A proposal for Accessing GEF Funds for Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) for Government of Niue

Background:
Niue is a partner to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. The Convention entered into force, at a global level on 29 December 1993, while Niue acceded the Convention on 28 February 1996. Therefore, it is obligatory in our part to implement the provision and decision taken by the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Articles 17 and 18 of the Convention clearly specify the role of the Clearing-House Mechanism to promote the technical and scientific cooperation. Niue has recently implemented a project carrying the activities associated with the implementation of Article 6b with support from an Enabling Activity project (NIU/98/G31) entitled "National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan." However, Niue's CHM focal point, the Director of the Premier's Department of the Government of Niue, is currently unable to participate in the CHM due to the lack of adequate computer equipment, non-internet access and capacity. Therefore, Niue is simply requesting for added support for basic implementation of the CHM provision.

Goal:
The ultimate goal of this project is to strengthen the capacity of the National Clearing House Mechanism.

Objective:
1) To facilitate exchange of information;
2) and, To facilitate scientific and technical cooperation.

Input

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option A</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>US $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hardware</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Software</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Modem</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Recurrent access costs to Internet Service Provider including storing of national CHM web site on server</td>
<td>3800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technician Set Up Fees</td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internet and E-mail Training</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>14000</strong></td>
</tr>
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Output:
1) The implementation of the conventional shall benefit from the main database of the CHM;
2) The highway technology of data communication used to exchange publicly available information will secure data quality and regular updating;
3) Strengthening existing biological database in particular with flora, fauna and microorganisms;
4) And, To promote the application of new technology in data management.
**TECHNOLOGY EVALUATION FORM**

(to be completed by the CHM Focal Point and Returned to the CBD Secretariat)

**CHM Focal Point:** Mrs. Sisilia Talagi - Secretary to Government

**Organisation:** Government of Niue

**Country:** Niue

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Please refer to your computer support staff, if necessary, for accurate and current information.

1. **Do you have access to a Personal Computer?** Yes
   - No, but limited access

2. **Which platform do you use?** IBM/compatible
   - Macintosh

3. **Do you have an E-mail address?** Yes
   - No

   If yes, please print E-mail address in full: sage.gov.premier@email.gov.nu

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If you answered Yes to the first question, please complete the following.

2. **Do you have computer technology support in your organization?** Yes
   - No

   **Name:**
   - **Tel:** (683) 4068
   - **Fax:** (683) 4807
   - **E-mail:** sage.gov.premier@email.gov.nu

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3. **INTERNET CONNECTIVITY**

   Please describe your connectivity to the Internet.

   **Is your Internet Access:**
   - Full Internet Access: Yes
   - Limited
   - No Connectivity

   **A. Do you have access to the World Wide Web?**
   - Yes
   - No

   **If yes, which browser:**
   - Full Graphics (e.g., Netscape)
   - Text (e.g., lynx, gopher)

   **Do you have a site on the Internet?**
   - Yes
   - No

   If so, please indicate your URL address: http://www.gov.nu

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4. **PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR FAMILIARITY WITH THE FOLLOWING**

   - Electronic mail (sending/receiving)
     - Very Good
     - Limited
     - No Experience

   - Internet browsing
     - Very Good
     - Limited
     - No Experience

   - PC Applications (word processing, etc.)
     - Very Good
     - Limited
     - No Experience

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*Kindly note Government of Niue changed both its Operational and CHM Focal Point from Ms. Sisilia Talagi to Mr. Crossley Tatui, Deputy Secretary to the Government.

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**UNDP Budget**

**Niue Clearing House Mechanism**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Direct Assistance</th>
<th>Estimated Cost (US$)</th>
<th>Actual Proposed (US$)</th>
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<tbody>
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**Budget Allocated: $10,000**

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**Budget Expenditure: $7,000**

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**Budget Remaining: $3,000**
2nd June 2000

The Secretary
GEF Secretary

Subject: OFFICIAL LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FOR THE CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM (CHM) FOR ENABLING ACTIVITIES

Further to our submission which was sent to your office, through the UNDP Office in Samoa, regarding the Clearing House Mechanism for Enabling Activities funding assistance.

In order to comply with the GEF Secretariat standing policies and procedures, I do hereby give full support in my capacity as the Focal/Point for Clearing House Mechanism for Enabling Activities in Niue to the Niue Government submission to GEF Secretariat for an additional US$14,000. I would be most grateful for your consideration and assistance in this matter, and I look forward to your earliest advice with due respect.

In the same light, I would like to advise that the Government of Niue, also wishes to change the GEF Focal Point, and Clearing House Mechanism Focal Point in Niue for the Deputy Secretary to Government, Mr. Crossley Tatui, whose signatory is shown hereunder.

I would like to ask for your approval and understanding of the change which is intended to improve the communication system between our two offices.

Thank you for your great assistance to the Government of Niue in our earnest effort to advance the global environmental course.

Yours Sincerely,

Stella Talagi
Clearing House Mechanism
Focal Point

Crossley Tatui
Recommended CHM Focal Point
Recommended GEF Focal Point