



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

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10475

Countries

Malawi

Project Name

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

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

6/18/2021

Review completed by PM

10/27/2021

Program Manager

Patricia Marcos Huidobro

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

MSP

PIF

CEO Endorsement

Part I ? Project Information

Focal area elements

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

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

Yes.

Agency Response
Project description summary

2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?

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

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

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

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

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

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

PM 10/20/2021:

No. Please note the Budget table under Annex shall include also the M&E budget of \$87,000 as previously identified in Section 9 "Monitoring and Evaluation" of the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry). Please fill out the M&E column in Annex E and amend the overall budget accordingly so the overall sum match the total GEF financing for the project.

PM 10/27/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/26/2021

Please note that all the M&E activities are funded from UNDP Co-finance resources.

C.L. 10/1/2021

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

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

10/19/2021

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

Likewise, it is uploaded to the portal as a separate file, Annex E, to the CEO Endorsement request and included in the annex E section of the online GEF CEO approval request.

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

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

Co-financing

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

PM 10/29/2021:

No. Under table C "Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type" update column "Sources of Co-financing" for UNCDF from "GEF Agency" to "Donor Agency".

PM 11/3/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.G. 11/2/2021

Incorporated. Table C in the CEO ER has been updated.

C.L 10/1/2021

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

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

GEF Resource Availability

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response
Core indicators

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- There is an inconsistency in the metric tons of CO₂e accrued indirectly. In some sections the documents has reported 2,043 tons of CO₂e while in other 2,043,000 tons of CO₂e. Please clarify and update accordingly.

- GHG calculations have been thoroughly described in the agency project document. However, the agency has not provided the GEF team with a calculation spreadsheet to easily trace the calculations. For instance, it is not clear from the text whether the GHG estimated comes from the GEF financing only or from the GEF+co-financing. Please clarify and provide a GHG calculation sheet.

PM 10/6/2021:

No. The Core Indicator Section of the CEO Approval Request still shows 2,043 tons of CO₂ instead of 2,043,000 tons. Please update accordingly to make it consistent with the GHG spreadsheet and the ProDoc.

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

i. Incorporated. The total indirect GHG emissions reductions calculated for the Malawi national child project is 2,043,000 tons of CO₂e. The documents have been revised accordingly.

ii. Bullet 2. GHG calculations. An excel spreadsheet with the summary of GHG emission reduction calculations has been uploaded to the portal. Also, Annex 13: GHG Emissions Reductions and Project's target contributions to GEF-7 Core Indicators (Malawi), has been updated to include additional explanations and clarifications on how GHG emissions reductions are calculated.

GHG estimates and co-financing. The GHG emissions reductions estimates are based on the incremental renewable power generation from PUE overlays developed with project support. Project funding (GEF INV) will be used to provide a CAPEX subsidy to cover the capital expenditures required to deploy the productive use equipment for PUE overlay pilots. Since PUE Overlays will be deployed on existing minigrid systems, there may be cases where pilots will require additional contributions to cover investments costs not covered by project funds, such as minigrid investments in generation and distribution.

GEF INV budget allocated to the Malawi PUE Overlay minigrid pilots will be used to provide 100% of the pilots' CAPEX needs for PUE equipment (currently estimated at USD 42,811). The actual USD amount will be determined during implementation, based on principles of minimal concessionality, as set out in the project's Minigrid Pilot Plan (Prodoc Box 6) The minigrid(s) to which the PUE overlay will be added do not require additional investments in generation and distribution.

The co-financing reported in the Project Document reflects the investment by the Scottish government (USD 793, 492) to establish the minigrids to which the AMP will add the PUE overlays. Co-financing from the UNDP will be deployed for contractual services related to the complementary activities to support the small businesses and the analysis and modelling to develop a 'blueprint' business model

10/19/2021: Incorporated.

Part II ? Project Justification

1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

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

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

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response 10/19/2021: Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include information on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

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

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

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response **10/19/2021: Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived.**

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The two pilots to be developed with GEF funding will introduce productive uses of energy overlays in two solar PV minigrad systems. Please confirm that the project (or at least the GEF-funding) will not be supporting any diesel generation and that the two pilots are entirely run by renewable energy. Are any of the pilots supporting an hybrid mini-grid? If not, we are wondering whether the overall project document shall state "RE mini-grid" instead of "low-carbon mini-grids". Please clarify and update if applicable.

- Please provide a mechanism to ensure the deployed mini-grid will be used for lifetime (20 years) including governance structure as well as a table explaining ownership and mini-grids operation.

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

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Please address the following comments:

- The project outcomes as per the CEO Approval Request still shows "low-carbon minigrids". Please replace it by "renewable energy minigrids" to keep consistency with the changes in the ProDoc .

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

- The TOC graph in the GEF CEO Approval document is blurred. Please amend.

PM 10/20/2021:

No. In the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry), Outcomes 1 and 2 still show "low-carbon" minigrids. Please amend and replace by "renewable energy" minigrids to make it consistent with the rest of the document. Thanks.

PM 10/27/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/26/2021

Comments have been addressed, We have amended the text in Outcomes 1 and 2 to ?renewable energy? mini-grids.

C.L. 10/1/2021

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

ii. Incorporated. The following elaboration regarding ownership and lifetime has been added to the project document and CEO Endorsement request:

The minigrids deployed follow a detailed technical and business design developed from extensive learning from existing initiatives and techno-economic modelling utilising existing smart meter data. Business modelling has taken into account total operational costs including staff, preventative and corrective maintenance, as well as wider social enterprise business costs. These expenditures are balanced with income from electricity sales, and tariffs are set at a level to ensure sufficient income is maintained to ensure financial sustainability over the minigrids designed 20 year lifetime. Business models and financial planning are continually updated based on analysis of data collection through smart meters and business cash flow accounting, to include demand growth, income from sales and system performance.

Ownership of the minigrids is currently under United Purpose (UP), a charity and NGO. UP is in the process of initiating a social enterprise which will gain ownership of the minigrids once it is legally registered. The social enterprise, to be registered as a company limited by guarantee in Malawi in 2021, will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the minigrids through employed staff, and will collect income from the sale of electricity to cover these costs. UP will support the social enterprise as it is set up and operates the minigrids, maintenance contracts are in place to ensure the technical sustainability of the electrical systems, while the University of Strathclyde, will provide research and knowledge exchange support. The social enterprise has a business plan in development for deploying further minigrids and operating them at scale across Dedza and other districts in Malawi.

| Stakeholder | Role | Responsibilities |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| United purpose (UP) Social Enterprise | Owner | Collect tariffs through site agents and pay for expenditures to ensure sustainable operation and maintenance of the minigrid. Community engagement and training on safe electricity use and PUE promotion. |
| BNG Electrical | Maintenance Contractor | Quarterly site visits to both minigrid sites, ensure technical sustainability of both microgrids through preventative and corrective maintenance. |
| United Purpose (NGO) | Social Enterprise Support | Business support, joint funding opportunity collaboration, knowledge sharing in PUE food-water-energy nexus activities related to the minigrids. |
| University of Strathclyde | Research Support | Analysing primary data, techno-economic modelling to inform technical efficiency and business modelling. |

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

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

A maintenance contract is in place with the local electrical engineering contractor responsible for installing the systems, which includes quarterly site visits for preventative maintenance of the generation and distribution grids. The maintenance contract for the minigrids also includes a call out fee to deal with any required corrective maintenance. Remote monitoring of the generation system highlights any potential technical issues real time and allows call outs to be arranged where necessary. Additionally, site agents employed at the minigrid sites provide updates on system performance or issues with the distribution grid or customer connections. Any issues are alerted to the UP staff who arrange repairs if necessary.

The batteries have a 10-year warranty, as do the SMA inverters and smart meters. PV modules have an estimated lifetime of 25 years. The financial modelling is designed so that there are sufficient funds in reserve to cover these costs at the end of 20 years, as well as ongoing income to pay for operational costs outlined above.

The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the first pilot site includes scheduled replacement and responsible disposal of batteries. The same approach will apply for Kudembe (second pilot site) and reflected in the Kudembe ESMP once finalised.

Link to the ESMP: <https://strathcloud.sharefile.eu/d-s789d5530f0a440099896dac052d7a75c>

A battery return scheme by Tesvolt is operational in the country that accepts old batteries for recycling at end of life. The technical designs incorporate the 10-year battery life, after which it will be returned to Tesvolt under the return scheme agreement with the project. Under the ESMP, agreements are in place to ensure that the supplier engaged for replacement of batteries partakes in the recycling scheme offered by Tesvolt.

Tesvolt have an established recycling operation to deal with their end of life lithium ion batteries. The business modelling includes transport fees to get the batteries back to Germany for recycling. Inverters, Solar modules and other electrical equipment will be disposed of using local recycling facilities. Where these are not operational, the project will work with REIAMA (Malawi RE industry association), the Government of Malawi and other RE industry players to pursue suitable facilities or solutions for recycling.

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

10/19/2021:

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

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

The Theory of Change diagram has also been moved in under this section and adjusted for improved visibility.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 10/6/2021:

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

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

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

10/19/2021: Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to clarify that the project is aligned with the specific Objective CCM1-1 "Promote innovation and

technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs for de-centralized renewable power with energy storage".

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

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

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

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

PM 10/20/2021:

No. The GEF financing and co-financing figures in this section do not match the figures confirmed in Table B of the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry). In addition, this section is missing an explanation on what the proposed project contribution from the baseline is (i.e. why the additional GEF resources are required to cover the "incremental" or additional costs associated with transforming a project with national benefits into one with global environmental benefits).

PM 10/27/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response
C.L. 10/26/2021

Revisions were made in the CEO ER. Details of responses are provided in Part II section 5.

10/19/2021: Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to show incremental reasoning, contribution from the baseline, and co-financing.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response 10/19/2021: Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to show Global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF).

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Please fill out this section in the GEF CEO Endorsement Request.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. An elaboration on innovation and sustainable, including the potential for scaling up has been included in the CEO Endorsement request following the table documenting co-financing and immediately preceding Section 1b. The project is designed to pave the way for RE minigrids in Malawi through PUE, development of an innovative business model, and provision of capacity building. The project is aligned to, and supports the Government's Renewable Energy Strategy (2017 ? 2022) and Rural Electrification Master Plan (2020 - 2025).

Project Map and Coordinates

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

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

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

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response
C.L. 10/1/2021

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

Child Project

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

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

Yes.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

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

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes, with suggestions. Please include a cross-reference to Annex 9 of the Agency ProDoc which provides further information on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement request has been amended to show the cross reference to Annex 9 of the Project Document containing further detail to the brief summary included.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes, with suggestions. The CEO Endorsement request includes a cross-reference to the Gender Analysis and Action Plan in Annex 11 of the Agency Proc-Doc. This is ok. However, the CEO Endorsement request states that the gender plan has been attached as

a separate document to be uploaded. However, the gender plan has not been included in the list of document attached. Please either attached the gender plan or remove the sentence "has been attached as a separate document to be uploaded".

PM 10/6/2021:

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

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. Amended to reflect the cross-reference to the plan in the CEO Endorsement request.

10/19/2021: Incorporated. The CEO Endorsement Request has been amended to include an overview of the Gender Analysis and Action Plan.

Private Sector Engagement

If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response
Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

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

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

PM 10/6/2021:

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

PM 10/20/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response
C.L. 10/1/2021

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

10/19/2021: Incorporated. The COVID-19 risk and opportunity analysis has been moved from "Project Description, Section 1a) to the Part II, Point 5 (Risks) in the CEO Endorsement Request immediately following the risk table.

Coordination

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

No. Kindly note that as per the GEF jargon, the Ministry of Energy is the executing agency not the implementing partner as described in section 6 "Institutional Arrangement and Coordination". Please update throughout the project proposal to avoid confusion with the implementing agency of the AMP, i.e. UNDP.

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated. Amended throughout the CEO Endorsement Request.

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

Consistency with National Priorities

Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response

Knowledge Management

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

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

Yes.

Agency Response
Monitoring and Evaluation

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

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

Yes.

PM 10/29/2021:

No. Please add a footnote after the M&E table in Section 9 and after the budget table in Annex E clarifying that the M&E activities under the project are funded through UNDP co-finance resources.

PM 11/3/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response
C.G. 11/2/2021

Incorporated. A footnote has been added to the M&E Table in Section 9, and to the GEF Budget table in Annex E, indicating that:

|

The M&E activities under the project are funded through UNDP co-financing resources. Under Component 3, UNDP funding has been allocated to the M&E sub-component, for the procurement of International Consultants (\$12,000), conducting the independent evaluations of the project (\$72,000) and for organization, logistics and catering for the inception workshop (\$3,000).

Benefits

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

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

PM 10/6/2021:

No. Annex E "Project Budget" is missing.

PM 10/20/2021:

No, requested to fill out M&E expenses column on Annex E budget table (as per previous comment).

PM 10/29/2021:

No. Please add a footnote after the M&E table in Section 9 and after the budget table in Annex E clarifying that the M&E activities under the project are funded through UNDP co-finance resources.

PM 11/3/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.G. 11/2/2021

Incorporated. A footnote has been added to the M&E Table in Section 9, and to the GEF Budget table in Annex E, indicating that:

The M&E activities under the project are funded through UNDP co-financing resources. Under Component 3, UNDP funding has been allocated to the M&E sub-component, for the procurement of International Consultants (\$12,000), conducting the independent evaluations of the project (\$72,000) and for organization, logistics and catering for the inception workshop (\$3,000).

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated.

- i. Maps and Satellite maps with coordinates have been included in Annex 3 of the Project Document and the CEO Endorsement Request (Section 1b, page 22)
- ii. All other annexes have been cross-referenced.

10/19/2021: Incorporated. The Project Budget, Annex E, is uploaded to the portal as a separate file and in the online CEO ER form.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

Yes.

PM 10/29/2021:

No. Under Annex A "Project Results Framework", please specify which indicators are GEF Core Indicators 6 and 11, so it is easier for the GEF to monitor results going forward (e.g. saying "Mandatory Indicator X (GEF Core Indicator Y)").

PM 11/3/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.G. 11/2/2021

The Results Framework in Annex A has been updated to indicate which are GEF Core Indicators 6 and 11.

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

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

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

Incorporated in the CEO Endorsement request, Annex B.

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

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

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

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

Convention Secretariat comments

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

N/A.

Agency Response
Other Agencies comments

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

N/A.

Agency Response
CSOs comments

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

N/A.

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

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

Yes.

Agency Response
Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

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

PM 10/6/2021:

Cleared.

Agency Response

C.L. 10/1/2021

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

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

PM 7/23/2021:

N/A.

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

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

PM 10/20/2021:

The GEF Sec is returning the CEO Endorsement Request to the Agency to address the following three comments:

- The Budget table under Annex shall include also the M&E budget of \$87,000 as previously identified in Section 9 "Monitoring and Evaluation" of the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry). Please fill out the M&E column in Annex E and amend the overall budget accordingly so the overall sum match the total GEF financing for the project.

- In the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry), Outcomes 1 and 2 still show "low-carbon" minigrids. Please amend and replace by "renewable energy" minigrids to make it consistent with the rest of the document.

- The GEF financing and co-financing figures in section 5 "Incremental reasoning" do not match the figures confirmed in Table B of the GEF CEO Approval Request (i.e. GEF Portal Entry). In addition, this section is missing an explanation on what the proposed project contribution from the baseline is (i.e. why the additional GEF resources are required to cover the "incremental" or additional costs associated with transforming a project with national benefits into one with global environmental benefits)

PM 10/29/2021:

No. Please address the following comments as outlined above:

- Under Annex A "Project Results Framework", please specify which indicators are GEF Core Indicators 6 and 11, so it is easier for the GEF to monitor results going forward (e.g. saying "Mandatory Indicator X (GEF Core Indicator Y)").

- Under table C "Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type" update column "Sources of Co-financing" for UNCDF from "GEF Agency" to "Donor Agency".

- Please add a footnote after the M&E table in Section 9 and after the budget table in Annex E clarifying that the M&E activities under the project are funded through UNDP co-finance resources.

PM 11/3/2021:

Cleared.

Review Dates

Secretariat Comment at
CEO Endorsement

Response to
Secretariat
comments

| |
|---|
| First Review |
| Additional Review (as necessary) |
| Additional Review (as necessary) |
| Additional Review (as necessary) |
| Additional Review (as necessary) |

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations