



National child project under the GEF Africa Mini-grids Program Eswatini

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10476

Countries

Eswatini

Project Name

National child project under the GEF Africa Mini-grids Program Eswatini

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

6/18/2021

Review completed by PM

11/3/2021

Program Manager

Patricia Marcos Huidobro

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
PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

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
PM 7/23/2021:

Yes, with suggestions. The excel budget template provided is fine. However, if available the review team will benefit from a more detailed budget which includes a breakdown by outcome (in addition to by component and year). Many GEF agencies require detailed budgets by outcome. If already available within UNDP please attach it to the next submission.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- Annex 1 "GEF Budget Table" of the ProDoc is empty. Please provide us with the GEF Budget Table so the GEF can clearly identify PMC, M&E and KM costs (Annex 20 does not provide this breakdown).

- The GEF Budget Table has not been included in Annex E of the GEF CEO Approval Request. Please amend accordingly. Kindly note that all sections of the CEO Approval Request shall be filled out (you can either copy and paste or summarize the info provided in the ProDoc).

- Annex 20 and 21 haven't been included in the ProDoc index. Please add them for ease of reference.

- Rio Marker for CCM shall be updated from CCM1 to CCM2 in both the CEO Approval Request and the ProDoc. Please amend.

PM 10/22/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The Budget table under Annex shall include also the M&E budget of \$43,000 as previously identified in Section 9 "Monitoring and Evaluation" of the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry). Please fill out the M&E column in Annex E and amend the overall budget accordingly so the overall sum match the total GEF financing for the project.

- PMC Proportionality: there is not proportionality in the co-financing contribution to PMC. If the GEF contribution is kept at 10.0%, for a co-financing of \$19,042,817 the expected contribution to PMC must be higher than \$381,411. As the costs associated with the project management have to be covered by the GEF portion and the co-financing portion allocated to the PMC, the GEF contribution and the co-financing contribution must be proportional, which means that the GEF contribution to PMC might be decreased and the co-financing contribution to PMC might be increased to reach a similar level. Please amend either by increasing the co-financing portion and/or by reducing the GEF portion.

PM 11/03/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.G. 11/01/2021

- 1- 1. Incorporated. We have separated the M&E activities, update the project document and reflected in the GEF Budget Table, Annex E, to the CEO Endorsement request.
- 2- 2. Thank you for pointing this out. We have revised the co-financing distribution to increase the co-financing contribution to PMC. This contribution is now at USD 1,942,423 (10%), same level as the GEF contribution to PMC. The corresponding changes have been made in the CEO ER ? Table B.

C.L 10/20/2021

1. Incorporated. The GEF Budget Table is included as Annex 1 to the Project Document and uploaded as a separate file to the portal.

Likewise, it is uploaded to the portal as a separate file, Annex E, to the CEO Endorsement request.

2. Incorporated. The Project Document Table of Contents has been updated to reflect the new Annexes, 20 and 21.

3. Incorporated. The Rio Marker for CCM has been updated from CCM 1 to CCM 2 in both Annex 15 of the Project Document and Part I, Section G (Project Taxonomy) in the CEO Endorsement request

C.L 10/1/2021

A further breakdown of the budget per outcome has been included in a new *Annexure 20, Budget per Component and Output*, added to the project document. The Total Budget and Workplan is retained in Section IX of the Project Document and the budget in the standard GEF Budget Template is included in Annex 2 to the project document.

New Annex 20 with budget per Output included in the Project Document.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes, with further suggestions. Please under Table C "Sources of co-financing for the Project by name and by type" elaborate further on how any investment mobilized has been identified.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

PM 11/8/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The grant co-financing contribution from UNDP has been categorized as Investment Mobilized but the description on how this investment has been mobilized is missing in the paragraph below Table C. Please add a description.

- UNCDF shall be categorized as Donor Agency in Table C.

PM 11/11/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

JB 11/10/2021

1- 1. Description added below Table C.

2- 2. UNCDF is now categorized as Donor Agency in Table C.

C.L. 10/1/2021

The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to elaborate on the investment mobilized. The expected co-financing amounts include sources and is documented in Section C of the CEO Endorsement request in accordance with the Co-financing Policy and Guidelines.

In addition, we have proactively made some edits to the UNDP prodoc with regard to co-financing (these edits are found in the prodoc's cover page; section IV results; section IV partnerships). These edits follow recent UNDP corporate guidance on standard language around co-financing. Please note the providers of co-financing and the USD value of co-financing has not changed.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 11/8/2021:

No. Agency fee in Table D of the Council Approved PFD (\$77,792) is one dollar above the amount of Table D in the CEO Endorsement (\$77,691). Please amend the agency fee in the CEO Endorsement (the figure in the PDF is the valid one).

PM 11/11/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

JB 11/10/2021

This has been adjusted back to Council Approved PFD Amount, which we have at \$77,692 (indeed one dollar above), but not 77,792 as stated in the comment (we trust this was a simple typo). The adjustment is further reflected in the total, which now also matches the Council Approved PFD Amount (total) of 940,934.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. GHG calculations have been thoroughly described in the project document. However, the agency has not provided the GEF team with a calculation spreadsheet to easily trace the calculations. For instance, it is not clear from the text whether the GHG estimated comes from the GEF financing only or from the GEF+co-financing. Please clarify and provide a GHG calculation sheet.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Indirect GHG emission reductions in the excel sheet (tab "Indirect GHG" cell T22), i.e. 96,740 do not match the Indirect GHG emission reductions reported in the CEO Approval Request, i.e. 54,000. Please clarify and/or amend inconsistency.

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

The correct figure is 54,000 (tab "Indirect GHG" cell X22) which applies an attribution factor (60%) to the total emissions reductions expected from post-project investments of 96,740 (tab "Indirect GHG" cell T22).

Please note an updated Excel Spreadsheet with a summary sheet that now also includes indirect emission reductions has been uploaded to the portal with this resubmission. This should indicate more clearly what figure has been used to set the indirect mitigation target for the project.

C.L. 10/1/2021

GHG calculations. An excel spreadsheet with the summary of GHG emission reduction calculations has been uploaded to the portal. Also, Annex 13: GHG Emissions Reductions and Project's target contributions to GEF-7 Core Indicators (Eswatini), has been updated to include additional explanations and clarifications on how GHG emissions reductions are calculated.

The GHG emissions reductions estimates are based on the total renewable power generation of the greenfield minigrids and the incremental renewable power generation from PUE overlays developed with project support. Project funding (GEF INV) will be used to provide a CAPEX subsidy to cover (i) part (not all) of the capital expenditures required to deploy the greenfield minigrid investments, and (ii) all the CAPEX for productive use equipment of the PUE overlay pilot.

That means that greenfield minigrid pilots will require additional contributions to cover any remaining portion of CAPEX costs not covered by project funds, reach financial close and deliver the intended results in terms of GHG emission reductions. Also, since PUE Overlays will be deployed on existing minigrid systems, there may be cases where pilots will require additional contributions to cover investments costs not covered by project funds, such as minigrid investments in generation and distribution.

GEF INV budget allocated to the Eswatini greenfield minigrid pilot (estimated at USD 135,000) will be used to provide a portion of the pilots' CAPEX needs. The actual level of CAPEX subsidy will be defined during project implementation by the Executing Agency, based on principles of minimal concessionality, as set out in the project document. Nevertheless, and for the purpose of calculating GHG emission reductions from the pilots, a CAPEX subsidy contribution of 45.0% has been estimated for Eswatini's greenfield minigrid pilot to allow the Solar PV minigrids to reach LCOE parity with a diesel-only baseline minigrid. Additional sources of funding for this pilot are expected to be from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy (in collaboration with other government Ministries) towards household electrification and PUE infrastructure. This contribution has not been quantified pending final site selection and system design, but is included in the MNRE co-finance commitment.

GEF INV budget allocated to the Eswatini PUE Overlay pilot (estimated at USD 25,000). The minigrid to which the PUE overlay will be added does not require additional investments in generation and distribution. The base infrastructure to which the PUE overlay will be added has been fully funded by the Eswatini Electricity Company and is reflected as co-finance in the project document and CEO Endorsement request.

Reference: Amended in Annex 13 and an accompanying summary spreadsheet uploaded to the portal.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. This section of the CEO Approval Request is empty. This information is provided under Section II "Development Challenge" of the ProDoc. Please copy/paste or summarize the information provided in the ProDoc.

Kindly note the CEO Approval Request shall be a self-contained document. As such, all sections shall be filled up (you can either copy/paste or summarize the information of the ProDoc).

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include information on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. This section of the CEO Approval Request is empty. This information is provided under Section II and III of the ProDoc. Please copy/paste or summarize the information provided in the ProDoc.

Kindly note the CEO Approval Request shall be a self-contained document. As such, all sections shall be filled up (you can either copy/paste or summarize the information of the ProDoc).

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The first pilot will incorporate PUE in 200 kW solar PV-battery system while the second pilot will be a greenfield solar PV-battery mini-grid. Please confirm that the project (or at least the GEF-funding) will not be supporting any diesel generation and that the two pilots are entirely run by renewable energy. Are any of the pilots supporting a hybrid mini-grid? If not, we are wondering whether the overall project document shall state "RE mini-grid" instead of "low-carbon mini-grids". Please clarify and update if applicable.

- The "Mini-grid and off-grid Regulatory Framework" is expected to be completed by the first half of 2021. Has it been completed at the time of this review? If so, please update the project document accordingly as this is quite a big milestone for the country that will help define many of the activities proposed under the project. If not, we suggest UNDP to develop during the project implementation a mechanism to ensure the deployed mini-grids will be used for lifetime (20 years) including governance structure as well as a table that explains ownership and operation of the mini-grids.

- Please elaborate further on how the project will ensure replacing batteries and converters as well as O&M of the whole system during the lifetime. Please also provide detailed plan to ensure environmentally sound management of such equipment after their usage.

- Please add the TOC graph to the GEF CEO Endorsement document.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The update the project objective by replacing "low-carbon minigrids" by "renewable energy minigrids" to keep consistency with the changes in the ProDoc - "Supporting access to clean energy by increasing the financial viability, and promoting scaled-up commercial investment, in low-carbon minigrids in Eswatini with a focus on cost-reduction levers and innovative business models"

- This section of the CEO Approval Request is empty. This information is provided under Section IV "Results and Partnerships" of the ProDoc. Please copy/paste or summarize the information provided in the ProDoc. Kindly note the CEO Approval Request shall be a self-contained document. As such, all sections shall be filled up (you can either copy/paste or summarize the information of the ProDoc).

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared, with suggestions. Figures 1 and 2 are blurred. Please fix them.

PM 11/03/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.G. 11/01/2021

Figures 1 and 2 have been replaced in the portal.

C.L. 10/20/2021

i Incorporated. The Project Objective has been amended to specify "renewable energy minigrids" replacing the phrase "low-carbon minigrids".

ii. Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived.

?C.L. 10/1/2021

i. Amended to reflect RE Minigrid. The PUE will be functional for a RE Minigrid only while the greenfield pilot project will utilise only solar PV with battery storage. There is no plan to incorporate diesel in either pilot minigrid system: None of the pilot projects will support a diesel hybrid mini-grid. Accordingly, all references were changed to RE mini-grids throughout the document.

Reference: Revised throughout in both the CEO Endorsement request and the Project Document

ii. Incorporated. The Eswatini Energy Regulator (ESERA) confirmed that the development of the Mini-grid and Off-grid Regulatory Framework has been initiated (a consortium of consultants has been appointed and work has commenced), but is not yet completed.

The suggested provision to develop a mechanism to ensure the greenfield minigrid will be used for a minimum lifetime (20 years) including governance structure as well as a table that explains ownership and operation of the mini-grids, has been included in the Project Document for development during implementation should the finalisation of the regulatory framework be unduly delayed or if it does not adequately provide for these parameters.

The PUE Overlay pilot project at Sigcineni is fully owned and operated by the EEC, the national electricity utility in Eswatini. The minigrid project has a minimum 30 year design lifetime and design and modelling is based on at least 30 year operation. Routine maintenance and corrective maintenance are planned for and will be done by EEC staff and capacitated local individuals.

The Sigcineni pilot project is part of the service delivery and universal access commitment of the EEC and Government, expected to continue indefinitely unless integrated into the national power network. A requirement has been included in the Project Document making the contribution of the PUE overlay provisional to continued operation over the 20-year design life of the project and responsible handling of waste as per the environmental safeguards plan for the project.

Reference: Included as a requirement for accessing the GEF funding under Section IV, Component 2, Output 2.2 in the Project Document. A provision has been included in the Project Document under Section IV, Component 2, Output 2.1 to make funding subject to continued operation over the design life of the minigrid.

iii. A central principle for AMP is to seek to maximize financial viability and sustainability in minigrids. As such a core objective in AMP national projects will be to select minigrid delivery models, business models and to promote minigrid system sizing/planning to maximize minigrids' asset lifetime and financially viable operations, including but not limited to replacement of batteries and convertors.

In Eswatini, the following arrangements have been made for continued maintenance and the safe handling and recycling of spent batteries and equipment for the pilot projects:

For the greenfield pilot project a requirement has been included that makes accessing GEF funding subject to continued maintenance and safe handling and recycling of spent batteries and replaced equipment in compliance with national and UNDP safeguards requirements. It requires these specifications to be clearly documented, budgeted and monitored.

The Sigcineni pilot has documented environmental management requirements that includes handling of spent batteries and solar panels. For this site, the batteries have a 7 to 10-year expected life and the PV modules an estimated lifetime of 20 years. The minigrid is planned to operate at full productivity for at least 30 years, with planned equipment replacements to ensure continued operation. A requirement has been added for the recycling of spent batteries to be ensured.

Reference: Included in the Project Document under Section IV, Component 2, Output 2.1 and Output 2.2 (added to Principle 7) respectively.

IV The TOC has been added to the GEF CEO Endorsement request.

Reference: Included in the CEO Endorsement Request immediately following the table detailing changes to the project outputs.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please fill in this information on the GEF CEO Endorsement request document.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. In addition, please clarify that the project is aligned with the specific Objective CCM1-1 "Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs for de-centralized renewable power with energy storage".

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

?C.L. 10/20/2021

Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to clarify that the project is aligned with the specific Objective CCM1-1 "Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs for de-centralized renewable power with energy storage".

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. The following has been added to the Project Description, Part II, 1a of the CEO Endorsement request: The project is in line with Objective 1, "Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs" of the GEF-7 Climate Change Focal Area, with the SDG 7 "Affordable and Clean Energy", and SDG 13 "Climate Action" aligned to the focal/impact program strategies.

Reference: Project Description, Part II, 1a of the CEO Endorsement request

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. This section of the CEO Approval Request is empty. Kindly note the CEO Approval Request shall be a self-contained document. As such, all sections shall be filled up (you can either copy/paste or summarize the information of the ProDoc).

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to show incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/22/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please fill out this section in the GEF CEO Endorsement Request (in addition to the Agency ProDoc).

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. An elaboration on innovation and sustainable, including the potential for scaling up has been included in the CEO Endorsement request following the table documenting co-financing and immediately preceding Section 1b. The project is designed to pave the way for RE minigrids in Eswatini by demonstrating the opportunities for improved feasibility of minigrid systems for rural households and provision of capacity building. The project is aligned to, and supports the Government's National Energy Policy Implementation Strategy (NEPIS), 2018 and the Kingdom of Eswatini Energy Masterplan, 2034.

Reference: Included in the CEO Endorsement request immediately preceding Section 1b.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please incorporate a map of the project in the GEF CEO Endorsement document.

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. Maps have been included in both the Project Document (Annex 3) and the CEO Endorsement request (Section 1b).

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please fill in this section in the GEF CEO Endorsement document.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated in the CEO Endorsement request.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please either fill out this section or include a cross-reference to the annex/document with the gender information in the GEF CEO Endorsement document.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Please in addition to including a cross-reference to the Gender Action Plan, please copy/paste or summarize it in the CEO Approval Request. Kindly note the CEO Approval Request shall be a self-contained document. As such, all sections shall be filled up (you can either copy/paste or summarize the information of the ProDoc).

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include an overview of the Gender Analysis and Action Plan

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. Amended to reflect the cross-reference to the plan (Annex 11 in the Project Document) in the CEO Endorsement request.

Amended under *Point 3, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment* in the CEO Endorsement request.

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
PM 7/23/2021:

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
PM 7/23/2021:

No. The proposal has provided a risk analysis on the COVID-19 impact. However, an opportunity analysis of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic is missing.

PM 10/6/2021:

Yes, with suggestions. To keep consistency, please move the COVID-19 risk and opportunity analysis from "Project Description, Section 1a) to this section, right after the table risk.

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

Incorporated. The COVID-19 risk and opportunity analysis has been moved from "Project Description, Section 1a) to the Part II, Point 5 (Risks) in the CEO Endorsement Request immediately following the risk table.

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. Included comprehensively in the Project Document under Annex 19, highlighted in paragraphs 4 to 6 in Section II, Development Context and captured / referenced in the CEO Endorsement request under Project Description, Section 1a.

Reference: In particular reflected in para 4 to 6 in Section II, Development Context and included in Annex 19 of Project Document;

Included in the CEO Endorsement Request under Project description, Section 1a, bullets 6 & 7.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Kindly note that as per the GEF jargon, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy is the executing agency not the implementing agency as described in section 6 "Institutional Arrangement and Coordination". Please update throughout the project proposal.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. Amended throughout the CEO Endorsement Request.

For legal reasons the original terminology (?implementing partner?) was retained in the UNDP project document but it is clarified on the cover page as corresponding to the Executing Agency terminology used by the GEF

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

The audit response template submitted with this endorsement request has been reviewed and cleared from a technical and programmatic perspective. The financial, operational, and policy due diligence may reveal issues that may still need to be addressed by UNDP.

No. As mentioned above some annexes are missing, such as the project map. Please incorporate the map in the GEF CEO Endorsement document. For other annexes, either include the relevant information or add a cross-reference to the corresponding document/annex which has been provided separately.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- Anne A "Monitoring and Results Framework" is off the margin. Please fix it.

- Annex E "Project Budget" is missing.

PM 10/22/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/20/2021

i Incorporated. The Monitoring and Results Framework in Annex A of the CEO Endorsement Request has been narrowed to fit within the page margins

ii. Incorporated. The Project Budget, Annex E, is uploaded to the portal as a separate file.

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated.

i. Maps and Satellite maps with coordinates have been included in Annex 3 of the Project Document and the CEO Endorsement Request (Section 1b and Annex E)

II. All other annexes have been cross-referenced.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please include a table listing all comments provided by Council at PFD approval stage. For those no relevant to this child project, please clearly indicate so. Council comments are available here:

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/work-program-documents/GEF_C.57_compilation_council_comments.pdf

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. A table with the Council comments has been included in the CEO Endorsement request, Annex B.

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please address STAP comments provided at the PFD stage, in particular:

1. The proposal presents an adequate list of stakeholders. However, the diesel generator industry is quite widespread in Africa and the project proponents need to consider how to ensure that they do not hinder project success. The project also need to consider incentives for alternative livelihoods for people involved in diesel generator industry.
2. What are the backups to prevent diesel generators from still being frequently used?

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response
C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. A table with the STAP comments, including on these particular topics, has been included in the CEO Endorsement request, Annex B.

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response
CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. The project coordinates have been provided but the map is missing. Please update the GEF CEO Endorsement request accordingly.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Maps have been included in both the Project Document (Annex 3) and the CEO Endorsement Request (Section 1b)

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

The GEF Sec is returning the CEO Endorsement Request to the Agency to address further comments on M&E budget and PMC proportionality (please see above in yellow).

PM 11/8/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The grant co-financing contribution from UNDP has been categorized as Investment Mobilized but the description on how this investment has been mobilized is missing in the paragraph below Table C. Please add a description.
- UNCDF shall be categorized as Donor Agency in Table C.
- Agency fee in Table D of the Council Approved PFD (\$77,792) is one dollar above the amount of Table D in the CEO Endorsement (\$77,691). Please amend the agency fee in the CEO Endorsement (the figure in the PDF is the valid one).

PM 11/11/2021:

Cleared.

Review Dates

**Secretariat Comment at
CEO Endorsement**

**Response to
Secretariat
comments**

First Review
Additional Review (as necessary)
Additional Review (as necessary)
Additional Review (as necessary)
Additional Review (as necessary)

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The GEF Sec is returning the CEO Endorsement Request to the Agency to address further comments.