

Sustainable Management and Resilient Thinking for our Energy Revolution (SMARTER)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10849

Countries

Barbados

Project Name

Sustainable Management and Resilient Thinking for our Energy Revolution (SMARTER)

Agencies

UNDP

Date received by PM

7/6/2023

Review completed by PM

9/19/2023

Program Manager

Remy Ruat

Focal Area

Climate Change

Project Type

MSP

PIF
CEO Endorsement

Part I ? Project Information

Focal area elements

1. Does the project remain aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as presented in PIF (as indicated in table A)?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
7/8/2023 MY:

Yes.

The project remains aligned with the GEF CCM focal area elements as presented in PIF.

Agency Response

Project description summary

2. Is the project structure/design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs as in Table B and described in the project document?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
8.22.2023 PM:

Cleared.

7/8/2023 MY:

Not yet.

Please put quantitative information in each of the output items. For example, for output 1.1, please indicate which policies and regulations will be strengthened for incorporating bioenergy in the energy mix in the country; for output 2.4, please indicate the number of National dialogues or workshops and the number of participants; for output 3.3, please elaborate the capacity in kW or MW and venues of the bioenergy facilities to be installed for pilot demonstration. Please use the numbers in Exhibit 3 Pilots and demos and expected GHG emission reduction to show these numbers.

Please show the all outputs in numbers. That will help readers to evaluate and understand the cost-effectiveness of the project.

Agency Response

10 August 2023

In order to keep text in the table at reasonable size, the quantitative information of PRODOC has been added as footnotes to CEO ER's Project Summary description table :

Output 1.1: a) Revised set of distributed RE (and bioenergy) grid connection regulations and updated set of feedin tariffs are endorsed/adopted by GoB (incl. for bioenergy); b) assessment and details on role of bioenergy in the current 100% RE scenario in Barbados? energy policy (BNEP) validates in at least two workshops

Output 1.2: Management and monitoring plan for RE in public buildings, incl. at least one training of government staff

Output 2.1: One assessment accompanied with two stakeholder workshops

Output 2.2: Full draft bioenergy proposal submitted for government endorsement (as part of overall BNEP action plan) validated in stakeholder workshops

Output 2.3: Strengthening current curricula at training institutes with bioenergy components (The University of the West Indies (UWI), Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI), the Barbados Community College (BCC) and the Barbados Vocational Training Board)

Output 2.4: Bioenergy Task Force established initially as a Technical Advisory committee includes relevant stakeholders from Government entities, local authorities, civil society, local media, private sector, rural populations and meet at least twice a year

Output 3.1: Investment prospectus of at least 6 renewable energy (RE) projects with a focus on bioenergy business cases

Output 3.2: Six bioenergy business case concepts developed, of which four with a feasibility study. Of the four feasibility cases, three have reached the business/investment plan stage and at least one is in operation or in construction by EoP. The bioenergy demonstration/pilots will be a superposition of three types business cases : a) Anaerobic digestion for power production, b) Anaerobic digestion for gaseous fuel (bio-methane) production, c) Production of biofuels.

Output 3.3: Expected installed power capacity from bioenergy is 0.41 MW and installed solar PV on public facilities is 1.20 MW (with a combined electricity production of 209 MWh annually). These bioenergy pilots/demos together with the anticipated project-induced installation of PV on public buildings will lead to 215,903 tCO₂e direct GHG ER over the 20-year period 2024-2035. Production of liquid and gaseous bioenergy is 3.37 million GJ/936,111 MWh (lifetime) . All this will be achieved with GEF INV support of USD

750,000 and confirmed co-financing of about USD 12 million of which USD 7.38 million is confirmed co-financing

Output 4.1: Including three to four national and regional workshops and elaboration of bioenergy information

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Co-financing

4. Are the confirmed expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing adequately documented, with supporting evidence and a description on how the breakdown of co-financing was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized, and a description of any major changes from PIF, consistent with the requirements of the Co-Financing Policy and Guidelines?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9.18.2023 RR:

Recurrent expenditures are now listed against in-kind co-financing contributions.

Cleared.

8.22.2023 PM:

No. For all in-kind co-financing contributions, please replace ?investment mobilized? to ?recurrent expenditures? for the in-kind type of co-financing.

7/18/2023 PM:

No. Please include the name of source of co-financing for CCREEE. Also, please replace ?investment mobilized? to ?recurrent expenditures? for the in-kind type of co-financing.

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes.

The expected amounts, sources and types of co-financing are adequately documented, with supporting evidence and descriptions on how the breakdown of each co-financing amount was identified and meets the definition of investment mobilized.

Agency Response

GEF Resource Availability

5. Is the financing presented in Table D adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

8.22.2023 PM:

Cleared.

7/8/2023 MY:

Not completed.

While the financing presented in Table D is adequate, the project outputs need to be further elaborated with quantitative information to demonstrates a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives.

Agency Response

10 August 2023

See response to Question 2, the quantitative information from PRODOC has been added as footnotes in Project Summary description table of CEO ER.

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

8.22.2023 PM:

Cleared.

7/18/2023 PM:

No. As requested in the template, please provide details about expenditures for PPG report according to the categories included in Table 1 ? Annex 2 of the GEF Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF_C.59_Inf.03_Guidelines%20on%20the%20Project%20and%20Program%20Cycle%20Policy.pdf

Agency Response

10 August 2023

Data Completed in Annex C of CEO Endorsement

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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes.

The targeted GEBs at the CEO Approval stage are reasonably higher than that in the PIF stage.

Agency Response

Part II ? Project Justification

1. Is there a sufficient elaboration on how the global environmental/adaptation problems, including the root causes and barriers, are going to be addressed?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. They are shown in paragraphs 1-3 of the project CEO Approval document.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. It is shown in paragraphs 4-14 of the project CEO Approval document.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The alternative scenario with a description of outcomes and components of the project is shown in paragraphs 15-64 of the project CEO Approval document.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Alignment with GEF CCM focal area is further elaborated below paragraph 64.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The elaboration of incremental reasoning is presented in paragraphs 65-70.

Agency Response

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The elaboration of on the project's expected contribution to global environmental benefits is presented in paragraphs 65-70.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The elaboration on innovation, sustainability and scaling up is shown on paragraphs 73-83.

Agency Response

Project Map and Coordinates

Is there an accurate and confirmed geo-referenced information where the project intervention will take place?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

8.22.2023 PM:

Cleared. The project is country-wide and exact project locations are yet to be identified during site selection and assessment. Names and coordinates cannot be added yet.

7/18/2023 PM:

No. In Annex E on Project Map and Coordinates, please consider inserting the geographic location of the project (which we understand is country-wide since exact project locations are

yet to be identified during site selection and assessment) directly under the dedicated data entry field. This includes the Location Name, Latitude and Longitude. Further guidance and resources on how to proceed is provided in the write up just below the title of Annex E.

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. A map and coordinators are shown in Annex E: Project Map(s) and Coordinates.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response
Stakeholders

Does the project include detailed report on stakeholders engaged during the design phase? Is there an adequate stakeholder engagement plan or equivalent documentation for the implementation phase, with information on Stakeholders who will be engaged, the means of engagement, and dissemination of information?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Stakeholder engagement is described in the UNDP Project Document with a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and in Exhibit 8 of the GEF Approval document.

Agency Response
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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Gender equability and woman's empowerment are described in paragraphs 86-88.

Agency Response

Private Sector Engagement

If there is a private sector engagement, is there an elaboration of its role as a financier and/or as a stakeholder?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Private Sector Engagement is described in paragraphs 89-91.

Agency Response

Risks to Achieving Project Objectives

Has the project elaborated on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved? Were there proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Project risk issues are elaborated in Exhibit 7.

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
9/18/2023 RR:

Already cleared - noting here for information as useful, that another GEF-funded investment would be relevant to consider for coordination with regards to the Sargassum disposal options considered in this project (GEFID 10211, ?BE-CLME+?: Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities Through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus)

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Project implementation coordination arrangement is shown in paragraphs 94-105.

Agency Response
Consistency with National Priorities

Has the project described the alignment of the project with identified national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under the relevant conventions?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. As shown in paragraphs 106-107, the project is consistent with national priorities of the country.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Knowledge management is elaborated in Exhibit 10 and paragraphs 108-109.

Agency Response

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS)

Are environmental and social risks, impacts and management measures adequately documented at this stage and consistent with requirements set out in SD/PL/03?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

8/22/2023 PM:

Cleared.

7/8/2023 MY:

Not completed.

In the CEO Approval document, please write one or two pages of summary on Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) based on the information of the UNDP Project Document.

Agency Response

10 August 2023

ESS-relevant info regarding pilot activities is highlighted in paragraph 54 and 55.

A summary on Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) based on the information of UNDP Project Document has been added in section 9 -Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) in CEO ER in pages 49 and 50 (paragraphs 110 to 119). of the word version of the template. It is also uploaded to the online CEO ER format in the safeguards section.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The Monitoring and Evaluation plan is well presented in paragraphs 113-126.

Agency Response

Benefits

Are the socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels sufficiently described resulting from the project? Is there an elaboration on how these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of GEBs or adaptation benefits?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The socioeconomic benefits at the national and local levels are described in paragraphs 127-130

Agency Response

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The Agency attached required Annexes.

Agency Response

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The Agency attached Project Results Framework in Annex A..

Agency Response

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. The agency addressed the gender issue in the CEO Approval document. Thus, the GEF SEC comment in the PIF stage is cleared.

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

8/22/2023 PM:

Cleared. There are not Council comments.

7/8/2023 MY:

Responding to Council comments is missing. Please check and address council's comments, if there is any.

Agency Response

10 August 2023

There aren't any council comments to this Project. Previous Secretariat comments to PIF have been added.

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response
Convention Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response
Other Agencies comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response
CSOs comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response
Status of PPG utilization

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request
8/22/2023 PM:

Cleared.

7/18/2023 PM:

No. As requested in the template, please provide details about expenditures for PPG report according to the categories included in Table 1 ? Annex 2 of the GEF Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF_C.59_Inf.03_Guidelines%20on%20the%20Project%20and%20Program%20Cycle%20Policy.pdf

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Status of PPF utilization is presented in Annex C.

Agency Response

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

Yes. Project maps and coordinates are shown in Annex E.

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

7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Do the Reflow Table Annex G and the Trustee Excel Sheet for reflows provide accurate reflow expectations of the project submitted? Assumptions for Reflows can be submitted to explain expected reflows. (For NGI Only)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

Did the agency Annex H provided with information to assess the Agency Capacity to generate and manage reflows? (For NGI Only)

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

7/8/2023 MY:

N/A

Agency Response

GEFSEC DECISION

RECOMMENDATION

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

9/18/2023 RR:

Yes. Final pending comment has been addressed (in-kind co-financing listing and document cleaned of highlights).

8/22/2023 PM:

No. Please address comment above on co-financing. Also, please remove the highlights from the CEO Endorsement document as to have a final clean document.

7/8/2023 MY:

Not at this time.

Please address the comments above.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	7/11/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)	9/18/2023	
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		
Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

The project objective is to strengthen Barbados' institutional and technological capacities to transit towards a resilient, affordable and low-carbon energy infrastructure?. The production and application of bioenergy as a low-carbon solution in Barbados' energy transition towards 100% RE faces significant barriers and challenges including finance, uptake and application as well as sustained innovation and investment.

The project scope changed after PPG assessments, with a lower focus on solar PV investments and increased focus on bioenergy development and planning. Environmental and social risks will be considered as reported by the agency through the review process, following the initial screening. Coordination will be sought with other GEF-funded initiatives in the region, for example on the opportunities related to Sargassum disposal.

Status of PPG funds has been provided, co-financing letters and corresponding funding modalities have been detailed, and geographic data was not possible to fully insert as project sites remain to be confirmed during implementation.