

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: May 07, 2013

Screener: Christine Wellington-Moore

Panel member validation by: Hindrik Bouwman
Consultant(s):

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

FULL SIZE PROJECT **GEF TRUST FUND**

GEF PROJECT ID: 4385

PROJECT DURATION : 5

COUNTRIES : Macedonia

PROJECT TITLE: Removal of Technical and Economic Barriers to Initiating the Clean-up Activities for Alpha-HCH, Beta-HCH and Lindane Contaminated Sites at OHIS

GEF AGENCIES: UNIDO

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning (MEPP), Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

GEF FOCAL AREA: POPs

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

PIF Information: The project objective is stated as "To establish capacity for and initiate the 7-year site clean-up by removing technical and economic barriers to transfer best available techniques and best environmental practices for remediation of alpha-HCH, beta-HCH and lindane contaminated sites". STAP welcomes this initiative, and provides comments below which may assist in the further development of the project brief.

STAP Comments:

The plan to dispose of 13,000 square metres of waste needs to be clearly enunciated in the Indicative Project Description Summary (Section B). The text of the project states "The project will plan to dispose of 13,000 cubic meters out of the total estimated amount of 37,000 cubic meters which is one of the major hotspots in the region."

The PIF is quite comprehensive and appears sensitive to the unique issues and circumstances in the Republic of Macedonia. UNIDO is to be commended on presenting a measured approach to site clean up, in line with previous advice given by the STAP on such work, as is being gleaned from ongoing experience in the field. UNDP is in the process of evaluating some of their remediation work, and so agencies could share experiences.

Please note the following:-

- a) The table A3 on risks: STAP would consider the risk of human and environmental contamination due to handling as Moderate, not Low.
- b) For capacity building for the project to continue beyond the five-year cycle, the laboratory component should be given enough attention and support.
- c) As a reminder, the STAP hopes that the eventual project document will also consider all of the elements that constitute environmentally sound disposal. The STAP Advisory document on POPs Disposal Technology in GEF Projects focuses on what exactly constitutes environmentally sound disposal of POPs, and what disposal technologies can achieve it.

- d) As a precaution, care should be taken that liability in the event of accidental releases (eg during initial removal, transport or what have you) is clearly recognised and owned by each partner involved in the project.
- e) Where possible, there might be effort to make legislation coverage more comprehensive, vs addressing HCH and lindane. There are constant additions of new POPs, so where possible, more comprehensive approaches to legislation might be explored vs a chemical by chemical approach.
- f) There are many interesting and potentially innovative approaches and partnerships within this project. UNIDO should be sure to capture any lessons learned, including innovative funding modalities, to support/sustain chemicals management, to increase the knowledge captured from the GEF's portfolio.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</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.