



GEF-6 GEF SECRETARIAT REVIEW FOR FULL-SIZED/MEDIUM-SIZED PROJECTS THE GEF/LDCF/SCCF TRUST FUND

GEF ID:	9380		
Country/Region:	Mexico		
Project Title:	Securing the Future of Global Agriculture in the Face of Climate Change by Conserving the Genetic Diversity of the Traditional Agro-ecosystems		
GEF Agency:	FAO	GEF Agency Project ID:	
Type of Trust Fund:	GEF Trust Fund	GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity
GEF-6 Focal Area/ LDCF/SCCF Objective (s):	BD-3 Program 7;		
Anticipated Financing PPG:	\$150,000	Project Grant:	\$5,329,451
Co-financing:	\$36,185,188	Total Project Cost:	\$41,664,639
PIF Approval:	May 04, 2016	Council Approval/Expected:	June 09, 2016
CEO Endorsement/Approval		Expected Project Start Date:	
Program Manager:	Jaime Cavalier	Agency Contact Person:	Pilar Santacoloma

PIF Review			
Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment	Agency Response
Project Consistency	1. Is the project aligned with the relevant GEF strategic objectives and results framework? ¹	3-7-16 BD-3, Program 7. Aichi Targets 1, 2, 13, 18 & 19. The GEF suggest listing the Targets in order of importance, stating in the text the Target that is the best fit for the project. The reading of the PIF suggests Target 13.	
	2. Is the project consistent with the	3-7-16	

¹ For BD projects: has the project explicitly articulated which Aichi Target(s) the project will help achieve and are SMART indicators identified, that will be used to track the project's contribution toward achieving the Aichi Target(s)?

PIF Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment	Agency Response
	recipient country's national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?	Yes. Page 31-32 of PIF. Cleared	
Project Design	3. Does the PIF sufficiently indicate the drivers ² of global environmental degradation, issues of sustainability, market transformation, scaling, and innovation?	3-7-16 Sustainability. In the PIF, there is reference to the Social, Environmental and Economic Sustainability. Thank you. Please elaborate on who is going to cover the recurrent costs of: i) Databases (COABIO?), and ii) Seed banks after project closure. Provide an estimate of the costs associated with the recurrent costs of these investments so responsible parties are aware of the responsibilities ahead of them. Innovation. The project requires to explain why this particular project is innovative regarding the proposed activities, target geographies and species. In other words, since agro-biodiversity in Mexico has been the focus of so much attention in the past because its prominence from the biological and cultural points of view, what is new about this project? What are the novelties of this project in terms of outcomes and impact on the ground? Are there novelties regarding	

² Need not apply to LDCF/SCCF projects.

PIF Review

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		the target cultivars and landraces and how they are going to be protected?	
	4. Is the project designed with sound incremental reasoning?	<p>3-7-16</p> <p>The GEF suggests separating the projects that have been completed (the Background information) from the projects that are ongoing and upcoming, which constitute the true "baseline". That is, the projects on which this new GEF project will be building on. That would make easier the articulation of the "Incremental Reasoning".</p>	
	5. Are the components in Table B sound and sufficiently clear and appropriate to achieve project objectives and the GEBs?	<p>3-7-16</p> <p>GENERAL</p> <p>It is not clear that a combination of "Capacity Building", "Improvement of Public Policies" and "Valuation of agrobiodiversity and market linkages" will result in the conservation of the genetic diversity of the traditional agro-ecosystems of Mexico. What are the actual investments on the ground that will allow the traditional peasants, indigenous peoples, and local communities to carry-on with the conservation of these resources? The milpas hold the keys for the conservation of agrobiodiversity. What is this project doing for the milpas and its farmers?</p>	

PIF Review

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		<p>COMPONENTS</p> <p>1. The Budget for this component is far too high (\$1.6 M) considering that the work at hand is basically the compilation, systematization, and some analysis of information already published for the list of species and its wild relatives on Annex 1. The GEF suggest to re-allocate some of these funds to other components.</p> <p>2. i) It is not clear why the custodians of Mexico's agro-biodiversity (with hundreds or even thousands of years of on-the ground experience), require "capacity building" for the conservation and sustainable use of plant species including CWRs); i) Are the proposed activities what these local actors have requested? ii) What do the following terms mean in real terms? "A mechanism of self-management", "Stakeholders in participatory genetic improvements"? Iii) The budget for this component (\$13.3M) is far too low to tackle activities in 8 target sites (\$163,000/site). Either reduce the number of sites or increase the budget.</p> <p>3. i) The language of the outcome and</p>	

PIF Review

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		<p>outputs is vague (i.e. "inter-institutional strategy", "synergy mechanism", "Inclusive public policies"), making hard to visualize what will come out of these investments and how these results will actually contribute to achieve the proposed objective. Significantly more precision is needed to understand if these outputs will have "teeth" to make a difference in the conservation of agro-biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge. Ii) What are the existing policies and planning tools that will be subject to "mainstreaming" of traditional knowledge, practices and production systems, as stated in outcome 3.1? The reading of the baseline on the "legal Framework of Agro-BD in Mexico" (p.14) does not allow to visualize how this "mainstreaming" will take place.</p> <p>4. i) Please clarify what "valuation of agro-biodiversity" actually means, and what are the "innovative market incentives" being considered or visualized to achieve the objective of this component and the project. ii) It is not clear why the project has to engage with "value chains" when it has been acknowledged that these species and CRW are traded locally.</p>	

PIF Review

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		<p>Please provide examples of the type of interventions proposed in relation to "market linkages" ii) what are the "innovative financial mechanisms" referred to in outcome 4.1?</p> <p>TARGET SPECIES AND GEOGRAPHIES</p> <p>What is the relationship between the target sites States (Oaxaca, Chiapas, Campeche, Michoacán, Chihuahua, Tlaxcala, Jalisco and Mexico City Valley) and species [Maize, beans, amaranth, chilis, squashes, chayotes, green tomatoes, cacao, avocado, nopal, and particular local edible tender leaf vegetables (quelites)]? A matrix with the two variables may allow visualizing how these two important factors relate to each other.</p> <p>It is not clear why the project has selected very well-known species and CWRs (i.e. Maiz) when on the other hand, most of the agrobiodiversity in Mexico has received very little attention as described in the PIF.</p> <p>CO-FINANCING AND STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>Do the co-financiers know that their names appear in this PIF with an</p>	

PIF Review

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		<p>associated \$ amount for co-financing in-kind? Please include only those that have agreed at least informally, to co-finance the project and sign a letter of endorsement.</p> <p>In Table 1, there are 12 institutions with mandates and roles in the project. Do all these 12 institutions know they will be participating in the project?</p>	
	6. Are socio-economic aspects, including relevant gender elements, indigenous people, and CSOs considered?	<p>3-7-16</p> <p>Yes.</p> <p>Cleared</p>	
Availability of Resources	7. Is the proposed Grant (including the Agency fee) within the resources available from (mark all that apply):		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The STAR allocation? 	<p>3-7-16</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Cleared</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focal area allocation? 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LDCF under the principle of equitable access 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)? 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focal area set-aside? 		
Recommendations	8. Is the PIF being recommended for clearance and PPG (if additional amount beyond the norm) justified?	<p>3-7-16</p> <p>No. Please address outstanding issues under items 1, 3, 4 and 5. Thanks. The GEF Secretariat remains available for</p>	

PIF Review			
Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment	Agency Response
		further consultation on this review. 3-27-16 Yes. This PIF is recommended.	
Review Date	Review	March 08, 2016	
	Additional Review (as necessary)		
	Additional Review (as necessary)		

CEO endorsement Review			
Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
Project Design and Financing	1. If there are any changes from that presented in the PIF, have justifications been provided?	1-8-18 Yes. Cleared	
	2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?	1-8-18 Please review the Targets in Table B (and in text). Suggest providing numbers for indirect and direct coverage in the 100s of thousands (i.e. 4,340,000). In Table E. is it 702,180 ha. or 700,000 as indicated in the text?	

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
		3-07-18 Cleared	
	3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?	1-8-18 Yes. Assuming the co-financing becomes effective during project implementation. Cleared	
	4. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk response measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)	1-8-18 Yes. Page 69 of Project Document. Cleared	
	5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?	1-8-18 Since the co-financing in many of the letters are in Mexican Pesos, please include a footnote in the CEO Endorsement with the exchanged rate used. For the LoC from AZP (Mexico City), please use the exactly same amounts (i.e. \$5.27M in Letter vs \$5,272,500). Recalculate the sum of the co-financing. The total in Table C is different from the total if you add up the individual numbers. Please ensure all numbers are consistent and add-up.	

CEO endorsement Review

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		3-07-18 Cleared	
	6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?	1-8-18 Yes. Cleared	
	7. <i>Only for Non-Grant Instrument:</i> Has a reflow calendar been presented?		
	8. Is the project coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?	1-8-18 On the Coordination with other relevant GEF projects (p.23) list only those that are closely related to this project. Where the Managers of the relevant projects contacted during PPG? 3-07-18 Cleared	
	9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?	1-8-18 Are the targets for the number of farmers to benefit from the project realistic (i.e. Outcome 2.1, and Output 2.1.3.1). Time to check. 3-07-18 Cleared	
	10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?	1-8-18 Yes. Cleared	
Agency Responses	11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the		

CEO endorsement Review

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	PIF ³ stage from:		
	• GEFSEC		
	• STAP		
	• GEF Council		
	• Convention Secretariat		
Recommendation	12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?	1-8-18 No. Please address outstanding issues. Thanks. 3-7-18 This project is recommended for CEO Endorsement.	
Review Date	Review	January 08, 2018	
	Additional Review (as necessary)	March 07, 2018	
	Additional Review (as necessary)		

³ If it is a child project under a program, assess if the components of the child project align with the program criteria set for selection of child projects.