

# 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: April 06, 2012

Screener: Thomas Hammond

Panel member validation by: Meryl Williams; Jakob Granit  
Consultant(s): Douglas Taylor

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

**FULL SIZE PROJECT**    **GEF TRUST FUND**

**GEF PROJECT ID:** 4343

**PROJECT DURATION :** 4

**COUNTRIES :** Regional (China)

**PROJECT TITLE:** EAS Implementation of the Yellow Sea LME Strategic Action Programme for Adaptive Ecosystem-Based Management

**GEF AGENCIES:** UNDP

**OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:** UNOPS

**GEF FOCAL AREA:** International Waters

### 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

STAP welcomes this proposal to implement the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Yellow Sea, Large Marine Ecosystem (YSLME) building upon the completed TDA/SAP work of the predecessor project (GEF ID 790). The SAP contains a well structured set of targets and indicators and from a scientific and technical perspective provides a sound baseline for follow up SAP implementation.

1. STAP understands that the present project is designed to enable implementation of the SAP and also to deliver at least part of the expected results of SAP implementation, for example a 10% reduction in the fishing boat fleet over the project lifetime compared to expected reduction of 25-30% until 2020. STAP acknowledges that the project also responds to key points in the terminal evaluation of the predecessor project which recommended that "The ecosystem-based management approach should continue to be developed, with clear guidelines for implementation, so that all stakeholders can be fully involved. The importance of ecosystem services and ECC needs be further explained, in particular in economic and human well-being terms" Component 1 addresses this comment in general, but it is expected that the project document for CEO endorsement will elaborate on this topic.

2. STAP recommends that within the forthcoming full project development that even greater emphasis on integration of governance, guidance and socio-economic analysis is applied within Component 2, to ensure that displaced fishermen are effectively guided and monitored in the transition from capture fisheries to aquaculture and mariculture. Such analysis is important to maximize wider community acceptance of the interventions and to reduce the risk that this displacement does not merely result in fishermen replacement within capture fisheries by uninformed fishermen from within the same communities (or those distant from them).

4. In section B6, the project proposal identifies a number of related initiatives. The terminal evaluation for the predecessor project recommended stronger links to the Partnership for Environmental Management of the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA) during a second phase of the YSLME Project. It recommended that "the YSLME Project, in its second phase, considers using a partnership/MOU with PEMSEA to function within PEMSEA's political framework." STAP notes that the existing country buy-in for PEMSEA's scientific and technical work may be a significant advantage if YSLME SAP implementation is linked in, thus increasing likely impact. STAP refers project proponents to recommendations of STAP screen for the project GEF ID 4936 with respect to governance that are largely applicable for this project also.

5. It is recommended that the full project brief explore how the SAP implementation and the regional collaborative frameworks that are built can address greater cooperation with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the

project considering the support by DPRK at the time of SAP endorsement in December 2009. Cooperation on the YSLME can act as a lever to further cooperation in the region providing regional and global benefits. In this context the brief should also address the sustainability of the YSLME Commission within broader regional cooperative frameworks.

#### References

UNDP/GEF 2009. UNDP/GEF project: Reducing Environmental Stress in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem. Strategic Action Programme. 56 pages. <http://www.yslme.org/pub/SAP.pdf> (accessed 13 March, 2012).

UNDP. 2011. Reducing Environmental Stress in the Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem. Final Evaluation Report, by Gunnar Kullenberg and Michael E. Huber. <http://erc.undp.org/evaluationadmin/reports/viewreport.html;jsessionid=2FA95F98A668D9E6CB0CD6F9D572E059?docid=4773> (accessed 13 March 2012)

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
<b>1. Consent</b>	<p>STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasizing any issues where the project could be improved.</p> <p>Follow up: The GEF Agency is invited to approach STAP for advice during the development of the project prior to submission of the final document for CEO endorsement.</p>
<b>2. Minor revision required.</b>	<p>STAP has identified specific scientific or technical challenges, omissions or opportunities that should be addressed by the project proponents during project development.</p> <p>Follow up: One or more options are open to STAP and the GEF Agency:            (i) GEF Agency should discuss the issues with STAP to clarify them and possible solutions.            (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the GEF Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP's recommended actions.</p>
<b>3. Major revision required</b>	<p>STAP has identified significant scientific or technical challenges or omissions in the PIF and recommends significant improvements to project design.</p> <p>Follow-up:            (i) The Agency should request that the project undergo a STAP review prior to CEO endorsement, at a point in time when the particular scientific or technical issue is sufficiently developed to be reviewed, or as agreed between the Agency and STAP.            (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP concerns.</p>