



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

www.theGEF.org

Accreditation: Broadening the GEF Partnership under Paragraph 28 of the GEF Instrument

Yasemin Biro and Anirudh Rao

GEF Familiarization Seminar
Washington, DC
January 17 – 19, 2012

Broadening the GEF Partnership

- The GEF Council approved, in May 2011, a pilot to accredit new institutions to serve as GEF project implementing partners.
- Accredited institutions will be called “GEF Project Agencies.”
- Upon accreditation, GEF Project Agencies can *access resources from GEF-managed trust funds directly* to assist recipient countries in the preparation and implementation of GEF-financed projects.



GEF-5 Pilot on Accreditation

- Up to 10 institutions will be accredited to serve as *GEF Project Agencies*.
- At least 5 national institutions with a regional balance
- At least one national institution from an LDC
- At least one national institution from a middle income country
- Until at least 5 applicant national institutions have been approved by Council, only applications from national institutions, regional organizations, and civil society organizations/non-governmental organizations will be reviewed.



Eligibility

Institutions eligible for accreditation under the pilot are:

- national institutions
- regional organizations
- civil society organizations/non-governmental Organizations
- United Nations specialized agencies and programs
- other international organizations



Review of Applications

- Stage I: Applicants will be assessed according to the degree to which it adds value to the GEF partnership and aligns strategically with the GEF's objectives.
- Stage II: Applicants will need to fully meet all of the GEF Fiduciary Standards as well as applicable GEF Environmental and Social Safety Standards, including Gender Mainstreaming.



Application Process

- Stage I: Internal GEFSEC *Value Added Review* and Council Approval
- Stage II: External *Accreditation Panel Review* for Fiduciary and Environmental and Social Safeguards



Stage I

The Council agreed to review applications at its meetings in Spring 2012 and Fall 2012.

- Stage I application was due Dec. 31, 2012 to be considered for the Spring 2012 Council Meeting.
- Stage I application was due June 30, 2012 to be considered for the Fall 2012 Council Meeting.
- A letter of support from a GEF OFP needs to accompany Stage I application.
- An initial project idea supported by an OFP with an indicative amount of resources that could be allocated from the country's allocation.
- A Value-added Review of applications is conducted by GEFSEC, the results of which will be presented to the Council for approval.



Value-added Review Criteria

- Relevance to the GEF
- Demonstration of Environmental or Climate Change
- Adaptation Results
- Scale of Engagement
- Capacity to Leverage Co-financing
- Institutional Efficiency
- Networks and Contacts



Stage II

If approved by the Council, Applicants move forward to Stage II.

Applicants pay a non-refundable accreditation fee of \$25,000.

The Accreditation Panel reviews applicants for Fiduciary and Environmental and Social Safeguards Standards.

The Accreditation Panel makes the final decision as to whether an applicant will receive accreditation or not.



Applications received by Dec. 31, 2011

National Agencies (5):

- Uruguay: Agencia Nacional de Investigación e Innovación (ANII)
- Russian Federation: VTB Bank
- Brazil : Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (FUNBIO)
- China: Ministry of Environment, Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (MEP FECO)
- South Africa: The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

International Civil Society Organizations (3):

- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- World Wide Fund (WWF)
- Conservation International (CI)

United Nations Agencies (2):

- UN World Food Program (WFP)
- UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)

Regional Agencies (4):

- LAC: Conservation International Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina (CAF)
- Pacific: The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
- North Africa: Observatoire du Sahara et du Sahel (OSS)
- West Africa: Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement (BOAD)



Eleven applicants received Council approval in June 2012 to move on to Stage II

National Agencies (5):

- **Russian Federation:** VTB Bank
- **Peru:** Fondo Nacional del Ambiente (FONAM)
- **Brazil :** Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (FUNBIO)
- **China:** Ministry of Environment, Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (MEP FECO)
- **South Africa:** The Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)

International Civil Society Organizations (4):

- International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- World Wide Fund (WWF)
- Conservation International (CI)
- International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC)

Regional Agencies (2):

- **LAC:** Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina (CAF)
- **West Africa:** Banque Ouest Africaine de Développement (BOAD)



Current Status

- At the June 2012 Council meeting, 11 agencies were cleared by the for review by an independent Accreditation Panel.
- To date, the Panel has reviewed 6 agencies and provided assessments for each.
- Reviews are continuing. The goal is to complete Stage II reviews of all 11 agencies by June 2013.
- The Council decided that it will consider the possibility of a second round of applications at its June 2013 meeting.



More Info

For updates, relevant documents and more detailed information on the accreditation process, please visit

[http://www.thegef.org/gef/agencies accreditation](http://www.thegef.org/gef/agencies_accreditation)

OR

Contact: Dr. Yasemin Biro (ybiro@thegef.org)



Thank you for your attention

Questions?



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET