

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: 19 March 2009

Screener: David Cunningham

Panel member validation by: Paul Ferraro

I. PIF Information

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3816

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY (IES): México

PROJECT TITLE: Mainstreaming the conservation of ecosystem services and biodiversity at the micro-watershed scale in Chiapas, Mexico

GEF AGENCY (IES): UNEP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL-MEXICO, COFOSECH, CONANP, Instituto de Historia Natural y Ecología de Chiapas

GEF FOCAL AREAS: BIODIVERSITY

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): SP4, SP5

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

1. Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies): **Minor revision required**

III. Further guidance from STAP

2. STAP welcomes this proposal to support the further development of payments for environmental services (PES) in Mexico. The PIF is broadly in line with STAP's general advice on PES, however, we have identified 'Minor Revision Required' to emphasize that we ask that the 2008 guideline document on PES¹ continue to be referred to in developing the full project document for CEO endorsement.
3. STAP notes that this project may also contribute to the evidence base for a specific type of incentive payment system increasingly seen in GEF interventions, price premiums for environmental, geographic or other attributes associated with products from a particular region².
4. Under part E on risks, including climate change risks, the PIF does not identify any climate change risks. The full project document should consider these risks in more detail and record what is known about the vulnerability of the target area to climate change and any risk mitigation strategies that should be put in place.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
1. Consent	STAP acknowledges that on scientific/technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasising any issues that could be improved and the proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.
2. Minor revision required.	STAP has identified specific scientific/technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. One or more options that remain open to STAP include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Opening a dialogue between STAP and the proponent to clarify issues (ii) Setting a review point during early stage project development and agreeing terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.
3. Major revision required	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical omissions in the concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. Normally, a STAP approved

¹ Payments for Environmental Services and the Global Environment Facility: A STAP guideline document <http://stapgef.unep.org/resources/sg/PES>

² In the current (April 2009 intersessional) work program, see project 2416 - Mainstreaming biodiversity in Lao PDR's agricultural and land management policies, plans and programmes.

	<p>review will be mandatory prior to submission of the project brief for CEO endorsement. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.</p>
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