

Sudan's Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency Project

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10479

Countries

Sudan

Project Name

Sudan's Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency Project

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

1/21/2020

Review completed by PM

5/21/2020

Program Manager

Milena Vasquez

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

MSP

PIF

Part I – Project Information

Focal area elements

1. Is the project/program aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements in Table A, as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the project is aligned with the GEF climate change focal area.

Agency Response

Indicative project/program description summary

2. Are the components in Table B and as described in the PIF sound, appropriate, and sufficiently clear to achieve the project/program objectives and the core indicators?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the components in Table B are sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear for this stage.

Agency Response

Co-financing

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, with a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: We note in-kind co-financing from the national government of \$250,000. However, we see that no amount has been allocated to the PMC. Consider revising.

5/15/2020: Comment cleared. Co-financing of \$400,000 from the National Government is expected, including for PMC.

Agency Response

UNDP, 03/17/2020: Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources will contribute additional \$150,000 for the project management comprising office space, furniture, electricity, water and communication cost (i.e. phone call bill).

GEF Resource Availability

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the project is requesting \$1,354,515 in project financing and agency fees. This amount is currently available in the CBIT set-aside.

Agency Response

The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: N/A

Agency Response

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: N/A

Agency Response

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: N/A

Agency Response

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: N/A

Agency Response

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, this amount is currently available in the CBIT set-aside.

Agency Response

Impact Program Incentive?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: N/A

Agency Response

Project Preparation Grant

5. Is PPG requested in Table E within the allowable cap? Has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated? (not applicable to PFD)

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, Table E is requesting \$50,000 PPG, which is within the allowable cap.

Agency Response

Core indicators

6. Are the identified core indicators in Table F calculated using the methodology included in the correspondent Guidelines? (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the project has identified Core Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries. Please note that by CEO Endorsement we also expect targets for the two relevant CBIT indicators.

5/15/2020: Indicator 1 and 2 are not relevant for this project. Please remove these targets.

5/21/2020: Targets have been removed. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

UNDP, 03/17/2020: Noted, further targets will be provided at CEO endorsement. Indicator 1 (Terrestrial protected areas) and indicator 2 (Marine protected areas) are stated.

UNDP, 05/18/2020 - Done

Project/Program taxonomy

7. Is the project/ program properly tagged with the appropriate keywords as requested in Table G?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the project is properly tagged.

Agency Response

Part II – Project Justification

1. Has the project/program described the global environmental / adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers that need to be addressed?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the project has described the situation in Sudan, a least developed country highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

Agency Response

2. Is the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects appropriately described?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: The baseline scenario is properly described. However, please address the following comments:

Please add the sources of funding/support of the projects listed and implementation timelines (for those missing it) for additional clarity.

Please also comment on whether Sudan is planning on updating its NDC this year, and if so, what that process will entail and how it would inform this project development.

Considering that Sudan is completing its BUR this year, please incorporate any experience in carrying out that report (i.e. institutional arrangements, moving to 2006 guidelines, reporting on mitigation actions, etc.) and add the expectations of undergoing the International Consultation Analysis and how the project will aim to integrate findings and recommendations.

5/15/2020: Additional baseline information provided. Comments cleared.

Agency Response

UNDP, 03/17/2020: The sources of funding and implementation timelines are provided under section 2, Baseline scenario. The progress of the preparation of NDC and experiences of BUR are updated under section 2, sub activities number 8.

UNDP, 05/18/2020 - Done

3. Does the proposed alternative scenario describe the expected outcomes and components of the project/program?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the proposed alternative scenario describes the expected outcomes and components well. We note that Component 2 is quite comprehensive and that additional details will be fleshed out during project preparation, particularly as it relates to the specific topics and recipients of the trainings, and for the priority mitigation and adaptation actions for which indicators will be developed. We expect this additional detail by CEO Endorsement.

Agency Response

UNDP, 03/17/2020: Noted.

4. Is the project/program aligned with focal area and/or Impact Program strategies?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the project is well aligned. Please add specific reference to the CBIT Programming Directions non-exhaustive list of eligible activities.

5/15/2020: Additional information provided. Comments cleared.

Agency Response UNDP, 03/17/2020: Added specific reference to the CBIT programming directions non-exhaustive list of eligible activities such data generation in the development of climate policies leading to proper GHG inventory system, enhancement the preparation of both National communication and BUR as well as more effective implementation of the country's NDC.

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes, the incremental reasoning is properly described.

Agency Response

6. Are the project's/program's indicative targeted contributions to global environmental benefits (measured through core indicators) reasonable and achievable? Or for adaptation benefits?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

7. Is there potential for innovation, sustainability and scaling up in this project?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Project/Program Map and Coordinates

Is there a preliminary geo-reference to the project's/program's intended location?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: This is a national capacity-building program. N/A.

Agency Response

Stakeholders

Does the PIF/PFD include indicative information on Stakeholders engagement to date? If not, is the justification provided appropriate? Does the PIF/PFD include information about the proposed means of future engagement?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: It appears that the stakeholders listed refer to stakeholders that will be consulted during project preparation not stakeholders who were consulted already during the project identification phase. Please move to the right section and address the first question.

5/15/2020: Comment cleared.

Agency Response

UNDP, 03/17/2020: Addressed the first question under section II. #2.

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Is the articulation of gender context and indicative information on the importance and need to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, adequate?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Considering that the project will reporting on indicator 11, the last question in this section should be a yes (gender-sensitive indicators). Please revise. In addition, please reconsider whether the project aims on "closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources" and on "generating socio-economic benefits or services for women" considering the capacity-building focus.

5/15/2020: Comment cleared.

Agency Response

UNDP, 03/17/2020: Addressed indicator #11.

Private Sector Engagement

Is the case made for private sector engagement consistent with the proposed approach?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Risks

Does the project/program consider potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved or may be resulting from project/program implementation, and propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

6/18/2020: Pre-risk screening template has been provided. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

UNDP, 06/02/2020: Social and Environmental Screening Form at PIF stage is attached in the Portal.

Risk 1: The civil war that is facing Sudan could pose a safety risk to the stakeholders and project staff of the project.

(SES Principle 1 Human Rights, q9; and SES Standard 3 Community Health, Safety Working Conditions q3.9)

The level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks is low for the project. The project has very limited impact in terms of magnitude (very low number of people can be affected). The project will cover only ministries and institutions related to climate change reporting.

In the Pre-Screening: During the development of the project, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be prepared based on that assessment; Avoidance measures will be identified and, where avoidance is not possible, management measures will be developed with full, meaningful engagement and consultation.

Coordination

Is the institutional arrangement for project/program coordination including management, monitoring and evaluation outlined? Is there a description of possible coordination with relevant GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project/program area?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Consistency with National Priorities

Has the project/program cited alignment with any of the recipient country's national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Knowledge Management

Is the proposed "knowledge management (KM) approach" in line with GEF requirements to foster learning and sharing from relevant projects/programs, initiatives and evaluations; and contribute to the project's/program's overall impact and sustainability?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Part III – Country Endorsements

Has the project/program been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF data base?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Yes.

Agency Response

Termsheet, reflow table and agency capacity in NGI Projects

Does the project provide sufficient detail in Annex A (indicative termsheet) 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 in Annex B to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. After reading the questionnaire in Annex C, is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: N/A

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

Is the PIF/PFD recommended for technical clearance? Is the PPG (if requested) being recommended for clearance?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

1/31/2020: Not yet. Please address minor comments.

5/15/2020: Most comments have been addressed. However, please remove targets from Core Indicators 1 and 2.

6/2/2020: Per the recently adopted Environmental and Social Safeguards policy and accompanying guidelines: please provide early screening results (e.g. the completed UNDP “Social and Environmental Screening Template), or provide some indicative information on environmental and social risks and, if possible, preliminary overall risk classification of the project as well as the types and risk classification address identified risks and potential impacts.

6/18/2020: Pre-risk screening template has been provided. Comment cleared.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Additional recommendations to be considered by Agency at the time of CEO endorsement/approval.

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Review Dates

	PIF Review	Agency Response
First Review		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

PIF Recommendation to CEO

Brief reasoning for recommendations to CEO for PIF Approval

This CBIT project aims to enhance the Sudanese human and institutional capacities in the area of transparency, according to the decisions of the Paris Agreement on climate change. Sudan ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1993 and the Paris Agreement in 2017. In 1998, Sudan established a Climate Change Unit within the Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources (HCENR) to coordinate with different national institutions, including government, research, academia, the private sector and civil society institutions and organization.

Lack of permanent arrangements for GHG emission inventory and effective MRV and M&E systems including for adaptation and finance are key factors hindering Sudan's ability to meet its transparency obligations under the Paris Agreement. Building technical and institutional capacities for the implementation of GHG inventories, establishing baseline scenarios for mitigation actions in different sectors as well as strengthening MRV and M&E systems will enable Sudan to successfully implement its climate change obligations and continue to communicate and report on its NDCs in line with the requirements under the Paris Agreement.

The project consists of the following components:

1. National institutional arrangements for climate change transparency are developed.
2. National capacity for transparency under Paris Agreement has been built, in line with modalities, procedures and guidelines for transparency under Art.13.
3. Progress tracking and NDC transparency is maintained and improved over time.

This CBIT project will enable the establishment of transparency and training sections within the climate change unit; the strengthening of inter-institutional coordination mechanism as well as establishing national climate change data collection and archiving system; the development training and educational materials about transparency of climate change actions for both public awareness and capacity building of national human resources; development of national tools and modalities for GHG inventories, climate change mitigation, NDCs, adaptation action, QA/QC procedure that eventually lead to a robust MRV and M&E system; and the development of a long-term transparency strategy and a system for integration and tracking of progress in the implementation of the NDC over time.