

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: 12 March 2008

Screener: Guadalupe Duron

Panel member validation by: Meryl Williams

I. PIF Information

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3522

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: PIMS No. 3879

COUNTRY(IES): Regional: Indonesia, Timor Leste, (Papua New Guinea) plus Australia

PROJECT TITLE: Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Programme (ATSEA)

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNDP,

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Agency for Marine and Fisheries Research (BRKP) Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (Indonesia), in cooperation with Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) (Timor Leste), Department of Environment and Water Resources (DEW) (Australia) in collaboration with UNOPS

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): International Waters,

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): IW SO-1, SP1: Restoring and Sustaining Coastal and Marine Fish Stocks and Associated Biological Diversity

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: ASIA CORAL TRIANGLE

Full size project **GEF Trust Fund**

II. STAP Advisory Response (see table below for explanation)

1. Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies): **Consent**

III. Further guidance from STAP

2. STAP believes this proposal is an important initiative for promoting improved understanding and management of marine ecosystems in the Arafura and Timor Seas. At present the PIF deals only in general terms with the possible pilot projects that would respond to the findings of the TDA, therefore from a scientific perspective it is not possible to assess them at this time. It is important that risk assessment and analysis of mitigation measures be considered in the TDA work, that respond to the threat identified of pollution including from, potentially, the oil and gas industry, plus the issue of illegal fishing by foreign and domestic fleets and controlling the development of foreign joint ventures in the ATS region.
3. STAP also suggests that the proposal is strengthened by the time of CEO endorsement to reflect more clearly stated global environment benefits (at the moment these are merely implied in the proposal - PIF submission date 15 October 2007), as well as how the project intends to measure and monitor the likely environmental and social benefits resulting from the pilot demonstrations on fisheries conservation, and coastal habitat management.
4. STAP also suggests that the TDA process include relevant agricultural experts with knowledge of the land-based agricultural systems in Indonesia and East Timor.

STAP advisory response	Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed
1. Consent	STAP acknowledges that on scientific/technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasising any issues that could be improved and the proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.
2. Minor revision required.	STAP has identified specific scientific/technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. One or more options that remain open to STAP include: (i) Opening a dialogue between STAP and the proponent to clarify issues (ii) Setting a review point during early stage project development and agreeing terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review 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.
3. Major revision required	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical omissions in the concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. Normally, a STAP approved

	<p>review will be mandatory prior to submission of the project brief for CEO endorsement. 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>
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