



#### Evaluation in the GEF and Training Module on Terminal Evaluations

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop

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#### **Overview**

• Evaluation in the GEF:

Monitoring and Evaluation in the GEF GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) GEF M&E Policy 2010

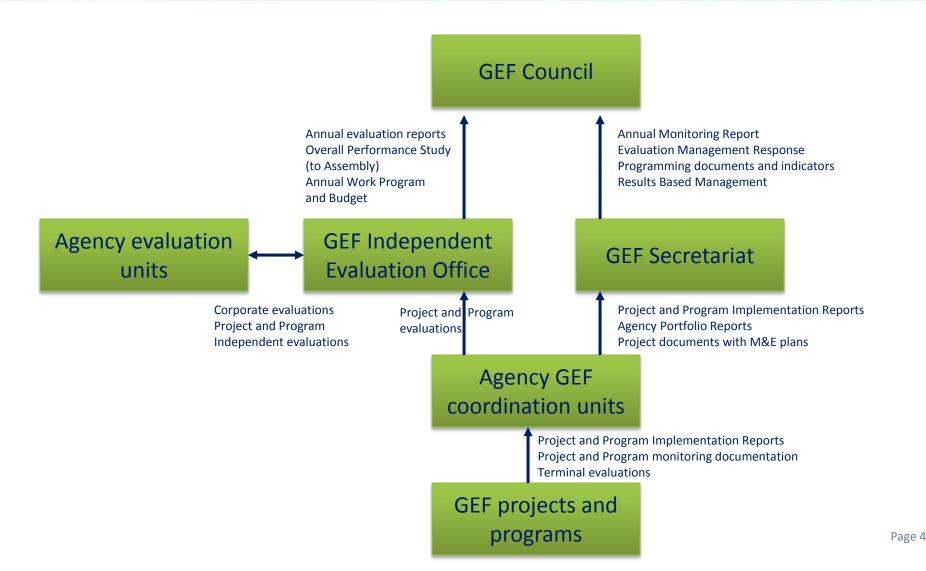
• Training Module on Terminal Evaluations

#### **M&E in the GEF**

Two overarching objectives:

- Promote accountability for the achievement of GEF objectives through the assessment of *results, effectiveness, processes,* and *performance* of the partners involved in GEF activities.
- Promote learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing on results and lessons learned among the GEF and its partners as a basis for decision making on policies, strategies, program management, programs, and projects; and to improve knowledge and performance.

# Separate reporting lines for Monitoring (through Secretariat) and Evaluation (through IEO)



### **GEF Independent Evaluation Office**

#### Mission:

Enhance global environmental benefits through excellence, independence, and partnership in monitoring and evaluation.

#### **Functions**:

Independent GEF Evaluation Normative function Oversight function Knowledge sharing and dissemination

#### **Brief history**:

1996 — Initially established as an M&E unit within the GEF Secretariat

- 2003 The M&E unit was made independent of the GEF Secretariat
- 2005 The unit was renamed as GEF Evaluation Office
- 2013 The office was renamed as GEF Independent Evaluation Office

### **GEF IEO Stakeholders**



**Clients with a governance role:** GEF Council, GEF Assembly, the Replenishment group



**Clients that carry out decisions of the governing bodies:** GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies, executing agencies at the country or regional level



#### **Country clients**



Clients involved in monitoring and evaluation



**Wider audience:** environmental entities, academia, research institutions, civil society, general public

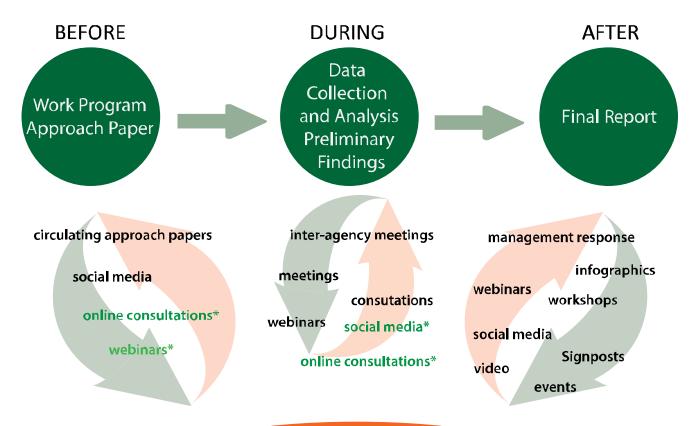
### **Types of Evaluations**

Project Evaluations	Program Evaluations	Country Level Evaluations
Impact Evaluations	Cross-cutting and thematic evaluations	Process and performance evaluations
Ad-hoc Reviews	Overall Performance Studies (OPS)	Special Studies

Different TORs, scopes, frequency, audiences, methodologies

#### GEF IEO Dissemination and Knowledge Management

#### Sharing and receiving feedback regarding evaluation



stakeholders

### **GEF IEO GEF-6 Work Program**

- Implementation of GEF M&E Policy
- Evaluation Program adjusts to evolving GEF priorities
- GEF IEO has started consultation to define the GEF-6 evaluation program
- Reporting to the GEF Council
- Participation in the GEF Country Support Program
- Overall Performance Studies replenishment process (every 4 years)
- Active participation evaluation communities (UN/MDBs/other)

### The GEF M&E Policy

- Defines the concepts, role, and use of monitoring and evaluation within the GEF
- Defines the institutional framework and responsibilities
- Indicates the GEF minimum M&E requirements covering:
  - Project design
  - Application of M&E at the project level
  - Project evaluation
  - Engagement of Operational Focal Points in M&E
- Current M&E Policy: Approved by GEF Council in November 2010





#### Training Module on Terminal Evaluations

### Introduction

- Purpose of this module is to:
  - Discuss importance and utility of terminal evaluations
  - Characteristics of a good terminal evaluation
  - Exercise on pre-requisites for preparing a good terminal evaluation
    - What needs to be done during project preparation and implementation
      - When a project is prepared
      - When a project is implemented
    - What needs to be done during preparation and delivery of a terminal evaluation
      - When a terminal evaluation is planned
      - When a terminal evaluation is conducted
      - When a draft report is prepared

#### Importance and Utility of Terminal Evaluations

- Source of information on project
  - Results: Outputs, outcomes and progress to impact
  - Implementation, execution, and project cycle related information
  - Project finances including co-financing
  - Recommendations and Lessons for the future
- GEF M&E Policy (2010): Minimum Requirement 3
  - Terminal evaluations mandatory since 1995
  - For full-size projects required, encouraged for MSPs

#### Importance and Utility of Terminal Evaluations contd.

- Reporting at the project portfolio level (APR, AMR)
- Input to other evaluations
- STAR's performance index
- About 1000 terminal evaluations completed so far.
- Terminal evaluation may be accessed at:
  - GEF website: <u>http://www.thegef.org/gef/gef\_projects\_funding</u>
  - Through PMIS

#### Characteristics of a Good Terminal Evaluation

- GEF IEO criteria for terminal evaluations quality:
  - Outcomes
  - Consistency and comprehensiveness
  - Sustainability
  - Lessons and recommendations
  - Project finances
  - M&E
- Other characteristics of good terminal evaluations:
  - Transparency and timeliness
  - Candor
  - Balance
  - Utility
- Question is good terminal evaluation and good project performance the same?
- Terminal Evaluation Guidelines are available at: <u>http://www.thegef.org/gef/Guidelines%20Terminal%20Evaluations</u>

#### **Examples of Good Terminal Evaluations**

- Links to examples of good terminal evaluations
  - GEF ID #394: <u>http://www.thegef.org/gef/project\_detail?projID=394</u>
  - GEF ID #1599: <u>http://www.thegef.org/gef/project\_detail?projID=1599</u>
  - GEF ID #1188: <u>http://www.thegef.org/gef/project\_detail?projID=1188</u>
  - GEF ID #1348: <u>http://www.thegef.org/gef/project\_detail?projID=1348</u>

# Exercise: Pre-requisites for preparing a good terminal evaluation

- You will be asked to think about what needs to be done to facilitate preparation of a good terminal evaluation:
  - At different stages of terminal evaluation preparation
  - At project preparation and implementation
- Each group will discuss the requirements at each of these steps and will record their joint responses as bullets in the response sheet provided to them.
- After all stages have been discussed by the groups, one of the groups will present its response for a stage, others may add if their group had an additional bullets not yet covered. Each stage will be presented by a different group.
- We will end with a summary that pulls the discussion together

First Discussion: What needs to be done during project preparation and implementation?

1 A. What needs to be done during the project preparation stage?

- Development of M&E plan
- Tracking tools
- 1 B. What needs to be done during the project implementation?
  - Implementation of M&E plan
  - Gathering of data on tracking tools

#### Second Discussion: What needs to be done during preparation and delivery of a terminal evaluation?

Consider a situation where a project is about to be complete within one year. What needs to be done at different stages of terminal evaluation preparation to ensure that it leads to a good quality evaluation:

- 2 A. Commissioning of the terminal evaluation
- 2 B. Conduct of the terminal evaluation
- 2 C. Finalization of the terminal evaluation

#### **Short Presentations by Stages**

- Presentation on group discussion
- Summary

## Thank you

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