



Building Climate Resilience for Vulnerable Groups in Rural and Urban Areas of Yemen

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11717

Countries

Yemen

Project Name

Building Climate Resilience for Vulnerable Groups in Rural and Urban Areas of Yemen

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

9/18/2024

Review completed by PM

10/31/2024

Program Manager

Yuki Shiga

Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Project Type

FSP

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF) REVIEW SHEET

1. General Project Information / Eligibility

a) Does the project meet the criteria for eligibility for GEF funding?

b) Is the General Project Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.10.27: cleared.

2024.9.25:

- The project is requesting about \$18 million from the \$20 million LDCF country allocation. Please justify why leaving only a small amount of \$2 million aside for presumably a different and smaller project and not leveraging the entire \$20 million for one project for a more integrated and larger impact.

- Eligibility of CCM resources: the project proposed to use just below \$2M in CCM resources, under CCM window 1.2. Considering the activities at the objectives, the use of CCM resources would be in line with programming directions.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- Following the Secretariat's comments, UNDP engaged in extensive consultations with national counterparts, including the Ministry of Water and Environment and other key stakeholders. These discussions resulted in a consensus to utilize the full \$20 million LDCF country allocation for this project. By leveraging the entire allocation, the project aims to adopt a more integrated approach, enhancing its scope and potential impact. This adjustment will enable us to address the country's urgent adaptation needs more effectively and maximize the benefits on the ground, ensuring a more comprehensive and sustainable response to climate change challenges in Yemen.

- We appreciate the Secretariat's confirmation that the proposed use of just below \$2 million in Climate Change Mitigation (CCM) resources under CCM Objective 1.2 aligns with the GEF Programming Directions. The project activities are designed to contribute significantly to mitigation efforts, and the allocation of CCM resources will support the achievement of these objectives. We

remain committed to ensuring that all resources are utilized efficiently and in line with GEF guidelines to maximize environmental benefits.

2. Project Summary

Does the project summary concisely describe the problem to be addressed, the project objective and the strategies to deliver the GEBs or adaptation benefits and other key expected results?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.10.23: cleared.

2024.9.25:

Target districts: Summary mentions that there are 21 target districts while there are 23 districts in Figure 3 (4?).

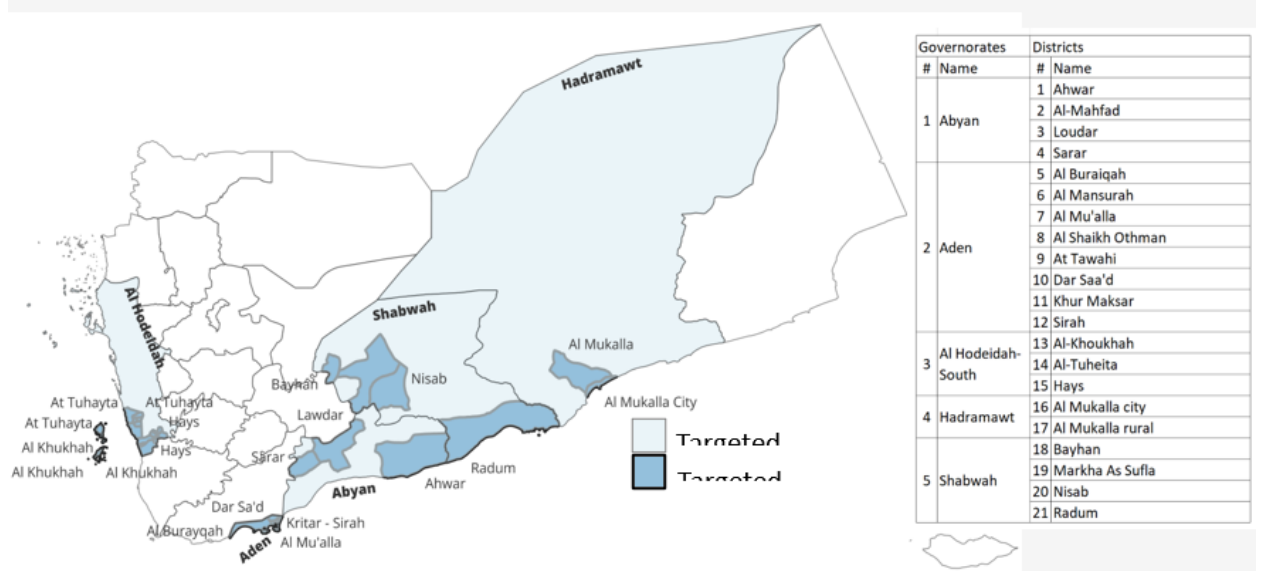
Agency's Comments

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

Thank you for highlighting the inconsistency regarding the number of target districts.

The correct number of target districts for the project is 21. We acknowledge that Figure 3 previously showed 23 districts due to a typographical error. We have updated Figure 3 accordingly to accurately reflect the 21 target districts. All references within the Project Summary have been reviewed and corrected to ensure consistency throughout the document.

Please find below the updated Figure 4, which now accurately depicts the targeted governorates and district.



3 Indicative Project Overview

3.1 a) Is the project objective presented as a concise statement and clear?

b) Are the components, outcomes and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective and the core indicators per the stated Theory of Change?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.11.1: cleared.

2024.11.1:

While the Agency mentioned in the Review Sheet that the M&E budget has been revised to align with the 2% threshold, now amounting to US\$ 988,864 within output 4.2. This adjustment ensures compliance with GEF policies while maintaining sufficient resources for effective monitoring and evaluation activities?, in the Indicative Project Overview the M&E Component is empty ? the M&E output is embedded in Component 4, so it is not possible to see the US\$ 988,864 (see below). Please provide the M&E information (outcomes and outputs) in the M&E component.

Knowledge management	Technical Assistance	4.	4.1 Developed strategy for mainstreaming climate change awareness into the communities and education systems 4.2: Model for Climate-resilient communities developed and awareness-raising. 4.2: Effective Monitoring and Evaluation Plan implemented, including (i) Conducting inception workshop and preparing report, (ii) Ongoing M&E, and (iii) Terminal Evaluation (TE). 4.3: Knowledge management enhanced through digitization of gender-sensitive knowledge products	LDCF	2,136,722.00	2,000,000.00
Knowledge management	Technical Assistance	4.	4.1 Developed strategy for mainstreaming climate change awareness into the communities and education systems 4.2: Model for Climate-resilient communities developed and awareness-raising. 4.2: Effective Monitoring and Evaluation Plan implemented, including (i) Conducting inception workshop and preparing report, (ii) Ongoing M&E, and (iii) Terminal Evaluation (TE). 4.3: Knowledge management enhanced through digitisation of gender-sensitive knowledge products	GET	34,862.00	500,000.00
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)						
				Sub Total (\$)	18,983,486.00	58,000,000.00

2024.9.30:

- Please remove the decimals from the Indicative Project Overview Table.

Project Components	Component Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)
Water/land conservation	Investment	1. Enhanced water	1.1 Sustainable integrated Water resources management plans for selected districts	LDCF	4,446,483.67
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)					
M&E	Technical Assistance	4. Increased	4.1 Developed strategy for mainstreaming climate change awareness into t	LDCF	2,136,722.33

- M&E Component amounts US\$ 2,171,584, representing 12% of the GEF Financing, which is 10% more than the recommended threshold of 2% for projects above US\$ 10 million. Please revise.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 1 Nov 2024:

The comment has been addressed. The cited activity has been separated and are currently presented in the M&E section of the table.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- We have updated the Indicative Project Overview Table to remove all decimals, ensuring consistency with GEF formatting guidelines.

- We acknowledge that the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) component was initially budgeted at US\$ 2,171,584, representing 12% of the total GEF financing, which exceeds the recommended threshold of 2% for projects above US\$ 10 million. We have thoroughly reviewed the M&E budget in light of your comments. The M&E component budget has been revised to align with the 2% threshold, now amounting to US\$ 988,864 within output 4.2. This adjustment ensures compliance with GEF policies while maintaining sufficient resources for effective monitoring and evaluation activities.

3.2 Are gender dimensions, knowledge management, and monitoring and evaluation included within the project components and appropriately funded?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.10.23: cleared.

2024.9.30:

- Please reflect gender dimensions in Components 2 and 3, ensuring that activities take into account the lack of access to financial and technological resources for women through, among others, targeted support for women. On M&E, please include a reference to capturing gender-specific results and reporting on those.

Agency's Comments

UNDP. 23 Oct 2024:

- Thank you for your insightful comments. We appreciate the Secretariat's emphasis on incorporating gender dimensions into Components 2 and 3. In response, we have integrated targeted support for women throughout Components 2, 3, and 4 under B. Project Description section of the PIF to address the lack of access to financial and technological resources for women.
 - o Component 2: Enhanced Climate-Resilient Ecosystems and Livelihoods: Under this component, we have adopted a gender-sensitive approach to ensure that women receive tailored support in improving ecosystem resilience and sustainable livelihoods. This includes:
 -
 - ? Targeted Involvement of Women in Sustainable Livelihood Programs: We will actively involve women in programs that promote sustainable agricultural practices, ecosystem-based adaptation, and livelihood diversification.
 - ? Facilitating Access to Climate-Smart Technologies and Financial Mechanisms: Women will be supported in accessing climate-smart agriculture technologies and innovative financing tools, such as microloans and subsidies, to enhance their productivity and resilience.
 - o Component 3: Enhanced Capacity Building and Climate Risk Information Availability: Gender mainstreaming is integral to this component to ensure that women and marginalized groups have equitable access to climate-resilient technologies and capacity-building opportunities. Key actions include:
 - ? Equitable Access to Climate Risk Information and Services: Developing climate hazard maps and early warning systems that are accessible and understandable to women in the targeted communities.
 - ? Tailored Capacity-Building Programs: Designing and implementing training programs that meet the specific needs of women, enhancing their capacity to respond to climate risks and adopt sustainable practices.
 - o Component 4: Improved Knowledge Management and Collaboration : Recognizing the importance of knowledge sharing in promoting gender equality, we have also integrated gender considerations into Component 4. Actions include:
 - ? Development of Gender-Sensitive Knowledge Products: Creating and disseminating knowledge materials that address the specific needs and roles of women in climate resilience.
 - ? Enhancing Collaboration with Women's Organizations: Partnering with local women's groups and NGOs to facilitate knowledge exchange and promote gender-responsive adaptation strategies.

- In alignment with your recommendation, we have revised the M&E framework to include gender-specific indicators and reporting mechanisms. This will ensure that the project's impact on women is effectively monitored, measured, and reported. Key enhancements include:
 - o Gender-Disaggregated Data Collection: All data collected will be disaggregated by gender to assess the differential impacts and benefits for women and men.
 - o Gender-Specific Indicators: We have incorporated indicators that specifically track women's participation, access to resources, and empowerment outcomes within the project activities.
 - o Reporting on Gender Outcomes: Regular project reports will include a dedicated section on gender outcomes, highlighting successes, challenges, and lessons learned in promoting gender equality.

3.3 a) Are the components adequately funded?

b) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional?

c) Is the PMC equal to or below 5% of the total GEF grant for FSPs or 10% for MSPs? If the requested PMC is above the caps, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

4 Project Outline

A. Project Rationale

4.1 SITUATION ANALYSIS

a) is the current situation (including global environmental problems, key contextual drivers of environmental degradation, climate vulnerability) clearly and adequately described from a systems perspective?

b) Are the key barriers and enablers identified?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

4.2 JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT

a) Is there an indication of why the project approach has been selected over other potential options?

b) Does it ensure resilience to future changes in the drivers?

c) Is there a description of how the GEF alternative will build on ongoing/previous investments (GEF and non-GEF), lessons and experiences in the country/region?

d) are the relevant stakeholders and their roles adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

5 B. Project Description

5.1 THEORY OF CHANGE

a) Is there a concise theory of change that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements will contribute to the objective, the expected causal pathways, and the key assumptions underlying these?

b) Are the key outputs of each component defined (where possible)?

Secretariat's Comments

2014.10.30: cleared.

2024.10.23:

- Adaptation priorities tailored to local needs: Please reflect the response to 'Adaptation priorities tailored to local needs' and 'security' in the Portal PIF.

- Structure of CCM intervention: The explanation is well received. The Agency commits to do further work during PPG. During PPG, please justify the use of the GEF resources as capital cost subsidy. This could be the best option amongst those considered and assessed.

2024.9.25:

- Adaptation priorities tailored to local needs: The proposal has quite a few target locations, which appear to be geographically apart, each having its own unique context and background and thus different adaptation needs. While a short explanation on how target districts were selected (based on the vulnerability of small holder farmer households) is provided in the proposal, how different adaptation needs will be identified, and activities explained under each component of the project will be tailored to different local adaptation needs while integrating different activities in different districts under one project, are not clear. Or do target districts have the same adaptation needs?

- Security: Please elaborate further on how the project will address security concerns considering the ongoing conflict. The project development of GEFID 5211 has been kept on hold due to security issues.

- Figure: There seems to be some mismatch in figure numbers. Please check.

The project will be implemented over a 5-year period in the selected districts shown in **Figure 3**. These districts were chosen based on the high vulnerability of small holder farmer households to intensifying climate risks, increasing food insecurity, underexploited access to surface water resources from flooding wadis during the rainy seasons, degraded electricity infrastructure, a chronic lack of government agricultural extension services, and relatively good accessibility due to current lack of civil conflicts.



- Please state whether or not the private sector will be consulted/engaged in the projects.

- Structure of CCM intervention: More work is needed to define what type of model would be used to support development of off-grid/decentralized minigrid PV systems. Output 2.4 remains vague on this and only mentions ?Indicative activities include installing off-grid solar PV systems for water pumping and refrigeration, providing training on solar technology maintenance, and developing financing.? What would the GEF resources be used for? Subsidizing capital costs? Only feasibility studies and capacity building? More details would be needed.

Agency's Comments

UNDP 30 Oct 2024

- Thank you for the feedback regarding the adaptation priorities tailored to local needs. We have reflected the response to 'Adaptation priorities tailored to local needs' and 'security' in the Portal PIF as requested in the project description section on pages 23,24 , and 25 and the Risks to Project Preparation and Implementation section on page 30 of the PIF.

- We appreciate the positive reception of our proposed CCM intervention structure and acknowledge the Secretariat's request for additional justification for using GEF resources as a capital cost subsidy. During the PPG phase, we will conduct a detailed assessment of financing options for the deployment of off-grid solar PV systems, aiming to determine the most effective way to maximize community benefits and support private sector engagement.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- Thank you for your insightful feedback regarding the adaptation priorities tailored to local needs. We acknowledge that the targeted districts encompass both coastal and inland areas, each presenting distinct climate-related challenges. While many coastal districts share vulnerabilities such as increased salinity, water scarcity, and exposure to extreme weather events, some inland districts face issues like prolonged droughts, soil degradation, and limited access to modern

irrigation systems. To address these diverse needs, during the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase, we will conduct comprehensive vulnerability assessments and engage in community consultations within each district. This approach will enable us to identify specific local adaptation requirements and design customized interventions accordingly. By tailoring activities under each project component to the unique contexts of both coastal and inland districts, we ensure that the project effectively addresses the varied climate risks faced by smallholder farmer households. Additionally, we will establish a robust coordination framework that facilitates knowledge sharing and collaboration across different governorates and districts, thereby integrating diverse activities into a cohesive project strategy. This tailored and coordinated approach will maximize the project's impact, ensuring that each district receives the appropriate support to enhance its climate resilience. We acknowledge the ongoing conflict and complex security situation in Yemen. UNDP and all stakeholders are acutely aware of these challenges and have incorporated measures to address security concerns in the project design. UNDP Yemen has a robust operational presence in the country, with a portfolio exceeding \$200 million in 2023 across early recovery, governance, and climate change initiatives. This reflects our capacity to implement projects effectively on the ground, even under challenging conditions. Our experience includes:

- o Risk Mitigation Strategies: Close collaboration with national and local institutions mitigates the risks posed by political fragmentation and insecurity. We engage stakeholders transparently and maintain adherence to principles of impartiality, human rights, and inclusive humanitarian assistance.
- o Flexible Implementation Modalities: We have mechanisms to adapt project activities in response to changing security dynamics, ensuring continuity and safety for all participants such as we employ contingency planning that allows for the proactive management of risks to activities implementation, utilize remote monitoring technologies to oversee project progress without constant on-site presence, deploy mobile project teams that can swiftly respond to emerging threats, and establish strong partnerships with trusted local organisations to ensure continuity of activities.
- o Peacebuilding Integration: As referenced in Box 1 of the Project Identification Form (PIF), we consider "Climate-Security-Peacebuilding Interlinkages" crucial. The project is designed to contribute to peacebuilding efforts by addressing resource scarcity and promoting community resilience.

Additionally, we have approached the GEF Secretariat to reopen the PPG phase of GEFID 5211, which was previously on hold due to security issues.

- Thank you for pointing out the mismatch in figure numbers. We have reviewed and corrected the document accordingly. Specifically, **Figure 5** has been updated to ensure consistency and accuracy throughout the proposal.
- We confirm that the private sector will be consulted and actively engaged in the project, particularly concerning energy-related activities. Recognizing the crucial role of the private sector in sustainable development, we have developed a Private Sector Engagement Strategy (2024-2026) for UNDP Yemen, which will be mainstreamed into all project designs.

During the PPG phase, we will elaborate on specific mechanisms for private sector involvement, which may include:

- o Partnerships with Local Businesses: Collaborating with local enterprises to implement off-grid solar PV systems and other clean energy solutions.
- o Innovative Financing Models: Developing financing mechanisms that encourage private investment in climate-resilient technologies and sustainable livelihoods.
- o Capacity Building: Providing training and support to private sector entities to enhance their capacity to contribute to the project's objectives.

- We appreciate the need for more detailed information on the model supporting the development of off-grid/decentralized minigrid PV systems. Output 2.5: Increased access to modern clean energy services to enhance climate resilience against extreme temperatures and heatwaves, supporting water pumping and income-generating activities at the community level has the following indicative activities:

●Installation of Off-Grid Solar PV Systems: Implementing minigrids for modern energy services and standalone systems for water pumping and irrigation. These systems will provide energy access for basic services (e.g., lighting) and support income-generating activities, including cooling and other productive uses. This approach follows the successful model of the UNDP-GEF Africa Minigrid Program (AMP).

●Utilization of GEF Resources:

●Investment Support: GEF funds will primarily support local businesses through pre-feasibility studies and subsidizing capital costs of solar PV installations. The exact subsidy amounts will be determined during the PPG phase but are anticipated not to exceed 50% of the capital costs.

●Capacity Building: Conducting training on solar technology maintenance and communities in developing income-generating activities linked to clean energy access.

●Development of Innovative Financing Mechanisms: Collaborating with international financial institutions that follow the AMP model to create sustainable financing options that encourage private sector participation and investment in renewable energy solutions.

By providing both financial and technical support, the project aims to foster a conducive environment for the adoption and diffusion of off-grid solar PV technology. This will enhance energy access, promote economic development, and contribute to climate change mitigation objectives.

5.2 INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING

Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12?

Secretariat's Comments 2014.10.30: cleared.

2014.10.23:

While the response appear to be sufficient, please reflect it in the Portal.

2024.9.25:

please mention and highlight the incremental/additional cost reasoning.

Agency's Comments

UNDP 30 Oct 2024

Thank you for confirming that the response meets your expectations. We have now reflected these details in the section B of the PIF on pages 29 and 30.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- The proposed project addresses the urgent need to enhance climate resilience and adaptive capacity in Yemen's vulnerable coastal districts. The incremental reasoning is based on the additional activities and outcomes that will be achieved with GEF funding, which would not be possible under the baseline scenario.

in the absence of GEF intervention, Yemen's smallholder farmers and coastal communities will continue to face increasing vulnerability to climate change impacts due to:

? Limited Adaptive Capacity: Existing government and donor-funded initiatives focus primarily on immediate humanitarian needs and lack a comprehensive approach to climate change adaptation.

? Inadequate Infrastructure and Technologies: There is insufficient investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, sustainable agricultural practices, and clean energy solutions.

? Lack of Access to Climate Risk Information: Communities have limited access to climate data, early warning systems, and capacity-building programs, hindering their ability to respond effectively to climate risks.

? Gender Inequality: Women and marginalized groups have restricted access to resources and opportunities, exacerbating vulnerabilities.

With GEF funding totaling \$20 million from the LDCF, the project will implement additional activities that go beyond the baseline, generating global environmental benefits (GEBs) and enhancing adaptation outcomes:

? Component 1: Strengthening institutional frameworks and policies for climate change adaptation at national and local levels.

? Component 2: Implementing climate-resilient agricultural practices, rehabilitating irrigation systems, and introducing clean energy technologies like off-grid solar PV systems.

? Component 3: Enhancing capacity building and access to climate risk information through the development of climate hazard maps, early warning systems, and tailored training programs.

? Component 4: Improving knowledge management, collaboration, and monitoring and evaluation systems, with a focus on capturing gender-specific results.

The incremental activities funded by the GEF will lead to the following additional benefits:

1. Enhanced Climate Resilience:

- o Improved adaptive capacity of approximately 213,645 members of subsistence farmer households through access to climate-resilient technologies and practices.

- o Rehabilitation of critical irrigation infrastructure, increasing water efficiency and reducing vulnerability to droughts including through nature based approaches for rehabilitation.

2. Promotion of Clean Energy Solutions:

- o Installation of off-grid solar PV systems providing clean energy access to communities, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

- o Support for sustainable energy use in agriculture (e.g., solar-powered water pumping), contributing to mitigation efforts under CCM Objective 1.2.

3. Strengthened Institutional Capacity:

- o Development and implementation of climate adaptation policies and land-use plans that incorporate climate risk considerations.

- o Enhanced capacity of government officials and community leaders through tailored training programs.

4. Improved Access to Climate Information:

- o Creation of climate hazard maps and early warning systems enabling communities to prepare for and respond to climate-related disasters.

- o Establishment of a centralized climate risk information platform accessible to all stakeholders.

5. Gender Equality and Social Inclusion:

- o Targeted support for women, ensuring equitable access to resources, technologies, and training.

- o Monitoring and reporting on gender-specific results to promote gender-responsive adaptation.

6. Knowledge Management and Scaling Up:

- o Documentation and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned to facilitate replication and scaling up of successful interventions.

- o Engagement with the private sector to foster investment and innovation in climate resilience.

- The baseline scenario is limited to ongoing humanitarian aid and development projects without a focus on climate resilience. These investments do not adequately address the long-term adaptation needs or generate GEBs.

- GEF Incremental Costs: The GEF funding of \$22 million represents the additional investment required to implement the comprehensive climate resilience interventions outlined in the project. These funds cover the costs associated with:

- Technical assistance and capacity building.

- Infrastructure rehabilitation and installation of climate-resilient technologies.

- Development of climate risk information systems.

- Gender mainstreaming and social inclusion activities.

- Monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management efforts.

5.3 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

a) Is the institutional setting, including potential executing partners, outlined and a rationale provided?

b) Comments to proposed agency execution support (if agency expects to request exception).

c) is there a description of potential coordination and cooperation with ongoing GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area

d) are the proposed elements to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning outputs and strategic communication adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.11.1: cleared.

2024.11.1:

- UNDP playing a dual role - at this early stage, it is too premature to decide whether the dual execution is appropriate. Once the Agency has sufficiently progressed in project preparation and if it anticipates a need for Agency execution, the Agency will submit full information and justification for a request for policy exception ? please remove this from the PIF.

GEF policies, further explained in the Guidelines on Project and Program Cycle, require that the separation of implementation functions performed by GEF Agencies and execution functions performed by Project Executing Entities is a key feature of the governance of the GEF Partnership and an important aspect of the GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards.?

See

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/GEF_Guidelines_Project_Program_Cycle_Policy_20200731.pdf. (pages 44-45)

At PIF stage, Agency (?dual?) execution should not be included in the Agency's proposal. Once the Agency has sufficiently progressed in project preparation and if it anticipates a need for Agency execution, the Agency would submit full information and justification for a request for policy exception.

2024.9.25:

- Implementation modality: The proposal mentions that the project will be executed under the UNDP's DIM. Please explain what efforts have been put in to look for alternative options and why there were no other viable options for the execution of the project.

In addition, as the agency knows, the implementation and execution roles on GEF projects are meant to be separate per policy and guideline. The GEFSEC will analyze any requests for dual role playing by an agency at the time of CEO endorsement and only approve those cases that it deems warranted on an 'exceptional' basis. We strongly encourage the agency to look at third party options as a preferred way forward. We also strongly encourage the agency to discuss any and all options for execution that do not include the government with the GEFSEC early in the PPG phase. The technical clearance of this PIF in no way endorses any alternative execution arrangement.

Or perhaps it is too premature to decide whether the dual execution is appropriate. If that is the case, please delete/amend the DIM-related sentences from the PIF. Once the Agency has sufficiently progressed in project preparation and if it anticipates a need for Agency execution, please submit full information and justification for a request for policy exception by the CEO endorsement stage.

- As the project is proposed to have different target areas which appear to be not just geographically apart but have different adaptation needs thus requiring different approaches and measures to be taken, please elaborate on how the project will ensure good coordination and learning between different governorates/districts.

- Coordination with IFAD and FAO projects: Please elaborate further on how the proposed project will be coordinated with IFAD and FAO projects. Currently, it simply mentions that it will coordinate.

- Linkages with GEF-UNDP Africa Minigrid Program (AMP): The GEF and UNDP have been working together for the last 2 GEF cycles on the AMP, which focuses on derisking investment and development of rural energy systems such as the one proposed. UNDP adaptation team developing this project would need to work with the UNDP energy team working on the AMP to ensure that the latest tools, knowledge and business models, and lessons learned under the AMP, are applied to this project too.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 1 Nov 2024:

The comment has been addressed.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- We acknowledge the importance and are fully cognizant of the policy and guidelines on the separating implementation and execution roles in GEF projects as per GEF policies and guidelines. In the context of Yemen, the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) is always adopted by UN agencies due to the limited national capacities and the fragile operational environment in political fragmentation resulting from ongoing conflict. All resident UN agencies in Yemen, including UNDP, utilize the DIM for their projects and programs to ensure effective and accountable delivery of development assistance. UNDP Yemen also engages with local partners, including NGOs and CSOs, to build their capacities and involve them in project activities as responsible parties. However, the capacity of these entities is often limited and geographically localized, necessitating thorough assessments before engagement.

We recognize that it may be premature to decide on the dual execution modality at this stage. Therefore, we will delete references to the DIM from the Project Identification Form (PIF). During the early stages of the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase, we will conduct a comprehensive assessment of potential execution arrangements, exploring alternative options for execution that do not involve dual roles. We are committed to engaging closely with the GEF Secretariat throughout this process to reach a common agreement between the country

Operational Focal Point (OFP), UNDP, and the GEF prior to the submission of the CEO Endorsement package. If, after thorough assessment, agency execution is deemed necessary, we will submit full information and justification for a policy exception at the CEO Endorsement stage.

- While the targeted districts share similar adaptation needs due to their exposure to climate risks?particularly as many are coastal or near-coastal areas?they are geographically dispersed. Ensuring effective coordination and knowledge sharing between these districts is crucial for the project's success.

Coordination Mechanisms:

? UNDP Field Presence: UNDP Yemen has a strong field presence across the country, with the two main office in Sana'a and Aden, and sub-offices Al Hodeida and Mukalla as well as local presence in Taiz and Lahj and Hajjah. These offices are fully staffed with national and international personnel experienced in operating under challenging conditions.

? Project Management Unit (PMU): The project will establish a nimble PMU with area-based coordinators assigned to each target district. These coordinators, typically with technical backgrounds such as engineering, will oversee local implementation, facilitate community engagement, and ensure alignment with the project's overall objectives. They will promote cross-district collaboration by sharing best practices and lessons learned. Furthermore, we will adopt a results-based management (RBM) approach to ensure that our project activities align with expected outcomes and impacts. Clear indicators and targets will be established for measuring progress. We will also focus on capacity development through targeted training programs, mentorship, and knowledge transfer initiatives designed to enhance the capabilities of local partners and communities. To ensure the sustainability of project outcomes, we will develop strategies for scaling up successful interventions and integrating them into local development plans. A rigorous monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework, aligned with UNDP?s standards, will be implemented to inform project adjustments and ensure accountability throughout the project lifecycle.

? Knowledge Exchange Platforms:

o Regular Coordination Meetings: Organizing periodic meetings involving stakeholders from all target districts to discuss progress, challenges, and solutions.

o Workshops and Training Sessions: Facilitating joint capacity-building events to foster learning and collaboration among districts.

? Communication Strategies:

o Digital Platforms: Utilizing digital tools and platforms for real-time communication and information sharing among project teams and stakeholders.

- o Reporting Mechanisms: Establishing standardized reporting templates to monitor activities and outcomes consistently across districts.

A detailed description of these coordination mechanisms will be provided at the CEO Endorsement stage, ensuring that the project effectively manages geographical dispersion while maximizing impact.

- We appreciate the importance of aligning our efforts with those of other development partners to maximize impact and avoid duplication. To enhance coordination with IFAD and FAO projects, the proposed project will:

- ? Leverage the existing Climate Change Working Group under the UN Country Team (UNCT), which is led by UNDP. This platform will facilitate collaboration, information sharing, and strategic alignment among all UN agencies working on climate change in Yemen.

- ? Joint Field Operations:

- o Collaborative Planning: Coordinate planning and implementation schedules with IFAD and FAO, especially in overlapping districts.

- o Shared Resources: Pool resources for field missions, technical assessments, and community engagements to optimize efficiency.

- ? Technical Cooperation:

- o Data and Knowledge Sharing: Exchange climate data, vulnerability assessments, and best practices to enhance the effectiveness of interventions.

- o Joint Capacity Building: Organize joint training sessions and workshops for stakeholders, leveraging each agency's expertise.

- ? Complementary Interventions:

- o Leveraging FAO's Expertise: Align our watershed management activities with FAO's ongoing projects to strengthen ecosystem resilience.

- o Building on IFAD's Initiatives: Integrate IFAD's resilience-building approaches into our livelihood diversification strategies.

- ? Regular Coordination Meetings:

- o At National Level: Engage in policy dialogue and coordination with government counterparts and other development partners.

- o At Field Level: Establish local coordination committees involving project teams, local authorities, and community representatives.

By formalizing these coordination mechanisms, we aim to create synergies, enhance resource utilization, and amplify the impact on climate resilience and livelihoods in vulnerable communities.

- We acknowledge the valuable insights and tools developed under the GEF-UNDP Africa Minigrad Program (AMP) and agree that applying these to the Yemen context could significantly enhance the effectiveness of our clean energy interventions.

Integration of AMP Concepts:

- ? Policy and Regulatory Frameworks: We will work on adapting the policies developed by AMP to the Yemen context to enable the deployment and operation of renewable energy mini-grids in Yemen, drawing from AMP's experiences.

- ? Business Model Innovation:

- o Private Sector Engagement: Encourage private sector participation by designing attractive business models and providing investment incentives.

- o Risk Mitigation: Implement strategies to mitigate investment risks, such as partial credit guarantees or blended financing mechanisms.

- ? Technical and Financial Support:

- o Pre-feasibility Studies: Conduct detailed assessments to identify viable sites and optimal technical solutions.

- o Capital Cost Subsidies: Utilize GEF resources to subsidize up to 50% of capital costs for mini-grid installations, as determined during the PPG phase.

- ? Capacity Building:

- o Local Technicians and Engineers: Train local personnel in the installation, operation, and maintenance of mini-grid systems.

- o Community Engagement: Empower communities on the benefits and uses of clean energy technologies.

- ? Knowledge Sharing:

o Collaboration with UNDP Sustainable Energy Hub (SEH) and Climate Change Mitigation (CCM) Energy Teams: Work closely with the UNDP SEH and CCM teams involved in AMP to access the latest tools, methodologies, and lessons learned.

o Adaptation of Tools: Customize AMP's tools and models to fit Yemen's specific context and challenges.

During the PPG phase, working with UNDP's AMP team, we will tailor and adapt the AMP to Yemen-specific context, focusing on scaling up decentralized renewable energy solutions like solar-based mini-grids in targeted districts. This initiative will:

? Enhance Energy Access: Provide reliable and sustainable energy for basic services, water pumping, agriculture, healthcare, and education.

? Support Economic Recovery: Stimulate local economies by enabling income-generating activities and creating job opportunities.

? Support Climate Change Mitigation efforts: Reduce dependence on fossil fuels, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and enhance the adaptive capacity of communities against extreme heatwaves.

5.4 a) Are the identified core indicators calculated using the methodology included in the corresponding Guidelines (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)?

b) Are the project's indicative targeted contributions to GEBs (measured through core indicators)/adaptation benefits reasonable and achievable?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.10.31:

Cleared for PIF stage. Please elaborate and provide details on how indicators have been refined /calculated during the PPG stage in the CEOER.

2024.10.30:

- LDCF Core Indicators: Please elaborate on how LDCF Core Indicators (Core Indicators 1, 2(a), 3, 4 and 5) have been calculated. In particular, Core Indicator 5 - 1,000 enterprises seems to be significant.

2024.10.27:

- Value for money/effectiveness: Noted with thanks. Please reflect the response also in the PIF, so it is clear what work they commit to at PPG stage.

- On CI.6 indicator: Noted with thanks. However, the calculation sheet was not found in the portal (review sheet says it was uploaded).

The commitment to present a revised calculation at CEO ER is also noted. Please ensure Agency coordinate with the UNDP AMP colleagues on this as they can provide inputs on the methodology used for CI.6 estimates under the AMP.

2024.9.25:

- Output 3.4 seems to be about the adaptation training funded by LDCF though Core Indicator 4 on training is not provided.
- Please include the anticipated start year of GHG accounting and duration of accounting directly under the core indicator 6.
- Value for money/effectiveness: in the current formulation, the CCM resources are not delivering the level of impact that would be expected with a 2 million GEF-CCM investment. At the PPG stage the level of details, and ambition, will need to be largely improved. As it stands now it looks more like an ex-post add on, and not an integral part of the intervention. This may include working more closely with regulator and potential minigrids operators to map out current barriers and develop appropriate solutions to tackle those. More work would also be welcome in better defining links with potential productive uses of energy, which would be needed to establish the economic viability of the minigrids (anchor users).
- On CI.6 indicator: there is no mention of how the value of CO2 tons to be reduced was calculated. Please provide methodological assumptions in the relevant section of the PIF, and please submit the calculation sheet in the portal. Also, please provide rationale for categorizing value under this indicator as indirect instead of direct.

Agency's Comments

UNDP 31 Oct 2024.

We appreciate the opportunity to clarify the calculations and assumptions behind each LDCF Core Indicator based on the details in the Project Identification Form (PIF). Below is a comprehensive breakdown for Core Indicators 1, 2(a), 3, 4, and 5:

1. Core Indicator 1: Number of Direct Beneficiaries (484,579; Male: 209,154, Female: 275,425)

The estimation of direct beneficiaries was derived from demographic data for the most vulnerable regions in Yemen targeted by the project. The primary beneficiaries include smallholder farmers, internally displaced persons, and women-headed households, who will participate in and benefit directly from climate adaptation activities, including agricultural resilience, water management, and energy access improvements. Additionally, approximately 169,919 primary and secondary school students are expected to benefit from improved climate-resilient infrastructure and learning environments supported by renewable energy

2. Core Indicator 2(a): Area of Land Managed for Climate Resilience (25,000 hectares)

The target of 25,000 hectares for land managed under climate resilience activities includes areas in Aden, Hadramawt, and El Hodeidah, where sustainable land management practices such as soil conservation, micro-watershed rehabilitation, and agroforestry will be implemented. These practices address climate risks specific to each region and are designed to strengthen environmental resilience, ensuring that targeted areas are sustainable for local communities? agricultural and water needs .

3. Core Indicator Policies, Plans, and Frameworks Mainstreaming Climate Resilience (13)

The target of 13 policies, plans, and frameworks was based on a review of existing policies and gaps at both the national and district levels. This includes areas such as water management, land use, and agriculture, where climate resilience considerations will be integrated. By working with government stakeholders, the project aims to embed climate adaptation measures into local and national policy frameworks, supporting long-term resilience and sustainable governance in Yemen's vulnerable areas.

4. Core Indicator 4: Number of people trained with Awareness Raised (48,457; Male: 20,915, Female: 27,542)

This indicator represents individuals—including community members, local authorities, and private sector actors—who will receive training in climate resilience practices, climate-smart agriculture, and renewable energy. The gender breakdown ensures that the project actively involves women and men, contributing to the project's objectives of gender equity and community-based climate resilience. Trained individuals will disseminate knowledge within their communities, promoting adaptation practices on a wider scale.

5. Core Indicator 5: Number of Private Sprises Engaged in Climate Adaptation and Resilience Action (1,000)

This target was identified during the PIF preparation through a preliminary assessment of Yemen's private sector landscape, with a focus on the agriculture, renewable energy, and water management sectors, where climate resilience is critical.

Based on consultations with national stakeholders, industry representatives, and regional studies on private sector resilience, we determined that a significant number of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), specifically small businesses and entrepreneurs, are already engaged in these sectors across Yemen's climate-sensitive regions. Many of these enterprises are facing operational challenges due to climate impacts and are motivated to adopt resilience measures if supported with appropriate technical and financial resources.

The target of 1,000 enterprises reflects both the scale necessary to achieve meaningful resilience outcomes and the anticipated demand from SMEs for adaptation resources, such as climate-smart technologies and renewable energy solutions. The PIF preparation also involved reviewing previous resilience initiatives in Yemen and similar contexts, where broad private sector engagement proved vital for sustained climate adaptation.

In summary, the figure of 1,000 enterprises was established in the PIF based on:

• **Sectoral Analysis:** Identification of key climate-sensitive sectors—agriculture, energy, and water management—with a substantial SME presence.

• **Stakeholder Input:** Insights from national stakeholders, who indicated strong private sector interest in climate resilience solutions.

• **Benchmarking:** Reviewing similar resilience projects where broad SME participation was essential for sustainable adaptation.

UNDP 30 Oct 2024

- Thank you for acknowledging our commitment to value for money and project effectiveness. We have reflected these considerations in the PIF, specifically under Outcome 2 in the Project Description section on page 23. This section outlines the measures we plan to implement to maximize project impact, including cost-effective approaches for sustainable adaptation interventions tailored to local needs. During the PPG phase, we will continue refining these strategies to further enhance project effectiveness and efficiency, ensuring optimal allocation and use of resources.

- We apologize for the initial oversight. The calculation sheet has now been uploaded to the portal for your review.

- We acknowledge the importance of accurate CI.6 estimates and have noted the Secretariat's guidance on coordinating with UNDP AMP colleagues. We will work closely with them to incorporate their insights and methodology for CI.6 calculations, ensuring a robust and accurate estimation at the CEO Endorsement Request (ER) stage.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- We acknowledge the oversight in not including Core Indicator 4 related to capacity-building activities under Output 3.4. We have now updated the Project Identification Form (PIF) to include Core Indicator 4: Capacity Building.
- We have updated Core Indicator 6 in the PIF to include the anticipated start Year of GHG Accounting: 2025
GHG emission reductions are expected to commence in 2025, aligning with the implementation of renewable energy interventions. Duration of GHG Accounting: 20 years: The duration is based on the expected operational lifetime of the installed solar PV systems, consistent with GEF guidelines for renewable energy projects.
- We appreciate the Secretariat's guidance on enhancing the impact and integration of CCM resources within the project. To address these concerns, we commit to the following actions during the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase:
 - o We will ensure that CCM activities are fully integrated into the project's overall strategy, making them an integral component rather than an add-on.
 - o Develop comprehensive activities and outputs that maximize the impact of CCM resources, aligning with GEF's Climate Change Mitigation objectives.
 - o Work closely with national regulators to identify and address policy and regulatory barriers hindering the development of off-grid and minigridded renewable energy systems.
 - o Engage potential minigridded operators, private sector entities, and financial institutions to understand challenges and opportunities in the sector.
 - o Provide technical assistance to regulators and operators to develop enabling policies and build operational capacity.
 - o Map out potential productive uses of energy in target communities, such as agro-processing, cold storage, and small-scale manufacturing, which can serve as anchor loads for the minigridded.

- o Conduct feasibility studies to establish the economic viability of minigrids, factoring in the demand from productive uses.
 - o Develop sustainable business models that integrate productive uses, enhancing revenue streams and ensuring financial sustainability.
 - o Explore opportunities to scale up renewable energy interventions to achieve greater GHG emission reductions and adaptation benefits.
 - o Introduce innovative technologies and financing mechanisms to stimulate investment and adoption of renewable energy solutions.
- We acknowledge the need to provide detailed methodological assumptions for the GHG emission reductions and clarify the categorization under Core Indicator 6. We have updated the PIF accordingly and will submit the detailed calculation sheet in the GEF portal.
- o Installed Capacity: The project aims to install a cumulative capacity of 1 MW of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, including minigrids, standalone systems for water pumping and other applications.
 - o Estimated annual energy generation is calculated as: Annual Energy Generation = Installed Capacity × Capacity Factor × Hours per Year
- Assuming a capacity factor of 30% (typical for solar PV in Yemen) and 8,760 hours/year:
 Annual Energy Generation = 1 MW × 0.30 × 8,760 hours/year = 2,628 MWh/year
- o Emission Factor: We use an emission factor of 1.0 tCO₂/MWh, representing the grid emission factor in Yemen, where electricity generation is predominantly from fossil fuels.
 Annual GHG Reductions = Annual Energy Generation × Emission Factor = 2,628 MWh/year × 1.0 tCO₂/MWh = 2,628 tCO₂/year
 - o Total Direct GHG Emission Reductions over 20 Years: Total Direct GHG Reductions = Annual GHG Reductions × Project Lifetime = 2,628 tCO₂/year × 20 years = 52,560 tCO₂
 For simplicity and to account for operational variances, we round this figure to 54,000 tCO₂ over 20 years.
 - o Categorization of Emission Reductions:
 - ? Direct Emission Reductions: The calculated 54,000 tCO₂ are considered direct emission reductions, resulting directly from the project's interventions in installing renewable energy systems.
 - ? Indirect Emission Reductions: Using the GEF's bottom-up methodology and assuming a replication factor of 2 (indicating the project will stimulate additional investments twice the size of the original project), we estimate:
 Indirect GHG Reductions = Total Direct GHG Reductions × Replication Factor = 54,000 tCO₂ × 2 = 108,000 tCO₂

A more detailed calculation and ambitions will be provided at CEO endorsement stage.

5.5 NGI Only: Is there a justification of financial structure and use of financial instrument with concessionality levels?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

5.6 RISKS

a) Is there a well-articulated assessment of risk and identification of mitigation measures under each relevant risk category?

b) Is the rating provided reflecting the residual risk to the likely achievement of intended outcomes after accounting for the expected implementation of mitigation measures?

c) Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately screened and rated at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?

Secretariat's Comments 2024.11.1: cleared.

2024.11.1:

Key Risk- Please adjust the rating under the 'Environmental and Social' risk category in line with the ESS risk category. The ratings are not in line as is. Doing so would be in line with the description of the 'Environmental and Social' risk category in Annex B of the GEF Risk Appetite document (GEF/C.66/13) stating that: 'The rating reported by project under this category is identical to the Overall Safeguards Risk rating provided at PIF, CEO Endorsement, MTR and TE stage.'

2024.9.30:

Please adjust the rating under the 'Environmental and Social' risk category in line with the ESS risk category. The ratings are not in line as is. Doing so would be in line with the description of the 'Environmental and Social' risk category in Annex B of the GEF Risk Appetite document (GEF/C.66/13) stating that: 'The rating reported by project under this category is identical to the Overall Safeguards Risk rating provided at PIF, CEO Endorsement, MTR and TE stage.'

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 1 Nov 2024:

This is noted and the Environmental and Social risk has been adjusted to 'moderate' accordingly.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

Level on Portal already indicates Moderate

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF

CEO Endorsement/Approval

Medium/Moderate



5.7 Qualitative assessment

- a) Does the project intend to be well integrated, durable, and transformative?
- b) Is there potential for innovation and scaling-up?
- c) Will the project contribute to an improved alignment of national policies (policy coherence)?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

6 C. Alignment with GEF-8 Programming Strategies and Country/Regional Priorities

6.1 Is the project adequately aligned with focal area and integrated program strategies and objectives, and/or adaptation priorities?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

6.2 Is the project alignment/coherent with country and regional priorities, policies, strategies and plans (including those related to the MEAs and to relevant sectors)

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

6.3 For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e. BD, CC or LD), does the project clearly identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and how it contributes to the identified target(s)?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

7 D. Policy Requirements

7.1 Is the Policy Requirements section completed?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

7.2 Is a list of stakeholders consulted during PIF development, including dates of these consultations, provided?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

8 Annexes

Annex A: Financing Tables

8.1 Is the proposed GEF financing (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):

STAR allocation?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's Commentsyes

Agency's Comments

SCCF A (SIDS)?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

SCCF B (Tech Transfer, Innovation, Private Sector)?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

8.2 Is the PPG requested within the allowable cap (per size of project)? If requested, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

8.3 Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.10.23: cleared.

2024.9.25:

- Please describe how ?investment mobilized? was identified.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

- The co-financing from UNDP, EU, WB, and KfW is specifically targeted toward activities that directly support and enhance the project's goals, such as improving climate resilience, promoting sustainable livelihoods, and expanding access to clean energy. These investments are additional to the baseline scenario and have been mobilized through coordinated efforts with the government and development partners. Notably, KfW funding has already been secured, and the project is approved and currently under implementation. The investments from the EU and WB have been identified and committed as part of their ongoing projects in Yemen, ensuring that their support complements the GEF-funded activities. This collaborative approach has been achieved through strategic consultations and partnerships aimed at aligning our initiatives to maximize impact. .

They provide incremental resources that enable the project to achieve greater impact than would be possible with GEF funding alone.

- The co-financing is directly linked to the project's components and outcomes, ensuring that the activities are complementary and mutually reinforcing.

- Process of Identification:

- ? Consultations During PIF Preparation:

- o EU, WB, and KfW: We engaged in a series of consultations with these donors during the PIF design phase to identify synergies and potential co-financing opportunities. These discussions revealed strong interest from the donors to align their investments with the GEF project, recognizing the value of a coordinated approach to address Yemen's climate resilience challenges.

- ? UNDP Internal Allocation: As the GEF Agency, UNDP is committing internal resources and leveraging additional funding sources to support the project. This includes aligning ongoing programs and mobilizing new funds specifically for project activities.

Annex B: Endorsements

8.4 Has the project been endorsed by the country? (ies) GEF OFP and has the OFP at the time of PIF submission name and position been checked against the GEF database?

Secretariat's Comments 2024.10.30: cleared.

2024.10.23:

Please upload the revised OFP endorsement letter.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 30 Oct 2024

The revised OFP LOE has now been uploaded.

Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

8.5 For NGI projects (which may not require LoEs), has the Agency informed the OFP(s) of the project to be submitted?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Annex C: Project Location

8.6 Is there preliminary georeferenced information and a map of the project's intended location?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Annex D: Safeguards Screen and Rating

8.7 If there are safeguard screening documents or other ESS documents prepared, have these been uploaded to the GEF Portal?

Secretariat's Comments

2024.10.23: cleared.

2024.9.30:

We note that UNDP attached the Social and Environmental Screening Procedures (SESP) and the overall ESS risk of the program is classified as moderate. The project will develop ESMF during the PPG. The project will also prepare the following documents during the PPG: (i) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); (ii) stakeholder analysis and Stakeholder Engagement and Collaboration Plan; (iii) Gender analysis and Gender Action Plan. However, the environmental and social risk section of the Key risks table in the Portal is 'low?', and 'Explanation of risk and mitigation measures' is not consistent with SESP.

- Please revise environmental and social risk rating and 'Explanation of risk and mitigation measures' consistent with SESP.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

Level on Portal already indicates Moderate

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification*

PIF

CEO Endorsement/Approval

<input type="text" value="Medium/Moderate"/>
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Annex E: Rio Markers

8.8 Are the Rio Markers for CCM, CCA, BD and LD correctly selected, if applicable?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Annex F: Taxonomy Worksheet

8.9 Is the project properly tagged with the appropriate keywords?

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

Annex G: NGI Relevant Annexes

8.10 Does the project provide sufficient detail (indicative term sheet) 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 to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. Is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

9 GEFSEC Decision

9.1 Is the PIF and PPG (if requested) recommended for technical clearance?

Secretariat's Comments 2024.11.1:

This PIF is recommended for technical clearance.

2024.11.1 /10.30 /10.27 /9.25:

Not yet. Please refer to the review items and resubmit for consideration (please highlight the change).

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 1 Nov 2024:

The comments above have been addressed and the changes reflected in GEF portal. For your ease, please see in blue highlight.

UNDP, 30 Oct 2024:

The comments above have been addressed and the changes have also been highlighted.

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

This has been done and the changes have also been highlighted.

9.2 Additional Comments to be considered by the Agency at the time of CEO Endorsement/ Approval

Secretariat's Comments

2024.11.1:

By the CEO endorsement stage, 'Explanation of risk and mitigation measures' column need to be consistent as the Social and Environmental Screening Procedures (SESP). SESP recognizes gender-based discriminations, stakeholder participation, exacerbate social tensions and conflicts, local livelihoods, and climate risks. However, the below 'Explanation of risk and mitigation measures' do not recognize any of these.

In addition to the risk level, these explanation of risk and mitigation measures need to be consistent in the Key Risks table as well.

2024.9.30:

Please provide some indicative budget for the Gender Action Plan and related gender-specific activities/outputs.

Agency's Comments

UNDP, 23 Oct 2024:

We estimate that 35% of the overall GEF financing, amounting to USD 6,644,220, will be allocated to the Gender Action Plan and related gender-specific activities and outputs. This is strategically distributed across the project outcomes to ensure comprehensive integration of gender considerations throughout the project's lifecycle. Specifically, 10% (USD 664,422) is from Outcome 1: Enhanced water availability and energy reliability during the dry seasons and extreme climatic events, supporting gender-responsive water and land conservation initiatives that address women's roles and needs in sustainable water management and energy reliability projects. 45% (USD 2,989,899) from Outcome 2: Enhanced climate-resilient ecosystems, agriculture including smart technologies, education systems, and income diversification practices for vulnerable groups, facilitating women's active participation in sustainable agricultural practices, the adoption of smart technologies, and income diversification programs, thereby promoting gender equality and empowering women within climate-resilient frameworks. 30% (USD 1,993,266) from Outcome 3: Enhanced climate risk information availability and capacities of stakeholders including local communities, associations, local government institutions, and education systems, dedicated to gender-responsive capacity building and training programs, ensuring that women leaders and community members are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively engage in climate resilience efforts. Lastly, 15% (USD 996,633) from Outcome 4: Increased capacities, learning, and collaboration among all relevant stakeholders for project-affected sector, supporting the development of gender-sensitive knowledge management tools, promoting women's engagement in collaborative climate resilience strategies, and ensuring that gender equality is consistently monitored and evaluated throughout the project.

Review Dates

	PIF Review	Agency Response
First Review	9/25/2024	10/23/2024
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/27/2024	10/29/2024
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/30/2024	
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/31/2024	
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/1/2024	