

**ENRTP STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION / Dg DEVCO &
THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)
ANNEX 1A – DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION**

Table of content

1.	Introduction.....	2
1.1.	Context.....	2
1.2.	Relevance	2
2.	Objectives.....	5
2.1.	General objective	5
2.2.	Specific objective	5
3.	Expected results and main activities	5
3.1.	Strategy	5
3.2.	Expected results.....	6
3.3.	Main activities.....	6
4.	Method and Implementation scheme	11
4.1.	Implementation method.....	11
4.2.	Performance monitoring.....	12
4.3.	Communication and visibility.....	12
5.	Budget and Duration.....	13
5.1.	Budget.....	13
5.2.	Duration.....	13
	Annexes	13

UNEP of

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Context

The challenges of global environmental policies have intensified in the last few years, for instance, after recent developments in the fields of international climate change and biodiversity policies, but so has the search for solutions. Because of this, environment and the related global institutional architecture are now receiving the highest level of political attention. Environmental considerations are now part of the political agenda at international, regional and national levels.

As global public awareness is rising and citizens are becoming increasingly concerned about what is at stake, environment policies must move from the periphery to the core of decision-making, so that precaution and prevention become key elements of any decision that could cause detrimental environmental change. The international community has sought to address several of the above challenges through the conclusion of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), as well as through actions by relevant international bodies.

1.2. Relevance

▪ Rationales for a Strategic Cooperation Agreement

In the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in 2004 between the European Commission and UNEP, both sides agreed to consolidate, develop and intensify cooperation and increase its effectiveness to achieve goals and objectives in the field of environment (including climate change) policy. To date, this has been translated into a number of activities, programmes and projects in areas of common concern such as sustainable consumption and production, climate change, water, sound chemicals and waste management, environmental monitoring and assessment, strengthening environmental governance at the global, regional and national levels, including also the support to the implementation of MEAs.

UNEP and the MEAs for which it provides the secretariat are key partners for the EU in the field of environment. They benefited substantially from Commission support under the 2007-2010 Environment and sustainable management of Natural Resources, including energy Thematic Programme (ENRTP) multi-annual strategy. To date, the ENRTP has co-funded 59 actions implemented by UNEP, for a total of more than €50 million. This cooperation is showing visible results in many parts of the world. European Commission/UNEP actions on environment and poverty, or on sustainable consumption and production, are some of the many examples that help improve livelihoods, safeguard environmental resources and promote sustainable development.

The European Commission is already implementing part of its external environment policies through UNEP, where this Organization shows a clear comparative advantage in terms of existing expertise and ongoing work in given policy areas covered by the ENRTP. Between 2007 and 2010, 47% of ENRTP Priority 4 ("Strengthening international governance on the environment and make EU actions a key part of the process") funding managed by DG ENV, and numerous projects managed by DG DEVCO for the other priorities were channeled through UNEP and the MEAs it administers. This is based on the following considerations:

- The European Commission's and UNEP's respective multi-annual strategies in the field of global environment protection have very similar priorities;
- UNEP's mandate, especially for improving international environmental governance, makes it a natural partner for the European Commission;
- UNEP provides the secretariat for the following Multilateral Environmental Agreements already receiving or potentially eligible for EU voluntary contributions under the ENRTP:
 - ✓ In the field of biodiversity: the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the *Cartagena Protocol* on Biosafety (CPB) and the recently agreed *Nagoya Protocol* on Access and Benefit Sharing for Genetic Resources (ABS), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA).
 - ✓ In the field of chemicals and hazardous substances: the *Basel Convention* on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, the *Rotterdam Convention* on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure (PIC) for certain hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in international trade, the *Stockholm Convention* on the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), the *Vienna Convention* for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its *Montreal Protocol* on substances that deplete the ozone layer.
 - ✓ In the field of the protection of the marine environment: the *Barcelona Convention* for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against pollution.

While EU-UNEP joint projects in the past years have strengthened their mutual cooperation, projects under the 2007-2010 ENRTP have lacked an overall strategic approach and there has been no predictability of the likely level of support for UNEP, nor any flexibility in adapting the programme to respond to new challenges. The selection of the actions has until now been made mostly on a case-by-case basis. Each year discussions have taken place to decide which actions with the various UNEP services will be included in the Annual Action Programme of the ENRTP. This process resulted in a dispersal of actions, a lack of strategic focus and a less-cost effective use of resources.

To address this issue, discussions on how the Commission would provide its support to UNEP took place as part of their yearly High-Level Meetings (HLM). The European Commission - UNEP High-Level Meeting (installed by the 2004 Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by UNEP and the Environment Commissioner) continues to be the strategic body for coordination in the field of environment with the European Commission at policy level, independently of the ENRTP funding instrument. These HL Meetings discuss strategic policy matters of common interest and give orientations on policy, technical and operational issues related to furthering the objectives of the MoU.

The 6th European Commission - UNEP High Level Meeting of June 2010 agreed to develop a multi-annual joint programme of work for consideration under the ENRTP Multiannual Strategy for the years 2011-2013 (adopted on 22/12/2010). The ENRTP 2011-2013 Multiannual Strategy and Indicative Programme contains several references to the establishment of a longer-term and more strategic cooperation between the European Commission and UNEP under the existing MoU. The European Commission responds to what has been agreed in the European Commission - UNEP MoU: "The parties will also consider possibilities of an enhanced, more predictable, multi-year financial cooperation in area(s) agreed under the MoU" (Art 4 (3)). The European Commission and UNEP released a political "Joint Statement" under the existing MoU setting out the wish for increased and more strategic cooperation and updating the possible areas of cooperation between the two organisations. This Joint Statement was presented to the press during the UNEP Governing Council at the end of February 2011.

On the basis of this Joint Statement, the European Commission and UNEP have agreed to establish Strategic Cooperation Agreements (SCAs) for their mutual benefit in the achievement of agreed goals and objectives in the field of the global environment. For practical and managerial reasons, two SCAs will be developed and signed. One worth €15 million for the 2011-2013 ENRTP priorities managed by DG DEVCO, and one worth €15.2 million for 2011-2013 ENRTP priority 3.1 (environmental governance) managed by DG ENV. The present fiche covers the ENRTP priorities (1, 2 and 3.3 – Support for mainstreaming) managed by DG DEVCO.

- Relevance of priorities addresses

- *Climate change*

As the United Nations Secretary General has said, climate change is the major, overriding environmental issue of our time, and the single greatest challenge facing environmental regulators. It is a growing crisis with economic, health and safety, food production, security, and other dimensions. Copenhagen was perhaps not the breakthrough some had hoped for, but the Accord was an essential step forward. The implementation of the outcome of the meeting is now a priority.

UNEP will complement other processes and the work of other institutions including UNFCCC in creating enabling environments at the national level for responding to climate change, including the promotion of national legislative, economic and institutional frameworks. In doing so, UNEP will emphasize the synergies between development and climate policies as well as the co-benefits of climate change actions and their contribution to environmental sustainability. It is foreseen that in the context of this SCA the UNEP will in particular engage in supporting developing countries efforts in addressing the challenges related to ozone depleting substances. It will also contribute to mitigating climate change by supporting a transition towards cleaner technologies and renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency, particularly in the context of urban planning and development of infrastructures. Broader UNEP activities in the area of climate change can offer useful complementarities to these actions, such as climate change science and assessment.

- *Ecosystem management*

Scientific evidence shows that ecosystems are under unprecedented pressure, threatening prospects for sustainable development. While the challenges are daunting, they also provide opportunities for local communities, business and government to innovate for the benefit of communities, economies and the global environment. However, in order to secure the environmental conditions for prosperity,

stability and equity, timely responses that are proportionate to the scale of the environmental challenges will be required. UNEP will facilitate a cross-sectoral, integrated approach to ecosystem management to reverse the decline in ecosystem services and improve ecosystem resilience with respect to such external impacts as habitat degradation, invasive species, climate change, pollution and overexploitation. UNEP will continue to catalyse integrated approaches to the assessment and management of freshwater, terrestrial, and coastal and marine systems. In facilitating a more integrated approach UNEP will draw upon its knowledge base and on integrated environmental assessments for more effective management of natural systems on multiple scales and across sectors through technical and institutional capacity-building. UNEP will promote adaptive management, participatory decision-making and sustainable financing through payments or investments for ecosystem services to address the drivers of ecosystem change that reverse degradation and increase ecosystem resilience.

➤ *Harmful substances and hazardous waste*

The 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) renewed the commitment, advanced in Agenda 21, to sound management of chemicals throughout their life cycle and of hazardous wastes with the aim that, by 2020, chemicals are to be produced and used in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on the environment and on human health. Chemicals affect human health and wildlife through a variety of mechanisms; for example, many chemicals used intentionally or generated by human activity influence and upset healthy human development; as a result, children exposed to such chemicals through improper or inadequate practices are particularly at risk; other chemicals accumulate in animals and humans giving rise to chronic intoxication.

Key challenges to achieving the WSSD goal at the national level are: a) the widespread responsibilities and dispersed institutional mandates for chemicals and hazardous wastes used in or generated by many sectors of the economy and society; b) the lack of evidence of the full costs and benefits, including environmental and human health impacts, of the use - and misuse, of chemicals; and c) the lack of an assessment of the true costs attributable to the improper management of hazardous wastes.

Without such knowledge, it is difficult for national authorities to come together to adopt a precautionary approach, as set forth in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which forms an underlying approach to the multilateral environmental agreements on chemicals and wastes. Similarly, without such knowledge, it is difficult to persuade industry and other stakeholders, as users of chemicals and generators of hazardous waste, to take up best environmental practices and adopt best available techniques.

As part of wider United Nations efforts to overcome these obstacles and assist countries to introduce and sustain the sound management of harmful substances and hazardous waste at the national level in order to achieve the 2020 goal, UNEP will focus its efforts on enhancing strategic alliances with all stakeholders to promote chemical safety within a coherent life cycle approach and in accordance with the objectives of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management adopted in Dubai in February 2006, including through supporting the development and implementation of internationally agreed chemicals management regimes.

➤ *Resource efficiency, green economy and sustainable consumption and production*

Rising levels of materials production, trade, and consumption are an important driving force behind many of the world's most pressing environmental threats. For example, the 2005 Millennium Ecosystem Assessment concluded that over the past half-century "humans have changed ecosystems more rapidly and extensively than in any comparable period of time in human history, largely to meet rapidly growing demands for food, fresh water, timber, fiber, and fuel." The assessment also found that about 60 per cent of the ecosystem services evaluated in the report are being degraded or used unsustainably. Economic growth and the development and human welfare gains it contributes to cannot be sustained with current consumption and production patterns. At the same time, a large share of the world population is still consuming too little to meet even their basic needs.

Responding to these challenges will require a combination of new policies, redirected investment and application of environmentally sound technologies, international cooperation, and capacity building to reshape national economies as well as the global economy. UNEP is well positioned to facilitate and accelerate the shift to a more resource efficient and sustainable consumption and production patterns. Likewise, UNEP is able to assist in the shift to a greener economy, i.e. a safe and sustainable low carbon, resource-efficient economy, based on sustainable production in all sectors and underpinned by more sustainable life-styles focusing inter alia on the housing, transport and food sectors, new business opportunities and significant employment growth.

➤ *Disaster Risk Reduction*

Global disaster risk has increased over the last decades, mainly due to greater exposure to natural hazards. Population growth and migrations to areas of high risk (e.g. coastal areas, drylands and urban centres) are raising the numbers of those affected by hazards. More and more infrastructure is built in areas that are exposed to natural hazards, setting up development investments to be overturned by disasters. According to the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Global Assessment Report 2009 on Disaster Risk Reduction, there has been an increase in the severity of natural hazards, such as tropical cyclones, wildfires, heat waves and prolonged droughts.

Disasters can be prevented or mitigated by addressing the underlying risk factors and increasing people's resilience to adapt and their capacity to cope and recover. The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) recognizes environmental change, including ecosystems degradation and climate change, as a major risk factor. Declining ecosystems contribute to increased hazard risks, for instance flooding and landslides as a result of deforestation. In addition, degraded ecosystems increase exposure of people, infrastructure and other development assets to natural hazards, undermining development gains and people's livelihood base. At the same time, there is greater recognition of the disaster risk reduction benefits provided by intact or healthy ecosystems, for instance in regulating natural hazards and serving as natural buffers. Healthy and fully functioning ecosystems can protect livelihoods and mitigate people's exposure to hazards. Improved management of natural resources in order to maintain high biodiversity and ecosystem service value, therefore, offers important opportunities for reducing risk, while supporting poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods and development.

The main challenge for UNEP together with the European Commission will be to promote an integrated approach to DRR that addresses climate change adaptation and ecosystem management concerns, and to harness the environmental investments that will be made in climate change adaptation to ensure they also contribute to disaster risk reduction and sustainable livelihoods development.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. General objective

The general objective of the strategic cooperation agreement between the European Commission / DG DEVCO and UNEP under the ENRTP is **"to integrate environmental protection requirements and climate change action into the Community's development and other external policies as well as to help promote the Community's environmental, climate and energy policies abroad in the common interest of the Community and partner countries and regions"**, as defined in the ENRTP regulation and reiterated in the 2010-2013 strategy.

2.2. Specific objective

The specific objective of the strategic cooperation agreement between the European Commission (DG DEVCO) and UNEP under the ENRTP is **to support developing countries to better integrate environmental sustainability into their pursuit of development goals.**

3. EXPECTED RESULTS AND MAIN ACTIVITIES

3.1. Strategy

The strategy in implementing the three ENRTP priorities is consistent with UNEP's mandate and comparative advantage. UNEP will:

- catalyse and promote international cooperation and action;
- provide early warning and policy advice based on sound science;
- facilitate the development, implementation and evolution of norms and standards, including through the promotion of pilot projects;
- support the development of international and national policy and law;
- develop coherent interlinkages among international environmental conventions; and
- deliver technology support and capacity-building services in line with country priorities.

3.2. Expected results

In accordance with agreed priorities and as developed in the logical framework (Appendix 1), the expected results of the strategic agreements are the following:

- **Expected result 1** (related to Priority 1 – Climate Change): **Strengthened abilities of countries – in particular developing countries – to integrate climate change responses into national and regional sustainable development process.**

This expected results falls into 2 different components:

- Climate Change science and awareness-raising;
- Climate Change mitigation, including Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation.

- **Expected result 2** (related to Priority 2 – Environment for Development): **Improved capacities towards conservation as well as sustainable use and management of ecosystem services/biodiversity and natural resources:**

This expected results falls into the following components:

- Capacity-building/support on ecosystem approach to the management of human activities, ecosystem management tools and address degradation of selected priority ecosystem services;
- Country implementation of specific conventions;

- **Expected result 3** (related to Priority 2 – Environment for Development): **Improved capacities towards resource efficiency, green economy and sustainable consumption and production.**

This expected results falls into the following components:

- Support to governments and public institutions on green economy and resource efficiency;
- Increased investment in efficient, clean and safe industrial production methods;

- **Expected result 4** (related to Priority 3 – Strengthening environment and climate governance – Support for mainstreaming): **Enhanced environmental mainstreaming into development policies, planning and decision making.**

This expected results falls into the following components:

- Environmental mainstreaming in development (i.e. through the Poverty and Environment Initiative and the UN Development Assistance Frameworks mechanisms);
- Environmental mainstreaming in Disaster Risk Reduction.

Precise results will depend on the details of the programme and the breakdown of the funding; therefore, quantitative results cannot be given at this stage.

3.3. Main activities

- **For Expected Result 1 - Climate Change**

Expected result 1: Strengthened abilities of countries – in particular developing countries – to integrate climate change responses into national and regional sustainable development process.

In line with the ongoing and planned EU actions, UNEP will work with other UN agencies, the Commission and its delegations and external partners to support the following activities:

➤ *Climate change science and awareness-raising*

To improve the understanding of climate change science and its use in sound policymaking, UNEP will contribute to strengthen climate change science knowledge and disseminate it by:

- actively conveying the results of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change assessments and special reports and undertaking other **scientific assessments** targeted to specific audiences;
- performing **vulnerability and risks/impact assessments** for climate change adaptation and improving the understanding of climate risks, vulnerabilities and where adaptation measures should be targeted ;
- improving understanding of greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation;
- providing scientific, legal and institutional support to developing country institutions and officials who participate in **climate change negotiations**.

➤ *Climate Change Mitigation:*

Support will be provided to partner countries in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through:

- the **reduction of gases with high global warming potential (GWP)**, through the promotion of a transition to safe and environmentally sound alternatives - in particular natural refrigerants and low GWP refrigerants in the refrigeration and air conditioning sectors – and the sound management and destruction of banks of unwanted ozone depleting substances (ODS) and alternative substances with a high GWP;
- **mitigation activities** aimed at (i) promoting sound and informed energy supply choices with a focus on renewable energy options, (ii) improving energy efficiency and use, through the deployment of clean technologies and (iii) support analysis and development frameworks for GHG mitigation and reduction of barriers for deployment of clean technologies. Partnering with key economic sectors and stakeholders – including networks and city partnerships - to share knowledge on issues of climate friendly practices and promote sustainable transport (e.g. sustainable buildings and construction initiative, sustainable transport programme, etc.) will be significant.

▪ For Expected Result 2 – Biodiversity & ecosystem management:

UNEP will work with the Commission and other partners within the context of biodiversity and ecosystem management to:

- (i) contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in particular of the goods and services ecosystems provide and to address the direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss and address degradation of selected priority ecosystem services
- (ii) to enhance capacities of participating countries to ensure that they integrate and use an ecosystem approach to the management of human activities.

Main activities will include:

- support the **assessment of ecosystem services** and demonstrate how to measure their economic value – including through avoided losses – and how to integrate this value into decision-making, in particular through the design of economic instruments such as incentives and sustainable financing mechanisms. Integrated assessments will be conducted in the framework of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) follow-up initiative, and further economic valuation and analyses of instruments to capture the values of ecosystem services and invest in natural capital will be conducted at the national and local level as a follow-up to the Economics of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity project (TEEB);
- develop, adapt and test a number of **ecosystem management tools** such as ecosystem restoration, decision-making tools (including scenarios and trade-off analysis) and adaptive management tools (with biodiversity indicators and targets) and build capacities for the implementation of the ecosystem approach and its integration into development planning;
- build the capacities of regional, subregional, national and local entities to **assess degradation**, in order to slow down or reverse this trend while managing ecosystems for resilience;
- influence **planning and assistance frameworks** at the regional and national levels so that they incorporate a cross-sectoral, integrated approach focusing on ecosystem services;
- give priority to improving mechanisms for **strengthening the science policy interface** for the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements.

To improve the understanding of the role of biodiversity in ecosystem functioning and resilience and to identify/develop and test tools and methodologies and build countries' capacity to enhance biodiversity, UNEP will develop practical tools to improve countries' understanding of the relationship between biodiversity, ecosystem functioning and ecosystem services and apply this knowledge to ecosystem management, develop biodiversity targets and indicators that link biodiversity and ecosystem services and integrate them into sectoral management plans, improve countries capacities to assess, monitor and manage their biodiversity through the use of indicators by providing technical support for indicator development and incorporation into national level biodiversity action plans; and promote connectivity conservation (ecological corridors) as an adaptation tool to climate change.

UNEP will promote awareness of the interlinkages between humans and their impacts on ecosystems, as well as the benefits people derive from ecosystems and their goods and services. It will facilitate institutional, policy, economic and governance changes necessary to enable cross-sectoral and, when relevant, transboundary cooperation for the management of ecosystems. The rural poor, notably, often

MCP 5

rely directly on ecosystem goods and services for their livelihood. Particular attention will therefore be given to equity issues (including, but not limited to, access and benefit sharing) and how vulnerable and disadvantaged communities could be compensated or rewarded for their ecosystem stewardship.

To enhance the integration of ecosystem considerations into development planning processes, UNEP will build strongly on its existing structures and bodies (e.g. UNEP MAP and the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development), on the joint programmes of work and ongoing activities signed between the EU and UNEP regional structures and on the results of the UNDP/UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative, as well as on the understanding gained of the decision making processes and how to influence them. Pilot studies will be conducted to strengthen the capacity of national policy makers and planners to understand the linkages between food security and environmental degradation, undertake economic valuation of ecosystem services relevant to food security and analyze the trade offs and distributive impacts of food security policies. UNEP will develop, test and integrate into national processes various approaches to distribute the costs and benefits of ecosystem management more equitably. UNEP will also work with partners and build on the work of initiatives such as the TEEB to incorporate rules and principles of ecosystem management into the operation of the private and financial sector. Finally, UNEP will strengthen the capacity of countries, policy and decision makers, academic institutions and resource managers to understand and apply the ecosystem approach through training, knowledge management and development of regional community of practices.

Besides, UNEP and the biological conventions will work towards an improved **sustainable wildlife management** in participating countries and better-regulated international **wildlife trade**, as well as enhanced capacity of countries and regions to implement CITES provisions.

Main activities will aim at building capacities and providing technical assistance for the implementation of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES), and/or the provision of funds to implement specific resolutions and decisions arising from the CITES Conferences of the Parties. To improve sustainable wildlife management conduct capacity needs assessment with stakeholder participation, develop e-courses (on CD-ROM and/or web-based), conduct **regional problem-solving and skill-building workshops** and implement follow-up activities in countries. Targeted country or species-specific pilot capacity building activities (such as training, collection of scientific data, management programs, preparation and adoption of CITES-related regulations, tracking systems, etc.) will be supported in countries identified as priority countries.

▪ For Expected Result 3 - Resource efficiency, green economy, sustainable consumption and production

UNEP will contribute to ensure natural resources are produced, processed and consumed in a more environmentally sustainable and socially equitable way in which **environmental impact is decoupled from economic growth and benefits shared by all stakeholders including marginalized groups**, thus assisting interested countries to relaunch sustainable development including production, consumption and transform to green economies. This will be achieved through (i) the capacity-building of governments and public institutions to identify, regulate and manage key resource challenges, relaunch of the activities of the existing bodies in addressing sustainable development and mainstreaming green economy and green industry aspects in their development planning and implementation and adopt policies and tools for resource efficiency, especially in the eastern and southern Mediterranean countries and (ii) increased investment in efficient, clean and safe industrial production methods through voluntary action by the private sector.

Within the context of sustainable development and green economy, UNEP will:

- conduct **scientific assessments** on resource flows, scarcities, pressures, impacts and related economic drivers at various levels. It will conduct integrated policy assessments and macro-economic analyses and involve partners to develop and advance action policy instruments and management tools to motivate and enable governments and businesses to scale up green investment and improvements resource efficiency (RE) to achieve sustainable consumption and production (SCP);
- **raise awareness, build capacities and provide advisory services** - building on the Green Economy Initiative and related resource efficiency work - to promote the **production and consumption of more environmentally sustainable products and services** through the support to governments and public institutions from the regional to the local level to improve their capacities to design and implement policies, regulatory frameworks and management actions that promote the production of resource-efficient, non-hazardous and sustainable goods and services.

Its activities include developing guidance on innovative laws, recommended economic instruments, enforcement best practices and capacity building with a focus on sectors such as agriculture and food, building and construction as well as metals and manufacturing. National advisory services of the Green Economy Initiative are to be delivered to developing countries, supported with legal advice on appropriate regulatory reform and instrument mixes;

- promote public and private investment in **environmentally sound technologies and sustainable products/services** and advise in the selection and application of **environmental management systems and safe and efficient production technologies**, in integrated waste management and in the purchase of more resource-efficient and sustainable products and practices. UNEP will disseminate research findings and implement demonstration projects to illustrate the benefits of efficient, clean and safe industrial production methods, in environmental, economic and social terms, to stimulate public and private policies and investment choices for wider application of those methods. UNEP will also mobilize the public sector to send appropriate market signals – based on life-cycle data – to motivate individual and institutional consumers to make smart choices about resource purchase and use in a way that enhances quality of life while contributing to environmental care. This will include support in the advancement of sustainable procurement programmes.

The Mediterranean is indeed a key area of action, and in this respect, support may be considered to assist and redefine, as needed, the mandate and activities of the existing bodies (for example contribution to the reform of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development to increase practical impact of its activities and coherence with the Barcelona Convention), as well as carry out actions on the ground, tackling producers and consumers. In doing so, UNEP will promote public-private partnerships and market-based instruments to create more sustainable supply chains, including through a life-cycle approach as well as other relevant approaches. UNEP will support the design of enabling policy frameworks and economic instruments that promote resource efficiency and sustainable production and consumption.

- promote resource efficient and green city, advancing best practices for **sustainable urban planning/development** and the use of environmentally sound tools and approaches to improve waste management, water and sanitation and energy efficiency in rapidly growing cities;
- advance improved efficiency in the **exploitation and use of natural resources in rural areas** – in particular land, water and biomass. This is done through dialogue, testing of new approaches, nature-based technologies and incentives, capacity building and action plans that reconcile local ecosystems conservation, public benefits and market interests. In promoting efficient resource management, UNEP will also seek, inter alia, to **reduce the risk of disasters and threats to human security** from stressed and degraded ecosystems;
- partner with the **private sector as well as the financial sector and markets** to improve their allocation and pricing of capital, their pricing of risks and their provision of risk coverage. The goal is for this to be done in a way that enables them to adopt a longer-term and more systemic view of companies' sustainability and resource-use-related risks and opportunities, better understanding and rewarding companies with sustainable and resource-efficient business behaviour and practices. This will include support for normative convergence and capacity building in the introduction of appropriate labels, standards and reporting.

The Green Economy also needs to build on **responsible production and safe management of chemicals**. UNEP will continue to provide support for sound chemicals management, including field-level technical assistance activities to support the Stockholm, Basel and Rotterdam Conventions, the Montreal Protocol, the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), and the Global Mercury Partnership. UNEP will collaborate with private sector partners to promote responsible production through global supply chains in industries producing and using chemicals extensively.

Support will be given to the **sustainable management of chemicals and waste** and to integrated waste management to protect human health and the environment. This will be done in the context of national development policies, with the aim to promote the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements.

▪ For Expected Result 4 - Support for mainstreaming:

The specific objective of EU support under this priority is to enhance mainstreaming of environment into development. More specifically, in line with the ongoing and planned EU actions, UNEP will support:

➤ *Environmental mainstreaming in development planning and decision-making:*

UNEP will promote and support governments in mainstreaming the environment in their development planning processes, among others through :

- The UNDP-UNEP Poverty and Environment Initiative;
- The United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks mechanisms (and the UN Development Group platform), with the view to assist Governments and United Nations country teams to ensure their environmental considerations are incorporated into common country assessments and national development processes.

UNEP will work on mainstreaming environment into development along the lines of the ongoing EU efforts with UNDP with the view essentially to mainstream pro-poor environmental sustainability into regional, national and sectoral development planning processes. UNEP will work with countries and UN country teams to integrate environmental sustainability in the UN Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs) and UN common country programming processes. It will make use of existing regional bodies (for ex. Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development) as well as utilize its Poverty and Environment Initiative as the basis for integrating environment into development, and also in integrating the consideration of ecosystem services, climate change, and chemicals management into development planning and decision making. For instance, UNEP will support countries in integrating adaptation into national development and in turn, assist UN partners in taking up these approaches. It will also work with countries to mainstream chemicals management into countries' development policies and plans.

The UNDP-UNEP memorandum of understanding will be a key framework for providing such country-level support. It will improve UNEP's strategic presence in regions to support Governments and United Nations country teams in addressing environmental governance and will strengthen its engagement with other specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as departments and regional partners.

➤ *Disaster Risk Reduction, i.e. through ecosystem management:*

UNEP will promote and support the incorporation of environmental considerations into disaster risk reduction strategies and strengthen the sound management and good governance of natural resources and ecosystems as a means for reducing disaster risk, thereby building climate resilience to better adapt to climate change, through:

- providing capacity-building of state environmental management capacities to reduce the impacts of natural hazards on vulnerable communities and countries ;
- Integrating of natural resource management considerations within regional and national disaster risk reduction plans and policies, and to catalyse the integration of sound environmental management practices within the policies and operations of UN and other relief agencies;
- building institutional and technical capacities at regional, national and local level in applying integrated ecosystem-based DRR tools and approaches;
- promoting and strengthening existing global, regional and national partnerships and networks in order to facilitate knowledge development and diffusion, policy advocacy, cross-learning and south-south collaboration, coordination and scaling-up of activities;
- implementing field-based interventions and pilot demonstrations will be promoted in order to develop a combination of good practices that could feed into the global knowledge base and be replicated in other countries and at regional level.

4. METHOD AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEME

4.1. Implementation method

The implementation will be performed according to UNEP strategy, work programme, procedures and rules, and in accordance with the governance structure and procedures defined under the Strategic Cooperation Agreement appendixes.

The priorities defined for the Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the European Commission and UNEP under the ENRTP are matching with UNEP 2010-2013 Medium-Term Strategy and the related 2010-2011 and 2012-2013 Strategic Frameworks and Programmes of Work. Related programmes will follow the usual UNEP procedures.

The method for programme management is as defined in the *UNEP Project manual: formulation, approval, monitoring and evaluation (2005)* by the UNEP Programme Coordination and Management Unit. See: http://www.unep.org/pcmu/project_manual/Manual_chapters/project_manual.pdf

▪ Coordination modalities

The Strategic Cooperation Agreement between the European Commission and UNEP under the ENRTP will be managed by the following joint structures:

- The Programme Management Unit (PMU) ;
- The Programme Steering Committee (PSC).

For further details, refer to terms of reference in annex (Appendixes I.2 and I.3).

▪ Internal coordination modalities

For UNEP implemented programmes, responsibilities are divided across the following lines:

- ✓ The sub-programme coordinators are responsible for the overall consistency of the programme of work and for coordination with other relevant initiatives and programmes in and/or outside UNEP, as well as for overall effectiveness and impact of interventions;
- ✓ The technical divisions and branches are in charge of programme implementation - in collaboration with key partners and with the support of the regional offices – and are thus directly responsible for the quality of interventions;
- ✓ Following the type of intervention, Regional Offices can also be responsible of part of the implementation, following a precise task sharing with the technical branches. In addition, they provide support to engage with states/governments and relevant stakeholders, to response to specific needs and to build on regional/local initiatives.
- ✓ Overall quality Insurance is performed by the Quality Assurance Section and the Senior Management Team of UNEP;

For MEAs implemented programmes, responsibilities are divided across the following lines:

- ✓ The MEAs secretariats are responsible for the overall consistency of the programme of work and for coordination with relevant initiatives and programmes, as well as for overall effectiveness and impact of interventions;
- ✓ The technical units of the secretariats are in charge of programme implementation in collaboration with key partners and are thus directly responsible for the quality of interventions.

▪ Stakeholder involvement

Stakeholder involvement is at the roots of UNEP's approach, as it is based on needs assessment and situation analysis commonly identified with partner countries/regions. UNEP will pursue the enhanced delivery of the actions under the ENRTP priorities through a number of processes and partnerships and by mobilizing a full range of stakeholders and partners - building on their respective resources, expertise and comparative advantages – such as:

- Governments and related public institutions,
- UN agencies (such as the UNDP, FAO, ILO, WMO, WHO, UNITAR, UNIDO, etc.), the European Environment Agency (EEA) as well as the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and bilateral aid agencies;
- Scientific communities, including research centers and academia,
- Private sector and civil society (including major groups and stakeholders).

MEP 3

▪ Crosscutting issues

UNEP will integrate gender equality and equity in all projects to be implemented under the ENRTP priorities, with special attention given to the role of women in environmental policy-making, environmental management and environmental conflict prevention and disaster management. UNEP's commitment to mainstream gender equality and equity in its programmes will be extended to its work with partners and other UN agencies.

▪ Donor coordination

The policy work which will be undertaken in the framework of this SCA will have to seek complementarities and synergies with the work undertaken with developing countries at regional and national levels. Coordination will be pursued with programmes, projects and activities being undertaken by the EU and other donors and with the selected beneficiaries. This includes coordination with relevant EU Delegations, EU Member States, MEAs' secretariats, UNEP regional offices and Divisions and with other international organisations.

International events (e.g. CSD, UNCSD 2012, UN General Assembly, UNEP Governing Council, and MEA Conferences/Meetings of Parties) will also be used for coordination purposes. UNEP's Executive Director will also use his Chairmanship of the Environment Management Group (EMG) to enhance inter-agency cooperation on environmental issues in support of the Strategic Cooperation. The PMU will benefit for best implementation of the SCAs from UNEP/ED Office interaction with EMG and UNDG, to respectively enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination on environmental issues (including the MEAs) and to benefit from developed policies and procedures that allow member agencies to work together, analyze country issues, plan support strategies, implement support programmes, monitor results and advocate for change.

UNEP will consult other UN agencies and MEAs in order to avoid overlap with other programmes/projects and identify possible synergies. UNEP will inform the Commission of the results of these consultations on a yearly basis.

In the frame of other European Commission funded UNEP programmes, further complementarities and synergies will be sought such as for example with:

- EDF 9 (e.g. Capacity building for implementation of MEAs in ACP countries);
- Regional Funds (e.g. Carpathian Convention);
- FP7 (e.g. Knowledge from Science to Societies);
- IfS (e.g. Environmental Management in Afghanistan).

4.2. Performance monitoring

Performance will be monitored by UNEP's Quality Assurance Section/Office for Operations in close relation with UNEP Senior management and be subject to report by the Programme Management Unit for submission to the Steering Committee.

The reporting will be performed in accordance with the modus operandi established in the terms of reference of the Programme Steering Committee and the Programme Management Unit. Where appropriate, UNEP will organise regional information /debriefing meetings with the relevant EU Delegations in order to exchange about the progress made in specific regional actions under the Strategic Cooperation Agreement.

For activities implemented by MEAs, performance monitoring will be performed according to their rules and procedures. Performance will be included in overall SCAs reports.

A single evaluation is planned for both DG DEVCO and DG Environment SCAs.

4.3. Communication and visibility

European Commission visibility will be provided as per the provisions of the FAFA and in line with the "Joint Visibility Guidelines for EC-UN Actions in the Field" endorsed by the institutions in 2008. A Communication and Visibility Plan will be developed by the Programme Management Unit at the inception of the implementation in accordance with the Joint Visibility Guidelines, and will reflect on the objectives and dissemination of results of the agreement.

UNEP and the MEA Secretariats will draw attention to relevant work funded under this Agreement during the meetings of their governing bodies.

5. BUDGET AND DURATION

5.1. Budget

A single Trust Fund will be set-up by UNEP for both SCAs.

The EU contribution to the agreement between UNEP and DG DEVCO is EUR 15 Million. The amount of the EU contribution might be increased in 2012 or 2013 by amending the existing contribution agreement, if additional areas of interest and related programmes/projects are commonly identified. The total estimated costs are unknown at this stage and will be assessed on a case by case basis for each individual action/project to be implemented under these SCAs. As described in Annex III, a UNEP contribution of EUR 2 676 512 is envisaged.

Full financing of an individual action by the EU shall be the exception and be duly justified and accepted by the European Commission. UNEP's contribution will include the cost of facilities and staff time for the operation of the agreements; operational support includes staff time of designated programmatic staff and experts. UNEP regional offices will be involved in regional implementation of the contribution agreement.

All contracts implementing the action will be awarded and implemented in accordance with the procedures and standard documents lay down and published by the International Organisation concerned (UNEP).

5.2. Duration

The individual actions (projects) funded under this Trust Fund will have variable operational durations. The Strategic Cooperation Agreement shall be operational for as long as the longest lasting action financed under it, including an additional period of one year for final reporting on the SCA. The agreement has a maximum duration of 9 years.

ANNEXES

- Appendix I.1 - Provisional Logical Framework
- Appendix I.2 - ToR Programme Steering Committee
- Appendix I.3 - ToR Programme Management Unit
- Appendix I.4 - UNEP SCA List of possible projects

Appendix 1.1 - Provisional LOGICAL FRAMEWORK for the ENRTP SCA with DG DEVCO

	Intervention Logic	Objectively verifiable indicators of achievement	Sources and means of verification	Assumptions
Overall objective	To integrate environmental protection requirements and climate change action into the Community's development and other external policies as well as to help promote the Community's environmental, climate and energy policies abroad in the common interest of the Community and partner countries and regions (<i>ENRTP general objective</i>)			
Specific objective	To support developing countries to better integrate environmental sustainability into their pursuit of development goals.		UNEP and Conventions annual report, Global initiatives/negotiations reports, knowledge products.	
Expected results	1. Strengthened abilities of countries to integrate climate change responses into national and regional sustainable development processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nb of knowledge products - Nb of capacity-building activities - Nb of training beneficiaries - Nb of pilot/ground projects - Nb of countries/organization mainstreaming environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNEP Annual PoW Report and Conventions annual report - Project/programme report - Knowledge products/publications - Training material - Country strategies, policies, action plans and related tools - International event/meetings and COP's outputs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No major crisis affects the national, regional and global efforts towards sustainable development; - No major environmental/climate crisis is worsening the present trends;
	2. Improved capacities towards conservation as well as sustainable use and management of biodiversity/ecosystem services and natural resources.			
	3. Improved capacities towards resource efficiency, green economy and sustainable consumption and production.			
	4. Enhanced environmental mainstreaming into development policies, planning and decision making.			
Activities	<i>Main activities under expected result 1:</i> 1.1. Climate Change science and awareness-raising, through scientific assessments and climate change negotiator support. 1.2. Climate Change Mitigation, through support to reduction of gases with GWP and support to energy efficiency, renewable energies, technology transfer, etc.	<i>Means</i>	<i>Costs</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate change and environment becomes a priority for partner countries - International negotiations are moving forward and related MEA targets are defined - Regional bodies, UN agencies and relevant other organizations have the capacity and willingness to cooperate
	<i>Main activities under expected result 2:</i> 2.1. Capacity-building/support on ecosystem approach and management. 2.2. Enhance capacities to address ecosystem degradation and protect endangered species			
	<i>Main activities under expected result 3:</i> 3.1. Capacity-building and support to governments and public institutions on green economy and resource efficiency. 3.2. Support to efficient, clean and safe industrial production methods (including responsible production and safe management of chemicals).			
	<i>Main activities under expected result 4:</i> 4.1. Support environmental mainstreaming in national and regional development processes. 4.2. Improve capacities on integrated DRR strategies that incorporate environmental concerns and maximize ecosystem services.			
		<i>To be defined according to programme/projects selected.</i>	Overall budget: 15,000,000 Euros <i>See budget/trust fund template for details.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No major socio-economic, political or military crisis is affecting public and private sector possible efforts to a more sustainable development - Rio+20 is fostering a positive and accelerated dynamic and interest towards sustainable development - UNEP experiences strong support at global level - UNEP benefits from a strong support from the EU institutions at global, regional and country levels, for strengthened coordination

WJW

ENRTP STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

JOINT EUROPEAN COMMISSION – UNEP PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND

The overall objectives of the Strategic Cooperation Agreements (SCAs) between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the European Commission under the ENRTP are:

a/ "to contribute to global environmental sustainability and in particular to achieving the Millennium Development Goals and "to integrate environmental protection requirements and climate change action into the Community's development and other external policies as well as to help promote the Community's environmental, climate and energy policies abroad in the common interest of the Community's and partner countries and regions" as defined in the ENRTP regulation and reiterated in the 2011 – 2013 revised strategy.

b/ to facilitate the implementation of the Governing Council and Conference of the Parties' approved mandates and programmes of UNEP and the Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

The European Commission-UNEP High-Level Meeting remains the strategic body for coordination in the field of environment between UNEP and the European Commission at policy level independently of the ENRTP funding instrument.

The European Commission and UNEP are agreed to set up a Programme Steering Committee (PSC) common to both SCAs.

2. ROLE OF THE PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

The Programme Steering Committee (PSC) will be responsible for the overall guidance and the management of the SCAs.

The European Commission will decide on an indicative division of resources under ENRTP priority 3.1. Technical meetings will continue to take place for project identification, formulation and technical follow-up between UNEP or MEAs for which UNEP provides the Secretariat and their European Commission counterparts with full information of the Programme Management Unit (PMU). Related outcomes will feed into the deliberations of the PSC.

3. ORGANIZATION OF THE PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

The PSC will meet at least once a year, and will be jointly convened by the co-chairs. Videoconferences will be the preferred format for the PSC meetings; otherwise the meetings should normally take place in Brussels, Belgium, either at the European Commission or at UNEP premises.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

Acting in accordance with the terms of the SCAs, the specific responsibilities of the PSC are as follows:

- **Definition/refining of governance SCA mechanisms (Inception phase):** After signature of the two SCAs, a three-month inception phase will be needed to make proposals on the SCA governance, by:
 - Completing the governance arrangements of the SCAs;
 - Refining the mandate of the PSC;

MLP 5

- Nominating the PSC chairs and members;
- Agreeing on the rules for observers and decision making.
- **Direction of SCAs:**
 - Establishing priority areas for intervention;
 - Providing advice and guidance, and assisting in resolving operational issues;
 - Reviewing and recommending to the European Commission and UNEP management proposals for revision, renewal or extension of the SCAs, including the related budget.
- **Project screening and selection:**
 - Deciding by consensus on a list of projects, submitted through the PMU in line with its terms of reference. This shall be the basis for allocating the ENRTP funding;
 - Ensuring that the projects are aligned with the SCAs objectives and provisions.
- **Reporting and follow up:**
 - Reviewing and approving the annual Strategic Performance and Overview Report of the SCAs, and any recommendations on SCAs implementation contained therein;
 - Reviewing and approving the annual aggregated progress report on individual projects;
 - Providing guidance to UNEP and Secretariats of MEAs on project implementation so as to achieve agreed outputs and outcomes in a timely and cost-effective manner within the provisions of the SCAs to ensure SCAs achievement;
 - Providing the European Commission-UNEP High-Level Meeting with relevant information to support discussions, including the annual Strategic Performance and Overview Report, and informing of the PSC's recommendations on decisions for reallocations of ENRTP funds and additional projects.

5. COMPOSITION OF THE PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC)

The PSC will comprise the following Members, who will have appropriate authority from their organisations to take decisions on their behalf:

- One European Commission representative;
- One UNEP representative, Chief of the Office of Operations;
- One Representative of the MEA for which UNEP provides the Secretariat that is involved in the projects being discussed.

The European Commission and UNEP members can be accompanied by as many observers as deemed necessary. The individual representing of each of the three members of the PSC may vary depending on the agenda of the sessions of the PSC (dedicated sessions of the PSC may be convened for each SCA).

For any decision on the selection of UNEP projects, the Representatives of the MEAs for which UNEP provides the Secretariat will participate as 'Observers'. For any decision on the selection of projects of a MEA for which UNEP provides the Secretariat, the Representative of UNEP will participate as 'Observer'.

At the request of the PSC Members only and on an ad-hoc basis, other Organisations could participate in the PSC meetings, with the role of Observers or resource persons.

The co-chairs shall decide on observers' rights to address the meeting.

The recommended limit for the number of participants is 15. This number may be exceeded on a case-by-case basis at the request of the PSC Members only.

6. PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE (PSC) CHAIR

The European Commission and UNEP will co-chair the PSC.

7. ORGANISATION OF PSC MEETINGS

▪ *Convocation of PSC Meetings*

The Ordinary PSC meeting will be convened by the PMU on behalf of the European Commission-UNEP co-chairs at least once a year. In exceptional circumstances, an extraordinary PSC meeting may be held if duly justified and accepted by all PSC Members. The first meeting of the PSC will take place in the three months following the signature of the SCAs and will define a list of projects preferably before the end of September 2011.

ENRTP STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)

JOINT EUROPEAN COMMISSION-UNEP PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU) TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. BACKGROUND

The overall objectives of the Strategic Cooperation Agreements (SCAs) between the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the European Commission are:

a/ "to contribute to global environmental sustainability and in particular to achieving the Millennium Development Goals" and "to integrate environmental protection requirements and climate change action into the Community's development and other external policies as well as to help promote the Community's environmental, climate and energy policies abroad in the common interest of the Community's and partner countries and regions" as defined in the ENRTP regulation and reiterated in the 2011 – 2013 revised strategy;

b/ to facilitate the implementation of the Governing Council and Conference of Parties' approved mandates and programmes of UNEP and Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

The European Commission and UNEP are agreed upon the need to set up a Programme Management Unit (PMU) common to both SCAs.

2. ESTABLISHMENT AND SUPERVISION OF THE PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU)

UNEP will establish a Programme Management Unit (PMU) under the responsibility of the Office for Operations/authority it delegates

The PMU is composed of the following members:

From UNEP:

- The PMU coordinator to be recruited by UNEP and based in the UNEP Brussels office
- A UNEP Resource Mobilization programme officer designated by the Office of Operations
- A UNEP authorized financial officer

From the European Commission:

- A European Commission focal points from DG DEVCO and DG ENV
- A European Commission focal point from DG CLIMA (when climate relevant items are discussed)

In addition, each Secretariat of MEAs will be invited to designate a focal point to participate in the work of the PMU as required

The daily work related to the management of the SCAs will be ensured by the PMU coordinator.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT UNIT (PMU)

In the context of the European Commission-UNEP policy and programmatic cooperation, the PMU will serve both as the coordination unit for the ENRTP Strategic Cooperation Agreements with the European Commission and as the Secretariat for the Programme Steering Committee (PSC).

The overall role of the PMU will be to establish and submit lists of projects based on priorities jointly identified by the European Commission, UNEP and the Secretariats of MEAs for selection by the PSC,

Handwritten signature/initials

and more generally to facilitate the negotiations, coordination, administration, visibility, monitoring and evaluation of the Strategic Cooperation Agreements.

More specifically, the PMU will have the following responsibilities:

▪ ***Inception phase (3 months from signature of the SCAs):***

The PMU will support the inception phase, by making proposals on the SCAs governance, including the PSC refined mandate and rules of procedures.

▪ ***Secretariat of the Programme Steering Committee (PSC):***

The PMU coordinator will perform the function of secretary to the PSC.

The PMU coordinator will:

- Assist the European Commission-UNEP co-chairs to convene and arrange the PSC meetings;
- Propose the agenda for each PSC meeting in consultation with the European Commission-UNEP co-chairs, and as appropriate the MEAs Secretariats;
- Compile all necessary background documentation for review by the PSC;
- Prepare reports of the PSC meetings.

The PMU will ensure follow-up of the recommendations of the PSC.

▪ ***Project screening and preparing lists of projects:***

Individual project will be jointly identified by a European Commission task manager either with a UNEP Division or with the Secretariats of a MEA.

Technical meetings will keep taking place as in the past for project identification, formulation and technical follow-up between UNEP or Secretariats of MEAs and their European Commission counterparts with full participation of the Programme Management Unit (PMU). Related outcomes will feed the PSC.

The PMU will:

- Facilitate technical meetings between the European Commission and UNEP and Secretariats of MEAs to ensure that programmatic development is made so as to ensure coherence of implementation of SCAs;
- Screen projects to ensure that they are in line with strategic priorities identified in the SCAs and with priorities of COPs for priority 3.1;
- Develop initial list of projects accompanied with project concept notes for submission to and decision of the PSC;
- Communicate to UNEP and Secretariats of MEAs of PSC selection of funded projects;
- Coordinate the development of full proposals for individual projects.

▪ ***Monitoring and reporting***

In close collaboration with the European Commission focal points, UNEP and the Secretariats of the MEAs, the PMU coordinator will:

- Compile on an annual basis an aggregated progress report (narrative and financial) of all individual actions and projects for approval by the PSC. It will include summaries of UNEP and Secretariats of MEAs projects progress to date;
- Draft the Annual Strategic and Performance Overview Report of the SCA (format to be defined and approved by the PSC) for approval by the PSC;
- Keep track of projects approved by the PSC under the SCAs through a project database to be developed;

MCP 8

- Ensure adequate follow-up on emerging issues/challenges impacting the implementation of the SCA funded projects and report to the PSC as needed;
- Alert the PSC and liaise accordingly within UNEP and with European Commission counterparts regarding upcoming needs to extend, revise, renegotiate the SCAs, as applicable;
- In this connection, the PMU will support the process of SCAs revision and approvals ensuring timely and smooth processing with minimum disruption to ongoing project operations funded under the SCAs;
- Provide information and guidance to UNEP and Secretariats of the MEAs on FAFA and SCAs' provisions, and support the Office for Operations on FAFA follow-up (e.g. FAFA Working Group, Annual FAFA Review, etc.) in collaboration with UNEP Brussels Office.

▪ ***Visibility & Communication***

The PMU will:

- Develop a joint Communication and Visibility Plan for the SCAs for approval by the PSC;
- Support the implementation of the approved Communication and Visibility Plan for the SCAs through identification of relevant events/fora/meetings to ensure visibility of the SCAs and of the EU as its donor;
- Support any other visibility activity as needed.

Within available resources, the PMU will support the PSC and SCAs wherever necessary.

