

Building The Bahamas capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10427

Countries

Bahamas

Project Name

Building The Bahamas capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Agencies

UNEP

Date received by PM

5/18/2021

Review completed by PM

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

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

6/14/2021: Yes, minor changes are well explained. Please change the Rio Marker for mitigation to 2.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response

2021/06/16

The Rio Marker was changed in the portal and document as suggested.

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 6/14/2021: Yes.

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 6/14/2021: Yes, co-financing is confirmed.

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 6/14/2021: 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

6/14/2021: The column total for Amount Committed should be \$20,000 not \$30,000. Please amend.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response

2021/06/16

Thank you for your comment. The information was corrected.

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 6/14/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

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

6/14/2021: Yes, the barriers are very well elaborated.

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

6/14/2021: The baseline scenario is very well elaborated.

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

6/14/2021: Please address comments below:

- Please clarify the scope and objectives of Deliverable 1.1.4 and Deliverable 1.1.10. Why would a report on technical support provided be needed as a separate deliverable here?

- Please provide additional details on what Deliverable 1.1.5 is expected to deliver, including its potential architecture, whether it will be completely new or build upon something existing, users, audience, etc.

- Please clarify if the climate finance deliverables will be focused on both domestic and international sources, and what approach is expected, i.e. budget tagging, etc.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

-Output 1.2 : Please clarify how this output will coordinate with the ongoing inventory work and associated training under the TNC/BUR project.

Agency Response

2021/06/29

Thank you for your comments:

Under output 1.1, a national transparency framework and a national climate finance strategy will be developed. Although the ministry aims to adopt these, the adoption process is beyond the control of the project and will depend on political prioritization. For this reason, budget was allocated for project staff and experts (the Chief Technical Advisor, the Transparency Officer, the National Legal Consultant, the International Transparency Consultant and the International Climate Finance Consultant) to provide support to ensure that the adoption process advances as smooth as possible. It was decided to have reports as separated deliverables to ensure a better monitoring of the work of these individuals on this task. This technical assistance will be coordinated by the Transparency Officer (D1.4) for the adoption of the national transparency framework and by the Chief Technical Advisory (D1.10) for the adoption of the national climate finance strategy, with project funds allocated to ensure that those project staff and experts provide such assistance. Text was added to page 36 to clarify.

Additional details on what Deliverable 1.1.5 is expected to deliver have been added to pages 33 and 34 and its proposed architecture is now illustrated on page 35. The centralised data and knowledge platform developed under deliverable 1.1.5 will be designed from a clean beginning, as the Bahamas currently lacks a national system for data collection, storage, archiving and retrieval of data. Developing such a system was highlighted in the SNC as one of the main activities to improve the GHG inventory process (refer to barrier 1.4 on page 9). This output will address this by providing the software and hardware for a centralised climate-resilient data management platform for stakeholders involved in preparing reports. It will also serve as a knowledge platform through which the public can access climate data and produced reports. The project-funded IT expert and the Department of Environmental Planning and Protection (DEPP), which will host and manage the platform, will decide on the platform's location. For instance, it may be connected to the existing website of the Ministry of Environment and Housing.

Climate finance deliverables will be focused on both domestic and international sources. Text was added to pages 35-36 and to deliverables 1.1.9 and 1.1.11 to clarify this and elaborate on the expected approach.

Output 1.2. Text was added to pages 37, 38, 76, 77, 78 to explain how the CBIT project will coordinate with and build upon the ongoing inventory work and associated training under the TNC/BUR project.

The CBIT will build on the TNC/BUR project by:

- o Reviewing information of the TNC/BUR National GHG Inventory and identifying gaps, sources and barriers to obtaining data, and evaluating progress in implementing actions identified in the inventory. (D 1.2.1, D1.2.2)
- o Improving the overall inventory process building on (i) the TNC/BUR assessment of shortcomings and gaps in data and methodologies used that affect inventory calculations and, on (ii) recommendations to improve future inventories provided under the same project. (D 1.2.3, D1.2.4)
- o Carrying out trainings building on the capacity assessment and lessons learned gleaned by the MRV Hub in executing training activities for the TNC/BUR1 in the Bahamas (D 1.2.5).

The coordination between the two projects will be ensured by DEPP, which is the EA for both projects, and UNEP, which is the IA for both. UNEP will have regular update meetings with the EA and internal regular meetings to monitor the status of implementation of the TNC/BUR activities and ensure coordination and alignment. Also, the ToR of the CTA and the GHG inventory consultant, and the output 1.2 deliverables wording were revised to ensure that CBIT work will be carried out building on TNC/BUR project outputs.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/14/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/14/2021: Yes

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

6/14/2021: Yes

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

6/14/2021: Yes

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

1/13/2020: This is a national project.

6/14/2021: Yes.

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

6/14/2021: Yes

Agency Response

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/14/2021: Yes

Agency Response

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

6/14/2021: 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

6/14/2021: Yes, these are well described and measures proposed are adequate.

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

6/14/2021: Please provide additional information (here or elsewhere) on the current status of the TNC/BUR project and the expected timelines of that project and how it may align with this project.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response 2021/06/29: Text was added to pages 17, 18, 37, 38, 76, 77 and 78 to describe the current status of the TNC/BUR, the expected timelines and how it will align with the project.

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

6/14/2021: 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

6/14/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

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

6/14/2021: 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

6/14/2021: Please add the budget table for the M&E plan to this section on the portal.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response

2021/06/29. The M&E plan was added to the portal as requested.

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

6/14/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/14/2021: see below.

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/14/2021: Please consider adjusting Indicator 1.6: # of gender-sensitive indicators for tracking progress in implementing the NDC. It is likely that not a single indicator for each sector selected will be able to completely reflect the progress in mitigation and adaptation for that sector.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response

2021/06/29

Thank you for your suggestion. The mid-term and end of project targets 1.6 were adjusted. Please refer to page 40 for added explanation of the estimation methodology and to Annex A.

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request n/a

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/14/2021: See comment above about the amount committed, as the amount committed plus spent is higher than the approved PPG amount.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response

2021/06/29

Thank you for your comment. The information was corrected in the portal and the document.

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/14/2021: yes

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

6/14/2021: Please address minor comments.

7/1/2021: PM recommends technical clearance.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	6/14/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)	7/1/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations