

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

Review PIF 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

4/14/2022

Review completed by PM

6/14/2022

Program Manager

Jean-Marc Sinnassamy

Focal Area

Land Degradation

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

June 14, 2022

Addressed.

May 27, 2022

Including IFAD as a potential executing partner is possible, but it is also possible that the quality control will ask for a message from Cote d'Ivoire to agree on this execution mode. We suggest including the GM for the time being, and update the "Executing Partner Type". You may propose other execution modes under the results of the PPG.

April 28, 2022

Yes, the project is aligned with the LD2-5 objective (?Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN?).

Table A: Please inform the "executing partner" section and its "type" (based on the section 56, it seems that you identified the GM as the executing partner). Please, complete.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

IFAD is proposed as EE for the moment to foster synergy with the IFAD GCF GGW programme. However this will be revisited during full design and based on discussions with partners.

June 03, 2022.

As recommended, the Global Mechanism has been put as the Executing Agency

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

June 14, 2022

Addressed.

May 27, 2022

- The main lesson from the discussions at the COP is that **Cote d'Ivoire** is the only certitude of the Abidjan Legacy Program. We therefore recommend to re-orient the result framework largely on Cote d'Ivoire, highlighting the lessons and best practices on **the specific case of Cote d'Ivoire**. The point is also to involve and empower different stakeholders on the ground in the Abidjan Legacy Program (private sector, NGO, State agencies as SODEFOR and OIPR, etc). If countries join the Abidjan Legacy Program, they will be invited to react, adjust, endorse these best practices. Please, correct.

- During the PPG, include an inventory of on-going initiatives on the topic, as several donors and partners positively respond to the call of the President and the Prime Minister of Cote d'Ivoire: World Bank Group, European Union, IFAD, GEF, etc.

- About the **South-South cooperation**: the GEF CEO and the Prime Minister agreed to explore such mechanism for Cote d'Ivoire. Please, include clearly a feasibility study for this option. We recommend speeding up this task in view of the GEF Assembly in August 2023 at Vancouver, Canada.

- Under the output 1.1.3, we recommend to include a "collection" or a "Abidjan Legacy Program's lessons" to highlight good practices and experiences from Cote d'Ivoire based organizations: local NGO, international NGO, local networks of independent observations.

- In the forest of Cavally, we recommend Wild Chimpanzee Foundation, WCF, and NOFNA (Notre Foret, Notre Avenir).

- Local observer networks are all together in OIREN (Observatoire Ivoirien pour la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles).

- There is very active community of NGO and private sectors who all have good stories and practices to highlight: NITIDAE, ECOOKIM, Mirova, International Cocoa Initiative, IDH/The Sustainable Trade Initiative, FOA (Foncier, Forestrrie, agriculture), offtakers and traders (Walter Matter, Alter Eco).

Output 2.1.1

- In terms of topics: in addition to the economic aspects of the cocoa value chain and potentially other value chains (coffee, cashew...), it is important to highlight the complexity of **social aspects** and the need for ad hoc solutions, often case by case solutions. What is done in Cavally may not be possible everywhere; but the upcoming plans of the FIP2 are applicable to two or three very degraded gazetted forests, but should be considered as a general rule. These aspects do not need to be all listed in the PIF, but it will be important to develop them during the project design (PPG).

- Aside the restoration of agroforestry parklands, it is also important to highlight knowledge and best practices in terms of **FOREST restoration and the generation of multiple benefits** (carbon, climate, rainfall), applicable to gazetted forests managed by SODEFOR and parks and reserves managed by the Ivorian Office for Parks and Reserves (OIPR).

Output 2.1.2

- A feasibility study about the institutional framework of the Abidjan Legacy Program may be partially financed through this MSP. Several scenarios exist, upon decisions of the Ivorian side (to integrated under the 2.1.2).

- **Project Management costs:** comment not addressed: please include cofinancing in front of the GEF grant for pmc with a ratio in the similar range than the rest of the project. IFAD may provide this cofinancing, even-kind, as well as the Ivorian side, and the Global Mechanism. Please, revise.

April 28, 2022

Result Framework

Component 1

- 1.1.1: Information hub and an open-access knowledge platform: It is not yet possible to understand how this hub/platform will be articulated to existing platforms (FOLUR, AFR100, FLRM, Bonn Challenge, GLF, GPFLR, DSL?).

o It would seem that a knowledge hub and platform would take some ongoing support and therefore being housed within another entity which has the remit for this type of knowledge and research activity would make sense. Please, clarify, and to be further developed at CEO approval.

o Please, anticipate how sustainability issues will be assessed (to be further developed at CEO approval).

- 1.1.2: A community of practice established: Please, clarify this notion of community of practices: anchorage, partners, (and sustainability at CEO approval).

- South-South exchanges are not clearly mentioned in the result framework while they are highlighted in the eligibility aspects. We would be ready to support South-South exchanges within this project. Such exchanges would make sense between regions as West Africa, Brazil, and Indonesia. However, such activity is complicated to design to be fully relevant. Please initiate a reasoning on South-South exchanges and include them in the result framework.

- Is there a rationale to limit the knowledge sharing between Farmer Field Schools at regional and inter-regional levels? We do not think so. The exchanges should also target the private sector who are not covered by FFS. Please, revise.

- Would the private sector be engaged as part of the community of practice? Would such engagement be targeted at individual companies or through value chain or sectoral initiatives? There is already a good number of private sector and multistakeholder platforms that could assist. GEF Secretariat would be pleased to connect with such platforms, including those currently engaged in GEF 6 and 7 programs, notably the FOLUR IP (GEF-7) and the GGP (GEF-6).

- About the activity "*Promote knowledge sharing and innovation through regional and inter-regional exchanges between farmers based on FAO Farmer Field Schools approaches?*" :

- It might be considered to include in this section the private sector demonstration farms and technology centers that would be most keen to host this type of activity - water management in India with Jain Irrigation technology centers, Syngenta's demonstration farms, Yara's centers of excellence...
- We suggest adding a section here for private sector partners and the opportunities to use their facilities and centers.
- GEF Secretariat would be most keen to discuss private sector needs further in relation to this MSP.
- 1.1.3: Finance platform development: Please clarify the starting point, the synergy with existing platforms (CPIC, Finance for Tomorrow, ?).

Component 2

- Output 2.1.1 on best value chains: Activity c) ?identify and document the best agricultural practices?. Please connect with existing technical platforms related to sustainable commodities and value chains (WOCAT, FOLUR, IDH?).
- Output 2.1.1: there has been a great deal of work undertaken in this regard by the WB, CGIAR, ASEAN CSA network etc. What would also be useful from the perspective of the private sector is an assessment also of the failed approaches, why they fell short and what could be done in the future to support best approaches. Please, address.
- Output 2.1.2 on investment tools: activity b) in addition to identify the relevant incentives, would not it be complementary to also identify perverse incentives that do not help generating multiple environmental, social, and economic benefits? Please, adjust.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Comments well noted. In response:

Component 1

- 1.1.1 Additional consultations will refine this further at CEO endorsement to ensure synergies and avoid duplication of resources ? including considering interoperability (description of output 1.1.1).

Additional information has been provided in the sustainability section, making allusion to synergies with other existing and enduring platforms and their institutional arrangements, and possibility for interoperability ? to be refined at CEO endorsement after additional consultations. The project believes that this approach will strengthen the sustainability aspects of the outcomes.

- 1.1.2 To be further refined at CEO endorsement, additional information has been added highlighting S-S exchanges and building on the 5-step GEF's 5-step art of knowledge exchange process.[1]¹ It is noted that the regional and inter-regional exchanges will be critical in strengthening partnerships of equals based on shared experiences and understanding, and facilitating reciprocal knowledge-sharing among peers who face similar challenges speeds up learning and capacity-building, and helps in scaling up the outcomes of successful projects.[2]²

The further development of the results framework will include indicators and targets for S-S exchanges.

A sentence has been added to include the private sector and other stakeholders within land use, management and land administration space. Another paragraph has been added to indicate the mode of engagement with the private sector as ?members? of the community of practice, building on GEF private sector strategy.

A paragraph has been added that succinctly includes the private sector and their role in supporting knowledge transfer and learning; as centres for demonstrating best practices and potential sources of financial resources and knowledge.

Without being too specific at this stage, information has been added regarding private sector's role which extends to the use of their facilities and centres for demonstrating best practices and knowledge transfer.

1.1.3 At this stage of the MSP development, it is noted that different initiatives will be engaged and supported, particularly in aspects that can transform production systems to support the generation of GEBs and community livelihoods. This will be refined at CEO endorsement.

Component 2

-Output 2.1.1 ? information added to signal the connection with existing platforms.

-Output 2.1.1 A sentence has been added indicating the assessment of what is not working and what is.

2.1.2 Adjusted with the following sentence added: including practices (such as perverse incentives) that do impede the generation of multiple environmental, social, and economic benefits.

June 03, 2022

Comment 1: As suggested, the results framework has largely been scaled down to the specific case of Cote d'Ivoire. Please, note also that the PIF now includes a section that specifically focuses on Cote d'Ivoire, including tailoring the information to the country's context.

Comment 2: Suggestion noted that during PPG, an inventory will be conducted to include on-going initiatives on value chains ? this will be complement and be strengthened under output 2.1.1

Comment 3: As recommended, an output for a south-south cooperation and knowledge exchange feasibility study has been added under component 1 as output 1.1.4.

Comment 4: As suggested, output 1.1.3 has been modified to include ?and a synthesis of lessons from the "Abidjan Legacy Program's lessons" to highlight good practices and experiences from stakeholders (local and international NGOs, local networks of independent observations) in Cote d'Ivoire.

Comment 5: Our understanding is that these important organisations will be engaged in collating lessons of best practices, and therefore, they are reflected in output 1.1.3 - which has been modified to include a synthesis of lessons.

Comment 6: As suggested, these stakeholders are reflected in output 1.1.3

Comment 7: As suggested, these stakeholders are reflected in output 1.1.3

Comment 8: Suggestion and comment well noted, and will be duly considered at PPG.

Comment 9: Comment well noted, however since the comment is more inclined towards showcasing knowledge and best practices, we have included this element to output 1.1.3 which has aspects related to synthesis of good practices and experiences.

Comment 10: Comment well noted

Comment 11: The co-financing from IFAD has been adjusted to 200,000 USD

[1] GEF (2017). The Art of **Knowledge** Exchange: A Results Focused Planning Guide for the GEF Partnership - The guide offers a practical step-by-step blueprint on how to design, implement, and measure progress with regards to knowledge exchange initiatives embedded in projects.

[2] STAP (2021). Understanding South-South Cooperation for **Knowledge** Exchange

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

June 14, 2022

Addressed. However, we are not sure that Cote d'Ivoire can be considered as a Donor Agency. to be confirmed at CEO approval.

May 27, 2022

Some points below were not addressed. Please, double-check:

- It is difficult to consider in-kind cofinancing from FAO and IFAD in "investments mobilized".
- The Abidjan Legacy Program is not a Donor Agency: Please, correct.
- Cofinancing from Cote d'Ivoire has not been added. Please, correct or justify.

April 28, 2022

- The role and nature of cofinancing is not clear. Please, clarify.
- The notion of "investment mobilized" for cofinancing "in-kind" from IFAD and FAO needs to be clarified.
- The Abidjan Legacy Program is not a Donor Agency (last line).
- Please, check with the government of Cote d'Ivoire if cofinancing from their part is conceivable.

- Is the private sector expected to be a source of co-finance for any aspect of this project? At present, there are no private sector actors listed, however, through the use of their websites, communications channels, access to other media such as platforms and initiatives, it could be expected that the private sector could play a role in KM and communication.

- Other types of private sector actors may be considered to financially support the project, notably private foundations such as the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

The cofinancing cash (loans and grants from IFAD and grants from FAO) will come from IFAD and FAO projects that connect with the objective of this MSP. The in-kind relates to the staff involved.

The discussion on cofinancing with the government of Cote d'Ivoire will most probably happen during the full design.

The cofinancing (cash or in kind) from the private sector will be explored during the full design.

The comment on the role of the private sector is noted, and additional information has been included in the PIF to address the comment at this stage of PIF development.

- At this stage of MSP development, there are no private sector entities listed, however, with additional consultations, this might change at CEO endorsement. Regarding the private sector's role in KM and Learning, they are expected to play an important role. The MSP already notes that the centres of the private sector could be centres of demonstration of best practices and places for knowledge transfer.

The role of Foundations is noted in the document.

13 June 2022

The cofinancing section has been updated

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

June 14, 2022

Addressed.

May 27, 2022

Not addressed. Please correct.

April 28, 2022

Not fully

- Referring to the Council decision GEF/C.39.9, there should be a proportionality between the project management costs covered by GEF funding and the pmc covered by cofinanced amounts. Please, correct.

- Especially if the cofinancing in grants is confirmed, the GEF should not bear a disproportionate burden of the total management costs. Please, confirm or adjust.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Considering this is a KM project, some of the in-kind contribution of IFAD and FAO could be accounted to the cofinancing of the PMC.

The cofinancing of grants and loans would be from IFAD and FAO projects related to the activities of this project, so it will not be under PMC.

However other sources ? e.g. from the private sector- will be sought ? This information is included under Table C in the PIF.

13 June 2022

Please, see response above mentioning that the cofinancing section has been updated.

The STAR allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion NA

Agency Response

The focal area allocation?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion Yes, LD.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

The LDCF under the principle of equitable access?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion NA

Agency Response

The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion NA

Agency Response

Focal area set-aside?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion Yes

Agency Response

Impact Program Incentive?

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion NA

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 Yes, a PPG is requested within the allowable cap.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

Core indicators

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

- It is always challenging for KM related projects to directly generate GEB and concretely propose targets under the core indicators. However, there is a fair tentative to quantify the different products under this MSP (para 44), quantify the direct beneficiaries (core indicator 11), and catalyze change in the sector of several value chains.

- Please, make the number of beneficiaries consistent with the number entered in the Core Indicators table.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Comment noted and appreciated.

Core indicator indicates 30,000 beneficiaries; 15,000 being males and the other 15,000 women.

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 Addressed.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

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
April 28, 2022

Addressed.

Agency Response
9 May 2022

Noted

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion
June 14, 2022

Addressed.

May 27, 2022

- Sorry to reopen this item, but following discussions with Cote d'Ivoire and IFAD, it seems that the baseline scenario has evolved, as well as the number of pillars in the Abidjan Legacy Program. This MSP should still constitute its KM component, but cross-cutting to the four revised pillars. Please, clarify

(Please, we would appreciate a response to the questions we raise. Thanks to provide the response and the references or the changes in the appropriate cell. Please, let us decide if the point is "addressed" or not).

April 28, 2022

OK, but the logical reasoning should better integrate the existing mechanisms and platforms from GEF6 and GEF7 IAP and IP. To be adjusted.

Agency Response
9 May 2022

Addressed

13 June 2022

The document has been revised with the latest pillars of the Legacy program and the MSP as a cross-cutting knowledge management and learning pillar of the Abidjan Legacy Program

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

June 14, 2022

Addressed.

May 27, 2022

See comments made in the item II/2.

April 28, 2022

- The proposal is quite broad in its approach. There are limited commodities and general geographies referenced at this stage. When and how will the private sector be engaged in the development of this concept to support a minimum of buy-in and early commitment?

- However, the commodities listed in the MSP should provide excellent resources for best practices and information should be readily available from such private sector platforms and initiatives.

- Many of the private sector best practices, or those that are being promoted by the main partners in ecological intensification / regenerative / semi-arid agriculture are in developed countries or those with a relatively strong agricultural sector, such as Brazil, India, and Indonesia. Will the project also look to global best practices and explore how these approaches could be best deployed in developing country contexts, notably LDCs? Please, clarify.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

At this stage, the approach is fairly broad ? as the development of the MSP evolves, this will offer the opportunity to target and define and narrow on relevant commodities that hold potential for transformational impact. This will be reached through additional consultations with different stakeholders at national and regional levels.

Under component 1, output 1.1.2, additional information has been provided to indicate that private sector engagement will remain an on-going process, taking advantage of new opportunities with different stakeholders, however, events such as the COP15, existing platforms such as the UNCCD Knowledge Hub, South-South Knowledge

Exchange programs, National Focal Points will remain important mechanisms for engaging to get private sector buy-in. It is noted that the private sector have the finances and knowledge and experience to share as leaders of best practices, but also candidates of change of sustainable production systems. It is clarified that the project has regional and national scope to engage stakeholders to facilitate domestication of best global practices.

13 June 2022

Same as above, following the discussions in Cote d'Ivoire

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

June 14, 2022

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

Yes, the project is aligned with the LD2-5 objective (?Create enabling environments to support scaling up and mainstreaming of SLM and LDN?).

See the comment on South-South exchanges in the result framework.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted and mentioned above that the RF will include S-S relevant indicators and targets at CEO endorsement

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

April 28, 2022

Addressed at PIF level. To be reinforced at CEO approval.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Reminder noted with thanks.

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
May 27, 2022

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

Yes, the contribution is reasonable.

- This contribution is also aligned with several STAP publications. We would like to see a clear reference to these publications, their contents, and their recommendations, notably the following: South-South Cooperation for knowledge exchange, nature-based solutions, multi-stakeholder for transformational change, Land Degradation Neutrality.

Agency Response
9 May 2022

Noted, and as suggested, at this stage of MSP development, references have been included to highlight the knowledge scientific underpinning of certain aspects that the MSP is proposing in the design.

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion
April 28, 2022

- Yes, the Abidjan Legacy Program is innovative, as well as this MSP that will constitute its KM pillar.

- At CEO approval, please, reinforce the sustainability aspects building on existing and long-term initiatives and entities. We recommend not inventing new platforms and mechanisms. To be discussed at CEO approval.

- Yes, this project has a potential for scaling up.

Agency Response
9 May 2022

This point is well noted, and in the current version, allusion is made to ensure synergies and consideration for interoperability is proposed to ensure the project speaks to and builds on existing platforms for sustainability and engagement of different players, including the private sector. It will also build and amplify GEF-6 and GEF-7 relevant platforms, notably the FOLUR IP and the GGP. The texts will be further refined at CEO endorsement.

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

NA

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

May 27, 2022

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

- The PIF includes the information about future means of engagement.

- Please, provide the details of meetings (dates, objectives) and who you meet to develop this PIF. We understand that this PIF was designed under a participative approach involving Cote d'Ivoire, UNCCD/GM, IDH, IFAD's bureaus, and potential partners from the private sector. Please, clarify.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

At this stage, the design of the PIF involved discussions with Cote d'Ivoire, IFAD HQ and WCA, FAO CI office, UNCCD/GM, as well as UNDP (involved in GEF-6 GGP, and GEF-7 FOLUR). Further discussions with other partners will take place during full project design. This information is included under the table of stakeholders in the PIF.

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

May 27, 2022

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

- There is a section on gender. However, the issues of inequalities between men and women are absent from the project narrative and the result framework (table B). To be revised.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Text has been added to output 2.1.1 to explicitly highlight gender gaps in access to climate resilient agriculture value chains, technologies and investments. The further development of the RF will reflect this concern with indicators and target ? ensuring that gender lessons are integrated in the KM and L of this MSP. Additionally, a text has been added, indicating that land degradation in developing countries impacts men and women differently, mainly due to unequal access to land, water, credit, extension services and technology. This will be further developed as the design of the MSP evolves.

Private Sector Engagement

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

Secretariat Comment at PIF/Work Program Inclusion

May 27, 2022

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

- We can understand that it is difficult at this stage to identify the direct partners from the private sector. However, we recommend improving this section in listing some key private partners present in Cote d'Ivoire on the main identified value chains (Mondelez, Cocoa Life, World Cocoa Foundation, for instance). They should be interested in the outcomes of this project, especially from the component 2 (financial models and instruments, technologies, investment tools, incentives?).

- We also recommend referring to the GEF Private Sector Strategy. Please, revise.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Texts under output 2.1.1 and private sector engagement have been added, improved with guidance from GEF PS Strategy ? to be refined further at CEO endorsement

Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

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

April 28, 2022

- Addressed at PIF level. At CEO approval, please, provide a comprehensive risk analysis.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

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

April 28, 2022

Addressed at PIF level

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

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

April 28, 2022

Addressed.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

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

April 28, 2022

The project as a whole is a KM approach. Addressed.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

Noted

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 PIF/Work Program Inclusion

May 27, 2022

Addressed.

April 28, 2022

Based on the **GUIDELINES ON THE PROJECT AND PROGRAM CYCLE POLICY (2020 UPDATE)** (GEF/C.59/Inf.03, July 20, 2020), GEF Agencies are required to provide ESS assessment unless Agency policy or procedure has exemption of ESS assessment. Please, indicate if this project is exempt for ESS screening.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

A paragraph in the GEBs section of the PIF has been added indicating that this project is a knowledge Management and Learning Pillar of the LP. According to IFAD's Environmental and social categorization and criteria, this is a Category C project ? not requiring additional environmental analysis because the activities have positive environmental impacts, or negligible or minimally adverse environmental impacts.

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

June 14, 2022

As this is a global project and a KM project, we consider that letters of endorsement are not needed. However, this MSP is seen as the KM pillar of a program led by Cote d'Ivoire following the announcement of the Abidjan Legacy Program and a letter of endorsement from Cote d'Ivoire seems a minimum. A letter of endorsement is available at PIF level. To be updated at CEO approval.

Addressed.

May 27, 2022

Not addressed. Please, revise the letter. See the points of concern below.

April 28, 2022

- A letter of endorsement from the Cote d'Ivoire GEF OFP was received by email. We invite the GEF Agency to check the language at the end of the letter: 1) no STAR resources are committed and 2) it is not a grant for Cote d'Ivoire, but for a global MSP.

To be revised.

Agency Response

9 May 2022

The letter of endorsement from Cote D'Ivoire will be revised to reflect the global nature. However at this stage the country is not committing putting GEF-8 resources.

13 June 2022

A new letter will be sent

16 June 2022

A Letter of endorsement is attached.

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

NA

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

June 16, 2022

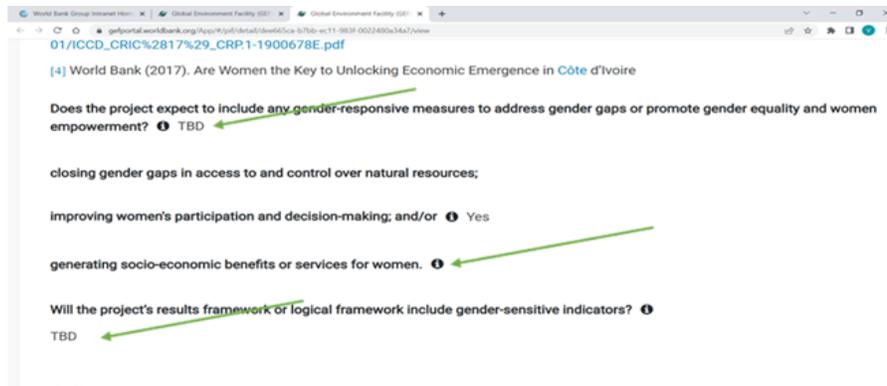
All points are addressed at PIF level. The PIF is recommended for technical clearance.

June 15, 2022

Please address the comments below:

1- include a short note on the COVID-19 situation to figure out 1) the risks analysis and 2) the opportunity analysis.

2. Gender: In output 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, it is very important to capture the gender dimensions. The Agency is therefore requested to include gender experts in stakeholders to capture gender perspectives in the development of information hub and the community of practice. This will complement the 50-50 distribution of project beneficiaries. On the questions below (screenshot), the first question is the umbrella question for the three sub-points under it. As the Agency has responded Yes to one of the sub-points, the response to the first question should be Yes (not TBD). It also appears that the project responds to the third sub-point (generating socio-economic benefits). The Agency may review this in the PPG stage. It is also recommended to have gender-responsive indicators, hence, the Agency may wish to consider this at the PPG stage.



3. Cofinancing from Cote d'Ivoire:

- a) Cote d'Ivoire is not a Donor Agency; please, correct using "recipient country".
- b) Depending on the nature on cofinancing, we may expect a cofinancing as "investment mobilized", pelase, correct.
- c) Please, justify in the explanations under the table;
- d) remove the sentence "the discussion with the government will most probably happen during the design phase?".

GEF Agency	IFAD	Grant	Investment mobilized	200,000.00
GEF Agency	IFAD	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	175,000.00
GEF Agency	FAO	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	25,000.00
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	200,000.00
Donor Agency	Government of Cote d'Ivoire	Grant	Recurrent expenditures	2,000,000.00
Total Project Cost(\$)				2,600,000.00

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

it will be part of the IFAD program of loan and grant it is the same also for FAO The cofinancing cash (loans and grants from IFAD and grants from FAO) will come from IFAD and FAO projects that connect with the objective of this MSP. The in-kind relates to the staff involved. The discussion on cofinancing with the government of Cote d'Ivoire will most probably happen during the full design. Considering this is a KM and Learning project, some of the in-kind contributions of IFAD and FAO could be accounted to the cofinancing of the PMC. The cofinancing of grants and loans would be from IFAD and FAO projects related to the activities of this project, so it will not be under PMC. However other sources – e.g. from the private sector- will be sought. As noted in this proposal, engagement with the private sector will be an on-going process; taking advantage of platforms and knowledge exchange initiatives. The cofinancing (cash or in kind) from the private sector will be explored during the full design.

4. Stakeholder engagement: The submission has ticked boxes that consultations with indigenous peoples/local communities, CSO's and private sector entities have been carried out during project identification stage. The states that the development of this PIF has benefitted from consultations and discussions with Cote d'Ivoire, IFAD HQ and WCA, FAO CI office, UNCCD/GM, as well as UNDP?. It does not however provide any information on its consultations with Indigenous Peoples and CSOs. Please ask agency to clarify/elaborate further on any of these consultations

5. Participant countries and (lack of) Letter of Endorsement (LoE):

a. In Outcomes 1.1 and 2.1 (plus in some outputs) Cote d'Ivoire has been identified as one participant country ? however, there is no LoE (though in the Review Sheet the PM said that there is a LoE), neither it is included in the field ?Countries? in Part I ? Project information. Please ask the Agency to include the LoE as well as the name of the country in the field ?Countries? next to ?Global?.

b. Output 1.1.4 ?A south-south cooperation and knowledge exchange feasibility conducted? will presumably be implemented in Countries not yet identified. Once those countries are identified during the preparation phase, please include the respective LoEs at CEO Approval stage at the latest.

6. On the PMC Proportionality: there is not proportionality in the co-financing contribution to PMC. If the GEF contribution is kept at 10%, for a co-financing of \$2,400,000 the expected contribution to PMC must be around \$240,000 instead of \$200,000, which is 8.3%. As the costs associated with the project management have to be covered by the GEF portion and the co-financing portion allocated to the PMC, the GEF contribution and the co-financing contribution must be proportional, which means that the GEF contribution to PMC might be decreased and the co-financing contribution to PMC might be increased to reach a similar level. Please ask the Agency to amend

either by increasing the co-financing portion and/or by reducing the GEF portion. A more definitive estimation of PMC will be presented and adjusted at CEO Approval stage.

	Sub Total (\$)	1,818,182.00	2,400,000.00
Project Management Cost (PMC)			
	GET	181,818.00	200,000.00
	Sub Total(\$)	181,818.00	200,000.00
	Total Project Cost(\$)	2,000,000.00	2,600,000.00

June 14, 2022

The points have been addressed. The project is recommended for CEO clearance.

May 27, 2022

The PIF cannot be recommended yet. We invite the GEF Agency to address the remaining items as soon as possible, as the Quality Control will need some time. Please, keep in mind that the GEF7 Cycle will close in the following two weeks. If not cleared by this time, the project will not be able to be financed under this GEF cycle.

April 28, 2022

The PIF cannot be recommended yet. Please, address the comments above.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

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

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- Confirm cofinancing;
- Confirm sustainability issues;
- Provide a comprehensive risk analysis.
- Confirm the role of the private sector in the MSP (cofinancing, knowledge management, platforms).
- Articulate the proposed tools and mechanisms (platforms, hub) with existing initiatives in view of sustainability.
- Develop the South-South exchanges.

Review Dates

	PIF Review	Agency Response
First Review	4/28/2022	5/9/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/27/2022	6/14/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/14/2022	6/16/2022
Additional Review (as necessary)	6/16/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)		

PIF Recommendation to CEO

Brief reasoning for recommendations to CEO for PIF Approval