

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: 18 March 2008

Screener: Guadalupe Duron

Panel member validation by: Michael Stocking

I. PIF Information

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3364

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: PIMS 2979

COUNTRY: Eritrea

PROJECT TITLE: SIP: Sustainable Land Management Pilot Project

GEF AGENCY: UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: GoE

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): LD SP 1 and 2

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: SIP

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 the Strategic Investment Program on Sustainable Land Management - Pilot Project - In Eritrea. The project [headed as an FSP, but stated several times in the PIF to be an MSP] aims to tackle land degradation through piloting SLM approaches in 15 villages and a relatively modest area of 140,000 hectares. It is unclear what mechanism will be put into place to ensure that the hoped-for upscaling will occur. This has been a problem in projects generally in NE Africa that pilot attempts that concentrate resources into a small number of demonstration areas have failed to show replication. How is this project to be different? In the context of GEF funding and the requirements to achieve global benefits, STAP believes the proposal could be strengthened further by addressing the following issues -
 - 1) The outputs need to be detailed further in the project framework. Presently, some of the outputs are not sufficiently detailed. For example, approximately how many training programs will be developed for land managers, and technical officers?
 - 2) The global environment benefits are not defined explicitly in Section II. Furthermore, the proposal could provide details on how progress towards achieving the global environment benefits will be measured and monitored.
 - 3) The proposal could provide further details on the different activities for capacity building - for example, how does the project propose to strengthen market links, and what are the likely challenges the project may face in doing so? What will the training programs consist of, and how will the programs account for indigenous management systems? How will the alternative livelihood options be identified? Will this include on-farm, and off-farm options? And based on what measures will the pilot land management models be tested, and concluded to be sustainable?

<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.	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: <ol 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 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	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical omissions in

required	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. 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.
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