

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROFILE

REGIONAL

I. BASIC PROJECT DATA

Country/Region:	Regional		
Project Name/Number	Living Lakes in the Americas - RG-T1308		
Team Leader and Members:	Leader: Trond Norheim (INE/RND); Other Members: Kai Hertz (VPC/GCM); Waldo Vargas (RND/CBO), Bernadete Buchsbaum (LEG/SGO) and Elizabeth Chavez (INE/RND).		
Date of Request:	August 16, 2006		
Beneficiaries:	The participants of the Living Lakes of the Americas network and local populations in the areas of the model projects.		
Executing Agency:	Asociación Boliviana para la Conservación - TROPICO.		
Financing plan:	IDB (FSO net income):	US\$230,000	
	Local Counterpart:	US\$91,000	
	Total:	US\$321,000	
Technical/Basic Responsibility:	Monitoring and supervision from IDB's Country Office in Bolivia (CAN/CBO) with technical support of INE/RND.		
In Board-approved TC Program:	Yes (GN-2408-9)		
Tentative Dates:	QRR:	December, 2007	
	Approval (PRE):	January, 2008	
Time Frame:	Execution period: 36 months. Disbursement period: 42 months		

II. FRAME OF REFERENCE

A. Project Rationale

- 2.1 Lakes and wetlands are among the most important and most threatened ecosystems in the world. Since the beginning of the 20th century two thirds of wetlands and lakes have been lost or seriously damaged due to draining and conversion to arable land, abstraction of groundwater, contamination and dumping of refuse. Many of them suffer from increased nutrient enrichment due to sewage effluents and agricultural fertilizers.

- 2.2 The Living Lakes Network, a network of NGOs, was formed to protect lakes and wetlands and to support sustainable management and development of their surroundings and catchments. Currently 55 organizations on four continents are members of the network, working with 45 very different lakes and wetlands, e.g. Lake Baikal in Russia, the biggest fresh water reserve in the world; the ancient Lake Biwa in Japan; St. Lucia Lake in South Africa; Lake Constance in Europe; and the Dead Sea in the Middle East, which is 8.6 times saltier than the ocean. But all these lakes and wetlands suffer similar environmental and social problems and common technical and strategic solutions are adaptable to nearly all of them. Thus, interchange of experiences and solutions to problems is key to improving the quality of these ecosystems.
- 2.3 The Living Lakes network was established in 1998 and concentrates on the exchange of information and experiences between NGOs and other institutions working on “their” lakes. It is a platform to provide capacity building activities, co-operation with other stakeholders such as local and regional administrations and the private sector, development and coordination of projects between two and more partners, international information and awareness activities and support for political lobbying and advocacy.
- 2.4 The main network members in Latin America are: Lake Chapala, Mexico (*Fundación Cuenca Lerman Chapala & Amigos del Lago*), Lake Atitlan, Guatemala (*Asociación Vivamos Mejor*), Lake Fuquene, Colombia (*Fundación Humedales*), Mar Chiquita, Argentina (Cordoba University), Lake Titicaca, Bolivia (Trópico), Pantanal, Brazil (Ecotrópica). A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with *Fundación para la Gestión Ambiental Participativa* (FUNGAP) in Costa Rica, which coordinates more than 30 organizations working on lakes and wetlands in Central and South-America.

B. The Bank’s Strategy in the Region and in the Sector

- 2.5 Environmental sustainability is one of the underlying goals within the Bank’s institutional strategy, and sustainable development requires embracing social and cultural considerations. Environmental management thus needs to be participatory, with NGOs and the private sector being essential stakeholders. Following the Bank’s strategy, the role of the private sector and NGOs is fundamental in areas such as: “(i) environmental markets associated with agricultural production; (ii) markets for environmental services associated with forestry, biodiversity and renewable energy; (iii) ecotourism, as an important and promising activity that directly enhances the value of natural resources and environmental attributes; (iv) concessions for the private management of environmental components (protected areas, wastewater treatment); and (v) investments in industrial decontamination, integrated waste management, and clean production processes”. As part of the processes of environmental management, it is important to strengthen these positive aspects of private initiative, business development and NGO activities, including actions that generate capacities in associations. This project, which seeks to strengthen NGOs’ capacity to properly address issues affecting wetlands and lakes in LAC, falls within the Bank’s strategic orientation.

III. OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

A. Objectives

- 3.1 The objective of this operation is to strengthen the regional network of NGOs that deal with the protection of wetlands and lakes in Latin America and the Caribbean by (i) identifying and exchanging experiences and good practices that contribute to the design and implementation of effective initiatives aimed at the protection of wetlands and lakes, as well as the sustainable development of their surroundings and catchments; and (ii) based on these results, developing and implementing 4 pilot initiatives.

B. Components

- 3.2 In pursuit of the objectives, the project will consist of three components: (i) Networking and capacity building; (ii) Pilot initiatives; and (iii) Dissemination.
- 3.3 **Component I. Networking and capacity building** (US\$38,500). TROPICO will hire an individual consultant to organize a kick-off meeting of Living Lakes in the Americas participants to revise and approve an initial work plan, to coordinate activities, especially related to the model projects of Component II, and to exchange information.
- 3.4 TROPICO will hire an individual consultant to establish an internet platform and website that will allow participating NGOs to form on-line working groups related to coordination and relevant items concerning sustainable development such as: (i) adequate legal framework for the protection of lakes and wetlands; (ii) biodiversity; (iii) agriculture and livestock; (iv) sustainable fisheries; (v) sustainable tourism development; (vi) land use planning; (vii) environmental education; and (viii) social participation in conservation and poverty alleviation. Bank funds will cover the initial set-up of the coordination & exchange platform, while participating NGOs will be responsible for site maintenance.
- 3.5 The IDB contribution will also finance a Central American workshop on “Participation, Conservation and Poverty Alleviation” including one day training in each of the following five priority areas: Gender and Inter-generational aspects; Coordination; Sustainability; Culture; and Mechanism of participation.
- 3.6 **Component II. Pilot initiatives** (US\$171,580). TROPICO will use the Bank contribution to finance consulting services to develop four pilot awareness raising initiatives, in Bolivia, Colombia, Mexico and Central America:
- a. A sustainable tourism trail: development of a guide for tourists and manual for sustainable tourism development focusing the active participation of indigenous communities, Lake Titicaca, Bolivia.
 - b. An environmental interpretation program, Fuquene Lake, Colombia: Consultancy services will prepare material for environmental education and visitor management,

to support sustainable management of aquatic fauna in areas of high ecological value.

- c. A sustainable development information and education centre, Chapala Lake, Mexico: Consultancy services will include training and study on the options for the use of renewable energy.
- d. A regional program for social participation in the conservation of wetlands in Central America: This initiative will finance consultancy services aimed at training local NGOs in areas such as inter-institutional coordination; how to attain sustainability; how to consider gender, indigenous peoples and inter-generational aspects; other cultural aspects; as well as guidance on participatory approaches.

3.7 The above-mentioned thematic pillars have been selected based on their significance for lake and wetland conservation awareness raising actions. Also, the training and educational material to be produced will provide a valuable input for similar conservation activities in other countries of the region and thus extend the potential for further institutional capacity building and actions that seek to foster lake and wetlands conservation.

3.8 **Component III. Dissemination** (US\$14,000). TROPICO will hire an individual consultant to organize small information events such as fairs at the national level and promotion material to disseminate project outputs and lessons learned. This includes the production of issue briefs and other print and audiovisual material.

IV. ESTIMATED COST AND FUNDING

4.1 The estimated total cost of the Regional Technical Cooperation is US\$321,000, with US\$230,000 coming from the net income for the Fund of Special Operations, and US\$91,000 being local counterpart funding. The preliminary estimated budget is as follows:

Budget Items	IDB	Local	TOTAL
Component 1: Networking and capacity building	28,500	10,000	38,500
Component 2: Pilot initiatives	130,000	41,580	171,580
Component 3: Dissemination	14,000		14,000
Project coordination	41,500	39,420	80,920
Final financial audit	10,000		10,000
Contingencies	6,000		6,000
Total	230,000	91,000	321,000

V. EXECUTING AGENCY AND EXECUTION STRUCTURE

A. Executing Agency

- 5.1 *Asociación Boliviana para la Conservación* (TROPICO) will be the project's executing agency. TROPICO was founded in 1986 and has implemented 42 projects including international operations such as: Biodiversity and Protected Areas Program and Titicaca-Mauri Integrated Management Program, Bolivia; Management Plan for Aymara Lupaka zone, Peru; and Management Plan & Environmental Services Management, Ecuador (ATN/NP-8462-RG, with IDB financing).

B. Execution Mechanism

- 5.2 To ensure the involvement of the international Living Lakes movement, TROPICO will receive advice from the specialized agency (GNF), which is a non-profit, international NGO for the protection of environment and nature, as well as a founding and coordinating member of the Living Lakes Network. Funds from this Technical Cooperation will not be transferred to GNF.
- 5.3 TROPICO will be responsible for hiring all the consultants and purchasing all the goods in accordance with the document GN-2349-7 ("Policies for the Procurement of Works and Goods financed by the Inter-American Development Bank") and GN-2350-7 ("Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank) dated July 2006. TROPICO will coordinate all project activities, such as contracting of consultants, monitoring and supervision of pilot initiatives, preparation of publications; organization of network meetings; dissemination of project results in the region; and reporting.

C. Procurement

- 5.4 Procurement of all consulting services under the project will be carried out in accordance with Bank policies and procedures.

VI. MAJOR ISSUES

- 6.1 Special issues to clarify prior to submission for QRR will be the detailed roles of TROPICO and its relation with other participating NGOs. Furthermore, the four pilot initiatives outlined in component II need to be further developed and a procurement plan included in the Plan of Operations.

VII. ACTION PLAN

- 7.1 The estimated schedule for preparation of the project is the following:

ESR	August 2007
QRR, Plan of Operations	December 2007
Approval (PRE)	January 2008

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STRATEGY

- 8.1 This project has been classified as Category C. The project will not produce any negative environmental or social impacts. In fact, the project aims to produce a positive contribution to the restoration and sustainable development of lakes and wetlands and their catchments. Therefore it will contribute to the protection of water resources and to improving the ecological balance of water bodies while maintaining their important role as supply for drinking water and irrigation, habitat for fauna and flora, flood prevention, balanced micro-climate, etc.
- 8.2 Furthermore the project aims at improving the expertise and organizational structure of environmental NGOs to influence the decision-making processes regarding the management of wetlands and lakes, as well as their capacity to undertake management measures. The project will contribute to the information and awareness of the local populations and relevant stakeholder groups in the catchment areas of the model projects and it will support social participation in those areas.

IX. APPROVAL

Concur:



Héctor Malarín
Chief INE/RND

Date:

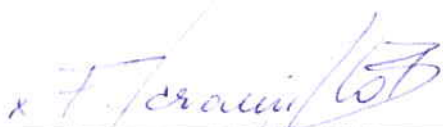
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Roberto Vellutini
Manager INE/INE

Date:

DEC 03 2007



 Alicia Ritchie
General Manager CAN/CAN

Date:

Dec 4/2007