

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 08, 2012

Screeners: Lev Neretin

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

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

FULL SIZE PROJECT MULTI TRUST FUNDS

GEF PROJECT ID: 4904

PROJECT DURATION : 3

COUNTRIES : Regional (Africa)

PROJECT TITLE: Pilot African Climate Technology Finance Center and Network

GEF AGENCIES: AfDB

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Private Sectors / National bodies, agencies and governments / Academia, Centers of Excellences and Research centers

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): **Minor revision required**

III. Further guidance from STAP

The project aims at the development and transfer of climate technologies in African countries to contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions and vulnerability to climate change. It is a well thought out project, and is particularly appropriate in the African context. STAP also commends the stated project goal of assisting countries in supporting NAMAs and NAPAs. STAP supports this project in general and has a number of suggestions to be addressed during project preparation:

1. Adaptation: This component requires strengthening during the next phase. Africa is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world with respect to climate change. The science of climate impacts is evolving. New climate models are providing climate projections, thus STAP suggests:

- A statistical assessment of the current climate variability and historical trends in precipitation and temperature;
- Projection of climate change using the latest global circulation models at the regional level, preferably using multiple models and scenarios;
- Assessment of impacts of climate change using various response models in agriculture, forest and water resource sectors;
- Development of vulnerability profiles in the context of climate change;
- Development of adaptation strategies based on new scientific knowledge as well as traditional practices.

2. Information and technologies: The project is focused on knowledge transfer and networking. But the first step is to generate information on the mitigation and adaptation technologies at the regional level along the following lines:

- Different energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies for different sectors and different countries;
- Mitigation potential of technologies for different sectors and different countries;
- Investment and operational cost of technologies for different sectors and different countries;
- Infrastructure required for installation of technologies for different sectors and different countries;
- Source of these technologies; national or imported;
- Modes of creating access to information.

3. Mitigation-adaptation synergy: Africa provides the best opportunity for promoting mitigation-adaptation synergy, especially in the forestry, pasture lands and agriculture sectors. This aspect has to be explored in this project so that for

a given investment, it may be possible to generate both the mitigation and adaptation benefits, e.g., agro-forestry, shelterbelts, mangrove plantations, agricultural soil carbon enhancement, etc.

4. Energy access: Surprisingly, the PIF has not adequately considered the energy access aspect. This project provides an opportunity to promote energy access through low-carbon strategies.

5. Lessons from other initiatives: Several initiatives have been or are being implemented in Africa, many of them supported by the GEF, World Bank, etc. It is important to learn lessons from these initiatives and incorporate them into the proposed project. An example is the Africa Lighting Initiative.

6. Capacity building: Technical and institutional limitations for technology uptake and dissemination may be a major barrier in Africa. This aspect needs to be adequately addressed, since many of the imported technologies may need adaptation to local conditions. The risk of lacking technical institutions and capacity for technology assimilation needs to be considered in the project.

<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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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.