

Checklist for Environmental and Social issues

Please note that as part of the GEFs evolving Fiduciary Standards that Implementing Agencies have to meet is the need to address 'Environmental and Social Safeguards'.

To address this requirement UNEP-GEF have developed this checklist with the following guidance:

1. Initially filled in during concept development to help guide in the identification of possible risks and activities that will need to be included in the project design.
2. A completed checklist should accompany the PIF
3. Check list reviewed during PPG phase and updated as required
4. Final check list submitted with Project Package clearly showing what activities are being undertaken to address issues identified

Project Title:	Strengthening and expansion of capacities in biosafety that lead to a full implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in Guatemala		
GEF project ID and UNEP ID/IMIS Number	UNEP ADDIS: 1394	Version of checklist	CEO-endorsement
Project status (preparation, implementation, MTE/MTR, TE)	CEO-endorsement request	Date of this version:	14-Dec-2015
Checklist prepared by (Name, Title, and Institution)	Marianela Araya, Task Manager UNEP BD Unit		

In completing the checklist both short- and long-term impact shall be considered.

Section A: Project location

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Is the project area in or close to -		
- densely populated area	N/A	Project mainly in capacity building issues.
- cultural heritage site	N/A	
- protected area	N/A	
- wetland	N/A	
- mangrove	N/A	
- estuarine	N/A	
- buffer zone of protected area	N/A	
- special area for protection of biodiversity	N/A	
- Will project require temporary or permanent support facilities?	No	
<i>If the project is anticipated to impact any of the above areas an Environmental Survey will be needed to determine if the project is in conflict with the protection of the area or if it will cause significant disturbance to the area.</i>		

Section B: Environmental impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Are ecosystems related to project fragile or degraded?	N/A	Project activities are mainly capacity building
- Will project cause any loss of precious ecology, ecological, and economic functions due to construction of infrastructure?	N/A	
- Will project cause impairment of ecological opportunities?	N/A	
- Will project cause increase in peak and flood flows? (including from temporary or permanent waste waters)	N/A	
- Will project cause air, soil or water pollution?	N/A	
- Will project cause soil erosion and siltation?	N/A	
- Will project cause increased waste production?	N/A	
- Will project cause Hazardous Waste production?	N/A	
- Will project cause threat to local ecosystems due to invasive species?	N/A	To the contrary, the project will contribute to the preservation of native genetic resources and biodiversity through functional biosafety systems.
- Will project cause Greenhouse Gas Emissions?	N/A	
- Other environmental issues, e.g. noise and traffic	N/A	
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section C: Social impacts

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Does the project respect internationally proclaimed human rights including dignity, cultural property and uniqueness and rights of indigenous people?	Yes	The projects has a full component that is meant to safeguard maize as a key genetic resource for local populations and indigenous people.
- Are property rights on resources such as land tenure recognized by the existing laws in affected countries?	N/A	
- Will the project cause social problems and conflicts related to land tenure and access to resources?	N/A	
- Does the project incorporate measures to allow affected stakeholders' information and consultation?	Yes	The project has been developed in a participatory manner taking advantage of former consultation structures and groups that were created during the former project. In addition, the current proposal includes the development of studies and analysis of implications for certain processes, which will be based on local consultations.
- Will the project affect the state of the targeted country's (-ies') institutional context?	Yes	The project will enhance and strengthen institutional capacities at the community and national level.
- Will the project cause change to beneficial uses of land or resources? (incl. loss of downstream beneficial uses (water supply or fisheries)?	No	The project will promote under component 5 the creation of an in situ conservation site. Proposal will be designed in consultation with local authorities and will be mindful of land use permits, in particular since the EA is the local authority for protected areas.
- Will the project cause technology or land use modification that may change present social and economic activities?	No	The project does not promote the use of any particular technology; it only creates regulatory capacity for the country to take informed decisions. Therefore no, the project itself will not cause modifications to social or economic activities. It will however raise awareness and create technical

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
		capacity that over time could contribute to the execution of particular activities. Through the maize reserve the project will only designate that area as GM free zone and therefore since GM maize is not yet approved in Guatemala, it will not change any present economic activities.
- Will the project cause dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?	No	
- Will the project cause uncontrolled in-migration (short- and long-term) with opening of roads to areas and possible overloading of social infrastructure?	No	
- Will the project cause increased local or regional unemployment?	No	
- Does the project include measures to avoid forced or child labour?	N/A	
- Does the project include measures to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for workers employed as part of the project?	N/A	
- Will the project cause impairment of recreational opportunities?	No	
- Will the project cause impairment of indigenous people's livelihoods or belief systems?	No	
- Will the project cause disproportionate impact to women or other disadvantaged or vulnerable groups?	No	
- Will the project involve and or be complicit in the alteration, damage or removal of any critical cultural heritage?	No	
- Does the project include measures to avoid corruption?	Yes	UNEP fiduciary standards will be followed as a requirement of UNEP as a GEF IA.
<i>Only if it can be carefully justified that any negative impact from the project can be avoided or mitigated satisfactorily both in the short and long-term, can the project go ahead.</i>		

Section D: Other considerations

If negative impact is identified or anticipated the Comment/Explanation field needs to include: Project stage for addressing the issue; Responsibility for addressing the issue; Budget implications, and other comments.

	Yes/No/N.A.	Comment/explanation
- Does national regulation in affected country (-ies) require EIA and/or ESIA for this type of activity?	N/A	
- Is there national capacity to ensure a sound implementation of EIA and/or SIA requirements present in affected country (-ies)?	N/A	
- Is the project addressing issues, which are already addressed by other alternative approaches and projects?	No	The scope of the project is different from the one other initiative. However, the project will look for synergies and avoid duplication.