

STAP guidelines for screening GEF projects

Part I: Project Information	Response
GEF ID	10683
Project Title	Promotion of circular economy in the textile and garment sector in Ethiopia.
Date of Screening	12 November 2020
STAP member screener	Jamidu Katima
STAP secretariat screener	Sunday Leonard
STAP Rating	<i>Concur</i>
STAP Overall Assessment of the project proposal	<p>The project intends to minimize the environmental and human health impacts of POPs from the textile and garment industry in Ethiopia by applying circular economy concepts. The project is expected to eliminate 3.5 tons of PFOS and avoid the emission of 7.5 gTEQ uPOPs. Overall, this is a well prepared PIF, and the project will be innovative if it implements all aspects of the circular economy principles, as intended.</p> <p>We suggest that the following should be considered as the project is further developed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project objective: Deploying a circular economy approach in the textile and garment sector goes beyond downstream interventions on reuse, recycling, and discard conversion. It addresses the textile sector's upstream: cotton farming practices; resource use of the sector, especially energy and water; promotion of green and sustainable chemistry (e.g., greener fiber, greener dyes, and auxiliaries, greener solvents); and redesign of textiles and garments to be more durable. It will also require creating circular business models and financing options to promote the redesign, reuse, and recycling in the sector. Many of these circular interventions are included in the proposal; however, the objective suggests that the project will be addressing only downstream issues. The current objective is a disservice to the project's laudable intention, and we recommend that it be revised to capture the overarching intent of the project appropriately. 2. STAP's recent paper on "delivering multiple benefits through the sound management of chemicals and waste" includes an example on how to transform the textile and garment sector based on the systems thinking approach and discusses types of interventions and how projects should be designed to capture multiple benefits. We recommend that the project proponent review the report when developing the PPG. 3. The PIF indicates that an elaborate initial consultation has been carried out with relevant stakeholders, including governments and the private sector. Similarly, the baseline information was well presented. These are commendable, and these consultations and rigor should continue in the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project. 4. The section on barriers only provided a list. It would be useful to elaborate each of the barriers.

5. The project recognized that GEF is already funding similar projects in Africa. It is essential to ensure good collaboration between this and other projects.
6. Paragraph 34 highlights some of the circular economy issues to be addressed: textile durability, multi-purpose application, reusability, recyclability, maintainability, repairability, low carbon, and cleaner technologies, bio-chemicals, biodegradable inputs, renewable energy, waste recovery, zero landfills, etc. It would be useful for these to be further elaborated to show how they will be implemented in the life cycle of textiles in Ethiopia. With regards to implementing these interventions, we recommend the project proponent review the following example publications:
 - Moore & Ausley, 2004. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0959652603000581>;
 - Choudhury 2017. <https://medcraveonline.com/JTEFT/JTEFT-02-00056.pdf>
 - Fletcher, K. (2009). Systems change for sustainability in textiles. In Sustainable Textiles (pp. 369–380). Elsevier. <https://doi.org/10.1533/9781845696948.2.36>
 - KEMI. 2013. Hazardous chemicals in textiles – report of a government assignment. Swedish Chemicals Agency (KEMI). <https://www.kemi.se/global/rapporter/2013/rapport-3-13-textiles.pdf>
 - Sajn, N. 2019. Environmental impact of the textile and clothing industry: What consumers need to know. European Parliamentary Research Service. [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2019/633143/EPRS_BRI\(2019\)633143_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2019/633143/EPRS_BRI(2019)633143_EN.pdf)
7. The paragraph on investment mobilization states that *"the investment will be mobilized for the acquisition of green technologies and BAT/BEP that will require process plant modification, installation of new equipment, training of operating personal and introduction of innovative techniques and practices. UNIDO, through their supply chains, will get the buy-in of international brands such as PVH and H&M. The aim is to collaborate with the private sectors to implement the international brands CSR and sustainability programs such as: Better Cotton Initiative, Eco design, Partnership for a Cleaner Textile PaCT, Science Based Targets initiative, AFIRM, Zero Discharge of Hazardous Chemicals (ZDHC), etc."* These concepts need more elaboration on how they will be applied to assist in the project's sustainability and scaling up.
8. Theory of Change: A good theory of change showing the causal chain leading to desired short- and long-term outcomes and overall impacts was presented. A description or inclusion of alternative pathways (plan B) if the proposed pathway is not feasible will further strengthen the current theory of change.
9. It is commendable that the potential co-benefits from the project were identified and mentioned in the PIF. As indicated, the project can deliver climate benefits by implementing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and clean technologies in the sector. We recommend that

	<p>the interventions be designed to maximize chemicals and waste, and climate benefits. The potential benefits of improved land degradation were also noted, which is good. The project will also deliver water pollution prevention (important as the location maps show that some of the targeted project sites are close to rivers) and associated benefits to biodiversity, ecosystem services, and natural resource management. These benefits should be recognized and captured. Doing so would provide a more holistic account of the project's impact and highlight the substantial return on investments. This project will also deliver health and economic benefits, which should be accounted for during implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.</p> <p>10. The IEO Terminal Evaluation of Chemicals and Waste projects¹ revealed that there is limited evidence that GEF's chemical and waste projects successfully put in place sustainable strategies and financial mechanisms for scaling up. The PIF states that <i>"the project will develop financing mechanisms and business models for the circular economy which will facilitate the attraction of new investments in green industries."</i> We advise that the financing of the project activities post-GEF project should be given more attention.</p> <p>11. A good preliminary climate risk screening has been prepared, which answers a good part of STAP's screening questions. This is commendable. We recommend that detailed information on how the climate risk will be mitigated should be provided at the PPG stage, as stated in the PIF.</p>	
Part I: Project Information B. Indicative Project Description Summary	What STAP looks for	Response
Project Objective	Is the objective clearly defined, and consistently related to the problem diagnosis?	Please see overall assessment on suggestions on revising the objective
Project components	A brief description of the planned activities. Do these support the project's objectives?	Yes
Outcomes	A description of the expected short-term and medium-term effects of an intervention. Do the planned outcomes encompass important global environmental benefits?	Yes. The application of circular economy to the Textile and Garment industry is expected to eliminate and avoid 3.5 tons of PFOS and reduction of 7.5 gTEQ emissions of uPOPs
	Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits likely to be generated?	Yes
Outputs	A description of the products and services which are expected to result from the project.	Yes

¹ http://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/files/cw-study-2017_0.pdf

	Is the sum of the outputs likely to contribute to the outcomes?	
Part II: Project justification	A simple narrative explaining the project's logic, i.e. a theory of change.	The narrative project's logic is provided
1. Project description. Briefly describe: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)	Is the problem statement well-defined?	Yes
	Are the barriers and threats well described, and substantiated by data and references?	Yes
	For multiple focal area projects: does the problem statement and analysis identify the drivers of environmental degradation which need to be addressed through multiple focal areas; and is the objective well-defined, and can it only be supported by integrating two, or more focal areas objectives or programs?	NA
2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects	Is the baseline identified clearly?	Yes
	Does it provide a feasible basis for quantifying the project's benefits?	Yes
	Is the baseline sufficiently robust to support the incremental (additional cost) reasoning for the project?	Yes
	For multiple focal area projects:	NA
	are the multiple baseline analyses presented (supported by data and references), and the multiple benefits specified, including the proposed indicators;	
	are the lessons learned from similar or related past GEF and non-GEF interventions described; and	NA

	how did these lessons inform the design of this project?	NA
3) the proposed alternative scenario with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project	What is the theory of change?	Application of Circular Economy to the TG industry
	What is the sequence of events (required or expected) that will lead to the desired outcomes?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of regulatory and institutional capacities for adoption and promotion of Circular Economy in the textile and garment (TG) sector • Recycling of textile and garment wastes and implementing BAT/BEP and RECP investments. • Introducing Circular Economy concept
	What is the set of linked activities, outputs, and outcomes to address the project's objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legal and institutional framework for life cycle management of the TG supply/value chains. • Regulations and incentive scheme for promotion and sustainability of circular economy in the TG sector. • Technical guidelines for environmentally sound management of POPs chemicals and wastes • Standard operating procedures (SOPs) and checklists POPs pollution prevention and control • Technoeconomic feasibility of BAT/BEP and RECP options • Capacity building in BAT/BEP, RECP and Circular Economy. • BAT/BEP and RECP options implemented in at least two facilities.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmentally sound management (ESM) plan for textile/garment wastes. • Capacity building in ISWM and BAT/BEP for ESM of textile and garment wastes. • Financing mechanisms and business models for circular economy. • Technoeconomic feasibility study of BAT/BEP options for recycling/reuse of textile and garment wastes. • Socioeconomic impact assessment of project intervention • Partnership and cooperation mechanism supply chain management. • BAT/BEP demonstration for ESM of POPs chemicals and textile/garment wastes
	Are the mechanisms of change plausible, and is there a well-informed identification of the underlying assumptions?	Yes. The underlying assumptions are stated
	Is there a recognition of what adaptations may be required during project implementation to respond to changing conditions in pursuit of the targeted outcomes?	None
5) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEF trust fund, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing	GEF trust fund: will the proposed incremental activities lead to the delivery of global environmental benefits?	Yes
	LDCF/SCCF: will the proposed incremental activities lead to adaptation which reduces vulnerability, builds adaptive capacity, and increases resilience to climate change?	
6) global environmental benefits (GEF trust fund) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)	Are the benefits truly global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits, and are they measurable?	Yes

		Potential for climate, water, land degradation and other environmental and socioeconomic benefits. These should be captured.
	Is the scale of projected benefits both plausible and compelling in relation to the proposed investment?	Yes
	Are the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits explicitly defined?	Yes
	Are indicators, or methodologies, provided to demonstrate how the global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits will be measured and monitored during project implementation?	Yes
	What activities will be implemented to increase the project's resilience to climate change?	This is not discussed
7) innovative, sustainability and potential for scaling-up	Is the project innovative, for example, in its design, method of financing, technology, business model, policy, monitoring and evaluation, or learning?	Yes. Particularly on project design, method of financing, technology and business model
	Is there a clearly-articulated vision of how the innovation will be scaled-up, for example, over time, across geographies, among institutional actors?	This needs more elaboration
	Will incremental adaptation be required, or more fundamental transformational change to achieve long term sustainability?	No
1b. Project Map and Coordinates. Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.		Yes
2. Stakeholders. Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase: Indigenous people and local communities; Civil society	Have all the key relevant stakeholders been identified to cover the complexity of the problem, and project implementation barriers?	Yes

<p>organizations; Private sector entities.</p> <p>If none of the above, please explain why.</p> <p>In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.</p>		
	<p>What are the stakeholders' roles, and how will their combined roles contribute to robust project design, to achieving global environmental outcomes, and to lessons learned and knowledge?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.</p> <p>Please briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis). Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes/no/ tbd.</p> <p>If possible, indicate in which results area(s) the project is expected to contribute to gender equality: access to and control over resources; participation and decision-making; and/or economic benefits or services.</p> <p>Will the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? yes/no /tbd</p>	<p>Have gender differentiated risks and opportunities been identified, and were preliminary response measures described that would address these differences?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>However a gender plan to address and mainstream gender issues in all project outcomes/outputs will be designed in the PPG phase</p>

	Do gender considerations hinder full participation of an important stakeholder group (or groups)? If so, how will these obstacles be addressed?	
5. Risks. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design	<p>Are the identified risks valid and comprehensive? Are the risks specifically for things outside the project's control? Are there social and environmental risks which could affect the project? For climate risk, and climate resilience measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the project's objectives or outputs be affected by climate risks over the period 2020 to 2050, and have the impact of these risks been addressed adequately? • Has the sensitivity to climate change, and its impacts, been assessed? • Have resilience practices and measures to address projected climate risks and impacts been considered? How will these be dealt with? • What technical and institutional capacity, and information, will be needed to address climate risks and resilience enhancement measures? 	<p>Yes</p> <p>However, the detailed climate risk screening will be undertaken during the PPG phase</p>
6. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF-financed and other related initiatives	Are the project proponents tapping into relevant knowledge and learning generated by other projects, including GEF projects?	Yes
	Is there adequate recognition of previous projects and the learning derived from them?	Yes
	Have specific lessons learned from previous projects been cited?	Yes
	How have these lessons informed the project's formulation?	Yes
	Is there an adequate mechanism to feed the lessons learned from earlier projects into this	Yes

	project, and to share lessons learned from it into future projects?	
8. Knowledge management. Outline the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, and how it will contribute to the project's overall impact, including plans to learn from relevant projects, initiatives and evaluations.	What overall approach will be taken, and what knowledge management indicators and metrics will be used?	Yes
	What plans are proposed for sharing, disseminating and scaling-up results, lessons and experience?	Yes

Notes

STAP advisory response	Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed
1. Concur	STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. The proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.
	* In cases where the STAP acknowledges the project has merit on scientific and technical grounds, the STAP will recognize this in the screen by stating that <i>"STAP is satisfied with the scientific and technical quality of the proposal and encourages the proponent to develop it with same rigor. At any time during the development of the project, the proponent is invited to approach STAP to consult on the design."</i>
2. Minor issues to be considered during project design	STAP has identified specific scientific /technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the project proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. The proponent may wish to:
	(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised;
	(ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development, and possibly agreeing to terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review.
	The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.

3. Major issues to be considered during project design	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical methodological issues, barriers, or omissions in the project concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. The proponent is strongly encouraged to:
	(i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development including an independent expert as required. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.