



Promoting the Safe and Effective Use of Treated Wastewater and Sludge to Improve Soil Quality, Address Land Degradation, and Mitigate Climate Change

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11826

Countries

Türkiye

Project Name

Promoting the Safe and Effective Use of Treated Wastewater and Sludge to Improve Soil Quality, Address Land Degradation, and Mitigate Climate Change

Agencies

FAO

Date received by PM

10/28/2024

Review completed by PM

11/25/2024

Program Manager

Wenxin Li

Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Project Type

MSP

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF) REVIEW SHEET

1. General Project Information / Eligibility

a) Does the project meet the criteria for eligibility for GEF funding?

b) Is the General Project Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

2. Project Summary

Does the project summary concisely describe the problem to be addressed, the project objective and the strategies to deliver the GEBs or adaptation benefits and other key expected results?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

3 Indicative Project Overview

3.1 a) Is the project objective presented as a concise statement and clear?

b) Are the components, outcomes and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective and the core indicators per the stated Theory of Change?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

3.2 Are gender dimensions, knowledge management, and monitoring and evaluation included within the project components and appropriately funded?

Secretariat's CommentsOP 11/1/2024: In the development of the Gender Action Plan, please include specific budget lines, as appropriate and plans for monitoring and reporting on the GAP.

Agency's Comments

The necessary budget and monitoring plans for the Gender Action Plan will be developed during the PPG phase and the budget for the implementation of the GAP and its monitoring and reporting will be allocated from the relevant project components according to the activity to be implemented. FAO gender consultant will oversee and report on the overall implementation of the activities in line with GAP. This has been included in the description of the M&E component of the Indicative Project Overview section.

3.3 a) Are the components adequately funded?

b) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional?

c) Is the PMC equal to or below 5% of the total GEF grant for FSPs or 10% for MSPs? If the requested PMC is above the caps, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

4 Project Outline

A. Project Rationale

4.1 SITUATION ANALYSIS

a) is the current situation (including global environmental problems, key contextual drivers of environmental degradation, climate vulnerability) clearly and adequately described from a systems perspective?

b) Are the key barriers and enablers identified?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

4.2 JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT

a) Is there an indication of why the project approach has been selected over other potential options?

b) Does it ensure resilience to future changes in the drivers?

c) Is there a description of how the GEF alternative will build on ongoing/previous investments (GEF and non-GEF), lessons and experiences in the country/region?

d) are the relevant stakeholders and their roles adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments

WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

OP 11/1/2024: On stakeholder engagement, it is well noted that the project's steering committee will include relevant institutions of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change and Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and relevant NGOs and private sector organizations. Please provide further details on plans to develop a stakeholder engagement plan and consult broader project stakeholders in project development.

Agency's Comments A participatory stakeholder analysis will be undertaken, and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be developed during the PPG phase using FAO's methodology to identify key, primary and secondary stakeholders with respect to the project's overall objective across national and sub-national scales, and the SEP will ensure the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders in consultations and planning process of the project's implementation. The development of SEP is included in the PIF text under the "Stakeholder Engagement" section (paragraph 64) and the Annex D of the Agency Project Document.

5 B. Project Description

5.1 THEORY OF CHANGE

a) Is there a concise theory of change that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements will contribute to the objective, the expected causal pathways, and the key assumptions underlying these?

b) Are the key outputs of each component defined (where possible)?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

5.2 INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING

Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

5.3 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

a) Is the institutional setting, including potential executing partners, outlined and a rationale provided?

b) Comments to proposed agency execution support (if agency expects to request exception).

c) is there a description of potential coordination and cooperation with ongoing GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area

d) are the proposed elements to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning outputs and strategic communication adequately described?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

5.4 a) Are the identified core indicators calculated using the methodology included in the corresponding Guidelines (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)?

b) Are the project's indicative targeted contributions to GEBs (measured through core indicators)/adaptation benefits reasonable and achievable?

Secretariat's Comments

WL 10/30/2024: Please provide detailed GHG calculation methodology/assumptions and the associated EX-ACT file.

OP 11/1/2024: Please include the anticipated start year of GHG accounting and duration of accounting directly under core indicator 6.

WL 11/24/2024: Please ensure that the associated EX-ACT file (in Excel format) is submitted together with the CEO Endorsement request.

Agency's Comments

1. The detailed background of methodology and assumptions and related calculations are presented in the EX-ACT file that is uploaded separately on the portal, as well as on the Annex G of the Agency PIF document.

2. Anticipated start year and duration of the GHG accounting is included.

5.5 NGI Only: Is there a justification of financial structure and use of financial instrument with concessionality levels?

Secretariat's Comments NA

Agency's Comments

5.6 RISKS

a) Is there a well-articulated assessment of risk and identification of mitigation measures under each relevant risk category?

b) Is the rating provided reflecting the residual risk to the likely achievement of intended outcomes after accounting for the expected implementation of mitigation measures?

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

Secretariat's Comments

WL 10/30/2024: Yes

OP 11/1/2024: It's noted that the project's overall ESS risk is classified as moderate, and the agency attached the Environmental and Social Risk Screening checklist and Environmental and Social Safeguards. However, it is not clear what will be the plan to mitigate potential ESS risks at the PPG stage. Please elaborate further the actions to be taken to mitigate ESS risks during the PPG stage.

Agency's Comments

During the PPG phase, experts in social and environmental safeguards will be engaged to develop the details of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP); which are required documents of the FAO internal screening and clearance processes for the project documents before submission for GEF's approval. An environmental and social assessment will be conducted, and potential risks and impacts will be identified in Project location during the PPG stage. Proposed mitigation measures and strategies to mitigate the identified risks and impacts will be developed and detailed in the Plans.

SEP, GRM, ESMP and budget allocated for safeguards implementation and monitoring will be included in the CEO Endorsement request submission.

The relevant text with above details is included on the PIF as well (paragraph 65).

5.7 Qualitative assessment

a) Does the project intend to be well integrated, durable, and transformative?

b) Is there potential for innovation and scaling-up?

c) Will the project contribute to an improved alignment of national policies (policy coherence)?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

6 C. Alignment with GEF-8 Programming Strategies and Country/Regional Priorities

6.1 Is the project adequately aligned with focal area and integrated program strategies and objectives, and/or adaptation priorities?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

6.2 Is the project alignment/coherent with country and regional priorities, policies, strategies and plans (including those related to the MEAs and to relevant sectors)

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

6.3 For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e. BD, CC or LD), does the project clearly identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and how it contributes to the identified target(s)?

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

7 D. Policy Requirements

7.1 Is the Policy Requirements section completed?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

7.2 Is a list of stakeholders consulted during PIF development, including dates of these consultations, provided?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

8 Annexes

Annex A: Financing Tables

**8.1 Is the proposed GEF financing (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?
Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):**

STAR allocation?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

SCCF A (SIDS)?

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

SCCF B (Tech Transfer, Innovation, Private Sector)?

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

8.2 Is the PPG requested within the allowable cap (per size of project)? If requested, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

8.3 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?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

Annex B: Endorsements

8.4 Has the project been endorsed by the country? (ies) GEF OFP and has the OFP at the time of PIF submission name and position been checked against the GEF database?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes.

Agency's Comments

8.5 For NGI projects (which may not require LoEs), has the Agency informed the OFP(s) of the project to be submitted?

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

Annex C: Project Location

8.6 Is there preliminary georeferenced information and a map of the project's intended location?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

Annex D: Safeguards Screen and Rating

8.7 If there are safeguard screening documents or other ESS documents prepared, have these been uploaded to the GEF Portal?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

Annex E: Rio Markers

8.8 Are the Rio Markers for CCM, CCA, BD and LD correctly selected, if applicable?

Secretariat's CommentsWL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

Annex F: Taxonomy Worksheet

8.9 Is the project properly tagged with the appropriate keywords?

Secretariat's Comments WL 10/30/2024: Yes

Agency's Comments

Annex G: NGI Relevant Annexes

8.10 Does the project provide sufficient detail (indicative term sheet) 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 to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. Is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat's Comments NA

Agency's Comments

9 GEFSEC Decision

9.1 Is the PIF and PPG (if requested) recommended for technical clearance?

Secretariat's Comments

WL 11/4/2024: Not yet. Please address comments above and harmonize the font and size of the text in GEF Portal view.

environmental (creation of wetlands, feeding of wetlands, feeding of surface and groundwater), industrial (process water, cooling water, boiler feed water) and other (general cleaning, fire water, dust control/field irrigation water, urinal and flushing water etc.) regulations were brought into effect after being published in the Official Gazette dated 25.10.2022 and numbered 31994.

47. In addition, one of the targets set for urban infrastructure in the 11th Development Plan of Türkiye, covering the years 2019-2023, is to increase the re-use rate of treated wastewater, and in this context, "basin-based planning for the re-use of treated wastewater, especially for agriculture, and water resources. "Reducing the pressure on people" was determined as a policy and measure.

A.2.4. The baseline in the absence of the project:

48. Preserving the quality of agricultural lands is crucial for environmental and socioeconomic security in economies based on agriculture, especially in extremely vulnerable arid areas. Making all resources available to save and increase water and organic carbon, which are the most crucial elements of soil quality for the sustainability of agriculture and resilience to climate change in dry environments, should be the main goal. In this proposed project, the strategic application of treated sludge and wastewater will enhance the soils' ability to hold both water and organic carbon, strengthening the ecosystem's resistance to the present consequences of climate change and land degradation.

49. With the implementation of the project, the use of treated sludge and wastewater, as a result of increased urbanization, will improve soil quality in degraded lands with low productivity due to climatic, geographic, and administrative (overgrazing, insufficient fertilizer use, etc.) limitations. In accordance with the research, the applied techniques will also aid in enhancing soil organic carbon, which is useful in combatting climate change and reducing land degradation. Therefore, without the project, the soils of the target area face threats from erosion, pollution, the loss of organic carbon, biodiversity, etc., which will lead to desertification as locals try

Agency's Comments The necessary formatting changes have been made in the portal.

9.2 Additional Comments to be considered by the Agency at the time of CEO Endorsement/ Approval

Secretariat's Comments

Please ensure that the associated EX-ACT file (in Excel format) is submitted together with the CEO Endorsement request.

Please include the anticipated start year of GHG accounting and duration of accounting in the core indicator 6.1 Table.

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	94,864			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Agency's Comments

Review Dates

	PIF Review	Agency Response
First Review	10/31/2024	11/21/2024
Additional Review (as necessary)	11/25/2024	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		