



Great Green Wall Climate Change Adaptation Regional Support Project

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11000

Countries

Regional (Burkina Faso, Chad, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sudan)

Project Name

Great Green Wall Climate Change Adaptation Regional Support Project

Agencies

IFAD

Date received by PM

6/23/2023

Review completed by PM

10/16/2023

Program Manager

Aloke Barnwal

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

FSP

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

Yes. However, please revise the focal area outcome text to align with the objective mentioned in the GEF 7 strategy. Please see below.

Objective 1: Reduce Vulnerability and Increase Resilience through Innovation and Technology Transfer for Climate Change Adaptation

Given that IFAD is proposed as an executing agency, please provide a rationale which then needs to be cleared by the fund manager.

GEFSEC 16 October

Thanks. Comment cleared. Execution role to be approved by Manager of LDCF.

Agency Response

4 October 2023

We have replaced the focal area outcomes with the objective 1 of the GEF7 LDCF strategy into table A.

IFAD is proposed as the executing agency of components 1 and 2, as these two components will be implemented hand in hand with the GCF GGW RSP, which is executed by IFAD, and component 3 will be executed by the OSS. Having IFAD executing the components 1 and 2 of both the GCF and the GEF RSP will enhance synergies and complementarities between both,

and ensure a strong coordinated and coherent implementation by IFAD with the countries and other GGW partners.

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 Yes.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 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 Yes.

Agency Response

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 Yes.

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 Yes.

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

The core indicators are fine. However, in the meta data's sectoral distribution, please consider distribution the % to one or two other sectors also. Currently, it says 100% agriculture. It is likely that the project will have a component of natural resource management and climate information services.

GEFSEC 16 October

Thanks. Good distribution. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

4 October 2023

In the LDCF RSP core indicator worksheet, we have revised with: 40% agriculture, 30% NRM, and 30% CIS, as the project covers all the GGW accelerator pillars focusing on pillars 1, 2 and 3.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes, the project clearly elaborates how it will build on the GCF funding and IFAD's funding in the region.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

The map currently indicates Nigeria also which LDCF can't support as it is not an LDC.
Please revise.

GEFSEC 16 October - Thanks. Cleared.

Agency Response

4 October 2023

Revised Map is uploaded

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

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

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

Please consider providing a more detailed gender action plan and analysis.

GEFSEC 16 October - Thanks. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

4 October 2023

A revised gender action plan and analysis has been uploaded.

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

Yes.

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

Yes

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

The section includes the following which needs to be completed.

The Regional Support Unit will include a Regional Knowledge Management Specialist in charge of coordinating the activities at regional level funded by XXX.

GEFSEC 16 October - Thanks. No further comments.

Agency Response

4 October 2023

The complete sentence should be: *The Regional Support Unit will include a Regional Knowledge Management Specialist in charge of coordinating the activities at regional level funded by the GCF and GEF.*

In the GEF project budget, we have included one project coordinator, one knowledge and innovation specialist, one M&E specialist, and one admin and finance officer. (In the GCF budget, we have a regional knowledge management specialist, and one in each country.)

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes.

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

The project will require endorsement letters from the OFPs of the countries. Please provide.

October 23, 2023

1. Geo Location: in Annex D on Project Map and Coordinates, please consider inserting the geographic location of the site directly under the dedicated data entry field "GEO LOCATION INFORMATION"? it is left blank.

2. Budget table:

i. Project manager and Project finance and admin officer as well as audit costs are charged to both project components and PMC, should be charged to PMC only.

ii. M&E budget under the M&E section indicates \$293,000 GEF funding while under the budget table, M&E amounts to \$446,567.

3. LOEs: we have LOEs from Niger, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Chad and we are missing LOEs from Burkina Faso, Eritrea, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Sudan.

GEFSEC: The LoEs of all the countries are now uploaded except for Mauritania. IFAD has requested to remove Mauritania from the list of countries in the backend as they are not able to do so in the portal.

Agency Response

4 October 2023

Email to OFPs requesting the LOEs was sent with an explanation and GEF colleagues in cc. The deadline indicated was 30 September; so far, we received the letters from Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia and Niger ?uploaded. We are following up with OFPs for the other letters.

30 October 2023

1. Addressed

2.

i) The Project Finance and Admin Officer is now entirely budgeted under the PMC budget line. As detailed in the draft Terms of Reference provided in the Project Document Annex J, the Project Coordinator and Technical Specialist will be responsible for delivering both PMC related tasks as well as technical outputs.

ii) the M&E budget table was reviewed.

3. Additional LoEs from Senegal, Sudan, Burkina Faso are now uploaded.

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes

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

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 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 NA

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

The project is returned to the agency to address technical comments.

The project is cleared for review by the PPO while we await the endorsement letters from a few remaining countries.

The Agency is requested to address additional comments received from PPO. Please the section "Gef Secretariat Comments".

The Agency is requested to provided LOEs from Mauritania and Mali. If these letters are not received, please remove their names from the list of countries.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	8/25/2023	10/5/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/16/2023	10/30/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/23/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)	12/14/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)	12/19/2023	

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The project is aligned with LDCF's adaptation objectives and will be catalytic in contributing to adaptation efforts of countries in the Great Green Wall Region in close collaboration with the Green Climate Fund. It will be a strategic projects under the GEF-GCF LTV on complementarity and coherence.