

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 02, 2014

Screener: Douglas Taylor

Panel member validation by: Jakob Granit
Consultant(s):

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

FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND

GEF PROJECT ID: 5561

PROJECT DURATION : 5

COUNTRIES : China

PROJECT TITLE: Mainstreaming Integrated Water and Environment Management

GEF AGENCIES: World Bank

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Ministry of Environmental Protection;

Ministry of Water Resources;

Supported by

Ministry of Agriculture;

State Oceanic Administration;

Other related ministries and provincial agencies.

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

1. STAP welcomes this project proposal that will scale up innovative measures to improve water use efficiency and productivity under an innovative approach putting a cap on evapotranspiration (ET) and a cap on environmental pollution discharges defining an environment carrying capacity (EC). These approaches were piloted in the Hai River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management project (GEF ID 1323) that was recently been completed with a positive evaluation. The project is well anchored in the government policy framework of "three red lines": to control the increase of water use, improve water use efficiency and control pollution to water bodies. STAP notes the significant government investment into the project and the connection to the World Bank's CAS that highlights support to green growth. The transboundary dimension of the project is met by the connection to the implementation of the broader Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Strategic Action Program that identified national action to achieve collective benefits
2. STAP does not have any major scientific and technical concerns with this project proposal and welcomes the application of basin-wide remote sensing-based evapotranspiration and water quality tools, as a contribution to the stress reduction measures for the Basin.
3. STAP questions the ambition to prepare and implement SAPs at the sub-river basin level when the country process appears to be to develop integrated water and environment management plans (IWEMP). If SAPs do not add value from a planning and investment perspective the focus should be to support the development of the IWEMPs. STAP advises that this issue is clarified and resolved during project preparation.
4. The STAP review of the original ID 1323 was also positive; however, stronger capacity building measures were advocated. STAP maintains this advice and in particular stress the importance to identify global lessons learned from this project. In that context a strong communication plan should be part of the project both internally and within the IW learn (global) framework. The ET/EC approach could then be part of a global lessons learned process beyond China.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
1. Consent	<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>
2. Minor revision required.	<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>
3. Major revision required	<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>