

Strengthening Trinidad and Tobago's capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation

Basic Information

GEF ID

10596

Countries

Trinidad and Tobago

Project Title

Strengthening Trinidad and Tobago's capacity in transparency for climate change mitigation and adaptation

GEF Agency(ies)

UNEP

Agency ID

UNEP: 01825

GEF Focal Area(s)

Climate Change

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

PIF

Part I – Project Informatic

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

6/19/2020: Yes, this project is aligned with the CBIT strategy.

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 6/19/2020: Yes, the components in Table B have been properly described.

Agency Response

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 6/19/2020: Co-financing is not required for CBIT projects; however, \$198,000 from the government in-kind has been included.

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 6/19/2020: The project is requesting \$1,161,138 from the CBIT set-aside. There are sufficient resources to support this project.

Agency Response

The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion 6/19/2020: This project is not requesting STAR.

Agency Response

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion 6/19/2020: This project is not requesting STAR.

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

Agency Response

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion 6/19/2020: The project is requesting \$1,161,138 from the CBIT set-aside. There are sufficient resources to support this project.

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 6/19/2020: The project is requesting \$45,000 for PPG. This is within the allowable cap.

Agency Response

Core indicators

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion 6/19/2020: The project is reporting a total of 50 beneficiaries and a methodology has been provided.

Agency Response

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 6/19/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

art 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

6/19/2020: Yes, Trinidad and Tobago ratified the Paris Agreement in 2018. It is SIDS, but is committed to complying to the largest degree possible to the enhanced transparency framework.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: Yes, the baseline scenario is very clearly described, including ongoing support projects with ICAT, NDC Support Programme and the ongoing TNC and FBUR project.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: Yes, the project describes the expected outcomes and components appropriately for this stage.

Agency Response

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

4. Is the project/program aligned with local area and/or impact Program strategies:

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: Yes, the project is properly aligned to the CBIT programming directions.

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

6/19/2020: Yes, the project will develop legal instruments to enable reporting of adaptation data, address remaining gaps for the GHG inventory process to meet the modalities, procedures and guidelines under the Paris Agreement, develop the necessary indicators, tools, templates and guidelines to track adaptation action, and develop the capacity of the government to integrate climate change scenarios and vulnerability analysis into policy making.

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

6/19/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: 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

6/19/2020: This is a national project.

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

6/19/2020: Wide stakeholder engagement was not carried out during project preparation, but will be addressed during the PPG and the

6/19/2020: This statement of engagement has not been completed during project preparation, but will be addressed during the PIF and the justification is appropriate.

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

6/19/2020: Yes, the project provides an articulation of the gender context and associated barriers, as well as how the project plans to address them.

Agency Response

Private Sector Engagement

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: Yes, including environmental and social safeguard screening.

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

6/19/2020: Yes, the project will coordinate in particular with the Caribbean MRV Hub and baseline projects that are ongoing, as well as with the Global Coordination Platform.

Agency Response

Consistency with National Priorities

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

6/19/2020: Yes, this project is aligned with Trinidad and Tobago's national climate change policies and its participation in the Paris Agreement through its NDC.

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

6/19/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)

Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Agency Response

art 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

6/19/2020: Yes, Mr. Hayden Romano has endorsed the project.

Agency Response

Termsheet, reflow table and agency capacity in NGI Projects

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

provide comments. After reading the questionnaire in Annex C, is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

N/A

Agency Response

EFSEC 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

6/19/2020: Yes, the PM recommends this project for clearance.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

By CEO endorsement, we expect the following comments to be addressed:

- During project preparation, please utilize additional inputs from the work under the TNC/BUR project, and expected ICA process for the first BUR to further support Output 2 activities as it relates to additional capacity to meet the MPGs and also related to V&A assessments carried to inform the work on adaptation. We expect additional information on barriers identified through this work.

- Please provide additional information on stakeholders engaged during PPG and how they will participate in the project. Of particular interest exploring partnerships with the universities and how they may support capacity-building activities within Trinidad and Tobago as well as the wider region.
- We note that by the CEO endorsement a budgeted M&E plan will have to be developed, which right now is not part of the project components. This may also be an opportunity to consider separating the knowledge management budget (i.e. participation in Global Coordination Platform) from the existing outputs.
- Please provide an update to the outcomes of the ICAT pilot and to the nature of the work under the Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub and how this project will aim to maximize synergies between them.

Review Dates

	PIF Review	Agency Response
First Review	6/19/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

PIF Recommendation to CEO

Brief reasoning for recommendations to CEO for PIF Approval

Trinidad and Tobago signed the Paris Agreement on 22 April 2016, and on 22 February 2018 ratified it. The rules governing the ETF allows for flexibility in complying with all elements of the reporting, especially for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). Whilst Trinidad and Tobago falls among the SIDS, the country is committed to complying to the largest degree possible with the Katowice rulebook.

Trinidad and Tobago has made significant progress in designing and implementing an MRV system for meeting the reporting requirements related to greenhouse gas inventorying, mitigation actions and support. It therefore has an advanced system compared to other countries in the region. However, it continues to face challenges that restrict it from fully developing and implementing a robust and ambitious transparency framework that will meet the requirements of the enhanced transparency framework of the Paris Agreement. Specifically, Trinidad and Tobago has limited: (1) legal arrangements to enable the systematic collection of data/information required to comply with certain aspects of the reporting under the Paris Agreement, mainly (but not only) in terms of adaptation; (2) technical capacities in managing and developing tools, methods and systems required for the collection and management of climate data/information, in particular regarding requirements foreseen in the Biennial Transparency Reports (BTRs); and (3) technical capacities and institutional arrangements for integrating high-level climate projections into micro-level decision making; this prevents integration of climate change projections into planning below the national level.

This CBIT project addresses these identified barriers through the following outputs:

1. Legal arrangements are designed and proposed for approval by a relevant body to enable the implementation of transparency activities.
2. Technical capacity of government officials and relevant stakeholders enhanced, and tools provided to prepare the BTRs, including the tracking of progress of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), adaptation efforts and support received.
3. Technical capacity of government officials and relevant stakeholders enhanced, and tools provided to incorporate climate analysis in decision-making processes.

This project will coordinate with the ongoing enabling activity project supporting the preparation of its Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report. It will also coordinate with the recently launched Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub, which is assisting countries in the region to develop GHG inventories, mitigation projects, and track their NDCs.