GEF Independent Evaluation Office and GEF M&E Policy

GEF Introduction Seminar

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Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) promote accountability and learning.

• to assess contribution to GEBs
• to serve as basis for decision-making
M&E in the GEF

Guided by the M&E Policy

- GEF Council
- GEF Secretariat
- GEF IEO
- STAP
- GEF Agency Evaluation Offices
- GEF Agencies
- Participating Countries
- Country Stakeholders

Policy, standard-setting and/or oversight function

Reporting or provision of information
Is our activity on track?

Monitoring uses systematic collection of data to keep activities on track.

Forms of monitoring:

- Monitoring of environmental conditions and stressors
- Monitoring of progress toward project/program outcomes
- Monitoring of project/program performance
Evaluation

Are we doing the right thing? Are we doing things right and efficiently? Are there better ways of doing it?

Evaluation is a **systematic** assessment of an activity (program, strategy, etc.) that assesses **relevance**, **effectiveness**, **efficiency**, **results** and **sustainability**.

Project/Program Evaluations:
- Mid-term
- Terminal

Other forms of evaluation: **impact**, **thematic**, **performance**, **country**, **corporate**
GEF Independent Evaluation Office
Mission

- To enhance global environmental benefits through **excellence**, **independence**, and **partnership** in monitoring and evaluation

Functions

- Independent evaluation
- Setting of minimum standards (normative)
- Quality control (oversight)
Independent Evaluations and Methods

- Semi-Annual Evaluation Report
- Impact, Thematic, Performance, Corporate, Country and Impact Evaluations.

- Methods: use of both conventional and more advanced approaches including GIS, Remote Sensing, Big Data Analytics.
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
GEF IEO Dissemination and Knowledge Management

Sharing and receiving feedback regarding evaluation

BEFORE
Work Program Approach Paper

circulating approach papers
social media
online consultations*
webinars*

DURING
Data Collection and Analysis Preliminary Findings

inter-agency meetings
meetings
consultations
social media*
webinars
online consultations*

AFTER
Final Report

management response
infographics
webinars
workshops
social media
Signposts
video
events

*new activities

stakeholders
What is GEF IEO working on:
Sixth Comprehensive Evaluation (OPS-6) of the GEF:
GEF in the Changing Environmental Finance Landscape

To inform the replenishment process on the extent to which:

GEF is achieving its objectives
GEF support can be improved

Several evaluations, reviews and studies being conducted to provide input to OPS-6

OPS6 Report: Final report: FALL 2017
GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy
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, and
  - engagement of Operational Focal Points in M&E.
- Current M&E Policy: Approved by GEF Council in November 2010
  [Link to GEF M&E Policy](http://www.gefieo.org/sites/default/files/ieo/evaluations/gef-me-policy-2010-eng.pdf)
M&E Plan

Minimum Requirement 1

- M&E plan by CEO endorsement for FSP and CEO approval for MSP
- Project logical frameworks should align with GEF focal area results frameworks
- M&E Plan should include:
  - SMART indicators
  - Baseline data for M&E by CEO endorsement
  - Identification of necessary reviews, e.g. Mid-term Reviews (where required or foreseen) and Terminal Evaluations
  - Organizational set-up and budget for M&E
Implementation of M&E Plans

Minimum Requirement 2
Project/program monitoring and supervision will include execution of the M&E plan:

• Use of SMART indicators for process and implementation
• Use of SMART indicators for results
• Baseline for the project is fully established and data are compiled to review progress
• Organizational set up for M&E is operational and its budget is spent as planned
Project/Program Evaluations

Minimum Requirement 3

• All full sized projects and programs will be evaluated at the end of implementation

• Evaluations should:
  – Be independent of project management or reviewed by GEF Agency evaluation unit
  – Apply evaluation norms and standards of the GEF Agency
  – Assess, as a minimum, outputs and outcomes, likelihood of sustainability, compliance with Minimum Requirements 1 & 2
  – Contain basic project data and lessons on the evaluation itself (including TORs)
  – Should be submitted to the GEF IEO within 12 months of project completion
Engagement of Operational Focal Points

Minimum Requirement 4

- M&E plans should include how OFPs will be engaged
- OFPs to be informed on M&E activities, including Mid Term Reviews and Terminal Evaluations, receiving drafts for comments and final reports
- OFPs invited to contribute to the management response (where applicable)
- GEF Agencies keep track of the application of this requirement in their GEF financed projects and programs
- OFPs can if they wish undertake monitoring or evaluation of projects of country portfolio.
Why is sound M&E Important?

- Strong link between good M&E and project outcomes
- Better reporting on global environmental benefits
- Enhanced involvement of the national stakeholders in GEF activities
- Enhanced transparency and accountability for results
- STAR performance Index gives 20% weight to Project Implementation Reports (8%) and verified Terminal Evaluation Report outcome ratings (12%)
- Supports learning across the GEF partnership

Source: GEF Annual Performance Report 2013
Thank you!

For more information, visit www.gefieo.org