

Knowledge Generation and Management to support the Implementation of the UNCCD COP15 Abidjan Legacy Program (KGM-LEGAP)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

11012

Countries

Global (Cote d'Ivoire)

Project Name

Knowledge Generation and Management to support the Implementation of the UNCCD COP15 Abidjan Legacy Program (KGM-LEGAP)

Agencies

IFAD

Date received by PM

2/15/2023

Review completed by PM

6/14/2023

Program Manager

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

Focal Area

Land Degradation

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

May 3, 2023

Addressed.

February 24, 2023

Addressed.

- Please, confirm that a 24-month duration is reasonable. We wonder if the \$450,000 budget for South-South cooperation for instance should not be planned at least for a three-year period. Please, justify the duration.

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

The suggestion by the GEF has been considered, and the duration has been extended to three years.

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

June 14, 2023

Addressed.

June 13, 2023

- Letter of Endorsement from Costa Rica is missed. We however understood that the letter was received. Please upload it by the resubmission.

June 9, 2023

Point taken. To be followed. If a letter cannot be obtained on time, we suggest removing the name of Costa Rica from the project document and the CEO approval in the portal. This KM project stays relevant in the context of the Abidjan Legacy Program and we think that it is only a question of time to obtain an endorsement/support from Costa Rica and eventually other countries later.

June 6, 2023

Point taken. See if you can obtain a LoE from Costa Rica. However, please pay attention to the remaining time before cancellation (June 17, 2023).

May 3, 2023

We suggest removing the names of the countries for the time being. If South-South partnerships are confirmed during the implementation of this MSP, you will have then to ask for letters of endorsement. At least, a letter from endorsement from Costa Rica may be obtained. Please confirm.

February 24, 2023

- The section II) Project Justification should start with the changes between what was approved at the PIF level and the MSP at CEO approval. If there were no changes, please engage your responsibility in writing it clearly; if there were changes, please include a table to explain the changes in the formulation of outputs, outcomes, activities, and the indicators, among others.

- Component 1 mentions that "at the time of developing this document for CEO endorsement, the government of Ivory Coast has had advanced discussions with the government of Costa Rica as part of the planning process for a south-south cooperation and knowledge exchange. Other "candidate" countries include those in West Africa, Latin American Countries (Brazil,) and South Asia countries (Indonesia). The exchanges will include virtual tours. (\$450,000 allocated)? For GEF financed activities in countries, letter of endorsement are required. Please ask the Agency for those letters " otherwise the project cannot be CEO approved.

Agency Response

31 May 2023

We are checking for the LOE from Costa Rica. Not for the other countries. Names have been removed

April 23, 2023

As advised, a section has been introduced in form of a table to highlight the changes between PIF and CEO.

Discussions ongoing between the Government of Cote d'Ivoire and that of Costa Rica regarding the south-south cooperation and knowledge exchange.

14 June 2023

The LOE has been uploaded

9 June 2023

LoE from Costa Rica is pending with OFP

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

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

June 9, 2023

Addressed.

June 6, 2023

See the comment related to the FAO letter. Please, address.

May 3, 2023

Not addressed.

February 24, 2023

- The letters of cofinancing are missing (in the portal, in the MSP template, and the annexes).
- Please, describe the cofinancing to understand the synergy between this MSP and other partners.
- OK for the cofinancing from IFAD, FAO, and the government. What about the announcements made in Abidan (EU, Canada, WB...).

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

Cofinancing letters are in process for their signature

The government of Ivory Coast through the Legacy Secretariat has continued engaging different institutions that made the announcements, including the EU, Canada and WB

31 May 2023

A file summarizing the institutions which confirmed contributions is shared with the revised CEO.

9 June 2023

The cofinancing from the FAO GEF project has been removed. The cofinancing of 225k is on the FAO GCF project. The FAO GCF project is 10 M, and 3.4 M only has been allocated to the FAO GEF FOLUR. There is no duplication.

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
February 24, 2023

Addressed.

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 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
May 3, 2023

Addressed.

February 24, 2023

It is understood that this project is a KM project that will indirectly generate Global Environment Benefits.

However, the project aims to target 30,000 people, with a gender balance.

Please, note that the target for core indicator 11 in the core indicator table (30,000) is not consistent with the reporting target in the results framework (5,000) in the Annex A. Please revise it.

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

Comment noted with thanks. As advised, the figures have been reconciled in the results framework

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

February 24, 2023

Addressed.

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

February 24, 2023

Addressed.

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

June 6, 2023

Addressed.

May 3, 2023

Not addressed. If the conditions have changed and if the GM is not the main executing partner, please correct the table 1 with general information. Mention the Abidjan Legacy Program and national institutions as executing partners.

February 24, 2023

- We do not dispute the Result framework that is justified in the Theory of Change, but we wonder if the budget and the executing partners really reflect the intention (\$1.3 million of consultants, mainly based at the GM...). Please, clarify.

- Explain the possible/potential sustainability of the outcomes with such approach.

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

Between PIF and CEO endorsement, circumstances have changed, and the UNCCD/GM has been removed from the execution of project activities, replaced with local institutions within Ivory Coast to build and strengthen capacities to sustain the outcomes of the KM project and the Legacy Program overall. Short term technical consultants will be engaged to conduct

31 May 2023

certain activities, and will be overseen by the ALP Secretariat.

Addressed

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
February 24, 2023

Addressed.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
June 9, 2023

Addressed.

June 6, 2023

See the comment on the FAO cofinancing letter. Please, address.

May 3, 2023

Not addressed. To be confirmed when the cofinancing letters will be available.

February 24, 2023

- The incremental reasoning is expedited into 2 paras (71 and 72).
- There is no analysis of cofinancing, no analysis of potential complementary KM mechanisms (OCRAF-CIFOR, Universities, massive investments from the WB, EU, etc), no justification of the added value of the GEF activities.
- To be revised and strengthened.

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

The comment is noted. Under the incremental reasoning section, additional information has been provided to strengthen the incremental reasoning of the KM-LEGAP vis-?-vis investments from other development partners, notably the World Bank and the EU.

It is also noted how the KM-LEGAP project will have complementarities that will be an opportunity for scaling up and sustainability of the project's achievement.

31 May 2023

Cofinancing letters provided.

9 June 2023

The cofinancing from the FAO GEF project has been removed. The cofinancing of 225k is on the FAO GCF project. The FAO GCF project is 10 M, and 3.4 M only has been allocated to the FAO GEF FOLUR. There is no duplication.

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
February 24, 2023

The project is a KM project and will indirectly contribute to the generation of GEB.

30,000 beneficiaries have been identified with a gender balance.

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
June 14, 2023

Addressed.

June 9, 2023

Point taken. To be confirmed asap, as this MSP is reaching the maximum time allowed for approval (June 17, 2023).

June 6, 2023

Point not addressed.

May 3, 2023

to be confirmed with the LoE.

February 24, 2023

- Sustainability is an issue with the proposed model and \$1.3 million of consultants. Please, adjust significantly.

- The potential for scaling up has not been developed through the KM approach of expected massive investments (WB, EU).

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

Comment noted with thanks. In response:

a) As has been noted above, the implementation arrangement has been modified, with the UNCCD/GM removed to create a more prominent role to local institutions to strengthen capacities.

b) As been noted under incremental reasoning, the scaling up potential has been addressed through WB and EU investments.

31 May 2023

Costa Rica LOE pending

9 June 2023

LoE from Costa Rica is pending with OFP

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

NA

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
NA

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
June 14, 2023

The GEF Secretariat regrets that the project does not include a clear stakeholder engagement plan/.

We expect a participative strategy for landscape restoration (involving a broad range of stakeholders, including NGO, CSO, research centers, and private sector) to be developed early in project inception and reported on during project implementation?.

Addressed.

June 13, 2023

- Stakeholder engagement: the comment on stakeholder engagement has not been fully addressed. See below the remaining comment:

Comment: The response from the agency does not fully clarify the engagement, roles and responsibilities of civil society in project implementation. Please ask agency to provide additional details (or justification of why not).

February 24, 2023

- We are surprised that the GM is the only Executing partner mentioned in the Table 1. This MSP should strongly involved the newly created "Abidjan Legacy Program" coordination unit

under the Prime Minister. The ALP unit should notably be empowered in the South-South partnership. Please, revise the list of executing partners in the portal.

- How and who decided to settle the project unit at the GM (in Bonn?) for a project centered on Cote d'Ivoire? Please explain and justify or change.

- This MSP is conceived as the cross-cutting KM and learning pillar of the ALP, supporting its four components (i) Making existing value chains more sustainable; ii) Identifying new value chains of the future; iii) Improving the resilience of food crop systems; and iv) Restoring agricultural-led degraded forests). We do not see how the MSP can really be the KM pillar of the SLP being based in the GM at Bonn. Please, clarify.

- Stakeholder Engagement: It is well noted some information has been provided on stakeholders consulted during PPG stage, as well as some components of a stakeholder engagement approach during project implementation. However, at this stage the project should at least be able to include the names of the key stakeholders not just categories as well as additional details on specific CSOs and more details on their roles and responsibilities in implementation. Please refer the agency to the GEF policy and guidelines on stakeholder engagement https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.55_Inf.08_Guidelines_Stakeholder_Engagement.pdf.

Agency Response

April 23, 2023

Project Unit: Comment noted, and the emphasis for rooting the management of the KM in Ivory Coast is well appreciated and duly noted. Response has been provided above, and the implementation has been modified. The Abidjan Legacy Program at the Office of the Prime Minister is the anchor Coordination Unit of the KM-LEGAP.

Stakeholders: Regarding stakeholders, and consistent with the change of the UNCCD/GM, additional information has been provided on the key stakeholders ? please refer to the private sector engagement section, for example where additional information and type of involvement in the project have been provided for some entities ? but also the involvement of the F?lix Houphou?t-Boigny University and the University of Nagui Abrogoua.

14 June 2023

The stakeholder engagement, and role of the CSO has been clarified in the stakeholders table. During project implementation the CSO will be consulted and engaged through the UNCCD national focal point, and the ALP unit- and also CSO representatives will take part in the project steering committee. As can be seen from the validation workshop list of participants, the civil society organisations were well represented and contributed to

shaping and validating the project. The project will continue engaging them in the knowledge generation, and giving them space to serve as the bridge between national and subnational formal structures and community level socioeconomic contexts with which they are familiar given their close work and collaboration with local communities. In the absence of 'hardware interventions' in a largely KM project, the civil society organizations' roles and responsibilities will be through their engagement in the process to support and facilitate the collection and documentation of relevant good practices in food systems and synthesizing lessons regarding best practices for the Abidjan Legacy Program.

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?

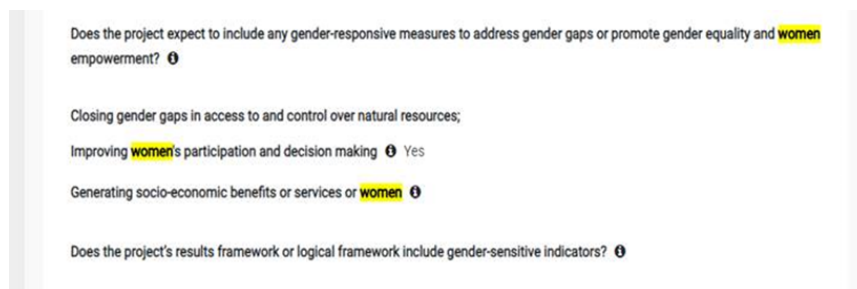
Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

June 14, 2023

Addressed.

June 13, 2023

- Gender: ALL the questions below should be addressed (Yes or No). The first question is an umbrella question to the three gender tags/items that follow it. The Agency should respond to these Yes/No questions.



Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? ⓘ

Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources;

Improving women's participation and decision making ⓘ Yes

Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women ⓘ

Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? ⓘ

February 24, 2023

No

- The MSP should include gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps and promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

- To be completed and corrected (p.38).

- Paras 85, 86, 87, and 88 are full of generalities and high-level considerations related to gender in the UNCCD context. Please Be more specific on gender issues for this MSP.
- We take note of the the paras 89-99 on gender issues in Cote d'Ivoire. We would like to see more precise and actionable information than extracts from gender issues in Cote d'Ivoire. Please, revise.
- A Gender Action Plan would be needed in the context of forest and agroforestry restauration. Please revise. Please, take inspiration from gender approaches in the WB, EU, and IFAD investments.
- Except the mention of gender experts in the result framework, there is probably a missed opportunity to see how this project can contribute to reduce the gender inequalities. Please, revise and better reflect the mainstreaming of gender issues in the result framework.

Agency Response

April 24, 2023

The comment is well noted. However, we do have a challenge in terms of providing concrete measures to ensure meaningful gender mainstreaming beyond what has been provided in the document. The difficulty lies in the fact that this is a KM project with hardly any actions on the ground.

Where we see opportunity for specific gender consideration is in activities related to capacity development such as dialogues among stakeholders and private sector engagement.

What we envisage is that the actual implementation of the project will collect and document relevant good practices in food systems and synthesize lessons regarding best practices and experiences informed by local stakeholders (who include (local and international NGOs, local networks of independent observations) in C?te d'Ivoire ? and these will include concrete best practices of gender mainstreaming which will inform the four components of the Abidjan Legacy Program. This is actually the primary role of the proposed project?generate knowledge without necessarily executing ?hardware? intervention on the ground, but rather feed lessons and knowledge into the Abidjan Legacy Program.

14 June 2023

The first question is YES, and the second question is checked.

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

May 3, 2023

Addressed.

February 24, 2023

"Private Sector" is mentioned 113 times in the CEO approval, but the text stays very generic and has not made enough progress since PIF (ex. "private sector: value chain players to be determined at design stage but will include big, medium, and small players...para 82. p34) p. We are not seeing concretely an analysis of some of obvious partners (Cocoa Foundation, Cocoa for Life, Mondelez,..) and the cooperation mechanisms in terms of KM and sharing. Please, complete and detail.

Agency Response

April 24, 2023

As recommended, the generic text on the private sector has been improved with additional information (4. Private Sector Engagement) that details important private sector entities notably Cocoa Foundation, Mondelez, ECOOKIM and their role in specific KM-LEGAP activities based on their involvement in the cocoa production sector

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

February 24, 2023

Addressed.

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
June 6, 2023

The General Information Table has been addressed.

May 3, 2023

Addressed.

February 24, 2023

Not fully. To be revised.

- We would like to see a better role given to the ALP Coordination Unit under the Prime Minister.

- The project reasoning and the arrangements missed the synergy/cooperation with strategic investments from the World Bank, EU, and IFAD - to only mention those with significant loans and grants in the sector. We would like to see an analysis of the KM aspects in these different investments to shape the KM aspects of this MSP. Please, revise.

- Missed opportunity: This MSP should support the ALP coordination unit to communicate and provide information to smallholder farmers (one problem identified during the project workshop). Please, revise and budget. Some innovations would be welcome here (phone technology?).

Agency Response
April 23, 2023

? Synergy/Cooperation with strategic investments: Please, see response above

? ALP comment: As advised, and as has already been noted above, ALP Coordination Unit has been changed to the ALP Secretariat ? and a text has been added to that effect.

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
February 24, 2023

Yes, this project fits the announcement of the Abidjan Legacy Program by the President of Cote d'Ivoire at the High-Level Summit and by the Prime Minister at the opening of the UNCCD COP15 in Abidjan.

Addressed.

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
May 3, 2023

Addressed.

February 24, 2023

All the project is KM oriented.

However, the use of the resources with a large part for international and local consultants is disputable (almost \$1.3 million). We would have expected less short duration staff and a better empowerment of the ALP coordination unit in partnership with other stakeholders (Universities, Research Centers, ICRAF-CIFOR, KM units of WB/EU/IFAD programs....). Please, revise.

- Knowledge Management: While the project has been designed as a knowledge management and learning initiative overall and includes many appropriate KM elements, the plans to create and operate a hub and a community of practice (CoP) would benefit from a more defined 'training' component in key issue areas, targeting key stakeholders including those in local institutions. This training could also help build local capacity by 'training the trainers' in relevant local institutions, thereby enhancing sustainability of project results and support continuity of learning and effective functioning of the CoP/hub after project completion. Thus, it would be helpful if the agency could include a more defined training component to the KM and communications activities. In addition, it would also be helpful to elaborate on the project's communications strategy. It is mentioned once, in the KM section; but details have not been provided.

Agency Response

April 24, 2023

International and local consultants: As has already been mentioned above, the ALP Coordination Unit has been given role to serve as the project's Implementation Unit to coordinate the implementation of activities in collaboration with key stakeholders. The budget has also been adjusted to reflect this change.

QCR

KM: Comment noted. Additional information has been provided regarding the need for capacity development and how is linked to the sustainability of the Community of Practice and information hub.

Looking at the financial envelop and the rationale of the initial project design, we have judged it enough and appropriate to infuse and highlight aspects of KM and capacity development under the existing component 1, output 1.1.4 ? instead of developing a third component.

Under the KM section, as requested, additional information and details have been provided regarding the communication strategy.

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

NA

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
June 14, 2023

Addressed.

June 9, 2023

- Still there is no resource allocation, neither M&E outputs / outcomes in the Project Description Summary table, which is a requirement in Guidelines ? please ask the Agency to amend.

February 24, 2023

- While there is a budget in the M&E plan (\$85,000, also in the budget table), there is no resource allocation, neither M&E outputs / outcomes in the Project Description Summary table, which is a requirement in Guidelines (see below) ? please ask the Agency to amend.

Agency Response

As advised by the CQR, output 1.1.4 has been included. Additionally, the results framework now contains an indicator relevant specifically to M&E

14 June 2023

An outcome on M&E has been added under the Component two in the project description summary table, and the budget has been adjusted, as well as the annex on the logframe. The project description summary table now includes an M&E outcome and output (Outcome 2.2. & Output 2.2.1). This has been duly reflected in the budget, project description, ToC, and results framework.

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
May 3, 2023

Addressed.

February 24, 2023

Possibly, if the project succeeds in delivering support to smallholder farmers.

It is difficult to understand how this army of consultants is going to be instrumental in delivering socioeconomic benefits at national and local levels.

Please, revise.

Agency Response

April 24, 2023

As has been noted above, the army of consultants has been trimmed, and the ALP secretariat has been given a more prominent role to coordinate the execution of project activities in collaboration and partnership with other stakeholders.

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
June 14, 2023

Addressed.

June 9, 2023

To be confirmed asap (see item 7).

June 6, 2023

The LoE from Costa Rica is still missing. Please, advise.

May 3, 2023

Not addressed.

February 24, 2023

- We did not find the letters of endorsement.

Agency Response

31 May 2023

Only Ivory Coast provided.

Costa Rica pending, as based on recent discussions.

9 June 2023

LoE from Costa Rica is pending with OFP

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

June 14, 2023

Addressed.


June 13, 2023

Co-financing: two minor follow ups (not detected before as letters were not provided by then):

– FAO is donor agency. Please consider to change 'GEF agency' to 'Donor Agency'?

GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	25,000.00	
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	200,000.00	

– Please ask the Agency to include the translation (Agency's translation is acceptable) of this co-financing letter from government of Cote d'Ivoire, which is in French.

Recipient Country Government	Government of Cote d'Ivoire	Grant	Investment mobilized	2,000,000.00	
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June 9, 2023

Addressed.

June 6, 2023

- The letter of cofinancing from FAO mentions that cofinancing is brought from two projects: A GEF project and a GCF project. Please, be aware that a GEF project cannot be cofinanced with another GEF project. This reference should be removed.

- Please, also check that the GCF project was not included in the cofinancing of the GEF7 FOLUR project, as a same project cannot be used several times for cofinancing.

May 3, 2023

Letters of endorsement to be confirmed.

February 24, 2023

Some comments made at PIF approval (to be checked at CEO Approval) have not been addressed:

- Confirm cofinancing;
- Confirm sustainability issues;
- Confirm the role of the private sector.
- Articulate the proposed tools and mechanisms (platforms, hubs) with existing initiatives in view of sustainability (we have not found an institutional analysis of the ALP coordination unit and an analysis of existing KM mechanisms in massive investments).

Agency Response

April 24, 2023

- ? *Cofinancing* letters are in process for their signature
- ? *Sustainability issues*: addressed within the context of capacity building of local institutions, having the ALP secretariat to serve as the Project Coordination Unit and synergizing with existing institutionalized platforms.
- ? *Private sector*: As noted above, Section 4 (Private Sector Engagement) has been developed with more details provided on some key private sector entities.

ALP Coordination Unit: Under implementation arrangement, an analysis has been provided, indicating that the existing structure is supporting the current processes but will need to be buttressed with new recruitments once the project is approved. Additionally, the project has spelt out how it will benefit from existing investments of the World Bank, FAO but also how the project will benefit from private sector entities to consolidate and support the project's generation and use of knowledge products to stimulate investments.

9 June 2023

The cofinancing from the FAO GEF project has been removed. The cofinancing of 225k is on the FAO GCF project. The FAO GCF project is 10 M, and 3.4 M only has been allocated to the FAO GEF FOLUR. There is no duplication.

14 June 2023

|

This has been corrected- now FAO is Donor Agency.

|

The cofinancing letter from the government of Cote Ivoire has been translated by IFAD.

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

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

NA

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 NA

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 NA

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

June 14, 2023

All points are addressed. The project is recommended for approval. However, please check the item on stakeholder engagement above.

June 13, 2023

Please, check the points already raised by the quality control on the following topics: gender, cofinancing, stakeholders, letter of endorsement, M&E. Actually, several points have not been correctly addressed and new points are included (which could not be checked before as the letters of cofinancing were missing at first submission). The cancellation deadline for this project is June 17, 2023 ? therefore, the Agency may want to consider requesting an extension invoking force majeure.

June 9, 2023

All points have been addressed, but one (the additional letter of endorsement from Costa Rica). We recommend this project for clearance and send it to the Quality Control. Please, send the missing additional letter of endorsement.

June 6, 2023

The items related to the Letter of Endorsement from Costa Rica and the Letter of Cofinancing from FAO are still pending. You need to address these points asap, and if needed, update the text without the mention of Costa Rica.

Please, pay attention that the cancellation date is June 17, 2022 (date of approval, not resubmission).

May 3, 2023

Several items have not been addressed, notably because the cofinancing has not been confirmed so far.

As far as the GEF Agency will not be able to produce letters of endorsement from other potential participating countries, we suggest removing the name of countries (however, letters from Cote d'Ivoire and Costa Rica would be welcome).

February 24, 2023

The project cannot be recommended yet. Please, address the comments in this review.

Please, note that the comments from the control quality have been included in different items of this review.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	2/24/2023	4/28/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/3/2023	5/31/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/6/2023	6/9/2023
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/9/2023	6/14/2023

**Secretariat Comment at
CEO Endorsement**

**Response to
Secretariat comments**

Additional Review (as necessary)	6/13/2023
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CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations