

Implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and the National Strategic Action Plans for the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10700

Countries

Regional (Ecuador, Peru)

Project Name

Implementation of the Strategic Action Programmes and the National Strategic Action Plans for the Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

9/28/2020

Review completed by PM

10/26/2020

Program Manager

Christian Severin

Focal Area

International Waters

Project Type

FSP

Part I – Project Information

Focal area elements

1. Is the project/program aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements in Table A, as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6th of October 2020 (cseverin): No. For this project to be aligned with the overall GEF IW mandate as well as the IW GEF 7 strategy, the SAP that has been under development needs to be signed/endorsed at ministerial level. It is not possible to provide funding to implementation of a SAP that has not yet been endorsed at ministerial level.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response **16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez)**: The SAP has been endorsed by both countries (letters have been uploaded in the system or can be accessed [here](#) for Ecuador and [here](#) for Peru) at ministerial level by the Ministry of Environment and Water in Ecuador (ex SENAGUA – National Water Secretariat) on September 20th 2020 and by the Ministry of Agriculture in Peru (to which ANA – National Water Authority is attached) on October 8th 2020.

Indicative project/program description summary

2. Are the components in Table B and as described in the PIF sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project/program objectives and the core indicators?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6th of October 2020 (cseverin): No.

1) As this proposed investment is a SAP implementation project, it is expected that the output indicators are more quantifiable. Most of the output indicators utilize words such as "develop, strengthen, prepare, define, etc" Please reword these so it becomes clear to the reader what the project will be delivering on the ground.

- 2) Please reformulate the output indicators so that they become quantifiable.
- 3) Please reformulate the objective to make it clearer this investment pertains to SAP implementation.
- 4) Further, as the ministerial signed SAP has not been shared with the GEFSEC yet, it is not possible to understand what the priorities are in the basin. However, it does seem that more of the available budget should be dedicated to the demonstrations in component 2 and less to component 3, to ensure that the investment leads to stress reduction on the ground.
- 5) allocating more than 30 % of the project budget to monitoring systems. It seems that it may be possible to do some cost savings on particular sub component 3.2.
- 6) Please ensure that all sub components have cofinancing associated with it. 4.2 and 4.3 stands out as having none.
- 7) Table components and output indicators mentions three basins and three basin plans, but Core indicator only mention two. Please explain difference or make sure there is coherency between the two

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Partly, comments 1-4 and 7 has been addressed, please address following remaining points:

- 5) Please lower funding allocated to Component 3 considerable and shift this to components that will directly be addressing the stressors identified in the SAP. **Allocating more than 30 % of the project budget to monitoring systems is too high. It is understood that details are to be worked out during PPG phase, but the overall budget for component 3 needs to be lowered considerable at PIF stage.**
- 6) Please ensure that all sub components have cofinancing associated with it. 4.2 and 4.3 stands out as having none.

26th of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

- 1) As this proposed investment is a SAP implementation project, it is expected that the output indicators are more quantifiable. Most of the output indicators utilize words such as "develop, strengthen, prepare, define, etc" Please reword these so it becomes clear to the reader what the project will be delivering on the ground.

The output and activities indicators have been changed, as indicated. Please check the changes in the PIF highlighted in [light blue](#).

2) Please reformulate the output indicators so that they become quantifiable.

Output indicators have been changed as requested, see changes in the PIF highlighted in [light blue](#).

3) Please reformulate the objective to make it clearer this investment pertains to SAP implementation.

Objective has been reformulated as requested. See table B of the PIF with the new objective highlighted in [blue light](#).

4) Further, as the ministerial signed SAP has not been shared with the GEFSEC yet, it is not possible to understand what the priorities are in the basin. However, it does seem that more of the available budget should be dedicated to the demonstrations in component 2 and less to component 3, to ensure that the investment leads to stress reduction on the ground.

The SAP has already been endorsed by the both line ministers in Ecuador and Peru, Ministry of Environment and Water (Sep. 20th 2020) and Ministry of Agriculture (October 8th 2020), respectively.

In terms of the budget, it is true that more investments in component 2 will lead to stress reduction on the ground; however, based on the detailed interventions, including budget, from the National Strategic Action Programmes - NSAPs (document has been uploaded in the system or can be accessed [here](#)), as well as the prioritization of activities to be included in this initiative in coordination with both governments, and the results from the Economic Valuation of the SAPs (document has been uploaded in the system or can be accessed [here](#)), it was agreed with both countries that component 3 will guarantee a sustained progress/implementation of IWRM in the shared basins.

5) allocating more than 30 % of the project budget to monitoring systems. It seems that it may be possible to do some cost savings on particular sub component 3.2.

See previous answer. And in any case, possible savings could be confirmed during PPG phase with more information and time to agreed/discuss with both countries.

6) Please ensure that all sub components have cofinancing associated with it. 4.2 and 4.3 stands out as having none.

It was a mistake typing the information in the GEF portal, now is included.

7) Table components and output indicators mentions three basins and three basin plans, but Core indicator only mention two. PLease explain difference or make sure there is coherency between the two

In the GEF Portal the drop down list in Indicator 7, has two basins as one Puyango-Tumbes and Catamayo – Chira. Direct request was done to Wanderson Batista to proceed with this change, which is already done.

23rd of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

5) Please lower funding allocated to Component 3 considerable and shift this to components that will directly be addressing the stressors identified in the SAP. Allocating more than 30 % of the project budget to monitoring systems is too high. It is understood that details are to be worked out during PPG phase, but the overall budget for component 3 needs to be lowered considerable at PIF stage.

Reductions has been done in component 3, output 3.1, activity 3.1.3 and output 3.2. activities 3.2.1 and 3.2.2. (Note that sub-activity 3.2.2.2 has been deleted as the system won't be implemented). Please see the correspondent changes highlighted in **green** in the PIF. Now the component 3 is with 11.8% of the total budget. The portion removed has been allocated in component 2, output 2.2., activity 2.2.2. Now the component 2 is with 60.8% of the total budget.

6) Please ensure that all sub components have cofinancing associated with it. 4.2 and 4.3 stands out as having none.

Now included in the GEF portal.

Co-financing

3. Are the indicative expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented and consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines, with a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Partly, there is a strange similarity between the co-financing amounts identified. Considering these are separate entities in different countries there, the similarities may lead the thoughts towards these amounts have been auto generated. Please explain.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): The argument is understood, and hence the point addressed adequately at this stage. However, there is a CLEAR need to work much more intensely on the cofinancing and ensure that during the PPG phase that the cofinancing will move away from what appears to be more a theoretical exercise, to actual cofinancing being bound to reality.

28th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, please address these following points:

PIF to be returned to the Agency due to:

- 1) Several co-financing sources (example below from Gov of Ecuador) that have been identified as "in-kind" are also described as "investment mobilized". However, where co-financing truly meets the definition of "in-kind", it should typically be classified as "recurrent expenditures" rather than "investment mobilized". Please revise each entry against this definition, and note that some of the investment mobilized should rather come from "public investment".
- 2) Please also revise the source of co-financing from IUCN as CSO (not "others").

28th of October 2020 (cseverin): Partly addressed.

the in-kind cofinancing identified with IUCN, is listed as "nvestment mobilized". Please either provide a strong reasoning for what makes this possible. or alternatively change to "recurrent investment".

29th of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez): For defining the co-financing during PIF preparation both countries agreed on the principle of equal responsibility. Thus, it was agreed by the Governments that the co-financing amounts will be similar. This will be further confirmed during PPG, once the Letters of Cofinancing by each Government are signed.

28th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

1) Several co-financing sources (example below from Gov of Ecuador) that have been identified as “in-kind” are also described as “investment mobilized”. However, where co-financing truly meets the definition of "in-kind", it should typically be classified as "recurrent expenditures" rather than "investment mobilized". Please revise each entry against this definition, and note that some of the investment mobilized should rather come from “public investment”.

Changes included in the PIF and highlighted in yellow.

2) Please also revise the source of co-financing from IUCN as CSO (not “others”).

Change included in the PIF and highlighted in yellow.

3) the in-kind cofinancing identified with IUCN, is listed as "nvestment mobilized". Please either provide a strong reasoning for what makes this possible. or alternatively change to "recurrent investment"

Type of co-finaicing has been changed to "Grant".

GEF Resource Availability

4. Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines? Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes, but ONLY when SAP has been signed and forwarded to the GEFSEC. Before that, the investment will not be aligned with GEF IW strategy

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed.

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

The SAP has been endorsed by both countries at ministerial level by the Ministry of Environment and Water in Ecuador on September 20th 2020 and by the Ministry of Agriculture in Peru October 8th 2020. Both letters will be included as part of the package for answering these GEF comments.

The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Impact Program Incentive?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

Project Preparation Grant

5. Is PPG requested in Table E within the allowable cap? Has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated? (not applicable to PFD)

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion 7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Core indicators

6. Are the identified core indicators in Table F calculated using the methodology included in the correspondent Guidelines? (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Partly,

1) please make sure there is coherency between Table B output indicators and core indicators listed

2) The core indicator delivery under core indicator 1, 3 (and partly 4) seems very small, particular taking into consideration that demonstration investments in the basins are still to be formulated. Please re-investigate these core indicator and see if the core indicators can be increased.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

1) please make sure there is coherency between Table B output indicators and core indicators listed

In the GEF Portal the drop down list in Indicator 7, has two basins as one Puyango-Tumbes and Catamayo – Chira. Direct request was done to Wanderson Batista to proceed with this change, which is already done.

2) The core indicator delivery under core indicator 1, 3 (and partly 4) seems very small, particular taking into consideration that demonstration investments in the basins are still to be formulated. Please re-investigate these core indicator and see if the core indicators can be increased.

Indeed, the core indicators were revisited (please review the changes highlighted in light blue in item F and in the Annex B of the PIF).

Core indicator 1: we realized that just Peru was included in the counting. Now the indicator includes both countries with 4,000 has of terrestrial protected areas under improved management effectiveness. Ecuador with 2,000 has in Michay, Shirillo and San Cecilia in Macara and Catamayo and 2,000 has in Peru located in Jilili, Montero and Ayabaca.

Core indicator 3: the National Strategic Action Programmes were revised and it was confirmed that 1,200 has of forest and forest land restored shall be included, 1000 has in Ecuador and 200 has in Peru.

Core indicator 4: only the irrigation area was included primarily as part of the areas of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems. Currently, the indicator includes 700 ha of rural areas in the provinces of Zarumilla, Ayabaca and Tumbes – Peru, and El Oro – Ecuador; and 10,000 has of productive areas in the Zarumilla aquifer.

The aforementioned refers to the direct influence of the project interventions in the field; however, it is important to indicate that the influences of management activities such as the strengthening of binational institutions will have an effect on the entire basins area, with more than 24,000 km².

Project/Program taxonomy

7. Is the project/ program properly tagged with the appropriate keywords as requested in Table G?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion 7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Part II – Project Justification

1. Has the project/program described the global environmental / adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers that need to be addressed?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

2. Is the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects appropriately described?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes, however, please insert a specific paragraph that describes the SAP signing, including date of ministerial endorsement.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

Suggested paragraph included in the PIF (highlighted in light blue in page 17).

3. Does the proposed alternative scenario describe the expected outcomes and components of the project/program?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Partly, please include a Theory of Change

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed adequately at this stage. But as indicated below in response, it is expected that this will be much further detailed and fleshed out during PPG.

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez): Proposed theory of change is included as a graph in page 16 in the PIF. Of course, this ToC will be reviewed and/or complemented during the PPG phase.

4. Is the project/program aligned with focal area and/or Impact Program strategies?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, the project will first be aligned with the GEF IW focal area strategy, when the regional SAP has been signed.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

The SAP has been endorsed by both countries at ministerial level by the Ministry of Environment and Water in Ecuador on September 20th 2020 and by the Ministry of Agriculture in Peru October 8th 2020. Both letters will be included as part of the package for answering these GEF comments.

5. Is the incremental / additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

6. Are the project's/program's indicative targeted contributions to global environmental benefits (measured through core indicators) reasonable and achievable? Or for adaptation benefits?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): As noted earlier, please reassess if the project will be able to provide greater contribution to the Core Indicators.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

Core Indicators were revisited. Changes are now reflected in item F and in the Annex B of the PIF. Please refer to the response given to question 6, item 2 in the Part I – Project Information of this document.

7. Is there potential for innovation, sustainability and scaling up in this project?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Project/Program Map and Coordinates

Is there a preliminary geo-reference to the project's/program's intended location?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, Please insert map

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response **16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez)**: Geo-referenced map is included both in the GEF Portal (item 1b) and in the PIF (items 1b and annex A).

Stakeholders

Does the PIF/PFD include indicative information on Stakeholders engagement to date? If not, is the justification provided appropriate? Does the PIF/PFD include information about the proposed means of future engagement?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

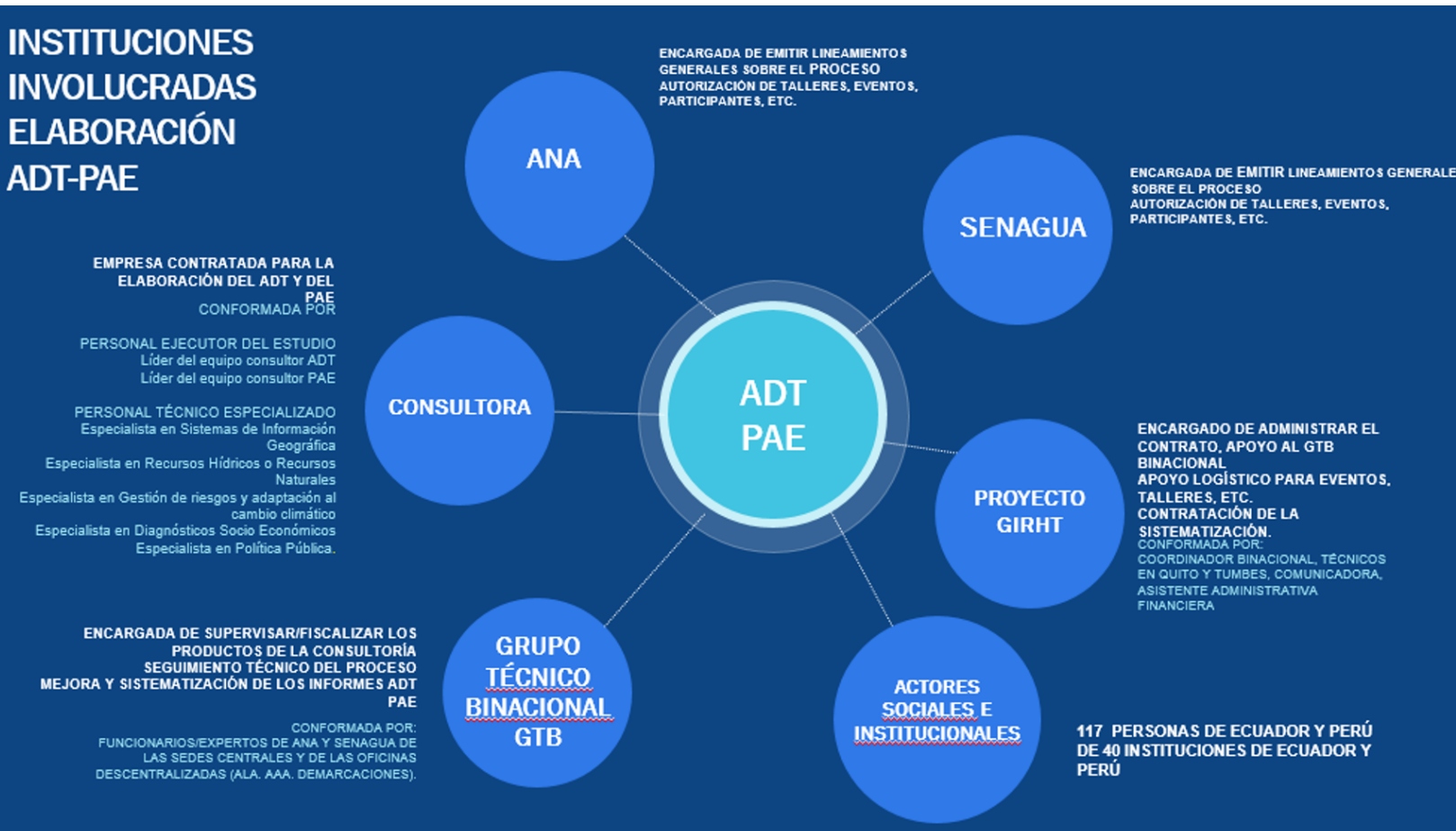
7th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, Please insert documentation that illustrates the fact that the TDA/SAP formulation process included a broad set of stakeholders. Further, please elaborate on the stakeholder consultation process envisioned through the PPG process.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed, even though this section could have been expanded upon, what gives security of a rigorous stakeholder consultation process during PIF formulation phase and the PPG phase is the fact that this project is an integral part of the highly consultative TDA/SAP process.

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez): The TDA/SAP preparation process was done in different phases (VI stages), starting with the first phase of desk review. Since the second phase consultation processes were carried out at different levels and with different stakeholders in both countries. Please find the information per phase [here](#), important to mention that every phase involved many workshops/meetings/consultations in which agenda, invitations and participants' registration are included per event. About 120 people, representatives of 40 institutions from both countries participated in the TDA/SAP process. In addition to the previous, please find the next graphs that summarize the TDA/SAP main institutions involved (in Spanish).

INSTITUCIONES INVOLUCRADAS ELABORACIÓN ADT-PAE



In terms of the what is envisioned during PPG, as any other project with UNDP, a stakeholder analysis will be prepared based on the database of contacts from main stakeholders involved in the implementation of the foundational project, as well as during the preparation of the TDA/SAP and PIF, including the required updates and aggregations. Additionally, 3 formal workshops will be carried out for inception, review/verification and validation of the main documentation prepared during PPG, with main stakeholders identified in the previous mentioned analysis.

Parallel meetings/workshops will be prepared to review the compromise and status of implementation of the different NSAPs. These spaces can be divided in two: at political level to guarantee cofinancing/commitment with the project, and technical level to refine the details required for the project intervention (including the activities in the field).

Every single meeting/workshop/consultation will use the strategies identified in the Gender Mainstreaming Strategy prepared by the foundational project with the aim to foster the equal participation of men and women.

Moreover, during PPG it will be fomented the involvement/conformation of inter-sectorial/inter-ministerial committees to work on transversal issues as climate change, biodiversity, chemicals and wastes, and others.

From these processes the Stakeholders Engagement Plan as well as the Gender Analysis and its Action Plan will be completed, in addition to the required PPG documentation to proceed with the project implementation.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Is the articulation of gender context and indicative information on the importance and need to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, adequate?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): please upload the Strategy for Mainstreaming the Gender Approach, that was developed through the TDA/SAP formulation process, as that will inform the investment's activities.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez): The Strategy for Mainstreaming the Gender Approach has been uploaded in the system or can be accessed [here](#).

Private Sector Engagement

Is the case made for private sector engagement consistent with the proposed approach?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Does the project/program consider potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved or may be resulting from project/program implementation, and propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, please include a climate risk screening and expand on the short and long term impacts of the COVID pandemic.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): No, Please upload the Climate Risk Screening to Portal. Linking it to portal comments is not enough.

26th of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez): The climate risk screening document has been uploaded in the system (or can be accessed [here](#)), and the risk mitigation measures for short- and long-term impacts of the COVID pandemic has been expanded in the risk matrix – item 5 in the PIF (highlighted in [blue light](#)).

23rd of October 2020 (anamarianunez): Climate Risk Screening has been uploaded in the portal.

Coordination

Is the institutional arrangement for project/program coordination including management, monitoring and evaluation outlined? Is there a description of possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project/program area?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Consistency with National Priorities

Has the project/program cited alignment with any of the recipient country's national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes, however, it will be clearer when the ministerial endorsed SAP is forwarded to the GEFSEC.

22nd of October 2020 (cseverin): Addressed

Agency Response

16th of October 2020 (anamarianunez):

The SAP has been endorsed by both countries at ministerial level by the Ministry of Environment and Water in Ecuador on September 20th 2020 and by the Ministry of Agriculture in Peru October 8th 2020. Both letters will be included as part of the package for answering these GEF comments.

Knowledge Management

Is the proposed “knowledge management (KM) approach” in line with GEF requirements to foster learning and sharing from relevant projects/programs, initiatives and evaluations; and contribute to the project's/program's overall impact and sustainability?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): 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 PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Part III – Country Endorsements

Has the project/program been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF data base?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes

Agency Response

Termsheet, reflow table and agency capacity in NGI Projects

Does the project provide sufficient detail in Annex A (indicative termsheet) to take a decision on the following selection criteria: co-financing ratios, financial terms and conditions, and financial additionality? If not, please provide comments. Does the project provide a detailed reflow table in Annex B to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. After reading the questionnaire in Annex C, is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

NA

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is the PIF/PFD recommended for technical clearance? Is the PPG (if requested) being recommended for clearance?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

7th of October 2020: No, please PIF can only be considered for technical clearance with signed/ministerial endorsed SAP has been forwarded to GEF and additionally all above comments addressed

22nd of October 2020 : No, please address comments

26th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes, PIF is recommended for technical clearance.

28th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, Please address above comments and resubmit ASAP

28th of October 2020 (cseverin): No, please address above comment and resubmit soonest

29th of October 2020 (cseverin): Yes, PIF is recommended for technical clearance

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Additional recommendations to be considered by Agency at the time of CEO endorsement/approval.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Review Dates

PIF Review

Agency Response

First Review

Additional Review (as necessary)

Additional Review (as necessary)

Additional Review (as necessary)

Additional Review (as necessary)

PIF Recommendation to CEO

Brief reasoning for recommendations to CEO for PIF Approval

The three transboundary basins, shared by Ecuador and Peru, Zarumilla, Puyango-Tumbes, and Catamayo-Chira, occupy an area of approximately 24,173 km², mostly covered by natural tree vegetation and cultivated pastures for cattle. The main economic activities are productive activities linked to agriculture, aquaculture, livestock, local and international trade, among others. The excessive pressure of these activities is generating certain problems to the water resources and its sustainable management.

To address these issues, the two countries have been undertaking a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and the Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) which identified seven transboundary issues in the three transboundary basins. These are: 1) Weak institutional management at the transboundary, national and/or binational level, 2) Surface and groundwater pollution, 3) Intervention in the paramos and native forests, loss of soil on slopes and decrease in groundwater recharge, 4) Insufficient water availability and decrease in natural flows over time that affect the balance between supply and demand, and poor availability of

water infrastructure for access to water, 5) Overflows and floods, 6) Hydrological droughts and low water flows and 7) Impacts of climate change and climate variability.

This project will be Implementing the prioritized investments and activities under the SAP and NSAPs for strengthened Integrated Transboundary Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla transboundary aquifers and river basins between Ecuador and Peru.

The implementation of the binational project of transboundary basins between Ecuador and Peru will allow to establish the bases of cooperation to scale up this experience to other transboundary basins. GEF funds will strengthen the organizational and institutional capacity of Ecuador and Peru at various levels such as the Binational Commission, the Technical Secretariat and the IWRM Committees per basin that have been supported with the foundational project, and will be directly informing political decision making in the shared basins.