

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility



STAP Scientific and Technical screening of the Project Identification Form (PIF)

Date of screening: 09th February 2010

Screener: Lev Neretin

Panel member validation by: N.H. Ravindranath

I. PIF Information

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: **4138**
 COUNTRY(IES): **COLOMBIA**
 PROJECT TITLE: **CATALYTIC INVESTMENTS FOR GEOTHERMAL POWER**
 GEF AGENCY(IES): **INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK**
 OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): **ISAGEN S.A .E.S.P. (ISAGEN)**
 GEF FOCAL AREA (S): **Climate Change**
 GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): **SP-3**
 NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: **N/A**

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(ies): **Consent**

III. Further guidance from STAP

1. This is an innovative project aimed at promoting development and adoption of geothermal power in Columbia. This technology is currently at the demonstration stage and the project correctly includes the research and the assessment studies to evaluate technical potential and feasibility for the demonstration of geothermal power systems. STAP notes that though the project is proposed under Strategic Programme 3, the technology may not be ready for market development. The project will only demonstrate the technical, economical and physical potential of the selected geothermal fields. There will be a need for the following significant investment support for demonstration. How is this risk mitigated?
2. In Columbia 80% of power generation capacity is mainly from hydro-electric systems. There may not be a substantial market demand for a new renewable energy technology, particularly if other renewable sources prove more technically and economically feasible. It's not clear what will be the cost-effectiveness of geothermal power systems in Colombia. At least some preliminary assessment of cost-effectiveness and competitiveness of geothermal power during project preparation is recommended.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
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.