

URUGUAY's efforts to address synergies among the Conventions

Workshop on synergies
and cooperation with other conventions

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Espoo, Finland

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Ministry of Housing, Territorial Regulation
and Environment
URUGUAY

Presentation overview

General Background

NCSA Project

Background
Coordination mechanism
National Workshop

Objective

Expected benefits

General Background

CBD, UNFCCC and CCD: Approved by Law and Ratified in 1993, 1994 and 1999, respectively

Ministry of Environment: national competent authority and focal point (General Law for Environment Protection and specific Decrees)

Elaboration and submission of National Reports and Communications

National capacity was enhanced

Coordination with other institutions involved was strengthened

GEF Institutional Strengthening Projects (BD and CC)

Measures with synergic effect had been identified:

_____ Protected areas

Soil conservationist practices

Water resources management ... others

National Capacity Self-Assessment

to Meet Environmental Obligations for Improved Global Environmental Management

In framework of GEF/ PNUD Capacity Development Initiative

Project Brief Approved by GEF in January 2003

Project document recently signed by Government

GEF Financing: US\$ 195,000

Implementing Agency: UNDP

Executing Agency: National Environment Directorate

Government Contribution: US\$ 25,000 (in-kind support)

Project will build upon outcomes achieved under related enabling activities

National Capacity Self-Assessment
to Meet Environmental Obligations for Improved Global
Environmental Management

Special conditions:

The 3 Rio Conventions have a the **GEF financial support**
...and... in Uruguay, 3 Convention Focal Points and
GEF Operational Focal Point belong to the
National Environment Directorate

UNDP Regional Office will take Uruguay's project as a **Case Study**
for the region

Project Background

About the Coordination mechanism...

National Technical Advisory Commission for the Environment
(COTAMA):

Includes representatives of all government ministries, the
private sector, academia, and non-governmental organizations

Meets frequently

Mandate: collaborate in formulation of Environmental Policies &
implementation, supervision and monitoring of National Plans
for environmental protection

Project Background

About the Coordination mechanism...

Official presentation of the proposal at a regular meeting of the Commission:

- Introduce the project proposal
- Receive feedback from these stakeholders
- Incorporate inputs into the proposal

Creation of a Participation Group for the Project

- Approved by the Plenary of COTAMA
- Will start its activities together along with the ones of the Project

Main functions:

- a) to assure consultation with all the stakeholders
- b) to facilitate the information supply
- c) to formulate suggestions to better develop project activities
- d) to actively participate in the workshops organized

Project Background

National Workshop on synergies among Conventions...

Support given by GEF/UNDP to GEF Operational Focal Point

Demonstrative jointly planned effort among all Focal Points

Main Objective: Raise awareness of stakeholders about importance of coordinated and homogeneous development of the implementation of the Conventions

Results:

- Participants were very pleased to hear about this matter
- Importance of achieving best cost-benefit rate in execution of activities
- A coordinated development of certain activities and the treatment of common topics and obligations, would help to achieve it

So...the proposal preparation process has contributed to START a cooperative and participatory process that WILL CONTINUE during project execution and after project's end

Project Objective

Overall project objective: To identify, and determine the nature of, critical cross cutting capacity constraints, and to develop an Action Plan to address these constraints and enhance the national capacity in a sustainable and cost-effective manner...

... **placing special focus on identifying synergy opportunities**

Specific objectives:

- To identify, confirm and review **priority issues** for action within the 3 thematic areas
- To explore **capacity needs** within and across the 3 thematic areas
- To elaborate a national **Action Plan**
- To provide a solid basis to request future external funding and assistance

Expected Benefits

Strengthen national capacity to continue making efforts towards sustainable development

Achieve a better cost-benefit rate in the usage of available resources

Enhance general domestic awareness and knowledge about the three Conventions

Expand the opportunities the civil society has to participate

Strengthen the dialogue, information exchange and cooperation among all the relevant stakeholders

So...GOING ALONG the NCSA PROCESS we will be building local and national capacity to manage the global environment.

And... the capacity building achieved in the NCSA PROCESS will facilitate the implementation of the actions to be proposed in the Action Plan.

Thanks for your attention