



# GEF-8 Inclusive Conservation Initiative

Review PIF and Make a recommendation

## Basic project information

**GEF ID**

11761

**Countries**

Global

**Project Name**

GEF-8 Inclusive Conservation Initiative

**Agencies**

WWF-US

**Date received by PM**

9/24/2024

**Review completed by PM**

10/31/2024

**Program Manager**

Sarah Wyatt

**Focal Area**

Biodiversity

**Project Type**

FSP

## GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF) REVIEW SHEET

### 1. General Project Information / Eligibility

a) Does the project meet the criteria for eligibility for GEF funding?

b) Is the General Project Information table correctly populated?

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

### 2. Project Summary

Does the project summary concisely describe the problem to be addressed, the project objective and the strategies to deliver the GEBs or adaptation benefits and other key expected results?

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

No, please include carbon benefits in the summary.

Agency's Comments

Carbon benefits have been added to the project summary.

### 3 Indicative Project Overview

3.1 a) Is the project objective presented as a concise statement and clear?

b) Are the components, outcomes and outputs sound, appropriate and sufficiently clear to achieve the project objective and the core indicators per the stated Theory of Change?

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

No, please revise based on our conversation.

1.2.1 - Please consider rewording this for clarity.

Agency's Comments

Project outcome and output language revised per conversation, including output 1.2.1 for added clarity.

**3.2 Are gender dimensions, knowledge management, and monitoring and evaluation included within the project components and appropriately funded?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

No, un Outputs 4.1.2 and 4.1.3, please also include or capture the gender dimensions (e.g., best practices, lessons learned, challenges and constraints in advancing gender equality and women's empowerment). To be included in section 9.2 of the Review Sheet: In the development of the Gender Action Plan, please include specific budget lines, as appropriate and plans for monitoring and reporting on the GAP.

Agency's Comments

Gender dimensions have been included in description of outputs 4.1.2 and 4.1.3 (pg. 29). The Gender Action Plan will include budget lines for gender-related activities and include a plan for monitoring and reporting on the gap.

**3.3 a) Are the components adequately funded?**

**b) Are the GEF Project Financing and Co-Financing contributions to PMC proportional?**

**c) Is the PMC equal to or below 5% of the total GEF grant for FSPs or 10% for MSPs? If the requested PMC is above the caps, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

#### **4 Project Outline**

##### **A. Project Rationale**

##### **4.1 SITUATION ANALYSIS**

**a) is the current situation (including global environmental problems, key contextual drivers of environmental degradation, climate vulnerability) clearly and adequately described from a systems perspective?**

**b) Are the key barriers and enablers identified?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

##### **4.2 JUSTIFICATION FOR PROJECT**

**a) Is there an indication of why the project approach has been selected over other potential options?**

**b) Does it ensure resilience to future changes in the drivers?**

**c) Is there a description of how the GEF alternative will build on ongoing/previous investments (GEF and non-GEF), lessons and experiences in the country/region?**

**d) are the relevant stakeholders and their roles adequately described?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

**5 B. Project Description**

**5.1 THEORY OF CHANGE**

**a) Is there a concise theory of change that describes the project logic, including how the project design elements will contribute to the objective, the expected causal pathways, and the key assumptions underlying these?**

**b) Are the key outputs of each component defined (where possible)?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

During PPG, this will require significant expansion for the outputs and structure; however, the level of detail is appropriate for this point of the process.

Agency's Comments

Thank you, noted.

**5.2 INCREMENTAL/ADDITIONAL COST REASONING**

**Is the incremental/additional cost reasoning properly described as per the Guidelines provided in GEF/C.31/12?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

**5.3 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK**

**a) Is the institutional setting, including potential executing partners, outlined and a rationale provided?**

**b) Comments to proposed agency execution support (if agency expects to request exception).**

**c) is there a description of potential coordination and cooperation with ongoing GEF-financed projects/programs and other bilateral/multilateral initiatives in the project area**

**d) are the proposed elements to capture and disseminate knowledge and learning outputs and strategic communication adequately described?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

During PPG, we should continue to discuss the role and responsibilities of the PMU at WWF and the approach it will take.

It is the GEF Implementing Agencies' responsibility to approve any organization that may serve as an Executing Agency (EA) (providing the required financial systems and support) for their ability to ensure that the Minimum Fiduciary Standards Requirements are met at all levels of the project implementation.

Agency's Comments

Thank you, noted. Text has been added in the Institutional Arrangements section of the PIF.

**5.4 a) Are the identified core indicators calculated using the methodology included in the corresponding Guidelines (GEF/C.54/11/Rev.01)?**

**b) Are the project's indicative targeted contributions to GEBs (measured through core indicators)/adaptation benefits reasonable and achievable?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes, we understand at this time it is very difficult to even estimate these values.

During PPG, we expect more detail to be provided.

Agency's Comments

Thank you, noted.

**5.5 NGI Only: Is there a justification of financial structure and use of financial instrument with concessionality levels?**

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

**5.6 RISKS**

**a) Is there a well-articulated assessment of risk and identification of mitigation measures under each relevant risk category?**

**b) Is the rating provided reflecting the residual risk to the likely achievement of intended outcomes after accounting for the expected implementation of mitigation measures?**

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

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

No, please describe how the Overall risk rating was identified.

Agency's Comments

The overall Risk Rating (moderate) was added, including justification (pgs. 37/38).

#### **5.7 Qualitative assessment**

**a) Does the project intend to be well integrated, durable, and transformative?**

**b) Is there potential for innovation and scaling-up?**

**c) Will the project contribute to an improved alignment of national policies (policy coherence)?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

#### **6 C. Alignment with GEF-8 Programming Strategies and Country/Regional Priorities**

**6.1 Is the project adequately aligned with focal area and integrated program strategies and objectives, and/or adaptation priorities?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

**6.2 Is the project alignment/coherent with country and regional priorities, policies, strategies and plans (including those related to the MEAs and to relevant sectors)**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.



Agency's Comments

**6.3 For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e. BD, CC or LD), does the project clearly identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and how it contributes to the identified target(s)?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

During PPG, please refine and focus this based on the activities of the project.

Agency's Comments

Thank you, noted.

**7 D. Policy Requirements**

**7.1 Is the Policy Requirements section completed?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

**7.2 Is a list of stakeholders consulted during PIF development, including dates of these consultations, provided?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes, we note that there are limited specific stakeholders at this time (with IPAG providing direction) and that there will be additional layers of consultations, as appropriate, during PPG and project execution.

Agency's Comments

Thank you, noted.

## 8 Annexes

### Annex A: Financing Tables

**8.1 Is the proposed GEF financing (including the Agency fee) in line with GEF policies and guidelines?  
Are they within the resources available from (mark all that apply):**

**STAR allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments

NA

Agency's Comments

**Focal Area allocation?**

Secretariat's Comments

NA

Agency's Comments

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

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

**SCCF A (SIDS)?**

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

**SCCF B (Tech Transfer, Innovation, Private Sector)?**

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments  
**Focal Area Set Aside?**

Secretariat's Comments  
10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments  
**8.2 Is the PPG requested within the allowable cap (per size of project)? If requested, has an exception (e.g. for regional projects) been sufficiently substantiated?**

Secretariat's Comments  
10/3/2024

Cleared.

The agency has requested a larger PPG than standard \$400,000 rather than \$300,000 in recognition of the significant costs associated with the processes required to develop the full project, including consultations and processes to select grantees.

Agency's Comments  
**8.3 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?**

Secretariat's Comments  
10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments  
**Annex B: Endorsements**

**8.4 Has the project been endorsed by the country? (ies) GEF OFP and has the OFP at the time of PIF submission name and position been checked against the GEF database?**

Secretariat's Comments NA

Agency's Comments

**Are the OFP endorsement letters uploaded to the GEF Portal (compiled as a single document, if applicable)?**

Secretariat's Comments NA

Agency's Comments

**Do the letters follow the correct format and are the endorsed amounts consistent with the amounts included in the Portal?**

Secretariat's Comments NA

Agency's Comments

**8.5 For NGI projects (which may not require LoEs), has the Agency informed the OFP(s) of the project to be submitted?**

Secretariat's Comments NA

Agency's Comments

**Annex C: Project Location**

**8.6 Is there preliminary georeferenced information and a map of the project's intended location?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Cleared.

This is a global project at this point which will have specific sites but these have not been selected yet.

Agency's Comments

**Annex D: Safeguards Screen and Rating**

**8.7 If there are safeguard screening documents or other ESS documents prepared, have these been uploaded to the GEF Portal?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/3/2024

Yes.

Agency's Comments

**Annex E: Rio Markers**

**8.8 Are the Rio Markers for CCM, CCA, BD and LD correctly selected, if applicable?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

No, climate change mitigation should be a 1. It's unclear why LD is a 2.

Agency's Comments

The Rio Markers have been revised so CCM is 1 and LD is 1.

**Annex F: Taxonomy Worksheet**

**8.9 Is the project properly tagged with the appropriate keywords?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

No, some of the other biodiversity related terms are likely relevant here as well as potentially other things within the focal areas.

Agency's Comments

Additional biodiversity terms have been tagged in the taxonomy.

**Annex G: NGI Relevant Annexes**

**8.10 Does the project provide sufficient detail (indicative term sheet) 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 to assess the project capacity of generating reflows? If not, please provide comments. Is the Partner Agency eligible to administer concessional finance? If not, please provide comments.**

Secretariat's CommentsNA

Agency's Comments

**9 GEFSEC Decision**

**9.1 Is the PIF and PPG (if requested) recommended for technical clearance?**

Secretariat's Comments

10/30/2024

Yes.

10/3/2024

Not at this time. Please revise and resubmit.

Agency's Comments

**9.2 Additional Comments to be considered by the Agency at the time of CEO Endorsement/ Approval**

Secretariat's Comments

Agency's Comments

**Review Dates**

**PIF Review**

**Agency Response**

<b>First Review</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>
<b>Additional Review (as necessary)</b>