

GEF ID	10116
Project Title	L Victoria EMP 3
STAP Overall Assessment	Concur

Information included in the PIF is very minimal and does not address required elements of project justification. To complete this screen, the STAP has referred to the separate World Bank "Project Concept Document" dated 5 Nov 2018.

The project concept builds directly upon the prior two phases of the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project. The STAP welcomes the inclusion of an explicit narrative theory of change, complemented by diagrams. This describes how the combination of efforts to strengthen cooperative management of transboundary resources in the Lake Victoria Basin, reduce soil erosion in selected hotspots, and improve pollution monitoring and enforcement will strengthen climate resilience, reduce livelihood vulnerability, and enhance economic development prospects of the states that share the basin.

The project concept also provides a thorough treatment of prior lessons, including the need for adaptive management, building confidence of policy stakeholders, and strengthening enforcement capacity. This treatment of past lessons learnt suggests potential to generate new, valuable lessons. There is particular promise regarding the potential for innovation in mechanisms for transboundary cooperation amidst variable and often weak enforcement capacity.

Continued negative trends despite two decades of investment in transboundary cooperation around the lake suggest the need for transformational change. While there is recognition of the need for substantially more investment than the project will include, the project would benefit from a clear articulation of how the planned interventions can help to leverage additional investment and action addressing drivers of environmental degradation at sufficient scale to reverse the trends. Commendably, the plans for knowledge management note mechanisms for cross-country exchange and private sector links; these should be further developed prior to CEO endorsement.