Excerpts from the Joint Summary of the Chairs & Highlights of the Council’s Decisions, 53rd GEF Council Meeting November 2017

Joint Summary of the Chairs

Decision on Agenda Item 11: Work Program

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.53/13, *Work Program for GEF Trust Fund*, approves the Work Program comprising 83 project concepts and one programmatic framework, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by December 14, 2017.

2. Total resources approved in this Work Program\(^1\) amounted to $546.1 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Program Framework Document (PFD) and Project Identification Forms (PIFs):

---

\(^1\) The United States, in light of its policies for certain development projects in countries whose governments are not addressing trafficking in persons and whose governments do not have in place a functioning and transparent military audit, opposes the following projects and therefore does not join the Council decision that would support the CPIC Conservation Finance Initiative - Scaling up and Demonstrating the Value of Blended Finance in Conservation (beneficiaries unknown), Enhancing Conjunctive Management of Surface and Groundwater Resources in Selected Transboundary Aquifers: Case Study for Selected Shared Groundwater Bodies in the Nile Basin (in Sudan), Strengthened Protected Areas System and Integrated Ecosystem Management (in Sudan), Additional Financing Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources (in Sudan), and Capacity Development in Reducing Illegal Wildlife Trade and Improving Protected Area Management (in South Sudan).

Project/Program Proposals in the Work Program

Biodiversity

1. **Angola**: Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade and Human Wildlife Conflict in Angola (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 4,103,800) GEF ID 9735

2. **Colombia**: Sustainable Low Carbon Development in Colombia's Orinoquia Region (World Bank) (GEF Financing: $ 5,936,073) GEF ID 9578

3. **Congo DR**: Promoting the Effective Management of Salonga National Park through Creation of Community Forests and Improving the Well-being of Local Communities (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,694,749) GEF ID 9802

4. **Ecuador**: Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Galapagos Islands by Enhancing Biosecurity and Creating the Enabling Environment for the Restoration of Galapagos Island Ecosystems. (CI) (GEF Financing: $ 3,301,472) GEF ID 9282

5. **Lesotho**: Promoting Conservation, Sustainable Utilization and Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing from Lesotho's Medicinal and Ornamental Plants for Improved livelihoods (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 2,913,699) GEF ID 9799

6. **Madagascar**: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in the Northwestern Landscape (Boeny region) - Madagascar (CI) (GEF Financing: $ 6,817,431) GEF ID 9606

7. **Maldives**: Enhancing National Development through Environmentally Resilient Islands (ENDhERI) (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,532,968) GEF ID 9668

8. **Mexico**: Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation Criteria in Mexico’s Tourism Sector with Emphasis on Biodiversity-rich Coastal Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 7,238,613) GEF ID 9613


10. **Vanuatu**: Expanding Conservation Areas Reach and Effectiveness(ECARE) in Vanuatu (IUCN) (GEF Financing: $ 2,450,459) GEF ID 9847

Climate Change

11. **Chile**: Supporting the Chilean Low Emissions Transport Strategy CLETS (CAF) (GEF Financing: $ 2,900,000) GEF ID 9742

12. **China**: China Distributed Renewable Energy Scale-up Project (World Bank) (GEF Financing: $ 7,278,600) GEF ID 9749


15. **Myanmar**: Climate Change Mitigation through Methane Recovery and Reuse from Industrial Wastewater Treatment (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: $ 3,984,589) GEF ID 9830

16. **Myanmar**: Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 4,934,228) GEF ID 9890

17. **Nigeria**: Improving Nigeria's Industrial Energy Performance and Resource Efficient Cleaner Production through Programmatic Approaches and the Promotion of Innovation in Clean Technology Solutions (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: $ 3,898,265) GEF ID 9714


19. **Solomon Islands**: Stimulating Progress towards Improved Rural Electrification in the Solomons (SPIRES) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9787

20. **Trinidad and Tobago**: Energy Efficiency through the Development of Low-carbon RAC Technologies in Trinidad and Tobago (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,152,392) GEF ID 9789

**Land Degradation**

21. **Angola**: Sustainable Land Management in Target Landscapes in Angola’s Southwestern Region (FAO) (GEF Financing: $ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9798


**International Waters**

23. **Regional (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro)**: Implementation of the SAP of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System: Improving Groundwater Governance and Sustainability of Related Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,145,000) GEF ID 9919

24. **Regional (Belarus, Ukraine)**: Fostering Multi-country Cooperation over Conjunctive Surface and Groundwater Management in the Bug and Neman


27. **Regional (Colombia, Ecuador):** Integrated Management of Water Resources of the Mira-Mataje and Carchi-Guaitara, Colombia–Ecuador Binational Basins (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,850,000) GEF ID 9566


29. **Regional (Mauritania, Senegal):** Strengthening Trans-boundary Cooperation for Improved Ecosystem Management and Restoration in the Senegal delta (Mauritania and Senegal) (IUCN) (GEF Financing: $ 3,061,009) GEF ID 9594

### Chemicals and Waste

30. **Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo):** Impact Investment and Capacity Building in Support of Sustainable Waste Management to Reduce Emissions of Unintentional POPs (UPOPs) and Mercury in West Africa (BOAD) (GEF Financing: $ 15,924,771) GEF ID 9371

31. **Regional (Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan):** Demonstration of Non-thermal Treatment of DDT Wastes in Central Asia (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 15,120,000) GEF ID 9421

32. **Brazil:** Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) Of Lindane In Brazil (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 11,000,000) GEF ID 9412

33. **Kazakhstan:** HCFC Phase-out in Kazakhstan through Promotion of Zero ODS Low GWP Energy Efficient Technologies (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 4,586,200) GEF ID 9788

34. **South Africa:** Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PolyChlorinated Biphenyls[PCBS] in the Republic of South Africa (DBSA) (GEF Financing: $ 8,242,500) GEF ID 9576
Programmatic Approaches

35. **China:** PRC-GEF Partnership Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development (UNDP/FAO, World Bank) (GEF Financing: $ 12,303,945) GEF ID 9768

Non-grant Instrument Projects

36. **Global:** CPIC Conservation Finance Initiative - Scaling up and Demonstrating the Value of Blended Finance in Conservation (IUCN) GEF Financing: $ 8,250,000) GEF ID 9914

Multi Focal Area


38. **Regional** (Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent and Grenadines): CReW+: An Integrated Approach to Water and Wastewater Management Using Innovative Solutions and Promoting Financing Mechanisms in the Wider Caribbean Region (UNEP/IADB) (GEF Financing: $ 14,943,938) GEF ID 9601


40. **Regional** (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela): Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to ensure Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change. (UNEP) GEF Financing: $ 11,735,780) GEF ID 9770

41. **Algeria:** Rehabilitation and Integrated Sustainable Development of Algerian Cork Oak Forest Production Landscapes (FAO) (GEF Financing: $ 3,411,644) GEF ID 9806

42. **Bahamas:** Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 6,243,004) GEF ID 9791

43. **Burkina Faso:** Integrated and Sustainable Management of PONASI Protected Area Landscape (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,279,452) GEF ID 9764
44. **Cambodia**: Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM) in the Productive, Natural and Forested Landscape of Northern Region of Cambodia (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,340,320) GEF ID 9781

45. **Cameroon**: Removing Barriers to Biodiversity Conservation, Land Restoration and Sustainable Forest Management through COnmunity-BAsed LAndscape Management – COBALAM (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,105,023) GEF ID 9604

46. **Chile**: Mainstreaming Conservation of Coastal Wetlands of Chile’s South Center Biodiversity Hotspot through Adaptive Management of Coastal Area Ecosystems (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,146,804) GEF ID 9766

47. **Congo DR**: Mai-Ndombe REDD+ Integrated Project (GEF) (World Bank) (GEF Financing: $ 6,210,046) GEF ID 9760


49. **Gambia**: Landscape Planning and Restoration to Improve Ecosystem Services, and Livelihoods, Expand and Effectively Manage Protected Areas (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,644,685) GEF ID 9772

50. **Guinea**: Integrated Management of Natural Resources in Middle and Upper Guinea (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 7,060,274) GEF ID 9783


52. **Indonesia**: Integrated Management of Peatland Landscapes in Indonesia (IMPLI) (IFAD) (GEF Financing: $ 4,895,872) GEF ID 9239

53. **Indonesia**: Strengthening of Social Forestry in Indonesia (World Bank) (GEF Financing: $ 14,317,909) GEF ID 9600

54. **Jamaica**: Conserving Biodiversity and Reducing Land Degradation Using an Integrated Landscape Approach (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 6,210,046) GEF ID 9862

55. **Liberia**: Conservation and Sustainable use of Liberia’s Coastal Natural Capital (CI) (GEF Financing: $ 3,944,220) GEF ID 9573

56. **Madagascar**: Conservation and Improvement of Ecosystem Services for the Atsinanana Region through Agroecology and the Promotion of Sustainable Energy Production (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,789,955) GEF ID 9793

57. **Myanmar**: My-Coast: Ecosystem-Based Conservation of Myanmar’s Southern Coastal Zone (FAO) (GEF Financing: $ 3,046,347) GEF ID 9261
58. **Namibia**: Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty (NILALEG) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $10,823,744) GEF ID 9426


60. **Panama**: Ecosystem-based Biodiversity Friendly Cattle Production Framework for the Darien Region of Panama (CAF) (GEF Financing: $3,519,725) GEF ID 9589

61. **Philippines**: Enhancing Biodiversity, Maintaining Ecosystem Flows, Enhancing Carbon Stocks through Sustainable Land Management and the Restoration of Degraded Forestlands (FAO) (GEF Financing: $2,639,726) GEF ID 9554


63. **Seychelles**: A Ridge-to-Reef Approach for the Integrated Management of Marine, Coastal and Terrestrial Ecosystems in the Seychelles (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $3,898,914) GEF ID 9431

64. **Sierra Leone**: Sustainable and Integrated landscape management of the Western Area Peninsula (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $5,209,910) GEF ID 9903

65. **Solomon Islands**: EREPA - Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas in the Solomon Islands (IUCN) (GEF Financing: $4,918,364) GEF ID 9846


67. **St. Kitts And Nevis**: Improving Environmental Management through Sustainable Land Management in St. Kitts and Nevis (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $3,015,982) GEF ID 9785

68. **Sudan**: Strengthened Protected Areas System and Integrated Ecosystem Management in Sudan (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $4,100,913) GEF ID 9425

69. **Sudan**: Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project- Additional Financing (World Bank) (GEF Financing: $5,504,586) GEF ID 9575

70. **Tanzania**: Safeguarding Zanzibar’s Forest and Coastal Habitats for Multiple Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $5,181,671) GEF ID 9400

71. **Thailand**: Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Thailand (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $2,381,620) GEF ID 9558
3. With respect to the 13 projects below, 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 the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency.

72. **South Sudan**: Capacity Development in Reducing Illegal Wildlife Trade and Improving Protected Area Management Effectiveness in South Sudan (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 5,329,452) GEF ID 9551

73. **Nigeria**: De-risking Sustainable Off-grid Lighting Solutions in Nigeria (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9743

74. **Macedonia**: Promoting Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Through Strengthening Legal and Institutional Framework, Capacity Building and Restoration of Most Vulnerable Mountain Landscapes (UNEP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,662,545) GEF ID 9759

75. **Bangladesh**: Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 3,046,347) GEF ID 9913

76. **Regional (Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine)**: Promoting Accelerated Uptake of Environmental Technologies and Promotion of Best Practices for Improved Water, Chemicals, and Waste Management in the Black Sea Basin (EBRD) (GEF Financing: $ 5,933,105) GEF ID 9571

77. **Regional (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, Ukraine, Serbia)**: Danube River Basin Hydromorphology and River Restoration (DYNA) (WWF-US) (GEF Financing: $ 4,422,018) GEF ID 9801

78. **Micronesia**: Safeguarding Biodiversity from Invasive Alien Species in the Federated States of Micronesia (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $ 4,141,509) GEF ID 9917

79. **Haiti**: Sustainable Management of Wooded Production Landscapes for Biodiversity Conservation (UNDP/FAO) (GEF Financing: $ 6,186,964) GEF ID 9777

80. **Cote d'Ivoire**: Sound Management of Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Polychlorinated Biphenyl Ether (PBDEs) to Reduce their Emission from the Industrial Waste Sector (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: $ 5,325,000) GEF ID 9263

81. **Congo DR**: Promotion of Waste to Energy Options for Sustainable Urban Management in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: $ 3,959,589) GEF ID 9683
82. **Belize**: Integrated Management of Production Landscapes to Deliver Multiple Global Environmental Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $5,108,933) GEF ID 9796

83. **Angola**: Promoting Sustainable Energy Access for Rural Communities in South-Eastern Angola (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $3,540,468) GEF ID 9810

84. **Bangladesh**: Promoting Low Carbon Urban Development in Bangladesh (UNDP) (GEF Financing: $3,767,810) GEF ID 9368

4. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs 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.

5. 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.

6. With respect to the PFD approved as part of the Work Program, the final child project documents fully incorporating and addressing the Council’s and STAP reviews shall be circulated for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement/approval.

7. The Detailed funding decisions taken by the Council during this 53rd session of the work program is part of the associated Annex 1 appended to this Joint Summary of the Chairs.

**Highlights of the Council Decisions**

*Agenda Item 10 Work Program*

1. The Council welcomed the very impressive and large Work Program that showed good focal area diversity and geographic scope.

2. The Council noted the important support to LDCs and SIDS as well as the attention given to advancing all focal area programming levels.

3. The Council also noted the difficulty of obtaining high co-financing levels and private sector engagement for projects mostly from LDCs and SIDS countries.

Some Council members noted the concentration of projects in this work program on only three agencies. The Secretariat noted that 25% of the work program is to be implemented by MDBs and that the relatively small size of projects and the emphasis on SIDS and LDCs drove the trends observed by the Council.