

Reduction of UPOPs through Waste Management in a Circular Economy

Review CEO Endorsement and Make a recommendation

Basic project information

GEF ID

10803

Countries

Lebanon

Project Name

Reduction of UPOPs through Waste Management in a Circular Economy

Agencies

World Bank

Date received by PM

4/29/2022

Review completed by PM

5/19/2022

Program Manager

Evelyn Swain

Focal Area

Chemicals and Waste

Project Type

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

Yes.

Agency Response

Thank you.

Focal area outcomes included.

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 Yes, table B and the project document are designed to achieve the project outcomes.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request 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

Please confirm if the World Bank loan which was indicated at PIF is included in the government co-financing.

ES, 5/9/22: WB has clarified that the WB loan is not included in the co-financing because it is not approved yet, but the intent of this project is to accompany a loan once it is approved.

Agency Response

Thank you.

Co-financing updated as requested by PPO

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 Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

In annex C it says "It was not possible to use PPG funds as the Government requested to implement PPG through BETF and Bank procedures were too lengthy, so all preparations were done from outside PPG funds."

Please clarify if this means that all of the PPG funds remain unused. If so the PPG funding should be returned through the portal.

ES, 5/9/22: A PPG cancelation will be requested. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

Thank you.

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

For the 500,000 tons of waste being addressed is it possible that the amount of plastic be indicated and put into sub indicator 5.3? Also of the 500,000 tons of waste is there any portion that contains POPs or mercury? If so please fill in sub-indicator 9.6.

ES, 5/9/22: If plastics can be added to sub-indicator 5.3 please add it. Currently it is not there.

ES, 5/10/22: 5.3 has been updated. Comment cleared.

Agency Response

Thank you.

Indicator 5.3 updated to reflect 65,000 tons of plastic (this is around 13% of the waste at disposal sites based on the 2021 findings on waste characterization prepared by the WB/Problue baseline for marine litter in Lebanon in 2021).

GHG emission reduction is a standardized indicator that we need to put as net emission reductions per year, hence we used the 136,000 ton/year figure in the result framework of the PAD. For the Bank GHG reduction is a corporate indicator, so pre-defined and in this case as ton/y. This unit of measurement cannot be changed. For the GEF Core Indicator sheet we calculated the cumulative figure for a period of 20 years, hence $20 \times 136,000$ makes 2,720,000 tons (cumulative) net GHG reductions.

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

Yes, the problem, causes and barriers are well elaborated.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes, the baseline is well described.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes, the outcomes and components of the project are clear.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes, this project is well aligned with the CW focal area.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Please see the question above on core indicators.

Agency Response Thank you. Core indicator 5.3 updated.

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

Yes, innovation, sustainability and scale are addressed.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes, a stakeholder engagement plan is provided.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes, gender action plan has been included.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes, private sector engagement is included.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes, risks including pandemic and climate risks are addressed.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes, implementation arrangements are addressed. The Ministry of Environment will be the main executing partner.

Agency Response Thank you.
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

Yes, this project is consistent with national priorities including the Stockholm Convention NIP.

Agency Response Thank you.
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

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.
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

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.
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

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

Annexes

Are all the required annexes attached and adequately responded to?

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request

Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

Project Results Framework

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes in the PAD.

Agency Response Thank you.

GEF Secretariat comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request NA

Agency Response

Council comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes, Council comments have been addressed.

Agency Response Thank you.

STAP comments

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes STAP comments have been addressed.

Agency Response Thank you.

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 See comment on PPG above.

Agency Response Thank you. The World Bank will be submitting a PPG cancelation request.

Project maps and coordinates

Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement Request Yes.

Agency Response Thank you.

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

Not at this time. Some questions remain.

ES, 5/9/22: Not at this time. The core indicators need to be corrected.

ES, 5/16/22: PPO has the following comments:

1. On Project information: the expected implementation start/date does not match the stipulated duration (72 months). Please request the agency to double check and amend.
2. On Table A: Please request the agency to include the focal area outcomes.

3. On Co-financing:

- Government of Lebanon: change ?in-kind / recurrent expenditures? to ?Public investment / Investment mobilized?

- EU: change ?Other? to ?Donor agency?

- In Investment Mobilized description section, provide a summary of the government public investment plan (the info contained in the co-financing letter)

4. On Core-indicators: Please double check the Net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (CRI, Metric tons/year) reported in the results framework with the value provided under core indicator 6. They do not match.

5. On PPG: it seems that it was not possible to use the PPG funds ? hence, the PPG funds have to be cancelled in order to be returned to the trustee. Please ask the Agency to do so by using the attached template and sending it via email (note: kindly let the Agency know that they should not use the functionality for cancellation in Portal as it would cancel the whole project ? that is why the cancellation of PPG funds has to be done off Portal)

6. On the Budget:

a. kindly note that 55,000 have been charged to the components for financial auditing activities. As per guidelines, these activities should be charged to the PMC. Please request the agency to amend accordingly in the budget.

b. In addition, a position of technical auditor (\$77,000) has been charged to the component. Please request the agency to charge this activity to the PMC.

ES, 5/24/22: PPO has the following follow up comments:

Project to be returned to the Agency because while some of the comments provided on May 13 were addressed, others were not:

5. On cancellation of unused PPG funds: not addressed. In the review sheet it is said that ?A PPG cancelation will be requested. Comment cleared? ? however, the cancellation of the PPG is required in order to clear this comment. Please inform the Agency that the standard policy to return unused funds is by cancelling these funds following the procedure depicted in Guidelines (see Annex 9 of the attached pdf file). In so doing, the Agency needs to use the Notification for Cancelling PPG (Annex 9 ? Attachment 1.docx in the attached word document). Please ask the Agency to submit this Notification duly filled out via email instead of using the Portal as it is not

possible to use the functionality programmed in Portal just to cancel the PPG. Once we process the cancellation of the PPG, please ask the Program Assistant to prepare and share with us the draft CEO Approval letter for our review and further processing. Whenever this PPG is cancelled, and providing that all other comments are addressed, we can proceed with the clearance / endorsement of the project.

6. On Budget: addressed. However, now the budget in Annex E in Portal is out of margins. Please ask the Agency to adjust ? otherwise the autogenerated CEO Endorsement Portal entry will have the same problem, so it will be unreadable.

ES, 5/24/22: PPO comments have been addressed. CEO Endorsement is recommended.

Review Dates

	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
First Review	5/5/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/9/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/10/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/16/2022	
Additional Review (as necessary)	5/24/2022	

CEO Recommendation

Brief reasoning for CEO Recommendations

This project aims to assist Lebanon in avoiding and reducing unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants (UPOPs) through promoting circular economy and improving open dumpsites in the waste sector. This project will work along the entire lifecycle of waste, including upstream efforts like green chemistry, extended producer

responsibility, green procurement, and product standards. It will also address downstream aspects of waste including reuse and recycling. The GEF funding will be accompanied by a World Bank lending package for Lebanon and the project will also coordinate with the EBRD/UNEP MedProgram. The World Bank Loans and MedProgram together with this project will address sustainable chemicals and waste management in the country. Best available techniques and best available practice will be demonstrated in two or three open dumpsites. The project will lead to global environmental benefits including reduction of 20 gTEQ UPOPs emissions, 2,720,000 metric tons CO₂, and 65,000 metric tons of plastic.