

Combating Climate Change through the Promotion and Application of Sustainable Biomass Energy Technologies in Pakistan (PASBET)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10720

Countries

Pakistan

Project Name

Combating Climate Change through the Promotion and Application of
Sustainable Biomass Energy Technologies in Pakistan (PASBET)

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

11/10/2022

Review completed by PM

11/29/2022

Program Manager

Ming Yang

Focal Area

Climate Change

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF.

11/17/2022 MY:

1. On core-indicators:

a) The target for ?Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated? is different in the results framework than core indicator table. The target in the core indicator table should be explicitly mentioned in the Annex A (results framework).

b) Neither the M&E Plan, nor the Results Framework, describe the means of verification, sources, frequency of updates and methodology. Please include these elements in the M&E section.

2. On co-financing: Please provide summary of each Investment Mobilized co-financing under the "Investment Mobilized" description section.

3. On Stakeholder engagement: Stakeholder engagement: Information provided in the portal section on stakeholder engagement states that "Since there was limited opportunity to conduct a meeting with intended representatives of the project stakeholders, the list and roles of stakeholders will be validated and a comprehensive "stakeholders participation strategy" with a clear road map will be developed from the following stakeholders' roles and duties during the inception phase". Please provide further information on these limitations and also outline a more concrete framework for consultations in the inception phase, including means of engagement, dissemination of information, roles and responsibilities in ensuring effective Stakeholder Engagement

4. On the budget:

a. The budget is off margins. Please make sure the table fits into the portal. If not, Council Members will not be able to review the budget when circulated.

b. National Project Coordinator is being charged to a component. 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. The co-financing allocated to PMC is 1.14 million, and around 10 million of co-financing is represented in grants, please review and revise it, so that the project staff can be appropriately charged to the PMC (GEF and co-financing portion).

5. Only one (the CEO Endorsement Request Portal view) out of four documents was selected. Being this project implemented by UNDP, the latest ProDoc, Review Sheet and Checklist needs to be selected for circulation. Please get all these documents when recommending the project again.

11/28/2022 MY:

Please continue addressing the following comment from the PPO:

- National Project Coordinator charged to project components and PMC "the Agency argues that this position "has 2 sets of tasks to carry out for the PASBET Project "(a) coordination of the management and implementation of the project activities (approximately 20%); and (b) provision of technical coordination of, and technical support to, the promotion, design, implementation of the project's demonstration activities (approximately 80%)". However, when co-financing different than in-kind is

available (which is this case), per Guidelines the costs associated with the execution of the projects (including project's staff) are meant to be covered by GEF and co-financing resources allocated to PMC. Additionally, four of the six "technical" tasks presented in the TORs included in ProDoc (page 155 of the attached document) still are managerial in nature "for instance" "Provision of organizational and coordination work in the planning and implementation of the project's demonstration activities in the partner provinces; Assist in the evaluation of bid proposals for the supply, installation, operation and systems from contractors and individual proponents; Provide assistance to the PMU in the performance tracking system and contract performance monitoring of contractors and consultants to deliver expected outputs and deliverables as basis for contract payments; Supervision of the testing, initial operation, and performance evaluation of the demo units". Please revise the project accordingly.

11/29/2022 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Agency Response

Response to PPO's comment on 11/28/2022:

With regard to the guidelines on co-financing, we do think the proposed approach is already in line with these guidelines. For clarification, in response to earlier GEF Secretariat comments, UNDP has now provided a new co-financing letter for an additional USD 80,000 in cash (not in-kind) co-financing, which is being entirely applied to also be used for project management activities (e.g., recruitment of project personnel, project partners, and technical resource inputs; facilitation of training activities; and procurement of goods and services). Further, also at the request of the GEF Secretariat to shift cost to Project Management Cost (PMC), the 20% of the national project coordinator's tasks that relates to management/execution functions is indeed being covered by PMC.

With regard to the "technical" tasks in the national project coordinator description (PASBET ProDoc, p. 155), while the original text may not have been clear, these tasks are in fact all predominantly "technical" in their nature/quality, requiring critical technical, specialized expertise and skill sets for their effective performance by the national project coordinator. To be clear, these are not general management activities that a generic project manager could perform. For clarification, the task related to "the organization and coordination of the project's demonstration activities" requires specialized technical know-how related to project site preparation, surveying, plan design and investigation; technical design of biomass processing plants and biomass-based energy production facilities; operation of biomass-based power generation facilities; and plant operation testing and evaluation. Similarly, for further clarification, the task related to the evaluation of bid proposals requires the expert evaluation of

technical specifications, technical experience, and technical performance. We have made further edits to the description of the tasks of the national project coordinator on page 155 to clarify this technical nature.

Reference: ProDoc: Annex 7, p. 155

Response to 1a) On Core-Indicators

The value indicated for "Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated", i.e., **Indicator 2: Cumulative GHG emission reduction from the rural sector of Pakistan, tCO₂** is the **end-of-project target**. In this case, it is 195,050 tCO₂, which is expected to be realized by 2028. This is also the amount stated in Annex 12B: Estimation of Potential GHG Emission Reduction from the PASBET Project (PASBET ProDoc, pp. 199-200). The values stated in the Core Indicator Sheet in Annex 14: GEF and/or LDCF/SCCF Core indicators (PASBET ProDoc, p. 202) are **the estimated direct and indirect GHG emission reductions by the end of 10-years influence period after end-of-project**. These are 3.239 million direct GH emission reduction and 6.477 million indirect GHG emission reduction. Both are expected to be realized within the accounting period of 2023-2038, not during the end-of-project.

Reference: ProDoc: Annex 12B, pp 199-200; Annex 14, p. 202

Response to 1b) on M&E Plan

Annex 4: Monitoring Plan shows the tabular summary of M&E plan (PASBET ProDoc, pp. 115-121). It shows for each indicator of each project outcome the following: Description of each indicator and target; Mid-Term and EOP target values; Data source & Collection Methods; Frequency; Responsible entity for data collection; Means of verification and Assumption. This table has been included in Sec. VI: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan of the PASBET ProDoc (pp. 72-79) before Table 4: M&E Plan and Budget. This Monitoring Plan is based on the Project Log Frame or Results Framework (CERDoc: Annex A).

Reference: ProDoc: Sec VI, pp. 72-79; Annex 4 / CERDoc: Annex A

Response to 2. On Co-Financing

The summary description of the 'Investment Mobilized' co-financing (see next paragraph) has been included below Part I, Section C (Confirmed Sources of Co-financing for the Project, by Name and by Type) of the CEO Endorsement Request Document.

In 2019, the Government of Pakistan launched a Ten Billion Tree Tsunami Program (TBTT-P), a national program for the revival of the forestry sector in the country. The proposed GEF PASBET Project builds on the interventions under the forestry component of this national program. The funds allocated for on-the-ground interventions are placed at the disposal of respective provincial governments, which are likely to be spent in the target districts of the project and will directly contribute to its objective. These TBTT-P resources are considered investments mobilized from the federal and provincial governments (i.e., public investments) under the PASBET Project. The provincial governments of Punjab, KP, Sindh, and Balochistan have shown their interest in promoting farm-forestry and raising woodlots for piloting biomass energy production technology demonstrations. Their allocated resources for these activities that are also part and parcel of the proposed project and are considered investments mobilized, including the grants they provide through their public sector development funds.

Reference: CERDoc: Part 1, Sec. C

Response to 3. On Stakeholder Engagement

During the project development stage, the project development team (PDT) including the concerned UNDP-Pakistan personnel conducted consultation meetings with the key stakeholders such as the Ministry of Climate Change, Ministry of Planning Development and Reforms, provincial Forest Departments, and provincial Energy Departments. However, there was limited opportunity for a broader and detailed stakeholder consultation, particularly with local communities and other local government departments due to COVID-19 restrictions. The public health restrictions during the pandemic led to closure of government offices and private businesses and strict protocols for keeping social distancing. Hence, the limited interaction with stakeholders in the communities where many of the planned project activities (e.g., demonstrations) will be implemented.

During the inception phase of the project, the project team and the technical personnel that will be onboarded will come up with a concrete plan for carrying out more detailed consultations with the project stakeholders particularly those that were not consulted during project design stage, such as other provincial government departments, community leaders and district/local government institutions in the project areas. Follow-up consultations will also be done, when and if necessary, with the key stakeholders that were consulted during the design phase of the project. The following is

a summary of stakeholder engagement activities that will be carried out in preparation for, and during the project inception phase:

- ? Telephone calls to stakeholders to organize meetings, follow-up with appointments and provide further information for stakeholders;
- ? Email exchange with stakeholders to provide further information on project scope, demonstrations, and value-adding initiatives for the project;
- ? Attendance in specific meetings with the PDT staff and the identified potential co-financers, and implementers of identified baseline project to learn about potential synergies from such projects and share project information;
- ? Organized stakeholder consultations;
- ? Field visits and focus group discussions on project plans, benefits, risks, impacts and community interest and engagement; and,
- ? Focus group discussion with women on gender roles related to the planned project activities, benefits, risks, impacts and interest and engagement.

Subsequently, the information that will be gathered during these consultations will be used in preparing a more detailed Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Such plan will also specify, among others, the roles, and responsibilities of various project participants/stakeholders such as: (a) Linkages and coordination between participants and activities; (b) Role of each participant in the delivery of project outputs; and (c) Strengthening of links to project stakeholders. The plan will be presented during the project's inception meeting for discussions and endorsement of the stakeholders.

Reference: ProDoc: Annex 8, pp 163-164

Response to 4a). On the budget margin

The Project's budget table has been reformatted to fit into the GEF Portal.

Response to 4b). On the National Project Coordinator budget

The National Project Coordinator (NPC) has 2 sets of tasks to carry out for the PASBET Project. These are: (a) coordination of the management and implementation of the project activities (approximately 20%); and (b) provision of technical coordination of, and technical support to, the promotion, design, implementation of the project's demonstration activities (approximately 80%).

With regard to project management, per the agreement among the project proponent and key stakeholders, the NPC will be coordinating the management and implementation of the PASBET Project activities on behalf of the Implementing Partner (MoCC). Selected MoCC personnel will be assigned to assist the NPC in the management of the project

activities. Moreover, the PMU will also be supported by the UNDP in the execution of the project.

With regard to technical coordination and support, the bulk of the tasks of the NPC involves the provision of technical assistance and coordination work in implementing the project's demonstration activities, particularly in the technical specifications, standards to be followed, TOR/Contract preparation, RFQ and bidding documentation, selection and engagement of the biomass energy technology service providers and contractors for the demo activities and supervision of the testing, initial operation, and performance evaluation of the demo units.

We have made adjustments to the budget to more accurately reflect this 20%/80% split, as well as clarifications in the text description of the NPC function. With regard to budget, 20% of the total budget for the NPC cost is now charged to the Project Management Cost (PMC) for the NPC's project management services. UNDP has also provided new, additional cash-cofinancing of USD 80,000 to cover its execution support. The rest (80%) of the budget for the NPC cost is charged to Component 2.2 for the NPC's technical coordination and technical support services.

Moreover, it should be noted that the allocated co-financing for PMC is actually the collective project management costs of each subsumed baseline activity or project of the forestry department of the project's partner provinces.

Reference: ProDoc: Sec VII; Governance & Management Arrangements p. 89 Footnote 63; Sec: XI: Total Budget and Work Plan; Budget Notes 17 (p. 99) and 36 (p. 101)

Response to 5. On the selection of documents

The GEF Agency has uploaded to the GEF Portal a complete package of documents that include the revised CEO Endorsement Request document; Project document; this document on Responses to the GEFSec Comments and the UNDP Checklist.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the project structure design is appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Not yet.

1. The UNDP co-financing is all in-kind. Please consider some cash co-financing, say \$80,000, to cover the cost of UNDP's execution functions.

2. In Table C of the CEO ER document, please use the exact names of the co-financers and the correct amounts as shown in the financing letters. Currently, the name of the co-financer of Ten Billion Tree is not in Table C. It seems that the UNDP used PKR170/US\$1 as the exchange rate. Per today's exchange rate, it should be PKR221/US\$1. Please consider revising the amount of co-financing in Table C to match the amounts in the co-financing letters.

11/21/2022 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and project documents were revised accordingly.

Agency Response

Response to comment #1

The UNDP co-financing to the project has been enhanced with the addition of US\$ 80,000 cash co-financing to cover the cost of UNDP's support to the MoCC in the execution of the project. This is in Annex 16 of the PASBET ProDoc. This additional co-financing is also indicated in the revised table in Part 1, Sec. C of the PASBET CEO ER Document.

Reference: ProDoc: TBWP Budget Note 40; Annex 16

Response to comment #2

The co-financing table in the CEO ER document has been revised to indicate the exact names of the co-financing entities, as well as the adjusted USD equivalent of co-financing amount (i.e., in PKR) stated in each co-financing letter. The adjusted amount is based on the suggested current PKR-USD exchange rate of PKR 221 per USD 1.

Reference: CERDoc: Part 1, Sec C

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

11/11/2022 MY:

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is reported in Annex C on page 86.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the core indicator targets shown on pages 19-21 remain realistic.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, as in the PIF, the global environmental problems, including the root causes and barriers, will be addressed.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects are addressed on page 24.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, alternative scenario is sound and adequate. The expected outcomes and components of the project is sufficient in clarity (pages 25-28)

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is further described on pages 28-29.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is described on page 29.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is presented on pages 29-30.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is presented on pages 30-31.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is shown in Annex D on page 87.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is presented on pages 36-38 of the CER ER doc and on pages 151-154 of the UNDP Project Document.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the analysis is described on page 39 of the CEO ER document.

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
11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the role of the private sector is elaborated on page 41. During project implementation, please try to engage woody biomass-based private SMEs to co-finance the project.

Agency Response
Response:

Agree. The private sector co-financing for the project, particularly for the demos will be followed up and confirmed during the project inception period. Negotiations will continue to establish the cooperation arrangement with further project promotion and presentation of the benefits to and necessary involvement of the private sector. It should be noted that the demo activities of the project are about the commercial operation of a woody biomass-fired energy production and distribution system (power or non-power application) systems that can be community-owned and operated, or private-sector owned and operated, or government-owned and private sector operated, etc. The proposed demos of the project involve the engagement of the private sector to further bolster the objective of promoting low-carbon, low-pollution, and nature positive

solutions to support rural socio-economic development in the country. Hence, efforts will be done during the project implementation to facilitate increased investment both from the public and private sectors for promoting biomass energy efficient technologies and scaling-up innovative practices for biomass energy production and utilization at the rural industry levels. To encourage private sector interest, the project includes activities that will develop business plans/models for the district governments and private sector to facilitate financing and implementation of woody biomass energy production projects will be developed. The aim here is to intervene and catalyze participation of private and public capital cost-effectively.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the risk issues of the project are addressed on pages 42 -47 (addressing risks) and pages 69-86 (responding to Council comments).

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the institutional arrangement for project implementation and the coordination with other non-GEF Initiatives are described 68-56.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, as shown on pages 57-59, this project is aligned with national strategies and plans under the UNFCCC.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Not completed yet.

Please use a table to elaborate the deliverables of knowledge management against a timeline.

11/21/2022 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and project documents were revised accordingly.

Agency Response

Response:

The PASBET Project will deliver various outputs that will be documented and included in the planned repository for sharing experiences in making the demonstrations successful and in replicating and scaling them up further after the project is completed using the demonstrated climate resilient and energy efficient woody biomass energy technologies. The following is a tentative list of planned knowledge management (KM) products that the project will produce and their respective tentative delivery schedule.

KM Product	Brief Description	Delivery Schedule
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Woody Biomass Resources in Pakistan	This is comprised of comprehensive situational and feasibility analyses and supply chain and market analyses on woody biomass production, and sustainable woody biomass production and utilization.	3Q 2024
Woody Biomass Energy Development and Utilization Policies in Pakistan	This is comprised of the results of the project's activities on the development and implementation of policies and market-based regulatory framework for supporting woody biomass production and use, including approved technical, management and operational standards.	2Q 2025
Energy Planning in Rural Areas with Woody Biomass Resources	This presents the formulated energy-integrated development plans that are developed for the pilot towns of the project.	3Q 2024
Woody Biomass Production	This presents the design, establishment, and operational farmers/communal forest nurseries for providing planting stock for raising woody biomass in woodlots and farmlands.	1Q 2026
Woody Biomass Energy Generation Technologies and Applications	This presents the results of the demonstrations of the cost-effective application of decentralized woody biomass-based electricity generation and distribution (through mini/micro-grids).	2Q 2026
Woody Biomass Fuels Production	This is about the results of the demonstration on the establishment and operationalization of cost-effective woody biomass fuels production facilities, and applications of energy efficient woody biomass fired technologies.	3Q 2025
Financing Woody Biomass Energy Production	This is about the investment cost of establishing and commercial operation of woody biomass energy production, as well as potential investment and financing mechanisms for supporting the commercial viability and operation of woody biomass energy production.	4Q 2024
Recommended Woody Biomass Energy Generation Projects in Pakistan	This is about the de-risked biomass-based power generation projects, decentralized biomass-based energy generation in rural areas, and business plans for the GOP and private sector to facilitate financing and implementation.	3Q 2025
Woody Biomass Capacity Development Program	This is about the capacity development training programs for the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of woody biomass-based energy production systems both for power and non-power applications.	1Q 2027

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the ESS issue is addressed in a separate uploaded file in the Document Folder of the Portal. : PIMS 6542_Updated Annex 5 - Pasbet - SESP - clean, entitled : "ANNEX 5: UNDP SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING PROCEDURE (2021 SESP TEMPLATE, VERSION 1) "

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, as shown on page 61 of the CEO ER doc, and on pages 68-71 of the UNDP ProDoc, an M&E plan is designed with budget project-targeted activities.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, as shown on page 62, in addition to mitigating CO2 emissions, the project will facilitate promoting the cost-effective application of sustainable woody biomass energy

efficient technologies that will create new jobs to the local communities including women and girls.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, all the required annexes are attached.

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is attached in Annex A of the CEO ER doc.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the issues commented by the GEF SEC at the PIF stage have been taken in to account.

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the comments of the council have been addressed in Annex B.

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, the comments of STAP have been responded in Annex B.

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is shown in Annex C on page 86.

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/11/2022 MY:

Yes, it is shown on pages 86-87 of the CEO ER doc.

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

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

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

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

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

11/11/2022 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/17/2022 MY:

Not at this time.

Please address the comments above.

11/28/2022 MY:

Please continue addressing the following comment from the PPO:

- National Project Coordinator charged to project components and PMC ? the Agency argues that this position ?has 2 sets of tasks to carry out for the PASBET Project ?(a) coordination of the management and implementation of the project activities (approximately 20%); and (b) provision of technical coordination of, and technical support to, the promotion, design, implementation of the project's demonstration activities (approximately 80%)?. However, when co-financing different than in-kind is available (which is this case), per Guidelines the costs associated with the execution of the projects (including project?s staff) are meant to be covered by GEF and co-financing resources allocated to PMC. Additionally, four of the six ?technical? tasks presented in the TORs included in ProDoc (page 155 of the attached document) still are managerial in nature ?for instance? ?Provision of organizational and coordination work in the planning and implementation of the project?s demonstration activities in the partner provinces; Assist in the evaluation of bid proposals for the supply, installation, operation and systems from contractors and individual proponents; Provide assistance to the PMU in the performance tracking system and contract performance monitoring of contractors and consultants to deliver expected outputs and deliverables as basis for contract payments; Supervision of the testing, initial operation, and performance evaluation of the demo units?. Please revise the project accordingly.

11/29/2022 MY:

Yes, comments were addressed and issues were cleared.

Review Dates

**Secretariat Comment at
CEO Endorsement****Response to
Secretariat
comments**

First Review	11/17/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/28/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/29/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	
Additional Review (as necessary)	

CEO Recommendation**Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations**

The objective of the project is to mitigate CO2 emissions from the rural sector in Pakistan by widely deploying sustainable biomass energy technologies for supporting socio-economic development in the rural sector in Pakistan. The objective will be achieved by implementing many tasks within four components: (1) Establishing Policy and Regulatory Framework for Sustainable Woody Biomass Energy Production and Utilization; (2) Promoting Biomass Energy Production and Energy Efficient Utilization Technologies; (3) Supporting Financial Requirements for Biomass Energy Technology Initiatives; and (4) Enhancing Capacity Building, Knowledge Management and Gender Mainstreaming in Biomass Energy Utilization. The major GEF resources will be used in tangible investment to display innovative business model and effective biomass energy technologies in difference provinces of Pakistan. This project demonstrates innovation, sustainability and scalding-up in many ways including mobilizing capital investment from the government of Pakistan. The project aims at mitigating 9.7 million tonnes of CO2 in its lifetime of operation.

Possible Negative Impact of COVID -19:

As of November 16, 2022, 62% of people in Pakistan have received at least one vaccine dose, and 59% are fully vaccinated. Over the past six months, the new cases and the death rate caused by COVID 19 have not been significant. As such, COVID-19 will not cause considerable negative impacts on the project.

Opportunity of COVID-19:

In the light of the current Covid-19 pandemic situation in the country, the investment activities of the proposed project will be designed not only to demonstrate the relevant technologies that the project is promoting but also to support more resilient livelihoods and infrastructure that enables green recovery from COVID-19 impacts and building future resilience. The envisioned demos of the project will engage the private sector to further bolster the objective of promoting low-carbon, low-pollution, and nature positive solutions for to support rural socio-economic development in the country. The GEF will create ?green jobs? and increase household income and alleviate poverty. These interventions which involve working closely with nature enhances resilience will help recovery from pandemics like COVID-19.