

# Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility  
(Version 5)

## STAP Scientific and Technical screening of the Project Identification Form (PIF)

Date of screening: March 15, 2013

Screener: Thomas Hammond

Panel member validation by: Brian Huntley  
Consultant(s): Margarita Dyubanova

### I. PIF Information *(Copied from the PIF)*

**FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND**

**GEF PROJECT ID:** 5088

**PROJECT DURATION :** 5

**COUNTRIES :** Dominican Republic

**PROJECT TITLE:** Conserving Biodiversity in Coastal Areas Threatened by Rapid Tourism and Physical Infrastructure Development

**GEF AGENCIES:** UNDP

**OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:** Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources; Ministry of Tourism

**GEF FOCAL AREA:** Biodiversity

### II. STAP Advisory Response *(see table below for explanation)*

Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies): **Consent**

### III. Further guidance from STAP

STAP welcomes this excellent project, which addresses the intense and increasing threats to the coastal ecosystems and the catchment management systems that impact on them in the most biologically diverse country of the Caribbean.

The descriptions of the project framework, the baseline description of threats, and the barriers to overcoming them, and current activities addressing these, are concise and well articulated using pertinent and quantified information.

The incremental reasoning around interventions for GEF support is realistic and clearly targeted to those facets in which GEF investment can have the greatest catalytic impact. Given the recognized capacity challenges, the proposal for an institutionalized training programme that will incrementally develop professional capacity, is especially welcomed, in view of the frequent failure of ad-hoc and short term training initiatives.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
<b>1. Consent</b>	STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasizing any issues where the project could be improved.  Follow up: The GEF Agency is invited to approach STAP for advice during the development of the project prior to submission of the final document for CEO endorsement.
<b>2. Minor revision required.</b>	STAP has identified specific scientific or technical challenges, omissions or opportunities that should be addressed by the project proponents during project development.  Follow up: One or more options are open to STAP and the GEF Agency: (i) GEF Agency should discuss the issues with STAP to clarify them and possible solutions. (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the GEF Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP's recommended actions.
<b>3. Major revision required</b>	STAP has identified significant scientific or technical challenges or omissions in the PIF and recommends significant improvements to project design.  Follow-up: (i) The Agency should request that the project undergo a STAP review prior to CEO endorsement, at a point in time when the particular scientific or technical issue is sufficiently developed to be reviewed, or as agreed between the Agency and STAP. (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP

	concerns.
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