

# Strengthening the national greenhouse gas inventory of the Republic of Mauritius to improve climate reporting and transparency

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10260

**Countries**

Mauritius

**Project Name**

Strengthening the national greenhouse gas inventory of the Republic of Mauritius to improve climate reporting and transparency

**Agencies**

UNDP

**Date received by PM**

6/20/2019

**Review completed by PM**

**Program Manager**

Akio Takemoto

**Focal Area**

Climate Change

**Project Type**

MSP

## PIF

### 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

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, the project is aligned with the climate change focal area strategy and the CBIT programming directions.

## **Agency Response**

### **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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: The components are sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear. However, the amount allocated for the first project component is many times that of the second and third project components, which can be reasoned by the type and number of project outputs under Component 1. Nevertheless, the amounts under Component 2 and 3 seems slightly low considering the intended IT-based system that will be built and the upgrades to the Climate Change Information Centre. Please consider if it may be appropriate to reassign some amount of resources from Component 1 to 2 and 3.

In addition, we note that project is mostly focused on improving the quality and accuracy of Mauritius' GHG inventory; however, the other key aspect of the enhanced transparency framework, that of providing information necessary to track progress in implementing and achieving its NDC, is not directly addressed. Please clarify if this work is being carried out under the NDC-2 project, and whether this project could further support that work, particularly as it relates to ensuring the collection of necessary data, tracking progress on defined indicators, and building capacity for GHG projections.

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comments have been cleared. The amounts have been slightly adjusted and Agency has explained the scope of the NDC-2 project funded by France will carry out the NDC tracking work.

## **Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: The budget has been amended: \$100,000 has been removed from Component 1 and has been reallocated to Component 2 (\$75,000) and Component 3 (\$25,000). Component 1 does the majority of 'heavy lifting' in the CBIT project and requires a substantially higher budget than those of the other two components.

The NDC-2 project, being supported by the Government of France, will, indeed, enhance the NDC tracking framework. Specific objectives include:

- Diagnosis of mitigation and adaptation measures in key sectors identified in the NDC (and its associated Action Plan) and identification of gaps and needs associated with full NDC operationalization.
- Review and updating of the initial targets set in the NDC, and provision of associated interim tracking indicators, metrics and targets.
- Capacity building of principal stakeholders for NDC implementation and monitoring, notably through the development of a domestic MRV framework and the establishment of a mechanism for assessing the GHG impacts of implemented measures.
- Elaboration of a communication plan for awareness-raising about the NDC.

The draft ToR for assistance from the Agence Francaise de Développement (AFD) is currently under discussion between the Government of Mauritius and AFD. Once finalized (imminently), the work will commence.

The support provided by the NDC-2 project is complementary to that provided by the UNEP-GEF ‘NAMAs for low-carbon island development strategy’ project, which is focused primarily on the energy sector – and, specifically, on developing implementation actions to meet renewable energy targets and to track NDC implementation for renewable energy actions.

Both the NDC-2 project and the UNEP-GEF NAMAs project will focus their MRV on activity-type data – e.g. how many MWh have been generated by wind energy, how many tonnes of coal have been combusted in power stations, how many head of cattle there are in the dairy sector, etc. The CBIT project will complement both initiatives by facilitating the conversion of activity data into accurate GHG emission estimates through the development of locally-calibrated emission factors. In some cases, CBIT support to activity-level data collection – such as the inventory of privately-held forests and the transport sector survey programme – will feed directly into the MRV process/system created by the NDC-2 project. The CBIT project will also put NDC tracking and MRV on a more secure long-term basis by putting in place institutional and financial measures (including, potentially, a recurring Government budget line) to support MRV beyond the lifetimes of particular donor-supported initiatives. The online Climate Change Information Centre (CCIC), which will be enhanced by the CBIT project, will serve as the central data repository for MRV/NDC tracking data collected through other projects and initiatives.

Additional text has been added to Part II, Section 1a (iv) of the PIF to elaborate the supportive relationship between the CBIT project and the NDC-2 project.

## **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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, co-financing of \$770,000 is listed with expectations of higher co-financing by CEO Endorsement.

### **Agency Response**

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: This project is requesting resources from the CBIT set aside under the climate change focal area. Please ensure that the Programming of Funds under Table D is correctly selected to "CBIT Set Aside" to ensure that the resources do not come from Mauritius' STAR.

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comment cleared.

### **Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: 'CBIT Set-Aside' inserted in the Programming of Funds column.

**The STAR allocation?**

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

N/A

**Agency Response**

The focal area allocation?

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

N/A

**Agency Response**

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

N/A

**Agency Response**

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

N/A

**Agency Response**

Focal area set-aside?

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, there are sufficient resources to support this project under the CBIT set aside of the climate change focal area.

**Agency Response**

Impact Program Incentive?

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

N/A

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: A PPG of \$50,000 is requested, which is within the allowable cap. However, as the project is requesting resources from the CBIT set aside, please ensure that the Programming of Funds under Table E is correctly selected to "CBIT Set Aside" to ensure that the resources do not come from Mauritius' STAR.

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comment cleared.

**Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: 'CBIT Set-Aside' inserted in the Programming of Funds column.

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: A target under Core indicator 11 has been provided. Please note that by CEO Endorsement we will expect targets for the CBIT indicators through the CBIT Tracking Tool or embedded in the project's results framework.

**Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: UNDP acknowledges the need for elaborated targets at the time of CEO Endorsement.

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: We note that climate change has not been selected. Please add it.

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comment cleared.

**Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: Climate change is included under 'Focal Area/Theme' (row 5), with further sub-levels elaborated accordingly.

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, the project described the key barriers to responding to the enhanced transparency framework through more accurate GHG inventory.

**Agency Response**

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

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

MGV, 7/10/2019: The project describes the baseline scenario and ongoing initiatives appropriately. However, we would like to have more information on the current status of the BUR 1 project (under implementation since 2016, with expected submission date of October 2019) and the Fourth National Communication (umbrella program endorsed May 2019), both implemented by UNEP, and how specifically this project plans to coordinate with the work under these projects, in particular with the ICA process of the BUR 1 and the implementation of the NC. Also, we note the NC is not in the Table 2: Baseline Projects and Initiatives.

In addition, please expand on the expected activities under the "Review and update of the NDC" of "the development of a domestic MRV system and mechanism for assess the carbon footprint of implemented measures" and how these will be integrated with the institutional and IT-based systems contemplated under this CBIT project.

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comment cleared.

**Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: The BUR-1 project is on schedule for submission in October 2019. Key activities under BUR-1 include: (a) the development of country-specific emission factors for the crop and solid waste sectors – with the intention of using these EFs during the preparation of the Fourth National Communication; and (b) sectoral GHG inventories, the reports for which are currently being finalized.

Regarding the Fourth National Communication, the Government of Mauritius was informed by UNEP on 13 May 2019 that the umbrella programme had been approved by GEF Council. Legal clearance for the Fourth National Communication is currently being sought by the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development (MoSSNSESD) on the Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) from the State Law Office, a standard procedural step before the implementation agreement with UNEP can be signed.

The CBIT project has been developed in full recognition of the work being done under the BUR-1 project. The CBIT project, for example, specifically focuses on the development of emission factors that are not being addressed by the BUR-1 project (and nor a UNEP-ICI project that is quantifying wastewater GHG emissions in large hotels – which operate their own wastewater treatment plants and which were not fully captured in the last national emissions inventory). The timeline for the BUR-1 ICA process is not currently known, but it is likely to commence during the PPG period of the CBIT project or, possibly, during the first year of CBIT implementation. Naturally, any recommendations from the Technical Analysis or the Facilitative Sharing of Views will be fully considered – and, where relevant, incorporated – into the CBIT project design. The Climate Change Division (CCD) of the MoSSNSESD is responsible for the BUR-1 project and the CBIT project (and, indeed, the Fourth National Communication), so full harmonization and coordination is assured.

The Fourth National Communication (2020-2024, \$500,000) will benefit from the work on locally-calibrated emission factors undertaken by both the BUR-1 project and the CBIT project, as well, of course, as the institutional strengthening and capacity building support provided by the CBIT project. The online Climate Change Information Centre (CCIC), which will be enhanced by the CBIT project, will serve as the central data repository for the Fourth National Communication – during both FNC preparation and for the final data-set and report.

The NDC-2 project will, amongst other activities, identify gaps and needs associated with full NDC operationalization and will put in place targeted measures (to be determined) to address these gaps, in order to accelerate NDC progress. The ‘development of a domestic MRV system and mechanism for assessing the carbon footprint of implemented measures’ refers to a tracking and GHG quantification system for these targeted measures. This MRV system will focus on activity-level data and will benefit from the CBIT project’s complementary work on developing emissions factors (particularly in the important energy sector), which will facilitate the conversion of activity data into accurate GHG emissions estimates.

Additional text has been added to Part II, Section 1a (iv) of the PIF. The Fourth National Communication has been added as a row in the baseline projects table (Table 2).

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

#### **Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, the project presents a very detailed description of the proposed alternative scenario.

#### **Agency Response**

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

#### **Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, the project is aligned with the climate change focal area strategy.

### **Agency Response**

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, the incremental cost reasoning is properly described.

### **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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes

### **Agency Response**

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

### **Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

MGV, 7/10/2019: 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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: The project is a national capacity-building project and thus does not require a geo-reference.

**Agency Response**

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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes.

**Agency Response**

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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes. We note that "Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women" has been selected as one of the expected gender-responsive benefits. Please clarify how the project will do so and consider if appropriate for this project (improving women's participation and decision-making does seem aligned with this project).

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comment cleared.

**Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: On reflection, “Improving women’s participation and decision-making” seems to be the best-aligned gender-responsive benefit. It is anticipated that the project will have indirect, long-term benefits on services for women, through enhanced information provision and improved policy-making. But direct, immediate benefits are difficult to identify at this point. Accordingly, the “Generating socio-economic benefits or services for women” box has been unchecked.

**Private Sector Engagement**

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

**Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes.

**Agency Response****Risks**

**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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes.

**Agency Response****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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Please expand on how the project expects to coordinate with the Fourth National Communication project, per the comments above, and with the outcomes of the NDC-2 project, which will likely inform the development of this project.

MGV, 9/23/2019: Comment cleared.

### **Agency Response**

UNDP, 8/3/2019: Please refer to the responses above (Table B components and baseline projects).

The anticipated timeline of the CBIT project is as follows: PPG to mid-2020 and implementation from mid-2020 to mid-2024. The NDC-2 project is expected to finish in the second half of 2020. The Fourth National Communication will run from approximately 2020 to 2024 (depending upon the timing of internal approvals and consultant recruitments, which have yet to be determined). In practice, the substantive work of the CBIT project (e.g. development of Tier 2 and Tier 3 emission factors in the energy sector) is likely to precede full development of the National Greenhouse Gas Inventory under the Fourth National Communication. Accordingly, the ‘chain of influence’ described by the reviewer – the NDC-2 project informs the CBIT project and the CBIT project, in turn, informs the Fourth National Communication – is largely correct.

The NDC-2 project will focus its MRV on activity-type data. The CBIT project will complement this by facilitating the conversion of activity data into accurate GHG emission estimates through the development of locally-calibrated emission factors. In some cases, CBIT support to activity-level data collection – such as the inventory of privately-held forests and the transport sector survey programme – will feed directly into the MRV process/system created by the NDC-2 project. The CBIT project will also put NDC tracking and MRV on a more secure long-term basis by putting in place institutional and financial measures (including, potentially, a recurring Government budget line) to support MRV beyond the lifetimes of particular donor-supported initiatives, including the NDC-2 project.

The Fourth National Communication (2020-2024, \$500,000) will benefit from the work on locally-calibrated emission factors undertaken by the CBIT project, as well, of course, as the institutional strengthening and capacity building support provided by the CBIT project.

The online Climate Change Information Centre (CCIC), which will be enhanced by the CBIT project, will serve as the central data repository for MRV/NDC tracking data collected through other projects and initiatives – including the NDC-2 project and the Fourth National Communication.

The Climate Change Division (CCD) of the MoSSNSESD is responsible for the NDC-2 project, the Fourth National Communication and the CBIT project, so full harmonization and coordination is assured.

Additional text has been added to Part II, Section 1a (iv) and Table 3 of the PIF.

#### **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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes.

#### **Agency Response**

##### **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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: 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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Yes, Mr. Dharam Dev Manraj has endorsed the project.

## **Agency Response**

N/A. (Missing date of endorsement letter inserted.)

### **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**

## **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**

MGV, 7/10/2019: Not yet, please address minor comments. In addition, we note that Rio Marker for adaptation 1 has been selected, yet this project does not seem to support adaptation tracking, so 0 is more appropriate.

MGV, 9/23/2019: All comments cleared. PMs recommends PIF and PPG technical clearance.

### **CEO Cover Memo**

This CBIT project aims to assist the Republic of Mauritius in strengthening its national greenhouse gas inventory and associated data collection process, and to mainstream greater use of the inventory in policy formulation and Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) tracking. Mauritius ratified the Paris Agreement in April 2016 and under its NDC, Mauritius is targeting a 30% reduction in GHG emissions by 2030.

Mauritius has recently completed its Third National Communication to the UNFCCC, is currently undertaking its first Biennial Update Report and plans to commence work on its Fourth National Communication in 2020. An updated NDC will be submitted in 2020. This work, supported by the Government of France, will address a review of the initial targets set in the NDC and the development of a tracking and MRV framework to assess NDC progress.

The project has the following components:

1. Improving the accuracy and localisation of the national greenhouse gas inventory;
2. Strengthening the national greenhouse gas inventory process; and
3. Mainstreaming the national greenhouse gas inventory to enhance transparency and support policy-making.

The project addressed the following identified needs: graduation to Tier 2 and Tier 3 GHG estimation approaches, development of a streamlined inventory process, strengthened institutional capacities and upgrade Climate Change Information Centre (CCIC) transparency portal. In conjunction with the existing baseline projects, this CBIT project will establish a fit-for-purpose MRV system in Mauritius that is capable of informing policy formulation and NDC progress tracking. The project Executing Entity will be the Climate Change Division (CCD) of the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity, and Environment and Sustainable Development (MoSSNSESD) – mirroring the coordination role that CCD plays in the context of National Communications, BURs and national GHG inventories.

### **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)		