

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: November 06, 2017
Screener: Sunday Leonard
Panel member validation by: Ralph E. Sims
Consultant(s):

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

FULL-SIZED PROJECT	GEF TRUST FUND
GEF PROJECT ID:	9368
PROJECT DURATION:	5
COUNTRIES:	Bangladesh
PROJECT TITLE:	Promoting Low Carbon Urban Development in Bangladesh
GEF AGENCIES:	UNDP
OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resource (MoPEMR)
GEF FOCAL AREA:	Climate Change

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):
Concur

III. Further guidance from STAP

1. This project aims to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by enabling investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and waste to energy applications, to support urban development in Bangladesh.
2. Rapid growth in population and urban drift have inhibited plans to reduce national GHG emissions. Barriers include lack of policies, poor urban planning, lack of finance, inadequate solid waste management, and poor coordination between agencies on the national building code and city by-laws to promote energy efficiency.
3. The project will seek to overcome these barriers by including renewable energy (RE), energy efficiency (EE) and treatment of solid wastes in the development plans of four selected cities. A co-ordination committee will be established for each city to ensure proper stakeholder involvement. It will include ministerial departments, as well as the public and private sector institutions.
4. Pilot schemes such as electricity generation from solar PV systems for street lighting, solar lanterns, bioenergy (using rice husks) and biogas from organic waste plants are planned, as well as the education of citizens to improve the local environment and enhance their city lifestyle. Private sector input is being sought to implement demonstration projects that can then be disseminated to other cities.
5. Investments in RE and EE are to be incentivized and supported by USD 9.6 M co-financing from Government grants through the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resource with private sector investment leveraged.
6. This project require substantial regulatory and policy changes at the city and national levels for success. It will be useful to study examples of successful policies elsewhere and adapt them where appropriate. Examples of policies to encourage renewable energy initiatives by cities are described in an IEA publication

(<https://www.iea.org/publications/freepublications/publication/Cities2009.pdf>) and should be reviewed when further developing the project.

7. The project intends to introduce EE labeling and standard as a means of promoting energy efficiency and conservation (EE&C) in the residential sector. It aims to integrate an energy performance index (EPI) in city corporation by-laws for buildings and energy efficiency in public lighting. This would be a worthwhile achievement, but the implementation of standards and regulations will depend on effective enforcement. No activity has been planned specifically to build the capacity to enforce regulations and standards.

8. Furthermore, integrated resource recovery centers (IRRCs) for waste treatment, which are planned in this project, have proven to be successful elsewhere and could be replicated in other cities, but have been constrained partly due to a lack of technical expertise - so capacity building is a key activity to be implemented.

9. Around 860 kt CO₂-eq of emission reductions are projected over the lifetime of the interventions, but the calculation is provisional until details of the proposed interventions can be confirmed at a later stage.

10. Given that the project aims to reduce GHG emissions at the city level, it has similar objectives to the World Bank-led GEF Integrated Approach Programme on "Sustainable Cities." Links should therefore be made with the World Bank programme, especially on methodologies, tools, and indicators, to provide shared learning experiences.

11. Missing from the proposal is how the project will be monitored and evaluated. Annex A shows some plans for evaluating aspects of Component 3, the education of city dwellers. However, overall it is not clear what indicators will be used to measure the success of this USD 28 M investment across all three components. This should be given further attention.

The project proponent should address the issues raised above as outlined in the follow-up actions.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
1. Concur	In cases where STAP is satisfied with the scientific and technical quality of the proposal, a simple "Concur" response will be provided; the STAP may flag specific issues that should be pursued rigorously as the proposal is developed into a full project document. At any time during the development of the project, the proponent is invited to approach STAP to consult on the design prior to submission for CEO endorsement.
2. Minor issues to be considered during project design	STAP has identified specific scientific /technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the project proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. The proponent may wish to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised. (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development, and possibly agreeing to terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review. <p>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.</p>
3. Major issues to be considered during project design	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical methodological issues, barriers, or omissions in the project concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. The proponent is strongly encouraged to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Open a dialogue with STAP regarding the technical and/or scientific issues raised; (ii) Set a review point at an early stage during project development including an independent expert as required. <p>The GEF Secretariat may, based on this screening outcome, delay the proposal and refer the proposal back to the proponents with STAP's concerns.</p> <p>The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the</p>

	full project brief for CEO endorsement.
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