

# Strengthen capacity to ensure transparency of action implemented and support received to implement Fiji's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10449

**Countries**

Fiji

**Project Name**

Strengthen capacity to ensure transparency of action implemented and support received to implement Fiji's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS)

**Agencies**

UNEP

**Date received by PM**

6/17/2021

**Review completed by PM**

**Program Manager**

Namrata Rastogi

**Focal Area**

Climate Change

**Project Type**

MSP

**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**

7/12/2021: Yes, changes from PIF have been well justified. We note that the taxonomy does not match the one included in the Project Document - CBIT is notably missing.

8/17/2021: Cleared.

**Agency Response**

**Response12/08/2021**

The Taxonomy table in the Portal has been updated in line with the one included in the Project Document.

**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 7/12/2021: Yes, Table B shows an appropriately designed project.

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 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 7/12/2021: In-kind co-financing of \$100,000 from the government has been confirmed.

Agency Response

**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 7/12/2021: 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 7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: No changes have been made to indicator 11. However, a brief explanation for how this target was estimated has not yet been provided below the Core Indicator table. Please add.

8/17/2021: An explanation has been provided. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Response12/08/2021**

A brief explanation is added to the Portal.

**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

7/12/2021: Yes, the root causes and barriers to be addressed have been well elaborated.

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

7/12/2021: Yes, the baseline scenario is very well explained.

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

7/12/2021: Please address comments below:

- ?- Comment on why tracking adaptation actions has not been included within the scope of this CBIT project and how it will be addressed through other work/resources.
- Considering that the Fiji NDC 2020 includes maritime emissions, comment/clarify on how this would be included in the GHG inventory and mitigation tracking.

#### Component 1

- While the project will focus on enhancing the capacity to report under the Paris Agreement, we have found that country ownership of MRV/transparency systems is enhanced when the information is also utilized for domestic policy-making, etc. Consider adding a deliverable under this component that focuses on how the new institutional arrangements and information systems will be used to support ongoing domestic processes in Fiji beyond reporting to the Convention.
- Output 1.3: Comment on how this would link and leverage the work being conducted by the CBIT Coordination Platform and/or CBIT projects in the region.

#### Component 2

? It is not clear what is meant by IT-based GHG inventory system. Please clarify. The description states ?the project will develop and establish a GHG Inventory Database Management System (GIDMS)?. Does this mean that new software or hardware, or a new online system will be developed? For example, the first output is focused on developing templates etc. We are not clear what the IT component of this output is. Please also clarify if there are there any existing IT systems in place, and how this will build on the existing systems.

- We note the use of two acronyms for the database management system ? GIDMS and GHG DBMS. Confirm that these are the same and suggest using only one in the document.

? This section mentions that the Agriculture and Forestry sectors are covered by other projects. Please elaborate in this section and detail how the project will ensure timely coordination.

- Please ensure that in the deliverables under this section a roadmap for future enhancement to the GHG inventory is developed - for example to advance to Tier 2 and Tier 3, etc. to improve transparency over time.

#### Component 3

Output 3.1: Please elaborate on what is envisioned as a NDC system for tracking mitigation actions ? is this an online database, a repository, or something else. Comment on if the NDC system and the NDC registry will be linked in any way since there might be some overlap of information. Also clarify who will manage the NDC registry, and what sort of coordination and updating might be required. Output 3.1.3 seems to focus

on training for the NDC system for tracking. Comment if training will be provided for the NDC registry as well.

Output 3.2.2: Please clarify what is meant by ?Appropriate and adapt existing methodologies and tools to estimate GHG emissions reductions in energy generation and energy use in end-use sectors (transport, residential and commercial) and agriculture sector?

Output 3.3: Please clarify if this output will include a component related to relevant stakeholder engagement and inputs to ensure that there is buy-in of any tracking system that is piloted. Additionally, capacity needs assessment may also be needed as part of this.

8/17/2021: Comments have been addressed as follows:

Tracking Adaptation: Explanation has been provided. Cleared.

Maritime Emissions: Cleared.

Component 1: Both comments have been addressed. Cleared.

Component 2: Comments have been addressed. However, we note the use of GIDMS in one instance in the portal document. Please replace with GHG DBMS as has already been done.

Component 3: Cleared.

8/20/2020: Cleared.

## Agency Response

### **Response18/08/2021**

The sole occurrence of GIDMS is replaced with GHG DBMS.

### **Response12/08/2021**

#### Tracking Adaptation:

-  
As explained at the stage of PIF review, Fiji has developed its National Adaptation Plan in 2018 which recommend an M&E framework. The M&E is being developed with a two-tier tracking progress - a simple monitoring system using traffic light system, and a more sophisticated results-based evaluation.

Maritime: The NDC covers the domestic maritime shipping emissions. These are covered as a sub-sector of the energy sector emissions. This will thus be covered under the NDC tracking as well as GHG Inventory. This has been reflected in the CEO endorsement document.

Component 1: The institutional arrangements for the GHG Inventory and NDC tracking are linked to the National Climate Change Committee (NCCC) set up by the Climate Change Law as the body for overseeing the implementation of the climate policies and actions, including NDC. NCCC will also be responsible for preparing future climate actions that will be incorporated in future NDCs. The information on GHG Inventory

and NDC tracking will thus become integral part of the policy making on Climate Change.

Output 1.3: As mentioned in the 'Coordination with other Initiatives' and 'Knowledge Management' Section the project will establish an active link with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform to both receive the knowledge and share the knowledge generated by the project. This has been added in description of the Output 1.3 section.

#### Component 2:

GIDMS and GHD DBMS: Fiji does not have any existing IT system for GHG inventory. As explained in the baseline, currently the data is manually collected by the CCICD staff, and the consultants hired for BUR/NC project and added to the excel based data storage system on the computers of the CCICD team. The GHG DBMS is a web-based database (the project may consider either off-the-shelf software's or develop custom made for Fiji based on the analysis during the project) which will be hosted on the Government of Fiji's IT system. The system will provide different levels of access to different stakeholders (CCICD, partners providing data, and larger stakeholder community). The Data providing partners will be able to provide data directly through GHG DBMS with CCICD being responsible for quality check and the analysis of the data to prepare reports. The spreadsheet produced in Output 2.1 will support the data collection and data entry into the GHG DBMS systems.

Agriculture and Forestry Sector: Fiji's Initiative for Climate Action Transparency (ICAT) project aims to strengthening data collection and GHG inventory process for rice cultivations and livestock. (Table 1 of CEO doc). CCICD, which is the director beneficiary of CBIT support and the EA, is also the implementing agency for the ICAT project. The work of ICAT thus will be developed by the same team and ensure that the work of the CBIT and ICAT are coordinated and synergistic. The Forestry sector work is being led by MoF and CCICD is part of the steering committee of the project. Thus, CCICD is linked with the implementation of both the projects and will ensure full and effective coordination.

Tier 2 and Tier 3 as part of deliverables: Thanks for the suggestion project towards the end of the project will initiate the process of assessment and development of roadmap for strengthening GHG inventories. This has been added as a deliverable in Output 2.1 (deliverable 2.1.5).

Output 3.1: The NDC system is the scope and process framework for tracking the implement the NDC actions. This will define the actions that are covered, gases included, reporting methods and frequency, validation methods of reported data, etc. This will then form the basis for developing methodologies for collecting data by relevant actors, its quality check and validation, and reporting templates. The NDC Registry is the web-based IT system to operationalize the NDC Action System. The IT system will provide a platform to collect the data for NDC tracking, capture the progress

and impacts, and analyze the data to enable its reporting. The NDC registry will also provide information for wider stakeholder on NDC implementation.

Output 3.2.2: The methodologies specific to Fiji will be based on already existing work. The project will review all methodologies available through public sources, including on the CBIT Global Coordination Platform. These methodologies will be assessed and suitably adapted to meet the Fiji requirements.

Output 3.3: Under activities and deliverables of 3.3.1 and 3.3.2, stakeholders' engagement will be carried out. Since CCICD is under the Ministry of Economy, its international cooperation division will be engaged for this activity and there is understanding on buy-in of tracking system. Capacity needs assessment will be carried out when designing training under activity and deliverable 3.3.3. This has been explained in the output.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/12/2021: Yes, this is well elaborated.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/12/2021: Yes, this is well elaborated.

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

7/12/2021: Yes, this is well elaborated.

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

7/12/2021: Yes, this is well elaborated.

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

7/12/2021: Yes

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

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

7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: Either here or under stakeholders, please elaborate on the specific private sector entities that will be engaged through the project.

8/17/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response  
**Response12/08/2021**

Those private sector entities that emit greenhouse gas (GHG) over the defined in The Fiji Climate Change Bill 2021, has defined threshold above which private needs to report their GHG emissions and is called upon to provide data voluntarily for better tracking of climate change related actions. These are likely to be from the energy, waste, IPPU and AFOLU sectors. This group that needs to report will be the direct beneficiary of the project outputs and will be duly engaged both to consult on development of various deliverables as well as to participate in the training workshops.

This has been explained in the Stakeholder table.

**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

7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: Yes, however, please also include an estimated budget for the KM activities outlined in this section.

8/17/2021: A budget for KM has been provided. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Response12/08/2021**

The estimated cost of KM activities is added in the Table in KM section.

**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

7/12/2021: 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

7/12/2021: yes, however, please include table with M&E budget in Portal submission.

8/17/2021: A budget table has been included in the Portal Submission. However, please include Responsible entity, description and timeframe. The sentence above the Table states that the total is \$44,000 while the table states the total as \$44,520. Please match and ensure that it matches with Annex I as well. The sentence here also states that "summary of planned activities is provided in Annex I." This seems to be a typo as it should be Annex E. Please revise.

8/20/2021: Even though the Annex has been changed to Annex J, the portal document does not have this annex attached. Also, an updated Prodoc is also missing. Please upload and revise accordingly.

8/23/2021: Cleared.

## Agency Response

### **Response 23/08/2021**

The Annex J refers to the UNEP Annex part of the Prodoc. The prodoc has been now attached. Also, in the text it is clarified that Annex J refers to the Annex in the attached Prodoc.

### **Response18/08/2021**

The table has been updated as suggested. Correct reference to Annex is made.

### **Response12/08/2021**

A table has been included in the relevant section on the Portal.

## **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

7/12/2021: Yes, however, per comments above, an explanation on expected number of direct beneficiaries is missing.

8/17/2021: Explanation has been provided under the Core Indicators section. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Annexes**

**Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/12/2021: The GEF budget is missing the column "Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency)". Please complete following the GEF budget template outlined in the GEF Guidelines. Please also make sure that the same GEF budget format is included in the project document. Please provide an explanatory note for the budget line titled "contingencies".

8/17/2021: GEF Budget table has been included in the portal document. However, the explanatory note for the budget line title "contingencies" is still missing. Please include. Please fill out the "Responsible Entity" for each line item (note that Terminal Evaluation will need to be filled out accordingly).

8/20/2021: Comment has been addressed. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Response18/08/2021**

Clarification provided for contingency budget. It has been clarified that EA (CCICD) will manage all the budget except for the TE budget, which will be managed by UNEP.

**Response12/08/2021**

This has been addressed.

**Project Results Framework**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/12/2021: We note that there are relatively few indicators. Consider adding indicators that may be relevant for the different activities/outputs under the 3 main outcomes. For example, there is no indicator that will track the work related to climate finance tracking.

8/17/2021: Thank you for the explanation. However, we would like to encourage the Agency to strengthen this framework and add additional indicators for the various components. For example, # of indicators/methodologies developed for tracking NDC, # of templates developed etc.

8/20/2021: This has been addressed. Cleared.

Agency Response

**Response 18/08/2021**

As suggested output indicators are added to all the outcomes. In outcome 3, earlier included outcome indicator is replaced with an output indicator. The additions are highlighted in yellow.

**Response12/08/2021**

The output indicators were not considered as it is captured in the deliverables developed for the project. These deliverables will be monitored and reported.

The suggestion on outcome 3 is well accepted and indicator of persons trained to apply the Climate Finance tracking has been added to the PRF.

**GEF Secretariat comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 7/12/2021: Yes

Agency Response

**Council comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**STAP comments**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

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 7/12/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

**Project maps and coordinates**

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 7/12/2021: Yes.

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

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 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 N/A

Agency Response

**GEFSEC DECISION**

**RECOMMENDATION**

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/12/2021: Please address comments.

8/17/2021: Please address remaining comments.

8/20/2021: Please address remaining comment.

8/23/2021: Comments have been addressed. PM recommends technical clearance.

**Review Dates**

	<b>Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement</b>	<b>Response to Secretariat comments</b>
<b>First Review</b>	7/12/2021	
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	8/17/2021	



**Secretariat Comment at  
CEO Endorsement**

**Response to  
Secretariat  
comments**

<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>8/20/2021</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	<b>8/23/2021</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>	

**CEO Recommendation**

**Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations**