

64th GEF Council Meeting
June 26 – June 29, 2022
Brasilia, Brazil

Agenda Item 02

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Agenda Item 01.

Opening of the Meeting

1. The meeting will be opened by Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO/Chairperson of the Facility.
2. Council will recall that Mr. Tom Bui, Council member for Canada, had been designated as Elected Chairperson for the calendar year 2022 by decision 02/2023 adopted on March 6, 2023.
3. The meeting will be followed by welcoming remarks from Ms. Marina Silva, Minister of the Environment and Climate Change of Brazil, and Ms. Sonia Guajajara, Minister of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil.

Agenda Item 02.

Adoption of the Agenda

4. The Provisional Agenda has been issued as document GEF/C.64/01/Rev.03, for consideration by the Council.
5. Additional items to be included in the agenda can be requested at this moment and will be brought up under Agenda Item 19: Other Business.
6. The Council is invited to adopt the agenda for the meeting.

Agenda Item 03.

GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY24

7. Document GEF/C.64/03, *GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY24*, reports on the execution of the FY23 administrative budget approved by Council and sets out the FY24 administrative budget request of the Secretariat. It presents the GEF Business Plan for FY24 budget request to cover expenses of the four central GEF entities for their activities under the GEF Trust Fund: Secretariat; the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) and the Trustee. It also includes budget requests for the Secretariat and the Trustee for their activities under the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) and CBIT.
8. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/03, GEF Business Plan and Corporate Budget for FY24, takes note of the business plan, and approves an FY24 corporate budget from the GEF Trust Fund of US\$37.201 million, comprised of:*
 - (a) *US\$30.534 million for the GEF Secretariat, of which US\$2 million will be paid from GEF-7 administrative budget underruns*
 - (b) *US\$3.135 million for STAP; and*
 - (c) *US\$3.532 million for the Trustee*

The Council also approves a total FY24 administrative budget for the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) of US\$22,400, comprised of the following allocations from the NPIF to cover the Secretariat's and Trustee's expenses for NPIF administration and implementation:

(a) US\$17,500 for the GEF Secretariat; and

(b) US\$4,900 for the Trustee

The Council also approves a total FY24 administrative budget for the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) from the CBIT Trust Fund of US\$0.436 million, comprised of:

(a) US\$0.412 million for the GEF Secretariat; and

(b) US\$0.024 million for the Trustee

The Council requests the Secretariat, in consultation with STAP and the Trustee, to present a combined FY25 corporate budget and business plan for discussion at its June 2024 meeting.

Agenda Item 04.

Work Program for GEF Trust Fund

9. Document GEF/C.64/04/Rev.01, *Work Program for GEF Trust Fund*, outlines important aspects of the proposed Work Program, including programming trends in the GEF resources relative to focal area strategies and objectives, distribution by regions and GEF Agencies.
10. The recommended Work Program is the largest in the history of the GEF and requests a total of \$1.281 billion from the GEF trust fund and \$115.9 million in associated Agency fees for a total Work Program of \$1.397 billion. It contains an indicative \$9.138 billion in co-financing, which is also a record co-financing amount for any single Work Program, meaning that each dollar provided by the GEF is matched by \$7.5 in co-financing provided by other sources.
11. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C64/04/Rev.01, Work Program for GEF Trust Fund, approves the Work Program comprising 45 projects and programs, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by July 27, 2023.*

Total GEF resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$1.397 billion, including GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Documents (PFDs): [See Annex A]

With respect to the PIFs and PFDs approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs and PFDs (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

With respect to any PIF approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

Following previous Council decisions related to UNDP GEF Management, all projects included in the Work Program implemented by UNDP shall be circulated by email for Council review at least four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval. Project reviews will take into consideration the relevant findings of the external audit and management responses and note them in the endorsement review sheet that will be made available to the Council during the 4-week review period.

The Council, recalling its decision 9/2022 and having considered the report on Lead Agency Selection Process for the Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program, notes the technical and analytical steps taken by the GEF Secretariat and endorses the agency selection to lead the Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program.

Agenda Item 05.

Establishment of a new trust fund: Global Biodiversity Framework Fund

12. Document GEF/C.64/05, Establishment of a new trust fund: Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, summarizes key elements to be considered for the establishment of a new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) was adopted at the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties (COP 15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The COP requested the Global Environment Facility, in paragraphs 29 and 30 of COP decision 15/7 on resource mobilization and in paragraphs 19 and 20 of COP decision 15/15 on financial mechanism, to establish a dedicated and accessible Global Biodiversity Framework Fund in 2023. This document summarizes key elements to be considered for the establishment of a new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (hereinafter the "GBF Fund"), applying the GEF Instrument's governance structure mutatis mutandis as has been done with other trust funds in connection with the GEF.

13. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/05, Establishment of a New Trust Fund: The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, approves the arrangements proposed for the establishment of a new trust fund, with the aim to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The Council invites the World Bank to act as Trustee for the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund.*

Agenda Item 06.

Programming Directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund

14. Document GEF/C.64/06, Programming Directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, presents for Council consideration the framework to support the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework, to complement existing support and scale up financing to ensure its timely implementation. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) includes a 2050 vision, a 2030 mission, four goals, and 23 action-oriented global targets with actions set out in each target that need to be initiated immediately. The GEF-8 Trust Fund Programming Directions directly and indirectly address many of the targets of the GBF. Therefore, the Action Areas support complementary approaches while also exploiting opportunities to leverage finance for scaling up to help GEF recipient countries achieve the GBF goals and targets.
15. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/06, Programming Directions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, approves the programming directions, with the aim to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the principles set forth therein by which resources will be allocated.*

Agenda Item 07.

Global Environment Facility Strategy for Knowledge Management and Learning

16. Document GEF/C.64/07, *Global Environment Facility Strategy for Knowledge Management and Learning*, presents for Council consideration the Knowledge Management and Learning (KM&L) Strategy for the GEF Partnership. The Strategy provides an overall vision and roadmap of actions on KM&L to support and amplify impact of GEF programming on the global environment. This strategy is a culmination of the collective effort by the GEF partnership to foster a systematic and coordinated approach to KM&L
17. Draft Decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C64/07, Global Environment Facility Strategy for Knowledge Management and Learning, approves the strategic directions proposed for knowledge management and*

learning, and encourages the GEF Secretariat to engage with Agencies and STAP in facilitating implementation of the Strategy.

Agenda Item 08.

Enhancing Policy Coherence through GEF Operations

18. Document GEF/C.64/09, *Enhancing Policy Coherence through GEF Operations*, presents a roadmap to develop options to enhance the policy coherence through GEF operations, as appropriate, to increase the efficiency of global environmental benefit production.
19. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/09: Enhancing Policy Coherence through GEF Operations, endorses the outlined approach and requests the GEF Secretariat to work along the outlined action areas.*

Agenda Item 09.

Annual Performance Report 2023 - Special Themes: Behavioral Change

20. GEF/E/C.64/Inf.01 presents the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) Annual Performance Report of the Global Environment Facility. It provides an overview of the performance of GEF activities, processes, and factors that affect performance, quality of monitoring and evaluations systems (M&E), and the management action record (MAR). In addition to these regular features, APR 2023 presents a special study on the use of behavior-change approaches in GEF activities.

Agenda Item 10.

Evaluation of The GEF's Approach and Interventions in Water Security and Management Response

21. Document GEF/E/C.64/01, *Evaluation of The GEF's Approach and Interventions in Water Security and Management Response*, presents a comprehensive evaluation of water security across the entire GEF portfolio. This evaluation serves to assess how the GEF's approach and interventions address water security across all the focal areas and understanding how and to what extent GEF interventions improve water security.
22. Document GEF/C.64/13, *Management Response to the Evaluation of The GEF's Approach and Interventions in Water Security*, will be presented by the Secretariat indicating actions to be taken by the Secretariat to make effective those recommendations.
23. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.64/01, Evaluation of The GEF's Approach and Interventions in Water Security, and GEF/C.64/13, the Management Response, takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.*

Agenda Item 11.

Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin Ecosystem and Management Response

24. Document GEF/E/C.64/02, *Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin Ecosystem and Management Response*, was conducted to understand the impact of the GEF's support for an approach to addressing the challenges related to land degradation, hydrological connectivity, climate impacts, and biodiversity losses across the Mekong River basin's international waters. It also examines the degree to which the GEF contributed toward building social, economic, and ecosystem resilience in the LMRB and sustaining good practices and other outcomes.
25. Document GEF/C.64/14, *Management Response to the Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin Ecosystem*, will be presented by the Secretariat indicating actions to be taken by the Secretariat to make effective those recommendations.
26. Draft Decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.64/02, the Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin Ecosystem and document GEF/C.64/14, the Management Response, takes note of the related evaluation recommendations and endorses the management response to address them.*

Agenda Item 12.

Four-Year Work Program and Budget of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office

27. Document GEF/E/C.64/03, *Four-Year Work Program and Budget of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office*, presents the strategy and programming of all evaluations and other work of the Independent Evaluation Office proposed for the GEF-8 period. The work program has been developed to provide evaluative evidence pertaining to the major strategies approved in the Eighth Replenishment of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Trust Fund and reflected in the GEF-8 Programming Directions.
28. *Draft decision: The Council, having considered document GEF/E/C.64/03, the "Four-Year Work Program and Budget of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office: GEF-8"*

(1) Approves the annual IEO budget for FY24 for a total of \$7.084 million, of which \$USD436,000 will be paid from GEF-7 IEO budget underruns

(2) Approves the work program for GEF-8 including the preparations for the Eighth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF

Agenda Item 13.

Report of the Chairperson of the STAP

29. The Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) will be invited to make a statement to the Council on the work of the Panel. A written report of the Chairperson can be found in document GEF/STAP/C.64/Inf.01, *Report of the Chairperson of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel to the 64th GEF Council*.

Agenda Item 14.

Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions

30. Document GEF/C.64/08, Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions, provides an update on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in support of the following multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs): the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (the Stockholm Convention), the Minamata Convention on Mercury, and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (the Montreal Protocol). Covering the period from November 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023, the document also provides information on relations between the GEF Secretariat and other international conventions, institutions, and fora.
31. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/08, Relations with the Conventions and Other International Institutions, welcomes the report and requests the GEF network to continue to work with recipient countries to reflect the guidance and national priorities in their GEF programming and activities.*

Agenda Item 15.

Preparing the GEF to serve as part of the financial mechanism of the internationally legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)

32. Document GEF/C.64/12, *Preparing the GEF to serve as part of the financial mechanism of the internationally legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)*, provides the Council with a proposal to operationalize the provisions of the GEF-8 programming directions related to BBNJ and enable the GEF to fund activities to support early entry into force and implementation of the BBNJ Agreement,

including projects aimed at ratification, for up to \$34 million in the remainder of GEF-8. The document also summarizes the implications for the GEF to be part of the BBNJ Financial Mechanism and proposes corresponding amendments to the GEF Instrument.

33. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/12, Preparing the GEF to serve as part of the Financial Mechanism of the international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ):*

Welcomes the invitation from the Intergovernmental Conference on BBNJ to the GEF to be part of the Financial Mechanism of the BBNJ instrument as reflected in part VII “Financial Resources and Mechanism” of the draft agreement finalized at the resumed fifth session of the Intergovernmental Conference on March 4, 2023;

Authorizes the use of up to \$34 million for the funding of ratification support and early action activities for the BBNJ Agreement to be programed during GEF-8;

Requests the GEF Secretariat to develop initial guidelines for enabling activities and ratification support projects, in consultation with the interim Secretariat of the BBNJ Agreement, and present them as a decision document at the 65th Council Meeting;

Recommends to the Assembly the following amendment to the Instrument:

To add a new subparagraph (f) under paragraph 6 that would read:

(f) Operate as one of the entities comprising the financial mechanism of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, pursuant to its Article 52, paragraphs 3, 4, 6 and 9. In such respects, the GEF shall function under the guidance of and shall be accountable to the Conference of the Parties . In addition, the GEF shall receive guidance from the Conference of the Parties on overall strategies, policies, programme priorities and eligibility for access to and utilization of financial resources.

Agenda Item 16.

Improving the visibility of the GEF: New communication and visibility policy

34. Document GEF/C.64/11, *Improving the visibility of the GEF: New communication and visibility policy*, outlines an updated Communication and Visibility Policy for the Global Environment Facility for consideration and adoption by the GEF Council. Appropriate application of the Communication and Visibility Policy is important to strengthen the brand identity of the GEF in this period when its mandate is expanding. It is also important to ensure that the results of GEF-

funded activities are recognized, as part of donor community commitments, in all countries and across the institution's current and future network of partners.

35. Draft Decision: *The Council, having considered document GEF/C.64/11, Improving the Visibility of the GEF: New Communication and Visibility Policy, approves the GEF Communication and Visibility Policy attached as Annex I and requests that all GEF Agencies and others in the GEF Partnership observe the Policy, including the GEF Brand Guidelines developed by the Secretariat as necessary, where applicable to any GEF-funded activity.*

Agenda Item 17. Assessing the Strength of the GEF Partnership: Coverage by GEF Agencies

36. Document GEF/C.64/10, *Assessing the Strength of the GEF Partnership: Coverage by GEF Agencies*, reports on activities to date addressing the GEF-8 policy recommendation to make additional information on Agency capacity and scope of activities available to OFPs and other stakeholders.
37. Draft decision: *The Council, having considered document, GEF/C.64/10, Assessing the Strength of the GEF Partnership: Coverage by Agencies, takes note of the report and decides:*
 - a. *to request the Secretariat to continue to monitor the strength of the GEF Partnership along the five dimensions of geographic coverage, thematic coverage, efficiency, effectiveness and engagement and present an analysis to the 67th Council in advance of the commencement of the GEF-9 Replenishment negotiations;*
 - b. *to request the Secretariat to take the necessary actions to remove the geographic restrictions applicable for the Development Bank of South Africa to enable it to implement GEF projects or programs in any country in accordance with its mandate*

Agenda Item 18. Report of the Selection and Review Committee

38. The Selection and Review Committee will present its report to the Council for consideration and appropriate decision in Executive Session.
39. Draft decision: To be confirmed during Council

Agenda Item 19. Other Business

40. Members and the Chairs may raise any other business under this agenda item.

Agenda Item 20. Joint Summary of the Co-Chairs

41. The CEO/Chairperson will present a summary of the decisions approved during the meeting.