

Procedures and criteria for selection of civil society representatives to attend Expanded Constituency Workshops of the Global Environment Facility in GEF7

Objective

1. This document outlines the requirements necessary to enable an efficient and effective process of selection and participation of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECW) that will be organized by the GEF Country Support Program (CSP) during the Seventh Cycle of the GEF (GEF7).
2. The ECWs are organized by the GEF Secretariat as part of the CSP. As approved by the Council in document GEF/C.54/04/Rev.01 ([Country Support Program: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-7](#)), as in GEF5 and GEF6, the purpose of the ECWs is “to keep the GEF Focal Points, convention focal points and other key stakeholders, including civil society, abreast of GEF strategies, policies, and procedures. In addition, they (are) meant to provide a space to analyze, in depth, the various aspects of GEF work, to provide an opportunity to exchange knowledge and experience, and to encourage collaboration.”
3. Since in GEF-7 two representatives of CSOs per country will be invited and sponsored to each workshop, the following procedure will be applied to identify the CSO that will participate at each workshop.

Criteria for selection of CSO representatives

4. The GEF seeks to identify active CSOs that have the capacity to address GEF- related issues at the national and/or regional levels.
5. The identification of a pool of suitable CSOs to attend ECW will be carried out by the GEF Secretariat through a review of the applications. The GEF Secretariat will share the preliminary list of selected participants with GEF focal points, the GEF CSO Network and the GEF Small Grants Programme National Coordinators to solicit their views regarding relevance or expertise.

6. Two CSO representatives per country will be sponsored. Nevertheless, requests from self-funded CSO representatives may be considered if space permits. Local representatives of international NGOs are expected to be self-funded.

Criteria for selecting CSO representatives

7. In the same spirit of the approved criteria for selecting CSO representatives in other events organized by the GEF Secretariat, the criteria for selecting CSOs to be sponsored to participate in the ECWs are the following:

- **Member of a well-established not-for-profit, non-governmental organization (CSO);**
- **CSO's alignment with the GEF's mission;**
- **Experience with GEF projects, or projects similar to those the GEF funds;**
- **Demonstrated relations to other Networks of CSOs or coordination capacity with other civil society organizations at the national or regional level;**
- **General knowledge of the GEF's work, past and present;**
- **Capacity to communicate what has been learned at the ECW to other national CSOs and**
- **Rotation as appropriate.**

Application and selection procedures

8. All CSOs interested in participating in the ECW shall submit their application via the GEF's web site before the established deadline.

9. The GEF Secretariat will apply the above criteria to select the CSOs to be sponsored and will circulate the preliminary list to the respective OFP, CSO Network and SGP for comments regarding relevance or experience.

10. The selected CSO will be notified at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.