



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF/C.55/10
November 27, 2018

55th GEF Council Meeting
December 18 – 20, 2018
Washington, D.C.

Agenda Item 12

**WORK PROGRAM
FOR GEF TRUST FUND**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.55/13, *Work Program for GEF Trust Fund*, approves the Work Program comprising 18 projects, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by January 7, 2018.

Total resources approved in this Work Program amounted to \$157.8 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs): [See Annex A]

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.

With respect to any PIF approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

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INTRODUCTION

1. The recommended Work Program requests a total of \$147.2 million from the GEF trust fund and \$10.6 million in associated Agency fees. It contains an indicative \$819.7 million in co-financing, meaning that each dollar provided by the GEF is matched by \$5.6 in co-financing provided by other sources
2. The first Work Program in GEF-7 includes all projects submitted to the GEF Secretariat and that were technically cleared by work program deadlines.
3. If approved, a total of \$46.5 million from the Biodiversity (BD), Climate Change (CC), and Land Degradation (LD) Focal Areas will be programmed in this Work Program. In addition, the Work Program includes a request of \$24.3 million from the International Waters (IW) and \$22.9 million from the Chemicals and Waste focal areas, as well as \$64.0 from the Small Grants Program. If the Work Program is approved as submitted, 25 recipient countries will benefit from GEF support across the globe, including 4 Least Developed Countries (LDCs).
4. The proposed Work Program contains 18 projects consistent with the GEF 2020 strategy and the GEF-7 Programming Directions framework. The Work Program spans all five focal areas and the suite of projects covers a diverse set of themes ranging from promoting the investment in renewable energy, managing transboundary glacial water basins, and conserving key species in terrestrial and marine ecosystems. The Work Program also pursues objectives seeking synergy in the implementation of various multilateral environment agreements for which the GEF serves as a financial mechanism.
5. This cover note outlines important aspects of the proposed Work Program, including initial programming trends in the GEF resources relative to focal area strategies and objectives, distribution by regions and GEF Agencies, and highlights of innovative elements inherent in the projects. The Council is requested to review and approve the Work Program for the total resources requested (see Annex A for the financial details of the PIFs).

TRENDS IN GEF RESOURCES REQUESTED FOR THE WORK PROGRAM

6. The total \$157.8 million of GEF resources requested is drawn from all five focal area envelopes (Table 1).

Table 1. GEF Resources Requested in the December 2018 Work Program

Focal Area	Resources Requested (\$ millions)		
	GEF Project Financing ¹	Agency Fees ²	Total GEF Resources Requested in this Work Program
Biodiversity	19.1	1.8	20.9
Climate Change	21.6	2.0	23.6
Land Degradation	1.8	0.2	2.0
International Waters	22.2	2.1	24.3
Chemicals and Waste	20.9	2.0	22.9
Small Grants Program	61.5	2.5	64.0
Total	147.2	10.6	157.8

7. The programs and projects in this Work Program cover a wide range of innovations to deliver global environmental benefits through the GEF-7 strategies.
- (a) The Biodiversity focal area resources amount to \$20.9 million, programmed in three single focal area projects and two multi-focal area projects. The single focal area projects will focus on the conservation of globally important species in coastal marine ecosystems in Chile, of migratory birds in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway in China, and of threatened wildlife in Argentina.
 - (b) Climate Change Mitigation is represented by five single focal area projects, and one multi-focal area project for a total of \$23.6 million of the focal area resources. Single focal area projects include the CBIT project in Colombia which will strengthen Colombia’s capacity for robust monitoring, estimation, reporting, accounting and verification of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals, as well as a project that will support the decarbonization of the heating sector in Chile by fostering the deployment of district energy systems.
 - (c) The Land Degradation focal area is represented by two multi-focal area projects for a total of \$2.0 million. This includes a project that is both MFA and Multi-trust fund (LDCF and GEF) which proposes to blend the objectives of sustainable natural resource management with enhanced resilience of climate vulnerable communities in two provinces of Sudan. The project will advance innovative climate resilient technologies and engagement of women cooperatives and

¹ Project financing excludes PPG funding.

² Agency fees are calculated at 9.5% or 9% of the GEF Project Financing for projects requesting up to \$10 million or above \$10 million, respectively. Agency Fees also includes fees associated with PPG.

private sector in testing and scaling up adaptation and landscape management approaches.

- (d) The International Waters focal area utilizes \$24.3 million and is represented by three single focal area projects. Among these is an important regional project focusing on regional cooperation and management of high altitude glacio-nival systems to develop integrated methods for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change. The project will focus on the highly important long-term reserves of fresh water in Central Asia in the glaciers in the Tien Shan and Pamir mountain range, develop a Strategic Action Programme, and strengthen and reinforce the capacity of Central Asian countries for regional cooperation and partnership.
- (e) A total of \$22.9 million has been programmed from the Chemical and Waste focal area in three single focal area projects and one multi-focal area project. Of note is a project on reducing the global environmental risks from the mercury mining sector in Mexico. The project will prevent the risks to environment and human health from mercury through the establishment of a comprehensive strategy to control primary mercury mining and to enable environmentally and socially sound alternative economic activities and livelihoods in the state of Queretaro.
- (f) A total of \$64.0 million (41% of the Work Program) is being programmed for the first tranche of the Small Grants Global Program as is customary in the initial Work Program of a new replenishment cycle. The SGP project will promote and support innovative and scalable initiatives, and foster multistakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes. This will be achieved through the allocation of grants to civil society and community-based organizations in more than 110 countries, with a majority of LDCs and SIDS (over 65%). In alignment with the overall GEF-7 programming, the SGP will focus its efforts on targeted strategic initiatives that promote integrated approaches in addressing key global environmental issues.

STATUS ON THE USE OF GEF-7 RESOURCES

8. The Work Program provides for a diverse initial programming of resources relative to GEF-7 allocations (Table 2 and Figure 1).

Table 2. Resources³ Programmed under GEF-7 by Focal Area

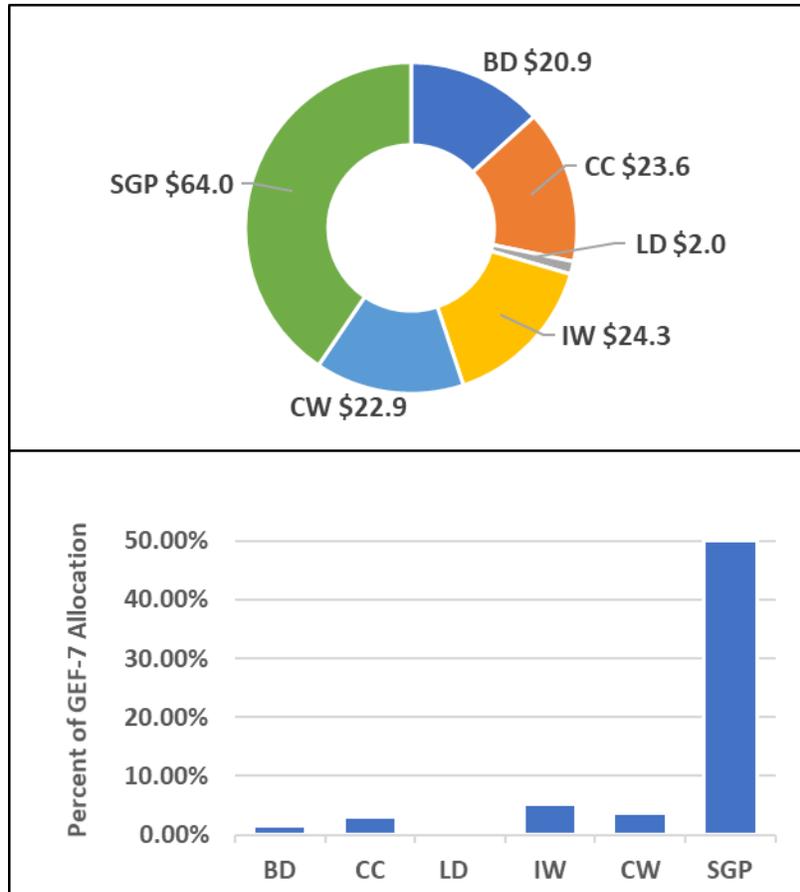
GEF-7 Focal Area/ Theme	Target Allocations in GEF-7 Amount (\$ million)	Resources Requested for December 2018 Work Program Including Fees (\$ million)	Total GEF-7 Resources Programmed (including December 2018 Work Program) Including Fees (\$ million)	Percent of Original Focal Area Target Allocation in GEF-7
Biodiversity	1,287	20.9	20.9	1.6%
Climate Change	798	23.6	23.6	3.0%
Land Degradation	473	2.0	2.0	0.4%
Chemicals and Waste	597	22.9	22.9	3.8%
International Waters	461	24.3	24.3	5.3%
Non-Grant Instrument Program	136	0	0	0.0%
Small Grant Program	128	64.0	64.0	50.0%
Total Resources Programmed⁴	3,880	157.8	157.8	4.0%

9. Nine recipient countries requested a total amount of \$42.3 million from their respective country allocations for projects and programs addressing objectives of the Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation and Land Degradation focal areas.

³ Funds for MFA projects/programs in this table were charged to the different focal areas based on their respective allocations in the project/program documents. Hence, there is no line item for MFAs in this table.

⁴ The targeted allocations in GEF-7 in this table exclude the Country Support Program (\$21 million), and the Corporate Budget (\$151.9 million) which were all part of the total GEF-7 replenishment of \$4.052 billion.

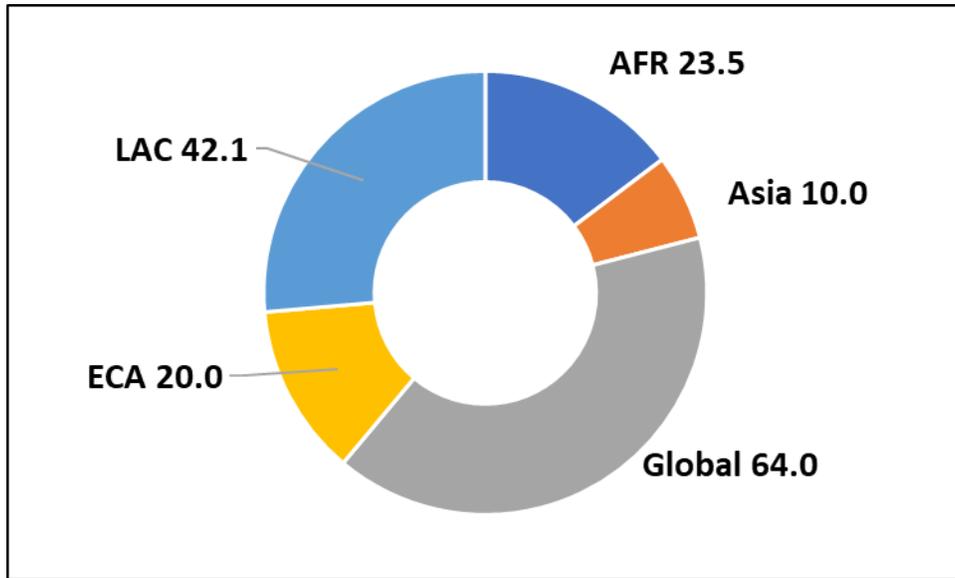
Figure 1. Resources Programmed under GEF-7 by Focal Area in the December 2018 Work Program (top, in million \$) and % of Focal Area Resources Programmed to Date Against GEF-7 Allocations



DISTRIBUTION OF GEF PROJECT FINANCING BY REGION AND FOCAL AREA

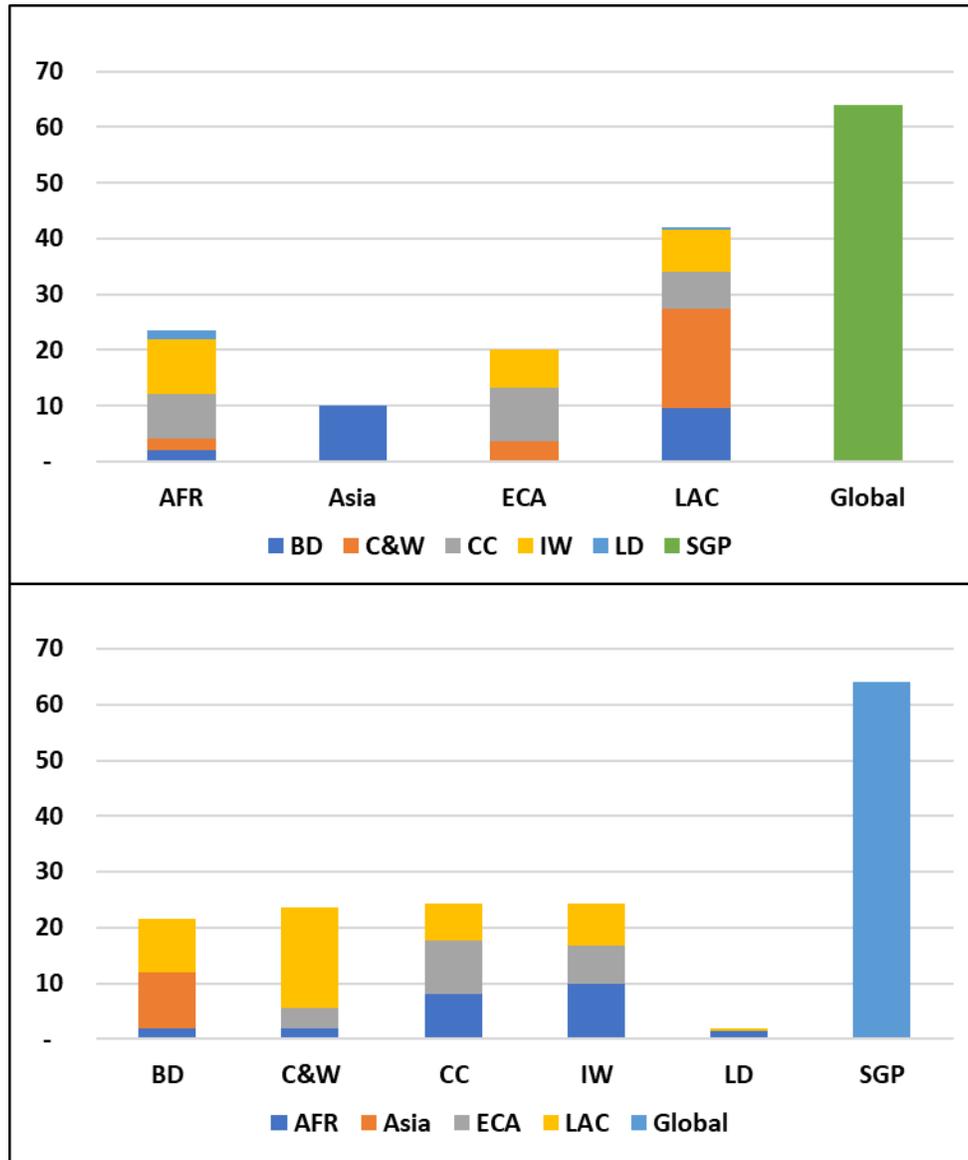
10. The regional distribution of GEF financing in this proposed Work Program is shown in Figure 2. In all, 25 recipient countries will benefit from this Work Program, including 4 LDCs. Latin America is the region that has programmed the highest level of resources, following by Eastern and Central Asia and Africa at similar levels, and lastly Asia with \$10M. Notable, no SIDS countries have programmed any resources. As many National Dialogues are occurring this fall in SIDS countries we anticipate many projects will be submitted in the coming months and can be considered in the next Work Program.

Figure 2. Distribution of GEF Project Financing (excluding fees) in the December 2018 Work Program by Region (\$ millions)



11. The breakdown of resources by focal area shows differences across the regions (Figure 3). In Asia for example, only one project is included in the Work Program entirely focused on BD. Most other regions have a diverse set of focal area resources programmed. The Global resources programmed in this Work Program are from the SGP resources and are not associated with any focal area in particular.

Figure 3. Distribution of GEF Project Financing by Region (top) and by Focal Area (bottom) in December 2018 Work Program. (\$ millions)



DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES BY AGENCY

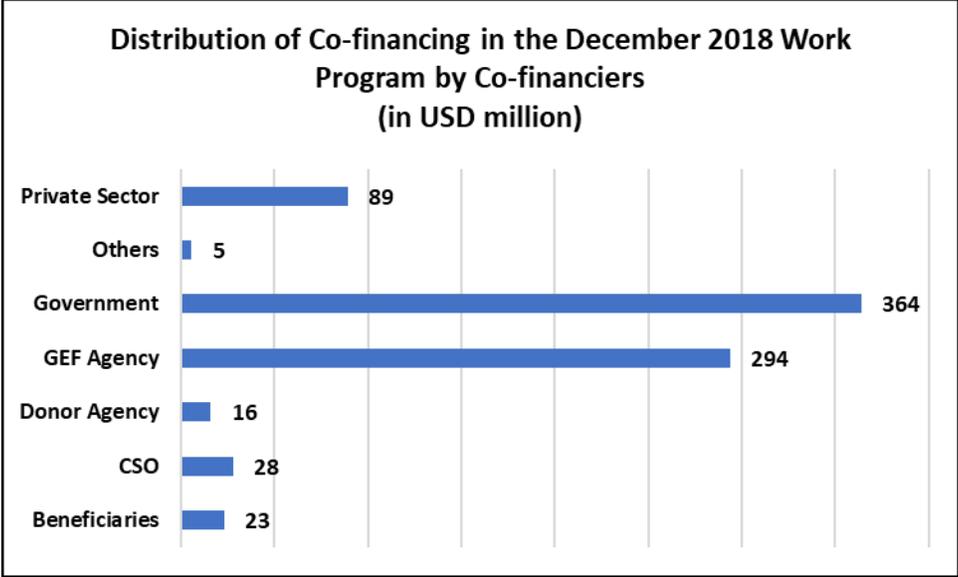
12. Six of the 18 GEF Agencies are represented in the December 2018 Work Program (table 3). UNDP has a large proportion (78.2% of the resources) of the Work Program resources mainly due to the first tranche of the core grant provided to the Small Grants Program (SGP itself represents 41% of the Work Program). WB and UNEP have similar shares of the Work Program resources (7.3% and 6.5% respectively), whereas EBRD (3.2%), FAO (2.4%) and UNIDO (2.2%) have smaller shares. Total Agency fees requested amount to \$10.6 million or 6.7 percent of the total GEF project financing. This is significantly lower than the usual 9.0 percent due to the much lower agency fee associated with the SGP (3.9%).

Table 3. Amount of GEF Resources by Agency in the December 2018 Work Program and in GEF-7 to Date (including December 2018 Work Program)

Agency	Resources Requested in December 2018 Work Program Including Fees		Total GEF-7 Resources Inclusive of December 2018 Including Fees	
	\$ millions	% of resources	\$ millions	% of resources
ADB	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
AfDB	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
BOAD	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
CAF	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
CI	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
DBSA	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
EBRD	5.2	3.2%	5.2	3.2%
FAO	3.8	2.4%	3.8	2.4%
FECO	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Funbio	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
IADB	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
IFAD	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
IUCN	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
UNDP	123.6	78.2%	123.6	78.2%
UNEP	10.3	6.5%	10.3	6.5%
UNIDO	3.5	2.2%	3.5	2.2%
World Bank	11.5	7.3%	11.5	7.3%
WWF-US	-	0.0%	-	0.0%
Totals	157.8	100.0%	157.8	100.0%

13. The Work Program totals \$819.7 million of expected co-financing, or a ratio of 1:5.6. If we look at the type of co-financing, the “investment mobilized” co-financing category represents \$592 million (72%) of the total co-financing. Overall co-financing ratio of “investment mobilized” is 1:4.0 calculated for all 18 projects in Work Program. The Small Grants Program and the Colombia CBIT project have different co-financing expectations and since they represent over 43% of this Work Program, we can expect the co-financing ratio to increase in future Work Programs. The distribution by co-financier shows most co-financing coming from GEF agencies, governments, and the private sector (Figure 4).

Figure 4. Distribution of Co-financing in the December 2018 Work Program by Co-financiers (\$ million)



OUTCOME TARGETS FOR THE WORK PROGRAM

14. The projects cover a wide range of innovations to deliver global environmental benefits through the programming strategies. In line with the integrated nature of the GEF-7 programming strategy and the GEF-7 Results Framework, this Work Program will deliver results against all 10 core indicators as well as assist a large number of beneficiaries. The Work Program will generate significant global environmental benefits, including 13.8 million hectares of terrestrial and marine areas under protection or improved biodiversity conservation management, 300,000 hectares of land restored, 23.1 million metric tons of CO_{2e}, and the reduction and/or disposal of 7,100 metric tons of toxic chemicals and 10.8 grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ of POPs. In line with the new Policy on Gender, over 83% of projects in this Work Program provided specific information on the number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender, and 95% explicitly stated that they expect to develop sex disaggregated and gender sensitive indicators. Finally, 98% of projects expect to include gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote women’s empowerment.

Figure 5. Delivery of Global Environmental Benefits against GEF-7 targets for Core Indicators in December 2018 Work Program

Core Indicator	Target	Expected Results from December 2018 Work Program	
		Expected Results December 2018 WP	% of Total Target in December 2018 WP
1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (million hectares)	200	11.6	5.8%
2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (million hectares)	8	1.2	15.4%
3 Area of land restored (million hectares)	6	0.3	4.3%
4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (million hectares; excluding protected areas)	320	5.8	1.8%
5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (million hectares; excluding protected areas)	28	1.8	6.4%
6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (million metric tons of CO2e)	1,500	23.1	1.5%
7 Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management	32	5.0	15.6%
8 Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (thousand metric tons)	3,500	82.0	2.3%
9 Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products (thousand metric tons)	100	7.1	7.1%
10 Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ)	1,300	10.8	0.8%
11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	Monitored	861,050	

WORK PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Biodiversity

15. The UNDP/GEF/China project (GEF ID 10073), *“Strengthening the Protected Area Network for Migratory Bird Conservation Along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) in China”*, will take a multi-pronged approach to the long-term conservation and management of critical and threatened sites and species in the globally important East Asia-Australasian Flyway (EAAF). China constitutes a major portion of the globally significant EAAF containing the highest proportion of threatened species of any major flyway. The project objective is: To secure the conservation of endangered migratory water birds through the establishment of a robust, resilient and well managed network of protected wetlands across the East Asian Australasian Flyway (EAAF) in China. Through its focus on the cross-cutting barriers to critical wetland conservation and management, the project will support China to protect critical sites and secure the conservation of globally significant migratory birds. The project has three interconnected components that address strengthened Protected Area (PA) system planning,

policy and mainstreaming; site-based management effectiveness; and knowledge, coordination and awareness. The components operate in parallel at both system and site-level, with anticipated learning between the two levels supported by the knowledge management component. The project will work at national level and at site-level (potential provinces: Shandong, Fujian, Guangxi, Yunnan, Hunan, Guangdong, Liaoning, Shanghai), to maintain under sustainable management 1,096,633 hectares of globally significant protected areas, wetlands, and other critical breeding, staging and wintering sites for globally significant migratory birds.

16. The FAO/GEF/Chile project (GEF ID 10075), *“Strengthening Management and Governance for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Globally Significant Biodiversity in Coastal Marine Ecosystems in Chile”*, will develop and implement a governance system that integrates public, private, and civil society institutions for the conservation and sustainable use of coastal marine ecosystems. To achieve this objective, the project will: (i) develop a participatory model of governance and management; (ii) promote a common vision of the territory with relevant actors and tools available under a spatial planning and adaptive management approach; and (iii) strengthen management of marine protected areas in coastal marine ecosystems with biodiversity of global significance. Thus, the project seeks to mainstream biodiversity conservation in two ways: first it will support the introduction of the ecosystem approach to fisheries into Chile’s fisheries management processes, and second, it will support the improvement of production and capture practices currently used by artisanal fishermen and women. The project will deliver Global Environmental Benefits by improving the effective management of 30,335 hectares of marine protected areas and by placing 1.7 million hectares of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity.

17. The UNDP/GEF/Argentina project (GEF ID 10085), *“Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation Criteria in Sectoral and Intersectoral Public Policies and Programs to Safeguard Threatened Wildlife in Argentina”*, will mainstream conservation criteria in sectoral and intersectoral public policies to safeguard threatened wildlife. The project will define criteria, tools and mechanisms of governance; harmonize select public policies in key sectors; and develop instruments for their implementation. This will make sector policies more effective and ensure that future government development plans consider biodiversity values and comply with guidelines on wildlife conservation and sustainable use of critical habitats. This intervention strategy considers the federal structure of the country and the complementary nature of the federal and provincial governments to sustainably manage wildlife and thus will aim to harmonize State policies with provincial ones. The project will deliver Global Environmental Benefits by placing 2.8 million hectares of terrestrial habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity and by mitigating 10 million metric tCO_{2e}.

Climate Change

18. The UNDP/GEF/Algeria project (GEF ID 10080), *“AIM-WELL: Algeria Integrated Management of Waste Energy at the Local Level”*, will promote an integrated and comprehensive solid waste management by fostering technology deployment, dissemination, and transfer in collaboration with the private sector. Population of Algeria’s major cities has

grown rapidly over the past decades. Local authorities have struggled to provide satisfactory services, particularly in waste management. In 2013, about 45% of urban wastes i.e. 6.1 million tonnes were recyclable, but not recycled nor reused. The market value of recyclable wastes was estimated at US\$ 213 million per annum. Today, only 6% of the recyclable wastes are reused and recycled. In its Second National Communication to the UNFCCC (2010), the government of Algeria indicated that the waste sector accounted for 10% of Algeria's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and that using urban waste for power generation would become one of the major means in clean energy development and GHG emission reductions. This GEF project will help identify the barriers and address root causes of unsustainability of waste management in the country and enlarge the share of reuse and recycle of waste. This project will deliver Global Environment Benefits, by mitigating the equivalent of 3 million metric tCO₂e over the project lifetime.

19. The UNEP/GEF/Chile project (GEF ID 10087), *"Accelerating Investment in Efficient and Renewable District Energy Systems in Chile"*, will support the decarbonization of the heating sector in Chile by fostering the deployment of district energy systems. In cities in central and southern Chile, around 70% of total energy consumption is used for heating, usually through inefficient and polluting woodstoves and gas boilers. In comparison, district energy can be up to 50% more efficient and reduce emissions by 90%. This project builds on the GEF-6 Global District Energy Accelerator, which has created momentum and identified a pipeline of potential demonstration projects. It will unlock investment to build the first round of projects in partnership with local governments and kick-start the district energy market in Chile, supported by a national coordination structure and enabling regulatory framework, including financial incentives. The project is aligned with ongoing policy actions such as the Energy Policy 2050, National Energy Route 2018-2022 and Chile's NDC, which commits to a reduction in GHG emissions per GDP unit by 30% below their 2007 levels by 2030. This project will contribute to the mitigation of 2.4 million metric tCO₂e.

20. The UNDP/GEF/Turkey project (GEF ID 10090), *"Promoting Low Cost Energy Efficient Wooden Buildings in Turkey"*, will catalyze and replicate the use of innovative wood-based technologies as low carbon construction materials to reduce the embedded carbon content of construction materials. Under the Paris Agreement, the government of Turkey has set an NDC target of reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions up to 21 percent compared to business as usual by 2030. The government aims to realize its target by increasing the share of renewables and by promoting energy-efficiency. In Turkey, the building sector is the second largest, after the energy sector, in terms of both energy consumption and GHG emissions (approximately 32% of all total national energy related GHG emissions). The development of wooden houses is one of the effective approaches to reducing GHG emissions from buildings. In 2014, there were 151,016,151 m² of new buildings constructed in Turkey and only 289,681 m² (0.19%) used wooden frames and wooden materials. GHG mitigations from this construction in the baseline was estimated as 83,428 tCO₂e in 2014 due to the fact that 0.19% of all new buildings in Turkey were constructed from wood. By 2026 additional 1% of all new buildings in Turkey are targeted to be constructed from wood (approximately 1.51 million m²). This proposed project is

expected to reduce 0.4 million metric tCO₂e per annum, which will significantly contribute to the government target.

21. The EBRD/GEF/Ukraine project (GEF ID 10110), *“Sustainable Bioenergy Value Chain Innovations”*, will promote investment in innovative bioenergy technologies and practices associated with the use of agricultural residues and wastes in Ukraine. In its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to the UNFCCC, the government of Ukraine sets an overall target of keeping its country-wide CO₂ emissions below 60% of the 1990 level by 2030. Complying with the NDCs, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the Strategy of the Low Carbon Development of Ukraine up to 2050 on 18 July 2018. With that, decarbonization of the economy becomes one of the priority areas of the country. Recognizing the importance of use and further development of renewable energy resources, the government of Ukraine prioritizes wider use of biomass for energy, including acceleration of technological innovations in biomass conversion and integration of wider feedstock streams into energy production. The proposed GEF/EBRD Project will focus uniquely on developing sustainable bioenergy value chains by supporting interventions for the private sector, particularly SMEs to invest in bio-energy. With a loan of \$51 million from the EBRD to the national government, the project will lead to installation of a power generation plant using bio-energy, which will mitigate 1.5 million metric tCO₂e during the lifetime operation.

22. The UNDP/GEF/Colombia project (GEF ID 10121), *“Colombia’s 2030 MRV Strategic Vision”*, will strengthen Colombia’s capacity for robust monitoring, estimation, reporting, accounting and verification of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and removals. This Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) project will support the efforts of the Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology and Environmental Studies (IDEAM) to develop an integrated MRV system building on Colombia's national GHG inventory system (SINGEI). It seeks to increase data completeness and availability in key categories of emissions and removals, and to develop the institutional arrangements, technical foundations and tools for systematic, robust national MRV system that can meet the transparency requirements of the Paris Agreement. The project will focus on the agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU) and energy sectors, which comprise around 90% of Colombia’s absolute emissions. At the national level, the project will help track reduction emissions targets as defined in Colombia's National Determined Contribution (NDC) and provide high quality data to stakeholders in the country to guide mitigation policies and initiatives. This project will coordinate with other relevant initiatives in the country, including support from USAID and GIZ, as well as with the CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

Chemicals and Waste

23. The UNIDO/GEF/Turkey project (GEF ID 10082), *“Enhancing Environmental Performance in the Expanded and Extruded Polystyrene Foam Industries in Turkey”*, will promote the replacement of persistent organic pollutants (POP) with environmentally sound alternatives to Hexabromocyclododecane (HBCD) in the extruded and expanded polystyrene (XPS and EPS, respectively) foam industries in Turkey. HBCD is a POP which is used worldwide as a flame

retardant in foams. Its primary application is in the manufacturing of XPS and EPS foam boards, which are used for insulation purposes in the building industry. Other uses are upholstered furniture, automobile interior textiles, car cushions and insulation blocks in trucks, packaging materials well as electric and electronic equipment. This project has synergies between the Stockholm Convention and Montreal Protocol, because Montreal addresses ozone depleting substances in these types of foams. This project will deliver Global Environmental Benefits, by phase-out of 770 metric tons of HBCD annually or 110,000 tons of HBCD free foam, and climate benefits of 1,000 metric tCO₂e over the lifetime of the project.

24. The UNEP/GEF/Mexico project (GEF ID 10086), *“Reducing Global Environmental Risks Through the Monitoring and Development of Alternative Livelihood for the Primary Mercury Mining Sector in Mexico”*, will prevent the risks to environment and human health from mercury through the establishment of a comprehensive strategy to control primary mercury mining and to enable environmentally and socially sound alternative economic activities and livelihoods in the state of Queretaro. Mexico has a significant primary mercury mining sector which is located in rich biodiversity areas, such as the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve. The majority of the mercury mined in Mexico is exported to South America for use in the artisanal and small-scale gold mining (ASGM) sector. The Minamata convention requires countries to address mercury supply and trade, including primary mercury mining. The project will support the Government in monitoring primary mercury mining to fulfill its obligations under the Convention, and introduce alternative livelihoods so that miners in Queretaro adopt alternative income generation activities. This project will deliver Global Environmental Benefits, by reducing 560 tons of mercury and lead to 2,000 hectares of landscapes under improved practices over the project lifetime.

25. The UNDP/GEF/Argentina project (GEF ID 10094), *“Environmentally Sound Management of POPs, Mercury and other Hazardous Chemicals in Argentina”*, will minimize the risk posed by POPs, mercury and other hazardous chemicals to human health and the environment and to promote compliance to the Stockholm and Minamata Conventions in Argentina. The project will address the PCB targets under the Stockholm Convention to phase-out PCBs by 2025, and all PCB-containing equipment and to dispose of PCBs in an environmentally sound manner by 2028. The project will also improved the management and disposal of POPs, highly hazardous pesticides, and mercury. An important aspect of the project is also to raise awareness, ensure project monitoring and disseminate project results and experiences. This project also expands on Argentina’s work under the Special Program and supports synergies under the chemicals and waste conventions. This project will deliver Global Environmental Benefits, by elimination of 5,000 tons of PCB-contaminated materials, elimination of 100 tons of POPs and Highly Hazardous pesticides, and 370 tons of mercury containing, and/or contaminated waste materials will be eliminated over the lifetime of the project.

International Waters

26. The UNDP/GEF/regional project (GEF ID 10076) *“Towards Joint Integrated, Ecosystem-based Management of the Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (PACA)”*,

will promote ecosystem-based management of the PACA LME, which extends from southern Mexico to northern Peru and provides dwelling for around 50 million people, with projections of the coastal population doubling over the next century. The project will be strengthening regional governance, to curb the multiple stressors biodiversity in this LME is experiencing, such as (1) pollution from land-based and marine sources, (2) degradation of coastal and marine habitats, (3) overuse of fishery resources, and (4) impacts of climate change. The regional intervention will work with Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama to establish the foundation for collaborative management of the shared marine resources, through development of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and a ministerial endorsed regional Strategic Action Programme, including the cooperation framework and governance arrangements for its implementation.

27. The UNDP/GEF/regional project (GEF ID 10077), *“Strengthening the Resilience of Central Asian Countries by Enabling Regional Cooperation to Assess High Altitude Glacio-nival Systems to Develop Integrated Methods for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change”*, will initially be working with three countries, namely Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan, while working towards obtaining re-endorsement from Uzbekistan during the PPG phase. The project will focus on the highly important long-term reserves of fresh water in Central Asia in the glaciers in the Tien Shan and Pamir mountain range. The mountain range covers an array of habitats from sub-tropical to tundra and glaciers, including semi-arid, forest and mountain ecosystems. Intensified glacier melt strongly affects the quantity and seasonal distribution of runoff in glacier-fed watersheds. Although in the first instance shrinking glaciers supply ample quantities of water, reduced glacier volume will ultimately result in a decrease in both glacier-fed and total runoff, if there are no increases in water amount from other sources. The principal objective of this important GEF project is to assess the glacio-nival systems in view of climate change impact and adaptation through the development of a Strategic Action Programme and strengthening and reinforcing the capacity of Central Asian countries and regional cooperation and partnership.

28. The World Bank/GEF/regional project (GEF ID 10116), *“The Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme Phase 3”*, provides a significant step towards reducing the environmental degradation trend in the Lake Victoria basin. Lake Victoria and its watershed is a transboundary natural asset of global importance and is jointly shared by Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi – with Rwanda and Burundi a part of the upper watershed draining into Lake Victoria through the Kagera river. Lake Victoria’s ecosystems have undergone substantial and alarming environmental degradation over the last 40 years. Because of the shared nature of the resource, environmental problems in the Lake Victoria Basin are inherently regional problems requiring coordinated regional and national action. Sediment and nutrient transport occurring extensively in all five countries, coupled with untreated wastewater, cause eutrophication throughout the Lake and provide a fertile environment for invasive weeds, such as water hyacinth. The depletion of fish stocks is the joint outcome of poor water quality and overfishing/illegal fishing. The project design responds to these challenges by strengthening cooperative management of transboundary natural resources and climate change risks;

supporting sustainable land and water resource management in selected soil erosion hotspots; and enhancing more effective monitoring, enforcement and prevention of pollution.

Multi-focal Area Project

29. The UNDP/GEF/Uruguay project (GEF ID 10081), *“Consolidating Biodiversity and Land Conservation Policies and Actions as Pillars of Sustainable Development”*, will strengthen the systemic, financial and institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation and sustainable land management, enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of protected area management, stewardship of private lands, and human well-being. The project will strengthen the enabling legal, financial, and institutional environment for biodiversity conservation and Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN); and in doing so improve management of protected areas and production lands in three pilot areas: the Santa Lucía River watershed, the Eastern Coastal Zone, and the Serranías del Este and Quebradas del Norte. Knowledge and lessons learned from implementation will be systematized allowing for replication and upscaling in other landscapes and sectors beyond the pilot areas. The project will deliver multiple Global Environmental Benefits by improving the effective management of 229,495 hectares of terrestrial protected areas and 95,319 hectares of marine protected areas; restoring 16,000 hectares of land; placing 106,000 hectares of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity; and mitigating 0.06 million tCO₂e.

30. The World Bank/GEF/Sudan project (GEF ID 10083), *“Sustainable Natural Resource Management”* is an LDCF and GEFTF Multi Trust Fund project which proposes to blend the objectives of sustainable natural resource management with enhanced resilience of climate vulnerable communities in two provinces of Sudan. Total grant amount for this project is \$6.5 million split between the GEF TF (\$1.5 million) in this work program, and the LDCF TF (\$5.0 million)⁵. The project proposes innovative climate resilient technologies and engagement of women cooperatives and private sector in testing and scaling up adaptation and landscape management approaches. The project also builds on the previous project in Sudan focusing on land degradation and by scaling up the project in two additional provinces. By bringing a focus on adaptation it will address the immediate priorities of Government of Sudan and ensure a high value for money of GEF’s past investments. The proposal is well aligned with Sudan’s NDC and NAP and has been endorsed by the Sudan government through a rigorous stakeholder consultation process.

31. The UNDP/GEF/global project (GEF ID 10084), *“GEF Small Grants Programme - 7th Operational Phase – Core”* covers the first tranche of the GEF SGP global programme for \$64 million (or 50% of the total approved allocation of \$128 million in GEF-7). The project’s objective is to promote and support innovative and scalable initiatives, and foster multistakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes. This will be achieved through the allocation of grants to civil society and community-based organizations in more than 110 countries, with a majority of LDCs and SIDS (over 65%). In alignment with the overall GEF-7 programming, the SGP will focus its efforts

⁵ Please refer to the following document *GEF/LDCF.SCCF.25/04* for information on this project under LDCF.

on targeted strategic initiatives that promote integrated approaches in addressing key global environmental issues. As an overarching strategy, the SGP will adopt and strengthen its landscape and seascape approach to focus and concentrate its programming on globally recognized important ecosystems (including Key Biodiversity Areas). It will seek synergies, implement multi-sectoral approaches by involving communities at the landscape/seascape levels, and facilitate community actions to effectively manage the complex mosaic land/seascapes.

32. The UNDP/GEF/Egypt project (GEF ID 10117), "*Green Sharm El Sheik*", will aim to transform Sham El Sheik into sustainable tourism city by promoting enhanced climate change mitigation, better waste management and marine and coastal area protection. Sharm El Sheik is renowned for tourism in Egypt, but there are growing threats to environmental degradation due to lack of adequate policy frameworks, lack of finance, and lack of enabling environment. Building on past and existing efforts, this project will implement various activities including policies to encourage low-carbon urban development, performance-based financing and incentives, resource efficiency interventions, distributed renewable energy measures, green purchasing scheme, improved waste management and recycling, reinforced planning and management of protected areas (PAs), enhanced PA revenue generation and reinvestment, and decontamination of wastewater facility. Through these comprehensive measures, this project will deliver 1.1 million tCO₂e in greenhouse gases emission reduction and 10.8 g-TEQ in UPOPS reduction over the project lifetime as well as the improved biodiversity conservation management of more than 1.9 million hectares of protected areas.

SUMMARY OF STAND-ALONE PIFs IN THE DECEMBER 2018 WORK PROGRAM

Biodiversity

1. **China:** Strengthening the protected area network for migratory bird conservation along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) in China (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420) (GEF ID 10073)
2. **Chile:** Strengthening management and governance for the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity in coastal marine ecosystems in Chile (FAO) (GEF Project Financing: \$3,502,968) (GEF ID 10075)
3. **Argentina:** Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation criteria in sectoral and intersectoral public policies and programs to safeguard threatened wildlife in Argentina (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$2,703,196) (GEF ID 10085)

Climate Change Mitigation

4. **Algeria:** AIM-WELL: Algeria Integrated Management of Waste Energy at the Local Level (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$4,416,210) (GEF ID 10080)
5. **Chile:** Accelerating investment in efficient and renewable district energy systems in Chile (UNEP) (GEF Project Financing: \$2,141,781) (GEF ID 10087)
6. **Turkey:** Promoting Low Cost Energy Efficient Wooden Buildings in Turkey (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$3,800,000) (GEF ID 10090)
7. **Ukraine:** Sustainable Bioenergy Value Chain Innovations (EBRD) (GEF Project Financing: \$4,800,000) (GEF ID 10110)
8. **Colombia:** Colombia's 2030 MRV Strategic Vision (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$3,791,550) (GEF ID 10121)

Chemicals and Waste

9. **Turkey:** Enhancing environmental performance in the expanded and extruded polystyrene foam industries in Turkey (UNIDO) (GEF Project Financing: \$3,195,000) (GEF ID 10082)
10. **Mexico:** Reducing global environmental risks through the monitoring and development of alternative livelihood for the primary mercury mining sector in Mexico (UNEP) (GEF Project Financing: \$7,035,000) (GEF ID 10086)
11. **Argentina:** Environmentally Sound Management of POPs, Mercury and other Hazardous Chemicals in Argentina (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$8,930,250) (GEF ID 10094)

International Waters

12. Regional (Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama):

Towards Joint Integrated, Ecosystem-based Management of the Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (PACA) (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$6,877,626) (GEF ID 10076)

13. Regional (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan): Strengthening the Resilience of Central Asian Countries by Enabling Regional Cooperation to Assess High Altitude Glacio-nival Systems to Develop Integrated Methods for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$6,192,694) (GEF ID 10077)

14. Regional (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda): Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme Phase 3 (World Bank) (GEF Project Financing: \$9,132,420) (GEF ID 10116)

Multi-focal Area

15. Uruguay: Consolidating biodiversity and land conservation policies and actions as pillars of sustainable development (UNDP)(GEF Project Financing: \$2,639,269) (GEF ID 10081)

16. Sudan: Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF*(World Bank) (GEF Project Financing: \$1,369,863) (GEF ID 10083)

17. Global: GEF SGP 7th Operational Phase – Core (Part 1) (UNDJP) (GEF Project Financing: \$61,538,462) (GEF ID 10084)

18. Egypt: Green Sharm El Sheikh (UNDP) (GEF Project Financing: \$6,212,694) (GEF ID 10117)

Note:

**This is a multi-trust fund project consisting of GEFFT and LDCF. The financing here is the GEFTF component only. The LDCF component is included in the LDCF/SCCF work program.*

ANNEX A: PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL

PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL

Under the GEF Trust Fund
December 18, 2018

No.	GEF ID	Country	Agency	Focal Area	Project Title	(all amounts shown in US\$)						
						PPG	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Project Agency Fee	GEF Financing	Indicative Co-Financing	Total Project Cost
Biodiversity												
1	10073	China	UNDP	BD	Strengthening the protected area network for migratory bird conservation along the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (EAAF) in China	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	9,132,420	78,200,000	87,332,420
2	10075	Chile	FAO	BD	Strengthening management and governance for the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity in coastal marine ecosystems in Chile	150,000	14,250	3,502,968	332,782	3,652,968	23,300,000	26,952,968
3	10085	Argentina	UNDP	BD	Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation criteria in sectoral and intersectoral public policies and programs to safeguard threatened wildlife in Argentina	91,324	8,676	2,703,196	256,804	2,794,520	16,408,250	19,202,770
Total for Biodiversity						441,324	41,926	15,138,584	1,438,166	15,579,908	117,908,250	133,488,158
Climate Change Mitigation												
4	10080	Algeria	UNDP	CC	AIM-WELL: Algeria Integrated Management of Waste Energy at the Local Level	150,000	14,250	4,416,210	419,540	4,566,210	47,749,200	52,315,410
5	10087	Chile	UNEP	CC	Accelerating investment in efficient and renewable district energy systems in Chile	50,000	4,750	2,141,781	203,469	2,191,781	16,305,000	
6	10090	Turkey	UNDP	CC	Promoting Low Cost Energy Efficient Wooden Buildings in Turkey	100,000	9,500	3,800,000	361,000	3,900,000	34,000,000	37,900,000
7	10110	Ukraine	EBRD	CC	Sustainable Bioenergy Value Chain Innovations	75,000	6,750	4,800,000	432,000	4,875,000	51,000,000	
8	10121	Colombia	UNDP	CC	Colombia's 2030 MRV Strategic Vision	50,000	4,750	3,791,550	360,197	3,841,550	1,000,000	4,841,550
Total for Climate Change Mitigation						425,000	40,000	18,949,541	1,776,206	19,374,541	150,054,200	169,428,741
Chemicals and Waste												
9	10082	Turkey	UNIDO	CW	Enhancing environmental performance in the expanded and extruded polystyrene foam industries in Turkey	120,000	11,400	3,195,000	303,525	3,315,000	18,100,000	21,415,000
10	10086	Mexico	UNEP	CW	Reducing global environmental risks through the monitoring and development of alternative livelihood for the primary mercury mining sector in Mexico	200,000	19,000	7,035,000	668,325	7,235,000	40,850,000	48,085,000
11	10094	Argentina	UNDP	CW	Environmentally Sound Management of POPs, Mercury and other Hazardous Chemicals in Argentina	200,000	19,000	8,930,250	848,373	9,130,250	34,500,000	43,630,250
Total for Chemicals and Waste						520,000	49,400	19,160,250	1,820,223	19,680,250	93,450,000	113,130,250
International Waters												
12	10076	Regional (Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama)	UNDP	IW	Towards Joint Integrated, Ecosystem-based Management of the Pacific Central American Coastal Large Marine Ecosystem (PACA)	154,338	14,662	6,877,626	653,374	7,031,964	41,312,679	48,344,643
13	10077	Regional (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan)	UNDP	IW	Strengthening the Resilience of Central Asian Countries by Enabling Regional Cooperation to Assess High Altitude Glacio-nival Systems to Develop Integrated Methods for Sustainable Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	200,000	19,000	6,192,694	588,306	6,392,694	12,900,000	19,292,694
14	10116	Regional (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda)	World Bank	IW	Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme Phase 3	-	-	9,132,420	867,580	9,132,420	251,000,000	260,132,420
Total for International Waters						354,338	33,662	22,202,740	2,109,260	22,557,078	305,212,679	327,769,757
Multi-focal Area												
15	10081	Uruguay	UNDP	MFA	Consolidating biodiversity and land conservation policies and actions as pillars of sustainable development	136,987	13,013	2,639,269	250,731	2,776,256	15,000,000	17,776,256
16	10083	Sudan	World Bank	MFA	Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -AF*	-	-	1,369,863	130,137	1,369,863	8,000,000	9,369,863
17	10084	Global	UNDP	MFA	GEF SGP 7th Operational Phase – Core (Part 1)	-	-	61,538,462	2,461,538	61,538,462	64,000,000	125,538,462
18	10117	Egypt	UNDP	MFA	Green Sharm El Sheikh	180,000	17,100	6,212,694	590,206	6,380,000	66,100,000	72,480,000
Total for Multi-focal Area						316,987	30,113	71,760,288	3,432,612	72,064,581	153,100,000	225,164,581
Grand Total						2,057,649	195,101	147,211,403	10,576,467	149,256,358	819,725,129	968,981,487

* This is a multi-Trust Fund Project consisting of GEFTF and LDCF. The GEFTF component is included in this Work Program while the LDCF component can be found separately in the LDCF/SCCF Work Program.