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**PROGRESS REPORT ON
AGENCIES' COMPLIANCE WITH MINIMUM STANDARDS IN THE GEF POLICIES ON:
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS.
GENDER EQUALITY; AND
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

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INTRODUCTION

1. This is the fifth progress report on the Assessment of GEF Agencies' Compliance with Minimum Standards in the Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender Equality, and Stakeholder Engagement. This report aims to update the Council on Agencies' progress implementing their action plans, based on information provided by GEF Agencies since the report submitted for information at the 61st Council meeting in December 2021¹ (hereafter referred to as the December 2021 Compliance Assessment Report).

BACKGROUND

2. The GEF Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards², Gender Equality³, and Stakeholder Engagement⁴ set forth a number of minimum standards⁵, and require GEF Partner Agencies (hereafter referred to as "Agencies") to demonstrate that they have in place the necessary policies, procedures, systems, and capabilities to meet these standards. The three Policies also call for the Secretariat to facilitate an assessment of GEF Agencies' compliance with these minimum standards, to be presented for Council review and decision.

3. Pursuant to these Policies, the GEF Secretariat presented for Council's decision at its 57th meeting in December 2019, the Report on the Assessment of GEF Agencies' Compliance with Minimum Standards in the Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender Equality, and Stakeholder Engagement⁶ (hereafter referred to as the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report). This Report described the findings of the reviews of GEF Agencies' compliance with the applicable minimum standards. These assessments had been facilitated by the Secretariat and undertaken by expert reviewers, in accordance with the methodology outlined in the Report⁷ and in line with the Policies and the Assessment Guidelines for GEF Agencies' Compliance with Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender Equality, and Stakeholder Engagement.^{8,9}

¹ GEF/C.61/Inf.10 (https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/EN_GEF.C.61.Inf._10_Progress_Report_Agencies_Compliance_GEF_Policies.pdf)

² GEF/C.55/07/Rev.01 (http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.55.07.Rev._01_ES_Safeguards.pdf)

³ SD/PL/02 (http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/Gender_Equality_Policy.pdf)

⁴ SD/PL/01 (http://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/Stakeholder_Engagement_Policy.pdf)

⁵ The respective minimum standards for the three Policies are contained in Annex I.A of the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Paragraph 19 (a)–(e) of the Policy on Gender Equality and Paragraph 16 (a)–(f) of the Policy on Stakeholder Engagement.

⁶ GEF/C.57/05 (https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF_C.57_05_Report%20on%20Assessment%20of%20Agencies%20Compliance.pdf)

⁷ GEF/C.57/05 (para 7 -8)

⁸ SD/GN/03

(https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/20190301_agency_policy_compliance_assessment_guidelines.pdf)

⁹ The findings outlined in this document has been established and validated through an iterative process including bilateral consultations and discussions between GEF Agencies, expert reviewers, and the Secretariat.

4. As part of the decision outlined in the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report, at its 57th meeting, Council requested the Agencies to provide updates to the Secretariat prior to every Council meeting on progress implementing the actions contained in their plans of action until Agencies came into full compliance. The GEF Secretariat, in turn, was requested to report to the Council on the progress on Agencies' implementation of the plans of action at subsequent Council meetings, based on the updates provided by the Agencies, and notify Council when Agencies had met their commitments set out in their respective plans of action to achieve compliance. The GEF Secretariat was also asked to engage experts to carry out reassessments of Agency compliance with the updated GEF Policies.

PROCESS FOR AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE

5. The section below reiterates the process and concrete steps and actions that have been and will continue to be followed until all Agencies have fulfilled their commitments spelled out in their plans of actions and have met all minimum standards contained in the relevant GEF Policies:

- (i) Each Agency still implementing its plan of action continues to provide updates to the GEF Secretariat until they have completed their plan of actions and reach full compliance with each minimum standard.
- (ii) The Secretariat continues to compile, track and review Agency updates and report to the Council on progress on Agencies' implementation of the plans of action at subsequent Council meetings.
- (iii) As part of its review of these updates, the Secretariat re-engages the expert reviewers, as needed, to assess additional information and evidence submitted by Agencies to determine whether they have achieved compliance in accordance with their agreed plan of action and Policy requirements.
- (iv) The Secretariat notifies Council when Agencies have met their commitments set out in their respective plans of action to achieve compliance.
- (v) For all Agencies, including those which have developed and completed a plan of action to meet all minimum standards, the Agency and the Secretariat will subsequently carry out periodic reporting and monitoring of compliance using the modalities set out in the Policy on Monitoring Agencies' Compliance¹⁰.

¹⁰ SD/GN/03

https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/documents/20190301_agency_policy_compliance_assessment_guidelines.pdf

UPDATED OVERVIEW ON AGENCIES' COMPLIANCE PROGRESS AND STATUS

6. The 2019 Compliance Assessment Report concluded that only four Agencies were in full compliance at that time: the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD); Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and the World Bank (WB).

7. The 2019 Compliance Assessment Report indicated that, given the institutional diversity of the GEF Partnership and the complex and evolving policy context with regards to updating environmental and social safeguards, the process to develop or adjust policies, procedures and or guidelines could require additional time and actions by many GEF Agencies. The three Policies and related Assessment Guidelines for Agency Compliance anticipated this situation. They therefore incorporated a process for Agencies to develop time-bound action plans to come into full compliance (as outlined in the annexes of the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report) as well as a process for Agencies to update the Secretariat on their progress implementing their plans of action and a process for the GEF Secretariat to reassess Agencies' compliance as they completed their plans of action.

8. In line with the three Policies and related Assessment Guidelines for Agency Compliance, all fourteen Agencies that had been assessed to have gaps established timebound plans of actions to address them (outlined in detail in annex 1 of the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report). As part of the progress implementing the plans of actions, the Secretariat, based on findings from expert assessments (as reported in GEF updates to the Council in December 2020 and June 2021¹¹), concluded that six additional Agencies had satisfactorily completed their plans of action and addressed the significant gaps identified in the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report. These included that the Brazilian Biodiversity Fund (FUNBIO), Conservation International (CI), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US).

9. As part of the progress implementing the plans of actions, the Secretariat, based on findings from the expert assessments, carried out an reassessment in October 2021 and concluded that three additional Agencies had satisfactorily completed their plans of action and addressed significant gaps identified in the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report.¹² These were: the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). Five Agencies, including the Asian Development Bank (ADB), African Development Bank (AfDB), Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO),

¹¹ [GEF/C.59/Inf.16 https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF_C.59_Inf.16_Progress%20Report%20on%20Agencies%E2%80%99%20Compliance%20with%20Minimum%20Standards%20in%20the%20GEF%20Policies%20on%20Environmental%20and%20Social%20Safeguards%3B%20Gender%20Equality%3B%20and%20Stakeholder%20Engagement.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF_C.59_Inf.16_Progress%20Report%20on%20Agencies%E2%80%99%20Compliance%20with%20Minimum%20Standards%20in%20the%20GEF%20Policies%20on%20Environmental%20and%20Social%20Safeguards%3B%20Gender%20Equality%3B%20and%20Stakeholder%20Engagement.pdf)

¹² [GEF/C.61/Inf.10 https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/EN_GEF.C.61.Inf_.10_Progress_Report_Agencies_Compliance_GEF_Policies.pdf](https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/EN_GEF.C.61.Inf_.10_Progress_Report_Agencies_Compliance_GEF_Policies.pdf)

and The West African Development Bank (BOAD) are still in the process of completing their plans of action.

10. Table 1, below, provides an overview of Agencies' compliance status as of 20th May 2022.

Table 1. Overview of Agency Compliance Status

Status	Agency
Fully Compliant (as of the December 2019 assessment)	WB, UNDP, EDRB and FECO
Fully Compliant (based on completion of actions plans and GEF reassessments between December 2019 and June 2021)	FUNBIO, CI, IDB, IUCN, UNEP and WWF-US
Fully Compliant (based on completion of action plans and GEF reassessments in October 2021)	IFAD, CAF and UNIDO
Pending completion of action plans	ADB, AfDB, DBSA, FAO and BOAD

11. Table 2, below, provides a summary of the Agencies' pending plans of actions to achieve full compliance and estimated time of completion. Further details on updates on these Agencies' progress towards the implementation of the plans of actions follow.

Table 2. Overview of Pending Action Plans

Agency	Summary of pending plan of actions to achieve full Compliance (as submitted in 2019)	Summary Updates and estimated time of completion (as of May 2022)
1. ADB	Review/update the Safeguard Policy (by 2021), and issuance of an internal guideline for GEF-financed projects.	Implementation, as outlined in the plan of action, still ongoing. The second stage of consultations run from November 2021 to June 2022. A first working paper with the draft policy is expected for ADB Board consideration before the end of 2022, and ADB expects this process to be completed in early 2023.
2. AfDB	Review and update the Integrated Safeguards System by 2022.	Implementation, as outlined in the plan of action, still ongoing. The first draft is posted on a website, and an external consultation of the first draft is ongoing. After the external consultation, the second draft will be circulated and finalized for approval of the Board of Directors by the end of 2022.
3. DBSA	Update the Environmental and Social Safeguards Standards (by Nov 2019) and revise the Independent Grievance Redress Mechanisms (IGRM) by Oct 2021.	Implementation, as outlined in the plan of action, is almost completed except for approval of IGRM by a Management Committee. Documentation resubmitted to GEF Secretariat for reassessment in March 2022. The revised IGRM is planned to be approved by the Management Committee in June 2022.
4. FAO	Revise the Environmental and Social Safeguards Standards (by Dec 2020) and integrate new guidance notes and screening procedures in the project cycle in 2020-2021.	Implementation, as outlined in the plan of action, is almost completed except for formal decision by the Director-General (DG). A new safeguard framework has been approved by members of Senior Management Group. Formal decision by the DG to bring the framework into force is expected by the end of 2022.
5. BOAD	Review and revise Policies and Procedures for Environmental and Social Management (by end of 2020).	Implementation, as outlined in the plan of action, still ongoing. BOAD has completed the revision of its Policies. The revised Policies are in the process of being examined and validated by the BOAD's internal bodies. The validation of the revised Policies by the Board of Directors is scheduled in June 2022 or September 2022.

UPDATES ON AGENCIES' PLANS OF ACTIONS

12. The section below outlines some further details and updates on Agencies' progress implementing their plan of actions and estimated timelines for completion.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Summary Findings (2019 Assessment)

- (i) Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards:
 - ADB was assessed to meet all requirements (no gaps) with MS2 (Accountability), MS4 (Resettlement), and MS8 (Labor);
 - ADB was assessed to have some partial gaps in MS1 (Assessment), MS3 (Biodiversity), MS5 (Indigenous Peoples), MS6 (Cultural Heritage), MS7 (Resource Efficiency/Pollution Prevention) and MS 9 (Community Health and Safety).
- (ii) Policy on Gender Equality:
 - ADB was assessed to meet all requirements and to be compliant with the minimum standards contained in the Policy.
- (iii) Policy on Stakeholder Engagement:
 - ADB was assessed to meet all requirements and to be compliant with the minimum standards contained in the Policy.

Plan of Action: Review/update the Safeguard Policy by 2021, and issuance of an internal guideline for GEF-financed projects (see further detail in 2019 Compliance assessment).

Update: ADB reports the following as of May 2022:

- ADB's Independent Evaluation Department completed a Corporate Evaluation of the of the ADB 2009 Safeguard Policy in May 2020.
- ADB Management officially launched the policy update process in September 2020 (ADB had originally estimated to complete this process in December 2021 but have experiences some delays and now expect this process to be completed in early 2023). A first working paper with the draft policy is expected for ADB Board consideration before the end of 2022.
- A study on policy architecture options has been prepared and disclosed on ADB's website as well as discussed with ADB's Board in April and June 2021. The study benchmarks

the current Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS) against the policies of other MFIs and assesses policy architecture models. The study recommended that ADB align the new policy with the policies of other MFIs, following a “Performance Standard” model.

- A detailed stakeholder engagement plan¹³ has been developed and published on ADB’s website, and the first phase of initial stakeholder consultations has been completed.
- Analytical studies¹⁴ covering safeguards topics, thematic and cross cutting areas that fall under the individual performance standards have been initiated and will be disclosed for consultations. As of April 2022, 13 analytical studies or background papers have been completed and disclosed. The remaining studies will be completed by June 2022.
- The next stage of consultations run from November 2021 to June 2022. This phase includes regional consultations on the architecture study and other analytical work.
- While the policy review and update are ongoing, ADB has committed to addressing any gaps that may occur in the context of GEF financed activities. This will be reflected in GEF project documents. To aid this process, ADB has developed an internal guidance highlighting issues to be addressed with gap filling measures. The internal guidance has been shared with GEF Secretariat.

African Development Bank (AfDB)

Summary Findings (2019 Assessment)

- (i) Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards:
- AfDB was assessed to meet all requirements (no gaps) with MS7 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention), and MS8 (Labor and Working Conditions)
 - AfDB was assessed to have some gaps in MS1 (Assessment), MS2 (Accountability), MS3 (Biodiversity), MS4 (Resettlement), MS5 (Indigenous Peoples), MS6 (Cultural Heritage), and MS9 (Community Health, Safety and Security).

¹³ <https://www.adb.org/documents/safeguard-policy-statement-review-update-stakeholder-engagement-plan>

¹⁴ <https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/safeguards/safeguard-policy-review/references>

(ii) Policy on Gender Equality:

- AfDB was assessed to meet all requirements and to be compliant with the minimum standards contained in the Policy.

(iii) Policy on Stakeholder Engagement:

- AfDB was assessed to have one partial gap related to the minimum standards in contained in the Policy

Plan of Action: Review and update the Integrated Safeguards System with a target submission to the Bank's Board of Directors for consideration and approval in 2022 (see further details included in the 2019 Compliance assessment).

Update: AfDB reports the following as of May 2022:

- **A Zero draft** of the AfDB Integrated Safeguards System (ISS) has been finalized. A first review was already undertaken by the Technical Reference Group made up of representatives of internal departments through workshops, internal meetings, online comments, and technical session with Task Managers. Comments provided were incorporated in the **first draft** which is posted and can be found at <https://consultations.afdb.org/>.
- There were many gaps identified by the GEF review which AfDB are addressing in various ways in the first draft. During the ongoing external consultation with stakeholders, the AfDB-GEF unit was also concurrently conducting a thorough review of the first draft to ensure that all remaining gaps identified by the GEF will be flagged and incorporated in the final draft.
- **A wider stakeholder consultation** scheduled for completion in December 2021 is still ongoing. There have been delays in finalizing the ISS update with regards to key target dates. Following the Technical Reference Group review, further internal consultation was conducted with AfDB's Senior Management Coordination Committee (SMCC) and the Board of Directors via its Committee on Operations and Development Effectiveness (CODE).
- An external consultation was also ongoing (until 15th of May 2022) with external stakeholders which includes Regional Member Countries (RMCs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), NGOs and other Multilateral Finance Institutions (MFIs). After May 2022, the following is expected: i)

circulation of the second draft to all those who commented on specific substance; ii) informal exchanges with Board members who may have specific concerns/clarifications; iii) circulation of the draft to SMCC; and iv) finalization of the package to be submitted to the Board of Directors.

- There were delays on the action plan due to Covid, but the submission of the final draft of the ISS to the Board of Directors for approval is expected in Q4 2022.

Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

Summary Findings (2019 Assessment)

- (i) Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards:
 - No gaps in MS4 (Resettlement), MS6 (Cultural Heritage) and MS7 (Resource Efficiency/Pollution Prevention), but a range of partial gaps across MS1 (Assessment), MS2 (Accountability), MS3 (Biodiversity), MS5 (Indigenous Peoples), MS8 (Labor), and MS9 (Community Health, Safety and Security).
- (ii) Policy on Gender Equality and Stakeholder Engagement:
 - No gaps with the minimum standards contained in the Policy on Gender Equality or Stakeholder Engagement.

Plan of Action: Update the Environmental and Social Safeguards Standards (by Nov 2019) and revise the Independent Grievance Redress Mechanisms (IGRM) by Oct 2020. (See further detail in 2019 Compliance assessment)

Update: DBSA reports the following as of May 2022:

- DBSA has updated its Environmental and Social Safeguard Standards, including the Independent Grievance Redress Mechanism (IGRM) and resubmitted documentation to the GEF Secretariat for reassessment to confirm addressing remaining gaps.
- The reassessment of the new documentation found that DBSA has addressed nearly all the identified gap areas from the earlier assessment including IGRM except an approval of documents by a Management Committee.
- IGRM is planned to be approved by a Management Committee of DBSA sometime in June 2022.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Summary Findings (2019 Assessment)

- (i) Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards:
 - FAO was assessed to meet all requirements (no gaps) with MS3 (Biodiversity) and MS4 (Resettlement);
 - FAO was assessed to have some partial gap areas in MS1 (Assessment), MS2 (Accountability), MS5 (Indigenous Peoples), MS6 (Cultural Heritage), MS7 (Resource Efficiency, Pollution), MS8 (Labor) and MS 9 (Community Health and Safety).
- (ii) Policy on Gender Equality:
 - FAO was assessed to meet all requirements and to be compliant with the minimum standards contained in the Policy.
- (iii) Policy on Stakeholder Engagement:
 - FAO was assessed to meet all requirements and to be compliant with the minimum standards contained in the Policy.

Plan of Action: Revise the Environmental and Social Safeguards Standards by Dec 2020 and integrate new guidance notes and screening procedures in the project cycle in 2020-2021. (See further detail in 2019 Compliance assessment)

Update: FAO reports the following as of May 2022:

- Implementation, as outlined in the plan of action, is almost completed except formal effectiveness of the Framework for Environmental and Social Management (FESM). FESM replaces the FAO's Environmental and Social Management Guidelines of 2015.
- FESM has been approved by members of FAO's Senior Management Group including three Deputy Directors-General and all five Regional Assistant Directors-General.
- Formal decision by the Director-General to bring FESM into force is expected by the end of 2022.

West African Development Bank (BOAD)

Summary Findings (2019 Assessment)

- (i) Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards:
 - BOAD was assessed to meet all requirements (no gaps) in MS2 (Accountability)
 - BOAD was assessed to have gaps in MS1 (Assessment) and MS3 (Biodiversity), MS4 (Resettlement), MS5 (Indigenous Peoples), MS6 (Cultural Heritage), MS7 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention), MS8 (Labor), and MS9 (Community Health)
- (ii) Policy on Gender Equality:
 - BOAD was assessed to have some partial gaps relating to the Policy on Gender Equality
- (iii) Policy on Stakeholder Engagement:
 - BOAD was assessed to have some partial gaps relating to the Policy on Stakeholder Engagement

Plan of Action: Review and revise Policies and Procedures for Environmental and Social Management, by end of 2020. (See further detail in 2019 Compliance assessment)

Update: BOAD reports, as of May 2022, that:

- BOAD has completed the revision and update of its operational Policies and Procedures for Environmental and Social Management in Financing Projects (POP), including ESS, Gender Equality and Stakeholder Engagement.
- The revisions of the Policies and Procedures have been delayed slightly due to Covid-19.
- The revised Policies are in the process of being examined and validated by the BOAD's internal bodies.
- The approval of the revised Policies and Procedures by the BOAD's Board of Directors is scheduled in June 2022 or September 2022.

SELF-ASSESSMENT AND THIRD-PARTY REVIEW OF AGENCIES' COMPLIANCE WITH GEF POLICIES

13. Aside from this Progress Report, a risk-based, independent, third-party review of Agencies' compliance once per replenishment cycle is carried out, taking into account Agencies' periodic self-assessments and other information in accordance with the [GEF Policy on Monitoring Agency Compliance with GEF Policies](#).¹⁵

14. The Independent Third-Party Review of Agencies' Compliance with GEF Policies will include a risk-based assessment of the institutional capacity and experience or additional verifications of Agencies' evidence related to implementation of these policies, procedures, guidelines and systems (e.g. staffing, resources, track record of implementation). In contrast, as described in the 2019 Compliance Assessment report, Compliance Assessment reports focused on determining whether Agencies had sufficient policies, guidelines and procedures in place.

CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

15. As described above, thirteen Agencies are now assessed to be in full compliance with minimum standards of the GEF Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender Equality and Stakeholder Engagement. Out of five Agencies progressing on action plans towards full compliance, DBSA and FAO have almost reached the final stage before full compliance with all three policies, which is that of final corporate decision, i.e. formal approval by the highest decision-making bodies of their policy on environmental and social safeguards. Three other Agencies, including ADB, AfDB and BOAD, are making good progress, notwithstanding small delays, on drafting and on internal and external consultations of their policies, towards completing their plans of action as outlined in the 2019 Compliance Assessment Report.

16. Under the provisions of the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Agencies may continue to seek GEF financing while they make progress on the implementation of their time-bound plans of action.¹⁶ Under the provisions in the Policies on Gender Equality and Stakeholder Engagement, Agencies may continue to seek financing while they implement their time-bound plans of action.¹⁷ The Secretariat will continue to monitor Agencies' progress towards implementing their plans of actions and will notify Council if any concerns arise as part of Agencies' updates and or changes to estimated completion dates.

17. Concurrent to this Agency compliance assessment, it is important to note that the Secretariat, as part of its due diligence, reviews PIFs/PFDs and CEO Endorsements/Approvals and monitors and reports to Council on implementation of the GEF Policies on ESS, Gender Equality and Stakeholder Engagement. The Secretariat provides, for example, periodic progress reports to the Council on the implementation of the Policy Environmental and Social

¹⁵ Monitoring Agency Compliance with GEF Policies ([ME/PL/02](#))

¹⁶ The Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguard Standards (paragraph 8) states that "[t]he Council decides whether the Agency may continue to seek GEF financing while it implements the time-bound action plan."

¹⁷ The Policy on Gender Equality (paragraph 21) and Stakeholder Engagement (paragraph 18) stipulate that "[u]nless the Council decides otherwise, the Agency may continue to seek GEF financing while it implements the time-bound action plan."

Safeguards¹⁸ as well as of the GEF Gender Implementation Strategy¹⁹. These reports include in-depth analysis of the portfolio, the Secretariat's activities and efforts to support the effective implementation of these policies as well as lessons learned. In addition, the upcoming periodic self-assessment and third-party review will assess Agencies' compliance and institutional capacity to implement these policies.

REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

Policies

- *Minimum Fiduciary Standards for GEF Partner Agencies (GA/PL/02)*
- *Monitoring Agencies' Compliance (SD/PL/04)*
- *Monitoring and Evaluation Policy*
- *Project and Program Cycle (OP/PL/01)*
- *Policy on Gender Equality (SD/PL/02)*
- *Policy on Stakeholder Engagement (SD/PL/01)*
- *Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards (SD/PL/03)*

Guidelines

- *Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy (GEF/C.52/Inf.06)*
- *Guidelines for GEF Agencies' Compliance with Policies on Environmental and Social Safeguards, Gender Equality, and Stakeholder Engagement ([SD/GN/03](#))*
- *Guidelines on Gender Equality in GEF Projects and Programs (SD/GN/02)*
- *Guidelines on Stakeholder Engagement*

¹⁸ [Progress Report on the Implementation of the GEF Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards \(GEF/C.61/Inf.09\)](#) Available at: https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/EN_GEF.C.61.Inf_.09_Progress_Report_GEF_Policy_ESS.pdf

¹⁹ Progress Report on the GEF Gender Implementation Strategy (GEF/C.60/Inf.09) available at : https://www.thegef.org/sites/default/files/council-meeting-documents/EN_GEF.C.60.Inf_.09_Progress_Report_on_the_GEF_Gender_Implementation_Strategy_1.pdf