

**FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR THIRD PARTY DONORS
BETWEEN SWEDEN, REPRESENTED BY STOCKHOLMS UNIVERSITET, SWEDBIO AT
STOCKHOLM RESILIENCE CENTRE (THE DONOR) AND
THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

WHEREAS the Donor hereby agrees to contribute funds to UNDP (hereinafter referred to as “the Contribution”) for the implementation of Support to the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net) Phase II (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”), as described in the Project document Project no: 00119833 Biodiversity and Ecosystem II, in Cambodia, Malawi and Thailand, and submitted to the Donor for information. The Donor project number: SU 481 6.1.1-0099-21. Agreement period: 2021-07-01 – 2024-12-31.

WHEREAS UNDP is prepared to receive and administer the Contribution for the implementation of the Project,

WHEREAS the Government of Sweden, represented by Stockholms universitet, SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre, has been duly informed of the Contribution of the Donor to the Project,

WHEREAS UNDP shall designate an Implementing Partner for the implementation of the Project (hereinafter referred to as the “Implementing Partner”),

NOW THEREFORE, UNDP and the Donor hereby agree as follows:

Article I. The Contribution

1. (a) The Donor shall, in accordance with the schedule of payments set out below, contribute to UNDP the amount of two million three hundred thousand (2,300,000) Swedish Krona (SEK). The Contribution shall be deposited in:

Bank Name: NORDEA BANK SWEDEN A.B.
Address: Foreign Customer Services
P.O.Box 16081/Drottninggatan 4
SE - 103 22 Stockholm, Sweden
Account Name: UNDP Contributions (SEK) Account
Account Number: 48491300046
SWIFT Code: NDEASESS
IBAN No.: SE4530000000048491300046
Currency of Account: SEK

<u>Schedule of payments</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Upon signature 2021	SEK 575,000
30 June 2022	SEK 575,000
30 June 2023	SEK 575,000
30 June 2024	SEK 575,000

(b) The Donor will inform UNDP when the Contribution is paid via an e-mail message with remittance information to contributions@undp.org, providing the following information: donor's name, UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, Project no. 00119833 - Biodiversity and Ecosystem II, and donor reference SU 481 6.1.1-0099-21. This information should also be included in the bank remittance advice when funds are remitted to UNDP.

2. The value of the payment, if made in a currency other than United States dollars, shall be determined by applying the United Nations operational rate of exchange in effect on the date of payment. Should there be a change in the United Nations operational rate of exchange prior to the full utilization by the UNDP of the payment, the value of the balance of funds still held at that time will be adjusted accordingly. If, in such a case, a loss in the value of the balance of funds is recorded, UNDP shall inform the Donor with a view to determining whether any further financing could be provided by the Donor. Should such further financing not be available, the assistance to be provided to the Project may be reduced, suspended or terminated by UNDP.

3. The above schedule of payments takes into account the requirement that the payments shall be made in advance of the implementation of planned activities. It may be amended to be consistent with the progress of Project delivery.

4. UNDP shall receive and administer the payment in accordance with the rules, regulations, policies and procedures of UNDP.

5. All financial accounts and statements shall be expressed in United States dollars.

Article II. Utilization of the Contribution

1. The implementation of the responsibilities of UNDP and of the Implementing Partner pursuant to this Agreement and the Project document shall be dependent on receipt by UNDP of the Contribution in accordance with the schedule of payment as set out in Article I, paragraph 1, above. UNDP shall not start the implementation of the activities prior to receiving the Contribution or the first tranche of the Contribution (whichever is applicable).

2. If unforeseen increases in expenditures or commitments are expected or realized (whether owing to inflationary factors, fluctuation in exchange rates or unforeseen contingencies), UNDP shall submit to the Donor on a timely basis a supplementary estimate showing the further financing that will be necessary. The Donor shall use its best endeavors to make available to UNDP the additional funds required. All losses (including but not limited to losses as result of currency exchange fluctuations) shall be charged to the Project.

3. If the payments referred to in Article I, paragraph 1, above are not received in accordance with the payment schedule, or if the additional financing required in accordance with paragraph 2 above is not forthcoming from the Donor or other sources, the assistance to be provided to the Project under this Agreement may be reduced, suspended or terminated by UNDP.

Article III. Administration and reporting

1. Project management and expenditures shall be governed by the regulations, rules policies and procedures of UNDP and, where applicable, the regulations, rules, policies and procedures of the Implementing Partner.
2. UNDP shall provide to the Donor the following reports in accordance with UNDP accounting and reporting procedures.
 - (a) From UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support an annual status report of Project progress for the duration of this Agreement, as well as the latest available approved budget.
 - (b) From UNDP Bureau for Management Services/Offices of Financial Resources Management, an annual certified financial statement as of 31 December every year to be submitted no later than 30 June of the following year.
 - (c) From UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support within six months after the date of completion or termination of this Agreement, a final report summarizing Project activities and impact of activities as well as provisional financial data.
 - (d) From UNDP Bureau for Management Services/Offices of Financial Resources Management, on completion of the Project, a certified financial statement to be submitted no later than 30 June of the year following the financial closing of the Project.
3. If special circumstances so warrant, UNDP may provide more frequent reporting at the expense of the Donor. The nature and frequency of this reporting shall be detailed in an annex to this Agreement.

Article IV. General Management Support services

1. In accordance with the decisions, policies and procedures of UNDP's Executive Board reflected in its Policy on Cost Recovery from Other Resources, the Contribution shall be subject to cost recovery for indirect costs incurred by UNDP headquarters and country office structures in providing General Management Support (GMS) services. To cover these GMS costs, the Contribution shall be charged a fee equal to at least 8%. Furthermore, as long as they are unequivocally linked to the Project, all direct costs of implementation, including the costs of Implementing Partner, will be identified in the Project budget against a relevant budget line and borne by the Project accordingly.
2. The aggregate of the amounts budgeted for the Project, together with the estimated costs of reimbursement of related support services, shall not exceed the total resources available to the Project under this Agreement as well as funds which may be available to the Project for Project costs and for support costs under other sources of financing.

Article V. Evaluation

All UNDP Programmes and Projects are evaluated in accordance with UNDP Evaluation Policy. UNDP and SwedBio in consultation with other stakeholders will jointly agree on the purpose, use, timing, financing

mechanisms and terms of reference for evaluating a Project including an evaluation of its Contribution to an outcome which is listed in the Evaluation Plan. UNDP shall commission the evaluation, and the evaluation exercise shall be carried out by external independent evaluators.

Article VI. Equipment

Ownership of equipment, supplies and other properties financed from the Contribution shall vest in UNDP. Matters relating to the transfer of ownership by UNDP shall be determined in accordance with the relevant policies and procedures of UNDP.

Article VII. Auditing

The Contribution shall be subject exclusively to the internal and external auditing procedures provided for in the Financial Regulations and Rules, policies and procedures of UNDP. Should the annual Audit Report of the UN Board of Auditors to its governing body contain observations relevant to the Contribution, such information shall be made available to the Donor by the UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.

Article VIII. Completion of the Agreement

1. UNDP shall notify the Donor when all activities relating to the Project have been completed in accordance with the Prodoc.
2. Notwithstanding the completion of the Project, UNDP shall continue to hold unutilized funds from the Contribution until all commitments and liabilities incurred in implementation of the Project have been satisfied and Project activities brought to an orderly conclusion.
3. If the unutilized funds prove insufficient to meet such commitments and liabilities, UNDP shall notify the Donor and consult with the Donor on the manner in which such commitments and liabilities may be satisfied.
4. In cases where the Project is completed in accordance with the project document any funds below 5,000 USD (five thousand US Dollars) that remain unexpended after all commitments and liabilities have been satisfied shall be automatically reallocated by UNDP. Any funds above 5,000 USD (five thousand US Dollars) that remain unexpended after all commitments and liabilities have been satisfied shall be reallocated by UNDP after consultation with the Donor.

Article IX. Termination of the Agreement

1. This Agreement may be terminated by UNDP or by the Donor after consultations between the Donor, UNDP and the programme country Government, and provided that the funds from the Contribution already received are, together with other funds available to the Project, sufficient to meet all commitments and liabilities

incurred in the implementation of the Project. This Agreement shall cease to be in force 30 (thirty) days after either of the Parties have given notice in writing to the other Party of its decision to terminate this Agreement.

2. Notwithstanding termination of all or part of this Agreement, UNDP shall continue to hold unutilized funds until all commitments and liabilities incurred in the implementation of all or the part of the Project have been satisfied and Project activities brought to an orderly conclusion.

3. In cases where this Agreement is terminated before Project completion any funds below 5,000 USD (five thousand US Dollars) that remain unexpended after all commitments and liabilities have been satisfied shall be automatically reallocated by UNDP. Any funds above 5,000 USD (five thousand US Dollars) that remain unexpended after all commitments and liabilities have been satisfied shall be reallocated by UNDP after consultation with the Donor.

Article X. Fraud and Anti-Corruption Measures

The Parties agree that it is important to take all necessary precautions to avoid corrupt practices. To this end, UNDP shall maintain standards of conduct to govern the performance of its staff, including of corrupt practices in connection with the award and administration of contracts, grants, or other benefits, as set forth in the Staff Regulations and Rules of the United Nations, the UNDP Financial Regulations and Rules, and the UNDP Procurement Manual.

Article XI. Anti-Terrorism Measures

Consistent with numerous United Security Council resolutions, including S/RES/1269 (1999), S/RES 1368 (2001), and S/RES/1373 (2001), both the Donor and UNDP are firmly committed to the international fight against terrorism, and in particular, against the financing of terrorism. It is the policy of UNDP to seek to ensure that none of its funds are used, directly or indirectly, to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism. In accordance with this policy, UNDP undertakes to use reasonable efforts to ensure that none of the Donor funds provided under this Agreement are used to provide support to individuals or entities associated with terrorism.

Article XII: Notice

Any notice or correspondence between UNDP and the Donor will be addressed as follows:

(a) To the Donor: Ashanapuri Hertz, Programme Officer, SwedBio

Address: Stockholm Resilience Centre/SwedBio, Stockholms universitet
Kräfftriket 2B, 106 91 Stockholm, Sweden

(b) Upon receipt of funds, UNDP shall send an electronic receipt to the Donor email address provided below as confirmation that the remitted funds have been received by UNDP

Donor email address: ashanapuri.hertz@su.se

Attention: Ashanapuri Hertz, Programme Officer

(c) To UNDP: Anne Juepner, Director, Global Policy Centre

Address: United Nations Development Programme

Article XIII. Amendment of the Agreement

This Agreement may be amended through an exchange of letters between the Donor and UNDP. The letters exchanged to this effect shall become an integral part of this Agreement.

Article XIV. Entry Into Force

This Agreement shall enter into force upon the signature of this Agreement by the parties hereto, on the date of the last signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed the present Agreement in the English language in two copies.

For the Donor:

Henrik Brundin
Director, SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre
(Date)

For the United Nations Development Programme:

Haoliang Xu
Haoliang Xu
Director, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support
(Date) 24-Sep-2021

Annex 1: Coordination Levy United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/279

Annex 2: Project proposal

Annex 3: Budget

ANNEX – COORDINATION LEVY
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION A/RES/72/279

The present Annex is an integral part of the **FINANCING AGREEMENT FOR THIRD PARTY DONORS BETWEEN SWEDEN, REPRESENTED BY STOCKHOLMS UNIVERSITET, SWEDBIO AT STOCKHOLM RESILIENCE CENTRE (THE DONOR) AND THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)**

Pursuant to paragraph 10(a) of United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/RES/72/279 (31 May 2018), the Donor agrees that an amount corresponding to 1% of the total contribution to UNDP shall be paid to finance the United Nations Resident Coordinator System. This amount, hereinafter referred to as the “coordination levy” will be held in trust by UNDP until transfer to the United Nations Secretariat for deposit into the United Nations Special Purpose Trust Fund, which has been established to finance the United Nations Resident Coordinator System and is managed by the United Nations Secretariat.

The Donor acknowledges and agrees that once the coordination levy has been transferred by UNDP to the United Nations Secretariat, UNDP is not responsible for the use of the coordination levy and does not assume any liability. The fiduciary responsibility lies entirely with the United Nations Secretariat as the manager of the Resident Coordination System.

The Donor acknowledges and agrees the coordination levy does not form part of UNDP's cost recovery and is additional to the costs of UNDP to implement the activity or activities covered by the contribution. Accordingly, there is no obligation for UNDP to refund the levy, in part or in full, even where the activities covered by the contribution are not carried out in full by UNDP. As deemed necessary by the donor, however, especially where the scale of the resources concerned or reputational risk justify the refund transaction costs, the donor can submit a request for refund to the United Nations Secretariat directly.

UNDP will not administer the coordination levy. UNDP will not report on the use of the coordination levy. UNDP does not have any liability on the use of the coordination levy by the United Nations Secretariat. Clarifications on the administration, reporting and/or use of the coordination levy by the United Nations Secretariat shall be discussed by the Donor and the United Nations Secretariat on bilateral basis.

A Contribution of SEK. Two Million. Two Hundred and Seventy-Seven Thousand. Two Hundred and Twenty-Seven Point Six Eight (2.277.227.68) is made under the Agreement. In addition to the Contribution amount, the Donor is paying a coordination levy amount of SEK. Twenty-Two Thousand. Seven Hundred and Seventy-Two Point Three Two (22.772.32). This coordination levy amount will be transferred to UNDP at the bank account indicated in the Agreement immediately after its signature.

PROPOSAL FOR SWEDBIO SUPPORT TO BES-NET PHASE II

1. Background Description and Problem Analysis

1.1. Background

SwedBio's catalytic support to the first phase of the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network (BES-Net I) in 2016-2020 has contributed tremendously to the achievement of the project's objectives and results framework, particularly for improving the environment for effective dialogue, mutual learning and collaborative actions among scientists/other knowledge holders, policymakers and practitioners towards the achievement of common BES goals. Building on the successful experiences of BES-Net I and in view of the strong demand to continuously support the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services' (IPBES) Rolling Work Programme up to 2030, the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety (BMU) kindly agreed to extend its support to the second phase of BES-Net (BES-Net II). BES-Net II will be implemented over the period of 2020-2028 with a total budget of US\$ 21.6 million to be channeled through BMU's International Climate Initiative (IKI).

BES-Net II draws from, and maintains, the proven practices under BES-Net I at national (e.g. national ecosystem assessments [NEAs]), regional (e.g. regional science-policy-practice dialogue support, or "Dialogues") and global (e.g. online BES platform and networking support) levels. At the same time, the project extends its interventions to the new key priority areas based on the needs, interests and recommendations provided by the donor, the BES-Net Advisory Committee members, the BES-Net I beneficiaries and other project partners. They include, among others, the provision of technical and financial support at the post-NEA/Regional Dialogue stage and the improved engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) across the project components at national, regional and global levels. To this end, the BES-Net consortium was expanded, and the project implementation is now supported jointly by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) and the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) - three of the four UN collaborative partners to IPBES.

1.2. Problem analysis

Currently, UNEP-WCMC leads in providing the selected countries with capacity building support to conduct NEAs, which complement the assessments being undertaken by IPBES. Referring closely to the IPBES Guide on the Production of Assessment and leveraging the expertise of the Sub-Global Assessment Network (SGAN), NEAs provide a critical evidence-base on nature's contributions to people that can support country decision-making. As credible, transparent and relevant tools, NEAs help integrate considerations regarding biodiversity and ecosystem services (BES) across all sectors, thus seek to bring together a diverse range of knowledge holders and create a shared understanding of the linkages between nature and human wellbeing.

Indigenous and local knowledge (ILK) holds important information that can support understanding, monitoring, sustainable use and management of BES as IPLCs manage at least eight per cent of the world's biodiversity. Also, IPLCs' livelihoods, lifestyles and well-being are largely dependent on ecosystem services. Therefore, they are not only key practitioners in the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems but also, they may be directly affected by BES policies. As such, meaningful engagement of IPLCs in BES policy

formulation and implementation will likely enhance biodiversity and ecosystems conservation (through utilization of ILK and customary governance structures) as well as uphold the rights of indigenous peoples. NEAs are expected to set the stage for the engagement of IPLCs.

International norms are also developing around the inclusion of ILK in the ecosystem assessments. IPBES, in particular through the Platform's recent global assessment, demonstrated the importance of a rigorous, systematic multiple evidence base (MEB) approach to working with ILK, and the strengths that this can bring to the ecosystem assessments. The global assessment and other IPBES assessments have also shown the ways that this can benefit IPLCs, whose knowledge and concerns are represented in the assessments, giving them a platform in subsequent policy discussions.

Meanwhile, however, most ILK remains undocumented and is consequently inaccessible to assessment authors, even if those authors are anthropologists or indigenous peoples. In the case of NEAs, there is an opportunity to catalyse and support local-level research and dialogue that will mobilise knowledge that can inform the assessments. This must be done in ways that are respectful of community-based ways of knowing, and which maintain community control over research and its products.

This effort can in turn be an important demonstration of how the links between knowledge, respect and collaboration can be formed from local to national levels, with significance also for global biodiversity processes such as IPBES, where mobilizing local-level research is also an aim.

As outlined in Table 1, a total of 11 target countries are currently participating in the NEA process in three tranches. Some of the Tranche I countries have piloted the engagement of IPLCs in the assessment process.

Table 1: Ongoing National Ecosystem Assessments

NEA Tranches	Countries	Supporting Project	Global Supporters	Assessment Stages
Tranche I	Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia, Viet Nam	BES-Net I & II	UNEP-WCMC; UNDP	Final validation
Tranche II	Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Grenada	NEA Initiative	UNEP-WCMC	Expert evaluation
Tranche III	Dominican Republic, Malawi, Thailand	BES-Net II	UNEP-WCMC; UNDP; UNESCO	Scoping

At present, Tranche II countries, supported by UNEP-WCMC's National Ecosystem Assessment Initiative, a sister project to BES-Net also funded by BMU/IKI, are embarking on the expert evaluation stage of the assessment, while Tranche III countries, supported under BES-Net II, are initiating the scoping process. A series of lessons sharing sessions have already been ongoing among the three tranches of countries to raise awareness among the beneficiary countries on the crucial roles that ILK holders play in understanding and managing BES capacity. Consequently, both Tranche II and III countries expressed their willingness to formally adopt the MEB approach and placed a request for the support of UNEP-WCMC and the broader BES-Net consortium to address a wide range of questions, which include, among others:

- How to develop a partnership with IPLCs and engage/work with them in the context of NEAs;
- Which techniques and approaches to be used to work effectively with IPLCs in remote areas and the COVID-19 context;

- What kind of considerations to be made to work together with IPLCs on the project communication and communication materials development, including the most appropriate and agreeable methods for documenting/capturing traditional knowledge/ILK and reflecting in databases;
- How to integrate/transcribe/reflect observations and analysis from different knowledge systems in NEAs, and jointly identify policy options for IPLC biodiversity conservation/management;
- How to identify and strengthen mechanisms for bringing IPLC knowledge and voices into biodiversity policy over the longer-term; and
- How to explore collaboration with regional partners.

The diversity of the needs and experiences of the NEA teams will showcase the importance of wide stakeholder engagement and the creative interface of diverse knowledge systems when conducting NEAs, providing specific examples for other countries to learn from and be inspired by.

2. Strategy

2.1. Overall Aim

The overall aim of the project is to build capacity and enhance the collaboration among the scientists, policymakers and practitioners to co-generate knowledge on BES and jointly design evidence-informed, strategic and transformative solutions for the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable management and use of essential ecosystem services.

The project will be well integrated into the framework of the broader BES-Net II initiative and implemented in a manner to complement and contribute to the BES-Net II's second output which intends to improve access to policy-relevant BES evidence base and promote utilization of new knowledge promoted in the target countries through the completed NEAs, encompassing the Summary for Policy Makers and the technical reports for all relevant sectors, as well as, the communication materials and processes to facilitate uptake of the assessment findings.

Rich biodiversity and healthy ecosystems are at the heart of development, underpinning societal well-being and economic growth. Improved understanding of BES, in terms of their values, status and trends, in the target countries will thus be a key to unlock the path to sustainable development.

2.2. Specific Objectives and Expected Outcomes and Activities

The specific objective of the project is to improve the multiple evidence basis of NEAs and regional understanding of transdisciplinary cooperation in safeguarding and restoring ecosystems. The project will seek to strengthen the respective capacity of entities designated to develop the assessment reports and IPLCs to engage in bringing ILK into the NEA process. It will help enhance MEB practices, build intercultural equity, and evolve new norms and practices of transdisciplinary cooperation throughout the NEA phases and steps in the target countries, which are contributory to science, beneficial for society and instrumental for policymaking.

To this end, by making full use of the comparative advantages of the consortium members, i.e. UNDP on stakeholder engagement, UNEP-WCMC on NEA and UNESCO on ILK, the proposed project will jointly support the selected Tranche II and III countries in:

- Raising awareness of the key principles pertinent to the IPLC engagements among the NEA teams, such as the authors and the national BES science-policy platforms;
- Supporting the co-developing of approaches and methodologies for working with ILK between NEA teams and IPLCs in the target countries, including building on and implementing the MEB approach and other related participatory frameworks into the entire assessment process;
- Supporting the identification of key ILK holders in the target countries and facilitating their participation in the NEA process;
- Facilitating a series of meetings among the ILK holders and NEA country teams in online/face-to-face hybrid formats, where situations permit within and among the target countries; and
- Providing support to NEA processes and other relevant national BES instruments on alternative approaches to ILK mobilisation, identifying existing good practices, such as community-led research, participatory modelling and mapping, walking workshops, seasonal calendars and other methods that allow IPLCs to bring tacit knowledge into explicit exchanges.

In line with the SwedBio collaboration criteria and based on the discussion at the consultation meeting, the support of the proposed project at the national level will be directed primarily to Cambodia, Malawi and Thailand. Meanwhile, at the regional level, the experiences from the three countries, both what worked and did not work, will be shared with other countries undertaking or interested in NEA, taking advantage of the NEA Initiative and the SGA Network, e.g. by organizing online topical events that could bring together the sub-regional assessment community, to enhance mutual learning and improve the global interest in the thematic issue. The corrective lessons from the Tranche I-III countries will also provide critical insights to the work of IPBES, by sharing the status and key lessons with the BES-Net Advisory Committee and passing them on to the IPBES Technical Support Unit on ILK, which is supported by UNESCO. To ensure continuity, upon the completion of NEAs, BES-Net II will provide Tranche II and III countries with continuous technical and catalytic financial support to help in the uptake of key assessment messages into concerned policy, science and practice sectors.

These interventions will contribute to generating a number of positive results, which include, among others:

- Refined and expanded knowledge base on BES in the target countries, which will, in turn, increased evidence-based policy actions at (sub-)national and higher levels;
- Empowered ILK holders and improved participation of IPLCs in national/other BES related decision-making process, such as the National Adaptation Plans and National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans;
- Increased awareness of the key roles of ILK holders and widened methodological approaches to engage them in the future assessment processes;
- Establishment/enhancement of sub-regional norms and ways of working that respect ILK holders and their ways of knowing;
- Strengthened national capacity for transdisciplinary cooperation on environmental knowledge that is policy-relevant;
- Strengthened policy-science-practice BES network at national, regional and higher levels; and
- Support to emerging norms in knowledge generation and preparations of environmental assessments to effectively achieve transdisciplinary cooperation and multiple evidence bases.

Table 2 provides a detailed overview of the proposed interventions and the anticipated results.

3. Methods

3.1. Project Methods

The project methods will be co-designed by IPLCs, local-level partners, assessment teams/authors and the BES-Net consortium of UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO, and will therefore be adapted to the needs of the countries and localities as appropriate. The project activities will be implemented by following the general steps, which encompass:

- *Mapping of communities for project engagement*, which may include recognized indigenous communities, and local communities with historical and continued engagement in resource-based, small-scale or artisanal livelihood practices;
- *Mapping of local-level partners and networks*, including ILK researchers, community groups and knowledge holders and experts who are connected to and may facilitate work with the project engagement communities;
- *Co-design of community-level ILK research*, working with communities and local-level partners. Methods developed may include walking workshops, dialogue workshops, participatory mapping, yarning and/or semi-structured interviews, as appropriate. Results may be documented as reports, maps, videos or other forms deemed appropriate by IPLCs and NEA country teams. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be a key consideration throughout;
- *Implementation of community-based ILK research methodologies* and documentation of results;
- *Dialogue workshops* between NEA country teams and IPLCs, for discussion of community-level research results with NEA author teams, to facilitate, review and verify the inclusion of community ILK research results into the NEA; and
- *On-going support* will be given to NEA country teams by UNESCO, UNDP and UNEP-WCMC for the inclusion of community ILK research results into NEAs.

Recognizing that IPLCs have rights to participate in decision-making processes that impact on their livelihoods and cultures, the implementation of the project shall largely be based on FPIC principles and a human rights-based approach. This shall help to ensure that biodiversity and ecosystem policies and projects developed from the NEA are approved and accepted by IPLCs and that they conform to and respect the rights of IPLCs. Furthermore, the implementation of this project shall be characterized by democratic participation of right holders, non-discrimination of IPLCs, transparency, accountability as well as equitable representation in terms of gender, regions and all relevant IPLCs.

3.2. Monitoring and Evaluation Methods

Monitoring

Monitoring, both technical and financial, improves the effectiveness and efficiency of the project by regularly reviewing performance and using evidence to adjust activities for optimal results. It will be undertaken as a continuous management function that provides the project team with regular feedback. Evidence from monitoring also serves as a critical input to evaluation and enables evidence-based reporting. In compliance with the UNDP Monitoring Policy (2016), an annual progress review will be held internally to:

- a) Track performance through the collection of appropriate and credible data and other evidence.

- b) Analyze evidence against defined programming and operational baselines, milestones, targets and the theory of change to inform management decision-making, improve effectiveness and efficiency, and adjust programming as necessary. The process encompasses:
 - a. Verifying output progress and/or completion;
 - b. Reviewing transition arrangements, national ownership and sustainability plan;
 - c. Assessing risks and implementation of risk management measures;
 - d. Assessing operational performance and quality; and
 - e. Reviewing the strategies on partnerships and stakeholder engagement, knowledge management and communication and gender.
- c) Highlight performance and lessons to facilitate learning and support accountability.

Based on the review, the project will produce the annual narrative and financial reports, as well as the annual certified financial statements, and submitted them to the donor with strict adherence to the reporting timeframe set in the donor agreement.

The project team will also aim at organizing face-to-face meetings with the donor, at least once a year during the Agreement period, to share the project status and progress in detail either virtually, or face-to-face at project events or IPBES related events such as the IPBES Plenary.

Evaluation

The project evaluation will be conducted by the independent external evaluators systematically and impartially to analyze the level of achievement of both expected and unexpected results by examining the results chain, processes, contextual factors and causality using appropriate criteria such as relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability. Following the UNDP Evaluation Policy (2016) and Evaluation Guidelines (2019), the project will carry out:

- Mid-term evaluation at the beginning of the third year of the project; and
- Final evaluation within six months after the date of completion of the project.

The detailed scope and methodology of the evaluation, including procedural matters, are to be agreed upon in advance by the donor and UNDP.

The outputs of the evaluations will be uploaded to the UNDP's [Evaluation Resource Centre](#), along with recommendations, management responses and key actions to recommendations, since all UNDP evaluations are treated as public documents.

4. Target Groups and Countries/Regions

The proposed SwedBio support will contribute directly to connect across knowledge systems in Cambodia, Malawi and Thailand. It will directly benefit the ILK and scientific knowledge holders by strengthening partnership, generating new insights and innovations on the countries' BES and promoting complementarities between the two knowledge holder groups to provide better evidence-based support to policy. Special focus will be placed on the empowerment and participation of women in the dialogue process and integration of female ILK holders' perspective into the assessment process. This will make knowledge mobilization inclusive as some ILK is held differently across genders.

The multiple evidence-based NEAs will benefit the policymakers, scientists and practitioners working on BES and other related fields in the target countries in their future decisions and actions for the national agenda setting, planning, researches and on-the-ground projects. The experiences in the target countries will also benefit other countries (with interests in) undertaking NEAs in Asia, Africa and beyond through the SGA Network, providing the practical information on how to apply MEB, engage IPLCs and work with ILK. It will also inform the future global IPBES process by integrating the lessons into the work of the platform's taskforce on ILK.

5. Project Management Arrangement

The project will be implemented jointly by UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and UNESCO as a consortium. Mirroring the arrangement of the broader BES-Net II initiative, UNDP's Global Policy Centre on Resilient Ecosystem and Desertification will host the project. In close line with the corporate standard operational and financial rules and procedures, UNDP will take overall responsibility for managing the project and coordinating the activities across the project components, including periodic results monitoring, financial accountability, quality assurance and regular donor reporting.

As the manager of the broader BES-Net II, UNDP will ensure the consistency and complementarity of the SwedBio-supported and other components of the BES-Net initiative. In line with UNDP's strategic Signature Solutions principle, UNDP will also promote the integrated approach, linking the key thematic issues at different levels, such as empowering women and enhancing gender equality as part of the IPLC participation in the assessment process, and demonstrating the significance of the multiple evidence-based NEAs to inform long-term resilience building and achieving multiple sustainable development goals. UNDP will also contribute to the policy-science-practice stakeholder engagement process and enhance the visibility and publicity of the project by promoting the communication on the project status, progress and lessons through BES-Net's online channels.

UNESCO will lead the application of the MEB approach to the NEA process in the target countries. UNESCO will facilitate the co-designing of the tailored project methods as per the context-specific needs of the countries' localities and guide the implementation of the methods throughout the assessment phases and steps. It will also organize the training sessions to raise awareness of the key MEB principles, concepts and practices among the assessment teams and IPLCs and support the interactions among the scientific knowledge holders and ILK holders/cross-fertilization across scientific, indigenous and local knowledge systems.

UNEP-WCMC coordinates the overall NEA process in all the target countries, working closely with the respective assessment teams/authors and giving them dedicated capacity building and other technical support. Under the project, UNEP-WCMC will facilitate the interaction and collaboration between the BES-Net consortium and the national assessment teams and provide necessary backstopping support to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the planned country activities.

UNDP, UNESCO and UNEP-WCMC have long been partnering with each other to support the implementation of the IPBES Work Programme collectively, since the establishment of the Platform in accordance with the IPBES Plenary [Decision IPBES-2/8](#) as three of the four UN collaborative partners to IPBES. The proposed SwedBio project will be implemented in a manner to capitalize on and expand the ongoing formal BES-Net partnership among the three agencies through:

- The Responsible Party Agreement signed between UNDP and UNEP-WCMC (2016-2028)

- The UN Agency to UN Agency Contribution Agreement between UNDP and UNESCO (2020-2028)

The virtual consortium meetings will be held regularly to keep each other closely abreast of the status of the activities, ensuring timely and coordinated implementation of the IKI-funded and SwedBio-funded components in all the target countries.

The project will be implemented in compliance with its strategies on:

- *Communication and knowledge management* to enhance the visibility of the project activities and their results and promote peer-learning/support around them;
- *Stakeholder engagement* to ensure inclusive and accessible approaches throughout the project components enabling the participation of a diversity of stakeholders from policy, science and practice sectors; and
- *Gender* to apply a gender-sensitive approach across the project activities and achieve gender-responsive outcomes, identifying and addressing the unique needs and interests of women and other less represented groups, including IPLCs.

The project team will keep track of the status and progress in the implementation of the strategies periodically and make necessary adjustments to the strategies, if and whenever necessary, to respond efficiently to the evolving needs of the beneficiary countries.

The implementation of the project will also be guided by the BES-Net Advisory Committee. Membership of the committee comprises representatives of:

- BES-Net donors
- IPBES secretariat
- UN Collaboration Partners to IPBES
- Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) relevant to IPBES (such as CBD and UNCCD)

The Advisory Committee meets twice a year to review the progress in the implementation of the overall BES-Net project, including both the IKI-funded and the SwedBio-funded components, assess the critical emerging issues to be addressed, if any, and recommend the future orientation of BES-Net activities.

6. Risk Analysis

The key risks identified in light of the latest global and specific country situations are outlined in Table 3, together with the planned prevention/mitigation measures to be undertaken to avoid the actualization of the respective risks. The risk analysis table will be regularly reviewed internally and updated as part of the annual progress reporting exercises.

It is important to note that all the BES-Net NEA target countries have been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and the organization of the conventional physical meetings among the assessment team members, including the authors, experts, stakeholders, etc., remains extremely challenging. In this context, the BES-Net team will design and pilot the methodology to engage ILK holders into the flexible hybrid online/in-person dialogue settings and facilitate the virtual interactions between scientists and IPLCs. In this process, the BES-Net team hopes to maintain close technical coordination with the SwedBio team in the Futures Thinking project to regularly exchange the lessons from the respective target countries and collaborate on the fields of work of mutual interest. UNESCO will also bring the experience of running online dialogue workshops between ILK holders and assessment authors from the context of the global-scale IPBES

assessments, and this will aid in the development and facilitation of online interactions for the NEA processes.

7. Gender Analysis

Knowledge generation, ownership and use are gender-sensitive. There is a great range of gender norms in ILK production and when this is brought into interaction with policy and science sectors, new dynamics are enacted, which can be gender transformative or may be disempowering and increase inequities. The BES-Net consortium works on the principle of gender equality in the implementation of the project, with this being localized according to diverse cultures and contexts, and specific patterns of knowledge productions, rights and institutional frameworks. The gender awareness and gender transformative approach are applied within the implementing team, in relationship with the partners, and when helping the different knowledge holders engage in the transdisciplinary cooperation.

BES-Net formulated a comprehensive Gender Strategy with due consideration of the role that gender equality plays in biodiversity conservation and management of ecosystem services, and with close reference to the BES-Net consortium members' respective gender policies and action plans. The strategy aims to ensure the gender responsiveness of the BES-Net activities at national, regional and global levels with special emphasis on:

- *Mainstreaming* by incorporating gender-related objectives, activities or indicators into different workstreams of the project;
- *Representation* by creating an enabling environment for male and female stakeholders to equally participate in the different project activities and monitoring the progress in both quantitative and qualitative manners; and
- *Partnership* by opening up the BES-Net platforms for the gender-focused organizations and initiatives to build greater awareness of both gendered vulnerabilities and solutions for ecosystem management.

These efforts are expected to contribute to the achievement of the gender-oriented BES-Net project objectives to:

- **Facilitate and build a greater evidence base** for the socioeconomic implications of biodiversity and ecosystems services and the interconnections with gender equality and women's empowerment, with a focus on sex-age-diversity disaggregated data;
- **Promote greater dialogue and cooperation/collaboration among biodiversity focal points** in ministries and science-policy organizations and **gender focal points** towards the integration of gender in biodiversity-related policies and activities;
- **Support BES-Net's partners and stakeholders** to be able to network and **build their own capacity for gender mainstreaming** through training, sharing of resources and best practices and through online engagement; and
- **Build greater awareness for gender champions, experts and solutions** in biodiversity and ecosystems across various economic sectors and among BES-Net's countries.

The project team will closely and regularly monitor the implementation of the BES-Net Gender strategy and report on the results and the achievements through the annual progress reports.

8. Project Timetable

The duration of the proposed project is 2021-2024 in accordance with the NEA implementation schedule in Tranche II and III countries. Table 4 provides the project Gantt Chart, outlining the indicative schedules of the respective project activities.

9. Project Budget

In order to provide tailored and context-sensitive support to the target countries as well as to effectively cultivate the peer-learning culture at regional and higher levels on ILK holders' roles and methodological approaches to engage them in the BES assessments, the project requests a total of SEK 2,300,000.00 for the project period of 2021-2024. As outlined in Table 5 and Annex I on the Project Financial Budget and Reporting, the budget will be allocated to cover the cost incurred to: communication, including the cost of virtual meeting tools and development of supporting resources (e.g. visual aids); staff time and supplementary external contractors for background research, dialogue facilitation, translation, graphic designing, etc.; and travel and physical events depending on the changing COVID-19 situation in the coming years.

Please note that the UN agencies, including both UNDP and UNESCO, apply two distinctive types of costs in the implementation of their project activities, which entail:

- Programmable cost, i.e. direct costs of programme, administrative and operational support activities that are part of the project input; and
- Support cost, i.e. costs to the organization that are not directly attributable to specific projects or services, but are necessary to fund the corporate structures, management and oversight costs of the organization. These costs, known as the General Management Support (GMS) fee within UNDP and the Programme Support Cost within UNESCO, are charged at a standard cost recovery rate of 8% of the UNDP programmable amount and 7% of the UNESCO programmable amount respectively.

It is also important to note that, as part of the new United Nations development system, effective from 1 January 2019, a 1% coordination levy is charged on tightly earmarked third party non-core contributions to UN development-related activities.

Table 2: SwedBio Support to BES-Net Phase II - Logical Framework

Objective: To improve the multiple evidence basis of NEAs and regional understanding of transdisciplinary cooperation in safeguarding and restoring ecosystems								
Outcomes	Outcome Indicators	Target	Outputs	Output Indicators	Baseline	Target	Activities	Sources of Verification
1. Capacity of IPLC enhanced to apply their knowledge and participate in the BES related decision-making process	Percentage of IPLC beneficiaries with positive feedback on the project contribution to their capacity building	70% (2024)*	1.1. Key IPLC partners identified and their BES related ILK applied to the NEA process	1.1.1. No. of community/local partner/network maps developed	0	3 (2022)	Organize workshops/interviews for participatory mapping	community/local partner/network maps
				1.1.2. No. of community-based ILK research tools designed	0	3 (2023)	Work with the NEA teams and IPLCs to co-design and select locally suitable research tools and methods in compliance with the FPIC principles.	Community-based ILK research tools
				1.1.3. No. of community-based ILK research results produced and applied in the NEA scoping process	0	3 (2024)	In collaboration with the NEA teams and IPLCs co-design, co-implement and co-analyze community-based ILK research and document the results.	NEA reports; Meeting reports
			1.2. Key IPLC partners empowered to conduct community-led research	1.2.1. No. of IPLCs trained on suitable data collection methods i.e. 3D modeling, walking workshops, MEB approach	0	3 (2024)*	In partnership with the NEA teams, organize training sessions for IPLCs on selected data collection methods and tools which might include the MEB approach, three-dimensional modeling, walking workshops, etc.	Meeting reports
				1.2.2. Feedback by IPLCs indicating a greater sense of empowerment from training to apply new tools	No feedback	High positive feedback in each training (2023)*		Participants feedback survey; Progress reports
				1.2.3. No. of IPLCs and/or IPLC organizations actively engaged in community-led research	0 IPLCs/0 IPLC organization	30 IPLCs and/or 2 IPLC organizations per research activity (2024)	Promote participation of IPLCs and IPLC organizations in community-led research initiatives.	Meeting reports; Progress reports

BES-related topics to promote MEB decision making.	and contribution to MEB decision-making	experiences shared					IPLCs, scientists, policymakers and practitioners at the national level.	
		2.1.3. No. of publicity resources developed on the science-policy-practice dialogue experiences and lessons	0		6 (2024)		Circulate widely publicly available information on science-policy-practice dialogue experience and lessons through the BES-Net web portal, newsletter, social media, etc.	Publicity resources; Progress reports
		2.2.1. Quality of IPLC representation and diversity in organized forums	N/A		Inclusive and diverse participation of IPLCs (including gender, nationality and livelihoods) (2024)		Undertake quality control on IPLC representation and diversity in organized forums	Meeting reports; Participants feedback survey
		2.2.2. No. of IPLC targeted forum organized	0		3 (2024)		Organize IPLC targeted forum to raise awareness on BES-Net, NEA and contributions IPLC can make to the process	Meeting reports
		2.2.3. Percentage of IPLC champion(s) identified from the total number of IPLCs engaged in NEA	0		10% (2024)*		Identify an IPLC focal person(s)/champion(s) in each country to mobilize IPLC participation in NEA process and policy dialogues	Meeting reports; Progress reports
		2.2.4. No. of success story/lessons sharing forums organized	0		1 (2024)		Organize forums for sharing success stories and lessons on IPLC engagement from the target countries	Meeting reports;

*These outcome/output indicators will be collected and analyzed in a gender/geography/sector desegregated

Table 3: Project Risks and Risk Prevention/Mitigation Measures

No.	Risk Category*	Risk Event	Impact**	Likelihood***	Prevention/Mitigation Measures
1	Political	Political, economic and social instability in the target countries	High	Moderate Likely	Undertake the national situation analyses and monitor the changes regularly; Liaise closely with the national assessment teams in the respective countries to obtain the latest country information and develop contingency plans, as needed.
2	Political	Shifting political commitments and reduced political engagement due to competing priorities, both short-term (e.g. disasters) and long-term (e.g. change in administration)	High	Low Likelihood	Establish the national policy-science-practice BES platforms to build the sense of joint ownership of the NEA process; Maintain close and regular communication with the political counterparts and other key beneficiaries throughout the project lifespan to gain their buy-in based on the project's communication and partnership/stakeholder engagement strategies; Integrate the national activities into broader medium-term UN Development Assistance Frameworks and UNDP Country Programmes in the target countries
3	Financial	Insufficient/limited resources available to respond to emerging needs, interfering with the continuity of the BES-Net activities	Moderate	Low Likelihood	Align the implementation of the SwedBio-funded and IKI-funded project components effectively to maximize the project's reach and impacts; Develop and implement the exit strategy to ensure sustainability; Identify and pursue resource mobilization opportunities
4	Operational	High turnover of key project counterparts/focal points at national levels leading to knowledge and capacity loss and disrupting project progress/changing the direction of activities	Moderate	Highly Likely	Institutionalize the national level activities, their outputs/outcomes deliveries and knowledge management efforts to ensure the smooth and timely transition of key duties and responsibilities, in case of personnel turn over, and minimize the gap in the project implementation process; Undertake the capacity needs assessment for the target countries and monitor the changes regularly.
5	Environment - Health and safety	Unavailability of key project personnel or postponement of pivotal project activities (i.e. events and those requiring travels) due to worldwide spread of Coronavirus	High	Expected	Review and update annual work plans regularly; flexibly reschedule project activities in close communication with partners and donors; Develop the methodologies for virtual and hybrid stakeholder engagement, dialogue facilitation, etc.

* Environmental, Financial, Operational, Organizational, Political, Regulatory, Security, Strategic

** Limited, Low, Moderate, High, Extreme

*** Not Likely, Low Likelihood, Moderate Likely, High Likely, Expected

Table 4: Project Gantt Chart

[illegible]

Table 5: Project Budget (July 2021- December 2024)

Outcomes	Outputs	Budget Lines	Responsible Party	Planned Budget (USD)*			Sub-Total (USD)*	Note
				Jul-Dec 2021	2022	2023	2024	
1. Capacity of IPLC enhanced to apply their knowledge and participate in the BES related decision-making process	1.1. Key IPLC partners identified and their BES related ILK applied to the NEA process	External services	UNDP	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	0.00	Contractors for graphic designing; printing; and online support
		Event/ Travel	UNESCO	1,500.00	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	Workshop for participatory mapping
	External services	External services	UNESCO	12,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	0.00	Contractors facilitating/providing technical support in community-based research
		Audio/ Video/ Printing	UNESCO	0.00	0.00	5,000.00	8,000.00	Publication and dissemination of community-led research findings
	1.2. Key IPLC partners empowered to conduct community-led research	External services	UNESCO	12,000.00	7,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	Contractor to train IPLCs and IPLCs partners on effective participatory research tools based on local needs and landscape.
2. Collaboration and interaction among scientists/ knowledge holders, policymakers and practitioners	1.3 Relevant ILK recognized and applied to different sections of NEA	Personnel	UNESCO	8,000.00	5,251.00	5,251.02	5,456.29	Technical support to NEA teams to ensure ILK components are fairly incorporated. 2% of ILK Senior Technical Specialist's time (P5)
		Personnel	UNESCO	4,956.29	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	Provide technical support to NEA country team. 1% of ILK Senior Technical Specialist's time (P5)
	Output 1.4. IPLCs-NEA country team relationship enhanced	External services	UNDP	5,999.68	8,071.02	2,977.73	0.00	A contractor to support multi-stakeholder dialogue
	2.1. Guiding frameworks for science-policy-practice dialogue and collaborative actions developed/refined,	External services	UNDP	6,831.84	2,607.80	2,659.68	1,714.90	Contractors for graphic designing; video production; and online support
		External services	UNDP					

expanded on BES-related topics to promote MEB decision making.	implemented and experiences shared	Event/ Travel	UNESCO	0.00	5,705.29	5,705.27	7,500.00	18,910.56	Multi-stakeholder dialogues organization cost and facilitation of IPLCs to participate in dialogue workshops
	2.2. Representation of IPLCs in policy/scientific dialogues improved	External services	UNDP	0.00	0.00	6,601.97	2,000.11	8,602.08	A contractor to facilitate the lessons sharing forums
		External services	UNDP	0.00	4,560.56	3,000.00	1,392.02	8,952.58	Contractors for graphic designing; video production and online support
		Event/ Travel	UNESCO	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	Forums to raise awareness and share success stories and lessons learned on the engagement of IPLC in the target countries
	Project management, monitoring and oversight	Event/ Travel	UNESCO	0.00	7,000.00	8,000.00	10,000.00	25,000.00	Travel costs to attend organized workshops and forums
		External services	UNDP	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,132.35	13,132.35	A contractor to conduct the final project evaluation
		Personnel	UNESCO	4,500.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	22,500.00	2% of ILK Senior Technical Specialist's time (P5) for overall project oversight, 4% time of assistant to the ILK Technical Specialist (G4), and 2% of ILK Senior Administrative Assistant's (G5).
	Programmable Total (USD)			58,787.81	61,195.67	61,195.67	61,195.67	242,374.82	
General Management Support	Support Cost	UNDP	1,266.52	1,459.15	1,459.15	1,459.15	5,643.97	8% of programmable total	
Programme Support Cost	Support Cost	UNESCO	3,006.94	3006.94	3,006.94	3,006.94	12,027.76	7% of programmable total	
General Management/Programme Support Total (USD)			4,273.46	4,466.09	4,466.09	4,466.09	17,671.73		
UN Coordination Levy (1%)			2600.47	0	0	0	2,600.47	1% of grand total	
			Grand Total (USD)				262,647.02	Programme Total + Support Total + UN Levy	
			Grand Total (SEK)				2,300,000.00	Programme Total + Support Total + UN Levy	

*1 USD = 8.757 SEK (UN exchange rate as of 1 April 2020)

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