

French comments on Earth Fund platform identification form (EFPIF) The GEF Earth Fund Trust Fund

Title: Greening the Coca Industry / UNEP

Project identification

PLATFORM DURATION: 60 MONTHS

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY(IES): Global

PLATFORM TITLE: Greening the Cocoa Industry

GEF AGENCY: UNEP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): Rainforest Alliance, Inc.

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): Biodiversity

GEF-4 STRATEGIC : BD SP5/The GEF Earth Fund

1. This EFPIF is relevant. It aims supporting sustainable ecological practices in the cacao production. We can support this platform as presented in the document

2. Project component 4. Cocoa and Biodiversity Conservation. We fully support the expected output to measure contribution of sustainable cocoa production to biodiversity conservation and to measure biodiversity mainstreaming improvements.

Our question is who will do these measures ?

Is it Rainforest Alliance, Inc or scientific independent experts ?

3. It could have been mentioned in the document similar initiatives in the coffee sector (supports to umbrella trees by Starbuck, labels and certificates of origin...) which could be applied in the cocoa sector.

4. Some issues could be addressed during the appraisal phase as the GEF amount requested is significant \$ 5,000,000 out of \$20,000,000: especially it should be clarified the operating cost in the budget for the 5 years implementation

5. We didn't find the STAP's comments which should be joined to the PIF

Title: Public-Private Funding Mechanisms for Watershed Protection/ IDB

Platform Identification

PROJECT DURATION: 60 months

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY(IES): Latin America and the Caribbean

PLATFORM: Public-Private Funding Mechanisms for Watershed Protection

GEF AGENCY: IDB

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): The Nature Conservancy

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): Biodiversity

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): SO1, SO2, SP1, SP3, SP5

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM: The GEF Earth Fund

1. This EFPIF is very attractive and seems potentially promising to the conservation of freshwater ecosystems and biodiversity. It aims to implement a payment system of ecosystem services in the whole catchment basin.

The issue of the owner or the management structure at this scale is critical. In many countries there is no specific agency for operating at the catchment basin. The project seems looking for a delegation service to NGO (The Nature Conservancy): this raises the issue of the sustainability of this proposed system.

2. Some issues could be addressed during the appraisal phase as the GEF amount requested is significant \$ 5,450,000 out of \$20,450,000: especially it should be clarified the operating cost (how much and how are they finance) of the budget for the 5 years implementation and after the project implementation phase.

4. Annexes produced are in Spanish so it is difficult to appreciate their relevance.

5. As this type of program or project is new for GEF it should be useful to set an intermediary evaluation by the 2 or the 3 years.

6. We didn't find the STAP's comments which should be joined to the PIF.

Greening the Cocoa Industry – Response to France's comments (in BOLD)

1. This EFPIF is relevant. It aims supporting sustainable ecological practices in the cacao production. We can support this platform as presented in the document

We thank the Government of France for its support of this exciting initiative.

2. Project component 4. Cocoa and Biodiversity Conservation. We fully support the expected output to measure contribution of sustainable cocoa production to biodiversity conservation and to measure biodiversity mainstreaming improvements. Our question is who will do these measures? Is it Rainforest Alliance, Inc or scientific independent experts?

The work relating to measurement of indicators 2 and 3 Component 4 will be managed by an NGO (Rainforest Alliance). RA has an Evaluation & Research program that leads the organization's measurement and monitoring work. It is headed by a biodiversity specialist, who has managed similar programs in a major international conservation organization. RA would determine the framework for the monitoring program, drawing on its own experience from the GEF/UNDP coffee project, Biodiversity Conservation in Coffee, as well as other projects, and from best practice in conservation measurement. The Evaluation & Research team works through RA's own field programs and implementing partners, as well as partnering with external third party organizations to bring both local monitoring capacity and objectivity. Additionally, RA will collaborate closely with Mars, Inc. in this component, as the company has a strong scientific research capacity. In partnership with Mars and local implementing partners, RA expects to link to other research independent organizations such as CIRAD, which has been active in cocoa in West Africa and SE Asia.

As mentioned in Annex 4 of the documentation, in the areas of forestry and agriculture, RA provides both training in sustainability and certifies operations. In collaboration with farmers, workers, business leaders, NGOs, governments, scientists and local communities RA develops and implement locally adapted standards that are socially and environmentally responsible, as well as economically viable. RA then monitors and evaluates compliance.

3. It could have been mentioned in the document similar initiatives in the coffee sector (supports to umbrella trees by Starbuck, labels and certificates of origin...) which could be applied in the cocoa sector.

We concur that there are a number of laudable initiatives in the coffee sector which are well known and bear mentioning. Some references to these are made in Annex 4 of the documentation (see last page). However it is important to underline that the Rainforest Alliance certification seal is the only voluntary certification standard to incorporate biodiversity conservation criteria, making it an ideal candidate for GEF support.

4. Some issues could be addressed during the appraisal phase as the GEF amount requested is significant \$ 5,000,000 out of \$20,000,000: especially it should be clarified the operating cost in the budget for the 5 years implementation

We concur and a number of issues will certainly be addressed during the appraisal phase. [The full CEO endorsement package will be circulated to GEF Council Members]. As part of the appraisal process, The Rainforest Alliance will be building on the work that is already underway in Côte d'Ivoire, where the Rainforest Alliance works with over 10,000 farmers in forty cooperatives situated in the regions of Issia/Daloa, Sassandra and Abengourou, as well as other countries included in the proposal where Rainforest Alliance has already begun to train farmers in sustainable practices and certify cocoa.

The project management costs of the project supported by the GEF total \$250,000 over 5 years. Other operating costs will be absorbed through co-financing provided by the Rainforest Alliance and its partners.

5. We didn't find the STAP's comments which should be joined to the PIF

The STAP review is affixed. On an exceptional basis a revision of the PIF partially addressed some of the STAP Comments (see attached response). As is standard GEF operating procedure, during the appraisal phase, the balance of STAP's recommendations will be taken on board.