

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: @@@@ @@, @@@@

Screener: Thomas Hammond

Panel member validation by: Thomas Lovejoy

Consultant(s): Margarita Dyubanova; Brian Huntley

I. PIF Information *(Copied from the PIF)*

FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND

GEF PROJECT ID: 5065

PROJECT DURATION : 6

COUNTRIES : Swaziland

PROJECT TITLE: Strengthening the National Protected Areas System of Swaziland

GEF AGENCIES: UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Swaziland Environment Agency (SEA)

GEF FOCAL AREA: Biodiversity

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

Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies):
Consent

III. Further guidance from STAP

STAP welcomes this project â€œTo strengthen management effectiveness of Swaziland PAs to respond to existing & emerging threats to biodiversity'.

The project objectives, outcomes and outputs are clearly described and linked in a logical and effective structure to the plan of work states goals. They are based on national and global priorities and Aichi targets, adopt a focused and realistic approach, and introduce innovation in addressing the tensions between biodiversity conservation goals and human development needs in Swaziland.

The project positions its PA strengthening and expansion strategy within a landscape (mainstreaming) and community co-management paradigm, which moves forward from the existing â€œtop-down' and â€œcommand and control' tradition. It is realistic in terms of the barriers to achieving its goals, but positive in the opportunity to link the implementation both to agricultural intensification (through an existing EU supported project) and to unleashing the tourism potential of Swaziland's PAs, which are located in a region of a very high eco-tourism economy.

The proposal is supported by a strong and referenced information sources, and builds on previous interventions in terms of reviews of the PA system in Swaziland. In developing the project document, it might wish to draw on the lessons learned from earlier interventions in Swaziland, how well their recommendations have been implemented, and what challenges these faced.

The important role of the private sector in participating in the project is welcomed by STAP. The absence of any scientific or academic institutions in the listing of stakeholders is of concern to STAP, and efforts might be made to include collaboration from such institutions during project development.

The project lends itself to the application of some elements of experimental or quasi-experimental design such as that proposed by the STAP Advisory Report â€œExperimental Project Designs in the Global Environment Facility'.

[Note: Brian Huntley was the principle screener on this project]

STAP advisory response	Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed
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<p>1. Consent</p>	<p>STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasizing any issues where the project could be improved.</p> <p>Follow up: The GEF Agency is invited to approach STAP for advice during the development of the project prior to submission of the final document for CEO endorsement.</p>
<p>2. Minor revision required.</p>	<p>STAP has identified specific scientific or technical challenges, omissions or opportunities that should be addressed by the project proponents during project development.</p> <p>Follow up: One or more options are open to STAP and the GEF Agency: (i) GEF Agency should discuss the issues with STAP to clarify them and possible solutions. (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the GEF Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP's recommended actions.</p>
<p>3. Major revision required</p>	<p>STAP has identified significant scientific or technical challenges or omissions in the PIF and recommends significant improvements to project design.</p> <p>Follow-up: (i) The Agency should request that the project undergo a STAP review prior to CEO endorsement, at a point in time when the particular scientific or technical issue is sufficiently developed to be reviewed, or as agreed between the Agency and STAP. (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP concerns.</p>