

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: @@@@ @@, @@@@
Screener: Sarah Lebel
Panel member validation by: Anand Patwardhan
Consultant(s):

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

FULL-SIZED PROJECT	LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND
GEF PROJECT ID:	8034
PROJECT DURATION:	4
COUNTRIES:	Zambia
PROJECT TITLE:	Building the Resilience of Local Communities in Zambia through the Introduction of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) into priority ecosystems, including wetlands and forests
GEF AGENCIES:	UNEP
OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:	Ministry of Land, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
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

STAP welcomes the UNEP proposal "Building the resilience of local communities in Zambia through the introduction of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) into priority ecosystems, including wetlands and forests". The project sets ambitious targets to enhance the adaptive capacity of communities to the negative impacts of climate change through Ecosystem-based Adaptation, with interventions targeting the preservation of ecosystem services.

The PIF is well developed, and generally scientifically and technically sound, with appropriate referencing. That said, it is important to recognize that ecosystem restoration strategies need to be designed with full attention to the impacts of future climate change, to ensure that ecosystem functions would continue under changing baseline conditions (climate, in this case).

In addition, to further strengthen the project, STAP would like to make the following recommendations.

1. The climate proofing of ecosystems and livelihoods is a complex endeavor. This is particularly true when taking into consideration the extensive uncertainties associated with climate change projections, but also future human behavior. One approach to take into consideration these uncertainties is called robust decision-making, which integrates more extensively climate model data. Information about how the latter can be better integrated into decision-making can be found here: <http://www.rand.org/jie/research/environment-energy/areas/climate-change/pubs/robust-decisionmaking.html>
2. The PIF section A.1.1. mentions 'current' observed changes in the climate. However, current or past climate extremes may very well not be representative of the future climate. New projections under the different Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) should be considered in the planning process, including a wide range of models rather than a single climate model. This data is available freely online. Moreover, while most studies look simply at changes in monthly mean temperature and precipitation, EbA

will require more detailed information and should take into account changes in daily precipitation patterns, and even changes in day versus night temperatures.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
1. Concur	<p>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.</p>
2. Minor issues to be considered during project design	<p>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:</p> <p>(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> <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	<p>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:</p> <p>(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> <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 full project brief for CEO endorsement.</p>