

# Concept Note

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## **CLIMATE RD - Community Livelihood Improvement addressing Mitigation and Adaptation Techniques with Environmentally Responsible Development.**

Dominican Republic | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

10 August 2015



**GREEN  
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# Green Climate Fund Concept Note

**The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is seeking high-quality projects or programmes.**

Accredited Entities may choose to submit a concept note, in consultation with the relevant national designated authority, to present the proposed project or programme idea in order to receive early feedback and recommendation.

Project/Programme Title: CLIMATE RD - Community Livelihood Improvement addressing Mitigation and Adaptation Techniques with Environmentally Responsible Development.

Country/Region: Dominican Republic

Accredited Entity: UNDP

National Designated Authority: Environmental Ministry



Please submit the completed form to [fundingproposal@gcfund.org](mailto:fundingproposal@gcfund.org)<sup>1</sup>

I. Project / Programme Information	
1.1. Project / programme title	<b>CLIMATE RD - Community Livelihood Improvement addressing Mitigation and Adaptation Techniques with Environmentally Responsible Development</b>
1.2. Project or programme	Choose an item. Program
1.3. Country (ies) / region	Dominican Republic
1.4. National designated authority(ies)	Environmental Ministry
1.5. Accredited entity	PNUD
1.6. Executing entity / beneficiary	Executing Entity: Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc. (IDDI) Beneficiary: 40,000 Population of 5 municipalities in 4 provinces of the DR.
1.7. Access modality	Direct                      International <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.8. Project size category (total investment, million USD)	Micro ( $\leq 10$ ) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small ( $10 < x \leq 50$ ) <input type="checkbox"/> Medium ( $50 < x \leq 250$ ) <input type="checkbox"/> Large ( $> 250$ ) <input type="checkbox"/>
1.9. Mitigation / adaptation focus	Mitigation                      Adaptation                      Cross-cutting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.10. Results areas (mark all that apply)	<i>Which of the following targeted results areas does the proposed project/programme address?</i>
	<p>Reduced emissions from:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Energy access and power generation (E.g. on-grid, micro-grid or off-grid solar, wind, geothermal, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Low emission transport (E.g. high-speed rail, rapid bus system, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Buildings, cities, industries and appliances (E.g. new and retrofitted energy-efficient buildings, energy-efficient equipment for companies and supply chain management, etc.)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forestry and land use (E.g. forest conservation and management, agroforestry, agricultural irrigation, water treatment and management, etc.)</p> <p>Increased resilience of:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Most vulnerable people and communities (E.g. mitigation of operational risk associated with climate change – diversification of supply sources and supply chain management, relocation of manufacturing facilities and warehouses, etc.)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and well-being, and food and water security (E.g. climate-resilient crops, efficient irrigation systems, etc.)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure and built environment (E.g. sea walls, resilient road networks, etc.)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ecosystems and ecosystem services (E.g. ecosystem conservation and management, ecotourism, etc.)</p>
1.11. Project / programme life span	5 years
1.12. Estimated implementation start and end date	Start: 1 October 2015 End: 1 October 2020

<sup>1</sup> Please use the following naming convention for the file name: “[CN]-[Agency short name]-[Date]-[Serial number]” (e.g. CN-ABC-20150101-1).

## II. Project/Programme Details

The Fund requires the following preliminary information in order to promptly assess the eligibility of project/programme investment. These requirements may vary depending on the nature of the project/programme.

<p>2.1. Project / programme description (including objectives)</p>	<p>This proposal aims to strengthen the national development model around the tourism sector as one of the main productive sectors, which integrates within its value chain other sectors such as the environment, and the supply of public services including food and water security and access, with special focus on the strategic points of both tourism and environmental interest in 4 provinces of the Dominican Republic (Barahona, Pedernales, Puerto Plata and Samana). In the North, the tourist hub of Puerto Plata or Amber Coast, declared by Decree 2125 of 1972. <b>Barahona</b>, in the southwest region of the country by Decree 322 of 1991 was declared a tourist attraction that extends to the province of <b>Pedernales</b> including Bahía de las Águilas. And in the Northeast the region of the country with great potential for investment and tourism development is the <b>Samaná</b> peninsula hub and bay of the same name.</p> <p>The strengthening of the Municipal Development Plans in the five main municipalities (<b>Puerto Plata, Samaná, Las Terrenas, Pedernales and Barahona</b>) and the execution of Management Plans in 15 protected areas:  <u>National Parks</u>: Sierra de Bahoruco, Sierra Martín García, Jaragua, La Hispaniola, Los Haitises, Manglares de Bajo Yuna, and Anacaona.</p> <p><u>Wetlands</u>: Bajo Yaque del Sur</p> <p><u>Natural Monuments</u>: Miguel Domingo Fuertes, Lagunas Cabarete y Goleta, Loma Isabel de Torres, Salto de la Damajagua, Salto El Limón;</p> <p><u>Recreation Areas</u>: Bahía de las Águilas, Playa de Cabo Rojo.</p> <p>We will incorporate measures that contribute to the mitigation of climate change effects, through the use and promotion of alternative energy, conservation and reforestation, as an alternative to increase carbon sequestration and reduce emissions. Measures that contribute to the adaptation by enabling resilient cities and public services, through the protection of ecosystems and water sources. The implementation of diversified environmentally sustainable production models. We will also strengthen key stakeholders capacities in quality forecast on disaster risk reduction and management; and municipal planning facing climate change effects. The community based and ecosystem based approaches for the social, economic and environmental managing makes this project's cost-benefit ratio highly profitable.</p> <p><b><u>General Objective</u></b>  Increase climate-resilient sustainable development through the strengthening of the tourism and water security sector by a model that contributes to reduce emissions of GHG<sup>2</sup> and their effects on the DR.</p> <p><b><u>Specifics</u></b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Guarantee the access to energy in rural communities, through the use of photovoltaic systems (component 1)</li> <li>● Increase carbon sequestration capacity of protected areas, through reforestation and a proper management and land use (component 2)</li> <li>● Contribute to improve production capacity of water in the watersheds (component 2)</li> <li>● Contribute to building resilient cities through strengthening municipal planning, including community disaster preparedness plans (component 3)</li> <li>● Ensure food and water security through the implementation of adaptation</li> </ul>
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<sup>2</sup> Greenhouses Gases

measures of livelihoods (component 4)

- Promote ecotourism as a climate change compatible and inclusive productive chain model, for sustainable management of protected areas and ecosystem services through community ecosystem based adaptation (component 5).

**Components.**

- Energy access via photovoltaic systems
- Forest and watershed conservation and management
- Municipal development with climate change and Risk management focus
- Food and water security
- Ecotourism and Ecosystem conservation and management

**a) Energy access via photovoltaic systems.**

From these scientifically proven assumptions, with this project we want to execute this component through three strategies that contribute with a reduction on carbon emissions with the **installation of solar energy systems in eco-tourism points** as an alternative to offer better services and reduce the carbon or wood use for the rangers, tourist guides and users of the protected areas. This will demonstrate how clean energy systems such as photovoltaic systems (PV system); can contribute in a significant way to a local eco-tourism system, which is identified as 100% green. Additionally a **community solar system** will be installed, with the aim to supply electricity to the Cachote community as an auto-sustainable development model. All these activities include **Education** related to the efficient use of energy, emissions reduction mechanisms, training in the use and management of photovoltaic systems, aimed at all stakeholders.

**Strategies:**

**1. Solar systems for the ecotourism and development initiatives.**

Within the ecotourism zones in parks and reserves, a needs assessment will be conducted to establish the energy demand, to design and install Community models to reach sustainable and clean energy supply, contributing to improved services and offer, promoting environmental protection, reducing the use of coal, wood or other fuels. These models will be managed by organized groups, which will develop co-management activities, by strengthening their capacities of management and organization, incorporating knowledge about use and maintenance of photovoltaic systems, to be auto-sustainable models.

**Outputs:**

- Energy demand assessment on eco-tourism zones;
- Community-installed clean energy generation systems;
- Community groups established and trained for the management and maintenance of community systems.

**2. Community solar initiative model:**

We propose the installation of a 75KW solar zone to provide electricity to the Cachote community. The solar zone will be managed through the creation of an electric cooperative, to be established using the NRECA's model, in order to guarantee the sustainability of the project. The electrical cooperative will be a private, non-political, not-for-profit businesses governed by the consumers, through democratic governance and operation at cost. Every consumer-member can vote to choose the board that oversees the co-op, and the co-op must, with few exceptions, return to consumer-members revenue above what is needed for operation. Under this structure, the electric co-op will provide economic benefits to the community rather than distant stockholders. A tariff system will be created, and all users of the services will have fixed rates, which will be determined and regularly inspected by the coop.

The co-op will distribute electricity to consumers through low-voltage residential lines coming out of the solar zone via a battery bank, to ensure service at times when solar generation is not available. The coop will also be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the solar zone, battery bank and low voltage distribution lines.

**Outputs:**

- Energy supply system installed for the community
- Community group management system established
- A community management model for the use and maintenance of the system designed.

**3. Municipal strategy for energy education and awareness.**

We will develop different educative and awareness activities, as an essential part of the implementation and sustainability process, through seminars, public campaigns, meetings, exchange of experience activities among others, for elected members of boards and committees as well as other key invited participants from the community covering all aspects of the business, cooperative laws, and technical teams and committees.

**Outputs:**

- Municipal awareness on climate change and clean energy uses.
- Community educated in efficient energy use

**b) Forest and watershed conservation and management**

According to the protected areas (PA) and climate change assessment made by the IUCN and the Environmental Ministry, the aim of this component is to invest in ecosystem health to build community resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change.

**Adaptation Strategies:**

**1. Increase the management effectiveness of the main protected areas in the four target provinces and conservation of hydrologic ecosystem services.**

Updating and creating consensual Protected Areas Management Plans, and Ecotourism Business Plans, in an adaptive way including climate change adaptation and mitigation actions with community and active stakeholder participation. Training, equipment and capacity building program for the local administrators and park rangers to implement Plans and activities related to climate change. Protecting and managing the PA to ensure ecosystems and the services they provide are recognized and not degraded or lost through illegal or irrational use.

**2. Stakeholder coordination strategy**

Coordinate with decision makers, managers of the PA, civil society and stakeholders to address actions and processes towards mitigation and adaptation for the buffer zones and communities. Creating an adequate environment for consensus, bringing information and guidance for all the stakeholders and decision makers. Elaborating local action plans and a community system for monitoring climate change effects using available tools, and ecosystem approach.

**3. Promote the value of the PA as carbon sinks and alternatives to reduce impacts of climate change**

Promote environmental education in local schools, women associations, youth associations, including causes and consequences of climate change, environmental protection and defense; and sustainable management of natural resources.

**Outputs:**

- Updated climate change adaptive Management and Ecotourism Business Plans for 15 protected areas, as needed.
- Model Protected Areas with integrated management practices.
- Environmental Ministry's local employees ready to protect and manage their

PA implementing plans and activities related to climate change.

- Climate change related procedures for monitoring biodiversity and natural resources, developed.
- Resilience of PA improved with a monitoring system.
- Management and conservation of upper river basins and water uptake areas.
- Community actions developing mitigation and adaptation activities, using the ecosystem approach.
- Protected areas are recognized and managed locally as carbon sinks.

**Mitigation Strategies:**

**1. Restore degraded ecosystems to increase and enhance carbon stocks, and ensure hydrologic services**

Identifying and addressing areas of greatest environmental and social vulnerability to climate change (landslides, erosion, salinization, etc.), most biodiverse places and aquifer recharge areas, with communities and volunteer support. Developing restoration and reforestation plans.

**2. Promote farming systems that favor the reduction of emissions and carbon removal in the buffer zones.**

Through implementation of good environmental practices, agrochemicals use reduction and proper solid waste management. Achieved by using characterization developed by component 4.

**3. Strengthen fire management strategy in the PA and hinterlands**

Strengthening the system for monitoring, reporting and early warning of forest fires, taking into account the risks of climate change, identifying the most vulnerable areas and establishing strict regulations for the use of fire by the communities.

**Outputs:**

- Over 2,000 Ha in and around protected areas are restored increasing carbon store in at least ~2%
- Reduced emissions from the farming systems in at least ~10%.
- 170,856 Ha are managed by early warning of forest fires system ensuring sequestration of ~39 MtCO<sub>2e</sub> per year

**c) Municipal development with climate change and Risk management focus**

We will work together with municipalities and communities, to improve Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) skills. The action is directed to empower local government to include disaster risk prevention and mitigation program in the Municipal Development Plan. We will work on an institutional level and on citizen good practices, with a community-based approach.

One of the aims is the insertion of climate change adaptation, risk mitigation and disaster preparedness components, in the Municipal Development Plan as a way to guarantee sustainability to the processes activated within the municipality.

First, we will assess municipal infrastructure about the capacity of Disaster Risk Management, in order to establish the baseline information and existing institutional capacities for addressing climate change and its integration into the development process. Then, we will work in the Strengthening of Municipal Development Plan (PDM) on adaptation measures to Climate Change. During all the process, we will involve community leaders, civil society organizations and stakeholders, to build and reinforce community skills in disaster risk prevention, mitigation and management and resilience to climate change, with education and awareness sessions and early warning systems. We will also support disaster risk reduction municipal committees

and community networks on DRR, and we will work to create coordination mechanisms between them.

Building more resilient cities will contribute to build a more sustainable tourism network and will improve the opportunities of development of rural areas, containing migration to bigger cities.

**Strategies**

**1- Assessment to municipal infrastructure about the capacity of Disaster Risk Management.**

We will develop an assessment of the existing technical and operational capacities, in order to recognize strengths and weaknesses, and identify the most important needs on which it will be necessary to develop a capacity building program that will allow to adapt their internal structures to implement a climate change adaptation plan in the most vulnerable sectors.

The purpose of this process will be to establish the baseline information and existing institutional capacities for addressing climate change and its integration into the development process. It focuses basically on an inventory and assessment of the existing infrastructures in the target area focusing primarily on water and sanitation, access, and shelter centers.

*With this action, we intend to value infrastructure resilience to rapid-onset events (e.g. floods, storm surges, heat-waves) and slow onset-processes (e.g. sea-level rise).*

**Outputs:**

- A needs assessment report on the existing technical and operative capacities for the Planning and Urban Planning Department of the Municipalities.
- A brief evaluation methodology on the vulnerability of infrastructure in relation to climate change adaptation and disaster risk management, with established indicators and risk standards.

**2- Strengthening the Municipal Development Plan (PDM) on adaptation measures to Climate Change.**

This action is directed to increase infrastructure resilience to climate change threats. We will work in order to integrate climate change in national and sector plans and we will promote inter-institutional coordination on information sharing and project implementation about this theme.

We will strengthen government institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive development planning. The activated processes will be directed to increase the generation and use of climate information in decision-making, by strengthening the awareness of climate threats and risk-reduction processes. Also, increasing knowledge of climate threats and coping mechanisms, and improving sector planning and coordination and information sharing.

**Outputs:**

- Adaptation measures to climate change and risk mitigation are included in Municipal Development Plans.
- Functioning mechanisms and coordination systems about the different subjects involved in Disaster Risk Management are explained and understood.

**3- Community strengthening in prevention, mitigation and management about climate change and disaster risk.**

This action is directed to increase resilience and enhanced livelihoods of the most vulnerable people, communities, and regions, by identifying and scaling up effective community-based adaptation.

We will work to use improved tools, instruments, strategies and activities to respond to climate variability and climate change, by vulnerable households, communities, businesses, and public sector services.

A relevant indicator will be the percentage of target population aware of the potential impacts of climate change and range of possible responses; and the perception of men, women, vulnerable populations, and emergency response agencies of the timeliness, content and reach of early warning systems.

Deploying awareness campaigns on mitigation practices in the communities, directed to students and families of the marginalized neighborhoods, in particular, support local community networks on disaster risk management and prevention, by training, creation of early warning systems (SAT) and organizational consultancies. We will also support disaster risk reduction municipal committees, and create coordination mechanisms between them.

*Outputs:*

- Built and working Disaster Risk Management Municipal Committee
- Built and working local networks about early warning systems

**d) Food and water security**

The development of agriculture with a sustainable approach, can help reduce emissions of GHG and their impact through the management of ecosystem services, the reduction of changes in land use and deforestation, use of more efficient crop varieties, better control of accidental fires, by adopting conservation agriculture techniques, including good agricultural practices and diversification of agroforestry systems. In addition to reducing the emission of GHG, well-managed growing rangeland can sequester significant amounts of carbon.

**Strategies:**

**1. Characterization and diversification of productive systems:** Characterization of agricultural plots in the middle and lower parts of the basin will be conducted to establish the current agricultural models and identify measures that can be adapted with a view to the diversification of plots, taking into account the actual and potential use of soils. This characterization will be held in 80,000 HA that are currently suitable for agriculture, mainly affected by monoculture and implementation of traditional practices that degrade soils. In each watershed will be established plan crop diversification, so that the inclusion of more efficient varieties will contribute to reducing emissions, soil protection and income generation.

**Outputs:**

- Assessment and characterization of plots and crops
- Diversification model and crop plan according to the Watershed management plan

**2. Awareness and environmental education plan:** we will develop a plan for environmental education focused on climate change, targeting producers and local stakeholders related to watershed management, which will contribute directly to the production model. Also, seeks to promote the protection of PA, reduce the expansion of the agricultural frontier and PA's borders.

**Outputs:**

- Education and awareness Plan, aimed at different sectors: local authorities, civil society leaders and organizations, general community.
- Training and support program for producers related to climate-resilient crops, adaptation measures and environmental protection

**3. Improving water systems:** Through the protection of water sources in both the middle and upper basin, and in the lower basins, including measures to reduce pollution, reforestation, protection and enhancement of water uptake, ensuring quality water is used for human consumption. These activities will be linked to local authorities related to water management, supporting through the project the improved infrastructure as well as cleaning and maintenance actions, involving communities and promoting their empowerment in protecting the resource.

**Outputs:**

- Improvement and protection program for water sources in urban communities
- Efficient irrigation systems and management water measures

**e) Ecotourism and Ecosystem conservation and management –**

In this context the objective is to promote community resilience by livelihood diversification and ensuring the maintenance of ecosystem services through ecosystem based adaptation strategies.

**Strategies:**

1. Address climate change into tourism and ecotourism municipal development plans and prepare this sector for adaptation and mitigation strategies. Identifying the effects of climate change and risk prevention on tourism. Strengthening and creating networks with ministries (e.g. environment, tourism) local tourism Clusters (Samaná, Barahona and Puerto Plata), public and private organizations and local governments, including climate change in their planning and development.
  
2. To consolidate the ecotourism productive chain as a sustainable economic activity. Reinforcement and building capacities of the local people (e.g. customer care, hotel management, financial education, English language, handcrafting). Identifying and improving local ecotourism services and procedures. Implementing infrastructures, trails and signage. Promoting equal opportunities among gender, age and economic status. Develop business plans for ecotourism, assessing the risks of climate change for local tourism. Marketing and promotion of the destinations in national and international events. Promote good environmental practices (e.g. energy and water use, solid waste management, carbon free processes, etc.) within the sector and ecosystem based management and conservation.

**Outputs:**

- Economic plans considering the risk of climate change on tourism developed.
- The sector responsibly manages ecosystem services and biodiversity related to the activity.
- These actions will benefit ~2,000 families directly
- Reduce in ~10% the GHG emissions
- Creation of new jobs and enhance tourism and ecotourism-related ones
- Consolidation of an alternative livelihood and productive chain that is inclusive, and shares the wealth among the community.
- Domestic tourism increased in 30% in these areas.
- International visitors increased in 10%
- Manual compiling the experience developed.

Our goal is to make ecotourism a pioneer in adopting measures to adapt to climate change and a catalyst to implement the Plan DECCC in the electricity, construction and waste sectors. Turning the Dominican Republic one of the premier ecotourism destinations, boosting the sector in terms of visitors, income and social and environmental impact

2.2. Background information on project/programme sponsor

*Describe project/programme sponsor's operating experience in the host country or other developing countries.*

Annual emissions of carbon dioxide in the world have increased by about 80% between 1970 and 2004. As for the Dominican Republic, GHG emissions also increased alarmingly in the period between 1990 and 2000. In 1990 it reached about 15 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and in 2000 it reached levels above 25 million tons. Meanwhile, in 2004 it was estimated that an amount higher than 2 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> was issued per capita in the country (2007, by IPCC). According to the Global Climate Risk Index from 1998 to 2014, the Dominican Republic is the eighth most-affected country by extreme weather events, and the most vulnerable sectors are water resources and tourism, with direct impact on the population that live and develop their economic activities on tourist

zones and protected areas.

In the analysis written by Vergara on the Dominican Republic (World Bank 2008), the two sectors that are particularly vulnerable to climate change are: tourism and water resources. In the case of water resource management, scarcity is a problem resulting from inadequate planning in specific areas to support the tourism infrastructure. The tourism sector, a major source of foreign exchange for the country, is threatened by the shortage of drinking water and reliable water services. At the same time, unsustainable activities endanger vulnerable ecosystems as wastewater and solid waste pour to the coasts, affecting fish, coral and other marine species; and by the indiscriminate abuse of the aquifers and the forest. All having a negative impact on vulnerable ecosystems.

IDDI recently authored the study “Critical Points concerning the Vulnerability of and Adaptation to the Changing Climate in the Dominican Republic” (IDDI CC Report) as part of USAID’s Environmental Protection Program. The study found that 13 Dominican provinces (40% of the country) are vulnerable to Climate Change, with levels identified between high and very high. Highlighting as the most vulnerable areas, the provinces of La Altagracia, **Puerto Plata**, Distrito Nacional and San Pedro de Macorís, followed by Sanchez Ramirez, **Samaná**, **Barahona**, Santo Domingo and San Cristobal.

Over its 29 years of existence, IDDI has created extensive networks and relationships with local governments, private sector, civil society and grass roots organizations having to do with a large variety of topics including HIV/AIDS, maternal-child health care, transparency and governance, low-cost housing, urban issues and others. This Program will be able to “piggy-back” on IDDI’s broad prior experience in public-private-community networks so that the proposed task will not be as difficult as it might seem at first glance.

1. In relation to the climate change adaptation purposes and capacities, IDDI has secured in the past the collaboration of decision-makers to facilitate the implementation of climate change related initiatives, including:
  - a. Creation and leadership of the “Climacción” multi-sectorial platform, whose goal is to maximize available resources to avoid overlap of activities directed towards addressing vulnerability and adaptation for climate change in the Dominican Republic,
  - b. Working with two municipal networks in Santo Domingo and Samaná in regards to climate change adaptation, involving key decision-makers at local government level,
  - c. Creation of the “Network of Community Organizations of Greater Santo Domingo” for climate change adaptation, which comprises of 76 organizations from schools, local government, NGOs and community based groups, among others,
  - d. Establishment of direct partnership with the Santo Domingo N.D municipal government, including with the Secretary of the Environment of the National District,
  - e. Existing relationships with the Environmental Commission of the Dominican Congress, who has proposed a resolution declaring the Vulnerability to Climate Change a national priority,
  - f. Collaboration with the Commonwealth of Greater Santo Domingo, which includes the local governments of the National District, Santo Domingo Este, Santo Domingo Oeste, Santo Domingo Norte, Haina, San Cristóbal, Nigua, Los Alcarrizos, Guerra, Pedro Brand and Boca Chica. The Commonwealth was established to promote joint actions and to initiate policies and strategies for improved management, creating synergy and avoiding unnecessary overlapping of efforts, as well as to promote sustainable development and sustainable municipal management.
    - a. IDDI has collaborated in the Commonwealth in:
      - Presenting information on vulnerable areas in relation to climate change effects, and measures for adaptation that can be taken by local governments,
      - Implementing a training program about climate change and adaptation,
      - Development of a work plan in coordination with the Province of Santo

- Domingo and the Commonwealth,
- Committing to working together with key actors in planning, strategizing and designing a climate change adaptation training program, and
  - Implementing the training program.
2. Experience with the project ‘Strategic communication and educational assistance for climate change adaptation in the Dominican Republic’, (USAID-TNC), where its role includes:
    - a. Institutional capacity building/development and the creation of bases for governance in climate change adaptation in the areas of Water, Tourism and Energy,
    - b. Education and raising public awareness for climate change adaptation, including the elaboration of the textbook “Getting to know the Climate for Life: From the Global to the Local”, and a publicity campaign for raising awareness,
    - c. Creation of online material as a source of information on climate change and adaptation,
    - d. Elaboration of the vulnerability study in relation to climate change,
    - e. Contributing to the formulation of the Dominican Climate Change Law,
    - f. Design and implementation of the Diploma Course “Technical Specialization in Climate Change adaptation at the local level” with INTEC University,
    - g. Training on climate change adaptation for local governments and
    - h. Establishing community and municipal networks for supporting climate change adaptation.
  3. With regard to risk management and humanitarian assistance, IDDI first operated in the Zone in 1999 through the Risk Management Unit with the assistance of USAID, through the implementation of a project whose objective was to reduce the impact of disasters and improve housing and general infrastructure in the zone.
  4. Experience in the project “Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Infrastructure Services in Santo Domingo, DR” (USAID/CCRD), directed to Support the development of scientific bases, policies, capacities and structures that will help the National District City Council to incorporate adaptation measures to climate change in the city plan, specifically in infrastructure development with focus on water and sanitation, access and shelters

SOH Conservation- The Ornithological Society of Hispaniola (SOH) is an environmental non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of endangered species and their habitats on the island of Hispaniola.

- The strategic priorities of the SOH are:
  1. Create awareness of the endemic / native species and their habitats and other components of biodiversity through education and research.
  2. Conduct and collaborate with biodiversity conservation projects on the island Hispaniola especially in protected areas.
  3. Development of sustainable and sustainable ecotourism projects.
  4. Help the government to strengthen important areas for conservation through environmental projects and co-management.
  5. Management of protected areas by strengthening the capacity of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. (Co-managers of the Sierra de Bahoruco National Park and Biological Reserve Loma Charco Azul agreement signed by Ministry of Environment).
- Ranging activities in support of these strategic priorities are:
  1. Collaborate with relevant institutions participating and carrying out projects and conservation activities: a. Advice in conservation projects, b. Administrative, institutional, and technical support, c. Making inventories, surveys and monitoring of fauna and other elements of biodiversity.
  2. Promote activities with members and the public: a. Walks and excursions, b. Ecotourism, c. Lectures and audio-visual presentations, d. Presence in environment and conservation events.
  3. To disseminate the knowledge created to the public and the scientific community: a. Producing books, pamphlets, films, signs, reports, advertising and other materials, b. Channel, distribute, promote and publish these and other suitable materials.

4. Grasp members and funds.
5. Be a functional and healthy institution.

SOH is currently co-managing the Sierra de Bahoruco National Park and Biological Reserve Loma Charco Azul, between the activities are the Visitors and Interpretation Center and the "Dream Forest" trail, located in the reserve. Encouraging ecotourism as a sustainable economic activity. Also, it is developing the monitoring of endemic and migratory birds, with special emphasis on endangered species as Bicknell's Thrush and Bay-breasted Cuckoo and manages seven conservation projects. Nation's adviser on issues of invasive species and endangered species. SOH has 12 years working in the Haitises National Park and eight years working directly with the Ridgway's Hawk.

Has been involved in eco-tourism projects since 2009. This includes the formation of an environmental Interpreters Bilingual Academy, which has trained 15 people in the interpretation of nature and birdwatching (SOH-TNC-USAID-USADA). Meanwhile, SOH has signed an agreement with the Ministry of Tourism of the Dominican Republic in 2011. The agreement allows SOH to organize and train people related to eco-tourism and conventional tourism in the country.

In order to ensure adequate habitat for the conservation of biodiversity they have provided logistical capabilities and tools for the development of control and surveillance patrols. On the other hand, we have conducted environmental education activities in communities and currently have the commitment of local government and public and private organizations as well as residents in participating actively to the conservation of the Sierra. This project builds on the work of conservation SOH has developed more than 10 years through different activities being carried out in collaboration with the American Bird Conservancy (ABC) and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, seeks to strengthen the protection of the different habitats of these protected areas by hiring and training of the guards in the area. We trust that the promotion of protected areas will increase public support, will attract visitors as well as financial resources that will help them be sustainable over time. Equally our intention is to have a wider impact addressing neighboring communities through environmental education and monitoring of biodiversity in protected areas.

In the last two years we began to work with CEPF, being the organization in the Caribbean receiving more funds from this program. The short-term impacts, so far are:

- 1) Ecotourism Strategy Plan for the Sierra de Bahoruco developed and agreed by the stakeholders (Ministry and Community Group) and initiated the implementation of actions set forth in this Management Plan.
- 2) Strengthened and effectiveness of management of the Sierra de Bahoruco, Valle Nuevo and Nalga de Maco National Park through the use of tool GEF-METT and the Strategic Plan for Ecotourism that conditions actions identified in the Management Plan for immediate implementation.
- 3) Small businesses like grocery stores, dining and artisans benefit from the increase in visitors.
- 4) The primary environmental services such as water, biological, and recreational facilities are improved in 12,532 hectares and 16,985 hectares of productive landscape in the Sierra de Bahoruco, Valle Nuevo and Nalga de Maco National Parks.
- 5) Diversification of donors to strengthen long-term continuity of the project.

*Local Background*

Energy: Photovoltaic systems provide many environmental advantages over other electricity supply options. In rural households, the system will replace kerosene lamps with electric lights. Kerosene lamps degrade indoor air quality by emitting carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and oxides of nitrogen. They also present a serious fire hazard. By replacing kerosene lamps with solar powered electric lights, each photovoltaic system displaces an estimated three to six tons of the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide over its twenty- year life. Widespread use of photovoltaic systems for

rural electrification could prevent the release of millions of tons of carbon dioxide.

To be installed in Cachote. It's a village in the proximity of the Domingo Miguel Fuertes National Monument, where approximately 30 families live. The primary livelihood is agriculture (e.g., coffee), although the community is also interested in eco-tourism and has started to develop its potential. A local group called Microempresa Ecoturística de Cachote (Ecotourism Micro-enterprise of Cachote) manages cabins and visitor center called "Canto del Jilguero". There is currently no electric service available; some homes have small-outdated solar panels that charge batteries through inverter systems.

Forest: Today, in the Dominican Republic, deforestation, changes in land use, fires and forest degradation, continues to be the fourth largest source of emissions with about 4 MtCO<sub>2e</sub> per year. It is projected that carbon sequestration from reforestation offsets this figure, causing net emissions from the forest sector as a whole to represent only ~ 1 MtCO<sub>2e</sub> by 2030. Also, loss of forest coverage in upper river basins and mountains, threaten water resources availability for human consumption and for productive activities; exacerbating conflicts over the use and distribution of the resource.

According to the IUCN (World Conservation Council) "protected areas provide options for humanity in a rapidly changing world. They ensure the continuing flow of ecosystem services, including maintaining water and air quality and the availability of soil nutrients and act as carbon sinks".

Protected area systems have advantages over other approaches to management of natural ecosystems to climate change, mainly because of laws and policies and availability of institutions for their governance and management.

Well-managed protected areas can provide a cost-effective option to implement strategies to respond to climate change because the initial costs have already been paid. However, in many cases investments will be needed for the restoration of ecosystems within and adjacent to protected areas to ensure that these areas continue, and even maximize their eco-system services delivery in terms of climate change.

Municipal Development The rapid growth in developing countries and the added stress of climate change threaten the reliability of infrastructure services, which are critical to achieving development objectives. Anticipatory planning, in advance of natural disasters and rapid growth, will enable local governments and agencies to program post-disaster resources more efficiently to increase infrastructure resilience and reduce maladaptive development. The scope of the component is to demonstrate practical ways to assess climate vulnerability and risk, identify and implement adaptation strategies, engage the private sector, and mainstream climate resilience.

Food and water security Among the measures of adaptation of populations, we propose the inclusion of actions that contribute to the protection of water sources, and the adoption of practices that strengthen the agriculture sector.

Specifically integrating watershed management measures aimed at protecting water as an alternative to the stability of production systems, increasing income generation in rural areas, as means to combat poverty, reduce hunger and its consequences over the ecosystems.

Ecotourism Restoration activities, thus increasing its capability for carbon sequestration, can only be successful in the long term if the people living around protected areas and areas that are still forested have sustainable livelihood alternatives that provide for their needs without putting additional pressure on natural forests. We aim for diversification of livelihood activities for communities, as people with diverse income sources tend to be more resilient to climate hazards, addressing human adaptation needs in the face of current climate variability and future change.

Tourism is the most important and dynamic sector of national economy (7% - 8% GDP) and main foreign exchange generator. Tourism and climate change are closely related. The sector contributes to the causes of climate change and is affected by its effects. The implemented in the country are highly unsustainable tourism models; the lack of diversification promotes replication of the same models of high impact and

	<p>overpopulation vulnerable areas. It is vital then to diversify the models towards sustainable tourism development model incorporating social and environmental variables.</p> <p>According to the National Development Strategy 2010-2030, the Dominican Republic Climate Change Compatible Development Plan (DECCC) and the actions identified by the IPCC and UNDPCC, we propound strengthen of the ecotourism productive chain achieving the integration of the people and decision makers in the management of sustainable tourism.</p> <p><i>Describe financial status and how the project/programme sponsor will support the project/programme in terms of equity, management, operations, production and marketing.</i></p> <p>IDDI as requesting entity, it is a non-profit organization, and will be responsible for financial management of resources, its finance department will take control and record of the resources management, according to project activities. Through implementation agreement with local partner SOH of earmarked resources for the implementation of specific actions of the project.</p> <p>The project accounts will be audited each year, including funds managed by the partners and sub-grants to ensure the effective and transparent use of the funds.</p> <p>For sub-grants, the methodological bases of assignation and execution of funds between civil society organizations and tourism clusters will be established to submit proposals for projects that contribute to the objectives of this program, in accordance with the general provisions for the Green Climate Fund.</p> <p>IDDI has several years of experience working directly with the UNDP in different development projects in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, a subject such as renewable energy, community preparedness for disaster risk management, community development and others.</p>
<p>2.3. Market overview</p>	<p><i>Describe the market for the product(s) or services including the historical data and forecasts.</i></p> <p>For 2014 Dominican Republic tourism growth of 9.6 % was well above the previous year (2.8%), and highest in the last five years. Nonresident visitors grew 9.8% and non-resident Dominicans 8.3%. The Caribbean also nearly doubled expectations with 6.6%. In this context, the growth recorded by Dominican Republic, but also exceeded expectations; it is consistent with global and regional growth. Dominican Republic is the main destination, followed by the Riviera Maya, Cuba, Jamaica and the Bahamas, in the Caribbean.</p> <p>The growth of the last three decades of the Dominican Republic is the most prominent in Latin America and is considered the result of a structural change in the tourism sector that holds a growing use of resources to increasing rates of productivity. According to the analyzes that are the basis for the National Development Strategy 2010-2030 "in the case of tourism, though its links with the rest of the economy are higher than in the case of the free zones, the predominant mode <i>all inclusive</i> has tended to limit contact between the hotels with surrounding communities and other local activities ( ... ) this scheme reflects a pattern of concentrated business in a small number of tour operators, airlines and distribution channels, with little motivation for the use of internal <i>spillover</i> and increased added value, from the perspective of the country".</p> <p>Ecotourism is a growing market worldwide (10%) and with lots of local potential. Of total tourists received in 2014 in DR more than 50% said they would like to come back again but visit a different area, thus creating more opportunity for the development of this activity.</p> <p><i>Provide the key competitors with market shares and customer base (if applicable).</i></p> <p>Although the project does not correspond to an income generating activity, it seeks to</p>

	<p>strengthen tourism development model at the municipal level through development plans, incorporating the participation of local actors involved in the tourism sector ranging from the government, communities and the tourism clusters. The main market share is related to the increase in ecotourism offer, mainly in parks and reserves, as well as improved access to and use of the basic facilities of water and energy, incorporating measures to mitigation of emissions and adaptation to climate change.</p> <p><i>Provide pricing structures, price controls, subsidies available and government involvement (if any).</i></p> <p>For the type of project no price control measures and subsidies are applied. Moreover, the government will have a direct participation in project activities, through the support of the municipal government in the implementation of mitigation and adaptation strategies in alignment with the policies of the Ministry of Environment regarding the protection, use and management of protected areas facing the climate change.</p>
<p>2.4. Regulation, taxation and insurance</p>	<p><i>Provide details of government licenses, or permits required for implementing and operating the project/programme, the issuing authority, and the date of issue or expected date of issue.</i></p> <p>The project does not require environmental licenses to be implemented; nevertheless, we count with decrees and permits that authorize the co-management of the protected areas, to develop conservation and protection activities.</p> <p>All the activities of the project are aligned with environmental ministry policies, partners of the Project, and they are planned and will be implemented in the respect of the laws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Law number 64-00, of the 18th of August 2000. It's a general law about environment and natural resources that creates the Protected Areas National System (SINAP). It establishes rules for conservation, improvement and reform of environment and natural resources, ensuring a sustainable use of them.</li> <li>• Law number 202-04 of the 30th of June 2004: it's about the improvement of the SINAP to guarantee the conservation of wildlife.</li> </ul> <p><i>Describe applicable taxes and foreign exchange regulations.</i></p> <p>For the type of project, taxes and foreign exchange regulations are not applicable.</p> <p><i>Provide details on insurance policies related to project/programme.</i></p> <p>For the type of project, insurance policies related to project are not applicable.</p>
<p>2.5. Implementation arrangements</p>	<p><i>Describe construction and supervision methodology with key contractual agreements.</i></p> <p>A Contractual Agreement with an organization for M &amp; E will be sourced via a call for proposal. The organization will have experience in the design and implementation of the monitoring and evaluation system, with social and environmental focus. This system will allow us to obtain and systematize information related to the scope of the project, to the components and to the impacts on social and environmental components, through qualitative data related to reforested areas, population served, and levels of CO2 capture, and reduction.</p> <p>Agreement construction methodology starts with the identification of actions in each area of interest, continuing with the establishment of specific objectives of each partner in the component, according to the results matrix of the project.</p> <p><i>Describe operational arrangements with key contractual agreements following the completion of construction.</i></p> <p>An operational agreement with SOH will be signed, defining SOH as implementing partner: who will have direct responsibility for implementing program components related mainly to protected areas, reforestation, soil protection and ecosystems</p>

	<p>management in watersheds.</p> <p>Through a small grant program the project will directly support the implementation of small projects on mitigation and adaptation, aligned to the municipal development plans and management plans for the areas were protecting, these funds will be directed to local organizations and tourism clusters.</p> <p>Within this project, UNDP's role will be geared to support the implementation of actions as well as monitoring and evaluation. In addition we will work together in the design and strengthening of strategies to ensure sustainability and replicability of the model proposed.</p> <p><i>Provide a timetable showing major scheduled achievements and completion for each of the major components of the project/programme.</i></p> <p>Please find attached file.</p>
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**III. Financing / Cost Information**

<p>3.1. Description of financial elements of the project / programme</p>	<p><i>Please provide:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a breakdown of cost estimates analysed according to major cost categories.</li> <li>• a financial model that includes projection covering the period from financial closing through final maturity of the proposed GCF financing with detailed assumptions and rationale;</li> <li>• a description of how the choice of financial instrument(s) will overcome barriers and achieve project objectives, and leverage public and/or private finance.</li> </ul> <p>Please find attached file</p>
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		Financial Instrument	Amount	Currency	Tenor	Indicative Pricing
<p>3.2. Project financing information</p>	<p><b>Total project financing (a) = (b) + (c)</b></p>		.....	<u>Options</u>		
	<p>(b) Requested GCF amount</p>	(i) Senior Loans	.....	<u>Options</u>	( ) years	( ) %
		(ii) Subordinated Loans	.....	<u>Options</u>	( ) years	( ) %
		(iii) Equity	.....	<u>Options</u>		( ) % IRR
		(iv) Guarantees	.....	<u>Options</u>		
		(v) Reimbursable grants *	.....	<u>Options</u>		
		(vi) Grants *	.....	<u>Options</u>		
	<p><i>* Please provide detailed economic and financial justification in the case of grants.</i></p>					
	<p><b>Total Requested (i+ii+iii+iv+v+vi)</b></p>		.....	<u>Options</u>		

		Financial Instrument	Amount	Currency	Name of Institution	Seniority
(c) Co-financing		<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>
		<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>
		<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>
		<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>	.....	<u>Options</u>
	Lead financing institution: .....					
(d) Covenants						
(e) Conditions precedent to disbursement						

#### IV. Expected Performance against Investment Criteria

Please explain the potential of the Project/Programme to achieve the Fund's six investment criteria as listed below.

<p>4.1 Climate impact potential [Potential to achieve the GCF's objectives and results]</p>	<p><i>Specify the climate mitigation and/or adaptation impact. Provide specific values for the below indicators and any other relevant indicators and values, including those from the Fund's Performance Measurement Frameworks.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> eq to be avoided or reduced per annum = ~400,000.00</li> <li>• Total direct beneficiaries are 40,000 people in 5 municipalities and rural communities.</li> <li>• Total indirect beneficiaries are more that 110,000 families in 5 municipalities and rural communities.</li> </ul> <p><i>Level of vulnerability of the beneficiary communities</i></p> <p>The 40% of the country is aimed at forest, while 55% is used in agriculture, including grassland and shrubland. 27% is under protection by 123 sites that are part of the National System of Protected Areas.</p> <p>Human settlements in the provinces of Puerto Plata, Pedernales and Samana have a critically vulnerable level to climate change and climate variability, with high levels of vulnerability. Urban and rural population has high levels of poverty, which greatly limit their life choices.</p> <p>In many cases, this results in the need to live in exposed areas to high pollution or high risk of being impacted by the negative effects of weather and geomorphological events, such as floods, landslides, rising sea levels, among others. To this is added the lack of access to quality basic services, including water supplies, with major consequences in terms of transmission of diseases related to the hygiene of the environments.</p> <p>In terms of <b>agriculture and water</b>, for 2012 the financing of agricultural production by the national agricultural bank was 25%, and 19% of production was development by loans, these weaknesses in the agricultural financing has different impacts due to low profitability of the activity and the lack of liquidity of producers to make investments</p>
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	<p>with own capital, affecting the local economy and the community development.</p> <p>Food production is more exposed to be affected by the drying effects of climate change, mainly in the provinces of Pedernales and Barahona, because the more on extended drought; the wide diffusion of crops on slopes and elevated low adaptive capacity, both in terms of low human development of populations and in terms of lack of capacities to ensure a response to the occurrence of drought phenomena they are part of the factors affect the vulnerability of the area.</p> <p>Accessibility to <b>water resources</b> is a risk, particularly in the south (eastern Sierra de Bahoruco and Bahoruco) where agricultural production and livestock, has difficulty especially in drought seasons.</p> <p>In relation to <b>protected areas and tourism</b>, Pedernales and Barahona have areas with high levels of vulnerability, particularly in coastal areas, influencing the pressure generated by tourism. The determining factors in of vulnerability characterization are the percentage of protected areas with human activities and the low percentage of protected surface with shared management.</p> <p>Regarding tourism, Puerto Plata, Samana, Barahona and Pedernales, present levels of vulnerability in relation to tourism model, linking environmental surroundings as the main attraction, which presents deterioration of natural resources, the most vulnerable are the coastal provinces with more housing capacity. Likewise, the traditional tourism model is determinant of vulnerability linked to the lack of development plans and territorial management, consistent with the characteristics of the environmental context</p> <p>Access to and supply of <b>Energy</b> is a key development axis of the country, with great potential not only for mitigation of greenhouse gases, but also to save costs, the transformation of the energy matrix being fundamental to sources clean energy, including increase coverage at nationwide, reducing dependence on energy imports and contributing to reducing emissions.</p>
<p>4.2 Paradigm shift potential [Potential to catalyze impact beyond a one-off project or programme investment]</p>	<p><i>Provide the estimates and details of the below and specify other relevant factors.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Potential for scaling-up and replication (e.g. multiples of initial impact size)</b></li> </ul> <p>The potential for scaling-up and replication is due to different factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The model of sustainable development consistent with climate change can be replicated in any of the 159 municipalities and 203 municipal districts of the Dominican Republic.</li> <li>- It is aligned with national and international policies so they can serve as reference for other island states, the Caribbean and the world.</li> <li>- The islands live mainly from tourism and its scarce natural resources, making them very vulnerable to climate change; with this project, the community-based management of these resources makes available its insertion into other regional rural and municipal governments.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Potential for knowledge and learning</b></li> </ul> <p>During the project 40,000 direct beneficiaries will be educated and trained in mitigation and adaptation actions, in their respective fields. Manuals, management plans, development and ecotourism plans, and all documents, will form a database of information and techniques that will be used by the residents.</p> <p>Increased governance through participation in decision making for the various processes described in the project, will achieve that people realize that they are managers and leaders of their environment, and can propose and implement actions for adaptation and mitigation considering climate change as well as any other topic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Contribution to the creation of an enabling environment</b></li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Integrated management of the PA and basins, with an ecosystem approach that is considered in development plans will be the key to link society and nature.</li> <li>- Promoting ecotourism as an alternative economic livelihood, and using adaptive management plans, resilience of these fragile communities increases and decreases their vulnerability.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Contribution to the regulatory framework and policies</b></li> </ul> <p>Implementation of what is identified by the Climate Change Compatible Economic Development Plan (DECCC) and the National Development Strategy (END). In addition, the project strengthens the outreach and fulfillment of all the regulations and standards to communities, decision makers and users. Moreover it will strengthen the community for the creation of related local policies.</p>
<p>4.3 Sustainable development potential <i>[Potential to provide wider development co-benefits]</i></p>	<p><i>Provide the estimates of economic, social and environmental co-benefits. Examples include the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Economic co-benefits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--- A 20% of job increment, considering new jobs created by the projects and the reactivation of economic existing opportunities</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Amount of foreign currency savings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--- 5- to 10% improvement of foreign currency spent in the territory, due to the increasing of foreign eco-tourism</li> <li>--- 10% of improvement in eco-tourism, by the involved clusters.</li> <li>--- Improved local market consumption</li> <li>--- Developing the productive chain will enhance the trade in local agriculture and handcrafting products</li> <li>--- Amount of government's budget deficits reduced</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Social co-benefits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--- At least 75% of the direct beneficiaries, have knowledge related to climate change</li> <li>--- A continuous awareness campaign on various issues related to adaptation and mitigations measures to climate change</li> <li>--- Implemented adaptation measures at the farm level and ecosystem taking into account cultural and social conditions of communities.</li> <li>--- Improved consensus environment</li> <li>--- Creating opportunities, dialogue spaces and situations where the community, stakeholders and decision makers will propose activities and solutions, not only for climate change related topics.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Environmental co-benefits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--- Improved soil quality, Through the good environmental practices in 80,000 Ha and reforestation of ~2000 Ha the soli will enhance its water retention and avoid erosion</li> <li>--- Improved biodiversity, managing efficiently Protected Areas ensuring 170,856 Ha as suitable habitat for resident, endemics and migratory species of flora and fauna</li> <li>--- Improved water uptake, recovered and managing efficiently 60,000 Ha of river basin</li> <li>--- Improved ecosystem services, managing the efficiently Protected Areas ensuring complexity of ecosystems in 200,000 Ha</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Gender-sensitive development impact</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--- 40% of the directly benefited from the induced activities of new or re-launched eco-tourist are woman's</li> <li>--- 30% of families are indirectly benefited from the new eco-tourist activities</li> <li>--- Women participate equally in all educational and training activities.</li> <li>--- Women hold 40% of decision making spaces</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>4.4 Needs of recipient <i>[Vulnerability to climate change and financing needs of the recipients]</i></p>	<p><i>Describe the scale and intensity of vulnerability of the country and beneficiary groups and elaborate how the project/programme addresses the issues.</i></p> <p>According to DECCC, resolute action in favor of the climate is a key priority for Dominican Republic (DR). The country is very vulnerable to the effects of climate change, such as coastal flooding aggravated by rising sea levels and increasingly severe hurricanes, water deficit and desertification. With this trending scenario the actual economic growth will increase emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) by about 40% in 2030, well above levels recommended.</p> <p>In the DR, as in many other parts of Latin America, rural communities have high rates of poverty and live almost exclusively from agriculture, therefore directly dependent on natural resources for economic activities. The degradation of ecosystem services and intensifying pressure on water resources increases the vulnerability of these peoples to the effects described. Consequently, adaptation to climate change requires enhancing the resilience of natural systems and productivity in order to support their livelihoods, also consolidating ecotourism as a compatible economic alternative with</p>

	<p>climate change.</p> <p>Work these strategies with the local majority ownership at community levels, is needed. As development strategies based solely on the discussion with economically or politically powerful groups can lead to infrastructure and large-scale technological solutions that undermine poor families or are inappropriate for them.</p> <p>Also, currently there is not enough information to identify the impacts of climate change on these communities.</p> <p>Diversification of tourism and ecotourism as a low emission model will boost reduction of poverty and catalyst the GHG emissions reduction in electricity, construction and waste sectors.</p>
<p>4.5 Country ownership <i>[Beneficiary country ownership of project or programme and capacity to implement the proposed activities]</i></p>	<p><i>Provide details of the below and specify other relevant factors.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Coherence and alignment with the country's national climate strategy and priorities in mitigation or adaptation</b></li> </ul> <p>The Dominican Republic Climate Change Compatible Economic Development Plan (DECCC) identifies that in order to achieve increasing of the GDP for 2030 is needed to reduce de GHG emissions by half: "Not only do we think the development and action in favor of the climate can go together, but we are in fact convinced that reinforce each other when they are undertaken with an integral strategy. Also recognizes electricity, transport and forest as the priority sectors. And concentrate strategically in tourism will allow catalyze Plan implementation.</p> <p>In the National Development Strategy (END) 2010-2030, this program meets some of the objectives set out in:  Priority 2: A cohesive society with equal opportunities and low levels of poverty and inequality (3.1, 3.3, 4.1, 4.2 , 4.3, 4.4 and 5.3)  Priority 3: An articulated innovative and sustainable economy with a productive structure that generates high and sustained growth with decent work, and competitively inserted in the global economy (2.1, 4.3, 5.2 and 5.4)  And the entire Priority 4: Sustainable management of the environment and adequate adaptation to climate change.</p> <p>The Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity National Strategy and Action Plan 2011-2020, address the climate change risk over biodiversity and the need to use the ecosystem based approach. Its aim is to implement effective measures to conserve and halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure by 2020 the contribution of ecosystem services to the welfare of Dominicans and poverty reduction.</p> <p>This project will also prepare communities, develop data and bring tools for the REDD+ National Strategy (currently being developed).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Brief description of executing entities (e.g. local developers, partners and service providers) along with the roles they will play</b></li> </ul> <p><b>IDDI:</b> Applicant organization, with the responsibility to implement directly the different project activities, manage funds, provide support to implementing partners.</p> <p><b>SOH:</b> implementing partner, with responsibility for implementing the actions related to the management of protected areas, parks and watersheds, as well as actions related to the promotion of ecotourism.</p> <p><b>Local organizations and tourism clusters (Barahona, Puerto Plata and Samaná):</b> Through a small grant program will be supported directly with the implementation of small projects mitigation and adaptation measures, aligned to the municipal development plans and management plans for protected areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stakeholder engagement process and feedback received from civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders.</b></li> </ul> <p>IDDI-SOH consortium has collaboration agreements with the tourism clusters, local governments and local actors in the municipalities involved in the project. These actors have been linked to the process of formulation of the proposal and will be directly integrated in the</p>

	implementation and monitoring of the project.
<p>4.6 Effectiveness and efficiency <i>[Economic and financial soundness and effectiveness of the proposed activities]</i></p>	<p><i>Provide details of the below and specify other relevant factors (i.e. debt service coverage ratio), if available.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated cost per t CO2 eq (total investment cost/expected lifetime emission reductions) The project directly benefit 40,000 people, and 110,000 families indirectly, for an estimated cost of 200 US\$ per person. Facing this amount, we expect to reach 400,000 tons of CO2 eq.</li> <li>• Co-financing ratio (total amount of the Fund's investment as percentage of project)</li> <li>• Economic and financial rate of return             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--- With the Fund's support</li> <li>--- Without the Fund's support</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### V. Brief Rationale for GCF Involvement and Exit Strategy -

Please specify why the GCF contribution is critical for the project/programme.

While the National Development Strategy (END) 2010-2030, as well as other plans and policies, propose measures for adaptation to climate change in the energy, forestry and tourism, these are written in a proactive way, as a guide to policy intention or sectors.

As set out in national strategies to the public sector accounts design adaptive and application tools, such as strategic plans, regulations, incentives, security environment and risk management. The private sector and civil society should incorporate additional infrastructure costs and adaptation of their operations to sustainability. Costs that would not be affordable by the Dominican Republic civil society (NGOs and associations) without the intervention of the fund.

*Please explain the exit strategy (i.e. how the project/programme will be sustained after GCF intervention).*

Creating trade and environmental structure for ecotourism, communities will manage their environment actively. Providing an alternative livelihood and developing a sustainable economic activity (with increasing growth) that allows wealth generation, and will ensure the stay of the people preventing their migration to large cities. Besides, the inclusion of climate change effects in municipal planning and development facilitates the execution of adaptation and mitigation community based actions, not depending on external agents to make decisions. But the support and technical supervision will still be needed.

The integrated PA management, strengthen of the ministry of environment and community participation will ensure the model for the conservation of ecosystem services and biodiversity. Also, the National Development Strategy 2010-2030 (END), the Climate Change Compatible Economic Development Plan (DECCC) and other rules, policies and laws, propitiates the continuity of this model.

The project will also provide seed grants to local NGOs and tourism clusters that serve as the basis for implementing projects and as amounts of leverage to other funds

### VI. Risk Analysis -

*Please describe the financial and operational risks and discuss mitigating measures.*

This proposal corresponds to a non-profit project, where investment funds are made directly on mitigation and adaptation actions, in both ecosystems and communities, through education, capacity building and improved management production systems for reducing emissions, which is not a financial risk.

*Please briefly specify the substantial environmental and social risks that the project/programme may face and the proposed risk mitigating measures.*

The main environmental risks of the project are given by natural phenomena such as prolonged droughts and hydro-meteorological events related to the hurricane season, to mitigate such effects the project activities will be planned taking into consideration the following aspects:

- The planting and reforestation actions shall take into account the cycles of rain, to ensure success in planting and reducing flood losses on plots.
- Protection and soil conservation measures will be incorporated to protect crops in the rainy season.
- Training of community capacity for disaster risk reduction to be made before the hurricane season, so that families have the knowledge and preparation.

The main social risks are given by the participation and empowerment of the population in each of the activities, for which the project has been developed through a participatory approach taking into account the needs of the population, with the aim of linking from the formulation and implementation process, further raised the following points.

- An initial socialization with stakeholders will be held, ensuring their participation in each of the activities.
- In every community there will be a social technician who will monitor the project beneficiaries encouraging their participation.
- Actions were developed with a focus on gender and inclusion, with special participation of women and people with disabilities, as more vulnerable to climate change.
- Formalized partnerships with local authorities, private sector and tourism cluster, guarantees that the actions align with municipal and national development plans

## VII. Multi-Stakeholder Engagement –

*Please specify the plan for multi-stakeholder engagement, and what has been done so far in this regard.*

IDDI, SOH and a lot of different stakeholders, at a local and at a national level, will manage this project. IDDI will be engaged mainly in the community part and in the public/private alliances; SOH will be present mostly for the scientific aspects.

The principal stakeholders of the project are: National **government** (Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Tourism), local governments (**municipalities**), **civil defense**, **tourism clusters of Barahona, Puerto Plata and Samaná**, other developing/protection **projects** and **public/private institutions** present in the area of intervention.

We are working with **different types of stakeholders**: the private sector (touristic clusters, basically), public sector (municipalities, ministries and national coordination systems), community-based sector (social civil organizations).

The different interventions that IDDI realized, together with the tourism clusters of Samaná and Puerto Plata, as well as SOH in Barahona and Pedernales, are directed to a local sustainable development, with a community focus and a methodology based on public-private alliances, that influences the territory in an integral way and promotes citizen engagement, CSO empowerment, the building of an institutional framework (municipalities, ministries, etc.) and the economic development that supports sustainable ways of life.

With the CRIS Project, funded by USAID, IDDI has directed the territory to development and consolidation of resilient cities to climate change, working directly with the Samaná Cluster. In Puerto Plata, IDDI is present with a dedicated office for youths and community development in the most marginalized neighborhood, and it works in disaster risk management since the intervention post-storm Olga and Noel, with education activities that have brought to the conformation of the local disaster risk management committee. In Barahona and Pedernales, SOH cooperates with the local Cluster in the strengthening of eco-tourist guides association, in the opening of new rural trails, in the reinforcement of interpretation centers, and in the promotion of Sierra de Bahoruco and its PAs, developing a business plan for eco-tourism.

Samaná, Puerto Plata and Barahona tourism clusters have been involved in the planning part of the project, and will be directly involved in the implementation part. In the first phase of the project, they will function as beneficiaries of empowerment activities directed to reinforce them in eco-tourism, climate change education, re-forestation and disaster risk management. They will be beneficiaries of actions directed to facilitate mechanisms of implementation of good ecological practices and educational policies about the touristic and wildlife context of the different provinces: Pedernales, Barahona, Puerto Plata and Samaná.

In the second phase of the project, they will become responsible for the implementation of the new input received on

eco-tourism impact in the economy and on social development, as well as disaster risk prevention by managing a specific budget given as sub-grant.

### VIII. Status of Project/Programme

- 1) A pre-feasibility study is expected to be completed at this stage. Please provide the report in Annex II.
- 2) Please indicate whether a feasibility study and/or environmental and social impact assessment has been conducted for the proposed project/programme: Yes  No   
*(If 'Yes', please provide them in Annex II.)*
- 3) Will the proposed project/programme be developed as an extension of a previous project (e.g. subsequent phase), or based on a previous project/programme (e.g. scale up or replication)? Yes  No   
*(If yes, please provide an evaluation report of the previous project in Annex II, if available.)*

### IX. Remarks

#### **Annex I.**

Please insert a map indicating the location of the project/programme.

#### **Annex II.**

Please provide the pre-feasibility study report for the project/programme.

Please also provide the feasibility study report, environmental and social impact assessment, and/or evaluation report, if available.