end of the PDF A would include :

- Five case studies and a list of initial site descriptions of globally important, ingenious agricultural heritage systems and landscapes (GIAHS), general criteria and a description of the process for candidate site identification and selection, and other background information and papers for the Technical Workshop, and the workshop report.
- Networking initiated among institutions and bodies interested in supporting the conservation of GIAHS including UN and bilateral agencies and other agricultural and environmental research and development organisations; biodiversity fora; nature conservation and cultural heritage societies; associations of indigenous and farmers groups, etc.
- Consensus among PDF A partners and increased awareness and involvement of a range of stakeholders regarding the value and importance of conserving such globally important agricultural heritage systems/landscapes.
- PDF-B proposal.

15. Other possible contributors/donors and amounts:

FAO, through the Regular Programme of its Land and Water Development Division (AGL) and relevant Programme Areas for Interdisciplinary Action (PAIAs), especially PRODS on Integrated Production Systems, and BIOD- Biodiversity (through the Inter-departmental Working Group on Biodiversity of Importance for Food and Agriculture), would provide technical support to the project. In particular, they would contribute to the preparatory meeting and Technical Workshop through the preparation of background documents, organisation and facilitation of an electronic discussion group and additional technical staff and secretarial costs.

The background documentation and materials will include: draft guidelines and criteria for site evaluation and selection; an outline of, and call for, country case studies and illustrative case study materials. Due

consideration will be given, *inter alia*, to existing information and site selection criteria (e.g. including centres of diversity and other sites of important agricultural heritage, MAB reserves and protected areas).

UNDP will participate in the technical workshop and will provide support for the development of capacity building elements at regional and national levels.

The CBD and WHC Secretariats would provide support including, *inter alia*, networking, information exchange and advice regarding COP decisions and ongoing programmes of work and actions. The project will develop linkages with ongoing programmes and projects and existing institutional structures at national and international levels under the biodiversity (CBD) and desertification (CCD) conventions and Agenda 21 plan of action in regard to the integrated planning and management of land resources, as well as, with national agricultural development strategies and actions.

16. Total budget and information on how costs will be met (including the PDF A grant) US\$:

| | FAO | Other Partners | GEF |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Preparatory Work | | | |
| Travel costs & daily subsistence(2 Resources experts) | | * | |
| Preparatory documentation & Secretarial costs | 4,000 | | |
| Country case studies | | | |
| National institutes/consultants | 2,500 | | 8,600 |
| FAO & other partners | 5,000 | * | |
| Technical Workshop (Rome, 4 days; 20 participants) | | | |
| Travel and per diem (9 national resource experts) | | * | 15,000 |
| Facilitator/Resource person | 3,000 | | |
| Travel and per diem (10 partners/experts) | | * | |
| Background documentation | 5,000 | | |
| Additional "in kind" costs | | | |
| Organisation of meeting/workshop (salary, communication etc.) | 2,500 | | |
| Use of meeting rooms, presentation equipment, refreshments | 2,000 | | |
| Communication/Duplication of documents | 1,000 | | |
| Project support costs (6%) | | | 1,400 |
| TOTAL GEF Budget | 25,000 | * | 25,000 |

(* contribution in kind, equivalent to **US\$25000**)

17 Name:

Food and Agriculture Organisation of the UN- FAO

18. Date of establishment, membership, and leadership: UN Specialised Agency, 1945

19. Mandate/terms of reference:

Requests from countries to FAO for support in conservation of land, water and natural resources and sustainable agriculture; in line with Task manager responsibility for implementation of Chapter 10, Agenda 21 and partnership role of FAO for implementation of the CBD programme of work on agricultural biodiversity.

20. Sources of revenue: FAO Members

21. Recent activities/programs, in particular those relevant to the GEF:

Several GEF and other projects in the field of agro-biodiversity; sustainable land management; conservation of natural resources; integrated land and water management, including: FAO programme of work on biodiversity for food and agriculture (including, fisheries and forestry); LADA (Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands); Alleviating Land Degradation and Biodiversity Conservation in Kagera River Basin; Integrated Management of Fouta Djallon Highlands, among others.

PART IV – INFORMATION TO BE COMPLETED BY IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

22. Project identification number: 2050

23. Implementing Agency contact person:

Ms. Maryam Naimir Fuller, GEF Regional Co-ordinator for Biodiversity and International Waters in Africa and Focal point for Land degradation; UNDP-Lusaka, Zambia.

24. Project linkage to Implementing Agency program(s):

The project would support UNDP's strategy to mainstream biodiversity conservation concerns and agro-ecological concerns into national sustainable development strategies, in order to contribute directly to poverty alleviation. Furthermore, the project addresses UNDP's global mandate to enhancing the enabling environment for poverty alleviation.

ANNEX 1:**Implementation Arrangements**

The PDF A will be executed by FAO's Land and Water Development Division (AGL). This Division will work through relevant Programme Areas for Interdisciplinary Action (PAIAs), especially PRODS on Integrated Production Systems, and BIOD- Biodiversity (through the Inter-departmental Working Group on Biodiversity of Importance for Food and Agriculture), to provide technical support to the project. In particular, they would contribute to the preparatory meeting and Technical Workshop through the preparation of background documents, organisation and facilitation of an electronic discussion group and additional technical staff and secretarial costs.

A Steering Committee consisting of representatives from 3 selected regional institutions working directly on indigenous agricultural systems, FAO, UNDP/GEF, UNESCO, World Heritage Foundation, CBD's Agrobiodiversity Liaison Group, IPGRI, UNFIP, IUCN and CIRAD will provide oversight for the implementation of the PDF A and the PDF B. Representatives from the countries to be selected under the PDF A will be added on during the PDF B. This Committee may or may not be reconstituted/modified at the time of implementation of the PDF B into a more formal body for the purpose of overseeing the implementation of the Full project.

Other institutions and independent experts (e.g. LEISA, CENESTA, ICIMOD, GM, CCD, ITO, ENDA, ISPN (Brazil), will be invited to attend the PDF A workshop in order to enrich the debate.

Land and soil fertility management Service of Land and Water Division (AGLL), in its capacity as Task Manager of Land Chapter of Agenda 21, will be the lead technical unit in FAO to coordinate the implementation of this project. Preliminary contacts have been established with a number of countries and institutions who have confirmed their interest to participate in the implementation of this project in their respective countries/mandates. AGLL will also draft the PDF B proposal under supervision of the Steering Committee.

The PDF A will be audited according to FAO regulations. The audit regime at FAO consists of an external audit provided by the Auditor-General (or person exercising an equivalent function) of a member nation appointed by the governing bodies of the Organization and reporting directly to them, and a thoroughly professional internal audit function headed by the Inspector-General who reports directly to the Director-General. This function operates as an integral part of the Organization under policies established by senior management, and furthermore has a reporting line to the governing bodies. Both functions are required under the Basic Texts of FAO which establish a framework for the terms of reference of each. A spirit of co-operation and mutual respect exists between the internal audit and the external audit, and appropriate co-ordination

allows each to perform their different roles in a co-ordinated and complementary manner. In addition, a highly respected evaluation function operates out of the Office of the Director-General. Furthermore, local audits of imprest accounts, records, bank reconciliation and asset verification take place at FAO field and liaison offices. ex 3 provides standard FAO regulations to be followed in Auditing the project.

Annex 2: UNDP format INPUT budget

| | PROJECT NUMBER | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|
| BL | DESCRIPTION | BL TOTAL | 2002 | |
| 10 | PROJECT PERSONNEL | | | |
| 16 | Mission Costs | | | |
| 16-01 | National experts to Workshop | 15,900 | 15,900 | |
| 16-99 | <u>Sub-Total</u> | <u>15,900</u> | <u>15,900</u> | |
| 17 | National Consultants | | | |
| 17-01 | Country case studies | 4,240 | 4,240 | |
| 17-99 | <u>Sub-Total</u> | <u>4,240</u> | <u>4,240</u> | |
| 19 | <u>COMPONENT TOTAL</u> | <u>20,140</u> | <u>20,140</u> | |
| 20 | CONTRACTS | | | |
| 21 | Country case studies | 4,860 | 4,860 | |
| 21-99 | <u>Sub-Total</u> | <u>4,860</u> | <u>4,860</u> | |
| 29 | <u>COMPONENT TOTAL</u> | <u>4,860</u> | <u>4,860</u> | |
| 99 | GRAND TOTAL | 25,000 | 25,000 | |