

# Argentine Republic's Fourth Biennial Update Report (BUR)

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

10824

**Countries**

Argentina

**Project Name**

Argentine Republic's Fourth Biennial Update Report (BUR)

**Agencies**

UNDP

**Date received by PM**

6/18/2021

**Review completed by PM**

**Program Manager**

Milena Vasquez

**Focal Area**

Climate Change

**Project Type**

EA

## **Expedited Enabling Activity req (CEO) □**

### **Part 1: Project Information**

#### **Focal area elements**

**Is the enabling activity aligned with the relevant GEF focal area elements as indicated in Table A and as defined by the GEF 7 Programming Directions?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/22/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

#### **Project description summary**

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

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: Yes, Table B overall is clear and appropriate.

Agency Response

#### **Co-financing**

**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 6/22/2021: Co-financing is not required for EA's, but 63,922 is expected in-kind from the government.

Agency Response

#### **GEF Resource Availability**

**Is the proposed GEF financing in Table D (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: Yes.

**Agency Response**

**Are they within the resources available from:  
The STAR allocation?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**The focal area allocation?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**The LDCF under the principle of equitable access**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response

**Focal area set-aside?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

**Is the financing presented adequate and demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objectives?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: Yes.

Agency Response

**Part 2: Enabling Activity Justification**

**Background and Context.**

**Are the achievements of previously implemented enabling activities cited since the country(ies) became a party to the Convention?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/22/2021: We note that Argentina recently underwent the ICA process for its third BUR and that this EA will aim to address some of the identified capacity-building gaps and needs. Please add this specific reference.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

Agency Response

Response 29 June 2021:

Reference to ICA process was already included in the section A. ENABLING ACTIVITY BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT. Additional reference to the ICA, FSV and list of capacity-building needs were included in EA request.

**Goals, Objectives, and Activities.**

**Is the project framework sufficiently described?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/22/2021: Please address comments below:

- We note that this EA aims to support the preparation and submission of Argentina's fourth BUR by December of this year. We are a little concerned as to whether that will be possible based on previous EA's, but we commend Argentina for aiming to meet the two-year submission timeline notwithstanding delays in requesting support.

- We note that as with the last BUR, this BUR aims to prepare the GHG inventory up to 2018 or x-3 years from planned submission. How is Argentina trying to reduce further this gap to meet the x-2 year requirement, particularly as it prepares to transition to the BTR? Will this EA help Argentina put procedures in place for the continuous preparation of its GHG inventory and/or potentially further advance it to 2019?

- Please submit a justification for the SESP exemption.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

## Agency Response

Response 29 June 2021:

Argentina is committed to comply with the two-year submission and BUR 3 established the process of systematization, which we trust will allow us to submit the fourth BUR by December 2021.

BUR 3 was an inflection point in the reporting process as explained in the EA request since it set the basis for a National Inventory System. Data collection and calculation procedures were created with the corresponding calculation sheets. BUR 4 will be the first replication of the systematization. Further enhancement will occur within this EA which is expected to contribute to reduce the time required and move towards x-2 year for future reports.

NC and BUR projects with the focus on the preparation of the reports and capacity activities are exempt from the SESP screening. Even without screening, UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards remain relevant. The implementation of the project will not imply any stress or damage to the environment, marginalized groups, neither will cause deterioration of the social and/or environmental situation in Argentina. The design of the trainings and workshops will reflect application of human rights principles, gender equality and women's empowerment, and environmental sustainability in order to meet UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards.

### **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 6/22/2021: Yes.

## 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 6/22/2021: Yes.

## Agency Response

**Monitoring and Evaluation.**

**Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan?**

#### Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/22/2021: M&E budget is not required for Enabling Activities according to the GEF guidelines. Further, financial audits should be covered by the PMC (even if it is at odds with previous cost tables). Please update the budget accordingly. We note that the Translation costs of BUR / NIR, summary reports and diffusion results material for example has been placed under PMC, but perhaps it is more appropriate under component 5.

7/1/2021: Cleared.

#### Agency Response

Response 29 June 2021:

The budget was updated. Audit cost is now budgeted under PMC and Translation cost under component 5.

#### **Cost Effectiveness.**

#### **Is the project cost effective?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: Yes.

#### Agency Response

#### **Cost Ranges**

#### **If there was a deviation in the cost range, was this explained?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: There is no deviation in the cost range.

#### Agency Response

#### **Part III. Endorsement/Approval by OFP**

#### **Country endorsement**

#### **Has the project been endorsed by the country's GEF Operational Focal Point and has the name and position been checked against the GEF database?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request 6/22/2021: Yes, Florencia Maria Gloria Gomez has endorsed the project.

Agency Response  
**Response to Comments**

**Are all the comments adequately responded to? (only as applicable)**

GEF Secretariat Comment N/A

Agency Response  
**Other Agencies comments?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response  
**Council comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response  
**STAP Comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response  
**Convention Secretariat comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response  
**CSOs comments**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request N/A

Agency Response  
**GEFSEC DECISION**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Is CEO Endorsement/approval recommended?**

Secretariat comment at CEO Endorsement Request

6/22/2021: Not yet. Please address comments above.

7/1/2021: PM recommends technical clearance.

**Review Dates**

|   | <b>Secretariat Comment at<br/>CEO Endorsement</b> | <b>Response to<br/>Secretariat<br/>comments</b> |
|---|---|---|
| <b>First Review</b>                         | <b>6/22/2021</b>                                  |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> | <b>7/1/2021</b>                                   |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> |   |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> |   |   |
| <b>Additional Review<br/>(as necessary)</b> |   |   |

**CEO Recommendation**

**Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations**