

# Support to the Development of Legal and Institutional Frameworks on Access to Genetic Resources and related Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge in line with the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol in Venezuela

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10812

**Countries**

Venezuela

**Project Name**

Support to the Development of Legal and Institutional Frameworks on Access to Genetic Resources and related Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge in line with the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol in Venezuela

**Agencies**

UNEP

**Date received by PM**

4/30/2023

**Review completed by PM**

6/4/2023

**Program Manager**

Mark Zimsky

**Focal Area**

Biodiversity

**Project Type**

MSP

**PIF**   
**CEO Endorsement**

**Part I ? Project Information**

**Focal area elements**

**1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Project description summary**

**2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

No. Please eliminate this output: 3.1.4. Side event at COP-MOP on Venezuela's ABS experience and the associated budget associated with this output and use that money to advance implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

6/4/2023

Cleared.

Agency Response

6/02/2023

Output 3.1.4 has been eliminated throughout the CEO Endorsement Request and the budget associated with this Output has been re-allocated to other tasks related to advancing implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

**3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**Co-financing**

**4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Per normal practice, please include a translation for the following two co-financing letters of support in the amount of \$1 and 1.5 million from Finca Santa Cruz and RedSur.

6/4/2023

Cleared.

Agency Response

6/02/2023

The English translations of the two aforementioned co-finance letters are now included in the submission package and have been uploaded on the Portal.

**GEF Resource Availability**

**5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Project Preparation Grant**

**6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Core indicators**

**7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E? Do they remain realistic?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Only core indicator 11 is relevant as there are no core indicators tracking ABS. Please embed CI 11 numbers in the logframe.

6/4/2023

Cleared.

#### Agency Response

6/02/2023

GEF Core Indicator 11 (with numbers) has now been embedded in both the Project Description Summary (Table B) and the Project Results Framework (Annex A), as requested.

#### Part II ? Project Justification

**1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

#### Agency Response

**2. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

#### Agency Response

**3. Is the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there sufficient clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?**

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**4. Is there further elaboration on how the project is aligned with focal area/impact program strategies?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**5. Is the incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing clearly elaborated?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**6. Is there further and better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**7. Is there further and better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Project Map and Coordinates**

**Is there an accurate and confirmed geo-referenced information where the project intervention will take place?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Child Project**

**If this is a child project, is there an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response  
**Stakeholders**

**Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

**Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Private Sector Engagement**

**If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Risks to Achieving Project Objectives**

**Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Coordination**



**Is the institutional arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared. UNDP is going to serve as a fund management agency for this project which is consistent with the practice of UNDP in Venezuela in that it provides this service to other UN agencies and is consistent with other GEF projects in Venezuela.

Agency Response  
**Consistency with National Priorities**

**Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Knowledge Management**

**Is the proposed Knowledge Management Approach for the project adequately elaborated with a timeline and a set of deliverables?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)**

**Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Benefits**

**Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Annexes**

**Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?**

#### Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Please eliminate the budgeted item for the COP MOP side event and use that money elsewhere in the project within Venezuela to advance the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

On the budget: per Guidelines, if project staff are charged to both PMC and project components (i.e. not only to PMC), clear Terms of Reference describing unique outputs linked to the respective components are required at the time of CEO Approval, for review by the Secretariat. Kindly note that we were not able to locate the ToRs. If uploaded, please let us know in which document.

6/4/2023

Cleared.

#### Agency Response

6/02/2023

All references to the COP MOP side event have been eliminated, including its allocated budget, which has been re-distributed to other items relating to implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

In relation to project staff charged to both PMC and project components, this applies only to the National Project Coordinator who in addition to project management and administration functions, will also have an important technical role. This role has been further elaborated within the Terms of Reference contained in Annex N and more specificity is given to the technical tasks and outputs that are expected of this role.

#### **Project Results Framework**

#### Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared. Please embed core indicator 11 in the project results framework.

6/4/2023

Cleared.

#### Agency Response

6/02/2023

GEF Core Indicator 11 has now been embedded in both the Project Description Summary (Table B) and the Project Results Framework (Annex A), as requested.

**GEF Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Council comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**STAP comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**Convention Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**Other Agencies comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**CSOs comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**Status of PPG utilization**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Status of utilization of PPG ? unspecified costs cannot be covered. Please remove the ?Sundry operational costs? or explain what this entails.

6/7/2023

Note is taken of the Agency explanation of the fact that ?Sundry operational costs? refers to UNDP?s fee for fund management of the PPG. This has now been specified in the table for Status of PPG.

However, a fee for managing PPG resources is not eligible per the categories presented in the Guidelines. This expenditure can't be paid for using PPG funds. Therefore, these resources have to be returned to the Trustee as this item is ineligible.

Please delete this line-item expenditure in the PPG table and resubmit the proposal and make arrangements to return the resources to the Trustee.

6/9/2023

Cleared. Please follow up and communicate with the Trustee about returning the identified funds.

Agency Response

6/9/2023

We eliminated the UNDP fee from the table for Status of PPG Utilization (Annex C). Total expenditure is \$46,000

6/01/2023

?Sundry operational costs? refers to UNDP?s fee for fund management of the PPG. This has now been specified in the table for Status of PPG Utilization (Annex C).

**Project maps and coordinates**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

Yes, cleared.

Agency Response

**Does the termsheet in Annex F provide finalized financial terms and conditions? Does the termsheet and financial structure address concerns raised at PIF stage and that were pending to be resolved ahead of CEO endorsement? (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

NA

Agency Response

**GEFSEC DECISION**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Is CEO endorsement recommended? (applies only to projects and child projects)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/22/2023

No, please address issues above and resubmit ASAP. The deadline for cancellation is June 17, 2023 ? if not CEO Approved by then, as request for extension invoking force majeure, if justified, is needed to avoid cancellation.

6/7/2023

No.

Note is taken of the Agency explanation of the fact that ?Sundry operational costs? refers to UNDP?s fee for fund management of the PPG. This has now been specified in the table for Status of PPG.

However, a fee for managing PPG resources is not eligible per the categories presented in the Guidelines. This expenditure can't be paid for using PPG funds. Therefore, these resources have to be returned to the Trustee as this item is ineligible.

Please delete this line-item expenditure in the PPG table and resubmit the proposal.

6/9/2023

CEO endorsement is recommended.

**Review Dates**

	<b>Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement</b>	<b>Response to Secretariat comments</b>
<b>First Review</b>	<b>5/22/2023</b>	<b>6/1/2023</b>

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	6/7/2023	6/9/2023
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	6/9/2023	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		

**CEO Recommendation**

**Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations**