GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project
TYPE OF TRUST FUND:GEF Trust Fund

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Complete HCFC Phase-out in Tajikistan through Promotion of zero ODS low GWP Energy Efficient Technologies			
Country(ies):	Tajikistan	GEF Project ID:[1]	9712
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP (select) (select)	GEF Agency Project ID:	6030
Other Executing Partner(s):	Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of Tajikistan	Submission Date:	27 June 2018
GEF Focal Area (s):	Chemicals and Wastes	Project Duration (Months)	42
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities ☐ IAP-Commodities ☐ IAP-Food Security ☐	Corporate Program: SGP ☐	
Name of Parent Program	[if applicable]	Agency Fee ($)	$150,616

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES[2]

Focal Area Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in $)	
			GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
(select) CW-2 Program 5 (select)	Outcome 5.1. Outcome 5.1: Countries have phased out Ozone Depleting Substances and replace them with zero ODP, low GWP alternatives *Indicator 5.1.1: Tonnes of ODS phased out* *Indicator 5.1.2: Tonnes of CO_2 equivalent phased out*	GEFTF	1,585,430	5,765,000
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
(select) (select) (select)		(select)		
	Total project costs		1,585,430	5,765,000

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

[1] Project ID number remains the same as the assigned PIF number.
[2] When completing Table A, refer to the excerpts on GEF 6 Results Frameworks for GETF, LDCF and SCCF and CBIT programming directions.

Project Objective: To accelerate HCFC phase-out to achieve the 2020 compliance objectives and sustainably reduce the servicing tail. Understanding the implications of the Kigali Amendment, including conducting a comprehensive ODS Alternatives survey; facilitation of implementation of upgraded national legislation on control of import/export and use of HCFCs, other ODS and ODS alternatives; Upgrading storage capacity for mixed unusable ODS refrigerants; improvement of Customs capacity on import/export control and piloting a electronic sealing/tracking project for ODS entering the country; demonstration of zero-ODS and low-GWP energy efficient cooling technologies in various sectors of the economy both private and public ; and completing the upgrading and strengthening of the servicing sector capacity including tools and advanced refrigerant identifiers of various refrigerants currently in use. The project will also discuss resource mobilisation from International Financial Institutions and Bilateral Agencies and local stakeholders to increase the investment to the RAC sector; conduct comprehensive outreach activities to increase understanding of ozone related issues with a wide cross section of stakeholderts and end users. Gender mainstreaming will also be addressed across various components to involve women in the business of Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning.

Project Components/ Programs	Financing Type[3]	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in $)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co-financing
Component 1: Facilitate implementation of national legislation; strengthening capacity of customs and enforcement officers on control of HCFC import/export; facilitating development of standards for natural refrigerants; and capacity building for the RAC sector through hands on training of senior technicians followed by training/upgrading of technicians, including those in remote areas.	TA	Outcome 1.1: ODS Alternative survey to determine national consumption and use. Outcome 1.2: National legislation on HCFC and ODS alternatives phase out and import/export control upgraded, through adaptation of advanced legislation experience from EU and other countries. Outcome 1.3: Strengthening the capacity of specialists of the State Customs Department to control import/export of ODS/ODS alternatives and equipment containing the same.	Output 1.1.1: ODS Alternatives survey completed. Output 1.2.1: Draft of upgraded legislation/regulation prepared and submitted to the government for approval and subsequent implementation. Output 1.2.2: Experience exchanges carried out through study tours and/or regional conferences with attendance from countries with advanced experience in this field and regional networking. Output 1.3.1: State Customs Department participates in existing networks on aspects of ODS import/export control and other required bilateral visits. Output 1.3.2: Close cooperation with Institute for Advanced Training of Customs officers by upgrading the training equipment and material to facilitate	GEFTF	449,482	1,569,300

[3] Financing type can be either investment or technical assistance.

			continuous training of regular and new customs officials - 100 trained. Output 1.3.3: Upgrade and enhance the capacity of Customs service laboratory, with 4-5 advanced refrigerant identifiers for ODS, HFC and Hydrocarbons. Output 1.3.4: Enhance the capacity of Customs service (hardware, software for electronic sealing/tracking of imported refrigerants). Output 1.3.5: Training of approximately 20 importers/clearing agents in use of newly introduced national system of electronic declaration of imports/exports.			
		Outcome 1.4: Standards for natural refrigerants.	Output 1.4.1: Facilitate development of standards for safe handling, storage and use of natural refrigerants; and incorporate them in legal and other acts.			
		Outcome 1.5: Strengthening the capacity and capability of refrigeration and air-conditioning technicians in maintenance and repair of equipment including those with new and alternative technologies.	Output 1.5.1: Batch of senior technicians selected by the Association to receive one to three months of hands on training on maintenance and repair of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment with zero ODS low GWP technologies at a Russian speaking facility abroad. Output 1.5.2: Close cooperation with the Association for Refrigeration and Air-conditioning technicians through the improvement of the			

			curriculum and materials to facilitate the continuous training of regular and new members of the association and other technicians with new technologies using refrigerants with zero ODP and low GWP and natural refrigerants. Output 1.5.3: Facilitate technical personnel participation in networking meetings and technology related conferences related to zero ODS, low GWP and energy efficiency.			
Component 2: Strengthening the HCFC re-use system; implementation of demonstration projects on HCFC replacement; upgrading training institutions; and improving facility for storage of waste ODS.	Inv	Outcome 2.1: Strengthening the HCFC re-use system. Outcome 2.2: Demonstration of zero-ODS and low-GWP energy efficient refrigerant technologies including natural refrigerants.	Output 2.1.1: Strengthen reclaim centres with sophisticated refrigerant identifiers to support HCFC re-use system. Output 2.1.2: Supply tools, portable recovery machines to remaining service companies and field technicians to complete support to the national refrigerant management program and complement the existing tools at the R&R centres. Output 2.2.1: Mobilisation of national resources and ownership to demonstrate innovative conversion projects to introduce zero-ODS and low-GWP energy efficient technologies for R&AC in: a) public facilities (social entities, health facilities); b) different commercial applications such as food product storage, agricultural products, and also cooling system of server and data	GEFTF	783,744	4,106,700

			centers, etc.			
		Outcome 2.3: Pilot performance monitoring project for reduction of HCFC leakage at large facilities.	Output 2.3.1: Provide basic performance monitoring equipment and software to enhance capacity of RAC technicians and engineers to monitor in real time, diagnose and improve RAC system performance (including preventive maintenance) to reduce HCFC leakages.			
		Outcome 2.4: Upgrade and add to training equipment of Technical Institutions and Refrigeration Association and provide mobile training and recovery/recycling for remote areas.	Output 2.4.1: Provide training equipment for natural refrigerants to the Training Insitutions and a Mobile training, recovery/recycling and monitoring facility created to train technicians and undertake and monitor recovery/recycling in remote areas.			
		Outcome 2.5: Waste ODS storage.	Output 2.5.1: Storage facility upgraded for storage of waste ODS/ODS alternatives until government decides on disposal procedure.			
Component 3: Public awareness.	TA	Outcome 3.1: Implement activities on raising public awareness.	Output 3.1.1: Continue activities to increase public awareness. Output 3.1.2: Develop and publish information materials.	GEFTF	90,000	77,000
Component 4: Gender mainstreaming in refrigeration and air conditioning sector and monitoring and evaluation	TA	Outcome 4.1. Engagement of women-students to study RAC in the technical and vocational education institutions and partnerships with organizations to involve women in RAC related small	Output 4.1.1: Introduction of stipend scheme for at least 30 women-students to study RAC in the technical and vocational education institutions; Placement of these students in internships with good private firms and Refrigeration	GEFTF	118,074	12,000

		business.	Association of Tajikistan; and employment of at least 15 women-graduates in RAC with reputable service centers (private firms). Additionally, publications and public events aimed at girls in final years of school to encourage them take up RAC work will be undertaken.			
		Outcome 4.2: Project monitoring and evaluation implemented.	Output 4.2.1: M&E is applied to provide feedback to the project coordination process to capitalize on project needs. Output 4.2.2: Lessons learned and best practices are accumulated, summarized and replicated at the country level.			
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
	(select)			(select)		
			Subtotal		1,441,300	5,765,000
			Project Management Cost (PMC)[4]	GEFTF	144,130	
			Total project costs		1,585,430	5,765,000

C. CONFIRMED SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Please include evidence for co-financing for the project with this form.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount ($)
Recipient Government	Committee for Environmental Protection	In-kind	485,000
Recipient Government	Customs Service	In-kind	100,000
Recipient Government	Customs Service	Grants	500,000
Recipient Government	Agency for Standardization, Metrology, Certification and Trade Inspection	In-kind	200,000
Beneficiaries	The Republican Association of the "Center of Artificial Cold"	In-kind	155,000
Beneficiaries	The Republican Association of the "Center of Artificial Cold"	Grants	340,000

[4] For GEF Project Financing up to $2 million, PMC could be up to10% of the subtotal; above $2 million, PMC could be up to 5% of the subtotal. PMC should be charged proportionately to focal areas based on focal area project financing amount in Table D below.

Private Sector	LLC "Ekaud"; LLC "Vostok" (Volna); LLC "Tamiri Yadon"; "Babylon Mobile"; "TT Mobile"; LLC "Vostok Mercury 2014"; LLC "Mehroch"	In-kind	2,043,000
Private Sector	LLC "Ekaud"; LLC "Vostok" (Volna); LLC "Tamiri Yadon"; "Babylon Mobile"; "TT Mobile"; LLC "Vostok Mercury 2014"; LLC "Mehroch"	Grants	1,942,000
(select)		(select)	
Total Co-financing			5,765,000

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), COUNTRY(IES), FOCAL AREA AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in $)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee[a)] (b)[2]	Total (c)=a+b
UNDP	GEF TF	Tajikistan	Chemicals and Wastes	ODS	1,585,430	150,616	1,736,046
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
(select)	(select)		(select)	(select as applicable)			0
Total Grant Resources					1,585,430	150,616	1,736,046

a) Refer to the Fee Policy for GEF Partner Agencies

E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS[5]

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	*hectares*
2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	*hectares*
3. Promotion of collective management of transboundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services	Water-food-ecosystems security and conjunctive management of surface and groundwater in at least 10 freshwater basins;	*Number of freshwater basins*
	20% of globally over-exploited fisheries (by volume) moved to more sustainable levels	*Percent of fisheries, by volume*
4. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO_{2e} mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	metric tons
5. Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern	Disposal of 80,000 tons of POPs (PCB, obsolete pesticides)	*metric tons*
	Reduction of 1000 tons of Mercury	*metric tons*
	Phase-out of 303.44 tons of ODP (HCFC)	*6.307 ODP tons* *207,556 CO2 equiv tons*
6. Enhance capacity of countries to implement MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and mainstream into national and sub-national policy, planning financial and legal frameworks	Development and sectoral planning frameworks integrate measurable targets drawn from the MEAs in at least 10 countries	*Number of Countries:*
	Functional environmental information systems are established to support decision-making in at least 10 countries	*Number of Countries:*

F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A "NON-GRANT" INSTRUMENT? No

(If non-grant instruments are used, provide an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Fund) in Annex D.

[5] Update the applicable indicators provided at PIF stage. Progress in programming against these targets for the projects per the *Corporate Results Framework* in the *GEF-6 Programming Directions*, will be aggregated and reported during mid-term and at the conclusion of the replenishment period.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF[6]

A.1. *Project Description*. Elaborate on: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area[7] strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, CBIT and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Tajikistan only uses HCFC-22 which is used for comfort cooling, and commercial and industrial cooling and they import their entire requirement as they do not manufacture this refrigerant. The proposed project builds on the current GEF regional HCFC project which assisted four (4) Non-article 5 CEITs[8] in the CIS (Belarus, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Tajikistan) in meeting their accelerated Montreal Protocol HCFC phase-out requirements for 2015 reduction milestones and by preparing the countries to look into strategies to ensure 2020 milestone complaince is practically implementable.

With help of the new proposed GEF/UNDP project, Tajikistan will be able to (1) comply with its Montreal Protocol's commitment of achieving 99.5% phase out by January 1, 2020 and (2) further strengthen the capacity to phase out the HCFC service tail of 0.5% by 2030 or earlier. This project will be the final project for achieving HCFC phase out.

Tajikistan is committed to promotion of zero ODS low GWP energy efficient technologies in its quest to phase-out HCFC-22. However, the main barrier to achieving the phase-out, till recently, has been the non-availability of commercially available, cost effective alternate low GWP technologies to HCFC-22. HFC based technologies, which are zero ODS, but high GWP technologies have been introduced since they are commercially available in the global market. The initial GEF-UNDP HCFC phase out project has been instrumental in introducing in a small way, R-290 as a refrigerant for room air-conditioners through a demonstration project, and this will provide impetus for this technology to be adopted faster.

The initial GEF 4 project identified that the principle issue in achieving and sustaining compliance with accelerated HCFC phase out in Tajikistan was curtailment of the continued rapid growth in HCFC consumption particularly that associated with refrigeration servicing, and to start a long-term process of reversing it. This required immediate action in laying the institutional and regulatory groundwork and formalizing national commitments and action plans entrenched in national policy, building institutional and technical capacity, and undertaking targeted investment in converting direct sources of consumption in the refrigeration servicing and initial strengthening of the refrigerants management infrastructure.

The previous project was closed in 2017 and assisted Tajikistan in meeting its 2015 HCFC phase-out requirements through stabilization and progressive reduction of HCFC consumption was successfully completed in early 2017. This was achieved by implementation of legislative and regulatory measures, capacity building related to servicing of equipment using HCFCs and customs controls, and targeted investment with particular emphasis on controlling demand in HCFC servicing sector. Notwithstanding this, the imports of HCFC based equipment were increasing rapidly, thereby increasing the dependence on HCFCs for servicing needs.

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[6] For questions A.1 –A.7 in Part II, if there are no changes since PIF , no need to respond, please enter "NA" after the respective question.

[7] For biodiversity projects, in addition to explaining the project's consistency with the biodiversity focal area strategy, objectives and programs, please also describe which Aichi Target(s) the project will directly contribute to achieving..

[8] Countries with Economy in Transition (CEITs)

To start addressing this issue, the Government has instituted a ban on imports of any equipment which operate on HCFCs in order to better control HCFC servicing demand. Such approach will encourage the import and use of alternate technologies with modern design featuring better energy efficiency parameters and application of low-GWP refrigerants, and requires further capacity building and preparedness for new HCFC-free, and most importantly low-GWP features technology.

In the next (currently proposed) and final HCFC phase-out stage, in order to achieve a comprehensive HCFC phase-out commitment for Tajikistan in 2020 and leave sustained capacity to address the remaining servicing tail by 2030, several interventions of this type are needed which are described in Section III of UNDP project document – Strategy (Section III, pages 6-16).

In summary, the proposed project will build on the experience and knowledge gained from the initial GEF-UNDP FSP regional project to assist Tajikistan achieve the 2020 compliance requirement of phasing out 99.5% of their HCFC baseline and the rest of the servicing tail to complete HCFC phase-out. It will carry out initial ODS alternative refrigerant survey and stakeholder consultations, and introduce zero ODS, low GWP energy efficient technologies into the mainstream.

In terms of its design, the project will consist of mainly two overall-assistance components with two complementary ones. Component 1 will facilitate implementation of national legislation and strengthening capacity of Customs and enforcement officers on control of HCFC/ODS alternative import/export, while Component 2 will complete initial capacity building efforts and re-tooling to strengthen the HCFC re-use system and implement demonstration projects on HCFC replacement with zero-ODS/low-GWP alternatives. Component 3 deals with Public Awareness, and Component 4 addresses gender mainstreaming. Component 5 is related to project management, monitoring and evaluation.

In terms of design revisions, there have been some minor changes in the components and expected outcomes of the project, in comparison to the PIF, which are elaborated below:

Component 1:

The following has been added to the end of the text in the PIF: "followed by training/upgrading of technicians, including those in remote areas".

Output 1.3.3: The PIF stated "Upgrade the testing facilities at Customs Central Laboratory with a GC-MS." This has been replaced in the project to read " Upgrade and enhance the capacity of Customs service laboratory, with 4-5 advanced refrigerant identifiers for ODS, HFC and Hydrocarbons."

Output 1.3.4: The following has been added at the request of the Customs Service. "Enhance the capacity of Customs service (hardware, software for electronic sealing/tracking of imported refrigerants)."

Ouput 1.3.4 in the PIF has been renumbered as Output 1.3.5.

Output 1.4.1: The PIF stated "Facilitate development of standards for safe handling, storage and use of natural refrigerants; and incorporate them in law." This has been replaced with the following "Facilitate development of standards for safe handling, storage and use of natural refrigerants; and incorporate them in legal and other acts."

Output 1.5.1: The PIF stated "Output 1.5.1: Batch of senior technicians selected by the Association receive 3 months of hands on training on maintenance and repair of equipment with new technologies at a Russian speaking facility abroad. ." This has been replaced with "Batch of senior technicians selected by the Association to receive one to three months of hands on training on maintenance and repair of refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment with zero ODS low GWP technologies at a Russian speaking facility abroad."

Output 1.5.2 added. "Close cooperation with the Association for Refrigeration and Air-conditioning technicians through the improvement of the curriculum and materials to facilitate the continuous training of regular and new members of the association and other technicians with new technologies using refrigerants with zero ODP and low GWP and natural refrigerants."

Output 1.5.3 added. "Facilitate technical personnel participation in networking meetings and technology related conferences related to zero ODS, low GWP and energy efficiency."

Component 2:

Output 2.1.1: The PIF stated "Strengthen reclaim centres with sophisiticated refrigerant analysers and a small portable chromatograph to support HCFC re-use system." This has been replaced to read "Strengthen reclaim centres with sophisticated refrigerant identifiers to support HCFC re-use system."

Output 2.1.2: The PIF states "Supply tools to the remaining technicians to complete support to the national refrigerant management program and complement the existing tools at the R&R centres and large and medium service companies." This has been replaced to read "Supply tools, portable recovery machines to remaining service companies and field technicians to complete support to the national refrigerant management program and complement the existing tools at the R&R centres."

Outcome 2.4: The PIF stated "Participation of technical personnel at networking meetings and conferences". This, and the resulting Output 2.4.1 have been deleted.

Outcome 2.5: The PIF stated "Enhance training capacity of Technical Institutions and Refrigeration Association". This has been renumbered and the new Outcome 2.4 reads "Upgrade and add to training equipment of Technical Institutions and Refrigeration Association and provide mobile training and recovery/recycling for remote areas".

Output 2.5.1: The PIF states "Training stands for natural refrigerants assembled/purchased and installed for training purposes." This has been renumbered and replaced to read "Output 2.4.1: Provide training equipment for natural refrigerants to the Training Insitutions and a Mobile training, recovery/recycling and monitoring facility created to train technicians and undertake and monitor recovery/recycling in remote areas."

Output 2.5.2: The PIF states " Mobile training and monitoring facility created to train technicians in remote areas and to monitor recovery and recycling practices." This output has been removed and combined with Output 2.4.1.

Output 2.6.1: The PIF states "Storage facility created/upgraded for storage of waste ODS/ODS alternatives." This has been replaced to read "Storage facility upgraded for storage of waste ODS/ODS alternatives until government decides on disposal procedure."

Component 4: The PIF states "Project monitoring and evaluation". This has been replaced to read "Component 4: Gender mainstreaming in refrigeration and air conditioning sector and monitoring and Evaluation"

Outcome 4.1 has been added. It reads "Engagement of women-students to study RAC in the technical and vocational education institutions and partnerships with organizations to involve women in RAC related small business."

Output 4.1.1 has been added. It reads "Introduction of stipend scheme for at least 30 women-students to study RAC in the technical and vocational education institutions; Placement of these students in internships with good private firms and Refrigeration Association of Tajikistan; and employment of at least 15 women-graduates in RAC with reputable service centers (private firms). Additionally, publications and public events aimed at girls in final years of school to encourage them take up RAC work will be undertaken."

Outcome 4.1 in PIF: "Project monitoring and evaluation implemented" has been renumbered as Outcome 4.2.

Output 4.1.1 in PIF: "M&E is applied to provide feedback to the project coordination process to capitalize on project needs" has been renumbered as Output 4.2.1.

Output 4.1.2 in PIF: "Lessons learned and best practices are accumulated, summarized and replicated at the country level" has been renumbered as Output 4.2.2.

A.2. Child Project? If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.

N/A

A.3. Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders and elaborate on how the key stakeholders engagement is incorporated in the preparation and implementation of the project. Do they include civil society organizations (yes ☒ /no☐)? and indigenous peoples (yes ☐ /no☒)? [9]

The stakeholder engagement plan has been comprehensively developed and set out in Section IV on Results and Partnerships (Pages 17-20) and Annex F (page 99) of the UNDP project document. It will serve as guidance during the project implementaiton. Among new stakeholders, it includes Tajikstandard agency to allow more elaborate national level consultation and design of safety standards related to HCFC substitutes of low GWP features such as natural refrgerants. Further, the Committee on Women and Family Affairs has been introduced to the list of stakeholders in order to support gender's related priorities.

National Refrigeration Association will continue to play its prominent role in improving labour skills and level of service provided to RAC industry by participating technicians and engineers. One of key targets of the project is to reach out to technical personnel who operate in small urban and rural regions of the country in order to support wider implementation of the HCFC phase-out strategy in its critical closing years.

Private sector is the centerpiece of the project, both in terms of piloting and scaling up of low GWP demonstration projects, and strengthening HCFC re-use capability in the country. It will also serve supporting function to the gender component in terms of providing opportunities for internship and job placement to improve gender balance.

A.4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment. Elaborate on how gender equality and women's empowerment issues are mainstreamed into the project implementation and monitoring, taking into account the differences, needs, roles and priorities of women and men. In addition, 1) did the project conduct a gender analysis during project preparation (yes ☒ /no☐)?; 2) did the project incorporate a gender responsive project results framework, including sex-disaggregated indicators (yes ☒ /no☐)?; and 3) what is the share of women and men direct beneficiaries (women X%, men X%)? [10]

Although the project is not a purely gender-based development initiative, these aspects have been designed to remain as a cross-cutting issue throughout all project activities. Gender mainstreaming will be addressed across various components to start more active involvement of women in the business of Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning. Specifically, Component 4 of the project document contains the Output in this regard, and an action plan has been prepared in Annex G (page 100) of UNDP project document.

[9] *As per the GEF-6 Corporate Results Framework in the GEF Programming Directions and GEF-6 Gender Core Indicators in the Gender Equality Action Plan, provide information on these specific indicators on stakeholders (including civil society organization and indigenous peoples) and gender.*
[10] Same as footnote 8 above.

The technical and vocational level education and training system in Tajikistan is largely supply-driven. Most course structure and content are outdated, resulting in a mismatch between graduate skills and labor market demand. Physical conditions of educational facilities and the lack of modern curricula reinforce the generally low social image of technical and vocational education and contribute to the system's inability to attract students to learn basic technical skills in support of the economy.

Primary technical and vocational education suffers from deficiencies in both quality and quantity. The total enrollment in 63 professional schools in 2014 was 21,593 students, of whom 18% were girls—an average enrollment size of 343 students per school. This challenge will be approached by the project in collaboration with ADB's Strengthening Technical and Vocational Education and Training project, that will help develop a demand-driven, quality-assured, and flexible technical and vocational education and training system responsive to labor market needs.

The project will encourage enrollment of women into RAC related technical and vocational education through introduction of stipend schemes (scholarships) for women and girls-graduates from secondary-level schools. The project will also ensure stronger cooperation between educational institutions and service centers through the placement of women and girls in such service centers dealing with RAC sector, for internships and further potential employment.

Partnerships with the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, Ministry of Labor, Committee on Women and Family Affairs under the Government of Republic of Tajikistan and NGOs promoting women's role in technology will be established in order to support achievement of such targets.

A.5 Risk. Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):

There is a low risk associated with this project, since Tajikistan has included HCFC phase out strategy in their national laws and they have the experience with the earlier CFC phase-out, and the current initial capacity building for the HCFC phase-out. As such, national ownership of the phase-out is well demonstrated.

All risks associated with the project's implementation have been identified and discussed with key stakeholders.

The tabulated format is presented in UNDP project document: Annex H (pages 103-105). A specific focus is placed on design and adoption of safety standards as related to HCFC substitutes technologies with low GWP impacts, and the closing HCFC phase-out stages and starting HFC controls will have benefitted from such innovative technology adoption. Another important aspect related to success rate of resource mobilization in the demonstration sub-projects has been reviewed and will be addressed by establishing close cooperation with prospective sources of funding.

See also Section XII. Risk Management (Pages 59-61).

A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination. Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

This has been duly addressed in the UNDP project document. A specific section in this respect is contained in Section IV. Results and Partnerships (Pages 17-20). Further, Section V. Project Management covers additional aspects on project board, stakeholders, procurement support, and establishing partnerships with IFIs.

The project will be coordinated with similar initiatives in the region, specifically in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Belarus and Ukraine on a bilateral basis, and a specifically designed South-South/Triangular Cooperation (Section IV, page 21) cooperation framework will be supported to exchange state-of-art knowledge in HCFC controls.

Additional Information not well elaborated at PIF Stage:

A.7 *Benefits.* Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?

The project's design is featured by a combination of an enabling best practice exchange and technical assistance for longer term sustained national capability for the HCFC phase-out as it reaches its final stages in 2020 and beyond. This will be achieved with direct support to state-level HCFC control policies and more effective HCFC importation controls, and by engaging with the pivate sector to ensure improvement of labour skills and technical knowledge of RAC personnel to allow to effectively reduce HCFC dependence and introduce newer low GWP (and better performing) technologies in Tajikistan's market.

The RAC sector will be in position to stay modern in terms of technical preparedness to operate new and more energy-efficient technologies, thus allowing the private sector (processing industries, etc) to keep pace and, where possible, grow their businesses processes with additional personnel deployment, and contribute more substantially to the overall sustainable development in the future. Technological advances have the very potential to start transforming the technology market on a larger scale given the project's intention to work with further mobilization of resources as from private sources so from bilateral grant and loan support with IFIs.

In the absence of international assistance, the country will face delayed national-level action and lost opportunities with respect to the overall required modernization of its national capacity to complete the HCFC phase-out in a timely manner. The implementation of the national HCFC strategy will take a much slower speed, and this will also cause fragmentation of the regional level efforts in other CEIT countries. Eventual conversion to HFCs with hogh GWP impacts on the climatic planetary system cam be expected as business-as-usual scenario, which will prevent the country for a more active position towards the future programming under the Kigali amendment on HFC controls under the Montreal Protocol.

A.8 *Knowledge Management.* Elaborate on the knowledge management approach for the project, including, if any, plans for the project to learn from other relevant projects and initiatives (e.g. participate in trainings, conferences, stakeholder exchanges, virtual networks, project twinning) and plans for the project to assess and document in a user-friendly form (e.g. lessons learned briefs, engaging websites, guidebooks based on experience) and share these experiences and expertise (e.g. participate in community of practices, organize seminars, trainings and conferences) with relevant stakeholders.

The ongoing regional FSP project and the proposed project intend to share the results and knowledge both nationally as well as with other project partners. The knowledge and lessons learned will also be disseminated through participation in regional meeting arranged by UNEnironment and other regional forums as found appropriate.

B. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

B.1 *Consistency with National Priorities.* Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessements under relevant conventions such as NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.:

The project is fully consistent with the National HCFC phase-out strategy designed in line with the requirements of the Montreal Protocol.

Tajikistan has adopted a number of specific regulations aimed at ensuring the institutional process of reducing depedence on HCFCs. The most recent resolution of November 2015 "On measures on implementation of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer" specifically addresses this group of ODS substances, and lays out the procedure for import/export and

establishes quotas for HCFCs for the period 2015 to 2020. Further, from 2017, it bans the import of products containing HCFC.

Additional details on the national HCFC strategy, and its implementation, as well as broader legislative framework assisting in controlling ODSs, are provided in Section IV. Results and Partnerships of the UNDP project document on pages 17-20, including on the national Concepts for Environemntal Protoection and Sustainable Development adopted in Tajikistan.

C. DESCRIBE THE BUDGETED M &E PLAN:

The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results. Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy.

Details of M&E plan along with project level roles associated with quality control, and monitoring and evaluation, with developed budget have been provided in Section VII. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan of the UNDP Project Document (pages 37-41).

PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY(IES)

A. GEF Agency(ies) certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies[11] and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.

Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Adriana Dinu, Executive Coordinator, UNDP Global Environmental Finance		06/27/2018	Ms. Xiaofang Zhou, Director, MPU-Chemicals	+1-212-906-5782	xiaofang.zhou@undp.org

[11] GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF and CBIT

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

An elaborate Project Results Framework has been developed and is contained in the UNDP Project Document in Section VI (Pages 25-36).

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Specific comments received from the GEF and MLF Secretariats had been addressed at the PIF stage before approval for the PIF was granted. These are available and will be communicated to the GEF Secretariat during submission of the MSP package.

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS[12]

A. Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF:			
Project Preparation Activities Implemented	***GETF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Amount ($)***		
	Budgeted Amount	***Amount Spent To date***	***Amount Committed***
Baseline Studies	6,000	4,490	1,510
Stakeholders consultations	8,500	6,215	2,285
Project Document/CEO Approval request preparation	30,000	6,536	23,464
Inception & Validation Workshop	5,500	1,722	3,778
Total	**50,000.00**	**18,963**	**31,037**

[12] If at CEO Endorsement, the PPG activities have not been completed and there is a balance of unspent fund, Agencies can continue to undertake the activities up to one year of project start. No later than one year from start of project implementation, Agencies should report this table to the GEF Secretariat on the completion of PPG activities and the amount spent for the activities. Agencies should also report closing of PPG to Trustee in its Quarterly Report.

ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used**)**

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/CBIT Trust Funds or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

N/A