

Part I: Project Information		Response
GEF ID	10392	
Project Title	Promoting Carbon Reduction Through Energy Eciency (EE) Techniques in Baghdad City	
Date of Screening	4-Dec-19	
STAP member Screener	Saleem H. Ali	
STAP secretariat screener	Sunday Leonard	
STAP Overall Assessment		Minor issues to be considered during project design
		<p>This project seeks to promote a low carbon development in Baghdad city through the creation of an enabling energy efficiency strategy with a focus on the building sector. The PIF lays out the acute energy shortages in Baghdad and makes a case for energy efficiency programs as a way of addressing the challenge.</p> <p>The three components of this project are well-configured for a country like Iraq. The program's training and the capacity-building emphasis is appropriate, including the culmination of the project leading to the establishment of an Energy Efficiency Center.</p> <p>Apart from the low energy-use efficiency in Iraq, the PIF also outlined the challenges of energy supply in the country. According to the PIF, there is significant low efficiency in energy generation, transmission, and distribution, with only 42% of the energy generated being utilized. It was also noted in the PIF that the World Bank is currently developing a project to enhance the electricity sector in Iraq with interventions aimed at improving the supply side of energy production. It will be necessary, therefore, for the project to be coordinated with the World Bank project because synergy between the two could result in significant global environmental benefits.</p> <p>Demonstration project: the planned Energy Efficiency Centre is expected to double as a demonstration of energy efficiency in buildings. STAP agrees that the center could provide a good example of energy efficiency in buildings, but wonders if the project will also demonstrate energy efficiency technologies in other buildings types in Baghdad? To scale-up this project, it will be imperative to show an example of energy efficiency in different types of buildings.</p>

		<p>Furthermore, there is a need to clarify which specific building types are the target of this project and to provide more specifics on the aspects of energy efficiency in buildings that this project seeks to address. Beyond the mention of thermal insulation and air conditioning, there is no specific on what aspects of energy efficiency in buildings the project will be focusing on: building design, retrofitting, heating and cooling, energy-efficient appliances, renewable energy source, energy-efficient lighting, energy-efficient electronics, etc. These details will be needed for developing a scalable and sustainable project?</p> <p>The development of financial measures and incentive mechanisms to promote energy efficiency building investments was listed as one of the project outputs, and according to the PIF, the sustainability of the project partly depends on this. However, there is limited information on what the proposed financial measure and incentive would look like or how it will be developed. STAP recommends that this information should be developed to address how this project will attract the necessary investments for continuity, scale-up, and sustainability.</p> <p>Furthermore, STAP recommends that there should be some close monitoring and due diligence of the private sector partner's capacity and record. BRESC was noted as a leading provider of services but minimal information about its activities is available online, and its performance record needs to be evaluated. Same to be said of the gender sensitivity partner NGO noted.</p> <p>Further clarification is needed for the calculation of the Global Environment Benefits expected to accrue from this project. It is not clear how some of the numbers presented in the PIF were arrived at or the buildings that were used to calculate the 30 years emissions reduction.</p> <p>For a project in which capacity building is an important aspect, the academic and research institutions should be included as part of the stakeholders and they should play a significant role.</p>
Part I: Project Information	What STAP looks for	
B. Indicative Project Description Summary		
Project Objective	Is the objective clearly defined, and consistently related to the problem diagnosis?	Yes – the project lays out the acute energy shortages in Baghdad and makes a convincing case for energy efficiency programs in a highly inefficient system.
Project components	A brief description of the planned activities. Do these support the project's objectives?	Nicely described with clear objectives.
Outcomes	A description of the expected short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention.	These are adequately provided.
	Do the planned outcomes encompass important global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits?	
	Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated?	
Outputs	A description of the products and services which are expected to result from the project. Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes?	Adequately provided.
Part II: Project justification	A simple narrative explaining the project's logic, i.e. a theory of change.	
1. Project description. Briefly describe:		
1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)	Is the problem statement well-defined?	Overall positive presentation
	Are the barriers and threats well described, and substantiated by data and references?	

	For multiple focal area projects: does the problem statement and analysis identify the drivers of environmental degradation which need to be addressed through multiple focal areas; and is the objective well-defined, and can it only be supported by integrating two, or more focal areas objectives or programs?	
2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects	Is the baseline identified clearly?	Baseline for the country remains dire and the project makes a convincing case for feasibility of benefits accruing for the country's largest city.
	Does it provide a feasible basis for quantifying the project's benefits?	
	Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project?	
	For multiple focal area projects:	
	are the multiple baseline analyses presented (supported by data and references), and the multiple benefits specified, including the proposed indicators;	
	are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described; and	
	how did these lessons inform the design of this project?	
3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project	What is the theory of change?	Although a clear theory of change is not presented nor alternative scenarios, the situation in Baghdad has been so desperate that any energy efficiency improvement is likely to be useful. The potential for rebound effect impacts are limited due to incipient poverty.
	What is the sequence of events (required or expected) that will lead to the desired outcomes?	
	· What is the set of linked activities, outputs, and outcomes to address the project's objectives?	
	· Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions?	
	· Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes?	
5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing	GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits?	Cost reasoning is well defined except for aforementioned reservation about validating experience of private sector partner BRESC.
	LDCF/SCCF: will the proposed incremental activities lead to adaptation which reduces vulnerability, builds adaptive capacity, and increases resilience to climate change?	
6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)	Are the benefits truly global environmental benefits, and are they measurable?	
	Is the scale of projected benefits both plausible and compelling in relation to the proposed investment?	
	Are the global environmental benefits explicitly defined?	
	Are indicators, or methodologies, provided to demonstrate how the global environmental benefits will be measured and monitored during project implementation?	

	What activities will be implemented to increase the project's resilience to climate change?	
7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up	Is the project innovative, for example, in its design, method of financing, technology, business model, policy, monitoring and evaluation, or learning?	There is modest innovation in this project but again the baseline situation being as low as it is, the fundamental energy efficiency capacity building efforts appear to be appropriate for the task nevertheless. Scaling across the country and also "scaling deep" (cultural shift in energy consumption behavior, particularly with abundant oil and gas which could again become more accessible) could have been better discussed.
	Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors?	
	Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability?	
1b. Project Map and Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.		Map provided not georeferenced.
2. Stakeholders. Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase: Indigenous people and local communities; Civil society organizations; Private sector entities. If none of the above, please explain why. In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.	Have all the key relevant stakeholders been identified to cover the complexity of the problem, and project implementation barriers?	Stakeholders are noted but given the current political and social unrest in the country, UNDP should keep track of potentially disenfranchised stakeholders.
	What are the stakeholders' roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge?	
3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Please briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes/no/ tbd. If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: access to and control over resources; participation and decision-making; and/or economic benefits or services. Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? yes/no /tbd	Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences?	Yes – there is a fairly detailed section on gender aspects of this project but it relies on a particular NGO named WfSGI. Further performance metrics of this organization are needed.
	Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed?	

<p>5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design</p>	<p>Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project's control?</p>	<p>Identified and adequately addressed.</p>
	<p>Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project?</p>	
	<p>For climate risk, and climate resilience measures:</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · How will the project's objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately? 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed? 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with? 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures? 	
<p>6. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other related initiatives</p>	<p>Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects?</p>	<p>Good coordination details provided based on historical relations as well.</p>
	<p>Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them?</p>	
	<p>Have specific lessons learned from previous projects been cited?</p>	
	<p>How have these lessons informed the project's formulation?</p>	
	<p>Is there an adequate mechanism to feed the lessons learned from earlier projects into this project, and to share lessons learned from it into future projects?</p>	
<p>8. Knowledge management. Outline the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, and how it will contribute to the project's overall impact, including plans to learn from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations.</p>	<p>What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used?</p>	
	<p>What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience?</p>	
<p>STAP advisory response</p>	<p>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</p>	
<p>1. Concur</p>	<p>STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. The proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.</p>	

	<p>* In cases where the STAP acknowledges the project has merit on scientific and technical grounds, the STAP will recognize this in the screen by stating that <i>“STAP is satisfied with the scientific and technical quality of the proposal and encourages the proponent to develop it with same rigor. At any time during the development of the project, the proponent is invited to approach STAP to consult on the design.”</i></p>	
2. Minor issues to be considered during project design	<p>STAP has identified specific scientific /technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the project proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. The proponent may wish to:</p>	
	<p>(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised;</p>	
	<p>(ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development, and possibly agreeing to terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review.</p>	
	<p>The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.</p>	
3. Major issues to be considered during project design	<p>STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical methodological issues, barriers, or omissions in the project concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. The proponent is strongly encouraged to:</p>	
	<p>(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development including an independent expert as required. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.</p>	