

# Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Albania, Armenia and Kazakhstan

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10924

**Countries**

Global (Albania, Armenia, Kazakhstan)

**Project Name**

Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Albania, Armenia and Kazakhstan

**Agencies**

UNEP

**Date received by PM**

2/17/2022

**Review completed by PM**

**Program Manager**

Evelyn Swain

**Focal Area**

Chemicals and Waste

**Project Type**

EA

## **Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO)**

### **Part 1: Project Information**

#### **Focal area elements**

**Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes.

Agency Response

**Project description summary**

**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 Yes, this is a typical NIP enabling activity.

Agency Response

**Co-financing**

**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 Some co-financing is provided, but it is not required.

Agency Response  
**GEF Resource Availability**

**Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?**

**Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.**

Agency Response  
**Are they within the resources available from:  
The STAR allocation?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response  
**The focal area allocation?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response  
**The LDCF under the principle of equitable access**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response  
**The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response  
**Focal area set-aside?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

**Is the financing presented adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response

**Part 2: Enabling Activity Justification**

**Background and Context.**

**Are the achievements of previously implemented enabling activities cited since the country(ies) became a party to the Convention?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response

**Goals, Objectives, and Activities.**

**Is the project framework sufficiently described?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

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 Yes.

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 Yes.

Agency Response  
**Monitoring and Evaluation.**

**Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response  
**Cost Effectiveness.**

**Is the project cost effective?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response  
**Cost Ranges**

**If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request There is a modest cost increase to participate in the global knowledge platform.

Agency Response The section has been elaborated in updated document.  
**Part III. Endorsement/Approval by OFP**

**Country endorsement**

**Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request  
The Armenia and Kazakhstan OPF is different than what is listed on the GEF website.

ES, 5/26/22: We can accept the endorsement letter from Kazakhstan because it was submitted to the portal before the OFP changed, but we will need a new letter signed by the current OFP from Armenia since the project was submitted after the OFP changed.

Agency Response

The endorsement letters were received from the two countries before the new OFPs took charge. We observed that, the project was submitted on the portal before the OFP of Kazakhstan was changed. If necessary, we will touch base with countries to get new endorsement letters.

May 31, 2022: Updated endorsement letter from new GEF OFP has been uploaded on the portal.

**Response to Comments**

**Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)**

GEF Secretariat Comment Yes.

Agency Response

**Other Agencies comments?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

**Council comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

**STAP Comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

**Convention Secretariat comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

**CSOs comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

## GEFSEC DECISION

## RECOMMENDATION

### Is CEO Endorsement/approval recommended?

#### Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

There is a question about the endorsement letters for Armenia and Kazakhstan.

ES, 5/26/22: This project needs a new endorsement letter from Armenia signed by the current OPF. Please note that the deadline for CEO Endorsement for all EAs in GEF-7 is June 17.

ES, 6/7/22: The Armenia endorsement letter has been updated. CEO Endorsement is recommended.

#### Review Dates

|   | Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement | Response to Secretariat comments |
|---|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>First Review</b>                     | 5/5/2022                               |                                  |
| <b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b> | 5/26/2022                              |                                  |
| <b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b> | 6/7/2022                               |                                  |
| <b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b> |  |                                  |
| <b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b> |  |                                  |

#### CEO Recommendation

#### Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

This project will enable the countries to update and review their National Implementation Plan (NIP) and allow it to meet its obligations under the Stockholm Convention. A revised National Implementation Plan will be prepared and submitted to

the Stockholm Convention COP due to the addition of new chemicals to the list of POPs. The project will help conduct a preliminary inventory, establish a coordination mechanism for the management of the project, and allow Ukraine to review its priorities for POPs management and plan the implementation of meeting its obligations under the Convention. The NIP process is a key step in the implementation of the Stockholm Convention since it establishes the national situation, plans, and priorities for the country to map its activities. It is also an opportunity to bring together all relevant stakeholders and build the capacity of the Government to respond to chemical and waste management which is an important step not only for the implementation of the Convention but also helps in the long-term process of mainstreaming chemicals and waste management in national development plans and priorities. Parties to the Stockholm Convention are required to review and update their NIPs to account for the new chemicals added under the convention.