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Environmental Protection Program

Cooperative Agreement No. 517-A-00-09-00106-00

First Annual Report

For the period ending September 2009

September 30, 2009

This document was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by The Nature Conservancy

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Acronyms

CATHALAC	Center of the Humid Tropics for Latin America and the Caribbean
CCAD	Central American Council on Development and Environment
CEBSE	Center for the Conservation and Eco-Development of Samaná Bay and Its Surrounding Areas
CEDAF	Center for Agricultural and Forestry Development
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
CP	Cleaner Production
DR-CAFTA	Dominican Republic - Central America Free Trade Agreement
ECA	Environmental Cooperation Agreement
EMS	Environmental Management Systems
FONDO MARENA	National Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources
GIS database	Geographic Information Systems Database
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation
INTEC	Technological Institute of Santo Domingo
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NGO	Non Governmental Organizations
PMU	Program Management Unit
RENAEPA	National Network of Businessmen for Environmental Protection
SECTUR	Dominican Republic Tourism Ministry
SEMARENA	Dominican Republic Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UGAMS	Municipal Environmental Management Units
UICN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USAID/ELE	USAID/Excellence in Labor and Environment

Executive Summary

The USAID Environmental Protection Program (USAID-EPP) seeks to strengthen institutional capacities, both public and private, to promote a more effective protection of environmental quality and biodiversity. The Program emphasizes support for the Dominican Republic Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARENA, from its Spanish acronym) to enable it to fulfill the commitments made by the Dominican Republic under Chapter 17 of the Central America-Dominican Republic-United States Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA). The USAID-EPP is a five-year project implemented through a cooperative agreement with TNC and a sub-award with Technological Institute of Santo Domingo (INTEC). The Cooperative Agreement for this program was signed on March 2nd 2009, and the project was formally launched on June 2nd 2009.

Major achievements for the reporting period include the enactment and implementation of municipal environmental regulations in Las Galeras municipality (Samaná Province), the development of operational procedures for the National Fund for Environment and Natural Resources (FONDO MARENA) and the procurement of the first group of equipment to support SEMARENA's capacity to realize its legal mandate.

One of the key areas in the project start-up process was to establish coordination mechanisms both with SEMARENA and with other DR-CAFTA projects at a regional and national level. Weekly meetings have been set up with SEMARENA representative, INTEC's program manager and the local representative of USAID/Excellence in Labor and Environment (USAID/ELE) regional project, to follow up on project implementation and update the DR-CAFTA environmental cooperation calendar for the Dominican Republic.

As part of this coordination effort, the USAID-EPP team has met with representatives from the Central American Council on Development and Environment (CCAD for its Spanish acronym); several specialists and the director of USAID/ELE; and representatives from the NASA/CATHALAC project SERVIR. This has allowed our project to develop a work plan for fiscal year 2010 that takes into account and complements the work been conducted by the regional cooperation initiatives with support from USAID.

The program is also working on setting-up an Advisory Committee, comprised by key representative of public and private sector, as well as civil society. This committee is an important element in the program implementation strategy as it will promote ownership of the project initiatives by stakeholders. The first meeting of the advisory committee is to be held on October 5th.

A procurement plan for the first year of program implementation was developed in coordination with SEMARENA and was presented to USAID for approval as part of the work plan. Equipment provided during the first year of project implementation includes vehicles, communications and computer equipment. The first lot of equipment has been earmarked by SEMARENA for use in natural protected areas management and to support a more effective implementation of the environmental impact assessment procedure.

Two university certificate training programs were initiated by the program in this period: the first one on Protected Areas Management and the second on Environmental Impact Assessment, each with 120 hours and 35 participants. Both programs have been targeted to SEMARENA personnel, mostly people working at the local level, therefore supporting the institution decentralization process. Curricular development is currently under way for trainings related to municipal environmental management, cleaner production and watershed management. All curricular development is conducted in consultation with SEMARENA and other stakeholders.

With regards to municipal environmental management, the USAID-EPP is following up on work initiated by a previous USAID project and focusing on municipalities that have been prioritized by SEMARENA, but that are also consistent with the project's focus sites for biodiversity conservation: municipalities in the Samaná province and Constanza/Jarabacoa (Madre de las Aguas region). Work conducted by USAID-EPP in Las

Galeras, Samaná, has resulted in the enactment by its municipal government of five environmental ordinances (see Annex A). Technical assistance been provided to municipal governments include the development of a participatory needs assessment and environmental diagnostics, the conformation of an environmental forum, and training.

The USAID-EPP focus on biodiversity conservation includes three main areas of concern: illegal trade of endangered species, improving site level management and improving sustainability of funding for conservation. During this period, work has been initiated to develop the national red-list of endangered species and a national sea turtle management plan. Also, the program is working closely with local NGOs and SEMARENA to improve conservation at two key sites: Samaná Bay and Valle Nuevo National Park. Work been conducted in Samaná Bay will lead to the design and implementation of a marine zoning proposal for the area. The program will work with fishermen associations to promote sustainable practices in the area.

The USAID-EPP is also in the process of developing pilot projects on micro-watershed management which may include habitat restoration activities in and around Valle Nuevo National Park. Voluntary technical assistance has been provided by Dr. Dave Courtemanch, a member of TNC Maine Chapter, to work on micro-watershed restoration. He visited Dominican Republic from august 17th to 21st providing invaluable advice to the definition of priorities for micro-watersheds restoration and selection of sites for pilot project implementation.

The program has been instrumental in establishing the operational structure for the National Fund for the Environment and Natural Resources (FONDO MARENA, from its Spanish acronym), including a trust fund for protected areas. The FONDO MARENA was created by the Dominican Environmental Law in the year 2000, but its bylaws and operational procedures had not been developed, thus in fact the fund only existed as a legal figure. With support from USAID-EPP a proposal for the technical and legal mechanisms for the operation of the fund was developed, negotiated and agreed upon by SEMARENA and donor agencies.

Advancing the program's goal to improve private sector environmental performance, USAID-EPP has been working closely with the National Network of Businesses for Environmental Protection (RENAEPA, from its Spanish acronym) in promoting cleaner production and environmental management systems as mechanisms for a cost effective prevention of industrial pollution. A series of workshops have been conducted with industry representatives (members of RENAEPA) from six different sectors: manufacturing, energy, tourism, service and communications, commercial, and agriculture. In general, industry representatives have been very interested in the possibility of establishing voluntary compliance agreements with SEMARENA.

Work conducted during this period also includes support to SEMARENA related to invasive species management, fire management and forest inventory.

A gender issues analysis was carried in order to incorporate gender considerations into the program's planning process and its performance monitoring. Also, recommendations regarding the development of gender-sensitive guidelines for environmental assessments undertaken by the private sector; a methodology for data collection and analysis for gender-sensitive implementation and monitoring of projects at the municipal level; and specific recommendations for the development of communication materials and reports so that they are more accessible to the general public, were developed. Future project evaluations and planning processes will incorporate these tools, and monitor the success of their implementation.

During this period, the main challenges faced by the project were related to the start up process and the implementation of the procurement plan (which corresponds to close to 20% of the project total budget). These issues were addressed and by the end of the report period close to 80% of the purchases were completed. For the next period the program plans to engage two new partners: the Center for the bio-conservation and eco-development of Samaná Bay (CEBSE, from its Spanish acronym) and the Pro-Nature Foundation (PRONATURA), which should expedite implementation of activities at priority sites.

Introduction

The USAID Environmental Protection Program under the Cooperative Agreement No. 517-A-00-09-00106-00 between The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) initiated implementation on March 2nd, 2009. This report covers the period between March and September of 2009 which corresponds to the project's first fiscal year, even though it is only a seven-month period.

The Environmental Protection Program seeks to strengthen institutional capacities, both public and private, to promote a more effective protection of environmental quality and biodiversity. The Program emphasizes support for the Dominican Republic Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARENA) to enable it to fulfill the commitments made by the Dominican Republic under Chapter 17 of the Central America-Dominican Republic-United States Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA). The Environmental Protection Program is a five-year project implemented through a cooperative agreement with TNC and a sub-award with the Technological Institute of Santo Domingo (INTEC).

The Program will work closely with the private sector in the Dominican Republic to promote environmental compliance through non-regulatory instruments such as Cleaner Production (CP) and Environmental Management Systems (EMS). The Environmental Protection Program will also support municipalities to establish and enforce local level environmental ordinances. It will help put in place institutional structures such as the Municipal Environmental Management Units (UGAMs), and provide training and equipment for effective environmental protection at the municipal level.

This document is divided up into several sections. Firstly, it details the major outputs for this first year, ending in September 2009, showing the progress made in achieving project's results during this period. It also lists a summary of accomplishments and unplanned outcomes, outstanding issues or implementation problems and activities planned for the next period. The text concludes with a narrative summary regarding expenditures by contract budget category. Attached are two success stories: one regarding the municipal environmental regulations enacted in Las Galeras, Samaná and the other having to do with FONDO MARENA.

Major outputs for the year ending September 30, 2009

Program Organization and Management

1. Program start up activities

The Cooperative Agreement between TNC and USAID was signed on March 2nd 2009 and the Program was launched in a public ceremony on June 2nd, with the participation of INTEC and SEMARENA and ample coverage by local media. The Sub-Agreement between TNC and INTEC was signed on 5th June 2009. On April 30th, the Program presented its Implementation Plan and First Year Work Plan to the Mission for approval. Formal approval of the Implementation Plan was received by the Program on May 7th. The second year work-plan was submitted to USAID on September 1st, and it has been presented and discussed with SEMARENA. It is pending approval.

The Environmental Protection Program has hired all personnel responsible for the Program Management Unit (PMU) at TNC. The PMU will undertake the overall management, financial and administrative responsibility during the program and is comprised of the USAID-EPP Director (Indhira de Jesús), the USAID-EPP Manager (Julia Perdomo) and the USAID-EPP Communication Specialist (Eve Hayes de Kalaf). All key personnel have also joined the program as of June 15th, with the hiring by INTEC of the Municipal Environmental Management Coordinator and the Cleaner Production Coordinator.

Office space has been set up both at TNC Santo Domingo office and at INTEC's campus.

One of the key areas within the Program start-up process has been to establish coordination mechanisms both with SEMARENA and other DR-CAFTA projects at a regional and national level. During the first month of implementation, the program was presented in a formal meeting to the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources and his cabinet. A formal liaison was assigned by the Secretary. The Program Director meets on a weekly basis with a representative from SEMARENA, the Program Manager from INTEC and also with a USAID/ELE local representative to follow-up on project implementation and update the DR-CAFTA local environmental cooperation calendar.

During August and September several meetings were carried out with SEMARENA, implementation partners and other projects, in order to prepare the program's work-plan for the next fiscal year.

2. Advisory Committee

The Program is working at setting up an Advisory Committee, comprised of key representatives from the public and private sector, as well as civil society. This Committee is an important element in the program implementation strategy as it will promote ownership of the Program initiatives by stakeholders. A draft proposal for establishing the USAID-EPP's Advisory Committee has been agreed upon by USAID-EPP team and SEMARENA officials, including the list of members. The committee members have been invited to the first formal meeting which will be held on October 5th.

3. Cross-Cutting Activities

a) Gender Awareness

A Gender Specialist was hired as a short-term technical advisor (STTA) for the first three months of Program implementation. The consultant is helping the program to establish gender and equity considerations relevant to the Dominican Republic and important to the overall implementation of the Environmental Protection Program so that the program's activities involve men, women, rural poor, and other individuals and groups that most directly affect the environment

The USAID-EPP has established a baseline, developed a gap analysis and provided recommendations to fill identified gaps. Also, the gender specialist guidelines were incorporated into the Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP). She also made recommendations regarding the development of gender-sensitive guidelines for environmental assessments undertaken by the private sector; propose a methodology for data collection and analysis for gender-sensitive implementation and monitoring of Programs at the municipal level; and provide specific recommendations for the development of communication materials and reports so that they are more accessible to the general public. Future Program evaluations and planning processes will incorporate these tools, and monitor the success of their implementation.

b) Program Planning and Monitoring Mechanisms

The Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan was revised following USAID comments to the one originally submitted. It is pending approval. Efforts have been made to include indicators that are relevant to the Mission results framework.

Detailed work plans have been developed for all program activities and implementation teams have completed a training process on the methodology proposed by the program to coordinate and follow up on their activities.

B. Progress towards achievement of results

1. Component 1: Institutional Strengthening for Effective Enforcement of Environmental Laws

Expected Result: To coordinate the national and regional environmental agendas for DR-CAFTA

During this reporting period, USAID-EPP has participated in four meetings with regional and bilateral DR/CAFTA staff and also in several meetings with SEMARENA's Head of Office and its Environment and Trade Officer to disseminate and coordinate USAID-EPP's activities during the early implementation phases and the second year planning process. A presentation was delivered to Network of Businesses in Support of the Environment (RENAEPA) members on the USAID-EPP's programmatic framework.

As part of this coordination effort, the USAID-EPP team has met with representatives from the Central American Council on Development and Environment (CCAD for its Spanish

acronym); several specialists and the director of USAID/ELE; and representatives from the NASA/CATHALAC project SERVIR. At a local level, the program has been working with RENAEP and several NGOs in the environmental sector.

As a result of these efforts, USAID-EPP, USAID-ELE and CCAD will be coordinating the timing and contents of proposed training and technical assistance activities to avoid duplication. Also, USIAD-EPP will expand and complement the scope of some of the regional cooperation efforts. USAID-EPP and NASA/CATHALAC/SERVIR have agreed to cooperate in training activities for SEMARENA and will be working together to strengthen the National Environmental Information System.

Expected Result: To develop and implement procurement plan to strengthen SEMARENA and municipalities.

A Procurement Plan has been developed through a participatory process involving SEMARENA technical staff and high-level officials. The items identified were prioritized and those of highest priority included in the First Year Procurement Plan. Close to 80% of the first year procurement plan was implemented. The overall assessment of needs and priorities was revised as part of the annual evaluation and planning process. The second year plan includes additional equipment as well as items that were not purchased during the first year and that remain a priority.

Expected Result: Improved Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) process

The first installment of the university certificate training program on EIA (120 hours) for SEMARENA staffers is currently under way. Thirty five (35) people, mostly from SEMARENA's provincial offices, are been trained.

In coordination with USAID-ELE and the USEPA, USAID-EPP is supporting SEMARENA in the adoption of a decision support system called NEPAAssist. This software will allow SEMARENA to significantly expedite the screening and scoping phases of the environmental impact assessment process. The program has facilitated the development of the decision questionnaire and is providing equipment and software for this initiative.

Expected Result: Improved municipal environmental management

During this period, the USAID-EPP has been working to provide technical support for the selected municipalities in close collaboration with SEMARENA's municipal management department. An informational booklet was drafted with the basic elements of environmental legislation to be distributed in the municipalities, together with a document presenting key aspects of environmental legislation.

Work was carried out at Las Galeras to facilitate the drafting and discussion of municipal environmental regulations referring to Management and Disposal of Municipal Waste, Noise Control, the Burning of Solid Waste, the Pig Farm Management and the Application of Good Fishing Practices. These ordinances have been enacted by the town council and are currently being implemented.

In the Santa Barbara de Samaná Township, the USAID-EPP has worked with the municipal government and local stakeholders to create the Environmental Forum. This Forum provides a space for community members and local authorities to share their concerns and ideas related to the environmental management of the municipality. Also, the project has helped developed a participatory diagnostic and needs assessment, identifying the priority issues for the town.

The program has also been presented top other municipalities, namely: Jarabacoa, Altamira, Arroyo Barril, Las terrenes, El Limón, Bayahibe, and Barahona. Support has been provided as needed to these municipalities and all are advancing in the process of establishing or strengthening their environmental management units (UGAMs).

The curriculum for the university certificate program on municipal environmental management has been developed and the program is expected to start on November 2009.

As part of the USAID-EPP efforts to develop pilot projects in micro-watershed management with local government participation, voluntary technical assistance has been provided by Dr. Dave Courtemanch, a member of TNC Maine Chapter. His expertise on freshwater ecosystem restoration and water quality monitoring will be very helpful to related activities in the USAID-EPP. As part of his visit, he conducted an evaluation of water quality laboratories, and traveled to Jarabacoa and Constanza to evaluate possible sites for pilot project implementation.

Expected Result: To develop and implement a communications plan on DR-CAFTA and the environment

An initial meeting among stakeholders took place with the participation of CCAD to discuss the focus of the communication plan and the best way to harmonize the national initiative with what is being carried out at a regional level. A follow up workshop is planned for October 29th.

2. Component 2: Biodiversity Conservation

Expected Result: National Red List finalized

A first draft of the “red list” of endangered species of the Dominican Republic has been developed from literature review. The program is in the process of consulting the draft with SEMARENA as well as in the process of engaging independent experts for consultation.

Expected Result: Sea turtle management plan developed and implemented

Work towards this result has been initiated by consulting with international experts on the subject.

Expected Result: Improved Protected Areas Management

CEBSE and PRONATURA have both been identified as potential partners for the implementation of activities under this component. The two institutions are renowned

nationally for their work in the environmental field; CEBSE is especially well-known for its projects in Samaná whereas PRONATURA is a valued partner in the mountain areas. The two organizations will also benefit from the program's institutional strengthening activities, promoting their longer-term sustainability. The due diligence process has been completed as has the development of the scope of work for a potential sub-agreement with these NGOs. Formal agreement from USAID will be requested in early November.

The curricular content for the training program on protected areas management (120 hours) for park guards and protected area managers was developed through a participatory process. The training program inaugural session was held on September 21st, with the participation of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

The Samaná Bay area has been selected as the focus for the Program's initiatives to improve site level management in a marine conservation area. USAID-EPP is working with CEBSE and with TNC staff to design and implement a multi-use marine zoning plan for this area to demonstrate the effective development, use and deployment of marine zoning tools in the Dominican Republic.

USAID-EPP is providing technical support to SEMARENA to oversee and supervise a consultancy working on the development of recommendations for strengthening managerial and operational capacity among protected areas staff. These recommendations will include an analysis of the Public Servant Law to protected area staff in order to create stability in the national protected area system. USAID-EPP will continue working with SEMARENA to support the implementation of relevant recommendations.

A design for an assessment of invasive alien species in Catalina Island has been developed with the participation of the Biodiversity and Wildlife Department from SEMARENA, National Zoo, National Botanical Garden, and Hispaniola Ornithological Society.

During August USAID-EPP coordinated the visit of an international expert in fire management. The objectives of this technical assistance were to evaluate the Dominican Republic Fire Management Strategy and suggest the activities that should be implemented in order to achieve the strategy goals. USAID-EPP will continue providing support to SEMARENA on the implementation of said strategy.

Following up on recommendations from the US Forest Service (USFS), USAID-EPP facilitated a workshop with key government officials and representatives of NGOs working in forestry and biodiversity issues. As a result, the participating institutions agreed to collaborate in a long term effort to manage fire and invasive species in Dominican forests. Also, the group prepared a list of alien invasive species associated to fire, either disperse after fires or promote intense fires, as well as a list of available information for Dominican Republic on fire and invasive species of plants.

An assessment of the fire surveillance towers in the protected area system is underway. This assessment will provide an appraisal of the infrastructure and effectiveness of location, as well as any other needs that should improve fire control and facilitate protected area management in the mountains of Cordillera Central.

Expected Result: Increased Environmental Funding

As a result of assistance provided by USAID-EPP, technical and legal mechanisms for the implementation of the National Fund for Environment and Natural Resources (FONDO MARENA) were developed. These allowed the Dominican government to finally formalize the operative as well as the overarching structure of the Fund. USAID-EPP has provided continued support to the initiative and has been instrumental in arriving at the necessary agreements among donors and SEMARENA to establish the Fund which includes a Trust fund for protected areas management and conservation. The terms of reference for the Trust fund capitalization strategy have also been developed with our support.

USAID-EPP is also supporting SEMARENA by overseeing the assessment process that will result in recommendations for viable finance mechanisms for the national system of protected areas.

3. Component 3: Market-Based Conservation

Expected Result: To promote sustainable tourism that protects biodiversity

Several meetings have been carried out to promote the implementation of joint strategy between SEMARENA and SECTUR. So far both parties show interest and USAID-EPP will continue this effort over the next period facilitating a meeting between the Planning Vice-minister – SEMARENA and the Technical Vice-minister – SECTUR to work on the identification of needs of the two institutions to consolidate this cooperation strategy.

Expected Result: To promote sustainable forestry

The Terms of Reference have been drafted and potential candidates are being looked at to design a forest inventory and to assess the challenges associated to forestry certification. A call for proposals will be placed in the Protected Area Forum. The Terms of Reference and implementation has been discussed with the Vice-Minister and staff at the Vice-Ministry of Forest Resources.

4. Improved Private Sector Environmental Performance

Expected Result: Adoption of clean production mechanisms and environmental management systems by the private sector

Several meetings took place to coordinate activities with SEMARENA, USAID/ELE and RENAEP. A study of relevant legislation and guidelines has been initiated. The program was presented to the board at RENAEP and workshops have been held with representatives for industries from the six sectors comprising this institution. At these workshops, general information on the cleaner production methodology has been shared with the representatives; the activities have also served to identify the industry needs and their level of interest in voluntary compliance agreements.

Cleaner production activities are being coordinated with CCAD, and a joint training activity is planned for December.

Summary of Accomplishments/Unplanned Outcomes

- The completion of the Program start-up process and the formal incorporation of TNC's main implementation partner INTEC.
- Completing 80% of the procurement planned for the first year of project implementation by the end of the second quarter.
- Having established coordination mechanisms with regional cooperation initiatives and with SEMARENA.
- FONDO MARENA successfully completed negotiations and formally commenced operations in July. This was an unplanned outcome for this period.
- Also unplanned was the enactment and implementation of five environmental ordinances in the municipality of Las Galeras, Samaná.

Outstanding Issues/Implementation Problems

- The only implementation issue the Program has faced during this reporting period is related to the size and complexity of the procurement component. To address this issue, TNC hired a temporary Procurement Officer to assist the Program Manager in the process.

Major Activities Planned for Next Quarter (October-December 2009)

- First meeting of the Advisory Committee
- Launching of the training programs on Municipal Environmental Management and on Cleaner Production.
- Workshop to develop DR-CAFTA and Environment Communications plan for SEMARENA
- Support participation of SEMARENA officials in regional workshop on fire and invasive species in Puerto Rico
- Meeting with SEMARENA Directors to coordinate activities under next year work plan.
- Media event to deliver equipment purchased for SEMARENA

Major performance objectives for next period (Fiscal Year 2010 – October 2009-September 2010 –)

According to the performance monitoring and evaluation plan submitted to USAID, the USAID-EPP performance objectives for Fiscal Year 2010 are as follow:

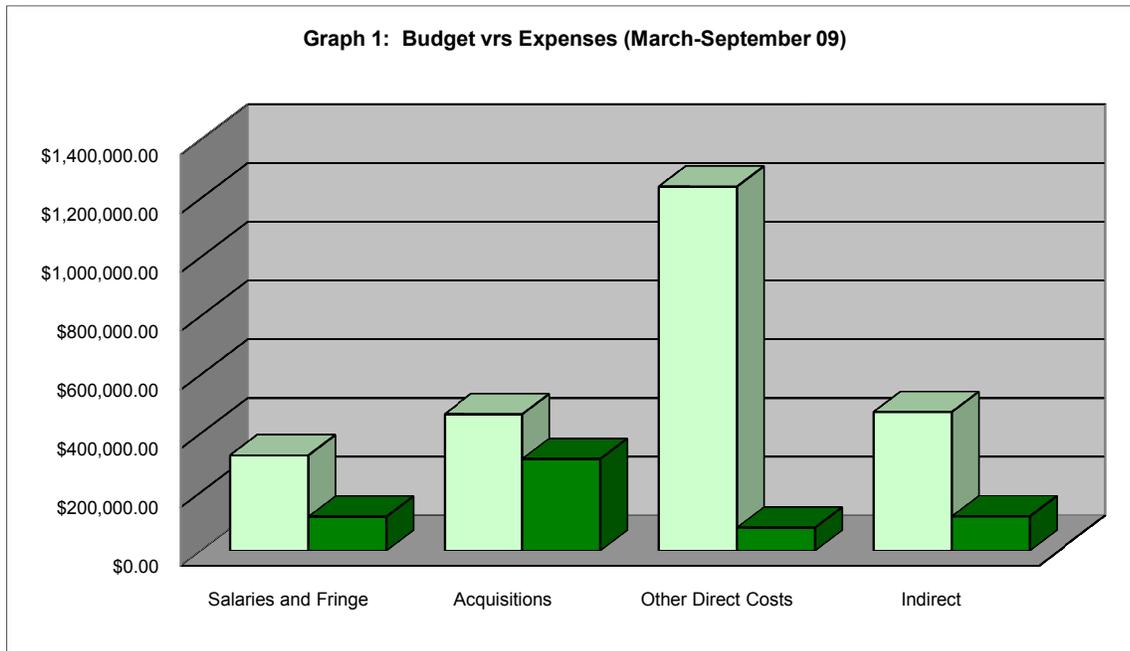
Indicator		FY10 New	FY10 Cum
Outcome Indicators			
Indicator 1.1: Improvement in the rate of processing on the national level of Environmental Impact Assessments (% improvement in the rate # EIAs processed per [x time]/#EIAs submitted per [x time]); FY09 = Baseline	Target	20%	20%
	Actual/ Baseline*		
Indicator 1.4: DR private sector is more environmentally responsible (# of voluntary agreements with private sector firms for cleaner production or environmental management systems).	Target	2	2
	Actual/ Baseline		
Indicator 1.5: Number of hectares (terrestrial) under improved natural resource management. (number of hectares)	Target	0	0
	Actual/ Baseline		
Indicator 1.6: Improved management in areas of importance for biodiversity conservation (% increase in overall score using adapted methodology)	Target	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline*	%	
Indicator 1.8: Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented with project support	Target	2	2
	Actual/ Baseline		
Output Indicators			
Indicator 1.2: 1.2 Number of people, including staff of central and municipal government offices, trained in critical areas necessary to support DR-CAFTA demonstrating improved knowledge/attitude/skills based on pre-/post- surveys.	Target	240	240
	Actual/ Baseline		
Indicator 1.3: Number of regulatory laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted).	Target	20	25
	Actual/ Baseline		
Indicator 1.7: Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted).	Target	4	5
	Actual/ Baseline		

*Baseline will be established during first six month of FY10

The complete PMP is included as Annex B of this report.

Narrative Summary of Expenditures by Contract Budget category

Total expenses for the reporting period equal US\$624,288.72; US\$594,722.42 is USAID funds and US\$29,566.30 are match funds. This level of expenditure represents about 25% of the budget for the calendar year (March 2009- February 2010). See Graph 1: Budget vs. Expenses.



Program expenses (See Table 1; Graph 2: Expenses by Line Item; and Graph 3) during the report period correspond to the following categories:

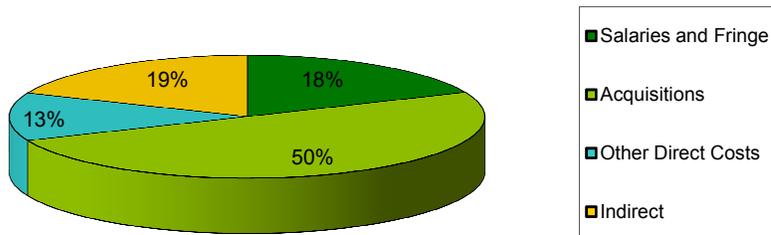
- **Salaries and fringe:** constitute 18.6% of overall expenses for the report period, and cover salaries and fringe benefits for the TNC’s personnel involved in this Program to carry on activities.
- **Acquisitions** add up to 50.1% of total expenditures, with 2% of the funds used for acquisitions being match. During the second quarter of this period about 80% of the purchases of equipment planned for the first year of the project to support SEMARENA’s capacity to implement the environmental legislation were made.
- **Other direct** costs represent 12.6% of total expenditures and this line item includes expenses for contracts (first disbursements for signed subcontracts), sub-awards (costs reported by INTEC for the period), communications and travel, among other.
- **Indirect costs** constitute the remaining 19% of total expenditures; this line item covers the 23.28% of ICR recovered by TNC.

Total expenditures reported only includes expenditures incurred by INTEC during the first quarter (between June 5th, when the sub-agreement was signed, and June 30th). It does not include the **US\$213,611** that TNC advanced to INTEC

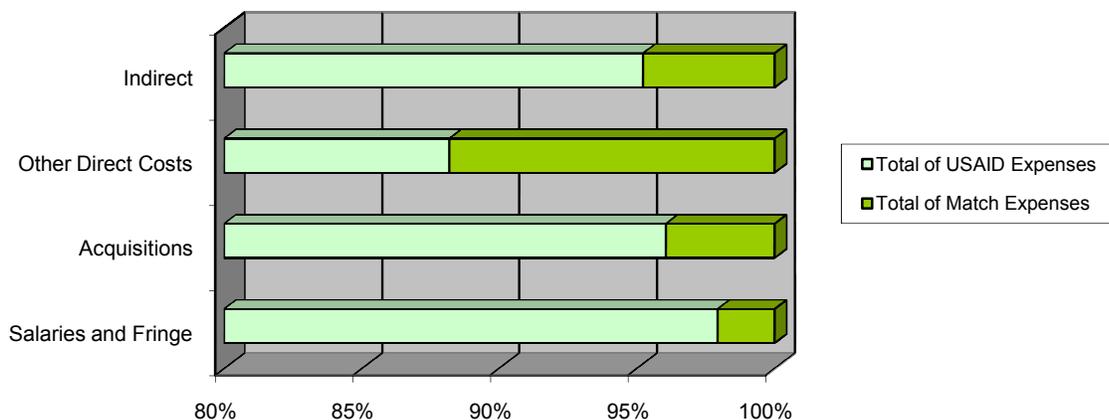
Table I: Detailed expenses by Line Item

CATEGORIES	Total of USAID Expenses	Total of Match Expenses	TOTAL
Salaries and Fringe	\$113,520.95	\$2,389.94	\$115,910.89
Acquisitions	\$300,200.11	\$12,305.15	\$312,505.26
Other Direct Costs	\$69,464.98	\$9,287.96	\$78,752.94
Indirect Costs	\$111,536.38	\$5,583.25	\$117,119.63
TOTAL	\$594,722.42	\$29,566.30	\$624,288.72

Graph 2: Total of Expenses by Line Item (March-Sept 09)



Graph 3: USAID vrs Match Expenses



Annex A: Success Stories



SUCCESS STORY

Sustainable Funding for Protected Areas

USAID supports the strengthening of environmental efforts in the Dominican Republic



FONDOMARENA includes a special trust fund for protected areas which will help ensure continuous funding for protected areas as well as supporting research and conservation initiatives for natural resources and biodiversity in the country.

Thanks to the help of the American people, the Dominican Republic has managed to successfully secure financing for environmental projects, which will be essential to aid the country's continuing efforts in protecting biodiversity, the environment and natural resources.

The USAID Environmental Protection Program (USAID-EPP) has played a key role in the implementation of the National Environment and Natural Resources Fund of the Dominican Republic, called FONDOMARENA, an essential tool to collect resources for environmental protection and biodiversity conservation.

The introduction of FONDOMARENA means that there will be direct support to help maintain areas that are home to important natural resources and biodiversity in the region. Financing for initiatives will now be more easily accessible and will not be affected by changes in economic and political events. This gains particular importance as the Dominican Republic has recently expanded its protected areas system with the addition of 31 new sites.

The Fund institutional structure includes a governing board and a consulting board; both organisms are comprised by representatives from civil society, academia and international institutions. This allows the fund to operate with sufficient transparency as to attract national and international donors. Also, those responsible for the administration of the fund are well-known personalities in the Dominican Republic who do not belong to the government, nor are they associated with political parties.

The FONDOMARENA includes a Protected Areas Trust Fund, which will be initially capitalized thru international donor funds and matching funds from the Dominican Government. Resources generated by the trust fund will be used for conservation activities, improved management and research in protected areas. While other specialized funds may be established within this mechanism, they must all be oriented to environmental protection and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Although the Fund was originally created with the enactment of the Dominican Environmental Law in the year 2000, it was not operational because it lacked the legal and technical mechanisms to function. With support from USAID-EPP those mechanisms were developed, negotiated and agreed upon by government and donor institutions involved with the Fund.



SUCCESS STORY

Environmental Rulings Prove Positive

USAID improves quality of life for local people with support for new rules



Rafael Bello, mayor of Las Galeras, expressed his satisfaction stating that, "With the support from USAID-EPP, we have been successful in reducing fishing activities that have in the past been harmful to marine wildlife and have also contributed to polluting the coastline." Local communities and groups are now working together to agree on solutions to improve and protect their local environment and communities.

The USAID Environmental Protection Program (USAID-EPP) is working closely with local municipalities and community groups to reduce the effects of pollution and educate people of the benefits of protecting the environment.

In the community of Las Galeras on the northern coast of the Dominican Republic, local people depend greatly on fishing, agriculture and tourism as a steady source of income. Natural resources in this coastal town are essential not only to ensure a livelihood for the local people but have also been admired by international visitors who have been coming to this region for many years to enjoy the tranquility of the town's beaches and marvel at the beauty of the area.

Thanks to continuous efforts of the USAID Environmental Protection Program (USAID-EPP), agreements have now been reached with municipal and community leaders in Las Galeras that include banning the spillage of raw sewage near water, controlling the dumping of residuals, managing noise pollution, banning any fishing that poses a threat to coastal marine wildlife and finally monitoring pollution caused by the burning of trees and household waste.

Together with support from other local groups, the municipality has been successful in limiting a practice known as *el chinchorro* which involves throwing a net into the sea and hauling with it everything in its path. This method of fishing has proven to be very damaging to sea life. Another practice to be eliminated among fishermen is the act of throwing empty oil containers into the sea which very often contributed to coastal pollution.

The municipality also decided to take action to prevent the construction of a new landfill which would have posed a substantial health risk to the local community in an area home to three churches and a local elementary school.

The USAID-EPP has been working with local governments to raise awareness about the importance of preserving natural resources and to aid towns in improving the way in which they manage the environment, by providing technical assistance and training.

Annex B: Program Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP)

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BACKGROUND

The Environmental Protection Program (USAID-EPP) is a five year project being implemented through a cooperative agreement with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and a sub-award with the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC). The Environmental Protection Program seeks to strengthen institutional capacities, both public and private, to promote a more effective protection of environmental quality and biodiversity. The project emphasizes support for the Secretary of State for Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARENA) to enable it to fulfill the commitments made by the Dominican Republic under chapter 17 of the Dominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA).

The project will work closely with the private sector in the Dominican Republic to promote environmental compliance through non-regulatory instruments such as Cleaner Production (CP) and Environmental Management Systems (EMS). The Environmental Protection Program will also support municipalities to establish and enforce local level environmental ordinances. It will help put in place institutional structures such as the Municipal Environmental Management Units (UGAMs, from the Spanish acronym), and provide training and equipment for effective environmental protection at the municipal level.

The Environmental Protection Program will work closely with USAID/ELE regional project as well as with other regional and bilateral initiatives being carried out by USG agencies and NGOs in the framework of the ECA.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

This document presents the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (PMP) developed for USAID's Environmental Protection Program (USAID-EPP). The PMP is a crucial tool for the successful recording of project results, as it allows for effective internal monitoring as well as for demonstrating achievement of project's goals.

Each of the project objectives has been expressed by indicators with specified targets, at least for the current year and FY10 as well as over the life of the program; where feasible, future, annual targets have also been established. Data will be collected and documented by the program's management unit. A continuous assessment of operations will allow for timely adjustments when needed. Progress in the implementation of activities, major accomplishments and any issues affecting implementation will be reported in narrative form on a quarterly basis. Overall project performance against the indicators of the PMP will be evaluated annually and any necessary changes to target levels will be incorporated into the annual planning process. Note that future targets beyond FY10 are contingent upon actual funding level during FY11-13.

Quarterly reports will be presented to the program's advisory committee. The advisory committee will help ensure that an adaptive management approach is taken in managing the project; it will help the project teams complete their deliverables on time through clear accountability, mentoring, and the provision of technical and political guidance and support. The advisory committee will participate in the annual evaluation process.

The indicators for the USAID-EPP have being developed jointly by TNC and INTEC as principal implementers of the program. Data collection will also be a shared responsibility with the implementing partners and beneficiary institutions. Whenever possible, data will be disaggregated by gender.

TECHNICAL APPROACH

The Environmental Protection Program was designed to accomplish three basic goals:

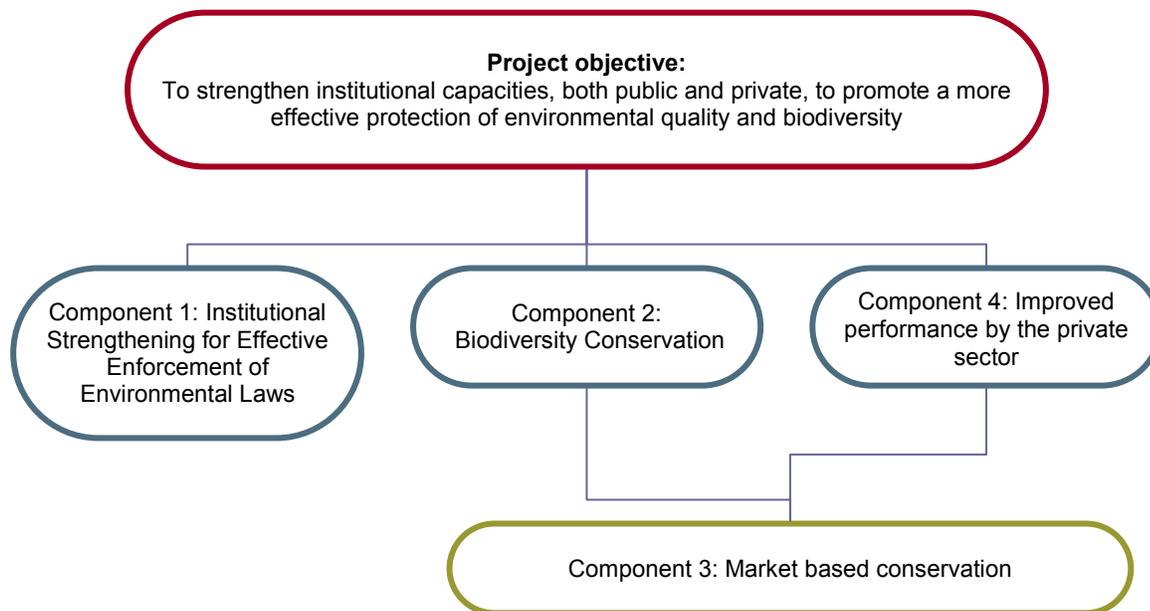
1. To enhance institutional capacity to effectively enforce environmental laws and regulations.
2. To improve biodiversity conservation.
3. To improve private sector environmental performance and compliance.

To support biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the context of free trade in the Dominican Republic requires strategies spanning four main themes: 1) institutional strengthening for effective enforcement of environmental laws; 2) biodiversity conservation; 3) market based conservation; and 4) improved private sector performance. As project execution progresses, implementation strategies will be adjusted to accommodate changing needs and priorities as well as funding availability.

The program’s approach to institutional strengthening is to work with the institutions, mainly SEMARENA but also municipal governments and NGOs, rather than on behalf of the institutions. Priorities have being identified in conjunction with the relevant institutions and the program management structure includes an advisory committee to foster ownership by stakeholders. A significant portion of the program resources will be devoted to training. This training will be complemented with provision of equipment essential for monitoring and enforcement activities.

USAID-EPP addresses both brown and green issues, that is to say that it promotes pollution prevention and environmental quality protection as well as biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resources management. The **results framework** for the program can be graphically presented as shown in the figure below.

Fig. 1: USAID-EPP Results framework



The project will make every effort to create partnerships with relevant institutions and other projects. Such is the case of the National Network of Businesses to Support environmental Protection (RENAEPA for its Spanish acronym), the USAID/RED, USAID/DSTA and USAID/ELE projects and the initiatives by the University of Indiana and Columbia University related to special marine protected areas and sustainable fisheries, respectively.

Identification of activities to promote biodiversity conservation

Between 2006 and 2008 TNC Central Caribbean Program science team conducted a gap analysis of the national protected areas system¹. Part of this study consisted in the analysis of threats to conservation objects as part of the development of a portfolio of functional sites that would adequately protect national biodiversity. The analysis was carried out using the toolset of the Caribbean Decision Support System², literature review and expert opinion.

Thirty nine different threats to biodiversity conservation were identified. Of these, three were considered by experts and stakeholders to be affecting the system as a whole: 1) lack of citizens' awareness and education; 2) lack in institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation management and monitoring; and 3) climate change. Also, about 80% of the identified threats were related to human economic activities and close to 10% were related to invasive species.

The results of the gap analysis determined the focus of the activities within the USAID-EPP designed to promote biodiversity conservation. These are not limited to those activities in the Biodiversity Conservation component (Component 2), as shown on the following table they span all components of the project.

Table 1: Main threats to biodiversity and USAID-EPP Subcomponents/Activities to address them

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.4. Enhancing citizen awareness and participation 1.5. Strengthening information management
Lack of institutional capacity	2.1. Combating illegal wildlife trade 2.2. Improving protected area management 2.3. Increasing environmental funding
Economic activities	1.2 Improving environmental impact assessments and audits 1.3 Improving municipal environmental management 3.1 Promoting sustainable tourism 3.2 Assessing opportunities in sustainable forestry 4.1 Promoting clean production mechanisms 4.2 Promoting environmental management systems
Invasive species	2.2.6 Implement site specific invasive species programs.

While oriented at institutional strengthening, influencing policy and capacities for biodiversity conservation at a broad scale, the USAID Environmental Protection Program also intends to positively impact biodiversity conservation in specific sites. The main focus during the first two years of the program will be in one marine site and one highland site: the Samaná Bay area, which includes seven protected areas, and the Valle Nuevo National

¹ Domínguez, E.; Grasela, K. y Núñez, F. 2008. Análisis de Vacíos de Representación del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (SINAP) de la República Dominicana. Informe Técnico entregado a la Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales.

² Schill, S. y Raber, G. 2006. Sistema de apoyo a las decisiones (DSS) para identificar brechas en áreas protegidas con ArcGIS 9.1TM, versión 1.0. Manual del usuario y cursillo. Red Interamericana de información sobre biodiversidad (IABIN) y The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

Park, in the Madre de las Aguas region. Work will also be conducted at Catalina Island protected area. A brief description of the two main sites follows:

- Samaná Bay, situated on the Dominican Republic's northeastern coast, represents a mosaic of ecosystems and species distributed across a great variety of coastal and marine habitat. Comprised of seven National Protected Areas, the high biological value associated with Samaná Bay, the largest semi-enclosed bay in the Caribbean, make it unique and irreplaceable. Among these National Protected Areas are the National Parks Los Haitises and Manglares del Bajo Yuna, which have maintained from their beginning a strong and direct link with the socio-economic activities of neighboring communities. To this date, the main economic sectors in the area (e.g., tourism, fishing and agriculture) are directly dependent on the natural resources at hand. Nonetheless, economic and political pressures are driving unsustainable uses and practices that are clearly affecting the quality of the local environment. Illegal fishing gear, unregulated tourism activities, and the lack of coastal development planning are among the top threats currently affecting the area. Furthermore, key technical capacities such as GIS planning and information management among the local government authorities in the Bay – vital for planning, management, and monitoring – also stands out as one of the main weaknesses that needs to be addressed.

- Valle Nuevo (Juan B. Perez Rancier) National Park is a large, landscape-scale conservation area located in the Central Mountain Range of Hispaniola Island. This protected area is in the heart of the Hispaniolan Pine Forest Ecoregion, and its size is nine hundred twelve square kilometers (912,000 hectares). The site is a high conservation priority because of the richness and endemism of its species assemblage. For example: over 90% of amphibians and reptiles, close to 50% of butterflies, approximately 35% of its birds, and nearly 40% of its plant species (excluding ferns) are found nowhere else in the world. The region contains the best representations of coniferous pine forest, mountainous broadleaf, and cloud forest on the island. The site is the headwaters for major watersheds of the island, such as Yuna, Yaque del Sur, Nizao, and Ocoa.

PROGRAM INDICATORS

Table 2, below, summarizes the performance indicators for the USAID Environmental Protection Program. Annex A presents the Performance Indicator Data Sheets for these indicators. There are eight indicators in total; five of them are outcome indicators and the remaining three are output indicators:

1. Improvement in the rate of processing on the national level of Environmental Impact Assessments. Outcome
2. Number of people, including staff of central and municipal government offices, trained in critical areas necessary to support DR-CAFTA demonstrating improved knowledge/attitude/skills based on pre-/post-surveys. Output
3. Number of laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies related to environmental management completed and submitted to relevant government agencies. Output
4. DR Private sector is more environmentally responsible. Outcome
5. Number of hectares (terrestrial and marine) under improved natural resource management. Outcome
6. Improved management in areas of importance for biodiversity conservation. Outcome
7. Number of laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies related to biodiversity conservation completed and submitted to relevant government agencies. Output
8. Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented with project support. Outcome

Table 2: Performance Data Table:

Indicator		FY09 New	FY09 Cum	FY10 New	FY10 Cum	FY11 New	FY11 Cum	FY12 New	FY12 Cum	FY13 New	FY13 Cum
Outcome Indicators											
Indicator 1.1: Improvement in the rate of processing on the national level of Environmental Impact Assessments (% improvement in the rate # EIAs processed per [x time]##EIAs submitted per [x time]); FY09 = Baseline	Target	Establish Baseline	Establish Baseline	20%	20%	50%	50%	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline	Establish Baseline	Establish Baseline								
Indicator 1.4: DR private sector is more environmentally responsible (# of voluntary agreements with private sector firms for cleaner production or environmental management systems).	Target	0	0	2	2	3	5	5	10	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline	0	0								
Indicator 1.5: Number of hectares (terrestrial) under improved natural resource management. (number of hectares)	Target	0	0	0	0	800	800	900	1700	1100	2800
	Actual/ Baseline	0	0								
Indicator 1.6: Improved management in areas of importance for biodiversity conservation (% increase in overall score using adapted methodology)	Target	Establish baseline	Establish baseline	TBD							
	Actual/ Baseline	Establish baseline	Establish baseline	%							
Indicator 1.8: Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented with project support	Target	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline	0	0								
Output Indicators											
Indicator 1.2: Number of people, including staff of central and municipal government offices, trained in critical areas necessary to support DR-CAFTA demonstrating improved knowledge/attitude/skills based on pre-/post- surveys.	Target	0	0	240	240	180	420	55	475	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline	0	0								
Indicator 1.3: Number of regulatory laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted).	Target	5	5	20	25	14	39	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline	5	5								
Indicator 1.7: Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted).	Target	1	1	4	5	2	7	1	8	TBD	TBD
	Actual/ Baseline	1	1								

Definitions:

Target = target assessed at beginning of project, and again each year.

Actual = actual sum of data collected during that year.

Baseline = a non-targeted level determined during the first year the indicator is deployed (FY09), unaffected by project implementation.

New = new, additional, annual data representing increment in during current year.

Cum = cumulative data since beginning of indicator deployment (FY09).

Indicators description:

I.1 Environmental Impact Assessment process streamlined (Outcome)

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) represents the first tier of environmental compliance. A responsive, credible EIA procedure, implemented effectively, creates an environment in which regulators can quickly communicate environmental concerns to the business and development community. The backlog of existing EIAs awaiting regulatory review signals the presence of an existing problem in the process; the USAID-EPP focuses on establishing an efficient process for ongoing review as the measure of success. By establishing a functioning EIA review process, the USAID-EPP makes it possible to identify development activities that will harm human health and biodiversity, only allowing those activities to proceed once the damaging elements have been removed or appropriately modified. During the first year, USAID-EPP will establish a baseline rate, and whether it should be measured by the average review time per EIA, or by EIAs processed per a unit of time established as the desirable period of review. The period of review will be the total of time in GODR hands, and will not include time that the documentation is awaiting action by non-government entities. (Note that we must establish a baseline and future targets as part of our work with SEMARENA during FY09 and the first part of FY10), and the we must also establish what is an appropriate target amount of time – “x time”, below – for processing EIAs.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Economic activities	I.2 Improving environmental impact assessments and audits

Indicator:	FY09 Baseline	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Improvement in the rate of processing on the national level of Environmental Impact Assessments (% improvement in the rate # EIAs processed per [x time]/#EIAs submitted per [x time]). Percentages in table are actual improvement in rate compared to baseline.									
Measures:	Establish Baseline	20%		50%		TBD		TBD	

Gender awareness: Men and women will be involved in the process of improving DR’s EIA procedure. The project will document participation in all activities by gender. Whenever possible, gender based differences in roles, attitudes and concerns will also be documented.

I.2 Improved capacity for environmental management and compliance (Output)

Effective implementation of environmental regulations and laws depends on a) identification of staff responsible for enforcement and oversight, b) knowledge, attitude, skills among those staff relating to processes in which they must engage for enforcement and oversight, and c) implementation of those responsibilities. Implementation of an efficient environmental management and compliance structure by trained staff decreases threats to the environment and provides necessary data for adaptive management of biodiversity. This indicator measures knowledge, attitudes and skills of staff pertinent to their regulatory responsibilities and the

subject matter of the training, before and after receiving targeted training. Each year, EPP sets targets by subject area requiring attention.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.4. Enhancing citizen awareness and participation
	1.5. Strengthening information management
Lack of institutional capacity	2.1 Combating illegal wildlife trade
	2.2 Improving protected area management
Economic activities	1.2 Improving environmental impact assessments and audits
	1.3 Improving municipal environmental management
	4.1 Promoting clean production mechanisms
	4.2 Promoting environmental management systems

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of people, including staff of central and municipal government offices, trained in critical areas necessary to support DR-CAFTA demonstrating improved knowledge/attitude/skills based on pre-/post- surveys. (Number improving). Figures in table are annual; annual and cumulative sums are provided.										
Subject Area and Measures:										
Environmental Law			25				25		TBD	
EIA			40		35				TBD	
Follow up and monitoring process			30				30		TBD	
Municipal environmental management			25		25				TBD	
Micro-watershed management			70						TBD	
CITES					70				TBD	
Environmental executive leadership			25		25				TBD	
Protected areas management			25		25				TBD	
Totals	0	0	240	0	180	0	55	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Totals	0	0	240	0	420	0	475	0	TBD	0

Gender awareness: Efforts will be made to ensure equitable participation of men and women. If necessary, design and scheduling of activities will take into consideration needs of men and women. Participation will be documented by gender.

I.3 Laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and studies supporting an improved regulatory environment (Output)

Effective operation within the regulatory environment depends on a legislative framework supported by efficient regulations and procedures, and based on reliable information. An efficient regulatory structure decreases threats to human health and biodiversity. This indicator captures the subject areas in which the regulatory environment requires review and/or revision, and documents the number of changes developed and proposed by the project.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.4. Enhancing citizen awareness and participation 1.5. Strengthening information management
Economic activities	1.2 Improving environmental impact assessments and audits 1.3 Improving municipal environmental management 3.3 Assessing opportunities in sustainable forestry

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of environmental management laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Table features ANNUAL values, not cumulative.										
"Single window" procedure			1							
General Terms of Reference (TOR) for selected sectors			5							
EIA review guides for priority sectors			3							
Monitoring procedure			1							
Municipal environmental ordinances	5		8		8		TBD		TBD	
Public participation regulation			1							
DR-CAFTA communication process			1							
National Environmental Information System (NEIS)]					1		TBD		0	
Clean Production manuals					4		TBD		0	
National environmental audit system					1		TBD		0	
Annual Total	5	0	20	0	14	0	TBD	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Total	5	0	25	0	39	0	TBD	0	TBD	0

Gender awareness: Efforts will be made to ensure equitable participation of men and women in the process of the developing the products referred by this indicator. When necessary, design and scheduling of activities will take into consideration the different needs of men and women. Participation in preparatory activities as well as in the decision making process will be documented by gender.

I.4 Number of public-private environmental protection partnerships in place (Outcome)

Dominican law provides for incentives to stimulate voluntary improvements in environmentally responsible production among private sector companies. “Dirty” production practices threaten human health directly and, through the influence of pollution on ecosystems, ultimately threaten the environmental services that ecological communities need for survival. EPP will work within this framework to assist willing companies to develop voluntary agreements to increase clean production and decrease the environmental impacts of their productive processes.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Economic activities	4.1 Promoting clean production mechanisms 4.2 Promoting environmental management systems

Indicator	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
DR private sector is more environmentally responsible (# of voluntary agreements with private sector firms for cleaner production or environmental management systems). Figures in table are annual figures.										
Agreement (TBD)			1		1		1			
Agreement (TBD)			1		1		1			
Agreement (TBD)					1		1			
Agreement (TBD)							1			
Agreement (TBD)							1			
Annual Total	0	0	2	0	3	0	5	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Total	0	0	2	0	5	0	10	0	TBD	0

Gender awareness: The involvement of men and women in the process of signing agreements for the implementation of cleaner production and environmental management systems will be documented. Whenever possible, gender based differences in roles, attitudes and concerns will also be documented.

I.5 Number of hectares under improved natural resource management (Outcome).

Improved natural resource management results from a favorable regulatory framework, and management within that framework using tools that focus management actions on critical conservation targets and threats to those targets. Pilot projects will demonstrate the application of the regulatory framework and serve as

repeatable examples for other biologically important areas. EPP will support pilot projects in improved natural resource management, including:

- A critical area for improved natural resource management in Dominican Republic is in "micro-watersheds" under the authority of municipalities, as water resources are especially threatened by global climate change.
- USAID's long-term support of Valle Nuevo National Park has created an opportunity for a SEMARENA-sponsored habitat restoration project.
- A GEF project is developing a national strategy for invasive species, creating an opportunity to design and possibly implement an invasive species program on Catalina Island.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.4. Enhancing citizen awareness and participation 1.5.
Lack of institutional capacity	2.2. Improving protected area management
Economic activities	1.3 Improving municipal environmental management 3.1 Promoting sustainable tourism 3.2 Assessing opportunities in sustainable forestry
Invasive species	2.2.6 Implement site specific invasive species programs.

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of hectares (terrestrial and marine) under improved natural resource management. (number of hectares). Figures in the table are annual values.										
Measures:										
Name, hectares, and intervention TBD										
Name, hectares, and intervention TBD										
Name, hectares, and intervention TBD										
Annual Total	0	0	0	0	800		900		1100	
Cumulative Total	0	0	0		800		1700		2800	

Gender awareness: participation of men and women in the watershed management activities will be documented. Whenever feasible the different roles will be noted and leadership by women of the community will be encouraged. Data gathered for the design of pilot interventions will differentiate by gender whenever appropriate, including issues such as land ownership and community activism. When necessary, design and scheduling of activities will take into consideration the different needs of men and women.

1.6 Areas of importance for biodiversity conservation under improved management (Outcome)

The EPP will carry out activities to improve SEMARENA and NGO's capacities to manage natural protected areas and other areas of importance for biodiversity conservation. Initially the project will focus in the Samaná bay area and in Valle Nuevo. Improved management will be measured using a methodology adapted from the WWF Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management (RAPPAM) Methodology³. A baseline will be established during FY 09 and the first quarter of FY 10.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.4. Enhancing citizen awareness and participation 1.5. Strengthening information management
Lack of institutional capacity	2.1. Combating illegal wildlife trade 2.2. Improving protected area management 2.3. Increasing environmental funding

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Improved management in areas of importance for biodiversity conservation (% increase in overall score using adapted methodology) Figures in table are raw total scores. Sums at bottom are percent of total, FY13 target (sum(total score for each site)/ sum of total of all scores for FY13 target).										
Scores for each protected area:										
<i>Samana Bay Area</i>	Establish baseline	Establish baseline	TBD		TBD		TBD		TBD	
<i>Valle Nuevo Area</i>	Establish baseline	Establish baseline	TBD		TBD		TBD		TBD	
Percent of LOP target, composite score.	Establish baseline	Establish baseline	TBD	0.0%	TBD	0.0%	TBD	0.0%	TBD	0.0%

Gender awareness: participation of men and women in the conservation management activities will be documented. Whenever feasible the different roles will be noted. Data gathered for the design of pilot interventions will differentiate by gender whenever appropriate. When necessary, design and scheduling of activities will take into consideration the different needs of men and women.

³ Ervin, J. 2003. WWF: Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management (RAPPAM) Methodology WWF. Gland, Switzerland

1.7 Laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and studies supporting biodiversity conservation. (Output)

EPP is able to support improvement of national policies on natural resource management through a) conducting analysis leading to recommended improvements, and b) supporting an ongoing dialogue with relevant agencies to make them receptive to the process of improvement. This component focuses on natural resource management, especially biodiversity, and especially on the completion of analyses and recommendations that the Government of Dominican Republic can use to improve management. By working at the Policy level, we have the ability to make institutional changes in Dominican Republic that will reduce threats to biodiversity throughout the country.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.5. Strengthening information management
Lack of institutional capacity	2.1. Combating illegal wildlife trade 2.2. Improving protected area management 2.3. Increasing environmental funding
Economic activities	2.2.6 Assessing opportunities in sustainable forestry

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Data in table is ANNUAL; one total is annual, and one is cumulative.										
Subject Area and Measures:										
Zoning plan completed for Samana Bay.										
Analysis and recommendations for a national management plan for recovery of sea turtles, consistent with requirements of CITES.										
Analysis leading to recommendations for better regulation of the timber industry in DR.										
Analysis leading to recommendations for linking ecosystem services (such as freshwater, fisheries) to payment regimes that generate funding for conservation of those ecosystem services.										
Fondo Marena and Protected Areas Trust Fund Operating Procedures										
Analysis and recommendations for the national Public Servant Law to support longer tenure of public servants holding positions critical to long-term management of natural resources.										
Update Red List of endangered species for Dominican republic, and provide recommendations for keeping it up-to-date.										

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Data in table is ANNUAL; one total is annual, and one is cumulative.										
Subject Area and Measures:										
Analysis and recommendations for the legislative context that can provide incentives and a regulatory framework for conservation by private land owners							1			
Annual Total	1	0	4	0	2	0	1	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Total	1	0	5	0	7	0	8	0	TBD	0

Gender awareness: Efforts will be made to ensure equitable participation of men and women in the process of developing the products referred by this indicator. When necessary, design and scheduling of activities will take into consideration the different needs of men and women. Participation in preparatory activities as well as in the decision making process will be documented by gender.

1.8: Improved institutional capacities for the implementation of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management (Outcome)

USAID-EPP main objective is to improve institutional capacities for the implementation of environmental legislation in the DR. Most of the project's activities are oriented to this goal. Policies, laws, agreements and regulations include those formed and formally endorsed by government, non-government, civil society, and/or private sector stakeholders with the intent to strengthen sustainable natural resource management. Implementation is demonstrated by institutional structure, capacity, and investment necessary to carry out changes. USAID-EPP will support the effective implementation of at least the following policies and policy instruments:

- Environmental Impact Assessment
- Cleaner Production
- National Protected Areas System

The project deliverables that will support the implementation of these policy instruments are: training, provision of equipment, development and implementation of procedures, support of participatory processes, base studies and drafted regulations.

From a biodiversity conservation standpoint, this indicator applies to the following threats and activities:

Threat	Sub-components/ Activities
Lack of education and awareness	1.4. Enhancing citizen awareness and participation 1.5. Strengthening information management
Lack of institutional capacity	2.2. Improving protected area management 2.3. Increasing environmental funding
Economic activities	1.2. Improving environmental impact assessments and audits 4.1. Promoting clean production mechanisms 4.2. Promoting environmental management systems

Indicator:	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented with project support.								
Subject Area and Measures:								
<i>Environmental Impact Assessment</i>							TBD	
<i>Cleaner Production</i>	--						TBD	
<i>National Protected Areas System</i>							TBD	
Totals	2	0	3	0	3	0	TBD	0

Appendix A

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet Environmental Protection Program

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet

(i) *Objective 1.1: Environmental Impact Assessment process streamlined (Outcome)*

Indicator 1.1: Improvement in the rate of processing on the national level of Environmental Impact Assessments (% improvement in the rate # EIAs processed per [x time]/#EIAs submitted per [x time])

Date Established: July 2009

a. Description

Precise Definition(s): During the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2010, USAID-USAID-EPP will establish a baseline rate, and whether it should be measured by the average review time per EIA, or by EIAs processed per a unit of time established as the desirable period of review. The period of review will be the total of time in GODR hands, and will not include time that the documentation is awaiting action by non-government entities.

Unit of Measure: *TBD:* We must establish a baseline and future targets as part of our work with SEMARENA during FY09 and the first part of FY10, and then we must also establish what is an appropriate target amount of time – “x time”, above – for processing EIAs. The unit of measure will probably be one of the following:

- a) Average amount of time spent reviewing each EIA, or
- b) Number of EIAs processed (per x time) / number of EIAs submitted (per x time), where “x time” = an appropriate period over which to determine improvement.

Disaggregated by: None.

Justification/Management Utility: Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) represents the first tier of environmental compliance. A responsive, credible EIA procedure, implemented effectively, creates an environment in which regulators can quickly communicate environmental concerns to the business and development community. The backlog of existing EIAs awaiting regulatory review signals the presence of an existing problem in the process; the USAID-USAID-EPP focuses on establishing an efficient process for ongoing review as the measure of success. By establishing a functioning EIA review process, the USAID-USAID-EPP makes it possible to identify development activities that will harm human health and biodiversity, only allowing those activities to proceed once the damaging elements have been removed or appropriately modified.

b. Plan for Data Collection

Data Collection Method: The USAID-EPP will take advantage of the new tracking system that SEMARENA will be implementing with support from USAID-ELE. This system should allow us to have consistent monthly reports on the number of cases submitted and the number processed by SEMARENA. The expected date of deployment of this system is December 2009; in the meantime INTEC will be conducting an assessment of the EIA process situation which will provide the baseline information for this indicator.

Data Source(s): SEMARENA EIA Tracking System; until the system is implemented, the data will be supplied by the department in charge of EIA

Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Once the Unit of Measure is determined, we will collect data and calculate a measure by December 2009 (baseline established), and then once per year each year of the project (in June-July). Reports from the tracking system will be analyzed monthly to assure data consistency.

Estimated Cost of Collection: Cost involved is minimal – only staff time to contact the GODR, request the information, receive the information, and calculate the statistic.

Responsible Organization/Individual(s): INTEC

Location of Data Storage: The data amounts to two figures collected each year. Records will be kept at INTEC and at TNC's offices in Santo Domingo.

c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)

Data Analysis: Rate of EIA review will be compared across all years of the project to verify that the project has been successful in inspiring a faster EIA review process. INTEC and TNC will perform analysis.

Presentation of Data: Tabular, with explanatory text.

Review of Data: Data obtained from GODR will be reviewed by INTEC monthly to assure data consistency, and once each year INTEC will calculate the indicator measure. TNC will do an overall review of data once a year.

Reporting of Data: Data will be reported to USAID as part of the annual PMP report. Results will also be reported to GODR to support monitoring of EIA review efficiency.

d. Data Quality Issues

Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: The quality of the data will be very good, as the figures are simple.

Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): We make the following assumptions:

- SEMARENA provides data on number of EIAs submitted and processed.
- SEMARENA agrees to focus on establishing an efficient process for new EIAs, rather than focusing on a one-time effort to reduce the backlog of EIAs pending review.
- SEMARENA will work with USAID-EPP to establish the appropriate time for review of EIAs.

Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: We will notify SEMARENA in the fall of the need to supply this data, and then remind them periodically during project implementation.

e. Results Tracking Data

Indicator:	FY09 Baseline	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Improvement in the rate of processing on the national level of Environmental Impact Assessments (% improvement in the rate # EIAs processed per [x time]/#EIAs submitted per [x time]). Percentages in table are actual improvement in rate compared to baseline.									
Measures:	Establish Baseline	20%		50%		TBD		TBD	

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet

Objective 1.2: Improved capacity for environmental management and compliance (Output)

Indicator 1.2: *Number of people, including staff of central and municipal government offices, trained in critical areas necessary to support DR-CAFTA demonstrating improved knowledge/attitude/skills based on pre-/post- surveys.*

Date Established: July, 2009.

a. Description

Precise Definition(s): The test population is participants in trainings sponsored by USAID-EPP.

Unit of Measure: Number of staff improving based on survey.

Disaggregated by: Gender, type of training.

Justification/Management Utility: Effective implementation of environmental regulations and laws depends on a) identification of staff responsible for enforcement and oversight, b) knowledge, attitude, skills among those staff relating to processes in which they must engage for enforcement and oversight, and c) implementation of those responsibilities. Implementation of an efficient environmental management and compliance structure by trained staff decreases threats to the environment and provides necessary data for adaptive management of biodiversity.

b. Plan for Data Collection

Data Collection Method: For each training, a survey will be prepared to test the participants' acquisition of the training content. The survey will be administered before and after training.

Data Source(s): Training surveys.

Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Pre- and post-training surveys for each training event.

Estimated Cost of Collection: Minimal. Includes budgeted staff time already.

Responsible Organization/Individual(s): INTEC

Location of Data Storage: TNC offices in DR.

c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)

Data Analysis: INTEC

Presentation of Data: Tabular presentation.

Review of Data: INTEC and TNC will review the data after every training.

Reporting of Data: To USAID and to SEMARENA.

d. Data Quality Issues

Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: Data quality will be very reliable as the pre- and post- test methodology is simple and direct.

Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): None. We are only reliant on government offices to make staff available for training.

Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: Encourage participation in USAID-EPP and USAID-EPP Trainings.

e. Results Tracking Data

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of people, including staff of central and municipal government offices, trained in critical areas necessary to support DR-CAFTA demonstrating improved knowledge/attitude/skills based on pre-/post- surveys. (Number improving). Figures in table are annual; annual and cumulative sums are provided.										
Subject Area and Measures:										
Environmental Law			25				25		TBD	
EIA			40		35				TBD	
Follow up and monitoring process			30				30		TBD	
Municipal environmental management			25		25				TBD	
Micro-watershed management			70						TBD	
CITES					70				TBD	
Environmental executive leadership			25		25				TBD	
Protected areas management			25		25				TBD	
Totals	0	0	240	0	180	0	55	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Totals	0	0	240	0	420	0	475	0	TBD	0

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet	
Objective 1.3: Environmental management policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and studies supporting an improved regulatory environment (Output)	
Indicator 1.3: Number of laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents drafted/# documents submitted).	
Date Established: July 2009.	
a. Description	
<p>Precise Definition(s): USAID-EPP will support SEMARENA in the drafting of environmental management policies, regulations, and administrative procedures to improve environmental management in Dominican Republic. USAID-EPP will also implement studies that generate information necessary to improve laws, policies, regulations, and administrative procedures. To be counted, laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies must be submitted to relevant government agencies.</p> <p>Unit of Measure: Number of laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted.</p> <p>Disaggregated by: Specific law, policy, regulation, administrative procedure, or supporting study.</p> <p>Justification/Management Utility: Effective operation within the regulatory environment depends on a legislative framework supported by efficient regulations and procedures, and based on reliable information. An efficient regulatory structure decreases threats to human health and biodiversity. This indicator captures the subject areas in which the regulatory environment requires review and/or revision, and documents the number of changes developed and proposed by the project.</p>	
b. Plan for Data Collection	
<p>Data Collection Method: We will track progress of laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies under preparation, and count them when they are submitted to the relevant government agency.</p> <p>Data Source(s): TNC and INTEC monitoring of project implementation.</p> <p>Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Whenever these products are delivered to government agencies.</p> <p>Estimated Cost of Collection: Minimal, and captured in project salaries.</p> <p>Responsible Organization/Individual(s): TNC.</p> <p>Location of Data Storage: TNC.</p>	
c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)	
<p>Data Analysis: We will count up the number of products delivered.</p> <p>Presentation of Data: Tabular, with explanatory text.</p> <p>Review of Data: INTEC and TNC.</p> <p>Reporting of Data: Data will be reported annually to USAID.</p>	
d. Data Quality Issues	
<p>Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: Quality is excellent as it is very simple.</p> <p>Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): None</p> <p>Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: N/A</p>	
e. Results Tracking Data	

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of environmental management laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Table features ANNUAL values, not cumulative.										
"Single window" procedure			1							
General Terms of Reference (TOR) for selected sectors			5							
EIA review guides for priority sectors			3							
Monitoring procedure			1							

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of environmental management laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Table features ANNUAL values, not cumulative.										
Municipal environmental ordinances	5		8		8		TBD		TBD	
Public participation regulation			1							
DR-CAFTA communication process			1							
National Environmental Information System (NEIS)]					1		TBD		0	
Clean Production manuals					4		TBD		0	
National environmental audit system					1		TBD		0	
Annual Total	5	0	20	0	14	0	TBD	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Total	5	0	25	0	39	0	TBD	0	TBD	0

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet

Objective 1.4: DR private sector is more environmentally responsible

Indicator 1.4: Number of public-private environmental protection partnerships in place (outcome) (# of voluntary agreements with private sector firms for cleaner production and/or environmental management systems).

Date Established: July 2009.

a. Description

Precise Definition(s): Private Sector includes privately owned companies or “publicly held” corporations that have the potential for a significant impact on environmental quality and biodiversity in DR.

Unit of Measure: Number of voluntary agreements established, cumulative.

Disaggregated by: Partnership.

Justification/Management Utility: Dominican law provides for incentives to stimulate voluntary improvements in environmentally responsible production among private sector companies. “Dirty” production practices threaten human health directly and, through the influence of pollution on ecosystems, ultimately threaten the environmental services that ecological communities need for survival. USAID-EPP will work within this framework to assist willing companies to develop voluntary agreements to increase clean production and decrease the environmental impacts of their productive processes.

b. Plan for Data Collection

Data Collection Method: We will facilitate and count these agreements.

Data Source(s): From our experience with these agreements.

Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: As agreements are finalized.

Estimated Cost of Collection: Minimal and included in budgeted salaries.

Responsible Organization/Individual(s): INTEC.

Location of Data Storage: INTEC and TNC.

c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)

Data Analysis: INTEC will track and store the data.

Presentation of Data: Tabular with explanatory text.

Review of Data: Annual review by INTEC and TNC.

Reporting of Data: In annual PMP report to USAID.

d. Data Quality Issues

Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: The quality of the data will be high.

Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): We make the assumption that SEMARENA, with assistance from USAID-EPP, adopts incentives for private sector to sign agreements. The data itself shouldn’t have limitations as it will be collected from documented project results.

Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: None

e. Results Tracking Data

Indicator	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
DR private sector is more environmentally responsible (# of voluntary agreements with private sector firms for cleaner production or environmental management systems). Figures in table are annual figures.										
Agreement (TBD)			1		1		1			
Agreement (TBD)			1		1		1			
Agreement (TBD)					1		1			
Agreement (TBD)							1			
Agreement (TBD)							1			
Annual Total	0	0	2	0	3	0	5	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Total	0	0	2	0	5	0	10	0	TBD	0

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet
<p>Objective 1.5: Number of hectares under improved natural resource management (Outcome)</p> <p>Indicator 1.5: Number of hectares (terrestrial and marine) under improved natural resource management. (number of hectares)</p> <p>Date Established: July 2009.</p>
<p>a. Description</p> <p>Precise Definition(s): “Improved natural resource management” occurs when a resource management intervention promoted by the project is successfully implemented at a site. These include interventions such as watershed management, habitat restoration, and invasive species control. Hectares counted will represent the total area affected by the intervention. Number of hectares (terrestrial and marine) under improved natural resource management. Annual updates will provide, below, the name of the areas, the number of hectares, and the intervention involved. Target is determined to the right as an aggregate figure. In order to establish what would be the impact for the improvement of natural resources management in selected micro-watersheds, the USAID-EPP will use the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of hectares of forest cover and vegetation recovery from assisting with the planting of key species to promote regeneration. Increase in forest area and vegetation recovery due to non-assisted natural regeneration resulting from improved area management. Conservation of hectares of natural forests that are currently threatened resulting from the implementation of control measures and improved surveillance. <p>Unit of Measure: Number of hectares.</p> <p>Disaggregated by: Area of intervention.</p> <p>Justification/Management Utility: Improved natural resource management results from a favorable regulatory framework, and management within that framework using tools that focus management actions on critical conservation targets and threats to those targets. Pilot projects will demonstrate the application of the regulatory framework and serve as repeatable examples for other biologically important areas. USAID-EPP will support pilot projects in improved natural resource management, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A critical area for improved natural resource management in Dominican Republic is in "micro-watersheds" under the authority of municipalities, as water resources are especially threatened by global climate change. USAID's long-term support of Valle Nuevo National Park has created an opportunity for a SEMARENA-sponsored habitat restoration project. A GEF project is developing a national strategy for invasive species, creating an opportunity to design and possibly implement an invasive species program on Catalina Island.
<p>b. Plan for Data Collection</p> <p>Data Collection Method: In order to document improvement in habitat conditions, during the implementation of the USAID-EPP, we will measure the following parameters: a) ecosystem restoration activities that promote improved vegetation coverage in the watershed will be documented, using GIS technology; b) changes in the use and vegetation cover, along with the vegetation structure and composition will be registered to demonstrate improvement in habitat quality and richness of species diversity, using GIS technology and field data; c) Macro-invertebrates systematic assessment will be conducted during the project life span (seasonally, four field sampling per year) to document improvement in habitat conditions. A baseline assessment will be developed during FY10, and a sample micro-watershed (not affected by the project) will be identified for control purposes.</p> <p>Data Source(s): TNC team.</p> <p>Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Once per year to inform annual report. Annual updates will provide the name of the areas, the number of hectares, and the intervention involved.</p> <p>Estimated Cost of Collection: \$20,000 per year; this has already been included in the budget, as the activities will be part of improved management practices been promoted by the project.</p> <p>Responsible Organization/Individual(s): TNC</p> <p>Location of Data Storage: TNC’s offices in Dominican Republic</p>
<p>c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)</p> <p>Data Analysis: Simple sum of total areas involved.</p> <p>Presentation of Data: Table with explanatory text.</p> <p>Review of Data: TNC will review data for annual report.</p> <p>Reporting of Data: Data will be reported to USAID annually.</p>
<p>d. Data Quality Issues</p>

Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: Data is of high quality.
Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): For successful implementation, we are dependent on the willingness of local communities, municipalities, and SEMARENA.
Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: TNC staff and partners will participate in appropriate stakeholder education and outreach activities to improve adoption of interventions.

e. Results Tracking Data

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of hectares (terrestrial and marine) under improved natural resource management. (Number of hectares). Figures in the table are annual values.										
Measures:										
<i>Name, hectares, and intervention TBD</i>										
<i>Name, hectares, and intervention TBD</i>										
<i>Name, hectares, and intervention TBD</i>										
Annual Total	0	0	0	0	800		900		1100	
Cumulative Total	0	0	0		800		1700		2800	

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet
<p>Objective 1.6: Areas of importance for biodiversity conservation under improved management. (Outcome)</p> <p>Indicator 1.6: Improved management in areas of importance for biodiversity conservation (% increase in overall score using adapted methodology)</p> <p>Date Established: July 2009.</p>
<p>a. Description</p> <p>Precise Definition(s): Improved management will be measured using a methodology adapted from the WWF Rapid Assessment and Prioritization of Protected Area Management (RAPPAM) Methodology.</p> <p>Unit of Measure: % Increase of score on adapted RAPPAM Methodology.</p> <p>Disaggregated by: Identity of protected area.</p> <p>Justification/Management Utility: Existing policies and regulations stipulate management requirements for protected areas, but in many cases, protected area managers do not have the capacity to meet those requirements. A component of the USAID-EPP builds this management capacity, turning the regulatory structure into actual management of land and water. The USAID-EPP will carry out activities to improve SEMARENA's and NGO's capacities to manage natural protected areas and other areas of importance for biodiversity conservation. Initially the project will focus in the Samana bay area and in Valle Nuevo.</p>
<p>b. Plan for Data Collection</p> <p>Data Collection Method: Evaluation of management status using adapted RAPPAM methodology, led by TNC, and involving participation of SEMARENA and NGOs as appropriate.</p> <p>Data Source(s): Inspection, interviews, evidence of management tools (such as management plans) completed and implemented.</p> <p>Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Once per year.</p> <p>Estimated Cost of Collection: Minimal, budgeted salaries and meetings with key informants (estimated cost for meetings approximately US\$3000 per year),</p> <p>Responsible Organization/Individual(s): TNC.</p> <p>Location of Data Storage: TNC's office in Dominican Republic.</p>
<p>c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)</p> <p>Data Analysis: The methodology will be applied once a year, and the overall percentage improvement in the scores will provide the measure of progress. The adapted RAPPAM methodology will have indicators ranked 1-4. Each site will be evaluated for each indicator, and a composite score for each site will be the sum of the values of each of the scorecard's indicators. We will set LOP and at least the first annual target for all indicators and the composite score. Overall progress of this indicator will be measured as the percentage of the annual LOP composite target achieved.</p> <p>Presentation of Data: Table, with explanatory text.</p> <p>Review of Data: TNC.</p> <p>Reporting of Data: To USAID and relevant partner institutions.</p>
<p>d. Data Quality Issues</p> <p>Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: Data quality is good, but affected by the perceptions of those involved. TNC will set a baseline during the first year of implementation in any protected natural area.</p> <p>Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): TNC's experience with scorecard methodologies is that indicators are difficult to target because so much depends on local institutions for success. Backing by leaders within SEMARENA, and the enabling environment created by the administration in office, can undermine progress. Presidential elections can result in the replacement of trained staff responsible for managing protected areas, setting back the process of strengthening management capacity. Also, the value of some indicators is subject to perception of the evaluators involved.</p> <p>Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: Annual evaluations and adjustment of targets will help to keep targets as realistic as possible. Good relationships with NGOs and SEMARENA will help sustain political will for improvement. TNC's accompaniment of methodology application will reduce variance that might be introduced by differences in perception.</p>
<p>e. Results Tracking Data</p>

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Improved management in areas of importance for biodiversity conservation (% increase in overall score using adapted methodology) Figures in table are raw total scores. Sums at bottom are percent of total, FY13 target (sum(total score for each site)/ sum of total of all scores for FY13 target).										
Scores for each protected area:										
<i>Samana Bay Area</i>	Establish baseline	Establish baseline*	TBD*		TBD*		TBD*		TBD	
<i>Valle Nuevo Area</i>	Establish baseline	Establish baseline	TBD		TBD		TBD		TBD	
Percent of LOP target, composite score.	Establish baseline	Establish baseline*	TBD*	0.0%	TBD*	0.0%	TBD*	0.0%	TBD	0.0%

* To be establish by end of first quarter FY10

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet

Objective 1.7: Policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and studies supporting biodiversity conservation. (Output)
Indicator 1.7: Number of biodiversity policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents drafted and # documents submitted).
Date Established: July 2009.

a. Description

Precise Definition(s): Each policy, regulation, administrative procedure, or supporting study that USAID-EPP supports and completes counts as one deliverable focused on improving the enabling environment in DR.
Unit of Measure: The number of these deliverables completed and/or submitted to relevant agencies.
Disaggregated by: Law, policy, regulation, administrative procedure, or supporting study
Justification/Management Utility: USAID-EPP is able to support improvement of national policies on natural resource management through a) conducting analysis leading to recommended improvements, and b) supporting an ongoing dialogue with relevant agencies to make them receptive to the process of improvement. This component focuses on natural resource management, especially biodiversity, and especially on the completion of analyses and recommendations that the Government of Dominican Republic can use to improve management. By working at the Policy level, we have the ability to make institutional changes in Dominican Republic that will reduce threats to biodiversity throughout the country.

b. Plan for Data Collection

Data Collection Method: TNC will track the number of deliverables completed and submitted.
Data Source(s): TNC project implementation.
Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Once per year.
Estimated Cost of Collection: Minimal and included in salary budget.
Responsible Organization/Individual(s): TNC
Location of Data Storage: TNC office in DR.

c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)

Data Analysis: TNC USAID-EPP staff will sum the number of deliverables.
Presentation of Data: Table, with explanatory text.
Review of Data: TNC
Reporting of Data: Reported to USAID.

d. Data Quality Issues

Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: Quality is high.
Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): Relevant government agencies must cooperate with process, both during analysis and as the ultimate recipients of the products.
Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: We will work closely with receiving agencies in government to cultivate their buy-in to the deliverables.

e. Results Tracking Data

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
<p>Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Data is table is ANNUAL; one total is annual, and one is cumulative.</p>										
Subject Area and Measures:										
Zoning plan completed for Samana Bay.			1							
Analysis and recommendations for a national management plan for recovery of sea turtles, consistent with requirements			1							

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Data is table is ANNUAL; one total is annual, and one is cumulative.										
Subject Area and Measures:										
of CITES.										
Analysis leading to recommendations for better regulation of the timber industry in DR.										
Analysis leading to recommendations for linking ecosystem services (such as freshwater, fisheries) to payment regimes that generate funding for conservation of those ecosystem services.										
Fondo Marena and Protected Areas Trust Fund Operating Procedures										
Analysis and recommendations for the national Public Servant Law to support longer tenure of public servants holding positions critical to long-term management of natural resources.										
Update Red List of endangered species for Dominican republic, and provide recommendations for keeping it up-to-date.										

Indicator:	FY09 Target	FY09 Actual	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of biodiversity laws, policies, regulations, administrative procedures, and supporting studies completed and submitted to relevant government agencies (# documents submitted). Data is table is ANNUAL; one total is annual, and one is cumulative.										
Subject Area and Measures:										
Analysis and recommendations for the legislative context that can provide incentives and a regulatory framework for conservation by private land owners							1			
Annual Total	1	0	4	0	2	0	1	0	TBD	0
Cumulative Total	1	0	5	0	7	0	8	0	TBD	0

Performance Indicator Reference Sheet
<p>Objective 1.8: <i>Improved institutional capacities for the implementation of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management (Outcome)</i></p> <p>Indicator 1.8: Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented</p> <p>.</p> <p>Date Established: July 2009.</p>
a. Description
<p>Precise Definition(s): Policies, laws, agreements and regulations include those formed and formally endorsed by government, non-government, civil society, and/or private sector stakeholders with the intent to strengthen sustainable natural resource management. Implementation is demonstrated by institutional structure, capacity, and investment necessary to carry out changes. USAID-EPP will support the effective implementation of at least the following policies and policy instruments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental Impact Assessment 2. Cleaner Production 3. National Protected Areas System <p>The project deliverables that will support the implementation of these policy instruments are: training, provision of equipment, development and implementation of procedures, support of participatory processes, base studies and drafted regulations.</p> <p>Unit of Measure: The number of these policies, laws, agreements or regulations that are being implemented with project support.</p> <p>Disaggregated by: Type of policy, law, agreement or regulation.</p> <p>Justification/Management Utility: USAID-EPP main objective is to improve institutional capacities for the implementation of environmental legislation in the DR. Most of the project's activities are oriented to this goal.</p>
b. Plan for Data Collection
<p>Data Collection Method: TNC will track the implementation of these policies, agreements or regulations being resulting from project's support.</p> <p>Data Source(s): TNC project implementation.</p> <p>Timing/Frequency of Data Collection: Once per year.</p> <p>Estimated Cost of Collection: Minimal and included in salary budget.</p> <p>Responsible Organization/Individual(s): TNC</p> <p>Location of Data Storage: TNC office in DR.</p>
c. Plan for Data Analysis, Reporting, and Review (schedule, methodology, responsibility)
<p>Data Analysis: TNC USAID-EPP staff will.</p> <p>Presentation of Data: Table, with explanatory text.</p> <p>Review of Data: TNC</p> <p>Reporting of Data: Reported to USAID.</p>
d. Data Quality Issues
<p>Initial Data Quality Assessment or Date of Initial Data Quality Assessment: Initial assessment in FY10.</p> <p>Known Data Limitations and Significance (if any): Relevant government agencies must cooperate with process, both during analysis and as the ultimate recipients of the products.</p> <p>Actions Taken or Planned to Address Data Limitations: We will work closely with receiving agencies in government to cultivate their buy-in to the deliverables.</p>
e. Results Tracking Data

Indicator:	FY10 Target	FY10 Actual	FY11 Target	FY11 Actual	FY12 Target	FY12 Actual	FY13 Target	FY13 Actual
Number of policies, laws, agreements or regulations promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented with project support.								
Subject Area and Measures:								
<i>Environmental Impact Assessment</i>							TBD	
<i>Cleaner Production</i>	--						TBD	
<i>National Protected Areas System</i>							TBD	
Totals	2	0	3	0	3	0	TBD	0