

CANADA'S COMMENTS ON WORK PROGRAM FOR GEF 53RD COUNCIL

	Projects	GEF Financing	GEF ID	Comments
	Biodiversity			
	Ecuador: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Galapagos Islands by Enhancing Biosecurity and Creating the Enabling Environment for the Restoration of Galapagos Island Ecosystems.	\$3,301,472	9282	https://www.thegef.org/project/safeguarding-biodiversity-galapagos-islands-enhancing-biosecurity-and-creating-enabling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • The project has a direct and clear relation with GEF strategies, and clearly contributes to the CBD's Aichi Targets. • The proposed consultation with and integration of indigenous peoples and local communities is welcome.
	Climate Change			
	Angola: Promoting Sustainable Energy Access for Rural Communities in South-Eastern Angola (UNDP)	\$3,540,468	9810	https://www.thegef.org/project/promoting-sustainable-energy-access-rural-communities-south-eastern-angola <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • The project has a clear transformational impact as it seeks to transition Angola's energy system, which accounts for deforestation and a significant amount of the country's GHG emissions. This initiative will have an impact on implementing the temperature target of the Paris Agreement. However, when taking into consideration the co-financing for the project the cost per tonne of expected emissions is relatively high. • Beyond GHG emissions this project is also expected to reduce black carbon, aligning it with the Climate and Clean Air Coalition's goals to reduce short lived climate pollutants. • This project also has a private sector component. However it is unclear from the proposal how much of the project co-financing is expected to come from the private sector.
	Bangladesh: Promoting Low Carbon Urban Development in Bangladesh (UNDP) (GEF Financing)	\$3,767,810	9368	https://www.thegef.org/project/promoting-low-carbon-urban-development-bangladesh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • This project takes place in a least developed country that is particularly vulnerable to climate change. • Municipal Solid Waste is one of the major global environmental issues, particularly in developing countries. Canada realizes the significant mitigation potential from these actions. Question: Has the project partner engaged with the Climate and Clean Air Coalition on this component of the initiative? • From information provided in the PIF, this initiative is an opportunity to demonstrate how energy efficiency and waste to energy can be integrated into city bylaws. Question: Is there potential for this project to have a demonstration effect in other cities in Bangladesh regarding how to address the complexities and barriers to integrating low carbon strategies into their bylaws?

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question: Around 90% of this project is being financed by the Government in Bangladesh. What is the value of a GEF contribution to this initiative?
	Chile: Supporting the Chilean Low Emissions Transport Strategy CLETS (CAF)	\$2,900,000	9742	https://www.thegef.org/project/supporting-chilean-low-emissions-transport-strategy-clets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • This project is particularly cost effective. • The leverage ratio of public to private financing is less than 1:0.5, making the mobilization effectiveness of this initiative below many climate change initiatives.
	China: China Distributed Renewable Energy Scale-up Project (World Bank)	\$7,278,600	9749	https://www.thegef.org/project/china-distributed-renewable-energy-scale-project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada is strongly supportive of projects that help to reduce reliance on coal fired electricity. Question: How does this project directly contribute to phasing out coal fired electricity? • A PIF is not available for this project that would include key project information such as private sector involvement. Question: Will there be any private sector finance mobilized through this initiative?
	Democratic Republic of the Congo: Promotion of Waste to Energy Options for Sustainable Urban Management in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNIDO)	\$3,959,589	9683	https://www.thegef.org/projects?search_api_views_fulltext=9683&=Apply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • Municipal Solid Waste is one of the major global environmental issues, particularly in developing countries. Canada realizes the significant mitigation potential from these actions. Question: Has the project partner engaged with the climate and clean air coalition on this component of the initiative? • This project also has a clear transformation impact. As outlined in the PIF, there is significant mitigation potential from the waste sector. This initiative will have a strong replication effect.
	Guinea-Bissau: Promoting Better Access to Modern Energy Services through Sustainable Mini-grids and Low-carbon Bioenergy Technologies Among Guinea-Bissau's Forest-dependent Communities (UNDP)	\$2,912,702	9561	https://www.thegef.org/project/promoting-better-access-modern-energy-services-through-sustainable-mini-grids-and-low-carbon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • The project is expected to reduce 190,288 tCO₂, which translates into an abatement ratio of \$17.7 of GEF funds per tCO₂ reduced. This cost is generally higher than other GEF projects; however, it is still cost effective when taking into consideration the context of the recipient country. • This project addresses a clear need and directly contributes to the energy transition and clean growth objectives of the Paris Agreement.
	Kiribati: Promoting Outer Island Development through the Integrated Energy Roadmap (POIDIER) (UNDP)	\$5,379,452	9905	https://www.thegef.org/project/promoting-outer-island-development-through-integrated-energy-roadmap-poidier <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • Significant GHG emission reduction will result from the implementation of applicable and feasible renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency measures, techniques and practices in support of the socio-economic development of the country. • Given its community-based approach, this project could be replicated in outer islands of Kiribati to further

				improve energy security. Furthermore, best practices that will come out from the interventions that will be carried out in the project could also be shared with other PICs and SIDS with similar circumstances as Kiribati.
	Myanmar: Climate Change Mitigation through Methane Recovery and Reuse from Industrial Wastewater Treatment (UNIDO)	\$3,984,589	9830	https://www.thegef.org/project/climate-change-mitigation-through-methane-recovery-and-reuse-industrial-wastewater-treatment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • This project addresses an urgent need for appropriate wastewater management policy tools and integrated low-emission wastewater technology systems at company and industrial park levels. Current unsustainable industrial development and insufficient wastewater treatment result in high levels of GHG emissions that negatively impact climate change as well as the degradation of human health and the environment. • Creating a linkage between the academic community and the private sector is a welcome approach.
	Myanmar: Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme (UNDP)	\$4,934,228	9890	https://www.thegef.org/project/myanmar-rural-renewable-energy-development-programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • There is clear value added from GEF funding to this project as it will directly help to ensure the success of renewable energy planning and accelerating the development of a renewable energy market in Myanmar. • Furthermore, this initiative will contribute to other development targets as the productive use of energy approach also has poverty-reduction potential. • In addition to a reduction in CO2, black carbon emissions will also be reduced through this project, aligning it with climate and clean air coalition's goals to reduce short lived climate pollutants. • We are pleased to see that there is a private sector component to this project and co-financing, while a small portion of the total project cost, is expected. The creation of sustainable public-private renewable energy model is most welcome in Myanmar. • According to the project proposal, the project is to be implemented in three regions: Mon, Kayin and Shan States. It is also suggested to extend the work in Chin State. • We note that the co-financing is low due low market confidence in the Myanmar renewable energy market. Question: Are there estimated targets for improving private sector involvement in this sector for this project?
	Myanmar: My-Coast: Ecosystem-Based Conservation of Myanmar's Southern Coastal Zone	\$3,046,347	9261	https://www.thegef.org/project/my-coast-ecosystem-based-conservation-myanmar%E2%80%99s-southern-coastal-zone <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding.
	Nigeria: Improving Nigeria's Industrial Energy Performance and Resource Efficient Cleaner Production through	\$3,898,265	9714	https://www.thegef.org/projects?search_api_views_fulltext=9714&=Apply <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-financing is at a good level (close to GEF average of 6:1). • By targeting small, medium and large scale industrial enterprises, the project ensures that efforts are made

	Programmatic Approaches and the Promotion of Innovation in Clean Technology Solutions (UNIDO)			<p>at all levels to adopt industrial energy efficiency and improve enterprise environmental performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project monitoring and evaluation is one of the main project components, which will serve not only to monitor the project's progress but also improve decision making and recommendations for the follow-up activities once the project is closed.
	Nigeria: De-risking Sustainable Off-grid Lighting Solutions in Nigeria (UNDP)	\$2,639,726	9743	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/de-risking-sustainable-grid-lighting-solutions-nigeria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By improving the reliability of the electricity supply, this project will reduce people's reliance on alternative electricity sources such as kerosene lamps, which have negative impacts on their health and the environment. The project will therefore help a considerable number of beneficiaries.
	Niue: Accelerating Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Applications in Niue (AREAN) (UNDP)	\$3,321,563	9752	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/accelerating-renewable-energy-and-energy-efficiency-applications-niue-arean</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NiSERM outlines Niue's aspiration to meet 80% of its electricity needs from renewable energy sources by 2025, a very ambitious goal that cannot be achieved without considerable contributions of financial and capacity support from the country's development partners.
	Solomon Islands: Stimulating Progress towards Improved Rural Electrification in the Solomons (SPIRES) (UNDP)	\$2,639,726	9787	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/stimulating-progress-towards-improved-rural-electrification-solomons-spires</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada strongly supports this program since it provides support to a small island developing state and helps improve access to renewable energy. The project will assess renewable energy potential in off-grid areas as an alternative to diesel generation, which is costly and has climate and environmental/human health impacts. The proposal identifies that the project will include an assessment of potential for geothermal, hydro and bioenergy potential. While recognizing that ocean-based power generation (wave, current, thermal gradient, tide etc.) may not yet be proven as commercially viable, this project may help with a viability assessment of these ocean-based options and help de-risk the commercialization of such pioneering ocean energy technologies in the Pacific islands. Question: How will the project address potential policy or capacity barriers to effectively and efficiently implement the project?
	Trinidad and Tobago: Energy Efficiency through the Development of Low-carbon RAC Technologies in Trinidad and Tobago (UNDP)	\$5,152,392	9789	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/energy-efficiency-through-development-low-carbon-rac-technologies-trinidad-and-tobago</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project proposal has significant potential for achieving synergies and complementarity with the Montreal Protocol and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol by ensuring that the total GHG emissions of RAC systems (i.e. HCFC and HFC emissions from the refrigerant component and CO2 emissions from the energy use component) are addressed holistically. In this regard, Canada is generally supportive of the objective of this project, noting that it could serve as an example for future collaboration between the GEF and the Multilateral Fund to maximize the climate benefits of the HFC phase-down.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on the experience of developed countries, one of the most effective ways to enhance the energy efficiency of RAC equipment is through the adoption of national Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) for each category of equipment within the RAC sector. While the project proposal does mention the development of standards and labelling regulations, it does not explicitly indicate that MEPS will be developed. It would be desirable to confirm that MEPS for different categories of RAC equipment will be developed through the project and that the full project proposal will describe more specifically how this will be achieved. • The project proposal sometimes appears to assume that natural refrigerants, specifically CO2 and hydrocarbons, are the only low-GWP refrigerants that should be considered. For instance, paragraph 48 mentions that “no GEF funding will be used to promote the use of equipment High-GWP refrigerants, and the focus will be on the introduction of natural refrigerants, when possible”. Low-GWP refrigerants also include synthetic refrigerants such as hydrofluoro-olefins (HFOs). Domestically, as well as under the Montreal Protocol and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, Canada has promoted a “technology neutral” approach to the definition of “low-GWP technologies”, wherein natural and synthetic low-GWP refrigerants are provided with equal treatment. It would be important for the GEF not to appear to be bias towards either natural or synthetic low-GWP refrigerants when it funds projects in the RAC sector. In this regard, it is suggested that the full project proposal does not emphasize one type of refrigerant over another and provides equal consideration to all potential low-GWP alternatives to HCFCs and HFCs. • In light of the high level of funding envisaged for the technology interventions planned under Component II of the project, it will be important for the project proposal to be specific about the types of technology interventions planned (sectors, applications, costs of individual conversions, alternatives selected etc.) as well as their replicability and potential to lead to a market change towards enhancement of energy efficiency across the RAC sector. • There are some discrepancies in the levels of funding indicated for Components I and II between Section B of the PIF and the table on pages 19-20.
	Land Degradation			
	Djibouti: Sustainable Management of Water Resources, Rangelands and Agro-pastoral Perimeters in the Cheikhetti Wadi watershed of Djibouti (UNDP)	\$3,215,068	9599	https://www.thegef.org/project/sustainable-management-water-resources-rangelands-and-agro-pastoral-perimeters-cheikhetti <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports this project. • According to the STAP review, the project proponent demonstrates strong understanding of the drivers of land degradation, potential solutions, and the biophysical and social barriers to improving land management in the challenging environment of Djibouti. • Recognizing and endorsing the STAP’s recommendations, Canada welcomes the inclusion of knowledge management systems to strengthen the dissemination of sustainable land management and agro-pastoral

				practices among stakeholders who may have different access to information, and capacities.
	Regional (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela) : Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to ensure Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change. (UNEP)	\$11,735,780	9770	https://www.thegef.org/project/implementation-strategic-action-programme-ensure-integrated-and-sustainable-management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports this project since it builds on previous robust work supported by the GEF and presents an opportunity for significant cross-cutting benefits and cross-border collaboration in the Amazon Basin.
	Algeria: Rehabilitation and Integrated Sustainable Development of Algerian Cork Oak Forest Production Landscapes (FAO)	\$3,411,644	9806	https://www.thegef.org/project/rehabilitation-and-integrated-sustainable-development-algerian-cork-oak-forest-production <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports this project since it aims to strengthen markets and value chains for sustainably managed non-timber forest products (cork oak). • Canada concurs with the STAP analysis that “in the project stakeholder analysis [output], not only beneficiaries of the cork oak forest but also stakeholders with decision-making and advisory roles, in order to map convincingly the interconnections, power and role of all relevant stakeholders. This may also include gender differentiation and the role of indigenous technical knowledge.” • Canada also concurs with STAP that the proponents and Algeria consider natural capital accounting, or similar valuation approaches, for documenting the value of forests. This approach is also used by Canada for our forests and natural capital. • Canada notes that although the project identification form indicates that security risks are low and have been mitigated by choosing three particular sites, the wilayas of Béjaïa and Jijel are located in areas where there are security threats, which could complicate project elements. Question: How does the project propose to further mitigate this risk? • The risks also indicated that a possibly decreased ownership and support from government agencies was a risk. Overly burdensome bureaucratic procedures could also cause delays, and would inquire as to what measures would be undertaken to avoid such. Question: What measures will be undertaken to avoid this risk?
	Fiji : Community-based Integrated Natural Resource Management Project (FAO)	\$2,119,425	9880	https://www.thegef.org/project/community-based-integrated-natural-resource-management-project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada’s support for this project is conditional on the proponents addressing the project design issues highlighted by the STAP, primarily pertaining to overly simplistic assumptions regarding linkages between activities and outcomes and the “root cause analysis”.
	Chemicals and Waste			

	<p>Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo): Impact Investment and Capacity Building in Support of Sustainable Waste Management to Reduce Emissions of Unintentional POPs (UPOPs) and Mercury in West Africa (BOAD)</p>	<p>\$15,924,771</p>	<p>9371</p>	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/impact-investment-and-capacity-building-support-sustainable-waste-management-reduce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal makes a sound case for a need to better manage different types of mercury-containing wastes in the countries. • There is an innovative element to using a decentralized approach and microfinancing of waste management companies. There is strong value in concurrently addressing multiple pollutants in the waste management sector, including mercury, POPs, and UPOPs. • It is not clear who will be responsible for the “Green Windows” in each of the countries. Question: Would they be under a government agency or separate? What will be the link between the Green Window and the existing government agency(ies) overseeing any legislation and administration of waste management? • It may be useful to understand what proportion of the funds will be dedicated to each component for each of the countries. • Given that the livelihood of farmers has been affected by the loss of livestock due to ingestion of these wastes and that there are health risks to those citizens consuming contaminated agricultural products, farmers should be identified as another group of stakeholders (p.22). • Canada concurs with the STAP recommendation for the project to carefully consider and communicate in future project materials what the end use of the plastic pellets is to be, and for the project to proceed with some adjustments based on their comments.
	<p>Kazakhstan: HCFC Phase-out in Kazakhstan through Promotion of Zero ODS Low GWP Energy Efficient Technologies (UNDP)</p>	<p>\$4,586,200</p>	<p>9788</p>	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/hcfc-phase-out-kazakhstan-through-promotion-zero-ods-low-gwp-energy-efficient-technologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy and key activities proposed to reduce HCFC consumption in the country are technically sound and target the main sectors where HCFCs are used in Kazakhstan, namely refrigeration and foam insulation. It appears that there is no HCFC consumption in air conditioning and, consequently, no activities are proposed to address this sector. It is unusual for a country not to have any consumption of HCFCs in air conditioning. This should be verified and if some HCFC consumption is identified in air conditioning, it would be important to include the sector within the scope of the project. • The total funding requested from the GEF appears excessive relative to the quantity of HCFC consumption that needs to be phased out: 80 metric tonnes in refrigeration servicing (with possibly some consumption for local assembly) and 70 metric tonnes in foam insulation. Under the Multilateral Fund, a consumption of 80 metric tonnes of HCFCs in refrigeration servicing would receive funding in the order of \$900,000. For the foam sector, assuming a cost-effectiveness of \$7-10/kg, the level of funding for phasing out 70 metric tonnes would be in the order of \$490,000-\$700,000. Total funding would therefore range from \$1,390,000 to \$1,600,000 (actual funding would be less since it is indicated that a significant portion of HCFCs

				<p>consumed in the foam sector are not eligible for funding under Multilateral Fund rules). The funding requested from the GEF is, therefore, at least 3 times what a developing country would receive to phase out a similar quantity of HCFCs under the Multilateral Fund. While it is not unusual for the GEF to provide a higher level of funding than the Multilateral Fund, it is difficult to see the justification for the level of funding requested. It is therefore suggested that the full project proposal provides a more cost-effective approach to phasing out HCFCs. Given the decline in HCFC consumption over the past 3 years, a grant of \$2 million from the GEF should be sufficient to ensure the complete phase-out of HCFCs in the country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the phase-out of methyl bromide is not included as part of this project proposal, it is noted that Kazakhstan did consume methyl bromide in 2013 and 2014, though this consumption stopped in 2015 and 2016. As Kazakhstan does not have a methyl bromide baseline under the Multilateral Fund, it would not normally be eligible to receive assistance to phase out methyl bromide. It should be clarified that Kazakhstan will sustain zero consumption of methyl bromide in the future in line with its obligation under the Montreal Protocol. • Will the proposed project assist Kazakhstan in complying with the 2020 and 2030 HCFC reduction targets under the Montreal Protocol or comply with the new plan action approved by the Parties at their 28th Meeting in 2017?
	Multi Focal Area			
	Chile: Mainstreaming Conservation of Coastal Wetlands of Chile's South Center Biodiversity Hotspot through Adaptive Management of Coastal Area Ecosystems (UNEP)	\$5,146,804	9766	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/mainstreaming-conservation-coastal-wetlands-chile%E2%80%99s-south-center-biodiversity-hotspot</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canada supports the approval of the initiative for GEF funding. • The project has direct and clear relation with GEF strategies, and clearly contributes to the CBD's Aichi Targets.
	Guyana: Strengthening the Enabling Framework for Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Mercury Reduction in Small and Medium-scale Gold Mining Operations (UNDP)	\$4,543,352	9565	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/strengthening-enabling-framework-biodiversity-mainstreaming-and-mercury-reduction-small-and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal is comprehensive in explaining what will be addressed in the project and its relevance in meeting obligations of the treaty with respect to ASGM. • This project appears to complement the Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of ASGM (GOLD) GEF project, previously endorsed under GEF Council 51. Close coordination of the Guyana component of the GOLD project should occur so as to share knowledge and to avoid duplication. • This project seems to have tight timelines. It would be helpful to know the notional schedule for the Government of Guyana to publish/implement the regulations, publish the compliance material, and hold the workshops/seminars so as to reach their outlined targets by 2020. • To increase clarity of roles and responsibilities, it would be useful to have an itemized table/list of the different activities for which each government department or agency will be responsible and the proportion

				<p>of the funds which will be earmarked for each activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With respect to the compliance promotion/training material that will be developed, consideration should be given to the level of literacy of communities, miners, especially if those communities are remote or impoverished or if the indigenous communication in those areas is primarily oral (p.20).
	Indonesia: Integrated Management of Peatland Landscapes in Indonesia (IMPLI)	\$4,895,872	9239	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/integrated-management-peatland-landscapes-indonesia-impli</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposed project takes into account and supports the implementation of various regulatory instruments that have been put in place for the sustainable peatland management. • The proposed peatland project is quite comprehensive and targeting peatland hydrological units (PHUs) in three provinces for the implementation of national regulations on peatland ecosystem management and protection, and a smaller/specific PHU in Riau province for direct peatland restoration. In the program approach, it aligns with the Peatland Restoration Agency's policy for peatland restoration: rewetting – replanting – revitalization of livelihoods. • The components for women empowerment, partnership with local communities and CSOs and clearer revitalization of livelihoods/income generation could be elaborated further.
	Indonesia: Strengthening of Social Forestry in Indonesia	\$14,317,909	9600	<p>https://www.thegef.org/project/strengthening-social-forestry-indonesia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The social forestry program is considered a strategic approach to address the drivers of forest degradation, deforestation and poverty and contributes to the government's national poverty alleviation program. • The major constraints for the promotion of social forestry have been the supply – demand gaps: the connection, information flow, implementation guidance and support: national government - sub-national governments and communities. Efforts have to be made at all levels (national – sub-national – community) to make the system works. • This project also needs to consider the new President Regulation (No.88/Sept 2017) on Land Tenure Settlement in Forestry Areas, which covers the process of forest transfer to community (social forestry). According to this regulation, forest land tenure settlement through community ownership/social forestry can only be done in protection and production forest, but not in conservation forest, which carries biodiversity preservation function. Given that the proposed project is strongly connected to GEF's Biodiversity Focal Area, the proposal should state how it aligns with the Indonesia Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2015-2020 (IBSAP).