

Enabling Timor-Leste to prepare its First Biennial Transparency Report with a combined Third National Communication (BTR1/NC3) and Second Biennial Transparency Report (BTR2)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11959

Countries

Timor Leste

Project Name

Enabling Timor-Leste to prepare its First Biennial Transparency Report with a combined Third National Communication (BTR1/NC3) and Second Biennial Transparency Report (BTR2)

Agencies

FAO

Date received by PM

6/20/2025

Review completed by PM

6/25/2025

Program Manager

Saba Kalam

Focal Area
Climate Change
Project Type
EA

Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO)

Section I - Enabling Activity Summary

Funding elements.

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

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

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

Agency's Comments

Cost Ranges.

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

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

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

Agency's Comments

Enabling activity summary.

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

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi July/8/2025:

-Please clarify if the country intends to submit its Adaptation Communication as a component or in conjunction with its BTR/NC. Outcomes 2.3 is related to the adaptation report, but please clarify whether Adaptation Communication will be prepared and submitted to the UNFCCC or not.

-Please ensure that women, women's groups and gender experts are included among the stakeholders/included in stakeholder plan.

09/23/2025

Cleared

Agency's Comments

- The country does not intend to submit a standalone Adaptation Communication. Instead, the project is designed to support the preparation of the Adaptation chapter as part of the BTR.
- Women, women's groups and gender experts have been included among the stakeholders. The Secretary of State for Equality and Inclusion (SEII/SEPI) and the UNTL Gender Studies Centre are listed as key gender stakeholders in the stakeholder engagement plan.

Section 2 - Enabling Activity Supporting Information

Eligibility Criteria.

Is this enabling activity eligible for GEF funding?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

Yes.

Agency's Comments

Institutional framework.

Are the institutional arrangements for implementation adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi July/8/2025:

It is well noted that the project document includes a stakeholder engagement matrix. However, it lumps 'Other Key UN Agencies, INGO & NGO' together and as such making it difficult to understand project approach to consult and engage the different key NGOs, civil society, and communities to achieve project objectives and components and their different roles advocating for effective policies, and fostering collaboration among various stakeholders. Please provide further details on the different roles of these key stakeholders and the specific corresponding project plans to engage and consult these different stakeholders.

09/23/2025

Cleared, UN agencies and NGO's have been segregated.

Agency's CommentsThe stakeholder group previously labeled "Other Key UN Agencies, INGO & NGO" has been disaggregated into three distinct categories (UN agencies, INGOs, and national NGOs/civil society). Specific information on their respective roles and engagement modalities, such as consultation meetings, data gathering for the BTR, and feedback provided to NDC, is now detailed in the attached Annex G. Stakeholder Engagement Matrix.

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

Yes. The M&E budget for the project is \$46,550.

Agency's Comments

Section 3. Information Tables

GEF resource availability.

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Toshi June/25/2025:

Yes.

Agency Response

**Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):
STAR allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
SCCF (Adaptation or Tech Transfer)?

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

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

Agency's Comments
Rio Markers.
Are the Rio Markers for CCM ,CCA, BD and LD presented?

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

Yes.

Agency's Comments
Country endorsement.

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

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

Yes.

Agency's Comments
Response to Comments

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

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
Council comments

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
STAP comments

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
CSOs comments

Secretariat's Comments

N/A.

Agency's Comments
Project Budget Table.

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

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi July/8/2025:

I noted that FAO will play a dual role, executing a portion of the budget (Hiring Enhanced Transparency Framework experts (international consultants) and its International travel. Justification and a letter of support have also been submitted. Please note that we are currently seeking GEF-Management's approval in parallel, but may request additional information if necessary.

09/23/2025

Cleared. Manager's approval uploaded.

Agency's Comments

A third party, the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), has been identified to support the implementation of this project. As a result, FAO will no longer play a dual role in the execution of activities. Under this revised arrangement, UNOPS will assume responsibility for the recruitment of international consultants, the management of associated international travel, and the hiring of national technical experts.

Concurrently, the National Directorate for Climate Change (NDCC), which is under the Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE), will oversee the recruitment of the Project Coordinator and an Administrative and Financial Assistant. NDCC?MoTE will also be responsible for managing specific national-level contracts, including those related to the organization of workshops, domestic travel arrangements, and targeted capacity-building activities.

Environmental and Social Safeguards.

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

Secretariat's Comments

Toshi June/25/2025:

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

Agency's Comments

**GEFSEC DECISION
RECOMMENDATION.**

Is CEO endorsement/ approval recommended?

Secretariat's Comments

REVIEW DATE(S)

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	6/25/2025	
Additional Review (as necessary)	7/8/2025	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

**Additional Review (as
necessary)**

**Secretariat Comment at CEO
Endorsement**

**Response to Secretariat
comments**