



EXCERPTS FROM THE JOINT SUMMARY OF THE CHAIRS & HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COUNCIL'S DECISIONS, 41TH GEF COUNCIL MEETING, NOV. 8 – 11, 2011

Joint Summary of the Chairs

Decision on Agenda Item 13.

Work Program

17. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.41/08/Rev.1, *Work Program Submitted for GEF Council Approval*, approved the work program¹ comprising 40 project concepts and nine programmatic approaches, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by November 24, 2011. Four other project concepts associated with the programmatic approaches are also approved.
18. Total resources requested in this work program amounted to \$516.40 million which include GEF project grants and Agency fees. The approved work program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs) and Program Framework Documents (PFDs):

BIODIVERSITY

1. **Global (Afghanistan, Antigua And Barbuda, Angola, Barbados, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Comoros, St. Lucia, Lesotho, Marshall Islands, Mali, Myanmar, Mozambique, Niger, Nauru, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Sao Tome and Principe, Chad, Timor Leste, Tanzania, Samoa) :** Support to GEF Eligible Parties (LDCs & SIDs) for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD - Phase II (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,118,200)
2. **Global (Benin, Bhutan, Central African Republic, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Dominica, Grenada, Gambia, Equatorial Guinea, Guyana, Cambodia, St. Kitts And Nevis, Lao PDR, Liberia, Madagascar, Mauritania, Maldives, Malawi, Nepal, Niue, Palau, Rwanda, Solomon Islands, Togo, Tonga, Uganda, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Vanuatu, Zambia, Congo DR) :** Support to GEF Eligible Parties (LDCs & SIDs) for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD - Phase 1 (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,798,000).

¹ The Council Member representing the United States of America, in light of its legislation regarding its country's voting position for development projects financed by certain development institutions, opposed the project *Global (Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Turkey, Tanzania, South Africa) : Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program - Implementing the Program Using STAR Resources I*

3. **Angola** : Expansion and Strengthening of Angola's Protected Area system (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,800,000)
4. **Bolivia** : Conservation and Sustainable Use of Agro-biodiversity to Improve Human Nutrition in Five Macro Eco-regions (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,600,000)
5. **Botswana** : Improved Management Effectiveness of the Chobe-Kwando-Linyanti Matrix of Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,818,182)
6. **Brazil** : Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (GEF MAR) (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$18,200,000)
7. **China** : CBPF-MSL Main Streams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation (PROGRAM) (UNDP/FAO) (GEF Program Grant : \$23,010,915)
8. **China** : Securing BD Conservation and Sustainable Use in Huangshan Municipality (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,607,273)
9. **Eritrea** : Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori- Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,878,000)
10. **Jordan** : Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation in Tourism Sector Development in Jordan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,700,000)
11. **Mongolia** : Network of Managed Resource Protected Areas (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,309,091)

CLIMATE CHANGE

12. **Global (Afghanistan, Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Cambodia, St. Lucia, Liberia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Palau, Sierra Leone, Swaziland, Chad, Zambia)**: Umbrella Program for National Communication to the UNFCCC (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$11,330,000)
13. **Global (Colombia, Kenya, Swaziland)** : SolarChill Development, Testing and Technology Transfer Outreach (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,583,000)
14. **Regional (Bangladesh, China, Mongolia)** : ASTUD Asian Sustainable Transport and Urban Development Program (PROGRAM) (ADB) (GEF Program Grant : \$13,611,000)
15. **Bangladesh** : Development of Sustainable Renewable Energy Power Generation (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,077,272)
16. **China** : Hebei Energy Efficiency Improvement and Emission Reduction Project (ADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,636,363)

17. **Colombia** : Third National Communication to the UNFCCC (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)
18. **Liberia** : Lighting One Million Lives in Liberia (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,454,540)
19. **Suriname** : Development of Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Electrification of Suriname (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,400,000)

INTERNATIONAL WATERS

20. **Global** : Standardized Methodologies for Carbon Accounting and Ecosystem Services Valuation of Blue Forests (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,500,000)
21. **Regional (Comoros, Mauritania, Mozambique, Tanzania)** : LME-AF Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries Management in the Large Marine Ecosystems in Africa (PROGRAM) (World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$25,000,000)

LAND DEGRADATION

22. **Moldova** : Agriculture Competitiveness Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,435,500)
23. **Samoa** : Strengthening Multi-sectoral Management of Critical Landscapes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,736,363)

MULTI FOCAL AREA

24. **Global** : ABNJ Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (PROGRAM) (FAO, UNEP, World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$45,412,844)
25. **Global (Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Peru, Papua New Guinea, Turkey, Tanzania, South Africa)** : Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program - Implementing the Program Using STAR Resources I (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$35,924,519)
26. **Regional (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco)**: MENA-DELP Desert Ecosystems and Livelihoods Program² (World Bank) (GEF Program Grant: \$18,423,150)
27. **Regional (Central African Republic, Cameroon, Niger, Nigeria, Chad)** : LCB-NREE Lake Chad Basin Regional Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Energy Efficiency (PROGRAM) (AfDB) (GEF Program Grant : \$20,503,086)

² This is a multi-trust fund programmatic framework drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

28. **Regional (China, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam) : GMS-FBP Greater Mekong Subregion Forests and Biodiversity Program³ (PROGRAM) (ADB, World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$19,693,623)**
29. **Regional (Regional, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam) : LME-EA Scaling Up Partnership Investments for Sustainable Development of the Large Marine Ecosystems of East Asia and their Coasts (PROGRAM) (World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$43,500,000)**
30. **Belize : Management and Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,085,600)**
31. **Bhutan : Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,080,000)**
32. **Brazil : Fifth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Brazil (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,000,000)**
33. **Burundi : Watershed Approach to Sustainable Coffee Production in Burundi (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,200,000)**
34. **El Salvador: Climate Change Adaptation to Reduce Land Degradation in Fragile Micro-Watersheds Located in the Municipalities of Texistepeque and Candelaria de la Frontera⁴ (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$521,370)**
35. **Guatemala : Sustainable Forest Management and Multiple Global Environmental Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,400,000)**
36. **Honduras : Delivering Multiple Global Environment Benefits through Sustainable Management of Production Landscapes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,045,455)**
37. **Kazakhstan : Improving Sustainability of PA System in Desert Ecosystems through Promotion of Biodiversity-compatible Livelihoods in and Around PAs (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,364,000)**
38. **Malawi : Shire Natural Ecosystems Management Project⁵ (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,078,000)**
39. **Russian Federation : GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapidly Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020) (UNEP, EBRD, UNDP, World Bank) (GEF Program Grant : \$25,379,346)**
40. **Uganda : Addressing Barriers to the Adoption of Improved Charcoal Production Technologies and Sustainable Land Management practices through an integrated approach (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,480,000)**

³ This is a multi-trust fund programmatic framework drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

⁴ This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and Special Climate Change Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

⁵ This is a multi-trust fund project drawing funds from two sources – the GEF Trust Fund and the Least Developed Countries Fund. Only the GEFTF component is presented here.

41. **Ukraine** : Conserving, Enhancing and Managing Carbon Stocks and Biodiversity while Promoting Sustainable Development in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone through the Establishment of a Research and Environmental Protection Centre and Protected Area (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,863,955)
42. **Uzbekistan** : Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Mitigation Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,699,000)
43. **Zambia** : Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Generating Multiple Environmental Benefits within and around Protected Areas in Zambia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$13,148,864)
44. **Zimbabwe** : Hwange-Sanyati Biological Corridor (HSBC) Environment Management and Conservation Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,845,000)

POPs

45. **Algeria** : Environmentally Sound Management of POPs and Destruction of PCBs Wastes (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,300,000)
46. **China** : Municipal Solid Waste Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$12,000,000)
47. **Colombia** : Development of National Capacity for the Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,400,000)
48. **Costa Rica** : Integrated PCB Management in Costa Rica (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,930,000)
49. **Vietnam** : Hospital Waste Management Support Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$7,000,000)

PROJECTS UNDER PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES

50. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Sub-system of Wetland Protected Areas for Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,654,771) under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program
51. **Global: Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction** (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$26,922,936) under the ABNJ Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program
52. **Russian Federation: Targeted Support for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Russian Arctic** (EBRD) (GEF Project Grant: \$6,100,917) under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)

53. **Russian Federation: Integrated Adaptive Management of the West Bering Sea Large Marine Ecosystem in a Changing Climate** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,211,000) under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)
19. With respect to the following projects, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council members to receive draft final project documents and to transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO's endorsing a project document for final approval by the GEF Agency.
1. **Botswana** : Improved Management Effectiveness of the Chobe-Kwando-Linyanti Matrix of Protected Areas
 2. **Mongolia** : Network of Managed Resource Protected
 3. **China** : Hebei Energy Efficiency Improvement and Emission Reduction Project
 4. **China** : Municipal Solid Waste Management
 5. **Angola** : Expansion and Strengthening of Angola's Protected Area system
 6. **Eritrea** : Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori- Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land
20. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the work program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF Policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the work program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.
21. Following the procedures established for Programmatic Approaches applicable to all GEF Agencies, the final project document will be circulated to Council for four weeks prior to the CEO's endorsing these projects.
1. **China: Strengthening the Management Effectiveness of the Sub-system of Wetland Protected Areas for Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,654,771) *under the CBPF-MSL Mainstreams of Life – Wetland PA System Strengthening for Biodiversity Conservation Program*
 2. **Global: Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction** (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$26,922,936) *under the ABNJ Global Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction Program*
 3. **Russian Federation: Targeted Support for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the Russian Arctic** (EBRD) (GEF Project Grant: \$6,100,917) *under the ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)*

4. **Russian Federation: Integrated Adaptive Management of the West Bering Sea Large Marine Ecosystem in a Changing Climate** (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3,211,000) under the *ARCTIC GEF-Russian Federation Partnership on Sustainable Environmental Management in the Arctic under a Rapid Changing Climate (Arctic Agenda 2020)*

22. With respect to any other PIFs approved in this work program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If the GEF CEO determines that there have been major changes to the project scope and approach since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

Highlights

Agenda Item 13 Work Program

40. Council members expressed great satisfaction in the high quality and composition of the work program particularly with the number of multi-focal area projects and programmatic approaches including the significant increase in co-financing. Council members have likewise, recognized the excellent work provided by STAP with its project advisories.
41. Council members have selectively provided comments on the different projects and programs and asked the Agencies to consider them in the further development of the projects/programs. Some Council members, including the CSO representative, have indicated that they will be providing written comments to the Secretariat for the Agencies' consideration.
42. Council members have repeatedly expressed the need for transparency. Agencies should have wider stakeholders' consultations in the formulation and implementation of projects. Particular mention was made on the lack of consultations with co-financiers. Co-financiers should be considered as partners within the project cycle and should therefore be consulted throughout the stages of the project cycle.
43. Council Members have also recognized that more effort should be done to engage with the private sector, the participation of CSOs, and the importance of dealing with indigenous peoples' concerns. In this regard, the CSO representative called for highlighting due recognition to the contributions of CSO at the development stage of the projects, in particular, a section to this effect should be provided in the PIF. Furthermore, an update of the GEF public involvement policy may be necessary. In addition, the CSO representative also highlighted the significantly higher contribution in co-financing by the CSOs. In this work program, the combined contribution of foundations and CSO in fact exceeded that of bilateral agencies.
44. One Council member questioned the rather slow utilization of GEF resources considering that this is now the end of second year of the replenishment period. The CEO explained that it was not possible to have a work program on the first year because donor contributions had not been received. The CEO also expressed concern on the uncertainty of actual donor contributions and there may be a need to apprise the Council of the actual resources in June 2012. Regardless of availability of resources, the CEO gave reassurance that STAR allocations would be protected.

45. Several Council members referred to the importance of providing support to modifying risky practices such as in the areas of solid waste and hospital wastes and cautioned proponents of unconsciously transferring environmental problems from one place to another.
46. One Council member commented that there should be consistency in the use of terminologies between POPs, ODS and chemicals. Related to this, it is the expectation of the Council that pilot projects in the field of Mercury reduction be submitted to Council as soon as possible.
47. One Council Member suggested more communications among the GEF Agencies to avoid proposals of similar topic from different GEF Agencies submitted to the same country.
48. One Council member made a request to the Secretariat and the Trustee to prepare a joint report on financial flows (current availability and projections) and project programming (current work program and PIF submissions) for the Council, in order to provide them with information that would allow them to better understand the progress made in fulfilling the GEF-5 programming strategy and because it would contribute to greater transparency in GEF. This request was supported by some Council members.
49. The CEO responded that under the GEF Instrument, the Secretariat is responsible for coordinating the preparation of a work program for submission to the Council. If detailed information on how the work program is formulated is made available, it could result in interference by Council Members in the work program preparation processes. Nevertheless, there are several mechanisms in place that make relevant information available to Council Members. The CEO emphasized that given this plethora of information that is made available in the context of the preparation of the work program and status of GEF resources, provision of any additional information would be superfluous and lean towards micro managing.
50. A Council Member suggested that if a co-financier has been identified at PIF stage, an indicative co-financing letter should be secured. CEO explained that based on GEF policy, at the time of CEO endorsement, all co-financiers' contribution will be verified and a confirmed co-financing commitment letter will have to be submitted to the Secretariat in order for the CEO to endorse the project.
51. One Council Member indicated that the modalities for accessing SFM funding are not clear.
52. Some Council Members and the CSO representative expressed interest to see in the future work programs that highlight projects identified from the NPFs.