Implementing Ecuador?s Climate Transparency System

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10818
Countries

Ecuador
Project Name

Implementing Ecuador?s Climate Transparency System
Agencies

UNEP
Date received by PM

4/27/2022
Review completed by PM

5/18/2022
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

5/2/2022: Yes, the project is aligned as presented in the PIF.

Agency Response

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 5/2/2022: Yes.

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 5/2/2022: We note that the co-financing amount has reduced from the PIF and that a justification has been provided. Co-financing letter provided is adequate. Cleared.

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 5/2/2022: Yes, the financing presented is adequate and demonstrates a cost-effective approach. Some allocations among components have changed but overall amount remains the same. Cleared.

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 5/2/2022: Yes, this has been provided. See comment in section below.

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 5/2/2022: We welcome the increase in the targets from the PIF stage and note the explanation provided. Cleared.

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

5/2/2022: Yes this has been 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

5/2/2022: This has been well elaborated. In Table 7, for the first entry - NC4 and BUR 2 - please mention that this is a GEF project.

5/10/2022: This has been addressed. Cleared.

Agency Response

May 9, 2022

Table 7 has been revised accordingly.

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

5/2/2022: For outcome 1.1 we note that the activities/deliverables are dependent on the NCCR design under the GCF readiness project. Please describe how any delays in that process may impact this outcome, and how this will be mitigated. (This can be provided in this section or in the risk section below).

5/10/2022: Cleared.

Agency Response

May 9, 2022

The risk section was revised to include an additional risk (?Delays in implementation of required activities undertaken by other projects?), together with its corresponding mitigation measures.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/2/2022: Yes.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/2/2022: Yes, this has been provided.

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

5/2/2022: Yes.

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

5/2/2022: Yes, this has been well elaborated. Cleared.

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

5/2/2022: This is a national project and map of Ecuador has been provided.

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

5/2/2022: A detailed stakeholder consultation report has been provided. Documentation has been provided for stakeholder engagement plan has been provided. However, please provide a brief description of the means and frequency of engagement.

5/10/2022: This has been addressed and we note that this will be further refined through Output 3.1.

Agency Response

May 9, 2022

Table 11 has been revised to include means and frequency of engagement. Kindly note that this will be further refined through Output 3.1. (i.e. the gender-sensitive public engagement and communication campaign).

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

5/2/2022: Yes, this has been provided.

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

5/2/2022: Yes, this has been elaborated and we note that specific private sector entities are mentioned in the stakeholder engagement plan. Cleared.

Agency Response

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

5/2/2022: Please include risk of staff turnover. We note that a COVID risk and opportunities analysis has also been provided.

Agency Response

May 9, 2022

Risk of staff turnover (and mitigation measures) added to the risk section.

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

5/2/2022: This has been provided. Cleared.

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

5/2/2022: Yes, this has been described.

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

5/2/2022: Yes, this has been provided.

Agency Response

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

5/2/2022: This has been marked as low. Cleared.

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

5/2/2022: This has been provided.

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

5/2/2022: This has been elaborated. Cleared.

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/2/2022: The Budget has been provided as part of the portal document. However, please upload the budget as a separate spreadsheet document on the "Documents" section of the portal as well.

5/10/2022: This has been uploaded. Cleared.

Agency Response

May 9, 2022

An excel version of the budget has been uploaded into the ?documents? section of the portal.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 5/2/2022: Yes, this has been provided. Cleared.

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
5/2/2022: This has been provided. However, we note that the unspent funds will be used during project execution. Please specify what activities these funds will be used for.

5/10/2022: A description has been provided for how these funds will be used.

5/16/2022: Based on the table and explanation provided it is not clear which activities that were funded with the PPG funds. It is clear that $19,480 was not used and will be used during the 1st year of execution. However, it is not clear what was used since the column ?amount spent to date? shows $0. As reference we are providing another table from a different project. Please revise accordingly.

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: U$ 182,650

Project Preparation Activities Implemented	GETF/LDCF/SCCF Amount ($)			
	Budgeted Amount	Amount Committed	Amount Spent ToDate*	Amount Unspent/undisbursed
Sub total Consulting services rendered: Technical expertise **	162,091	162,091	157,448	4,643
Project Manager	52,111	52,111	50,914	
Solid Waste Management Specialist (international and local)	49,928	49,928	46,608	
Gender Equality & Social Inclusion Specialist	31,952	31,952	31,826	
Finance & Strategy Development Specialist	28,100	28,100	28,100	
Sub Total Consulting services rendered: Stakeholder engagement ***	20,559	20,559	20,428	131
Solid Waste Management Specialist (local)	10,000	10,000	9,913	
Gender Equality & Social Inclusion Specialist	8,000	8,000	7,956	
Workshop/Meeting with local goverment	2,559	2,559	2,559	
Grand Total	**182,650**	**182,650**	**177,876**	**4,774**

5/18/2022: This has been clarified.

Agency Response

May 9, 2022

Annex C (?Status of utilization of project preparation grant (PPG)? was revised to include a discussion on the activities foreseen with the outstanding PPG funds.

May 17, 2022

The table has been updated up to 17/05/2022. As of this date, the commitment to the lead consultant (PPG expert technical consultant) has been made effective (i.e. it is now shown as ?spent?). The contract with the regional transparency consultant will be paid and closed upon approval of the project; hence, this line stills reflects as ?committed? (instead of spent).

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

5/2/2022: This has been provided.

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

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	**5/2/2022**	
Additional Review (as necessary)	**5/10/2022**	
Additional Review (as necessary)	**5/16/2022**	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

5/2/2022: Please address comments.

5/10/2022: PM recommends technical clearance.

5/16/2022: Please address remaining comment.

5/18/2022: PM recommends clearance.