



**GEF SECRETARIAT REVIEW FOR FULL/MEDIUM-SIZED PROJECTS*
THE GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF TRUST FUNDS**

GEF ID:	5772		
Country/Region:	Regional		
Project Title:	Strengthening the Institutional Capacity of African Network of Basin Organization (ANBO), Contributing to the Improved Transboundary Water Governance in Africa		
GEF Agency:	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5338 (UNDP)
Type of Trust Fund:	GEF Trust Fund	GEF Focal Area (s):	International Waters
GEF-5 Focal Area/ LDCF/SCCF Objective (s):	IW-1; IW-3;		
Anticipated Financing PPG:	\$100,000	Project Grant:	\$2,000,000
Co-financing:	\$7,030,000	Total Project Cost:	\$9,130,000
PIF Approval:		Council Approval/Expected:	
CEO Endorsement/Approval		Expected Project Start Date:	
Program Manager:	Astrid Hillers	Agency Contact Person:	Akiko Yamamoto

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at PIF (PFD)/Work Program Inclusion ¹	Secretariat Comment At CEO Endorsement(FSP)/Approval (MSP)
Eligibility	1. Is the participating country eligible ?	This is a regional project covering all of Africa; it is not country specific. Support to Africa by the GEF is highly relevant. The mandate of ANBO is given to it by AMCOW, the African Council of Ministers for Water in response to the AU's call for the creation of a Federation of African River and Lake Basin Organisations.	
	2. Has the operational focal point endorsed the project?	N/A - see above. It would be appreciated to receive a letter of support by AMCOW. (6/11/2014) - A letter from the AMCOW Executive Secretary with detailed	

*Some questions here are to be answered only at PIF or CEO endorsement. No need to provide response in gray cells.

¹ Work Program Inclusion (WPI) applies to FSPs only. Submission of FSP PIFs will simultaneously be considered for WPI.
FSP/MSP review template: updated January 2013

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		reasoning for supporting the MSP has been attached to teh resubmission.	
Resource Availability	3. Is the proposed Grant (including the Agency fee) within the resources available from (mark all that apply):		
	• the STAR allocation?		
	• the focal area allocation?	Yes. The MSP is within the FA budget.	
	• the LDCF under the principle of equitable access		
	• the SCCF (Adaptation or Technology Transfer)?		
	• the Nagoya Protocol Investment Fund		
	• focal area set-aside?		
Strategic Alignment	4. Is the project aligned with the focal area/multifocal areas/ LDCF/SCCF/NPIF results framework and strategic objectives ? <i>For BD projects: Has the project explicitly articulated which Aichi Target(s) the project will help achieve and are SMART indicators identified, that will be used to track progress toward achieving the Aichi target(s).</i>	Yes, the project is aligned with the FA objective. Its majority should be allocated to IW-3. Please revise. (6/11/2014). Comment addressed.	
	5. Is the project consistent with the recipient country's national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, including NPFE, NAPA, NCSA, NBSAP or NAP?	The project is aligned with the regional mandate of ANBO as the technical arm of AMCOW. It is aiming at strengthening the capacities of transboundary river and lake basin and groundwater commission across the African continent and strengthen cooperation with RECs. All of these are country owned and country driven entities and receiving member country contributions.	

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Project Design	<p>6. Is (are) the baseline project(s), including problem(s) that the baseline project(s) seek/s to address, sufficiently described and based on sound data and assumptions?</p>	<p>The baseline situation of pan-african coordination and limitations thereof through AMCOW is described. Both baseline and increment description need to address and mention groundwater governance and management and conjunctive management more consistently. For example the draft articles on tb aquifer management are nowhere mentioned, yet the UN Watercourse Convention and the UNECE Convention are.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed and groundwater governance as well as advancing conjunctive management of surface and groundwater is now addressed in the PIF. Also see comment 25.</p>	
	<p>7. Are the components, outcomes and outputs in the project framework (Table B) clear, sound and appropriately detailed?</p>	<p>- PDO - please include groundwater commission/cooperative frameworks in addition to RBOs/LBOs. - Same should be done across the project framework (Table B) - groundwater governance and strengthening is missing (only RBOs/LBOs mentioned).</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed. See also comment 25 for CEO endorsement.</p> <p>- please make clearer why there is such a heavy emphasis of ANBO on data and information and what the scope of this ambition is. Clearly, river,lake, and gw commissions have much more detailed information and DDS tools etc, then ANBO can have; it is not clear what the ambitions of ANBO are. Is it envisioned</p>	

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		<p>to store data or provide a meta-database? And what type of data and information (in general terms) is intended - water/hydrology or other?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The description of the African Water Information system (AWIS) is not clear. As written it appears to be solely comprised of data, yet we understand that AWIS intends to be a metadata portal that directs the use to information, but is not a data repository. AWIS appears (see website) to also aim to conduct electronic conferences and forums of exchanges - none of this is addressed in the PIF. - There is no mention of any data but water and climate related data and information. How do social, environmental and economic information factor in that are necessary for basin planning? <p>(6/11/2014). Comments addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please consider to put more emphasis on bringing African transboundary institutions together in physical meetings or online fora to exchange experiences instead of ANBO creating case studies/lessons learned that will be webposted or otherwise 'disseminated'. - The regional capacity building workshops described appear to mainly focus on financial resource mobilization. Reason for that is not evident. - Given the strong aim for information exchange, it would make sense to also 	

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		<p>disseminate for example at least experiences on data exchanges across basin countries - purposes, frequency, format, and protocols/agreements and mechanisms for such data and information exchanges with existing basin institutions. what worked, what was a challenge, etc. Please comment.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix.</p> <p>- To strengthen the regional basin organisations, it appears to make sense to provide funds for long-term twinning and mentoring and exchanges between these institutions across Africa or to even aim to bring in relevant global expertise from other basin organisations for specific issues.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix and to be further addressed during project design.</p> <p>- Working with and - if appropriate - through the RECs is sensible. Yet the RECS appear to be the main (only?) vehicle that ANBO intends to operate through, yet not all basin organisations actually have close ties to the respective RECs yet. ANBO may need to explore and/or strengthen these links where they are workable.</p> <p>- IWRM is mentioned and so is regional integraton - yet there is no explicit</p>	

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		<p>mention to bring in other sectors into basin dialogue and planning - including energy, agriculture, transport, environment etc ...</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix and to be further addressed during project design. Both RECs as well as water basin organizations (RBOs/LBOs/GWCs) need to address multi-sectoral issues such as water-food-energy-nexus which provide opportunities and challenges for transboundary cooperation.</p> <p>- ANBO institutional strengthening: unless addressed by SITWA or other already, it seems that ANBO in long run will require to mature into an institution that is mandated and capacitated to receive, manage, and disburse funds directly in future. How will this capacity be built?</p>	
	<p>8. (a) Are global environmental/adaptation benefits identified? (b) Is the description of the incremental/additional reasoning sound and appropriate?</p>	<p>The strengthening of cooperation for sustainable management of water resources and to address pressing environmental challenges is described.</p>	
	<p>9. Is there a clear description of: a) the socio-economic benefits, including gender dimensions, to be delivered by the project, and b) how will the delivery of such benefits support the achievement of incremental/ additional benefits?</p>		<p>No - as already commented under question 7 the scope of sectors and goals for ANBO's activities and the project's goals and what it aims to achieve in this broader context needs strengthening. Gender is not mentioned.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). This will be addressed</p>

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			during project design.
	10. Is the role of public participation, including CSOs, and indigenous peoples where relevant, identified and explicit means for their engagement explained?	<p>No - please address. Some of the African RBOs - often with GEF support - have significantly strengthened the capacity of civil society platforms across basins and strengthened participatory and communications and outreach activities to reach the broader public. Will ANBO include elements to disseminate lessons on this and/or create other public participation opportunities and/or disseminate lessons.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix.</p>	
	11. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk mitigation measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)	<p>The project does explicitly address and intends to strengthen the capacity of basin organisations to assess increasing climate variability and change and build resilience, yet it is not quite clear what it intends to do. One very concrete item though is the development of guidelines for sustainable infrastructure.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix and to be further addressed during project design.</p> <p>The PIF needs to be more explicit about the sustainability risk. Outside support to ANBO is essential in its initial stages, yet the make or break will be for ANBO to</p>	

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		<p>realitvely quickly deliver visible results to its clients - the basin organizations and its member countries - to be able to in the long term be assured sustainable finance.</p> <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the agency response matrix. If successful ANBO may receive a designated budget from country contributios for both AMCOW and via funds to RBOs/LBOs/GCs.</p>	
	<p>12. Is the project consistent and properly coordinated with other related initiatives in the country or in the region?</p>	<p>Please enhance this.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is very little in terms of 'scanning the field' evident and/or relation to other sectors considered (such as regional power pools etc.) - What are other relevant global and regional transboundary learning and capacity building initiatives that ANBO will collaborate with and build on (incl. IW Learn, INBO, GIZ?, CIWA, and other). <p>(6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF under coordination and deatils need to be addressed during project design including allocation of funds to participaton in and benefitting from IW-learn.</p>	
	<p>13. Comment on the project's innovative aspects, sustainability, and potential for scaling up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess whether the project is innovative and if so, how, and if not, why not. • Assess the project's strategy 	<p>ANBO is one of the first regional, continent (AU and AMCOW) owned network of basin organisations. Nothing comparable exists in other regions that the GEF works in. If ANBO can deliver visible services and benefits to its member countries, it has great potential to being an essential part of Africa's</p>	

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	<p>for sustainability, and the likelihood of achieving this based on GEF and Agency experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the potential for scaling up the project's intervention. 	<p>regional governance mechanisms and aid in strengthening regional cooperation and integration. ANBO is aiming to develop a financial sustainability strategy, yet this needs to be further addressed and explicit options be evident in PPG phase.</p>	
	<p>14. Is the project structure/design sufficiently close to what was presented at PIF, with clear justifications for changes?</p>		
	<p>15. Has the cost-effectiveness of the project been sufficiently demonstrated, including the cost-effectiveness of the project design as compared to alternative approaches to achieve similar benefits?</p>		
Project Financing	<p>16. Is the GEF funding and co-financing as indicated in Table B appropriate and adequate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?</p>	<p>Yes, the funding and co-finance is adequate. Additional co-finance could be pursued to expand the scope of activities.</p>	
	<p>17. <u>At PIF</u>: Is the indicated amount and composition of co-financing as indicated in Table C adequate? Is the amount that the Agency bringing to the project in line with its role? <u>At CEO endorsement</u>: Has co-financing been confirmed?</p>	<p>Yes, the amount and composition of co-finance is adequate.</p>	
	<p>18. Is the funding level for project management cost appropriate?</p>	<p>The project management costs are close to 10 % and hence quite high. Please reduce. (6/11/2014). Comment addressed in revised PIF plus explanation in the</p>	

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		agency response matrix. Reduction and explanation is adequate as such a regional effort does bare additional management costs.	
	19. <u>At PIF</u> , is PPG requested? If the requested amount deviates from the norm, has the Agency provided adequate justification that the level requested is in line with project design needs? <u>At CEO endorsement/ approval</u> , if PPG is completed, did Agency report on the activities using the PPG fund?	The PPG amount requested is within the norm.	
	20. If there is a non-grant instrument in the project, is there a reasonable calendar of reflows included?	N/A	
Project Monitoring and Evaluation	21. Have the appropriate Tracking Tools been included with information for all relevant indicators, as applicable?		
	22. Does the proposal include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?		
Agency Responses	23. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments from:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STAP? 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convention Secretariat? 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council? • Other GEF Agencies? 		
Secretariat Recommendation			
Recommendation at PIF Stage	24. Is PIF clearance/approval being recommended?	(4/10/2014). No, kindly address comments provided above. (6/11/2014). The previous comments	

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		<p>have been addressed in the revised PIF and additional detail provided in the agency response matrix.</p> <p>The PIF is technically cleared.</p>	
	25. Items to consider at CEO endorsement/approval.	<p>Coordination with other initiatives and direct or indirect support to ANBO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please explore the linkages and support by INBO in more detail and provide detail on synergies with the GEF support to ANBO. - All IW projects should set aside 1 % of the GEF grant for participation in IW-Learn activities (participation meetings; etc.). ANBO will especially benefit from cooperating with IW-Learn and gathering experiences from IW-learn efforts on knowledge management. Mechanisms of harnessing this experience and learning for ANBO staff from IW Learn may be part of ANBO institutional strengthening. - other synergies with support by relevant partners to transboundary waters cooperation in Africa and KM should also be explored in more detail , such as GIZ, WB - CIWA, and others. <p>Other comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We noted the agency explanation/agency response to comments and questions on ANBO's ambitions on being a data hub. We note that ANBO 's aim is to create a meta-data base for hydrological, but also relevant socio-economic data that have been gathered on basin scale. Well noted and we assume this will be expanded in the project document. The PIF has some 	

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		<p>confusing wording on a need for compatibility with ANBO's database/AWIS which is rather unlikely to be fueled by demand from countries or RBOs/LBOs/GCs; what is needed is designing the meta data to link to basin data. Harmonization of such data formats on basin-scale appears hard enough and aiming for a continent wide standard does not seem timely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the previous engagement of ANBO in Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) is noted. Would it be worth to consolidate this effort through the current project? IW Learn could be of assistance here. - The implementation mechanism as well as future finance are to be explored. In terms of implementation the relative roles of ANBO and the AMCOW secretariat (see para 57 of PIF) need to be clarified during PPG. - During PPG, please expand on how ANBO with RBOs/LBOs and/or through the RECS will work on enhanced cross-sector engagement and addressing synergies and trade-offs of transboundary issues related to not only water quantity and quality, but also in relation to energy and food security - such as through facilitating enhanced interaction between RBOs and regional power pools. 	
Recommendation at CEO Endorsement/ Approval	26. Is CEO endorsement/approval being recommended?		
	First review*		
Review Date (s)	Additional review (as necessary)	June 10, 2014	
	Additional review (as necessary)		

*** This is the first time the Program Manager provides full comments for the project. Subsequent follow-up reviews should be recorded. For specific comments for each section, please insert a date after comments. Greyed areas in each section do not need comments.**