

FARM: Global Coordination, Knowledge Management and Common Finance Tools

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10903

Countries

Global

Project Name

FARM: Global Coordination, Knowledge Management and Common Finance Tools

Agencies

UNEP

Date received by PM

12/9/2022

Review completed by PM

5/5/2023

Program Manager

Anil Sookdeo

Focal Area

Chemicals and Waste

Project Type

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

Yes

Agency Response

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 Yes

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

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

Several co-financing letters are missing from the submission. Please provide.

Mar 28, 2023 - Comments addressed.

Agency Response

Missing co-finance letters have been provided in the Portal and updated in Appendix 3 .

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 Yes

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 Yes

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 This is a coordination project so GEB's are not expected.

Agency Response

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

Yes

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

This is a coordination project for a program so coordinates are not needed.

Agency Response

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

Yes

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes. There is a strong focus on the private sector including the commercial banking sector.

Agency Response

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

Agency Response

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

Yes

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes, provided and clear.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Please see the following comments on compliance with GEF policy:

1. On project information: please change the completion date to 05/31/2028 to meet the 60 months project duration.

2. On co-financing:

a. The evidence letters for the co-financing mentioned below has not been included in the documents section of the portal. Please upload these documents.

b. GGKP is not a GEF Agency, please change the source of co-financing to ?Other?

c. The co-financing for PAN UK and Centre for Suicide Prevention is missing the co-financing amounts. Please include these figures. All investment mobilized require a description on how it was identified.

3. On core-indicators:

a. Please include the core indicator 11 in the results framework. GEF Core Indicators should be explicitly mentioned in the Results Framework in Annex A.

b. The figures in the M&E table adds up to \$530k. However, the total indicates \$500k which is in line with the budget worksheet. Please correct the figures in the table so it adds up to the correct amount.

4. On the proportionality of the PMC: the co-financing contribution to PMC is not proportionate compared with the GEF contribution to PMC. If the GEF contribution is kept at 5%, for a co-financing of \$24,607,086 the expected contribution to PMC must be around \$1,230,354 instead of \$555,000 (which is 2.2%). Please correct so that there is proportionality.

5. On the utilization of the PPG: As per the GEF operational guidelines on the project cycle, the costs associated with the work of a GEF agency are ineligible expenditures under the PPG. It seems that a UNEPFI coordinator has been charged to the PPG. Please review and clarify.

6. On the budget:

a. A Project manager is being charged across components and PMC. Per Guidelines, the costs associated with the project's execution must be covered by the GEF portion and the co-financing portion allocated to PMC.

b. A UNEP Fi Senior Advisor has been charged to the project component. Please review comment #5 above. Salaries and fees for GEF Agency staff or consultants are ineligible for GEF Funding except when they are approved by the GEF Secretariat to carry out executing functions. Please clarify so a determination can be made.

c. financial specialists should be charge to the PMC portion of the budget. Please review.

Mar 28, 2023 - The following comments still require addressing:

Though the evidence letters have been provided, please see the following comments :

- The evidence letter is lacking the date. Please confirm the date on the letter. Also, the letter indicates this is a ?grant?. Please change ?in-kind? to grant and ?recurring expenditures? to ? investment mobilized?.

- The evidence letter is lacking the date. Please confirm the date on the letter.

May 5, 2023 - Comments addressed.

Agency Response

1. The completion date has been changed to 05/31/2028, in order to meet the 60 months project duration
2. Co-finance:
 - a. The missing evidence letters for the co-financing have been uploaded
 - b. GGKP has been changed from GEF Agency to Other, as the source of co-financing
 - c. The co-financing amounts for PAN UK and Centre for Suicide Prevention have been added
3. Core Indicators:
 - a. Core indicator 11 has been indicated in the updated Results Framework, Annex A. The beneficiaries are stated at Outcome level.
 - b. The figures in the M&E table have been corrected to add to the correct total (\$500k) and match the project budget (Appendix 2)
4. The co-financing allocations have been redistributed towards PMC to raise the proportionality to 5%.
5. On the utilization of the PPG: The consultant that provided technical inputs for Component 2 of the project (Finance and Investment) was not a full-time staff at UNEP FI and their services therefore had to be contracted to support the financial dimension of the project. Annex C (Status of Utilisation of PPG) has been amended to 'Finance and Investment Consultant' to more clearly reflect the technical contribution of this role.
6. Budget:
 - a. The Project Manager is now only charged to PMC, the project budget (Appendix 2) and Consultants to be Hired (Appendix 4) have been amended accordingly.
 - b. The senior advisor is a technical consultant who will be hired by the EA to provide technical work on finance and banking sector criteria for investment and liaise with the existing UNEPFI network of banks, investors and insurers. This is clarified by adding these responsibilities in the existing private sector finance specialist (Appendix 4).
 - c. The financial specialists indicated in the budget are expected to conduct technical work on investment and financial sector, thereby contributing to the execution of Component 2 of the project, these are not administrative positions related to financial management of the GEF grant. The lines have been renamed to 'public/private finance sector specialists' to provide more clarity (Appendix 2 in the budget & Appendix 4 Consultants to be Hired).

April 26, 2023: The co-finance evidence letters now include dates of their issue.

Regarding the type of co-finance, the table in the evidence letter indicates columns for both in-kind and grant contributions. Therefore, Table C of the CEO Endorsement request includes two separate lines for the same entity for each type of contribution.

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Council comments have been addressed in the proposal.

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request STAP comments have been addressed.

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Provided

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A as this is a coordination project for a program.

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

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

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

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Please see some remaining comments on the co-financing letters.

May 5, 2023 - Comments addressed and project is recommended for CEO endorsement.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	2/15/2023	3/28/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	3/28/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)	4/25/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/5/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations