

Article 21 Financial mechanism

289. What is the relative priority afforded to implementation of this Article and the associated decisions by your country?

a) High	X	b) Medium		c) Low	
---------	---	-----------	--	--------	--

290. To what extent are the resources available adequate for meeting the obligations and recommendations made?

a) Good		b) Adequate		c) Limiting	X	d) Severely limiting	
---------	--	-------------	--	-------------	---	----------------------	--

Further comments on relative priority and on availability of resources

Question 289.

The Global Environmental Facility – GEF, managed jointly by the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), had its restructuring approved in the meeting of the Parties that participate in the Fund, in Geneva, 14th-16th March, 1994. The GEF functions on the basis of cooperation and association with its executive institutions (The World Bank, UNDP, UNEP), as a mechanism of international cooperation, with the aim of providing resources to finance the incremental costs arising from the measures required to achieve environmental benefits on a global scale in the following areas: a) climate change; b) biological diversity; c) international waters; and d) destruction of the ozone layer. Project proposals are submitted via the *Secretaria de Assuntos Internacionais – SEAIN / Ministério de Planejamento, Orçamento e Gestão - MPOG* [Secretariat for International Affairs – SEAIN / Ministry of Planning – MPOG], the focal point of GEF in Brazil, and go through the following stages: preparation, presentation, selection, recommendation, approval, execution and supervision. Project Proposals can be submitted to the GEF if they attend to the following general criteria of eligibility:

- Projects which are in countries that have programmes with UNDP and the World Bank, and that have signed the Convention on Biological Diversity, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD);
- which aim to solve global environmental problems regarding biodiversity conservation, climate changes and international waters;
- which contribute to population welfare, based on national priorities and addressing sustainable development in the country;
- activities based on avoidance and evaluation of potential environmental, social, economic and cultural impacts;
- which promote innovation, test cases, methods and technologies potentially reproducible in other regions of the country and of the world, which increase the knowledge base and potential for the sustainable use of the natural resources;
- projects that involve, right from the initial stages of their formulation, the participation, besides the appropriate levels of government, of society in its various sectors, local communities, academia and the private sector, and which guarantee transparency in their execution;
- financing of incremental costs associated with the global environmental gains to be arising from the project; and
- proposals which have potentially advantageous cost/benefit ratios.

Currently, there are a number of GEF projects in Brazil (see Annex I). SEAIN/ GTAB (the GEF focal point), has carried out a strategic planning exercise for GEF projects in Brazil. Brazil is donor member of GEF.

291. Has your country worked to strengthen existing financial institutions to provide financial resources for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity?

a) no	
b) yes	X

Chapter 1

Decision III/7. Guidelines for the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

292. Has your country provided information on experiences gained through activities funded by the financial mechanism?	
a) no activities	
b) no, although there are activities	
c) yes, within the previous national report	X
d) yes, through case-studies	
e) yes, through other means (please give details below)	X

Further comments on implementation of this Article

Question 291.

The principal support mechanisms for biodiversity projects in Brazil are:

- *Fundo Nacional do Meio Ambiente – FNMA* [National Environment Fund – FNMA];
- *Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade – FUNBIO* [Brazilian Biodiversity Fund for Biodiversity – FUNBIO];
- *Projeto de Conservação e Utilização Sustentável de Diversidade Biológica Brasileira – PROBIO* [Project for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Brazilian Biological Diversity – PROBIO];
- *Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico – CNPq* [National Council for Scientific and Technological Development – CNPq];
- *Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuária - EMBRAPA* [Brazilian Agricultural and Cattle-Breeding Research Company O EMBRAPA]; and
- *Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de São Paulo – FAPESP* [São Paulo State Research Support Foundation - FAPESP].

The activities of these organizations are available online: PROBIO period from 1997 to 2001 (www.mma.gov.br), FUNBIO (1997-2001) (www.funbio.org.br), FNMA until 2001 (www.fnma.gov.br). There are a number of biodiversity projects soon to be financed, through loans with special interest rates from the banks: Banco da Amazônia - BASA [Amazon Bank], Banco do Nordeste [Northeast Bank](fishers), Banco do Brasil [Bank of Brazil] - BB (PD/A), and BNDES. See comment on BASA for Question 148.

Question 292.

Yes, information is provided for GEF missions in Brazil. Every project financed by GEF provides reports of its results, through formal documents and publications and via the Internet.