

# 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: May 04, 2010

Screeener: Lev Neretin

Panel member validation by: Nijavalli H. Ravindranath  
Consultant(s):

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

**FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND**

**GEF PROJECT ID:** 4099

**PROJECT DURATION :** 4

**COUNTRIES :** Mauritius

**PROJECT TITLE:** Removal of Barriers to Solar PV Power Generation in Mauritius, Rodrigues and the Outer Islands

**GEF AGENCIES:** UNDP

**OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:** Ministry of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities, Rodrigues regional Assembly and Outer Islands Development Corporation

**GEF FOCAL AREA:** Climate Change

**GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAMS:** CC-3;

### 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

This is a well-balanced project proposal addressing satisfactorily the major barriers in promoting on-grid PV markets in Mauritius, Rodrigues and Outer Islands. Even though the project aims at removal of barriers to SPV, this is largely a technology transfer project since there is very limited experience of SPV technology in Mauritius. The list of barriers clearly highlights the technical feasibility and commercial viability as key barriers to the spread of SPV technology. STAP has some additional comments to be addressed during project preparation:

- Operational performance monitoring of PV systems is an important element in successful market penetration (e.g., Jahn U. and W. Nasse (2004). Operational Performance of Grid-connected PV Systems on Buildings in Germany. Prog. Photovolt.: Res. Appl. 12:441-448). STAP recommends including provisions for supporting operational monitoring efforts in PV installations (capacity building, equipment and awareness).
- On-grid versus off-grid SPV: The project focuses on on-grid SPV. What is the rationale for promoting only on-grid SPV systems? What is the rationale for excluding off-grid SPV systems?
- Demonstration projects: Why is the focus of demonstration project only on educational institutions such as schools and colleges? To promote SPV technology among residential units and small-scale industrial units, it is necessary to demonstrate the technology in these units.
- Baseline scenario: The project should develop a baseline scenario to highlight the current and projected dependence on fossil fuels and the relevant emissions.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
<b>1. Consent</b>	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.
<b>2. Minor revision required.</b>	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

	<p>(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.</p>
<p><b>3. Major revision required</b></p>	<p>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.</p>