



Amazon Regional Technical Assistance

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10737

Countries

Regional (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname)

Project Name

Amazon Regional Technical Assistance

Agencies

World Bank

Date received by PM

11/6/2020

Review completed by PM

12/3/2020

Program Manager

Mark Zimsky

Focal Area

Multi Focal Area

Project Type

FSP

CEO Approval Request

Part I ? Project Information

1. Focal area elements. Is the project aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

2. Project description summary. 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

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

3. If this is a non-grant instrument, has a reflow calendar been presented in Annex D?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA.

Agency Response

4. Co-financing. Are the confirmed 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, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

12/22/2020

No. None of the co-financing letters specify the type of co-financing, as required by the policy. Please revise the cofinancing letters and specify clearly whether the contributions are cash or in-kind.

Please see the text from the policy:

At CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage, supporting evidence should:

- (a) confirm the information provided by the Agency, including the name of the entity that provides the Co-Financing, the type of Co-Financing provided, the amount of Co-Financing, and the time frame over which the Co-Financing will be provided;
- (b) confirm that the Co-Financing identified supports the implementation of the GEF financed project or program for which GEF financing is sought, and the achievement of its objective(s); and
- (c) be presented in English, where feasible, or be accompanied by an English translation of the original.

Agency Response

2/1/2021

thank you. Cofinancing letters are revised, uploaded in the GEF portal

5. GEF resource availability. 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 CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

STAR allocation?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA.

Agency Response

Focal Area allocation?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA.

Agency Response

SCCF (Adaptation or Tech Transfer)?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA.

Agency Response

Focal Area Set Aside?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

Impact Program Incentive?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

6. Project Preparation Grant. If PPG is requested in Table E.1, has its advanced programming and utilized been accounted for in Annex C of the document?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA.

Agency Response

7. Non-Grant Instrument. If this an NGI, are the expected reflows indicated in Annex D?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA.

Agency Response

8. Core Indicators. Are the targeted core indicators in Table E calculated using the methodology in the prescribed guidelines? (GEF/C.54/Infxxx)

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Yes with a reasonable rationale for identifying the influencing effect.

Please clarify how the regional grant is going to create an 80,000 hectare new protected area in Peru as presented in the core indicators in the portal; this is unclear in the Annex and the explanation in the documentation.

12/3/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

As per adjustments in the calculation of the core indicators for the Regional TA, the number of hectares of protected areas to be created by the ASL national child projects is no longer included. Therefore, the number for new PA from the Peruvian national project has been deleted.

2/1/2021

thank you

9. Project taxonomy. Is the project properly tagged with the appropriate keywords as in Table G?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

Part II ? Project Justification

1. Project Description. Is there 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
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

2. Project Description. Is there an elaboration on how the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects were derived?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

3. Project Description. Is there an elaboration on the proposed alternative scenario as described in PIF/PFD sound and adequate? Is there more clarity on the expected outcomes and components of the project and a description on the project is aiming to achieve them?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

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

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

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

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

6. Project Description. Is there a better elaboration on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits or adaptation benefits?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

7. Project Description. Is there a better elaboration to show that the project is innovative and sustainable including the potential for scaling up?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

8. 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

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

9. Child Project. If this is a child project, an adequate reflection of how it contributes to the overall program impact?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

10. 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
11/18/2020

Cleared. See annex for stakeholder engagement plan which is comprehensive.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

11. 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
11/18/2020

Cleared. Included gender strategy as an annex.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

12. 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
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

13. Risk. 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
11/18/2020

Cleared. Includes a COVID-19 strategy.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

14. 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
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

15. Consistency with national priorities. Has the project described the consistency of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

16. 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

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

17. 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

11/18/2020

Please clarify how this project will track the core indicators and the influencing effect of the regional grant as part of the M&E plan.

12/3/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

Core indicators for the Regional TA will reflect the project's 'influencing effect'.

Coordination and knowledge sharing actions are expected to generate an 'influencing effect' that will reach additional areas beyond the target areas of each national project. Partnerships with regional initiatives are also expected to strengthen the capacity for conservation and sustainable development in further areas. These target effects have been estimated at GEFSEC request and will be tracked and reported at mid-term and completion.

- Indicator 1 includes all Amazon protected areas in Colombia and Peru (other than those targeted by the ASL) as the Program can potentially influence management of these areas through the financing mechanisms of Herencia Colombia and Patrimonio del Peru. It also includes additional Integrated Management Areas in Brazil other than those targeted directly by the project, as they will potentially benefit from lessons and shared experiences from the ASL.

- Indicator 4 includes areas in Colombia targeted under the REDD+ Early Movers Program for sustainable management practices, and in the Brazilian Amazon include National forests (FLONA) prioritized by the Brazilian Forest Service (SFB) for concessions, which all will potentially benefit from ASL information.

- Indicator 11 estimates people directly benefitting from communications and knowledge management activities from the Regional TA.

The Regional TA description has been improved to clarify how the TA project will track the influencing effect. Annex F describes what is being taken into account for each reported core indicator.

2/1/2021

thank you

18. 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

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

19. Annexes:

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared. Please paste Annex F in the portal entry for the CEO endorsement request.

12/3/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you, the annex F is entered in the portal for the CEO endorsement request

2/1/2021

thank you

20. 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

11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

Project Results Framework

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Please include in the project results framework how the regional project will track the influencing effect recorded in the core indicators as these do not clearly appear in the results framework in the portal or in the annex.

12/3/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

The results framework has been amended to provide clarity as to how selected indicators (PDO3, IR1.1 and 2.1.) are also capturing the influencing effect that the coordination project aims to achieve in line with accomplishing its development objective.

Definition for PDO3 describes the expected ?influence? of the Regional TA

Definitions for indicators IR1.1 and 2.1 have been updated.

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared. In annex.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

Council comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Cleared. In annex.

Agency Response

12/1/2020

thank you!

STAP comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared. In annex.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

NA

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

NA

Agency Response
CSOs comments

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

NA

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

NA

Agency Response
Calendar of expected reflows (if NGI is used)

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

NA

Agency Response
Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

Cleared.

Agency Response
12/1/2020

thank you!

Part III ? Country and Agency Endorsements

1. 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 CEO Endorsement Request
11/18/2020

NA

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 CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

NA

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

1. RECOMMENDATION.

Is CEO endorsement/approval recommended?

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

11/18/2020

Please revise the document as requested above and resubmit. Please also correct the title of the attachment which is the CEO endorsement request as it currently is labeled "CEO endorsement letter" in the portal.

12/22/2020

No. Please revise the cofinancing letters as noted above and resubmit.

2/5/2021

Yes. All issues have been addressed. CEO endorsement is recommended.

Review Dates

	1SMSP CEO Approval	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	11/18/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	12/3/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	12/22/2020	
Additional Review (as necessary)	2/5/2021	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The objective of the proposed Amazon Regional TA is to *strengthen coordination, access to information and capacity of national projects stakeholders under the GEF-7 Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program*. The Regional TA aims to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and experiences between the seven national child projects in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru and Suriname and with other key stakeholders, including scientists, NGOs, donors and more, strengthening the impact of individual project interventions and supporting national, regional and international processes and policies committed to avoiding deforestation and forest degradation in the Amazon, while promoting sustainable landscape management. It will ensure strong links to the recent Leticia pact and its action plan, closely following and supporting its implementation in the many areas with common objectives to the ASL Program.

The TA has three Components.

Component 1: Coordination

Outcomes:

Strengthened capacity for collaborative management of regional terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems

Strengthened capacity for donor collaboration

Increased collaboration among national project teams and key stakeholders

Component 2: Knowledge Management and Communications

Outcomes:

Strengthened implementation capacity among national project stakeholders

Increased stakeholder knowledge on conservation and sustainable land and water management in the Amazon

Stakeholder awareness raised about regional issues affecting the Amazon

Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation

Outcome: Strengthened program level monitoring and evaluation system