



Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation criteria in sectoral and intersectoral public policies and programs to safeguard threatened wildlife in Argentina

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10085

Countries

Argentina

Project Name

Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation criteria in sectoral and intersectoral public policies and programs to safeguard threatened wildlife in Argentina

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

10/27/2020

Review completed by PM

11/19/2020

Program Manager

Mark Zimsky

Focal Area

Biodiversity

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

Cleared.

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

11/11/2020

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

12/8/2020

? The letter of co-financing from Ministry of Production Development of Argentina - Secretariat of Energy does not mention type for the co-financing but it does specify that it will be used to guarantee payments, which can be considered investment mobilized in grant. Can you please clarify and confirm this understanding.

? Co-financing letter from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development does not specify the type of co-financing (grant in Table C).

? Co-financing from UNDP should be classified as from ?GEF Agency?, and not from recipient country government.

3/10/2021

Cleared.

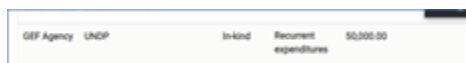
Agency Response

UNDP Agency Response on 08 March 2021 to GEF Sec Comments from 12/08/2020:

•- Yes, that is correct. The co-financing Ministry of Production Development of Argentina - Secretariat of Energy is investment mobilized in grant. It is part of the budget for the implementation of the "RenovAr" Program which supports the development of renewable energy in Argentina. This is indicated in Table C of the CEO Endorsement Request

- The co-financing letter from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development specifies that it stands for AR \$ 368,206,344 equivalent to USD 5,578,884 in **cash** (this is meant as **grant?**) and AR \$ 84,438,156 equivalent to USD 1,279,366 in **kind**, as indicated in Table C of the CEO Endorsement Request.

- UNDP was properly classified as GEF Agency in the Word version of the CEO Endorsement Request, but an error was made at the moment of uploading the information to the Portal. This has been corrected, as shown in the image below:



GEF Agency UNDP	In-kind Recurrent expenditures	50,000.00
-----------------	--------------------------------	-----------

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

In the portal, the PA hectares are placed under improving management effectiveness of newly created protected areas. It should be placed under the sub-indicator for existing protected areas.

Please also submit the baseline METT score.

11/19/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

**UNDP Agency Response on 19 November 2020 to GEF Sec Comments from
11/11/2020:**

The data has been moved to the correct sub-indicator within the Portal and the table for Indicator 1.2 was added to the ProDoc and CEO EndReq.

Due to COVID-related restrictions, it is not possible to provide a completed METT at this time as some of the data is not readily available. However, the relevant institutional departments understand the need for this important baseline information and are committed to ensuring the METT will be completed within the first 6 months of implementation.

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

Cleared.

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

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

11/11/2020

The M&E budget under section 9 of the Portal entry shows a total of \$112,800 while the budget table under Annex F \$171,675. It seems the budget table M&E allocation include also KM budget which is part of component 3. Please revise the budget table accordingly.

3/10/2021

Cleared.

Agency Response

UNDP Agency Response on 08 March 2021 to GEF Sec Comments from 11/11/2020:

Component 3 is both KM and M&E, with a combined total is \$171,675. As per the GEF Sec feedback, the Budget Table has been revised to separate the M&E aspects (Sub-comp 3.2) from the KM aspects (Sub-comp 3.1). In the process of separating these two sub-components, a couple of minor adjustments were made to 2 line items in the budget, as reflected in the TWBP itself, the budget notes, the summary table and the M&E table.

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

11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

Responses to upstream comments are provided in the portal attachments. No council comments were provided at the Council Meeting. Cleared.

Agency Response
STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

Please provide a response to the STAP review.

11/19/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
UNDP Agency Response on 19 November 2020 to GEF Sec Comments from 11/11/2020:

The responses to STAP review comments are included in Annex B of the CEO Endorsement Request document.

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

NA.

Agency Response
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

NA.

Agency Response
CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

NA.

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
Calendar of expected reflows (if NGI is used)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/11/2020

NA.

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

Termsheet, reflow table and agency capacity in NGI Projects

Does the project provide sufficient detail in Annex A (indicative termsheet) to take a decision on the following selection criteria: co-financing ratios, financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments. Does the project provide a detailed reflow table in Annex B to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. After reading the questionnaire in Annex C, is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2020

NA.

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2020

Please address the comments above and resubmit.

12/8/2020

Please address the comments on cofinancing and M&E budget identified above and resubmit.

3/10/2021

Yes. The UNDP audit was also included as an Annex.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	11/11/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/19/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	3/10/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The project aims to mainstream conservation criteria in prioritized sectoral and intersectoral public policies and contribute to their effective implementation to safeguard threatened wildlife. It will pursue this objective through three Components: 1) Strengthening federal and provincial governance frameworks for effective mainstreaming of BD conservation in public policies; 2) Application of coordinated tools and procedures for mainstreaming; and 3) Knowledge Management and Learning Framework for mainstreaming BD conservation in public policies and programs. The project has a duration of 48 months and is expected to provide the following global environmental benefits:

? 4,576,782 hectares Total Area under improved management, corresponding to:

? GEF Core Indicator 1: 45,357 hectares of terrestrial protected areas under improved management for conservation and sustainable use;

? GEF Core Indicator 4: 4,531,425 hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas);

? GEF Core Indicator 6: 5,276,774.4 metric tons of CO₂e greenhouse gas emissions Mitigated

? GEF Core Indicator 11: 6,974 (3,626 women + 3,348 men) direct beneficiaries as co-benefit of GEF investment.

The project will contribute to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework to be adopted at the 15th Conference of the Parties of CBD. In particular, it is expected to support the goals and targets that replace current Aichi Biodiversity Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 12, 14, 19 and 20. It also incorporates innovative approaches to improve the implementation of international conventions, such as CBD, CMS and CITES. For example, activities related to the National Biodiversity Inventory in Component 1 will contribute to the fulfillment of the CBD and the implementation of Axis 2 and Goals 13 and 18 of the National Strategy on Biodiversity.