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: 20 May 2009 Screener: David Cunningham

Panel member validation by: Paul Ferraro

I. PIF Information

GEF PROJECT ID: 3989 **PROJECT DURATION: 60 months**

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: TBA

COUNTRY: **Kingdom of Morocco**

PROJECT TITLE: A circular economy approach to agro-biodiversity conservation in the Souss Massa Drâa region of Morocco

GEF AGENCY(IES): IFAD

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): **Ministry of Agriculture of Morocco**

GEF FOCAL AREA: **Biodiversity**

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): BD SO2 SP-4 and SP-5

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: **MENARID**

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: **Consent**

III. Further guidance from STAP

2. STAP welcomes this innovative proposal to develop and implement payments for ecosystem services (PES) in the agricultural landscapes of Morocco. We particularly encourage the intention of the project to contribute to the knowledge base for PES approaches (Part E) and encourage IFAD to consider and refer to STAP's general guidance on PES in preparing the full project document[1].

STAP advisory response	*Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed*
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: (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 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.

[1] Available at http://stapgef.unep.org/resources/sg/PES