



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

GEF ID:	9445		
Country/Region:	Mexico		
Project Title:	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in Priority Landscapes of Oaxaca and Chiapas		
GEF Agency:	CI	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-1 Program 1; BD-4 Program 9;		
Anticipated Financing PPG:	\$120,000	Project Grant:	\$7,219,450
Co-financing:	\$47,340,000	Total Project Cost:	\$54,559,450
PIF Approval:		Council Approval/Expected:	
CEO Endorsement/Approval		Expected Project Start Date:	
Program Manager:	Mark Zimsky	Agency Contact Person:	Orissa Samaroo

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	<p>March 18, 2016</p> <p>Yes, project is clearly aligned with Program 1 and Program 9 and the associated Aichi Targets.</p>	
	2. Is the project consistent with the recipient country's national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions?	<p>March 18, 2016</p> <p>Please clearly explain how the project is aligned with the country's revised NBSAP. In addition, please note that the second sentence in paragraph 151 makes no sense and is incomplete.</p>	

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
		<p>March 28, 2016</p> <p>Adequate revisions provided.</p>	
Project Design	<p>3. Does the PIF sufficiently indicate the drivers² of global environmental degradation, issues of sustainability, market transformation, scaling, and innovation?</p>	<p>March 18, 2016</p> <p>Yes, the project builds on previous experiences in Mexico in implementing a similar conservation strategy. While not particularly innovative, it has been shown to have the potential to be successful and to deliver results at scale.</p> <p>With regards to the project's aspirations inherent in Component Two and outcome 2.2, the project can not develop markets, but can only facilitate an increase in market share for producers. Please clarify this language accordingly throughout the document. In addition, the project is based on an underlying assumption that a market exists. Have any market studies been conducted for the products that will be certified under Component Two? On what basis has the project decided on "destination of origin" as the key certification standard? Does this include biodiversity criteria?</p>	

² Need not apply to LDCF/SCCF projects.

PIF Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment	Agency Response
		<p>Para 88 describes a critical element of Component Two, therefore, please explain how this scale and level of effort was arrived at, e.g., two farms, more than 50 hectares, two fishing cooperatives etc. This does not seem to be of sufficient scale to address the problem described in the PIF. Please clarify.</p> <p>CONANP has undergone serious budget cuts and loss of staff. How does the design of this project respond to this current situation from a sustainability perspective?</p> <p>March 28, 2016</p> <p>Adequate revisions provided.</p>	
	4. Is the project designed with sound incremental reasoning?	<p>March 18, 2016</p> <p>Yes, very well structured project design that identifies barriers to achieving project goal, elucidates a very strong baseline, and what additional investments are needed from GEF to conserve globally significant biodiversity.</p>	
	5. Are the components in Table B sound and sufficiently clear and appropriate to achieve project objectives and the GEBs?	<p>March 18, 2016</p> <p>Please specify in Table B, under Component One that all new protected areas supported by GEF funds will meet the KBA standard</p>	

PIF Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment	Agency Response
		<p>which will be officially adopted at IUCN conservation congress this year.</p> <p>Please clarify what is the project basing its targets on in Component Two (20% of areas have adopted "sustainable" production systems). Why 20 and not 40 or 60 or 100? Also please identify what certification standards will be used by the project and for what products? Given Mexico's long experience in this realm, we would expect this to be known at this point.</p> <p>Why has the project identified a 30% increase in financing as desirable? What was the basis for that assessment? Target 3.1.1 includes public and private funding, while Target 3.2.1 includes federal and state which is also public. Please clarify.</p> <p>The PIF makes reference to "innovative finance mechanisms" developed with support from "key decision makers" as being critical for sustaining the landscape land-use plans but these "mechanisms" are not listed in the document, described in any detail, justified as a sound strategy, etc. Please address this gap in the PIF as currently this entire</p>	

PIF Review

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		<p>aspect of the project is quite vague.</p> <p>The cofinance from CONAFOR "to support payment for environmental services" and how that relates to the project design in the priority landscapes is not at all clear nor how this relates to the projects emphasis on increasing finance for implementation of the landscape land-use plans. Please elucidate on this aspect of the project design.</p> <p>Why did the project identify 30% as the target for women and vulnerable groups' participation? Is that a value for each or could the project reach the target by having 1% women and 29% vulnerable groups? Please clarify.</p> <p>March 28, 2016</p> <p>Adequate revisions provided.</p>	
	6. Are socio-economic aspects, including relevant gender elements, indigenous people, and CSOs considered?	<p>March 18, 2016</p> <p>Adequate at PIF stage. At the time of CEO endorsement, particularly given the nature of the project design, please fully develop these aspects of the project and include participation plans and engagement with all stakeholders.</p>	
Availability of Resources	7. Is the proposed Grant (including the Agency fee) within the resources		

PIF Review			
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	available from (mark all that apply):		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The STAR allocation? 	March 18, 2106 Yes.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The focal area allocation? 	March 18, 2106 Yes.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The LDCF under the principle of equitable access 	March 18, 2106 NA.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)? 	March 18, 2106 NA.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focal area set-aside? 	March 18, 2106 NA	
Recommendations	8. Is the PIF being recommended for clearance and PPG (if additional amount beyond the norm) justified?	<p>March 18, 2106</p> <p>No. Please revise as indicated above.</p> <p>Also, please provide better maps of the three priority landscapes.</p> <p>March 28, 2016</p> <p>Adequate revisions provided.</p> <p>The PM recommends CEO PIF clearance.</p>	
Review Date	Review	March 18, 2016	
	Additional Review (as necessary)	March 28, 2016	

PIF Review			
Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment	Agency Response
	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?		
	2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?		
	3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?		
	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)		
	5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?		

CEO endorsement Review			
Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
	6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?		
	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?		
	9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?		
	10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?		
Agency Responses	11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the PIF ³ stage from:		
	• GEFSEC		
	• STAP		
	• GEF Council		
	• Convention Secretariat		
Recommendation	12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?		
Review Date	Review		
	Additional Review (as necessary)		
	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.