**GUIDANCE DOCUMENT**

(revised on 2 March 2020)

**On the Survey for the Assessment of the Funding Needs for the Implementation of the Convention and Its Protocols for the Eighth Replenishment Period July 2022 to June 2026 of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility (Decision 14/23)**

**2 March 2020**

*The document may be updated in response to feedback provided*

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**A. QUESTIONNAIRE**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

**Availability**

1. The questionnaire to assist relevant Parties in conducting the Full Assessment of the Funding Needs for the Implementation of the Convention and Its Protocols for the Eighth Replenishment Period, July 2022 to June 2026, of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility is available, together with other relevant information, on the CBD website at the following location:

**https://www.cbd.int/financial/gef8needs.shtml**

**Mandate**

2. The questionnaire is circulated in accordance with paragraph 11 of the annex to decision 14/23.

**Purpose**

3. The purpose of the questionnaire is to assist the Conference of the Parties to make an assessment of the amount of funds that are necessary to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in accordance with the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties, in fulfilling their commitments under the Convention and its Protocols over the eighth Global Environment Facility (GEF) replenishment cycle (2022-2026), and determine the amount of resources needed, in accordance with Article 21, paragraph 1 and decision III/8.

4. Questionnaire responses will provide an indicative overview of the types and costs of projects or programme areas envisaged under GEF-8 by the responding Parties which, together with analysis of data derived from other sources (such as NBSAPs, national reports and experience of project preparation and implementation over previous GEF replenishment cycles), will enable an assessment of the overall funding needs for GEF-8. The questionnaire responses may also help to obtain an overview of the characteristics of the overall portfolio under the Convention and its Protocols that could be submitted to GEF/8.

5. Questionnaire responses are indicative of likely project priorities and **not** formal submissions to the GEF and do **not** require more detail than what is requested in the questionnaire.

**Context**

6. Information on factors to be taken into account by the assessment, referred to in paragraph 3 of the annex to decision 14/23, are available on the webpage referred to in paragraph 1 above. Factors relevant for Parties to take into account in considering their needs for GEF-8 include:

* All obligations under the Convention and its Protocols and relevant decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties (paragraph 3(c));
* The information communicated to the Conference of the Parties in the national reports and information provided by the Parties through the financial reporting framework (paragraph 3(d));
* National strategies, national biodiversity strategies and action plans or programmes developed in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention (paragraph 3(f) and paragraph 3(l));
* Synergies with other conventions (paras. 3(h) and (i));
* The draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework (para 3(m));
* Progress made on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 17 (strengthen the means of implementation) (para. 3(n)).

**Respondents**

7. The questionnaire should be completed by the National Focal Point of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD Focal Point) in collaboration with the Operational and Political Focal Points of the Global Environment Facility (GEF Focal Points) and in consultation with the National Focal Points of the Nagoya Protocol and Cartagena Protocol, through a participatory process as appropriate. Submissions should be made by the CBD National Focal Point.

**Workload**

8. The estimated time required for consulting, collecting and compiling information, and completing the questionnaire is expected to be one to two weeks on average.

**Currency Unit**

9. The currency unit throughout the questionnaire should be US dollars. Please convert your national currency into US dollars using the average exchange rates for the month of January 2020 (such exchange rates can be obtained from your central bank or ministry of finance).

**Deadline for submissions**

10. The questionnaire should be submitted via the CBD Secretariat at: secretariat@cbd.int. The deadline for submissions is **22 March 2020**.

**II. GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE**

The questionnaire is divided into six parts: 1. Background information (e.g. country, project name), 2. Components of biodiversity the project will address (i.e. biomes, species, genetic resources), 3. Strategic objectives (e.g. protected areas, capacity building), 4. Financing needs (including co-financing), 5. Linkages (e.g. to SDGs) and 6. Any additional information. Parts A and B require an estimated percentage, Part C requires an estimated USD figure and Part D requires noting related linkages using an “X”.

**0 - BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Please enter country name and names of Convention and Protocol focal points and other experts completing the questionnaire, as well as the total number of projects presented.

**For each project (or area of work) please use a separate worksheet (copy the worksheet as many times as you have projects)**. Enter the name or focus of the project, area of work or a descriptive title.

The needs assessment expert group acknowledges that the timeframe (linked to COP 15 in October 2020), and the occurrence of this process in parallel with the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, is challenging. For this reason, we encourage Parties to provide, where known, the names of projects (e.g. when these are related to current or ongoing projects) and where they are unknown but represent a broader area of work (e.g. “tackling invasive alien species”) to present them as such.

Below the project name (or name of the broad area of work, e.g. “tackling invasive alien species”), please click to indicate whether the project supports implementation of the Convention or one of its Protocols.

**Example:**



**PART A: Project characteristics: Components of biodiversity**

Please use this section to identify the components of biodiversity that the project will address, in terms of biome(s) and species and genetic resources. The percentage entered reflects the characteristics of the project (and not the amount of financing). If you include just one biome, please enter 100% in the column next to the relevant biome. Similarly, if you only include one character of species and genetic resources, please enter 100% against it. If the project addresses more than one biome and/or more than one character of species / genetic resources, please enter an approximate percent keeping in mind that the total of the biome column should be 100% and the total of the species / genetic resources column should also be 100%. If none apply, leave blank and provide an explanation in section E. Similarly, if you click “other”, please provide an explanation in section E.

**Example**



**PART B: Project characteristics: Strategic objectives**

Please use this section to identify whether the project contributes to an integrated programme of the GEF (defined as more integrated approaches that address discrete, time-bound global environment challenges) and to which strategic objectives it will apply. The percentage entered reflects the strategic objectives of the project (and not the amount of financing). The total of both columns should be 100%. If the project is not part of an integrated programme, you may leave that column blank (i.e. 0%) but then please identify the strategic objectives which should total 100%. Note that several objectives could be applied to either terrestrial biodiversity or marine and coastal biodiversity. If the project contributes to none of the strategic objectives listed, please leave blank and provide an explanation in Part E. Similarly, if you click “other”, please provide an explanation in section E.

**Example:**



**PART C: Financing needs**

Please enter the **total** budgeted amount for the project (in USD), the expected **government** co-financing (including -in-kind contribution) as well as **other sources** of co- financing (including bilateral or private sector financing), and the required **GEF amount.** The GEF amount should be based on the value added of GEF financing to achieve global environmental benefits using the incremental cost principle as per GEF guidance [GEF/C.54/10/Rev 10.1](https://www.thegef.org/search/site/GEF%5CC.54%5C10%5CRev.01)). You can identify the sources of co-financing from other sources in section E below. We recognise that these are estimates at this stage, but please try to be as precise as possible. Use the notes section in Part E for necessary explanations. Consider the amounts you provided for the previous cycles (GEF-6 and GEF-7) as guidance. Please note that currently, recipient countries with total initial STAR allocations of up to USD 7 million retain full flexibility to programme their allocations across the three focal areas. Recipient countries with total initial STAR allocations exceeding USD 7 million are allowed marginal adjustments across focal areas of USD 2 million or up to 13% of their total initial STAR country allocations, whichever is higher.

**Example:**



**PART D: Linkages**

Please indicate using an X, whether the project links to other conventions and bodies listed, and to any of the SDGs.

**Example:**



**PART E: Any additional information**

Please use this part of the questionnaire to provide any necessary explanations (e.g. entering the source of additional funding if known, particularly if it is from the private sector), including any that relate to Parts A and B. Also, we would be grateful if you could provide us with feedback on the questionnaire.

**Example:**



**B. TEAM OF EXPERTS**

**Expert team for preparing a report on the full assessment of funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention for the period July 2022 to June 2026**

**I. Contact Details and regional division of responsibilities for liaison with Parties and questionnaire respondents**

**Mr. Ravi Sharma**, based largely in New Delhi, will be the assessment focal point for Asia and the Pacific, and can be reached at the following email address: ravsharma2002@hotmail.com

**Mrs. Stephanie Mansourian**, based in Geneva, will be the assessment focal point for Africa and Central and Eastern Europe, and can be reached at the following email address: smansourian@infomaniak.ch / stephanie@mansourian.org

**Mr. Yasha Feferholtz**, based in Santiago, Chile, will be the assessment focal point for Latin America and the Caribbean, and can be reached at the following email address: yasha.feferholtz@gmail.com

**II. Biographies**

**Ravi Sharma**, a national of India and former Director of Implementation and Technical Support at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity for 10 years, has over 30 years of success in strategizing, implementing, and championing global environmental and innovative programs for the United Nations Environment Programme, Global Environment Facility (GEF), and policy think tanks in India and Kenya. In this period he designed and executed 100+ national and global, regional and national projects on climate change and biodiversity and orchestrated more than 50 international policy negotiations and technical workshops. At CBD he had the oversight of its relations with the GEF and issues related to resource mobilization and facilitated the first and second report of the High level Panel on the Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. He is currently advising conservation groups on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, providing technical support to review projects under a global climate change initiative, assisting a program to transfer risk through micro-crop insurance at farm level and provide farmers with compensation resulting from climate shocks etc. He has a master’s degree in economics and management certificate in environmental management.

**Stephanie Mansourian**, a dual Swiss/Egyptian national, has been an environmental consultant for the last 15 years and is also a research associate with Geneva University. Her work in the last 25 years has spanned several environmental topics, including restoration, air pollution, environmental governance, protected areas, and sustainability partnerships among others. She was at the forefront of the development of forest landscape restoration (FLR) at the time when she was managing WWF’s related programme. Since then, and based on her observations of FLR programmes and projects, she carried out her PhD specifically on governance challenges related to FLR. In her work, she takes an integrated approach and seeks to span disciplines wherever possible. As a consultant her clients include NGOs, conventions, UN agencies and foundations. Her voluntary commitments include as a board member of the Audemars Watkins Foundation, a member of the Society for Ecological Restoration and as deputy coordinator of the IUFRO Task Force on “Transforming forest landscapes for future climates and human well-being”. She has published three books and authored several articles in peer reviewed journals.

**Yasha** **Feferholtz**, a Chilean national, is a fellow at EcoHealth Alliance. In this position, Yasha has been working and advising on USAID and DTRA funded projects for sustainable development and health economics in Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, South Africa, Bangladesh, and Liberia. He regularly conducts economic analyses to promote policies on sustainable development and conservation for global projects. Yasha has led studies on the economic impact of emerging infectious diseases, allocation of global resources for the Global Virome Project (GVP), economic valuation of ecosystem services from forest and health, cost benefit analyses for Rabies virus in Asia and Rift Valley Fever virus in Africa, economic impacts of global wildlife trade, and integrated assessment modelling to understand the environmental impact of natural resource degradation. Most of his work is applied to public policy and he has co-authored several peer reviewed papers and reports in sustainable economic development, conservation, and health. After obtaining a degree in finance, Yasha earned his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Wyoming, specializing in environmental economics, and behavioural experimental economics under a Fulbright scholarship.