

Enabling Activities to Support the ratification and early implementation of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (EA-BBNJ), Phase 3

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

12351

Countries

Global (Burundi, Gabon, Honduras, Kyrgyz Republic, Malawi, Mauritania, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Sudan, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan)

Project Name

Enabling Activities to Support the ratification and early implementation of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (EA-
BBNJ), Phase 3

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

5/21/2026

Review completed by PM

Program Manager

Andrew Hume

Focal Area

International Waters

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

6/3/2026: Partly. We understand the rationale for indicating 10% for each national project, the justification incorrectly refers to this project as a Medium-Sized Project (MSP). This project is an Enabling Activity and should be described accordingly. Please revise.

6/9/2026: Addressed.

Agency's Comments

UNDP 8 June 2026

Adjusted as per the correct information regarding Enabling Activity and number of countries.

Cost Ranges.

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

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

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

6/3/2026: Partly. The average budget amount of the GEF funded part for the M&E component for projects up to USD 5 million is 5% but for this project it is 5.3%. Please revise the M&E component to 5% (\$95,518) to be within the acceptable range.

6/9/2026: Addressed.

Agency's Comments

UNDP 8 June 2026

M&E has been adjusted to a total of 95,508 so numbers could be round up as this amount needs to be divided between 12 countries.

Section 2 - Enabling Activity Supporting Information

Eligibility Criteria.

Is this enabling activity eligible for GEF funding?

Secretariat's Comments 6/3/2026: Yes

Agency's Comments

Institutional framework.

Are the institutional arrangements for implementation adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments 6/3/2026: Yes

Agency's Comments

Monitoring and Evaluation.

Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?

Secretariat's Comments 6/3/2026: Yes

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 6/3/2026: Yes

Agency Response

Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):

STAR allocation?

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's Comments6/3/2026: Yes

Agency's Comments
LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

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

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

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

Secretariat's Comments6/3/2026: 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 Comments6/3/2026: Yes

Agency's Comments
Response to Comments

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

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
Council comments

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
STAP comments

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat's CommentsN/A

Agency's Comments
CSOs comments

Secretariat's CommentsN/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

6/3/2026: No. Please address the following:

1. Please delete the budget table pasted in the field of Annex B which is causing a duplication of information CEO Approval Request PDF (which is the document that is circulated to Council and later web posted). Please follow how recent other BBNJ umbrella EA proposals are presented (see GEF ID 12320), including the header text presenting the budget and the correct linking to the budget document.
2. There is a duplicate item allocated across different categories (Travel and Training, Workshops, and Meetings). As previously requested, please use the recently revised budget template (see GEF ID 12320).

6/9/2026: Addressed.

Agency's Comments

UNDP 8 June 2026

1. Budget table in Annex B deleted. Header text included.
2. Duplicated line has been removed and text adjusted.

Environmental and Social Safeguards.

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

Secretariat's Comments 6/3/2026: Yes

Agency's Comments

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION.

Is CEO endorsement/ approval recommended?

Secretariat's Comments

6/3/2026: Please address the above and resubmit asap.

6/9/2026: Project is PM recommended for CEO Approval

REVIEW DATE(S)

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	6/5/2026	
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/9/2026	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		