



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

Naoko Ishii
CEO and Chairperson

September 10, 2014

Dear Council Member,

I am writing to notify you that we have today posted on the GEF's website at www.TheGEF.org, a medium-sized project proposal from UNDP entitled *Bangladesh: Expanding the PA System to Incorporate Important Aquatic Ecosystems*, to be funded under the GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF).

This project increases the conservation prospects of the region through: (i) knowledge generation and dissemination that improves decision making related to the management of aquatic habitats, (ii) new and additional areas to be managed as protected areas and buffer areas identified, and capacities developed for improved management effectiveness, (iii) support to the implementation of Management Plans of new PAs and buffer areas, (iv) M&E framework and replication strategy developed for effective aquatic PA management specifically for the Sundarbans and other aquatic ecosystems in the country, and (v) community based resource management plan prepared, capacities developed and financial support extended for operationalizing sustainable fishing practices and conservation of aquatic biodiversity. Furthermore, the project will promote a strong participatory and consultative approach to ensure partnership of the local communities, government agencies, and NGOs working in the wider project area.

The project proposal is being posted for your review. We would welcome any comments you may wish to provide by September 23, 2014, in accordance with the new procedures approved by the Council. You may send your comments to gcoordination@TheGEF.org.

If you do not have access to the Web, you may request the local field office of the World Bank or UNDP to download the document for you. Alternatively, you may request a copy of the document from the Secretariat. If you make such a request, please confirm for us your current mailing address.

Sincerely,

Naoko Ishii
Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson

Attachment: GEFSEC Project Review Document
Copy to: Country Operational Focal Point, GEF Agencies, STAP, Trustee