

# Creating an Enabling Environment to Support LDN Target Implementation Through Strengthening Capacities and Establishing an LDN Monitoring and Reporting System in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10830

**Countries**

Bosnia-Herzegovina

**Project Name**

Creating an Enabling Environment to Support LDN Target Implementation Through Strengthening Capacities and Establishing an LDN Monitoring and Reporting System in Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Agencies**

UNEP

**Date received by PM**

6/21/2022

**Review completed by PM**

6/27/2022

**Program Manager**

Ulrich Apel

**Focal Area**

Land Degradation

**Project Type**

MSP

## **PIF ☐**

## **CEO Endorsement ☐**

**Part I ? Project Information****Focal area elements**

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

**Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request**

06/22/2022: Yes.

06/27/2022: Additional request: In part I, please correct the "expected implementation start date" to a more realistic, later date (currently 07/01/2022).

07/25/2022: Addressed.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Response13/07/2022**

We changed the implementation start date to 1 October 2022.

**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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

**Co-financing**

**4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Project Preparation Grant**

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Core indicators**

**7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E? Do they remain realistic?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Please explain the changes made to the core indicators. Why has the area target been listed under 4.1 instead of 4.3 as indicated at PIF stage?

06/27/2022: Clarified and corrected.

Cleared

Agency Response

23/6/2022: Sorry, it was our error, we corrected the target entry. We inserted 10,000 ha under Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

## **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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**6. Is there further and better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**7. Is there further and better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Project Map and Coordinates**

**Is there an accurate and confirmed geo-referenced information where the project intervention will take place?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Child Project**

**If this is a child project, is there an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

n/a

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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

**Has the gender analysis been completed? Did the gender analysis identify any gender differences, gaps or opportunities linked to project/program objectives and activities? If so, does the project/program include gender-responsive activities, gender-sensitive indicators and expected results?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

06/27/2022: Additional comment: Please provide responses to: 1) the gender-responsive measures the project aims to address, i.e., Yes/No responses needed to the three sub-points, as relevant (only 1 of the YES/NO questions has been addressed); 2) question on project result framework.

07/25/2022: Addressed.

Cleared

#### Agency Response

##### **Response13/07/2022**

We filled the missing responses. We marked:

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources

And, Improving women's participation and decision making as the areas that the project will contribute.

Finally, we chose Yes to the question whether the project's results framework or logical framework includes gender-sensitive indicators.

#### **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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

#### Agency Response

##### **Risks to Achieving Project Objectives**

**Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

#### Agency Response

##### **Coordination**

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Program Manager approves the arrangement with UNEP as implementing and FAO as executing agency.

Cleared

06/27/2022: Additional request: The project mentions the WOCAT database for SLM practices. GEFSEC encourages to report the applied SLM practices back to the WOCAT database during project implementation, as appropriate.

07/25/2022: Addressed.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Response13/07/2022**

We added the following statement under the Knowledge Management section:  
?Finally, the Project will report the applied SLM practices to the WOCAT database during project implementation.?

**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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Knowledge Management**

**Is the proposed ?Knowledge Management Approach? for the project adequately elaborated with a timeline and a set of deliverables?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

06/27/2022: Additional request: The project mentions the WOCAT database for SLM practices. GEFSEC encourages to report the applied SLM practices back to the WOCAT database during project implementation, as appropriate.

07/25/2022: Addressed.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Response13/07/2022**

We added the following statement under the Knowledge Management section:

?Finally, the Project will report the applied SLM practices to the WOCAT database during project implementation.?

**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

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

**Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Benefits**

**Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Annexes**

**Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Project Results Framework**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Yes.

06/27/2022: Correction required: Please include core indicator 6 and the target in the results framework (Annex A). In addition, please correct the target for core indicator 11 in the results framework (200 individuals) to reflect the target in the core indicator table (2200 individuals).

07/25/2022: Addressed.

Cleared

Agency Response

**Response13/07/2022**

We included [Core Indicator 6] Carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (tons CO<sub>2</sub>e) with the target value 230,000 tons under Outcome 2.1.

We added [Core Indicator 11] as an additional indicator under Outcome 1.2 with the target value of 2,200.

**GEF Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

**Council comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a for an MSP

Agency Response

**STAP comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a for an MSP

Agency Response

**Convention Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request none received

Agency Response

**Other Agencies comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request none received

Agency Response

**CSOs comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request none received

Agency Response

**Status of PPG utilization**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request As presented in Annex C.

Agency Response

**Project maps and coordinates**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: Have been provided.

Cleared

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

n/a

Agency Response

**Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

**Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

**GEFSEC DECISION**

## RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

06/22/2022: No. Please address clarification request made in this review.

06/27/2022: No. Please address additional comments made in this review.

07/25/2022: Yes. Program Manager recommends CEO endorsement.

### Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
<b>First Review</b>	<b>6/22/2022</b>	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>6/27/2022</b>	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>7/25/2022</b>	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>		

### CEO Recommendation

#### Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The project "Creating an enabling environment to support the implementation of LDN target in Bosnia and Herzegovina" is fully in line with the GEF-7 LDFA strategy, specifically objective LD-2-5 to support the enabling framework for LDN. The objective of the project is to foster a coherent policy environment and track progress towards achieving the national LDN targets. The project will create an enabling policy environment to support LDN target implementation through strengthening national and local capacity and establishing an LDN monitoring and reporting systems in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, the project will support the practical application, testing and

local adaption of a range of innovative SLM and SFM practices for the sustainable management of forests, rangelands and croplands. The Project will pilot innovative measures to enhance land quality and protection, as well as restoring land functions in degraded ecosystems. The Project will deliver a roadmap to set the milestones and indicators for the next 10 years. This will also support the monitoring and reporting against the national LDN target as well as toward the achievement of SDG 15.3. The project will directly bring 10,000 ha under SLM, sequester 280,000 t of CO<sub>2</sub> eq, and benefit 2200 women and men.

This project will build on the efforts of the Bosnia and Herzegovina institutions to build back better considering that the Agricultural Service has been designed as a key executing agency for post COVID-19 economic recovery activities with the implementation of agro-ecosystem management and natural resource protection activities to be developed in this context. This project will take the lessons learned from that experience and build on them to promote sustainable practices for the agriculture sectors.