



Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10873

Countries

Regional (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand)

Project Name

Effectively Managing Networks of Marine Protected Areas in Large Marine Ecosystems in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN ENMAPS)

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

8/30/2023

Review completed by PM

11/7/2023

Program Manager

Leah Karrer

Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Project Type

FSP

PIF
CEO Endorsement

Part I ? Project Information

Focal area elements

1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
(Karrer, September 26, 2023) 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
(#1, 2 Karrer, #3 Nakagawa, Nov 1, 2023). Yes, on the basis that the ToC will be strengthened as needed and confirmed at project inception.

(#1, 2 Karrer and #3 Nakagawa, September 26, 2023) No.

1. Please clarify why the Gulf of Thailand LME is not included in the LME coordination. Is it because GoT is connected to the South China Sea LME through the joint project?

2. Please also clarify if Output 2.1.3 will include investments in projects in the countries.

3. The Theory of Change appears just a shorter version of the project results framework, missing more in-depth causal relationship.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

1. The PIF mentions that one of the littoral countries, Thailand, borders the Gulf of Thailand LME; however, the four project sites selected in Thailand are within the Bay of Bengal LME.

2. The narrative description of Output 2.1.3 has been clarified, confirming that this output includes investments in projects in the participating countries.

3. Some additional narrative has been added to the Theory of Change description, highlighting key assumptions regarding achievement of the project level outcomes and identifying longer-term outcomes. The theory of change will be confirmed at project inception.

Agency Response

UNDP 3 November 2023. Noted that TOC will be strengthened as needed at the project inception.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

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

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

GEF Resource Availability

5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response
Project Preparation Grant

6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
(Karrer, September 26, 2023) 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
(#1, #2 Henry & Nakagawa) Yes, but please consider tracking the certification scheme under the GEF Core Indicator 5.1.

(#1 Henry and #2 Nakagawa, September 26, 2023) Yes. Although not explained, the core indicator 5.2 (# LMEs with reduced pollution and hypoxia) was reduced from 4 to 0 while core indicator 7 (# shared water bodies with improved governance) was increased from 0 to 4, which makes sense given the project is not addressing pollution and hypoxia.

1. Although this project is not showing any data related to the BD and LD rio markers, it has a very strong investment in biodiversity. Please review and include this information if appropriate.

2. Biodiversity and sustainability relevant fisheries certification is mentioned lightly under section of Thailand activities, however, Indicator 5.1 fisheries under third-party certification, is not provided, which was also recommended at the PIF.

Agency Response
UNDP, 20 October 2023

1. The Rio Markers have been updated in the portal, with the indication of Biodiversity as a principal objective of the project (marker 2)

Rio Markers	
- Climate Change Mitigation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Contribution (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Objective (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Principal Objective (2)
- Climate Change Adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/> No Contribution (0) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Objective (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Principal Objective (2)
- Biodiversity	<input type="checkbox"/> No Contribution (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Objective (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Principal Objective (2)
- Land Degradation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Contribution (0) <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Objective (1) <input type="checkbox"/> Principal Objective (2)

2. The narrative description of Output 2.1.3 (priority investments) mentions the possibility of fisheries improvement projects being included among priority investments. In addition to the local certification schemes mentioned under the proposed activities in Thailand, an octopus fisheries improvement project is included as one of the activities in Indonesia. Fisheries certification has been added to this description of Output 2.1.3 for clarity. The actual priority investments will be decided upon completing of feasibility studies conducted during project implementation. Additional information has been added in the description of Output 2.1.3 activities on the local fisheries certification schemes in Thailand.

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

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

3. Is the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there sufficient clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

(Nakagawa, Oct 26, 2023) Yes, but the Agency did not respond on the points on the international certification standards. Please ensure that the project will explore suitable certification standards and keep track of consultations, cost and benefits analysis etc.

(Nakagawa, Oct 2, 2023) No.

The proposal of creating MPA networks and marine corridors itself is convincing as a big picture. However, the logic and justification for the proposed specific MPAs, and how they are envisioned to connect, and how it leads to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, remain rather general and weak.

Certification scheme is mentioned, such as Blue Brand (of Oxfam?), Fisher Folk (of Lemon Farm) in Thailand. On the other hand, other international standards such as Marine Stewardship Certification (MSC) is not referenced. Please ensure that the project will explore suitable certification standards and keep track of consultations, costs and benefits analysis etc.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

It is confirmed that the design of the MPA networks will explore suitable certification standards and keep track of consultations, cost and benefit analyses, etc. The narrative description of Output 1.1.1 has been updated, clarifying that the studies and analyses associated with the design of the MPA networks will include exploration of suitable fisheries certification modalities.

The justification of the proposed MPA networks is described in Annex 16 to the Project Document (National reports summarizing availability information on ecological connectivity), and the preliminary layouts of the MPA networks and associated marine corridors (integrated marine areas are presented under the description of Core Indicator 5 in Annex 20 to the Project Document (Descriptions of GEF Core Indicator end targets).

Agency Response

UNDP, 3 November, 2023. The project will explore suitable certification standards, and keep track of consultations, cost and benefits analysis.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

(Nakagawa, Oct 26, 2023). Yes. Please see budget comment regarding expenditures on vehicles.

(Nakagawa, Oct 2, 2023) No. Incremental reasoning remains vague. There appears to be a long list of procurement items (e.g., boats, monitoring equipment etc.) as part of the Component 2 activities in some countries. It is unclear whether they are funded by co-financing. If it is funded by the GEF resources, incremental cost reasoning needs to be clearer in relation to the ongoing/existing programs/projects as baseline.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

The incremental/additional cost reasoning section of the CEO ER and Project Document has been expanded with the following entry:

The GEF funds will also provide additionality in terms of ensuring management decisions at the individual MPA and MPA network levels are science-based and are adaptable to new information on emerging threats and changing biophysical and socioeconomic decisions. This includes technical assistance and complementary investment in monitoring, control and surveillance capacities and capabilities, which may include procurement of monitoring equipment, small patrol boats, etc. Conducting updated resource inventories and meaningfully engaging local communities through collaborative management arrangements require capacity building and procurement of equipment at the local level.

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

(Nakagawa, Oct 26, 2023). Yes

(Nakagawa, Oct 2, 2023) No.

Under GEB section the document refers to Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines as 3 of the 17 megadiverse countries. However, since Malaysia is not one of the project relevant countries, this reference can be misleading.

On the Biodiversity focal area GEBs, there is insufficient elaboration on type of target fish stocks, their habitats and migratory patterns, in relation to the proposed project sites. Fisheries are described in aggregate terms (e.g., tons of catch of unspecified type of

fish) without reference to different types of fish species and their threatened statuses or whether they are globally significant.

The proposal lists some endemic and threatened species other than fish, such as turtles, corals and sea mammals, however, their baseline and how to monitor their conservation status, relation to the ecosystem health, and response to the project intervention is absent.

In the METT worksheet, only a limited few proposed sites contain biodiversity relevant indicators under (Data Sheet 2: Key Biodiversity Indicator Used in This Protected Area). Please ensure adequate indicators are set.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

Reference to Malaysia in the GEB section has been removed.

The following entry has been added under the Project Strategy section:

?The target fisheries among the Indonesian sites are reef fish, and groupers and snappers are the focus fisheries in the Philippines and Thailand. Groupers and snappers and reef fish are diverse groups of fish species found in tropical and subtropical waters worldwide, face various conservation challenges. While not all grouper and snapper species are threatened, several species within this group have been identified as being at risk (e.g., Mitcheson et al., 2013). Most if not all of the target MPAs protect coral reefs and nearshore habitats such as mangroves and seagrass beds, which often serve as important spawning and nursery areas for various fish species, many of which are commercially valuable food fish species, such as groupers and snappers. These species rely on these habitats for breeding and early life stages. Well-managed protected coral reefs and nearshore areas can lead to "spillover" effects. When fish populations within these protected areas become abundant, some individuals may migrate to adjacent fishing grounds, contributing to increased catch rates outside the protected zones. This can benefit both artisanal and commercial fisheries. Groupers and snappers are known to have relatively small home ranges. Studies on migratory patterns are limited, but it has been inferred from an interview survey (e.g., Mamauag et al., 2001) that some grouper species undertake seasonal or periodic migrations during recruitment and spawning phases. Grouper and snapper larvae are pelagic; thus movement is brought about by ocean currents. Depending on the species, juveniles settle in nearshore or coastal habitats, including other reef areas, mangroves, and/or seagrass beds. These habitats are potential areas for protection (as new MPAs) and will be proposed to be part of the marine corridors or integrated marine areas in this project if so identified.?

The narrative description of Output 1.1.1 has been updated, clarifying that the ecological connectivity studies under this output will also include analysis of information on types of target fish stocks, their habitats, conservation status and migratory patterns. The description of Output 1.1.1 has also been further clarified, including that aim the MPA networks and associated corridors (integrated marine areas) is to strengthen collaborative conservation of threatened and endangered fish and other marine species and advance sustainable utilization practices of coastal and marine resources.

The narrative description of Output 2.1.1 has been updated, clarifying that the project support in updating and/or amending the management plans of the target MPAs will include strengthening how the MPAs are monitoring the conservation status of globally significant biodiversity and ecosystem health.

Regarding the biodiversity indicators in the METT worksheets, this issue was carefully deliberated during the project preparation phase by the PPG team and discussed during participatory assessment of the baseline METT scorecard. The challenge stems from one of the instructions in the METT worksheet ? see below.

?At project start-up, identify and list up to five key biodiversity indicators that are monitored on a regular basis in the protected area?.

There is inconsistent monitoring of biodiversity indicators at several of the sites. This is the main reason why biodiversity indicators were not included for each of the MPAs targeted by the project. This point is also related to the incremental reasoning mentioned in the response to comment in Section 5 of the review sheet above, i.e., the additionality of the proposed GEF funding includes provision of technical assistance and investment support for capacity building and equipment procurement to improve the flow of reliable data and information.

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

(#1 Karrer, Nakagawa, Oct 26 2023) Yes

(#1 Karrer and #2, 3 and Nakagawa, September 26, 2023). No.

1. Fostering long-term, sustainable financing is an important part of this project. As noted in the PIF STAP review, there needs to be more explanation as to how the project will bring in innovative financing beyond traditional philanthropic sources, such as bonds, development banks, and impact investors.

2. Blue carbon is referenced and has a potential for innovative financing mechanism, however, the description in the proposal remains limited.

3. Under section of Potential for scaling up the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is referred to as ?upcoming?, i.e., outdated reference. Suggest replacing it with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework already in place.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

1. The description of Output 2.2.1 and the associated activities under this output have been updated, indicating that long-term sustainable financing will be an important focus in the management and governance of the MPA networks and associated marine corridors (integrated marine areas).

2. Detailed descriptions of the potential blue carbon priority investments under Output 2.1.3 will be elaborated as part of the feasibility studies planned during project implementation. Some potential priority investments are indicated in the Project Document; however, specific identification of investments could not be made during the project preparation phase due to lack of detailed data. More extensive engagement will be made with stakeholders during implementation.

3. The references to the GBF have been updated accordingly.

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
(Karrer Nov 6, 2023). Yes.

(Omid Nov 1, 2023). No. The geo location is still blank.

(Omid, September 26, 2023) No. In Annex D on Project Map and Coordinates, please consider inserting the geographic location of the site directly under the dedicated data entry field ?GEO LOCATION INFORMATION? ? it is left blank.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

The geolocations of the project sites have been inserted directly under the dedicated data entry field.

Agency Response

UNDP, 3 Nov 2023

Geographic location of the sites have been updated in ?GEO LOCATION INFORMATION? in the Portal.

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Automated Validation Check	Geo Name ID	Location Acti Descrip
Kepulauan T	0.4252	121.8999	Buntulia Barat, Duhiadaa, Gorontalo, Indonesia		
Kepulauan \	-5.3338	123.6053	Komala, Wangi-Wangi Selatan, Sulawesi Tenggara, Indonesia		
Agoo - Dam	16.2284	120.3881	Damortis, La Union, Ilocos, Philippines		
BBBIDA Ma	16.3256	119.7597	Patar, Bolinao, Pangasinan, Ilocos, Philippines		
Ticao-Buria:	12.8876	123.4257	Philippines, Philippines		
Turtle Island	6.0768	118.3138	Taganak, Tawi-Tawi, Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Philippines		
Tubbataha I	8.9533	119.8675	South Eastern Asia,		
Tarutao Nat	6.578	99.477	Kingdom of Thailand, Kingdom of Thailand		
Ranong Bio	9.834	98.542	Ban Bang Chak, Ranong, Kingdom of Thailand		
Muko Surin	9.419	97.868	Surin Islands, Ranong, Kingdom of Thailand		
Muko Simil:	8.654	97.647	Kingdom of Thailand, Kingdom of Thailand		

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
(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

Stakeholders

Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
(Gabriella, Nov 1, 2023). Yes.

(Gabriella, September 26, 2023) No. It is well noted that the project includes information on consultations during preparation as well as a thorough stakeholder engagement plan. However, please complete the last section in the portal section on stakeholder engagement requesting ? Select what role civil society will play in the project?

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

The role of civil society will primarily be as a contractor, delivering certain project activities, as described in the Project Document and CEO ER. This has been selected in the CEO ER and portal.

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
(Karrer, Nov 6, 2023). Yes.

(Verona, Nov 1, 2023). No.

As part of good gender mainstreaming practice, please respond to these comments **in the project document as well as in the Portal version.**

- a. Under Output 1.1.1, ensure gender expertise and women's representation in work related to studying and designing MPAs
- b. Under Output 2.1.3, ensure inclusion of women and gender experts in the discussions on and development of priority investment projects
- c. Under Output 2.2.2, ensure women's representation and inclusion of gender experts in the design and implementation of marine corridor management interventions

(Verona, Oct 2 2023) No.

- 1. Under Output 1.1.1, please ensure gender expertise and women's representation in work related to studying and designing MPAs
- 2. Under Output 2.1.3, ensure inclusion of women and gender experts in the discussions on and development of priority investment projects
- 3. Under Output 2.2.2, ensure women's representation and inclusion of gender experts in the design and implementation of marine corridor management interventions

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

The gender action plan in Annex 11 to the Project Document has been updated, confirming that women representation and inclusion of gender expertise will be ensured under outputs 1.1.1, 2.1.3 and 2.2.2. The monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan in section VI of the Project Document has also been updated accordingly.

Agency Response

UNDP, 3 Nov 2023

Women representation and inclusion of gender experts has been added to the narrative descriptions of Outputs 1.1.1, 2.1.3 and 2.2.2 in the Project Document (see paragraph 109,121 and 129) and CEO ER (see page 27, 35 and 40).

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

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) 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
(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response
Coordination

Is the institutional arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
(Karrer, Oct 26, 2023). Yes.

(Karrer, September 26 2023) No. There needs to be consistency and more clarity on how the project will contribute to the LMEs. The *Contribution to SAPs for LMEs* section (p 103) explains how the project will contribute to the BOBLME and the SuSLME, but not the South China Sea & Gulf of Thailand, and the Indonesia LMEs (p103). Also, the *Regional projects* section (p 49) provides an overview of the BOBLME and SCS/GOT programmes, but not how this new project will contribute to those LMEs or to SuSLME or Indonesia LME. Finally, the *Table 3: Planned coordination with LMEs* (p 151), which has the best explanation of how the project will coordinate with the project (so might use that language in the other sections), does not include SuSLME. Although the SuSLME project has ended, a new one is in development so would be good to note plans to coordinate once underway and plans to coordinate with SuSLME relevant regional institutions until then.

Be sure to coordinate with the GEF project 10703 ?Promoting the blue economy and strengthening fisheries governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (GoTFish)?, which is mentioned on page 49 of the CER document.

Agency Response
UNDP, 20 October 2023

Information has been added on how the project will contribute to the SAPs of the ISLME and South China Sea LME. None of the project sites are situated within the Gulf of Thailand.

Reference has been included on the new SuSLME project under development in the Planned coordination with other GEF-financed projects section of the CEO ER and Project Document.

Confirming that the project will coordinate with the GEF project 10703 "Promoting the blue economy and strengthening fisheries governance of the Gulf of Thailand through the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (GoTFish).

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
(Karrer, September 26, 2023) 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
(Karrer, Oct 26, 2023) Yes

(#1-3 Karrer, September 26 2023 and #3 Karrer and Yasemin, Oct 2 2023) No.

1. The explanation of Component 3 focuses on only sharing experiences related to gender, "Knowledge generated through project interventions on gender mainstreaming and traditional knowledge"? Further, the regional table under Output 3.1.2 notes, "document and disseminate lessons learned and best practices, highlighting the roles and contributions of women in conservation and management of coastal and marine biodiversity"? In contrast, the explanation in the 8. *Knowledge Management* section does not focus on gender. An important aspect of knowledge management is sharing experiences related to the project outputs, such as MPA management and connectivity. While gender is a part of these outputs, it should not be the only focus of KS. Please edit to clarify gender is not the only focus of the knowledge management plans and specify the topics anticipated for focus.

2. Relatedly, for all explanations of knowledge management, it needs to be clear that you will draw out and synthesize the project experiences and lessons learned for sharing with other

initiatives and stakeholders. This activity is an important aspect of KM. Please make this clear.

3. Please clarify in the KM&L section that at least 1% of the project budget will go towards engaging in IWLEARN activities. Accordingly, the budget table in the KM&L section (esp. the last two items listed) should clearly state the amount allocated for engagement with IWLEARN.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

1. The narrative description of knowledge management under Output 3.1.2 has been clarified. The subject sentence of the comment has been revised/clarified as follows: Knowledge generated through project interventions, including on gender mainstreaming and traditional knowledge, will be disseminated through convening workshops and webinars, posting information on social media platforms, and sharing knowledge products.?

2. It is confirmed and has been clarified accordingly in the description on knowledge management that the project draw out and synthesize the project experiences and lessons learned for sharing with other initiatives and stakeholders.

3. Confirming that 1% of the project grant has been allocated towards engagement in IW:LEARN activities. The budget table in the KM&L section has been clarified accordingly.

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) 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

(Karrer, Nov 6, 2023). Yes. I agreed to the renting of vehicles and agree to the technical focus.

(Salazar, Nov 1, 2023). No.

While the previous comment was addressed and a new format was submitted, there are two comments that now need to be addressed:

1. The use of GEF funds for maintenance of vehicles is strongly discouraged. Such costs are normally expected to be borne by the co-financed portion of PMCs. Any request to use GEF funding for rental/purchase of vehicles must be justified by the exceptional specific circumstances of the project/program and approved by the PM. Please send a justification by email to Leah Karrer to consider.
2. A procurement officer and a Project Manager/CTA are being charged across components. Per Guidelines, the costs associated with the project's execution have to be covered by the GEF portion and the co-financing portion allocated to PMC.

(Henry, September 26, 2023) No. Please change the format of the budget and use the template provided in the [GEF Operational Guidelines](#). By doing so we would hope to have detailed descriptions of each expenditure category under each component. As it currently stands the budget it is not possible to review in Portal the reasonability for the activities / expenditures being charged to the three sources of funds namely Project Components, M&E and PMC. As an example, we are not able to assess if the "Contractual Services" Impl. Partner is an eligible expense or not. This applies to the rest of the activities. Per the resubmission we will review the budget and provide comments if appropriate.

Agency Response

UNDP, 20 October 2023

The budget in the required template has been uploaded in the Portal.

Agency Response

UNDP, 3 Nov 2023

1. An email, with justification on the need for rental of vehicles, has been sent to Leah for consideration.
2. The Project Manager-Chief Technical Advisor is primarily a technical position, with 80% of the cost of this position allocated under the technical components. As described in the terms of reference for this position in Annex 6 to the Project Document, the technical assistance related duties and responsibilities include the following:
 - ? Ensure that project activities under each outcome are executed in a timely manner with high technical standards and implemented following the planned outcomes to achieve defined indicators.
 - ? Deliver substantive contributions to the technical components of the project, including drafting terms of reference and work specifications and providing high-quality technical inputs on the reports produced by consultants and subcontractors.
 - ? Provide strategic input into project implementation, including adaptive management measures, overseeing and ensuring coherence and consistency of technical approaches across the project and its target geographies, while responding adaptively to local conditions.

? Liaise with other GEF-funded LME projects, ASEAN Working Groups, complementary projects implemented by ACB and other initiatives and projects in the region, promoting synergies and collaboration.

? Provide technical assistance on project monitoring and evaluation, in coordination with the M&E Officer, ensuring that the indicators included in the project results framework are monitored annually in advance of the GEF PIR submission deadline and provide inputs to the annual GEF Project Implementation Reports (PIRs) and other progress reports.

? Manage and monitor the project risks, also in coordination with the Gender-Safeguards Officer, and submit new risks for consideration and decision on possible actions if required; update the status of these risks by maintaining the project risks log;

? Capture lessons learned during project implementation, coordinating with the Communications Officer by providing technical inputs to the development of knowledge products (including brochures, briefs, lessons learnt reports, etc.) and supervise their dissemination.

? Provide technical assistance and strategic guidance to the National Technical Officers and Site Officers, carrying out supervision visits to the project intervention sites.

? Foster the introduction and application of innovative approaches and techniques on the project, through engagement with private sector enterprises and associations, multilateral and bilateral donors, academic and research institutions, and federal, state and local government units.

? Prepare revisions to the multi-year workplan, as needed.

? Prepare the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop.

? Participate in the mid-term and terminal evaluations of the project; including management responses.

ACB, as the Implementing Partner (i.e., Executing Agency) is providing US\$15,000,000 in co-financing, including US\$11,678,441 in grant (investment mobilized) and US\$3,321,559 in in-kind (recurrent expenditures) contributions. A large portion of the in-kind contributions will help co-finance the project management costs. For a regional project such as ENMAPS ASEAN, it is important that a senior level professional be responsible for the overall management of the project. The Project Manager-Chief Technical Advisor would fill this important role, being accountable to the Project Board (i.e., Steering Committee) and managing the team members financed through the GEF grant as well as the support staff co-financed by ACB. The project management related duties and responsibilities of the Project Manager-Chief Technical Advisor include the following:

? Manage the overall conduct of the project.

? Provide regular feedback to the Project Director, and coordinate with complementary regional programs and initiatives, including those covered by co-financing contributions.

? Plan the activities of the project and monitor progress against the approved workplan.

? Coordinate the execution of activities by overseeing management of personnel, goods and services, training and low-value grants.

? Provide support for completion of assessments required by UNDP, spot checks and audits.

? Coordinated monitoring of financial resources and accounting to ensure the accuracy and reliability of financial reports.

? Monitor progress, watch for plan deviations and make course corrections when needed within Project Board-agreed tolerances to achieve results.

? Ensure that changes are controlled, and problems are addressed.

? Coordinate regular progress reporting to the Project Board as agreed with the board, including measures to address challenges and opportunities.

? Coordinate the preparation and submission of financial reports to UNDP on a quarterly basis.

? Prepare revisions to the multi-year workplan, as needed, as well as annual and quarterly plans if required.

? Coordinate the preparation of the inception report no later than one month after the inception workshop.

? Coordinate the preparation of the GEF Project Implementation Reports (PIR)s.

? Assess major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF.

With regard to the Procurement Officer, the costs allocated under the technical components are related to facilitating procurement of project activities. The regional project will be operated under a central level procurement modality, and, hence, the Procurement Officer will provide technical assistance in ensuring good value for money and qualified service providers are engaged in the three participating countries.

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

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

(Karrer, September 26, 2023) Yes

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Does the termsheet in Annex F provide finalized financial terms and conditions? Does the termsheet and financial structure address concerns raised at PIF stage and that were pending to be resolved ahead of CEO endorsement? (For NGI Only)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
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

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

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	9/26/2023	10/20/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/26/2023	11/3/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/7/2023	

**Secretariat Comment at
CEO Endorsement**

**Response to
Secretariat comments**

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

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations