

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: March 07, 2013

Screener: Lev Neretin

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

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

FULL SIZE PROJECT **GEF TRUST FUND**

GEF PROJECT ID: 5284

PROJECT DURATION : 4

COUNTRIES : Regional (Ecuador, Peru)

PROJECT TITLE: Integrated Water Resources Management in the Puyango-Tumbes, Catamayo-Chira and Zarumilla Transboundary Aquifers and River Basins

GEF AGENCIES: UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: The National Water Secretariat of Ecuador (SENAGUA) and The National Water Authority of Peru (ANA)

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 well designed and scientifically robust concept for foundational support towards the development of a TDA/SAP for the Pacific facing shared catchments of Peru and Ecuador, which builds upon existing bilateral agreements between these countries. STAP agrees that the project has the potential to act as a useful source of knowledge regarding the management of transboundary systems and conjunctive use of surface and groundwater providing regional and global benefits.
2. STAP particularly welcomes the linkage to national capacity building programs and efforts at the national level and an existing ecosystem based adaptation to climate change project in Peru. As cooperation deepens there is a potential to explore incentives (including through use of payments for ecosystem services) for watershed management and possible benefit transfers within watersheds to reinforce agreed conservation and restoration measures. STAP also welcomes the attention to be paid to use of benefit-sharing measures from transboundary water management and development more generally including as means to promote regional economic integration even though these aspects of cooperation are in the early stages.
3. The project concept mentions use of the TDA under Component 1 applied to the three sets of watersheds, and this, together with the appended map, indicates that the area to be investigated covers a wide range of altitude, including coastal zone. However, the PIF does not indicate what upstream/downstream relationships, and scenario building, including flow modelling, sediment transport and baseline determination of ecological flows will be included. At the PPG stage STAP recommends defining and describing catchment coverage as a part of the TDA process so that the scope of the planned work can be understood better. STAP also recommends that the TDA process addresses explicitly the issues of socio-economic development in the region at large (in which the transboundary basins are located).
4. Within the work proposed under Component 2, no mention is made of the need to enhance understanding of the economics of benefit generation and their flows in the watersheds, and while other technical disciplines are summarized as targets for training, the strengthening of socio-economic understanding and community-based management to complement the largely enforcement-based approach outlined, would be desirable. The proposed socio-economic benefits described in section B.3 are more likely to be realized if the bi-national bodies proposed are equipped to better understand and deliver against these targets.

<i>STAP advisory</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
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<i>response</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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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.
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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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.