

Financing Advanced Environmental Technologies in the Mediterranean Sea Region for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (EnviTeCC)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

9691

Countries

Regional (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey)

Project Name

Financing Advanced Environmental Technologies in the Mediterranean Sea Region for Water Systems and Clean Coasts (EnviTeCC)

Agenices

EBRD

Date received by PM

3/29/2019

Review completed by PM

10/8/2019

Program Manager

Steffen Hansen

Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Project Type

FSP

PIF

CEO Endorsement

Project Design and Financing

1. If there are any changes from that presented in the PIF, have justifications been provided?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

SH (25.4.19): Turkey have joined the project during PPG. This change should be listed and a reasoning provided in the project document.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

Response to Secretariat comments

Turkey has been added to the Programme eligible countries for the Chemicals & Waste focal area only, following the letter of the endorsement received on 27/03/2019. The letter was received only during PPG phase and as such Turkey has been included only at the Request for CEO Endorsement stage and the letter of endorsement can be found in the attached documents.

This change has been reflected and reasons provided in the GEF portal section “Part II - Project Justification” and in the EBRD Project Document on page 8.

2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

SH (25.4.19): Yes, however, please address the below points:

- Project Taxonomy section: please revisit the taxonomy section. As an example, tags specific to gender, knowledge management and private sector should be included.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

- Expected outcomes and components section: note that more detail will need to be added, including a short description of the component Outcomes and Outputs.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

- ANNEX A: Please include outcome 4 in the Annex A Results Framework section.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

- Supporting documents section: Please annex the Med Sea Program Gender mainstreaming and KM strategy.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

- In section A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination: Please add suitable text in section A.6 which make clear how the suggested institutional arrangements will facilitate the involvement/needed coordination of government partners, including as part of activities under the anticipated project policy dialogue component? As mentioned in the submission, facilitating this dialogue is deemed critical for scaling-up investments in environmental technologies.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

- Please explain what EBRD representative will participate in the program level annual steering committee meetings and how the anticipated dialogue with relevant GEF OFPs will translate into national level EBRD project implementation?

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

In the description of Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up the text references the EBRD project document and as such cannot be evaluated as all information required for evaluating the project must be in the portal and not as referenced attachments. Please revise all sections in the CEO endorsement to ensure compliance with this requirement before the project can be fully evaluated.

SH (06.09.19): Please annex the detailed line-item budget and re-submit.

SH (23.09.19): Thank you for annexing the budget. Please correct the discrepancies between numbers shown in the table B portal submission and the annexed budget.

Response to Secretariat comments

- On the Project taxonomy section: tags specific to gender, knowledge management and private sector have been included.

- On the expected outcomes and components section: the section Part II. Project Justification “Expected outcomes and components” of the GEF portal has been amended to include a detailed description of outcomes and outputs for each component. Further information on each Component is provided on pages 18 to 29 of the EBRD Project Document (2.3 Project approach, 2.3 Project components).

- ANNEX A: outcome 4.1 Depollution oriented policy tools made available in the region has been added.

- Supporting documents section: the Annexes have been uploaded. (MedProgramme Knowledge Management Strategy, MedProgramme Gender Mainstreaming Strategy)

- Section A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination: The following text has been added to section “A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination” in the GEF Portal: Partnership and dialogue with relevant national governments and national and local public sector entities are considered critical for scaling-up investments in environmental technologies for water systems and coastal areas, and POPs reduction and prevention. This coordination includes each country’s GEF OFPs who will be engaged at a programmatic level. The EBRD has already established close links with governments in all of its CoOs, including the SEMED region, Turkey and Western Balkans, and will continue to foster these relationships through policy dialogue and networking (in addition to investment financing) related to the Child Project. Moreover, EBRD will participate in the stock-taking meetings during which EBRD will consult with GEF focal points on CP implementation as well as for mid-term and annual review.

- EBRD representative participation in the program level annual steering committee meetings:

Representatives of the EBRD's Energy Efficiency and Climate Change and/or Donor Co-Financing teams will participate in the programme level annual steering committee meetings. At these annual steering committee meetings, the EBRD will solicit feedback from key stakeholders – notable OFPs – and reflect this as appropriate in the upcoming policy and technical assistance activities. These meetings will also be used a mechanism to ensure that national level activities under the EBD-led child project are aligned with the latest country priorities, legislation and strategy.

- Regarding your comment on the section "Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up", we have confirmed with the GEF secretariat that the EBRD project document is accessible from the portal and that relevant information can be found in the annexes as part of the Project Document submission.

3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes.

Response to Secretariat comments

4. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk response measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

SH(25.4.19): Core Indicators: please populate the sub-indicators 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3. As for sub-indicator indicator 7.4, please change the value to “0”.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

Core Indicators for chemicals are unclear. In 9.1 the amount of pure tons of POPs is indicated at 900 and for contaminated material it is indicated in 9.6 that the amount is 350. Please provide an explanation of how these numbers were calculated.

AS (Sept 11, 2019) Comment cleared..

Response to Secretariat comments

On CORE Indicators: the Indicators have been amended on a scale of 1 to 4 as follows:

- 7.1: SCALE 4
- 7.2: SCALE 4
- 7.3: BLANK as not applicable within the operational model designed for this Child Project.
- 7.4: SCALE 1

On CORE indicators for chemicals: the indicator 9.1 has been corrected to reflect the targets of the Programme, i.e. reduction and prevention of 1,250 tons of POPs. The EBRD estimated most of the POPs target will be achieved by removal or disposal of existing POPs. Based on PPG study (Feasibility study on the elimination and safe disposal of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) stockpiles, remediation of contaminated land and elimination from industrial processes in the Mediterranean Sea region, October 2017), it is expected that a limited amount of POPs has potential to be avoided as part of the investments under the Child Project, which is preliminarily estimated in 350 tonnes and indicated under the indicator 9.6 Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided.

7. Only for Non-Grant Instrument: Has a reflow calendar been presented?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement NA

Response to Secretariat comments

8. Is the project coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

Agency Responses

11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the PIF stage from:

GEFSEC

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement SH (25.4.19): Yes

Response to Secretariat comments

STAP

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

SH (25.4.19): Please note that STAP made the following comment at the time of council approval of the Program:

“Emphasis on the demand side needs to be more fully demonstrated, especially for the proposed child projects.”

Please include additional detail describing the projects intent to engage with civil society and national level governmental stakeholders during its implementation. Please also include information as to the level of engagement with civil society/government during project preparation.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

Response to Secretariat comments This additional comment received from STAP has been addressed and added to the existing responses provided in the ANNEX B - RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS in the updated RCE.

GEF Council

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

SH (25.4.19): No response to council comments have been provided. Please include.

SH (06.09.19): Addressed.

In the description of Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up the text references the EBRD project document and as such cannot be evaluated as all information required for evaluating the project must be in the portal and not as referenced attachments. Please revise all sections in the CEO endorsement to ensure compliance with this requirement before the project can be fully evaluated.

Response to Secretariat comments

Comments received from the GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies, Convention Secretariats, and the GEF Council related the Programme overall. Where comments were relevant to this specific Child Project they have been addressed and added to the existing responses provided in the ANNEX B - RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS in the RCE.

Regarding your comment on the section "Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up", we have confirmed with the GEF secretariat that the EBRD project document is accessible from the portal and that relevant information can be found in the annexes as part of the Project Document submission.

Convention Secretariat

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement NA

Response to Secretariat comments

Recommendation

12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

SH(25.4.19): Please address comments and resubmit.

SH (06.09.19): Please annex the detailed budget and resubmit.

SH (23.9.19): please correct the discrepancy between the numbers as shown in the table B portal submission and the annexed budget.

SH (27.9.19): Project is PM recommended for CEO Endorsement.

Response to Secretariat comments

All comments have been addressed and an updated version of the EBRD project document has been uploaded.

19 September 2019: The budget has been uploaded to the portal

Review Dates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement

Response to Secretariat comments

First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief Reasoning for CEO Recommendations

This project is a Child Project under the GEF-funded programme titled “Mediterranean Sea Programme: Enhancing Environmental Security” (MedProgramme). Its seeks to address nutrient and POPs pollution, which is increasingly a treat to the overall health of coastal aquifers and the larger Mediterranean sea. The Mediterranean Sea, being the largest semi-enclosed sea in the world and shared by 21 countries, is undergoing a dramatic process of development, which should be seen through the lens of the compounding effects of climate change, and which is associated with rapid population increase, lack of infrastructure and connectivity, capacity and regulatory gaps and lack of mainstreaming of appropriate technologies and practices related to nutrients and POPs management. Within this context, the project seeks to accelerate investments in wastewater treatment and POPs elimination/reduction and with the aim of improving the management practices of private and publicly-owned businesses in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.

The Project consists of four Components:

- Component 1: Technical Assistance, resulting in the development of a pipeline of investments.

- Component 2: Investments, providing project financing of specific Best Available Technologies (BAT)/Best Available Practices (BAP) with clear environmental benefits related to the objectives of the IW and C&W focal areas.
- Component 3: Communication and Knowledge Management, thereby strengthening capacity across the stakeholder communities in the target countries to transfer advanced pollution reduction technologies.
- Component 4: Policy Dialogue, foreseen to deliver industry-led depollution roadmaps and Green City Action Plans.

Project innovation is insured via the strong focus on Best Available Technologies/Best Available Practices related to wastewater pollution, recycling of water resources and POPs reduction and avoidance. The sustainability of the project is ensured through financing of technologies that can be replicated across the region; technical assistance capacity building; and policy development to design an industry-led road map for pollution reduction and integrated city action plan. Scaling up is embedded in the design of the project, which is fundamentally a market driven transformation initiative working with early movers.

The project will deliver GEBs via the additional wastewater treatment of 3.5 million m³/per year and recycling of 1.5 million m³/per year and with at least three private/public wastewater systems discharging directly or indirectly into coastal hotspots upgraded. The project will also eliminate or reduce over 1,250 tons of POPs, preventing their future release into the environment. The lack of quantitative inventories on new POPs prevents the project team in setting quantitative targets for new POPs reduction at project design.