

Preparation of the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and combined Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fourth National Communication (BTR2/NC4) of Palau under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11926

Countries

Palau

Project Name

Preparation of the First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and combined Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fourth National Communication (BTR2/NC4) of Palau under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Agencies

UNEP

Date received by PM

3/28/2025

Review completed by PM

4/8/2025

Program Manager

Toshiyuki Yamasaki

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

EA

Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO)**Section I - Enabling Activity Summary****Funding elements.**

Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF funding elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF-8 Programming Directions? Is the General Enabling Activity Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes, this project is aligned with the GEF-8 climate change focal area strategy.

Agency's Comments

Cost Ranges.

If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Cleared. The project has no deviations in the cost range. The costing is in line with Information Note GEF/C.62/Inf.15 - <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-c-62-inf-15>

Agency's Comments

Enabling activity summary.

Is the enabling activity summary clear? Are the components in Table B and as described in the enabling activity request sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objectives?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi May/6/2025:

Thank you, cleared.

Toshi Apr/16/2025:

On table B *Enabling Activity Summary*:

Please include the expected outcomes and outputs for the M&E component.

Enabling Activity Component	Enabling Activity Outcomes	Enabling Activity Outputs	GEF Enabling Activity Financing (\$)
Preparation of Palau's First Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1) and a combined Second Biennial Transparency Report and Fourth National Communication (BTR2/NC4)	1.1 Palau updates tools and approaches to meet its reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC.	1.1.1 BTR1 prepared through gender-sensitive processes and submitted to the UNFCCC	549,460.00
		1.1.2 Combined BTR2/NC4 prepared through gender-sensitive processes and submitted to the UNFCCC	563,450.00
Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)			
M&E			8,000.00
Subtotal:			1,120,910.00
Project Management Cost:			112,090.00
Total Enabling Activity Cost:			1,233,000.00

Agency's Comments

May/02/2025:

The project is designed with one high-level outcome- which focuses on the UNFCCC reporting requirements under the Paris Agreement. To respond to this comment, therefore, a specific output for the M& E component has been included as follows: ?The GEF project is effectively monitored and evaluated? and this will be tracked as outlined in various sections of the proposal. The above changes have been updated/reflected in Table B, Section II.C, and Section II.E under the M&E text. The project work plan has also been updated to include the M&E output. The workplan in Annex B excel file has also been updated and re-submitted.

Section 2 - Enabling Activity Supporting Information

Eligibility Criteria.

Is this enabling activity eligible for GEF funding?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Considering that the third National Communication (NC3) is yet to be submitted to the UNFCCC. Please indicate in the project proposal that the resources for the first Biennial Transparency Report (BTR1), the combined forth National Communication and second Biennial Transparency Report (NC4/BTR2) will be disbursed to the executing partner after the UNFCCC submission process of the NC3 is confirmed.

Agency's Comments

May/2/2025

Comment noted.

We have now clearly indicated in the proposal (Section II.C) that funds for the combined BTR2/NC4 shall only be disbursed after both the NC3 and BTR1 reports have been finalized and submitted to the UNFCCC. While TNC will be wrapping up, the new BTR1 project will commence to avoid any further delays in the BTR1 process for Palau. UNEP commits and will continue to support an expedited conclusion of the TNC work this year, to also safeguard national experts from experiencing a reporting burden if both processes run concurrently (TNC & BTR1).

Institutional framework.

Are the institutional arrangements for implementation adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes.

Agency's Comments

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes. The M&E budget for the project is \$8,000.

Agency's Comments

Section 3. Information Tables

GEF resource availability.

Is the proposed GEF financing in Table F (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes.

Agency Response

Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):

STAR allocation?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

SCCF (Adaptation or Tech Transfer)?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes. This is in line with Information Note GEF/C.62/Inf.15 - <https://www.thegef.org/council-meeting-documents/gef-c-62-inf-15>

Agency's Comments

Rio Markers.

Are the Rio Markers for CCM ,CCA, BD and LD presented?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes.

Agency's Comments

Country endorsement.

Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point at the time of the EA submission and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database? Are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in Portal

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi May/6/2025:

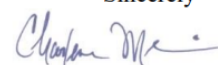
Thank you, cleared.

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

1) The LOE stipulates that the sources of funds come from the Climate Change. This should say ?CC Set Aside? ? an email from the OFP specifying this will suffice (please append the email to the documents tab).

Source of Funds	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Amount (in US\$)			
			Project Preparation	Project	Fee	Total
GEFTF	UNEP	CC	N/A	1,233,000	117,135	1,350,135
Total GEF Resources				1,233,000	117,135	1,350,135

Sincerely



Ms. Charlene Mersai,
National Environment Coordinator
National Environmental Protection Council

F: GEF Financing Resources Requested by Agency, Country and Programming of Funds: ①

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	GEF Enabling Activity Financing (\$)	Agency Fee (\$)	Total(\$)
UNEP	GET	Palau	Climate Change	CC Set-Aside	1,233,000.00	117,135.00	1,350,135.00
Total GEF Resources					1,233,000.00	117,135.00	1,350,135.00

2) The OFP signing the LOE is different from the current OFP who took office on 2025-03-28 (this EA is submitted on 2025-03-28 too).

However, there is no problem as the term of Ms. Charlene Mersai, the previous OFP and the person who signed the LOE, expires on March 28th.

Agency's Comments

May/2/2025:

A revised letter of endorsement that incorporates the correct focal area as ?CC-Set Aside? has been signed by the new GEF Operational Focal Point. Details of the new GEF Operational Focal Point have been updated under ?Section 3: information tables.?

Response to Comments

Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)

Gef Secretariat comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Council comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
STAP comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
CSOs comments

Secretariat's Comments
N/A.

Agency's Comments
Project Budget Table.

Is the project budget table attached? Are the activities / expenditures reasonably and accurately charged to the three identified sources (Components, M&E and PMC)?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes.

Agency's Comments

Environmental and Social Safeguards.

If there are screening documents or other ESS documents available, have these been attached? (only as applicable)

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/8/2025:

Yes. ESS documents have been attached. The overall project risk is categorized as low risk.

Agency's Comments

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION.

Is CEO endorsement/ approval recommended?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi Apr/16/2025:

Please address the comments above and resubmit. Please highlight in yellow the changes you make to the portal form for ease of revision.

REVIEW DATE(S)

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	4/8/2025	
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/16/2025	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/6/2025	

**Secretariat Comment at CEO
Endorsement**

**Response to Secretariat
comments**

**Additional Review (as
necessary)**

**Additional Review (as
necessary)**