

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: 4 September 2009

Screener: Guadalupe Duron

Panel member validation by: Mary Seely

I. PIF Information

GEF PROJECT ID: PROJECT DURATION: (18 months)

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID:

COUNTRY(IES): Global

PROJECT TITLE: Enabling paradigm shift on monitoring and assessment within the UNCCD – Piloting the Reporting of the Performance Indicators 2010

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNEP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): sub-regional and regional institutions³; UNCCD National Coordination Bodies and/or Focal Points Institutions (eg: Greece National Committee for Combating Desertification).

GEF FOCAL AREA (S)⁴: LD-SP1, LD-SP2 & LD-SP3

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(s): SP3-b)

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT (if applicable)

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 welcomes this initiative on "Enabling paradigm shift on monitoring and assessment within the UNCCD - Piloting the Reporting of the Performance Indicators in 2010". The proposal is well founded and addresses a real need for efficient and effective reporting.

STAP wishes to add the following minor comments -

- a. The project seeks to link to key GEF investments, such as the MSP on KM:Land. STAP fully supports this link to the KM: Land project; thus, encourages a strong coordination between UNEP and UNDP on this effort.
- b. "Comprehensive capacity building" could be regarded as an outcome (not an output) of knowledge management.
- c. The web portal could include a discussion forum for countries to exchange ideas, information, and raise questions relevant to monitoring and evaluating performance indicators. Nonetheless, the project may wish to consider support for alternative methods of information storage that would ensure timely accumulation and dissemination of information. A web portal for information management may not be appropriate in some countries where the relevant web-sites are down much of the time.
- d. Information flow at the national and local level is essential in order for countries to gather and analyze information that is critical to their effective implementation of the UNCCD. Thus, further thought on the technical aspects of managing information at this level would add value to the overall proposal.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
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.	<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 <p>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>
3. Major revision required	<p>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 review will be mandatory prior to submission of the project brief for CEO endorsement.</p> <p>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>