

Global Environment Facility Introduction Seminar



GEF Project Cycle
Tuesday January 20th
16:15 – 16:45

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Types of GEF Projects

There are four types of GEF projects:

- Full-Sized Projects (FSPs): GEF grant > \$2 million
- Medium-Sized Projects (MSPs): GEF grant \leq \$2 million
- Enabling Activities (EAs): GEF grant is capped by respective focal area threshold:
 - ✓ Biodiversity and Climate Change = up to \$500,000;
 - ✓ Land Degradation = up to \$150,000
 - ✓ Chemical and Waste (MIA = \$200,000; Persistent Organic Pollutants and ASGM NAP=\$500,000)
- Programmatic Approach (PA)

MIA=Minamata Convention Initial Assessment

ASGM NAP = “Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining” National Action Plan



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Project Cycle Steps

The GEF project cycle includes two major approval steps applicable for Full-Sized Projects:

Council and the GEF Secretariat:

1. Council approval of work program
 - ✓ work program consists of PIFs cleared by CEO
2. CEO endorsement of the project document
 - ✓ well-prepared projects document + CEO endorsement Request

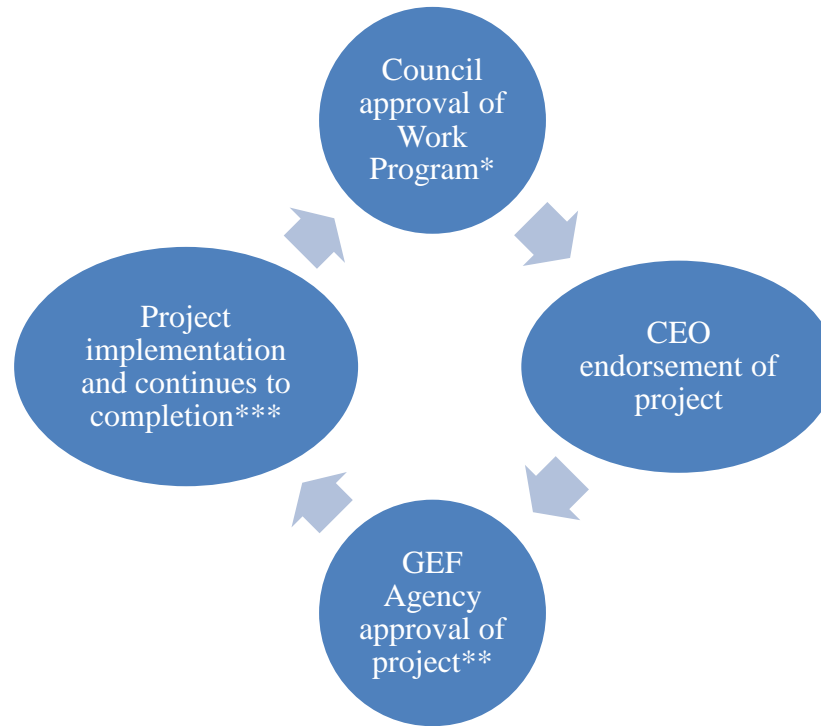
GEF Agency:

1. Approval of the project by the GEF Agency and implementation start;
2. Completion of implementation, terminal evaluation and financial closure.



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Full-Sized Project Cycle



* Work Program consists of PIFs cleared by the CEO

** GEF Agency approval of project signifies start of project implementation

*** Project completion follows terminal evaluation and financial closure



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Medium-Sized Project Cycle

MSPs follow a simplified one-step approach as part of the project streamlining measures*:

- Agencies and countries prepare an MSP and submit it to the Secretariat for CEO approval once it is ready, on a rolling basis.
- Follow the same GEF Agency internal approval process before implementation start.
- MSP approval request template will build in a PPG request feature of up to \$50,000 to help deflate the preparation expenses by the country on a reimbursement basis.*

There is also a two-step approach, if required:

- Submission of a PIF with PPG request, if needed
- Submission of a well-prepared final MSP document plus a MSP Approval Request for CEO approval

* The one-step feature and the reimbursement of up to \$50,000 for project preparation expenses are new features proposed by an Inter-agency Project Cycle Working Group and included in a project cycle paper submitted to the October 2014 Council Meeting.



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Enabling Activities Project Cycle

Enabling Activities follow two paths:

Direct Access (follow direct access policy – applies the World Bank Operations Policies and Procedures):

- Country submits EA proposal for CEO approval;
- CEO and country sign Grant Agreement and implementation starts.

Regular procedures of applying EA grant through Agencies:

- Agency submits EA proposal for CEO approval;
- Agency follows its own internal approval procedure and implementation starts; signs grant agreement with the country.



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Programmatic Approach Cycle

A new programmatic approach processing modality was approved by Council approval in the October 2014 Council meeting.

Proposed steps include:

- Council approval of a Program Framework Document (PFD) included in a work program;
- CEO endorsement of fully prepared child projects under the program



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Features of a Program

- The key document for a programmatic approach to be approved by Council is the submission of a Program Framework Document (PFD).
- All child projects under the Program have to be submitted for CEO endorsement by a deadline (or Program Commitment Deadline) agreed by relevant stakeholders during the preparation of the program concept or PFD.
- Child projects can apply for project preparation funding through submission of a PPG Request.



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Project Review Criteria

- Country eligibility and ownership
- Global Environment Benefits
- GEF Focal area strategy
- Agency's Comparative advantage
- Resource availability
- Project consistency
- Project design
- Project financing and co-financing
- Monitoring and evaluation; and
- Agency's responses to comments and reviews.



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Country Endorsement

Endorsement by a national Operational Focal Point (OFP) is a requirement for the following:

- all PIFs to enter the work program, and for application of Project Preparation Grants (PPGs);
- PFDs submitted for work program inclusion;
- Request for CEO approval of MSP final projects;
- All EAs requesting CEO approval.

Projects in biodiversity, climate change, and land degradation focal areas also follow STAR rules.



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Streamlining Measures in the Project Cycle

Recent GEF project cycle streamlining measures (including some that were approved by the Council in June 2012):

1. Project Preparation Grant (PPG) is now approved together with PIF clearance in the same template;
2. MSP ceiling is increased up to \$2 million;
3. All templates have been simplified;
4. Tranche payment of Agency fees: 40% are paid when Council approves the work program and 60% by CEO endorsement, applicable for FSPs only;
6. All projects/programs are subject to the new fee policy approved by Council in June 2012:
 - 9.5% for all project grants up to \$10 million;
 - 9% for all project grants above \$10 million.



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Streamlining Measures in the Project Cycle...(2)

6. GEF Project Agency gets a 9% Agency fee for all projects and programs, regardless of the GEF financing amount;
7. Approval of Umbrella Projects comprising a group of Enabling Activities is expedited by automatic CEO endorsement two weeks after Council approval and Agencies no longer required to submit a CEO endorsement request;
8. An updated project cancellation policy has been submitted for Council consideration in this October 2014 meeting.



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Acronyms Used in this Presentation

FSP = Full-Sized Project

MSP = Medium-Sized Project

EA = Enabling Activities

PA = Programmatic Approach

MIA=Minamata Convention Initial Assessment

ASGM NAP = “Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining”
National Action Plan

PIFs = Project Identification Form/concept of a project

PFD = Program Framework Document

PPG = Project Preparation Grant



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Recent Council Papers on Project Cycle

Please consult the GEF website: www.thegef.org for all relevant project cycle papers for more detailed policies and procedures.
To name a few:

GEF/C.31/7/Corr.1 [GEF Project Cycle \(Corrigendum\)](#) [English](#)

GEF/C.38/05/Rev.1 [Streamlining the Project Cycle and Refining the Programmatic Approach](#) [English](#)

GEF/C.39/Inf.03 [GEF Project and Programmatic Approach Cycles](#) [English](#)

GEF/C.43/06 [Streamlining of Project Cycle](#) [English](#)

GEF/C.47/07 [Improving the GEF Project Cycle](#) [English](#)



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Thank you for your attention!
Questions?

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