



Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services (PRICELESS)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10568

Countries

Philippines

Project Name

Philippine Rise Integrated Conservation for Enduring Legacies through Ecosystem Support Services (PRICELESS)

Agencies

CI

Date received by PM

6/29/2022

Review completed by PM

11/1/2022

Program Manager

Jurgis Sapijanskas

Focal Area

Biodiversity

Project Type

FSP

PIF
CEO Endorsement

Part I ? Project Information

Focal area elements

1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 10/4/2022 - Cleared, thank you.

JS 8/18/2022

Please replace the focal area outcome by the correct description of BD-2-7:

Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species and Improve financial sustainability, effective management, and ecosystem coverage of the global protected area estate

The rest is cleared.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Replaced in Table A and para 175 in the ProDoc and corresponding section in the portal

Project description summary

2. 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

JS 11/9/2022 - Cleared.

JS 11/8/2022

1. The project financing numbers allocated to each component differ from Table B from those provided in Annex E. Please review and make sure that all the numbers match:

- Component 1 in Budget table: \$573,122 - Component 1 in Table B: \$547,042

- Component 2 in Budget table: \$978,992 - Component 2 in Table B: \$925,912

- Component 3 in Budget table: \$1,710,653 - Component 3 in Table B: \$1,762,813

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JS 10/4/2022 - Cleared.

JS - LK 8/18/2022

1- 3.1.2 is worded as an outcome, not as an output. Please rephrase so that the output clarifies what the project will do in more concrete terms to support BDFEs.

2- Compared to the PIF, the budget for Component 1 decreased by half while the budget for Components 3 and 4 increased. Please justify these shifts.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 11/9/2022

The project financing figures have been updated and made consistent in all sections of the CEO Endorsement.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1- 3.1.2 reworded throughout as "Training, technical and material support provided to biodiversity-friendly enterprises (BDFEs) operating in the project area?"

2 ? The allocation of GEF financing at PIF stage is indicative and is typically revised in the CEO endorsement. During the PPG phase, the validation of activities across components with DENR revealed that many of the original activities planned for Outcome 1 will be covered by the DENR and their collaborating agencies. PRMRR has been funded by the government to pursue its development as a protected area under the national system and many workshops and meetings. During the PPG stage, the formation of the technical working group (TWG) including the interim Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) has been completed. This significantly decreased the funding needs for Outcome 1 and resulted in distributing financial resources to Outcome 2 and 3.

3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Co-financing

4. Are the confirmed expected 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, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 10/4/2022 - Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022

We welcome the significant increase in co-financing secured during project preparation.

1- The co-financing letter from DENR does not specify the time frame over which the co-financing will be made available, nor does it clarify in what form the co-financing classified as ?investment mobilized? and ?recurrent expenditures? will be provided.

Please provide an email from DENR clarifying these two aspects.

2- The co-financing letter from NCWCS does not specify the time frame over which the co-financing will be made available. Please provide an email from DENR clarifying this aspect.

3- The document provided to support the co-financing commitment from the Philippine Coast Guard is not adequate. It is not signed and does not explain in what form the co-financing classified as ?investment mobilized? will be provided. Moreover, the

document provided shows \$24.9 million of invested mobilized and \$2.4 million of recurrent expenditures, when the reverse is reported in table C. Please ensure consistency and provide an adequate supporting document.

4- The co-financing letter from Haribon foundation contains co-financing for 2020,2021 and 2022, which are thus at least partly not relevant for this project that will start implementation in the very late part of 2022. Also, the letter does not clarify in what form the co-financing will be provided. Finally, some of the project used to serve as co-financing do not seem to be relevant for PRICELESS because of lack of geographic and/or thematic overlap (Measuring the value of wetland ecosystem services and sustainable development through ecosystem restoration in the Philippine; Inclusive Conservation Across Regenerative Ecosystems in the Southern Sierra Madre Mountains and Lamon Bay). Please provide an adequate letter of co-financing and justify, for the co-financing projects that do not appear immediately relevant to PRICELESS, how these projects are indeed to co-finance PRICELESS activities.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1 - The Letter of Endorsement from the DENR GEF OFF, Usec. Analiza Rebuelta-Teh, of the PRICELESS Co-financing Commitment provided only a Summary of the Department's Co-financing Commitments, particularly from its Biodiversity Management Bureau, and Regional Offices for Regions II, III, IV-A, and V. The said Office also provided their respective co-financing commitment breakdowns/matrices for 2022 through 2026, also detailing "investments mobilized" and "recurrent expenditures", which we now attached in the portal.

2 - The Co-financing Letter from the National Coast Watch Council Secretariat (NCWCS) also comes with a separate Excel File which details the time frame, 2022 through 2026, for their Co-Financing Commitments, attached. Each Fiscal Year covering their co-financing commitments are placed in separate tabs in the Excel File. We attached the pdf copy of the excel with their letter.

3 - The Philippine Coast Guard had provided their officially signed Co-Financing Commitments for the PRICELESS Project, for 2022 through 2026, amounting to around US\$ 14,599,755, in 'Recurrent Expenditures'.

4- The Haribon Foundation has provided a revised co-financing letter with justification.

GEF Resource Availability

5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response
Project Preparation Grant

6. Is the status and utilization of the PPG reported in Annex C in the document?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response
Core indicators

7. Are there changes/adjustments made in the core indicator targets indicated in Table E?
Do they remain realistic?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 10/4/2022

2- The GEF BD tracking tool (Baseline METT assessment) was provided in this submission. However, it is only partially filled out. In particular, the date of the assessment, the name of the people who carried it out, the indicator used in the MPA (if any at this stage), the threats in the PA have all been left blank. Please provide a complete METT assessment.


The rest is cleared.

JS 8/18/2022

1- The core indicator 2.2 have not been filled in in full in the portal entry. Please correct:

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management 

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
352,390.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness 

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
352,390.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

2- We failed to locate the GEF BD tracking tool (Baseline METT assessment). Please provide the corresponding excel file with the next submission.

3-Please provide, under the core indicator table in the portal entry, a short narrative explaining the methodology/assumptions used to derive the target for the number of beneficiaries.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

1) the METT assessment was done in 2019 to obtain the baseline. The METT is DENR's Management Assessment Tool that is conducted every 3-4 years. The next METT for the PRMRR is scheduled for 2023, which is year 1 for this project). The METT was updated to include information on who completed the METT, the date assessment was carried out, # of people involved in completing assessment and their role.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1. Core Indicator entries completed
2. Excel file with filename ?GEF7-BD-TrackingTool-Protected Area Projects_PRICELESS PPG.xlsx? uploaded in the portal
3. The following text was inserted in the portal:

As confirmed by BFAR during multi-stakeholder project design sessions, there are ca. 1,000 hand-line fishers operating in the Philippine Rise. Multiplying this figure by average household size (5 members) yields a total of 5,000 beneficiaries who depend directly on fishing in the Philippine Rise. Given a 51:49 male to female population ratio in the project area, we expect the number of beneficiaries to be approximately equal between men and women. This group will benefit from the PRICELESS project through increased opportunities for income related to sustainable fishing as well as other livelihoods.

Part II ? Project Justification

1. Is there a 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

JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 10/4/2022 - Cleared, thank you.

JS 8/18/2022- The baseline has not been updated since PIF stage. Among the project listed, only the CMEMP is active in parallel to the PRICELESS projects. All other baseline initiatives are already closed. Please update or confirm that there are no relevant projects or initiatives that could qualify as baseline projects that will be active in parallel to PRICELESS.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Based on our discussion with the government and other stakeholders, we confirm that there are no relevant projects or initiatives that could qualify as baseline projects that will be active in parallel to PRICELESS. The DENR mentioned that they only have a seasonal expedition with the UP Marine Science Institute, another government agency, which cannot be counted as a project.

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 10/18/2022

1-3-4-5-6 Cleared.

2- Thank you for the revisions but it is still unclear whether financial sustainability of the PRMRR is to be assured with the project. It is well understood that the project main strategy is to go through the motions to have the PRMRR part of the ENIPAS to unlock

some funding. However, the resources from the usual government budget processes (General Appropriations Act) will probably be insufficient as other sources of funding are listed. The project does not go beyond listing these potential additional sources of funding. Either clarify that it is anticipated that the resources appropriated from the General Appropriations Act will be sufficient, or clarify, including adding project activities as needed, what the project will put in place to ensure that the additional potential sources of funding listed materialize at a sufficient level and on the long term?

JS LK 8/18/2022

1- Output 4.1.1: Monitoring and evaluation plan developed and implemented : The M&E plan should already be developed at the CEO endorsement request stage, and section 6 and appendix III of the Prodoc already provide a detailed Project Results Monitoring Plan. Please explain why this output is to develop a plan that seemingly already exists.

2- The PIF review comments related to financial sustainability, that were to be addressed during PPG, have not been addressed. The project continues to state that thanks to ENIPAS status, the PAMB will receive direct support for employee salary coverage from government and be able to retain 75% of user fees to cover management costs. However, there is no mention of an existing user fee system for the PRMRR and the project does explicitly support the development of any fee system. In addition, as requested in the PIF review, a demonstration that such a user fee mechanism and the direct support for salary coverage will be sufficient to ensure long-term financial sustainability of the PRMRR is also needed. Please explain in the CEO endorsement request how the project as proposed is to ensure financial sustainability of the MPA, including in the event a Republic Act is not obtained, or reconsider the design to explicitly include a contribution on financial sustainability.

3- The PIF review requested that the CEO endorsement request (CER) elaborate on how the project will ensure that new livelihoods and greater fishing productivity does not lead to greater pressures on the resources. This point was not addressed. Please explain the project strategy to ensure that alternative livelihoods have the intended effect of reducing pressure on the resources and to monitor their effect, and please amend as needed the CER.

4- output 2.1.1 to 2.1.3 on data: Following STAP's comments on the PIF, we welcome the further clarity provided on the type of data that will be obtained and how. Please, however, be more specific on who are the target users of the data, how it will be disseminated, displayed, shared and maintained, including after the GEF project ends.

5- outcome 3.1. We note that the portal states that "the project will work with Local Government Units to identify means of capturing the impact of improved fisheries

productivity on trends in incomes and food security" but we do not see any corresponding output, activity or indicator. We recognize it might be challenging to insert indicators with targets on fisheries productivity, incomes and food security in the results framework. Corresponding impact of the project will indeed probably occur only after the project's closure. However, a positive impact on all of these is a critical assumption of the project's theory of change. Hence please add explicitly the necessary activities and budget for the project to put in place a rigorous monitoring framework (including protocols, capacity, lasting institutional and data management arrangements) to assess over time, including after project closure, whether the project interventions indeed lead to increased fish productivity, incomes and food security.

6- output 3.1.2: We note the project plans to provide "technical/material support to BDFEs". Please clarify in what form (equipment, small grants, microfinance?), through what delivery mechanism/partner and how the project will ensure adequate fairness, transparency and fiduciary standards.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

We anticipate that the funding from the General Appropriations Act (GAA) is sufficient to ensure the financial sustainability of the PRMRR as it includes funding for all NIPAS PAs, DENR offices, and funding from the Central office to the Regional/Field Local offices. A line attesting to this is included in the sustainability section of the CEO ER.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1. Section 6 of the CEO ER/portal and Appendix III of the ProDoc describe important pieces of the M&E arrangements for the project, to assure GEF that GEF M&E requirements are addressed. Output 4.1.1 relates to the comprehensive set of M&E arrangements to be implemented to meet these requirements, with further detail on workplans/schedules of activities, distribution of tracking and reporting roles and responsibilities, and additional indicators as needed to meet the needs of all project stakeholders and co-financing sources. The M&E specialist who will be assigned to the Project Team will lead preparation of this more comprehensive plan once they are installed. The approach used here to design and implement the overall M&E plan follows the precedent in the CI-GEF-approved project portfolio.

2. Inserted as new paras 145 and 146 of the ProDoc and included in the Part II Section 1a Sustainability section in the portal: As part of the ENIPAS, the PRMRR will

contribute to, and benefit from the Integrated Protected Area Fund (IPAF), which supports all ENIPAS Protected Areas. In each ENIPAS PA, 25% of revenues generated (e.g., user fees, research fees, fines) shall accrue to a special account in the General Fund of the National Treasury (IPAF-SAGF), which shall be used to finance projects of the System, while 75% will be deposited in the Protected Area-Retained Income Account (PA-RIA) for that PA. Disbursements out of the PA-RIA shall be used solely for the protection, maintenance, administration, and management of the protected area and implementation of duly approved projects of the PA Management Board. However, for all ENIPAS Protected Areas the source of funds for the PA Management Office day-to-day and regular operations, staff salary coverage, and the Management Board are provided through the General Appropriations Act, not the IPAF or the PA-RIA. The activities of other National Government Agencies for the management and conservation of the PRMRR, as mentioned in the PA Management Plan and in their respective co-financing commitments to the PRICELESS Project, will also come from the General Appropriations Act.

In the case of the PRMRR, as the first and only ENIPAS PA located entirely in the EEZ, with no nearby land masses/islands, its management is concerned with the regular assessment and monitoring of the biodiversity and resources therein, adaptive policy-making to ensure the development and implementation of sustainable utilization guidelines for fisheries, and installation and maintenance of buoys, in coordination with other agencies involved such as the DA Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, the Philippine Coast Guard, and higher education institutions like University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute. The PRMRR may receive additional funding through grants, donations and endowments from various sources, domestic or foreign, to be deposited in full as Trust Receipt (PA-TR) in a special account in the National Treasury, and to be used for the purpose specified in the deeds and instruments covering them, while other legislated payments for ecosystem goods and services, including fines, penalties and compensation for damages from Protected Area offenses shall accrue fully to the PA-RIA (Section 16. Integrated Protected Area Fund, RA 11038; Rule 16.2 and Rule 16.3 of the IRR). Furthermore, the PRMRR may also access the IPAF-SAGF, subject to its evaluation under the Prioritization Criteria prescribed under BMB Technical Bulletin No. 2021-03 (Guidelines on the Use of the IPAF, PA-RIA, SAGF, PA-TR, and providing the Criteria for Allocation of Funds Deposited under the IPAF-SAGF in the National Treasury). Thus, the project will strengthen financial sustainability of the PRMRR by consolidating its position within the NIPAS and government budget allocation processes, including those for the various agencies that will be involved in coordinated management and enforcement activities

3. Inserted the following text after the Theory of Change Assumptions Table as para 110 and Part II Section 1a in the portal: As a stand-alone activity, investment in new livelihoods and increased fishing productivity could lead to the unintended consequence of increasing pressure on the resource base and on biodiversity. However, the project design combines this kind of investment with several others: enhanced monitoring and

enforcement of the MPA, improved coordination among different agencies with enforcement remits, communications and awareness efforts (emphasizing laws & resource use regulations as well as the linkages between sustainable resource management and livelihoods), and application of the Conservation Agreement model, which links benefits (like investment in improved livelihoods) to demonstrated adherence to conservation commitments (like only using approved fishing gears and practices). Collectively, these measures seek to address the risk of increased pressure, and instead make the MPA and its management measures more acceptable to resource users.

4. 4 - Added to para 88 for 2.1.1 in the ProDoc and Part II Section 1a Project Description in the portal:

The principal audience for this report is the project team, including DENR-BMB and, through BMB, the PRMRR PAMB. The PMU will make the report available to the project partners electronically.

Added to para 89 for 2.1.2 in the ProDoc and Part II Section 1a Project Description in the portal: The principal audience for these reports is the project team, including BFAR, DENR-BMB and, through BMB, the PRMRR PAMB. The PMU will make the reports available to the project partners electronically. BMB will serve as the repository for these research products, including post project closure. In addition, university partners may, in coordination with the project team, prepare research reports for publication or public dissemination. Detailed provisions for dissemination, display, sharing and maintenance will be defined as part of the information management system to be designed (Output 2.1.3), and also addressed in the Knowledge Management plan to be developed as Output 4.1.3.

5. The full sentence quoted in part in the comment notes, "To complement indicators in the Results Framework, given the importance of increased incomes and food security as long-term incentives for sustainable use, the project will work with Local Government Units to identify means of capturing the impact of improved fisheries productivity on trends in incomes and food security." The explicit activity to develop the full framework will take place under Component 4: Monitoring and Evaluation plans inform adaptive management, Output 4.1.1: Monitoring and evaluation plan developed and implemented. This will be led by the M&E Specialist to be installed for the project, who will develop the full, comprehensive monitoring plan; the portion of this plan relating to productivity, incomes and food security will be prepared together with LGUs (and BFAR and other stakeholders), to build on and complement existing methods and capacity, ensure ownership (including after project closure), meeting the needs of multiple stakeholders, and involve local fishers as appropriate. The development of this M&E plan will be aligned with work under earlier components to put in place institutional and data management arrangements through the Outputs relating to MPA

management capacity and interagency coordination, which will remain in place after project closure.

6. Added to end of para 98 in the ProDoc and Part II Section 1a Description of Output 3.1.2 in the portal: Technical/material support may comprise support for targeted services, equipment purchases, and permitting processes to facilitate transitions to sustainable practices or initiation of new biodiversity enterprise. However, the bulk of support delivered under this output is anticipated to take the form of training and capacity-building, and working with BDFEs to identify and access other sources of financial support. Project partner Haribon will lead this work drawing on their extensive BDFE expertise and experience. Haribon has the expertise and experience to lead output 3.1.2. The foundation is familiar with the required processes and procedures to carry out the work. They will conduct a feasibility assessment of potential BDFEs using BMB guidance for selection criteria. The specific BDFEs to be supported will depend on the outcomes of the feasibility assessment, including value chain analysis and participatory processes to ensure that livelihood interventions incorporate local stakeholder input. Haribon will also receive training on CI and GEF policies and procedures and the Grant Agreement will have the flow downs from the CI-GEF Agency, which requires that any work with third parties goes through a due diligence process. Haribon will follow the fiduciary standards and compliance requirements to ensure fairness and transparency throughout the duration of the project.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 10/4/2022 - Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022 - The role of co-financing is not elaborated on. Please correct.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Added in para 114 of the ProDoc and Part II Section 1a Project Description in the portal:

The project will leverage approximately \$23,108,293 amount in co-financing with notable co-financing amounts from DENR for overall project support, BFAR for Components 1 and 2, the Philippine Coast Guard and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute for Components 2, 3, M&E and PMC. The co-financing from the government partners demonstrates the importance of this project and the commitment of these partners to the PRMRR. Finally, there is co-financing from CI across all components, Haribon for component 3, and Rare for component 2.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 10/18/2022 - Please see comment box 3 above.

JS 8/18/2022 - Please see comment above on financial sustainability and address accordingly.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

Line added to the sustainability section confirming funding is sufficient.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Sustainability section of the CEO ER/portal updated

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

JS 10/4/2022 -Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022 - Maps are provided. Please provide confirmed geo-referenced information or at least coordinates as text in the portal entry.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Coordinates included

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	Geo Name ID
Benham Plateau	16.5	124.75	1880100

Child Project

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

NA

Agency Response

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

JS 10/13/2022: All Cleared, thank you.

JS - LK 8/18/2022

1- We note the Stakeholder engagement plan (SEP) provided as a separate document (annex J) and embedded in the ProDoc within Appendix VI, which includes the list of consultations undertaken during PPG. However, the portal entry provides too little information and does not refer to the SEP. Please provide a clear cross-reference to and a short summary of the SEP in the portal entry.

2- Consultations and planned engagement with the private sector seem limited to local Fishing Associations. Please clarify if:

2a: within the fishing sector, only local fisherfolks are to be affected by the MPA? Aren't there other fisheries related companies that would be affected by the MPA and should be engaged?

2b: outside of the fishing sector, there are no relevant private sector actor that could support or be affected by the alternative livelihoods/BDFEs that the project plans to support?

3 - In reviewing the SEP, most stakeholders have a clear role, but some seem quite limited or unknown, which needs clarification. The Integrated Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council-Lagonoy is noted as influencing the project by basically being the communicators about the project to the fishers. It would seem they would have a role in communicating the interests of the fishers to the project and sharing their knowledge of the area. It seems they are seeing this project as happening to them rather than them being a part of it. Similarly, the Pinagsamang Maliliit na Mangingisda ng Dinahican (PIMAMADI) discusses how they will benefit, such as in capacity building, but not how they will be involved or contribute (e.g. provide insights, engage in planning) other than in the future monitoring. Oceana is noted to ?have a positive influence on this project?, but nothing specific. Please clarify in the SEP how these stakeholder groups will contribute to the project. -

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

SEP revised following comments from GEF reviewer.

1 - Inserted as para 192 in the ProDoc, and included in the Part II Section 2 Stakeholders in the portal: As described in the SEP, fishers are the main, historic, and long-term stakeholders of the Philippine Rise. Establishing the PRMRR strict protection zone will limit the allowable fishing area to 14% of the PRMRR. Yet protecting this zone is critical to sustain the stakeholders' livelihood so basic marine biology, ecology and ecosystem valuation will have to be explained for their appreciation and to obtain free and prior informed consent (FPIC). Their participation will also be formalized through a conservation agreement under an incentive program, which will include various forms of assistance in return for commitments to adhere to sustainable practices and regulations. Through these supported enterprises, their active connection and network with enforcement agencies (BFAR, Navy, and Coast Guard) will also be put in place for their security and safety, especially while at sea in the Philippine Rise.

2-

2a: Added to para 202 of the ProDoc and Part II Section 4 Private Sector Engagement in the portal: Based on the stakeholder consultations during the PPG phase, the local fisherfolks are considered to be members of the private sector most relevant to the PRMRR. Heads of fishing associations or federations are the main private sector partner identified. The COVID-19 situation at the time of stakeholder engagement prevented movement of the PPG team to scope for local businesses in the area. During the first semester of the implementation stage, local business owners relevant to BDFE activities in the project will be identified.

2b: Added to para 202 of the ProDoc and Part II Section 4 Private Sector Engagement in the portal: Outside the fishing sector, government agencies and academia have been identified to support BDFEs especially in terms of training and technology transfer. For-profit business entities have not been identified but will be further explored during the first semester of implementation especially as COVID-19 restrictions slowly are being lifted.

3 ? Included this text in Appendix VI in the ProDoc and as a separate document Annex J SEP: By recent practice, government projects include consultative processes with the concerned stakeholders. The Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management Council (FARMC) provides recommendations and advice to stakeholders relating to fisheries and aquatic resources. They are also composed of local fishers (3/4 of the council). As a matter of practice and procedure, FARMCs deliberate on anything related to fisheries and aquatic resources in their area of concern. Noting that Oceana supported one of the earlier expeditions to the Benham Rise, they indeed have the potential to ?influence the

project positively? but has only attended one consultation at the onset of the PPG. The project will continue to engage them in implementation.

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

JS 10/13/2022 - Cleared.


JS 8/18/2022

We note the Gender Mainstreaming Plan provided as a separate document and embedded as appendix VI in the ProDoc.

1- The PIF announced that the project would close gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources, and improve women's participation and decision making but corresponding boxes have not been ticked in the CER. Please confirm that it is still the case and explain how the projects intends to do that:

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? ⓘ

Yes

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; 

Improving women's participation and decision making ⓘ 

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women ⓘ Yes

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

The project would indeed close gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources, and improve women's participation and decision making. We ticked the corresponding boxes in the portal

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

JS 10/13/2022 - Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022 - Please see comment on the stakeholder engagement plan, which should be more comprehensive in its approach to private sector beyond local fishing associations.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Private sector engagement section revised following comments on the SEP
Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

JS 10/13/2022 - Cleared

JS - LK 8/18/2022

1- Please clarify the impacts of the May 2022 general elections on the first two risks identified in the CEO endorsement request (Change in prioritization within government; Legislative act targeted by the project is not adopted). The risks and mitigation measures are indeed identical to PIF stage as if no major political shifts occurred since PIF approval. Moreover, the mitigation measures for the first risk include the issuance of a presidential proclamation instead of a Republic Act, when our understanding is that there already was a presidential proclamation for the PRMRR in 2018.

2- The information regarding COVID19 impacts has been expanded on some aspects (most notably on the enabling environment) but there is little additional insight on how the specific coastal area has been affected by COVID19 and consequently how project is expected to be affected by, and

respond to, COVID19 impacts going forward. Please be more precise on how the local communities, fishing activities, tourism, and the potential for alternative livelihoods have been impacted.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1. Comments added to risk table in Section F Risk Assessment and Mitigation Table 6, summarizing the following: The May 2022 general elections have not materially impacted the first two risks identified. As confirmed by DENR-BMB, the two risks of Change in prioritization within government, and Legislative act targeted by the project is not adopted were retained from the PIF approval through to the ProDoc stage given that successive Philippine Administrations have prioritized infrastructure and urban development. Although a proposed Legislative Act already was making its way through the legislative process in Congress, it had yet to be approved or adopted. Therefore, these risks remain relevant post-election.

The mitigation measure for the 1st risk is the issuance of (or elevation of the Presidential Proclamation to) a Republic Act. This will institutionalize the PRMRR as an MPA under the ENIPAS with as much permanence as legislation can provide, including annual funding through the General Appropriations Act for its PA Management Office and permanent/plantilla staff. Issuance of a reinforcing Presidential Proclamation is a back-up measure in the event that a Republic Act stalls, though this is not deemed a likely scenario.

The new administrations at DENR and the Philippines continue to prioritize coral reef habitats and ecosystems, and their role in mitigating climate change. The new administration has continued the work of the past administration to manage the National Integrated Protected Area System, of which the PRMRR is a part. To this end, recently-concluded DENR High Level Biodiversity Policy Consultations (August 30-September 1, 2022) provided an avenue for DENR Officials and Philippine Scientists and Experts to:

- a) cooperatively identify gaps and issues in the implementation of biodiversity programs (e.g. Protected Area Management, Wildlife Conservation, Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management);
- b) brainstorm and deliberate on current and proposed policy, guidelines, and issuances on biodiversity
- c) identify concrete actions and possible areas for collaboration across the Department for the effective and efficient implementation of biodiversity conservation programs; and

d) discuss a recently issued Presidential Directive for the Department on the protection and restoration/rehabilitation of climate vulnerable coral reefs.

Finally, with regard to the pursuit of legislation for the PRMRR, new Senate Bills establishing the PRMRR as an MPA under the ENIPAS have been filed in the 19th Congress, and shall be deliberated possibly within the year. The Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, and the House Committee on Natural Resources are also identified members of the PRMRR Protected Area Management Board, and have indicated their support for legislation of Protected Areas to provide for their management and funding.

2. Added as new para 132 in Section F Risk Assessment and Mitigation in the ProDoc and in the CEO ER/portal: The COVID-19 pandemic created health and economic crises, leading to increased incidence of poverty and food crisis especially in fishing communities throughout the Philippines. Tourism ground to a halt, and fishers were highly affected due to the lockdown imposed in fishing villages during the earlier phases of government measures in response to the pandemic. Impacts included declining catch volumes and increasing costs as fishing effort was limited, as well as frustration and emotional distress due to the strict lockdown. Restricted fishing access not only was a set-back for fishing operations, but also affected middlemen given low fish prices due to general demand shocks and reduced mobility of traders. For example, as recorded in Region V, one of the regions covering the Philippines Rise, prior to the lockdown, high-grade fish were sold at P200 (around US\$ 4) or higher per kilogram for the high-end market; with the pandemic, the price of high-grade fish plummeted to P100 (around US\$ 2) in the local market. Other impacts of COVID-19 on these communities include travel restrictions, reduced food security, and disruption to children's education. Moreover, some community members who were open to seeking out alternatives to fishing have been prevented from doing so by the lockdown restrictions.

Added as comment to risk table in Section F Risk Assessment and Mitigation Table 6 in the ProDoc: Looking ahead to the project implementation phase, the partners expect far fewer challenges than encountered during the PPG phase. The Government's public health policy response has shifted from lockdowns and mobility restrictions to masking and distancing requirements, and the national vaccination rate continues to increase. Fishing activity has rebounded, as have domestic and international tourism. One impression that emerged during the PPG phase is that the appetite among local communities for exploring alternative livelihoods such as seaweed farming and BDFEs may have been enhanced by the pandemic, as it exposed the vulnerability of the fishing sector.

Coordination

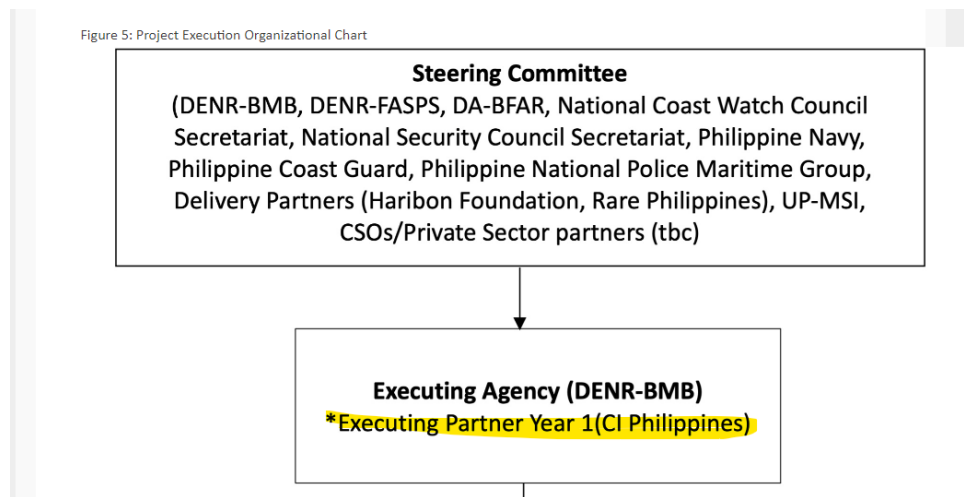
Is the institutional arrangement for project implementation fully described? Is there an elaboration on possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 10/13/2022 - Thanks for the revisions.

1 However, the diagram has not been revised and still shows the IA as executing partner during the first year. Please correct:



A- Please clarify and justify in the portal entry where the PMU staff will be located. In particular, it seems that it is planned for the entire PMU, including Field coordinator, to be Manilla-based when most activities will take place on the Luzon Eastern Seaboard.

JS 8/18/2022

1- We note the portal entry mentions executions services by the IA that would "include procurement, hiring of staff and consultants and supporting the financial and risk assessment process" but no proper justification for such a need, why the need would be for one year only, and whether third party solutions have been explored have been provided. We further note that the supporting OFP letter plans for execution services restricted to direct payments only. The separation of implementation functions performed by GEF Agencies and execution functions performed by EAs is a key feature of the governance of the GEF Partnership and an important aspect of the GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards. Please consult with the GEF Secretariat on the proposed execution arrangements.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

1. Diagram updated to remove CI-P

A. The main duty station of the PMU staff has been strategically placed in the DENR Central Office in Manila to ensure a centralized operation of the project. The Manila office is at the vertex of Regions 2, 3, 4A, and 5 which are the area coverage of the Philippine Rise. This means that traveling across sites will be more cost-efficient rather than having the home unit at any of the 4 regional offices. In terms of the local project area, the project secured commitment through co-financing from the regional offices across the jurisdiction of the Philippine Rise. This support includes the use of regional office space during field visits and site-based activities at the regional level.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

After discussions with GEFSEC, the execution support function of CI-P was removed from the project. The project budget was also revised

Consistency with National Priorities

Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 8/18/2022 Cleared.

Agency Response

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

JS 10/13/2022 - Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022

1- Please correct the following part of the elaboration, which was not updated since the PIF stage:

scale up results, and help justify additional support from the Philippine government. The project will also share lessons at formal events and gatherings such as, among others, the Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium (upcoming June 2021 in Singapore), the annual Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines Symposium, and the East Asian Seas Biodiversity Symposium (upcoming in 2021) that is spearheaded by the PEMSEA. Further, DENR and BFAR hold regular national conferences

Agency Response CI-GEF10/2/2022: In para 181 in the ProDoc and Part II Section 8 Knowledge management in the portal, sentence was changed to: ?The project will also share lessons at formal events and gatherings such as, among others, the 5th Asia Pacific Coral Reef Symposium (scheduled for June 2023) and the annual Biodiversity Conservation Society of the Philippines Symposium.?

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

JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 10/13/2022 - Thank you for the revisions. However, the section in the portal now contains only information on climate change risks that is entirely duplicative of what is already included in the risk section. Please in this section elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation. In particular, the following safeguards have been triggered according to appendix V of the prodoc:

- Resettlement and Physical and Economic Displacement

- Labor and Working Conditions

They should thus be elaborated on, including management measures.

For content already included in the risk section, please just make a crossreference.

JS 8/18/2022 - We note the low risk rating and the supporting ESS documents provided.

1- Please remove for the portal entry in this section the elaborations on COVID and climate risks, which are entirely duplicative of the elaborations already included in the risk section.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

The ESS section has been thoroughly revised. Note following CI procedures, a Process Framework for the Restriction of Access and Use of Natural Resources and a Labour and Working Conditions Plan will be developed during the implementation phase.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

COVID section removed

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

JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 10/4/2022 -

The portal entry does not seem to have been updated compared to the previous submission. Please make sure previous comments 1 and 2 are addressed in the portal entry, and not just in the ProDoc, in the next submission:

c. **Project Results Monitoring Plan** (Objective, Outcomes, and Outputs)

A Project Results Monitoring Plan will be developed by the Project Agency, which will include objective, outcome and output indicators, metrics to be collected for each indicator, methodology for data collection and analysis, baseline information, location of data gathering, frequency of data collection, responsible parties, and indicative resources needed to complete the plan. Appendix IV provides the Project Results Monitoring Plan table that will help complete this M&E component.

		Project team	
		· CI-GEF PA	
Knowledge Management	Throughout the duration of the project	· Project Team · Executing Agency · CI-GEF PA	45,435
Summary M&E and KM total			223,008

JS 8/18/2022

1- The M&E plan provided in the portal entry and the ProDoc do not explain how results will be measured. It rather proposes to postpone the development of a "Project Results Monitoring Plan" to project implementation, when it is provided as appendix III of the ProDoc. Please update the portal entry so that it does not propose to develop a plan that already exists, and provides a cross-reference to appendix III.

2- The M&E budget shown in the M&E plan amounts to more than 6% of GEF project financing, which is higher than recommended levels specified in the Guidelines. Please reduce the budget to 5%, i.e. \$174,421. The overshoot might be because the M&E budget seems to include the KM budget as well. Please present a standalone M&E budget in this section.

Agency Response

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

Portal entry updated to align with ProDoc.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1. We updated the portal entry with the content of Appendix III in the ProDoc. In the portal, a cross-reference to Appendix III in the ProDoc has also been provided.
 2. The overshoot is due to the combination of M&E and KM budgets. The budget has been updated so M&E and KM are standalone columns. The M&E budget is \$174,421.
- 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

JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response
Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 11/9/2022 - Cleared.

JS 11/8/2022 -

A- Results Framework and Responses to Project Reviews Tables are off margins - please correct the portal entry so that all information can be readable in the autogenerated CEO endorsement that will be posted on the GEF website.

All other previous comments cleared. We notably note the justification provided for the purchase of a vehicle, its cost-efficiency and the limited budgetary implications. We also note the email from the DENR/BMUB, only co-funder providing co-finance in the form of investment mobilized, confirming that all its co-funding is already earmarked on other items and cannot cover vehicle costs. The project manager manager thus proposes to authorize the vehicle purchase.

Please note that the reasons that were provided for the Project Lead and other staff mapped to the Project Management Unit to be charged to the project components and PMC (because these positions *are providing technical inputs across components, such as technical inputs to day-to-day project implementation, training to project staff, consultants and partners that include Prohibited Practices. These are not project management activities?*) are not adequate. Per Guidelines, PMC *represent the actual costs associated with the unit executing the project on the ground?* (see paragraph 5 page 49 of the Guidelines accessible [here](#)), so they are not restricted to *Managerial activities?*. However, given that it was justified that co-financing could not cover these costs and adequate terms of reference were provided, no change to the documentation of budget on this aspect is required.

JS 10/18/2022

1-The GEF BD tracking tool (Baseline METT assessment) was provided in this submission. However, it is only partially filled out. In particular, the date of the assessment, the name of the people who carried it out, the indicator used in the MPA (if

any), the threats in the PA have all been left blank. Please provide a complete METT assessment.

2a - As per guidelines GEF/C.59/Inf.03, the use of GEF funds to purchase vehicles is strongly discouraged. Such costs are normally expected to be borne by the co-financed portion of PMCs. The justification provided does not explain why the significant project co-financing, including more \$3.7 million of investment mobilized from the EA, does not cover vehicle costs at all. Also, the justification does not point to truly exceptional circumstances of the project. Please provide an adequate justification or remove the corresponding line from the budget.

2b - 2c - Cleared.

2d - Please remove and reallocate the budget line dedicated to "relief assistance" as it is not part of the project and not eligible for GEF-7 BD funding.

JS 8/18/2022

1- We failed to locate the BD tracking tool (METT score). Please provide it with the next submission.

2- Budget:

2a: The budget foresees the purchase of close to \$30,000 of vehicles, and an additional \$12,000 for registration and maintenance, with no justification. Please clarify what are these vehicles and justify their absolute need and why they can not be funded through the large co-financing committed to this project.

2b: The budget foresees \$55,219 of execution services by the IA. Please see comment on execution arrangements.

2c. We note that some staff carrying out general project management duties and some generic expenses (e.g. office operating costs) are also charged to components and not to PMC only. We note that Terms of Reference describing unique outputs/deliverables under the respective components on which the Project Lead and the Finance officer are charged are provided in Appendix IX of the ProDoc. However, per Guidelines, the costs associated with the project's execution have to be covered by the GEF portion and the co-financing portion allocated to PMC, and only in exceptional cases can such costs be cross-charged to components. This project's benefits from substantial co-financing, including \$1,796,352 allocated to the PMC. Please thus justify why the execution costs cross-charged to components (e.g. part of project lead, finance officer, deputy lead, office rental) are not covered by co-finance. If co-finance is indeed not able to cover these costs, please explain why the deputy lead is entirely charged to components and provide corresponding Terms of reference.

2d- Please clarify to what correspond the \$500,000 of communication equipment for stakeholder and \$78,240 of "Relief assistance".

Agency Response

CI-GEF 11/9/2022

The Results Framework and Responses to Project Reviews Tables have been resized to make all information readable in the autogenerated CEO endorsement.

We took note of the authorization of the vehicle purchase given the justification in the investment mobilized co-financing allocation. Further, we took note of the approval of changing of the Project Lead and the Project Management unit to the project components given the co-financing allocation and the adequate terms of reference

CI-GEF 10/31/2022:

1) the METT assessment was done in 2019 to obtain the baseline. The METT is DENR's Management Assessment Tool that is conducted every 3-4 years. The next METT for the PRMRR is scheduled for 2023 (expected year 1 for this project). Revised METT tool uploaded

2 a) Vehicle Justification: The proposed new vehicle will be utilized by the PMU team as direct support in project delivery/implementation. The vehicle will facilitate activities such as transporting the PMU team, partners, or consultants, to attend meetings, operation needs, project site visits for monitoring or any events that are related to the project, or transporting any necessary equipment to project sites.

Note that the vehicle cannot be purchased with co-financing. The transportation budget indicated for most co-financiers is to cover the transportation for a limited number of government staff, not the PMU. It is imperative the GEF funds cover the vehicle cost, as all investment mobilized is already tagged to other activities that contribute to this project.

We believe determined the acquisition of a new vehicle will be more advantageous, as it will provide a more efficient and effective delivery time when compared with renting a vehicle for each trip. In addition, since the project duration is 5 years, purchasing a vehicle is more cost-effective compared with the vehicle rental cost for the project duration. It also will reduce the need for use of personal vehicles during work hours for staff transportation, so the PMU will save time by eliminating the often tedious and time-consuming process for personal vehicle mileage reimbursement. Lastly, it helps mitigate any risk that can sometimes be associated with mileage reimbursement requests. These conclusions were made based on the assessment done by CI together

with the regional and national government offices that will be engaged in the project to work on ground.

In terms of sustainability, the purchase of a field vehicle that can be used for the 5-year duration of the Project can also be turned over to Regional and Field Offices beyond Project closure and is more advantageous and beneficial in the long-term, as compared to the procurement of car rentals per day per field/site visit which can cost up to PHP 10,000.00-15,000.00 (US\$ 200-300) per day, depending on the distance, and the number of sites to be visited, including the amount of time required to facilitate car rental procurement. The procurement of a field vehicle is cost-effective overall. The overall cost for a new vehicle with maintenance/insurance and driver for 5 years will only be around US\$ 65,166 while for rental, it will cost US\$ 150,000.

Please see email from BMB attesting to the co-financing.

2 d) Relief assistance removed from budget.

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

1. METT excel sheet included

Budget

2a. Appendix XIV Vehicle Justification Form has been added to the ProDoc to provide the justification. To summarize:

The proposed new vehicle will be utilized by the PMU team as direct support in project delivery/implementation. The vehicle will facilitate activities such as transporting the PMU team, partners, or consultants, to attend meetings, operation's needs, project site visits for monitoring or any events that are related to the project, or transporting any necessary equipment to project sites.

2b. Budget for execution by CI-P removed.

2c. The Project Lead and Finance, Grants, and Contracts Manager are providing technical inputs across components, such as technical inputs to day-to-day project implementation, training to project staff, consultants and partners that include Prohibited Practices. These are not project management activities, but rather capacity building/training. The ToR for the Deputy Project Manager has been added to the Appendix in the ProDoc. The computers and office equipment are charged to the components as they are for personnel to use for carrying out technical activities on the project. Most of the co-financing is in-kind and the small amount of grant co-financing

has already allocated for PMC costs to cover other project management costs not accounted in the budget.

2d. The communications equipment is part of the enforcement system which will include long-range single side-band radios. The budgeted amount will purchase less than 200 units. We note there are around 5,000 direct beneficiaries for the project so the communication equipment units will have to be distributed strategically. Relief assistance to beneficiaries will only be utilized if/when catastrophes hits the project site. If catastrophes do not take place the funds (78K) will be reallocated to deliver project goals.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 11/1/2022 - Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022 - The PIF review comments to be addressed during PPG and that were not addressed have been embedded in relevant comment boxes of this review sheet. Please address them there.

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 10/13/2022 - Cleared.

JS 8/18/2022

1- The responses to council comments are included in the ProDoc but not in the portal entry. Please add the response matrix in the portal entry.

2- On Germany's comment, please see comment on the risk section relative to the impact of the recent general elections and address in the response to Germany's comment as well.

Agency Response

CI-GEF10/2/2022:

Council comments now included in the portal

The response matrix containing response to Germany's comments are now included in the portal.

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request JS 8/18/2022 - Cleared.

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request See similar comment box above.

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

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 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 NA

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is CEO endorsement recommended? (applies only to projects and child projects)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

JS 11/9/2022 - Yes, the project is recommended for endorsement.

JS 11/8/2022 - Not at this stage. Please address the two remaining comments (Table B, Annexes) and resubmit.

JS 10/18/2022 - Not at this stage. Please address the few remaining comments above and resubmit.

JS 8/18/2022 - Not at this stage. Please address comments above and resubmit.

Review Dates

**Secretariat Comment at
CEO Endorsement**

**Response to
Secretariat
comments**

First Review	8/18/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	10/18/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/1/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/8/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/9/2022

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations