



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

COMPILATION OF COMMENTS
SUBMITTED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS
ON THE
DECEMBER 2021
LDCF WORK PROGRAM

NOTE: This document is a compilation of comments submitted to the Secretariat by Council members concerning the project proposals presented in the December 2021 LDCF Work Program

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**DECEMBER 2021 LDCF WORK PROGRAM: COMMENTS FROM
COUNCIL MEMBERS (REFERENCE: GEF/LDCF.SCCF.31/03)**

STAND-ALONE FULL-SIZED PROJECTS

- 1. Malawi: Transformational Adaptation for Climate Resilience in Lake Chilwa Basin of Malawi (TRANSFORM) (GEF ID: 10777); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$4,416,210 LDCF; Co-financing: \$21,451,000.**

✓ **Germany Comments**

Germany approves the following PIF in the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account:

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

- Germany welcomes the proposal's broad approach to addressing a wide range of challenges in the target area and believes that this can serve as a proof of concept for other areas to follow. It might be valuable to further outline how the project intends to form viable community-led businesses in such a climate-affected and resource-poor area. Could an approach to build on and support existing businesses also be an option?
- The project builds on various previous initiatives and focusses on establishing synergies and/or complementarities with existing projects. This will be of vital importance. Though the project mentions a connection to the ongoing MICF and the upcoming Sustainable Climate Finance Facility (SCFF), it remains unclear how this transition could and will be managed and how the technical and institutional capacity will eventually be transferred. This will be of critical importance to a sustainable and viable financing facility, and hence Germany would welcome some additional information in this regard.
- How far is the establishment of a new sustainable finance facility required? Would the usage of existing facilities more efficient?

✓ **Comment for all UNDP projects**

The Council, having considered Document GEF/C.61/04, *UNDP Third Party Review of Compliance with GEF Minimum Fiduciary Standards*, takes note of the Independent Third-Party Review of UNDP and decides to:

- Require that all projects included in the Work Program implemented by UNDP be circulated by e-mail for Council review at least four weeks prior to CEO endorsement / approval. This shall take place until this requirement is reconsidered by the Council at its 65th meeting in December 2023. Project reviews will take into consideration the relevant findings of the UNDP audits and the management responses and note them in the endorsement review sheet that will be made available to Council during the 4-week review period.

2. **Sao Tome and Principe: Co-management of Climate Extremes for Agriculture Resilience via Innovative Technologies for Irrigation in Sao Tome and Principe (GEF ID: 10883); GEF Agency: AfDB; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420 LDCF; Co-financing: \$8,518,000.**

No comments received.

3. **Solomon Islands: Integrated Economic Development and Community Resilience (IEDCR) (GEF ID: 10861); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$4,566,211 LDCF; Co-financing: \$15,000,000.**

✓ **Germany Comments**

Germany approves the following PIF in the work program but asks that the following comments are taken into account:

Suggestions for improvements to be made during the drafting of the final project proposal:

- While it is welcomed that the increase in PCDF funds is substantial (+85%), it needs to be assured that the adequate absorptive capacity on provincial and ward levels grows in parallel through extensive trainings and capacity building measures – given that the island nation has restricted human resources and that most wards and communities targeted are very remote.
- Since the project aims at developing small infrastructure projects (jetties, roads, bridges, etc.), it is not only important that these are climate and disaster resilient to reduce vulnerability but also limit potential negative impacts on surrounding ecosystems and biodiversity to a minimum.
- High standards on reporting in line with the Policy Blueprint (rolling plans, annual plans, budgets, quarterly and half-yearly reports), the Provincial Governments treasury Division, and other reporting requirements and strategies under the PCDF support component, are good means to allow for transparency and accountability for the PCDF as well as beyond the provincial boundaries. However, the project should bear in mind the limited human resources of the island nation and provincial as well as ward governments. Reporting requirements should be as detailed as needed while being as lean as possible to account for these limitations in capital and human resources, allowing for a more sustainable intervention.