



GEF/LDCF.SCCF.12/Inf.05
May 7, 2012

LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting
June 7, 2012
Washington, D.C

Pre-Selection Criteria for Projects and Programs Submitted under the Special Climate Change Fund

1. In response to Recommendation 2, (a) of the “Evaluation of the Special Climate Change Fund” (GEF/LDCF.SCCF.11/ME/02), approved by the 11th LDCF/SCCF Council on November 2011, the Secretariat developed a pre-selection criteria information document to be circulated during the 12th LDCF/SCCF Council meeting. The contents of this document were also posted on the GEF website, for transparency purposes, during the corresponding Work Program.
2. The Adaptation program under the SCCF (SCCF-A) receives a number of project proposals for which funding requests significantly exceed the available resources. Consequently, this has necessitated the addition of a pre-selection process within the formal SCCF project cycle, as a means to provide additional guidance to the GEF Agencies prior to the formal submission of the Project Identification Form (PIF) for inclusion in the SCCF Work Program. The pre-selection process aims at identifying and prioritizing among suitable projects for admission in the formal project cycle, so that the number and size of the projects entering the formal cycle matches the funds available.
3. In the pre-selection process, the GEF Agencies submit their priority project concepts. During the monthly Adaptation Task Force (ATF) meetings details of the submitted projects are discussed. Following the input from the agencies, the GEF Secretariat reviews the submitted project concepts per the pre-selection criteria discussed below. The results and the criteria of the pre-selection process are also communicated to the Agencies at ATF meetings, where the Secretariat is available to answer questions regarding its decision. The minutes of ATF meetings are shared with all the GEF Agencies via e-mail.
4. Primary selection criteria are based on the SCCF eligibility criteria as elaborated in the Council working document GEF/C.24/12.
5. The pre-selection attempts to ensure the following aspects of the SCCF portfolio:
 - (a) **Project or Program Quality:** The SCCF proposal must, during the prescreening stage, show promise in terms of technical quality and appear to meet or able to meet, with reasonable modifications, the primary selection criteria. In this regard, the proposal must be country-driven; finance concrete adaptation activities; have a sound design; be sustainable and replicable; be cost-effective, and include civil society and public participation as well as gender considerations, as appropriate.
 - (b) **Balanced distribution of funds in the eligible countries:** SCCF has already supported projects in a number of countries so far. It has funded a number of regional and global programs as well. In each new work program, the SCCF strives to support projects and programs in those vulnerable non-Annex I countries which have not yet accessed the SCCF funds and in regions and sub-regions that have previously accessed a relatively lower share of SCCF resources.

(c) **Equitable regional distribution:** SCCF attempts to achieve a regional balance in its portfolio, where all regions are supported proportionally to the number of vulnerable countries that exist within.

(d) **Balanced support for all priority sectors:** A number of sectors are considered to be priority for climate change adaptation activities. Although SCCF has supported projects in most of these priority sectors, there are variances in coverage and consistency, and some gaps remain. In preparation of a new work program attention will be given to support projects and programs in sectors which have hitherto received relatively lower coverage.

(e) **Balanced distribution among GEF agencies based on comparative advantage:** Depending on the specificities of a given project and the work program as a whole, and consistent with the comparative advantages of the GEF agencies, the SCCF aims for a balanced distribution of agencies in its work program, assuming the previous criteria have been taken into account.

6. The pre-selection of a concept is not a guarantee for admission into the subsequent Work Program. The outcome of the pre-selection process does not preclude any given agency from submitting a Project Identification Form (PIF) for consideration for SCCF funding for a concept that was not pre-selected.

7. It is worth noting that the Evaluation states that, “[i]f funding levels increase, a pre-selection process will at a certain moment no longer be necessary.”