



Global Cleantech Innovation Programme in Kazakhstan - Promoting cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs for green jobs in Kazakhstan

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10458

Countries

Kazakhstan

Project Name

Global Cleantech Innovation Programme in Kazakhstan - Promoting cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship in SMEs for green jobs in Kazakhstan

Agencies

UNIDO

Date received by PM

4/9/2021

Review completed by PM

10/12/2021

Program Manager

Ming Yang

Focal Area

Climate Change

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, As in the PIF stage, it is aligned with CCM-1-4: Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs for clean-tech innovation.

10/19/2021 MY:

Please address the comments below from the GEF PPO unit:

1. On the co-financing from JSC Science Fund: The co-financing letter is dated November 2019. It has been two years and the deputy chairman who signed the letter is no longer part of top management: <http://science-fund.kz/en/o-fonde/kollektiv>. Please if the co-financing commitments remain unchanged.

"ҒЫЛЫМ ҚОРЫ"
 АКЦИОНЕРЛІК ҚОҒАМЫ
 0, Нұр-Сұлтан қаласы, Тұрсынбай даңғылы 41
 тел: +7 (7172) 768 574, www.science-fund.kz

"ФОНД НАУКИ"
 АКЦИОНЕРНОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО
 010000, улица Нур-Султан, 41
 телефон: +7 (7172) 768 574, www.science-fund.kz



Aryn Orsariyev

Chairman of the Board of JSC "Science Fund"

tel: 8 (7172) 76-85-74 (reception)

To: Mr. Philippe Scholtes
 Officer-in-Charge
 Programme Development and Technical Cooperation Division (PTC)
 United Nations Industrial Development Organization
 GEF Focal Point
 P.O. Box 300, A-1400 Vienna, Austria

Nur-Sultan, 27 November 2019

Subject:

Ahan Zharmenov,
 The Deputy Chairman
 of the Board of
 Science Fund JSC

2. On the co-financing from JSC Center for Engineering and Technology Transfer: This letter mentions that the company will be funding up to 20 project for 3 years. Since the letter was signed in September 2020, the company may have used its funding to finance other projects. Please ask the company to update the co-financing letter.

3. For the co-financing from Non-Commercial JSC International Green Technologies and Investment Projects Center (IGTIC), the letter was signed in September 2019 and the letter indicated that the co-financing contribution would last three years. Now, more than two years have passed. Please ask the company to update the letter.

4. The Expected Implementation Start date and End date gives only 36 months of implementation but not 60 months as indicated in Portal. Please revise it.

Submission Date 4/9/2021	Expected Implementation Start 1/1/2022	Expected Completion Date 12/31/2024
Duration ⓘ 60 in Months		Agency Fee(\$) 159,750.00

11/4/2021 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and the project document package was revised.

Agency Response

03 November 2021

The co-financing letters for JSC Science Fund and JSC Center for Engineering and Technology Transfer have been replaced by updated letters and additional co-financing was added. As to the contribution from IGTIC, it has been removed from the table.

The project duration dates were adjusted.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

In the sub-component of INV in Component 1, please articulate the number of SME beneficiaries. In addition, in the CEO AR document, please elaborate the baseline scenario and GEF project scenario for the SME beneficiaries to justify the additionality of the GEF project investment in direct GHG reduction.

6/3/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

In Paragraphs 41-42, please highlight the revision. In Table B, please also add and highlight the revision.

9/16/2021 PM:

Cleared.

Agency Response

The number of SME beneficiaries was included. Additional text was provided in paragraphs 41-42.

23 August 2021:

The revisions were highlighted in paragraphs 42-44 (the numbering was changed due to additional inputs made since the last review). Due to technical reasons it is not possible to highlight changes in Table B.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, the co-financing amounts are adequate and the letters of co-financing are uploaded to the GEF Portal.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, it is on page 31.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not completed at this time.

Please show GHG accounting, including data, assumptions and calculation for the targeted GHG emission reductions that are shown on page 15.

6/30/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

In Table E, please fill the missing information for Indicator 6.3.

For GHG accounting for this project, paragraphs 116-118 are too general. Please show more detailed information on GHG accounting that is related to the 75 selected enterprises. This information should include the baseline scenario of the 75 enterprises, namely carbon emissions of each of (or in groups of) the 75 enterprises if the GEF does not invest in this project. Then, the information should include GEF investment scenario, namely, carbon emissions of the 75 enterprises if the GEF does invest in the project. These two scenarios should be quantitatively presented. It is better to attach a document to show the two scenarios for GHG accounting. Thank you.

9/16/2021 PM:

Cleared.

Agency Response

The relevant information is included in points 6 i) and ii) of the CEO document (paragraphs 110-118).

23 August 2021:

Regarding Indicator 6.3, at this stage it is not known which enterprises will be supported and if they cleantech will enable energy savings, as explained in the project document and also indicated in Annex A (project results framework).

Additional text on GHG accounting was included in the section on Core Indicators and in paragraphs 39-40 and Table 5.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please sufficiently elaborate how the global environmental problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes, Comments were addressed in paragraphs 7-19.

Agency Response Additional text was provided in paragraphs 18-19.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at time time.

Please elaborate how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived.

6/30/2021 MY:

Not completed at this time.

Please elaborate the baseline scenario for the selected 75 enterprises.

9/16/2021 PM:

Cleared.

Agency Response

Additional text was provided in paragraph 35.

23 August 2021:

Additional text was included in the description of baseline scenario in paragraphs 37-38 as well as in the description of alternative scenario in paragraphs 61-63.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please present an alternative scenario for the project. Please sufficient clarify the expected outcomes and components of the project and describe how the project will aim to achieve the outcomes and outputs.

6/30/2021 MY:

Not completed at this time.

Please elaborate what the GEF/UNDIO will do for the selected 75 enterprises, and how the targeted GEBs (direct GHG emission reduction) will be achieved from the 75 enterprises.

9/16/2021 PM:

Cleared.

Agency Response

The alternative scenario is presented in paragraphs 36-100. The explanation is provided in paragraphs 43-100.

23 August 2021:

Additional text was included in the description of baseline scenario in paragraphs 37-38 as well as in the description of alternative scenario in paragraphs 61-63.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please elaborate how the project is aligned with the CCM focal area strategy.

6/30/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

It seems that paragraphs 103-104 (see below) do not address the question/comment:

103. The GCIP Kazakhstan is designed in a way to address several still existing barriers, as described above, which prevent or slow down the transition towards a low-carbon sustainable economy in Kazakhstan. In particular, the GCIP Kazakhstan will adopt an interdisciplinary holistic approach by engaging several stakeholders such as start-ups, SMEs, ministries and government institutions, academia and research centres, business associations, financing institutions, foundations, venture capitalists, etc. The GCIP Kazakhstan will closely coordinate with the GCIP Framework, as well as other similar national and international efforts, as it is critical to maximize synergies and share knowledge and best practices that can help in enhancing entrepreneurs' contributions towards climate change mitigation.

104. UNIDO has been supporting cleantech companies in their development via GCIP since 2011. By doing so, UNIDO has uniquely fostered an ecosystem approach that supports cleantech innovations in existing and new SMEs and start-ups through the provision of catered tools and methodologies that enhance their productivity and competitiveness while promoting the establishment of a supportive

103. The GCIP Kazakhstan is designed in a way to address several still existing barriers, as described above, which prevent or slow down the transition towards a low-carbon sustainable economy in Kazakhstan. In particular, the GCIP Kazakhstan will adopt an interdisciplinary holistic approach by engaging several stakeholders such as start-ups, SMEs, ministries and government institutions, academia and research centres, business associations, financing institutions, foundations, venture capitalists, etc. The GCIP Kazakhstan will closely coordinate with the GCIP Framework, as well as other similar national and international efforts, as it is critical to maximize synergies and share knowledge and best practices that can help in enhancing entrepreneurs' contributions towards climate change mitigation.

104. UNIDO has been supporting cleantech companies in their development via GCIP since 2011. By doing so, UNIDO has uniquely fostered an ecosystem approach that supports cleantech innovations in existing and new SMEs and start-ups through the provision of catered tools and methodologies that enhance their productivity and competitiveness while promoting the establishment of a supportive

Please further elaborate how the project is aligned with the GEF focal area.

9/16/2021 PM:

Cleared.

Agency Response

Additional information was provided in paragraphs 103-104.

23 August 2021:

Additional text was included in paragraphs 103-104.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY

Not at this time.

Please elaborate incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing.

6/30/2021

Not at this time.

Please provide more detailed information on incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing that is related to the selected 75 enterprises (75 semi-finalists) from which direct carbon emission reductions will be achieved.

9/16/2021 PM:

Cleared.

Agency Response

Additional information was provided in paragraphs 105 and 107.

23 August 2021:

Additional text was included in the description of incremental/additional cost reasoning in paragraphs 110-111.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please elaborate innovation, sustainability and scaling-up.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were cleared.

Agency Response Additional information was provided in paragraphs 124-126.
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

4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, a map is attached to the CEO AR document.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please elaborate how this child project will contribute to the overall program.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were cleared.

Agency Response Additional information was provided in paragraphs 130-131.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not completed at this time. In the CEO AR document, please:

1. present detailed information on Stakeholders engagement to date;
2. ensure that there is a description of any consultations that took place in the design and development of the project;
3. List all key stakeholders which have been identified, supported by a stakeholder analysis;
4. List any Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in the project related area. Please elaborate how these people have been consulted;
5. Please indicate which stakeholders will be affected by the project, and how they have been consulted;
6. Please include information about the future roles of these stakeholders and proposed means of future engagement. Are the future roles of stakeholders identified? Is the project engaging stakeholders through adequate means? Is there a description of those means?

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response

1. Additional information was provided in paragraph 133.
2. It was ensured in paragraphs 132-134 and Table 11.
3. The relevant information is included in paragraphs 132-134 and Table 12.
4. The project will not affect any indigenous peoples and local communities. Please also see the Environmental and Social Management Plan (Annex P).
5. Please see Table 12 and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex N).
6. Please see Table 12 and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (Annex N).

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time. In addition to the attached gender analysis report, in the CEO AR document, please

1. present information on key gender issues related to the project context and components (e.g. relevant laws, cultural norms and traditions shaping behaviors and disaggregated information on target beneficiaries);
2. present the key findings of the gender analysis or equivalent socioeconomic assessments prior during the PPG stage;
3. ensure that the project has ticked the appropriate gender tags and check whether tags, selected, make sense in relation to planned components and activities (e.g. assess whether the project/program can have positive impact on women);
4. If the project has ticked any of the tags, please check whether the project expect to include sex disaggregated indicators.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response

1. The relevant information is included in paragraphs 135-149. The paragraphs 142-145 were added (in comparison with the previous version of the CEO AR document).
2. The relevant information is included in paragraphs 135-149. The paragraphs 142-145 were added (in comparison with the previous version of the CEO AR document).
3. Appropriate gender tags were ticked and it was ensured that tags selected make sense in relation to planned components and activities.
4. Sex-aggregated indicators are foreseen (please see Annex A).

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please elaborate how the project will engage the private sector as a financier and/or as a stakeholder.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comment was addressed and issue was cleared.

Agency Response Additional information was provided in paragraphs 150-154.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved?. Please propose measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.

Please read the STAP proposed methodology to address and screen the risks of climate change.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response

Additional information was provided in paragraphs 157-162.

Risk mitigations measures are proposed in Tables 14 and 15.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Please elaborate possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area. Please show a chart on project coordination.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response

A project execution agreement draft was included in Annex J and referenced in paragraph 166.

Additional information was provided in paragraph 171.

A chart is presented in Figure 4.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time. Please elaborate how this project is aligned with the national priority of Kazakhstan.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response Additional information was provided in paragraphs 180-187.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please present

1. Overview of existing lessons and best practice that inform the project;
2. Plans to learn from relevant projects, programs, initiatives & evaluations;
3. Indication of the processes to capture, access, and document information, lessons learned, best practice & expertise generated during implementation
4. Tools and methods for knowledge exchange, learning & collaboration, including knowledge platforms and websites
5. Knowledge outputs to be produced and shared with stakeholders

6. A discussion on how knowledge and learning will contribute to overall project/program impact and sustainability

7. Plans for strategic communications

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response

1. Additional information was provided in paragraphs 195-197, and Table 17.

2. Additional information was provided in paragraphs 195-197, and Table 17.

3. Please see Table 16. The budget column was added.

4. Please see Table 16 and Output 3.1.3.

5. Please see Table 16. Please note that there will be a GCIP Kazakhstan knowledge management, communication, and advocacy strategy developed under Output 3.1.2, and it will further detail knowledge sharing activities and outputs.

6. Additional information was provided in paragraph 189.

7. Please note that there will be a GCIP Kazakhstan knowledge management, communication, and advocacy strategy developed under Output 3.1.2, and it will further detail strategic communications and knowledge sharing activities/outputs.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

No.

Please include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response Please note that there will be a GCIP M&E framework provided by the GCIP Global, based on which the IGTIC will prepare a GCIP Kazakhstan M&E plan, including time-bound milestones and deliverables. Please also see Table 18.

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

4/19/2021 MY:

Yes,

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

Please double check the annexes and the CEO AR document to make sure all necessary annexes are attached.

Please attach the theory of change as an Annex.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

9/16/2021 PM:

No. Please add a readable budget under Annex E "Project Budget Table". Perhaps you may want to consider presenting the budget per outcome instead of outputs so the budget table will be slimmer and will fit within the margins.

10/12/2021 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and the document was revised.

Agency Response

The annexes were double checked and their lettering was revised.

The Theory of Change (ToC) was attached as Annex I and referenced in paragraph 39.

28 September 2021:

- The budget was revised and included under Annex E.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, it is attached as an annex.

9/16/2021 PM:

No. Kindly note the CEO Approval Document shall include a Project Results Framework under Annex A (it is not enough to attach the framework as a separate document). If the current version is too big, please upload a summarized version of the Project Results Framework in the CEO Approval document.

10/12/2021 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and the document was revised.

Agency Response The Project Results Framework was included under Annex A.

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

Not completed at this time.

For German Comments:

Germany suggested to review the technology alignment with local climate risks. The CEO AR package does not include climate risk analysis and measures to cope with the risks. Please provide an Annex to make it up for this project.

In the stakeholder engagement section of the project, please articulate how the project will work with KfW, GIZ, Climate -KIC and others in seeking synergies in energy efficiency improvement and IT technologies for the country. This is to respond to the comment of the German Council member.

For US Comments:

In Annex G Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), please write a special section to justify this project will not duplicate any of other major UN programs and IERNA efforts. Please demonstrate what are the following stakeholders are doing to promote innovation in clean technologies in Kazakhstan: UNDP, IRENA, the World Bank, Clean Energy Ministerial, IEA, OECD, USAID, the EU, GiZ, and other major donors. Please make sure the GEF project is innovative and unique.

6/30/2021 MY:

Yes. Comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

9/16/2021 PM:

No. Kindly note the CEO Approval Document shall include Council's comments under Annex B (it is not enough to attach the comments as a separate document). Please add the comments under Annex B "Responses to Project Reviews" of the CEO Approval document.

10/12/2021 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and the document was revised.

Agency Response

Regarding comments by Germany on climate risks, additional information was provided in paragraphs 161-162. With regard to cooperation with other agencies, additional information was provided in paragraph 134. Comprehensive responses to the comments are included in Annex B.

Regarding comments by US, a special section was included on p. 4 (?Coordination with stakeholders engaged in other programmes, projects and initiatives?) of Stakeholder Engagement Plan ? Annex N. Relevant information is also included in Table 4. Additional text was provided in paragraph 35. Please also see paragraphs 119-120.

28 September 2021:

- Comments were added under Annex B "Responses to Project Reviews"

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, it is reported in the CEO AR doc.

Agency Response
Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
4/19/2021 MY:

Yes, it is presented in the CEO AR doc.

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
4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

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
4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

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

4/19/2021 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

4/19/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please address the comments in the boxes above. Also, please present the theory of change per STAP's requirement.

6/30/2021 MY:

Not at this time.

Please address the comments in the boxes above.

9/16/2021 PM:

No. Please in the CEO Approval document add the Project Results Framework and Responses to Project Reviews under Annexes A and B respectively (it is not enough to just add a cross reference to a separate document). Also, the Project Budget under Annex E is illegible, please add a readable copy of the budget.

11/4/2021 MY:

Yes, PPO's comments were addressed and the document was revised. The PM recommends technical clearance for the project.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	4/19/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/30/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/12/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/4/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The objective of the project is to accelerate cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship by SMEs and start-ups and to strengthen the cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem of Kazakhstan. The project consists of three major components: (1) Transforming early-stage innovative cleantech solutions into commercial enterprises; (2) Cleantech innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem (CIEE) strengthening and connectivity; and (3) Project Coordination and Coherence. Expected outputs include: (1) Three cycles of the annual competition-based GCIP Kazakhstan Accelerator are conducted (with up to 75 semi-finalists); (2) Targeted business growth support services are provided to selected cleantech enterprises (up to 15 through Advanced Accelerator, up to 45 through Post-Accelerator) towards commercialization; (3) Enterprises (up to 15) are connected to financing opportunities and provided with tipping-point investment facilitation support; and (4) Mentoring and partnership support is provided to cleantech enterprises (up to 10) for global market expansion. With \$1.78 million of grant, this project will mobilize a total of more than \$24.4 million of co-financing from the government. The project aims at mitigating more than 8 million tonnes of CO2 during its lifetime operation.

COVID-19 risk analysis: COVID -19 may cause several risks to this project. These include: (1) technical expertise is not readily available due to the pandemic; (2) Possible re-instatement of COVID-19 containment measures limits available capacity or effectiveness of project execution/ implementation; (3) Some project supporters, co-financiers or beneficiaries may not be able to continue with project execution/implementation; and (4) Price increases for procurement of goods/services. But all these risks will be mitigated by effective measures, including (1) flexible planning to reschedule activities onsite that require specific expertise; (2) strengthening capacity of stakeholders and the beneficiaries for remote work; (3) actively looking for additional co-financing resources to back up; and (4) finding alternative goods and service providers to back up.

COVID-19 opportunities: Remote working arrangements and no-contact business modalities will require solutions that can be turned into new business models. Examples of former GCIP alumni responding to new business opportunities by providing innovative solutions during the pandemic are summarized in the following link: <https://www.unido.org/stories/cleantech-innovators-take-covid-19>.