

8. PROPOSED PROJECTS

8.1. Organizational set-up for conservation of biodiversity (Objectives a, b and d):

Background and justification: Biodiversity conservation is a cross cutting interest among all users of natural resources.

Administrations of landuse, range, forestry, wildlife, fisheries and agriculture are all involved in activities related to biodiversity conservation. There is an urgent need for strengthening coordination among different users of biodiversity.

The establishment of the HCENR in 1992 has resulted in the development of a national natural resources and environmental management coordinating body. The council is the focal point for biodiversity conservation, and state councils are already mandated to extend the role of the council in the different states.

Objectives and methodology:

- Establishment of a coordinating unit and a focal point for biodiversity conservation in the country.
- Harmonization of biodiversity related legislation;
- Developing an information bank for biodiversity;
- Identification of gaps in information, hot spots and urgent actions needed;
- Coordination of work of biodiversity conservation; and
- Support capacity building and infrastructure for conservation of biological resources.

Lead agency: HCENR.

Cooperating agencies: Line ministries involved in management and utilization of natural resources.

Estimated cost: US \$ 1,000,000

8.2. Raising awareness of communities at all levels on biodiversity and its importance (Objective c)

Background and justification: biodiversity conservation can only be achieved through participatory action that includes all stakeholders and communities. Raising awareness about biodiversity and its values is much needed among all communities to solicit support, commitment and participation of all stakeholders in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

Objectives and methodology:

- The project objective is to raise environmental biodiversity awareness among different stakeholders and communities;
- Different biodiversity awareness raising packages will be developed and used for different stakeholders and communities;
- Different audio-visual aids will be developed to assist in biodiversity awareness campaigns such as Video films, posters, exhibitions, pamphlets, booklets, radio and television programs and celebrations such as Labor-day; environment day; and
- Support community.

Lead agency: HCENR

Cooperating agencies: Extension and public relations departments of line ministries involved in management and utilization of natural resources, specialized ministries such as Culture & Information and indigenous NGOs such as SECS.

Estimated cost: US \$ 1,000,000

8.3. Strategic land use planning for conservation of natural resources

(objective d):

Background and justification: biodiversity conservation could only be achieved in the context of an accepted national land use plan. Stakeholders and communities should be consulted. The plan should be based on soil classification and soil capabilities survey and maps.

Natural resources distribution should also be included. Land use planning and mapping should cater for different stakeholders' needs without compromising conservation needs.

Objectives and methodology:

- Mapping soil and resources;
- Strategies and land use/resource use plans, and
- Involve different stakeholders and communities.

Lead agency: Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry (MAF).

Cooperating agencies: Line ministries involved in management and utilization of natural resources such as Irrigation & Water Resources, Animal Wealth, Industry & Investment, Finance & National Economy (MFNE), Survey and Residential Planning etc.

Estimated cost: US \$ 3,000,000

8.4. Exploration, collection preservation and documentation of flora and fauna of Darfur, central clay plains, River Nile, Northern, Equatoria, Bahr El Ghazal and Upper Nile regions (objective a):

Background: Flora and fauna studies were not recently conducted. All data were compiled in the past and the need for updating is evident. Enormous changes in flora and fauna need to be documented and knowledge need to be enriched as a lot is unknown and little explored.

Objectives and methodology:

- Conduct collections, identification and preservation of herbarium and museum specimens;
- Initiate a biodiversity monitoring; and
- Study groups should include plant and animal taxonomists

Lead agency: National Research Centre (NRC).

Cooperating agencies: Such line ministries as MAF (FNC – Range and Pasture Administration (RPA)), university faculties (Departments concerned with plant and animal systematics).

Estimated cost: US \$ 2,000,000