

Technical Support for the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support project

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11039

Countries

Global

Project Name

Technical Support for the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action
Support project

Agencies

UNEP

Date received by PM

5/31/2022

Review completed by PM

5/31/2022

Program Manager

Mark Zimsky

Focal Area

Biodiversity

Project Type

MSP

CEO Approval Request

Part I ? Project Information

1. Focal area elements. Is the project aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Under focal area elements, enter 1-1, and then under outcomes insert "Improve Biodiversity Policy, Planning, and Review".

5/31/2022

Thank you for the revision. Cleared.

Agency Response

2. Project description summary. 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

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

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

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

4. Co-financing. Are the confirmed 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, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Given the technical nature of this MSP and its unique design supporting the EAG implementation, we take note that cofinancing was difficult to secure during the design phase of the MSP. Please report on any cofinancing that may be identified during project implementation and report accordingly through the terminal evaluation of the entire initiative of EAG support.

Agency Response

5. GEF resource availability. 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 CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

STAR allocation?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

SCCF (Adaptation or Tech Transfer)?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

Impact Program Incentive?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

6. Project Preparation Grant. If PPG is requested in Table E.1, has its advanced programming and utilized been accounted for in Annex C of the document?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

7. Non-Grant Instrument. If this an NGI, are the expected reflows indicated in Annex D?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

8. Core Indicators. Are the targeted core indicators in Table E calculated using the methodology in the prescribed guidelines? (GEF/C.54/Infxxx)

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

The nature of this support will not provide any result against the GEF core indicators. However, CI 11 on beneficiaries has been completed and are similar to the expectations put forward by UNDP in a similar project. Cleared.

Agency Response

9. Project taxonomy. Is the project properly tagged with the appropriate keywords as in Table G?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

Part II ? Project Justification

1. Project Description. Is there 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
5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

2. Project Description. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

3. Project Description. Is there an elaboration on the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there more clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

Yes and this investment supports and complements an additional investment provided to UNDP as part of GEF's early action support projects. Cleared.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

6. Project Description. Is there a better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

7. Project Description. Is there a better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

8. 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

5/31/2022

This is a global technical support program providing global service to 139 countries, thus no map is required. Cleared

Agency Response

9. Child Project. If this is a child project, an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

10. 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

5/31/2022

Yes, adequate for the nature of this project. Cleared.

Agency Response

11. 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

6/7/2022

It is duly noted that the project indicates that "When the project's gender action plan is updated, it will include indicators for each project component." As a good gender mainstreaming practice, however, the Agency should try and reflect how gender perspectives are going to be captured in the project components, in particular, project components 3 and 4. For example, under Output 4.4., it is important to capture gender equality considerations in developing the tools, guidance and training on a finance action plan. Please also review the post-2020 Gender Plan of Action of the CBD and make reference or relevant linkages to the project.

6/9/2022

An adequate revision was made. Please see the review sheet response under the roadmap documents. The agency response is provided in the private sector section of the review sheet response. Cleared.

Agency Response

12. 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

5/31/2022

Yes, strong plan for private sector engagement on biodiversity finance. Cleared.

Agency Response

13. Risk. 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

5/31/2022

Yes, including on how to manage the project in the context of COVID. Cleared.

Agency Response

14. 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

5/31/2022

Yes, including details on how UNDP and UNEP will collaborate throughout the implementation of the Early Action grants. Cleared.

Agency Response

15. Consistency with national priorities. Has the project described the consistency of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

16. 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

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

17. 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

5/31/2022

Yes. The M&E plan will include monitoring project progress, and capturing lessons learnt and best practices from the technical support delivered. There will be a joint Terminal Evaluation with UNDP to cover all the GEF Supported countries at the end of project. Cleared.

Agency Response

18. 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

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

19. Annexes:

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

20. 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

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Yes. Cleared.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Project received extensive upstream review and project addresses all issues raised during this process. Cleared.

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response
STAP comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

This proposal received inputs and observations from CBDSEC and all issues have been addressed. Cleared.

Agency Response
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response
CSOs comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response
Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

This is a global technical support project supporting 139 countries, thus map is not required. Cleared.

Agency Response
Part III ? Country and Agency Endorsements

1. 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 CEO Endorsement Request
5/31/2022

NA

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
5/31/2022

NA

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

5/31/2022

NA

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

5/31/2022

NA

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

1. RECOMMENDATION.

Is CEO endorsement/approval recommended?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/31/2022

Please correct focal area elements entry as noted above and resubmit asap.

6/7/2022

Please address the gender comment above and resubmit ASAP.

6/9/2022

Adequate updates to the gender section were made. Project is recommended for CEO approval.

Review Dates

	1SMSP CEO Approval	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	5/31/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/31/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/7/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/9/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation**Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations**

The objective of this project is to provide technical support to GEF-eligible Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in their work to review and align components of their NBSAPs with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF): national targets, policy frameworks, monitoring frameworks, and biodiversity finance.

There are four components in this MSP, which will provide technical support on: (1) the rapid review of NBSAPs for alignment with the post-2020 GBF, (2) the assessment of and development of plans for national monitoring systems, (3) the rapid review of policy and institutional alignment and processes for achieving policy coherence with the GBF; and (4) biodiversity finance-related activities. It should be interpreted that all four of these components are aimed at ensuring that Parties have the technical support to work towards a robust, fully resourced, NBSAP, including a strong monitoring system, that is fully aligned with the GBF.

This global technical support MSP will be executed by UNEP in full collaboration with UNDP and the CBD Secretariat to provide seamless support to all GEF-eligible Parties who are part of the Early Action Support project. An adequate mitigation strategy to deal with potential impacts of COVID-19 on the provision of technical assistance and training is provided.