

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: 01st October 2009

Screener: Lev Neretin

Panel member validation by: N.H. Ravindranath

I. PIF Information

GEF PROJECT ID: 4055

COUNTRY(IES): SENEGAL

PROJECT TITLE: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: TYPHA-BASED THERMAL INSULATION MATERIAL PRODUCTION IN SENEGAL

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): DIRECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DES ETABLISSEMENTS CLASSES (DEEC), DIRECTION NATIONALE DE L'INDUSTRIE, DIRECTION NATIONALE DE L'ENERGIE, ARESA (AGENCE NATIONALE DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE APPLIQUEE) ; SOCOCIM INDUSTRIES (GROUPE VICAT, SENEGAL), CEMENTS DU SAHEL (SENEGAL), NATORO KLIMA DÄMMSTOFF GMBH (AUSTRIA), ORT_GANGARCHITEKTUR (AUSTRIA), INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: CLIMATE CHANGE

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT (IF APPLICABLE): STRATEGIC PROGRAM ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

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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

The Global Environmental Benefits from this project are uncertain. Incorporation of Typha based thermal insulation may not lead to significant energy conservation. Will the building owners accept this new technology? The proposal states that there is no market for insulation material in Senegal, currently. Very often building owners may not be willing to incorporate a new product, unless demonstrated.

STAP recommends exploring other alternative uses of Typha (biogas production, biomass pellets, combustion and gasification, traditional housing, production of containers/baskets and etc.), which can help to minimize production wastes and provide additional sources of income. The composition of the material is not clear, if for example if the biomass has lignin and its bulk density.

STAP notes difficulties in assessing GHG mitigation/carbon sequestration potential of the proposed project. Carbon sequestration benefits of wild Typha can outweigh carbon mitigation potential of insulation panels. Life-cycle assessment of the whole production chain is required to answer this question, but would be difficult to impossible to conduct. The risk associated with acceptance of the insulation of building with Typha biomass may be very high.

STAP advisory response	Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed
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.
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