

GEF SECRETARIAT COMMENTS ON WORLD BANK-MULTI-TRUST FUND PROPOSAL: ANDES ADAPTATION TO THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN WATER RESOURCES (P145345)

1. Eligibility

Please provide Letters of Endorsement, signed by the GEF Operational Focal Points of the four participating countries.

2. Strategic alignment

In the GEF Annex, please identify the CCA objectives towards which the proposed project would contribute. Given that the project seeks resources from the SCCF Program for Technology Transfer (SCCF-B), it is expected that it would primarily address objective CCA-3: "Promote the transfer and adoption of adaptation technology". Moreover, in addition to CAS alignment, the proposal could describe the consistency of the proposed project with the findings of National Communications submitted by the three countries.

(see also BD comments on NBSAP below)

3. Baseline project(s)/ scenario

Please describe the baseline scenario, associated projects or programs, and the problems these seek to address. For adaptation, also clarify the relationship between any baseline projects and the indicative co-financing of \$19.3 million. For further information, please refer to the [Updated Operational Guidelines for the SCCF](#) and [Accessing Resources under the SCCF](#).

(see also BD comments below)

5. Adaptation/global environmental benefits and additional/ incremental reasoning:

For adaptation, please justify the request for SCCF resources based on additional reasoning. How would the proposed components and activities address climate change adaptation in accordance with the objectives of the SCCF, given the baseline scenario and initiatives on which the proposed grant would build? For further information, please refer to the [Updated Operational Guidelines for the SCCF](#) and [Accessing Resources under the SCCF](#).

With respect to the proposed Component 2, given that the project would seek resources from SCCF-B, the PCN could clarify how the planning and policy support would contribute towards enhancing the enabling environment for the transfer and adoption of adaptation technology. As for Component 3, the PCN could clarify the manner in which pilot investments would be targeted and prioritized to maximize adaptation benefits, and how these investments would build on and strengthen relevant baseline initiatives.

(see also BD comments below)

6. Socio-economic benefits and gender dimensions

In line with GEF Policy, please describe how gender dimensions will be considered in project design and implementation. Also describe what socio-economic benefits the proposed project would deliver and how these benefits would support the achievement of adaptation/global environmental benefits. (See also [GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming](#))

7. Public participation

In line with GEF Policy, please describe how public participation will be ensured, including of CSOs and indigenous people. (See also [GEF Policy on Public Involvement](#))

8. Coordination and coherence

Please describe how the proposed project would be complementary to and coordinated with other relevant initiatives.

(see also BD comments below)

9. Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up

Please describe what innovations the proposed project would introduce, and how sustainability and scaling up would be addressed.

10. Project management

In the GEF Annex, please ensure that the grant request for project management is disaggregated proportionately between trust funds (SCCF and GEF TF), and that the request does not exceed 5 per cent of the sub-total for project components.

11. Agency fee

Please note that as per the GEF fee policy, GEF Agencies will receive fees at 9.5 percent of the grant for GEF project grants up to, and including, \$10 million. The GEF Annex currently puts the Agency fee at \$1.03 million or 10.52 per cent of the total GEF/SCCF grant of \$9.79 million. For a PPG of \$200,000, in turn, the fee should be \$19,000.

Comments provided by Mark Zimsky, Cluster Coordinator for Biodiversity, on the request for biodiversity resources for Ecuador

The document makes one mention of the use of \$1.24 million of biodiversity resources for Ecuador as noted: "There will be a specific component for Ecuador, which will pursue the design and implementation of adaptation measures related to fragile ecosystems, and targeted to improve the adaptive capacity of the systems and preserving the biodiversity and environmental services that those ecosystems provide."

Given this amount of information, the project is not eligible to use biodiversity resources.

The PCN should include the following information:

- 1) Please clarify the alignment of the use of \$1.24 with the biodiversity focal area objectives and results framework. In addition, please articulate which Aichi Targets the project will help achieve and what SMART indicators will be used to track progress towards achieving said Aichi Targets.
- 2) Please identify how the biodiversity investment that is proposed in the project is prioritized in Ecuador's NBSAP. As currently presented, the entire project, including investment in Ecuador, appears to be supporting adaptation in the water sector with no explicit links to the conservation or sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity, therefore rendering it ineligible for support with biodiversity resources.
- 3) Please identify the ecosystems where biodiversity resources will be invested in Ecuador, the global significance of these ecosystems and the biodiversity therein, the threats to this biodiversity, and how the proposed investment will address these key threats and result in the generation of global biodiversity benefits. Please note that a "fragile ecosystem" is not a criteria for global significance from a biodiversity perspective. Please note that ecosystems services in and of themselves are benefits that are predominantly local and national in nature.
- 4) Please describe the baseline project(s) that the project will complement in the physical location where biodiversity resources will be invested in Ecuador.
- 5) Please provide the outcome and outputs that will be generated with the \$1.24 million investment.
- 6) Please identify the global biodiversity benefits that will be generated and describe the incremental reasoning underpinning the use of the biodiversity investment.
- 7) Ecuador has a robust GEF biodiversity portfolio, therefore, please clarify how this project complements existing investments and describe coordination plans.
- 8) Please describe the project intervention's strategy for sustaining the delivery of global biodiversity benefits.
- 9) Please identify the co-financing that will complement the \$1.24 million biodiversity investment as well as the amount of co-finance the WB will provide to the biodiversity investment in Ecuador.