

59th GEF Council Meeting
December 7 – 11, 2020
Virtual Meeting

Agenda Item 18

**UPDATE ON THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL
IMPLEMENTATION FUND**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.59/09, *Update on the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund*, took note of the good progress made by the GEF Secretariat in managing the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF), and decided to extend the operation of the NPIF until December 31, 2023 to allow the Completion (terminal evaluation) and Closure of all the 13 projects funded by the NPIF.

1. The NPIF funded a total of 13 projects in support of ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. The total funding for these projects was \$15.1 million (including Agency fee) and leverage \$32.4 million in co-financing. These projects benefited a total of 52 countries and included: 10 country-based projects (in Argentina, Bhutan, Cameroon, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Fiji, Gabon, Kenya and Panama); two regional projects (one in Central Africa, for the 10 member states of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) and another in the Pacific region for the 12 member countries of the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP); and one global project (in 21 different countries).

2. The 46th GEF Council in May 2014 took note of the GEF Secretariat's good progress in managing the NPIF. It decided to extend the operation of the NPIF to December 31, 2020 for operational reasons to allow continued project preparation and implementation of projects for which a Project Identification Form (PIF) had already been approved. Because all NPIF funds have been allocated to projects, there have been no new approvals since June 30, 2014.

3. By the 58th GEF Council in June 2020, six (6) projects had closed during the 2019-2020 fiscal year (Bhutan, Cook Islands, Colombia, Costa Rica, Fiji, Panama,) another five (5) projects will close during 2020-2021 (Argentina, Cameroon, Global UNEP; Kenya and Regional Africa) one (1) project during 2021-2022 (Regional Pacific) and the last during the 2022-2023 fiscal year (Gabon). The results of the projects in Bhutan, Cook Islands, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Panama were presented in the UNDP-GEF book "*ABS Is Genetic Resources for Development*" (2018). This publication illustrates how this internationally legally binding protocol is being used by the private sector, researchers, indigenous peoples, and local communities to develop innovative products that contribute to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
<https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/poverty-reduction/abs-is-genetic-resources-for-sustainable-development.html>

4. To allow for the Completion (terminal evaluation) and Closure of all the 13 projects funded by the NPIF, an extension of the operation of the NPIF until December 31, 2023 would be required. The Secretariat will continue working closely with the GEF Agencies to ensure adequate support during project execution of the projects still under implementation, and the closure of trust fund before the end of the 2022-2023 fiscal year.