



Global Environment Facility

GEF/IS/20
January 2009

INTERSESSIONAL WORK PROGRAM
SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL

Executive Summary

1. This is the ninth work program presented for GEF Council review and approval in GEF-4 and the seventh one to apply the new project cycle that was approved by Council in June 2007. Under that new project cycle, GEF Agencies may submit Project Identification Forms (PIF) to the GEF Secretariat for clearance on a rolling basis. When the number, or amount, of the cleared PIFs meets the Intersessional Work Program (IWP) criteria¹, an IWP may be constituted. This January IWP is the first IWP in 2009. Subsequent IWPs may be constituted, as and when necessary, at the discretion of the CEO, and when funds are available.

2. In this work program cover note, descriptions on how the proposed concepts relate to the strategic objectives, programming coherence and collective contribution to the GEF approved strategies are presented. In this January IWP, concepts from biodiversity, climate change, and persistent organic pollutants focal areas were submitted and constituted the work program. Total GEF resources requested in this work program amount to \$140.95 million.²

3. The timing of this January IWP coincides with the launching of the GEF Secretariat Project Management Information System (PMIS) which was going live while the work program was being prepared. Hence, there is a temporary unavailability of historical project data which are normally included in our cover note analysis. This IWP cover note presents therefore a simplified version of the note focusing solely on the focal area project portfolio in the work program. Fuller details will be available for future work programs once the new system is fully operational.

¹ Criteria for IWP is when there are at least 10 cleared PIFs or all cleared PIFs amount to \$50 million or more, the CEO would have the discretion to constitute an intersessional work program.

² GEF resources requested in this work program of \$140.95 million includes GEF project grant of \$127.98 million and Agency fee of \$12.97 million.

Table of Contents

Main features of the proposed work program.....	3
GEF Strategies and the Work Program.....	3
Linkage with the GEF-4 Strategic Programs	3
Geographic Balance of Projects in the Work Program.....	5
Innovative Elements and Replication Potential	5
Resource Programming Implications.....	6
Programmatic Approaches in this Work Program.....	6
Summary of Free Standing PIFs and PIFs in the Programmatic Approaches in the January 2009 Intersessional Work Program.....	7
Annex A: Financial Details of the Project Identification Forms Submitted for Council Approval, January 2009 Work Program	
Annex A-1: PIFs Submitted Under Programmatic Approaches, January 2009 Work Program	
Table 1: GEF Resources requested in the January 2009 Work Program by Focal Area	

<p>Where to send technical comments: <i>It is requested that Council members send their technical comments electronically (in Word file) to the GEF Secretariat's program coordination registry at: gcoordination@TheGEF.org</i></p>
--

Main features of the proposed work program

1. The work program presented by the Secretariat for GEF Council review and approval is the ninth since the GEF-4 replenishment and since the GEF Resource Allocation Framework became applicable to the biodiversity and climate change focal areas. This is also the first intersessional work program (IWP) in 2009. Subsequent IWPs will be constituted, as and when necessary, at the discretion of the CEO, and given availability of funds.
2. There are 23 projects in this work program submitted in the biodiversity, climate change and persistent organic pollutants focal areas. Total GEF resources requested in this work program amount to \$140.95 million which included \$127.98 million for the project and \$12.97 million for the Agency fees. The distribution of these projects by focal area are as follows:

Table 1: GEF Resources Requested in the January 2009 Work Program by Focal Area (\$ million)

Focal Area	Number of Projects	GEF Project Grant	Agency Fees	Total GEF Resources Requested in this WP
Biodiversity	12	56.35	5.69	62.04
Climate Change	7	47.55	4.84	52.39
Persistent Organic Pollutants	4	24.08	2.44	26.52
Total	23	127.98	12.97	140.95

* Agency fees are calculated as 10 percent of the GEF Grant (which is a sum of GEF project grant amount being requested in this work program, plus the project preparation grants previously approved by the CEO).

GEF Strategies and the Work Program

3. This work program is composed of high quality proposals. The PIF concepts included in the work program were reviewed and considered in conformity with the focal area strategies and strategic programming for GEF-4, and screened for their capacity to deliver the most impact from a portfolio perspective. The PIF concepts also benefited from STAP screening on the technical and scientific aspects, ensuring higher standards of project design. Below are highlights of the proposals which described how they relate to the overall programmatic coherence and collective contributions to the GEF strategic objectives and programs.

Linkage with the GEF-4 Strategic Programs

4. Biodiversity: The 12 biodiversity project proposals presented in this work program cover three of the four strategic objectives and seven of the eight strategic programs of the biodiversity focal area.
5. Within this work program, six projects focus on catalyzing sustainability of protected area systems. Three of these projects are geared towards increasing protected area system revenues to achieve financial sustainability and one project focuses on improving terrestrial protected area coverage.

6. Helping fill a gap in the GEF-4 biodiversity portfolio and addressing a global gap in marine coverage, two projects are establishing and strengthening marine protected area systems in Colombia and in the Bahamas. These two projects will increase the coverage and improve the management of approximately 10.7 million hectares of unprotected marine ecosystems within national protected area systems. The project, “*Designing and Implementing a National Sub-System of Marine Protected Areas (SMPA) in Colombia*” (GEF: \$4.85 million, Co-finance: \$7.5 million), will establish and support the National Subsystem of Marine Protected Areas through a legal, institutional, and operational framework. Fourteen existing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) covering 8.2 million hectares will be included in the SMPA and four new MPAs covering 105,000 ha will improve the representation of marine and coastal ecosystems in the national system..

7. Three projects seek to mainstream biodiversity in production landscapes/seascapes and sectors and the remaining two projects fall under Strategic Objective 3, “Safeguarding Biodiversity,” with one biosafety project, “**India:** *Capacity Building on Biosafety for Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol*” (GEF: \$2.73 million, Co-finance: \$6.0 million); this project is submitted under the Biosafety Program which was endorsed by Council in April 2008. The other project, “**Regional:** *Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species in the Pacific islands*” (GEF: \$3.03 million, Co-finance: \$4.43 million) focused on invasive alien species, will implement cost-effective strategies to control, prevent and manage invasive species, with particular emphasis on regional and national policy frameworks, capacity building, risk management, early detection and response procedures, and managing priority invasive species (IAS) in pilot sites.

8. Climate Change: Seven climate change projects have been included in this January 2009 Intersessional Work Program. Six of them are energy efficiency projects, including two related to the promotion of energy efficiency in the buildings sector (SP1) and three related to the promotion of energy efficiency in the industrial sector (SP2). One project aims at promoting sustainable urban transport (SP5). All seven projects are closely in line with GEF-4 Climate Change Strategy. This IWP continues to reflect the trend of burgeoning demand for resources for energy efficiency projects.

9. Persistent Organic Pollutants: This January Intersessional Work Program includes four projects in the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Focal Area proposed for Council consideration. All projects address Stockholm Convention priorities; three address the management and disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) whilst one addresses releases of un-intentionally produced dioxins and furans.

10. The three PCB management projects in Argentina, India, and Peru present a combination of capacity building and investments, and respond to GEF-4 Strategic Programs one and two: *Strengthening Capacities for NIP Implementation* and *Partnering in Investments for NIP Implementation*. These are the first National Implementation Plan (NIP) implementation projects in each of these countries. Argentina and Peru have submitted their NIPs to the Stockholm Convention Secretariat. India is well advanced in developing its NIP.

Geographic Balance of Projects in the Work Program

11. **Biodiversity:** The 12 biodiversity projects in this work program are widely distributed globally with three projects in Africa, three in Asia, four in Latin America and the Caribbean and one being implemented globally with pilots in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia.

12. In terms of GEF resources, of the \$56.35 million being invested in biodiversity projects in this work program, \$17.88 million or about 32% is being invested in Africa; \$15.28 million or about 27% is being invested in Latin America and the Caribbean; \$12.04 million or about 21% is being invested in Asia; and three global projects comprise over 20% of the work program's resources.

13. **Climate Change:** Three of the seven climate change projects included in this IWP are from India, all related to energy efficiency. These projects have been proposed under India's Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency, which was endorsed by Council in April 2008.

14. The other four projects are from China (*Provincial Energy Efficiency Scale-up Program*), Pakistan (*Pakistan Sustainable Transport Project*), Russia (*Building Energy Efficiency in the North West of Russia*), and Turkey (*Improving Energy Efficiency in Industry*). The Russia project is a project proposed under Russia's Energy Efficiency Program, which was endorsed by Council in April 2008.

15. **Persistent Organic Pollutants:** The four projects in this work program combined represent a GEF allocation of \$24.1 million, leveraging an additional \$48.9 million in co-financing, including significant contributions from the private sector. The projects cover a broad range of regions, including Latin America, South East Asia and in South Asia.

Innovative Elements and Replication Potential

16. **Biodiversity:** The GEF-supported Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) concluded that more than 60% of the world's ecosystem services are either degraded or used unsustainably. Since the conclusion of that study, numerous actors have built on the foundational work of the MA to advance the theoretical understanding of ecosystem services and the practical application of this understanding in land-use planning and decision making.

17. In this work program, the GEF is supporting a global project, "*Project for Ecosystem Services*" (GEF: \$6.30 million, Co-finance: \$14.05 million) that will utilize ecological assessment and economic valuation to better integrate ecosystem services into poverty reduction and sustainable development planning. The project will undertake its activities in Chile, Trinidad and Tobago, and Vietnam as well as in the transboundary watershed/river basin of the Gariep in southern Africa. All of the selected locations have developed technical expertise and practical experience during the MA and therefore there is a wealth of existing data and capacity upon which this project will build.

18. The project will focus on a few select regulating ecosystem services in decline - often strongly affected by the overuse of provisioning ecosystem services - which have not been the

subject of project investments in ecosystem services to date. The project will develop capacities of decision makers, users and beneficiaries of ecosystem services to apply appropriate ecosystem management tools within sectoral planning frameworks and macroeconomic planning models, and explore the potential for national, regional, or global markets for ecosystem services. With a focus on delivering on-the-ground results, demonstration activities will pilot the bundling of ecosystem services and the integration of ecosystem services approaches in resource management and decision making to promote innovative solutions that hold potential for scaling-up and replication.

19. **Persistent Organic Pollutants:** The regional project “*Demonstration of BAT/BEP in Fossil Fuel-fired Utility and Industrial Boilers*” will develop methodologies and demonstrate their application to reduce releases of dioxins and furans. It is one of the first projects in the portfolio to consider the linkages, synergies, and trade-offs between un-intentionally produced POPs and climate mitigation.

Resource Programming Implications

20. **Biodiversity:** Including the proposed January work program, total GEF-4 resources programmed for the biodiversity focal area amounted to \$484.57 million, leaving a balance of \$465.89 million. Therefore, approximately 50% of the resources for GEF-4 remain to be programmed.

21. **Climate Change:** The total funding request from these seven projects comes to \$47.5 million, which together will leverage \$443 million in co-financing. The high-level of co-financing is mainly due to the *China Provincial Energy Efficiency Scale-up Program*, which alone will leverage \$310 million in co-financing.

22. With this IWP, programming of GEF-4 resources in the Climate Change Focal Area is approaching 50 percent. A healthy pipeline of project concepts is under active development, and a strong, geographically balanced project flow is expected in the coming months.

Programmatic Approaches in this Work Program

23. Eight out of the 23 projects submitted in this work program are projects under Programmatic Approaches (PAs) previously approved by Council³. The eight PIFs are associated with the following four PAs that were approved by Council in the April 2008 Council meeting:

- Biosafety Program
- Energy Efficiency in the Russian Federation
- Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency in India
- Strategic Program for Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin

³ See Annex A-1 for the projects and their financial details.

Summary of Free Standing PIFs and PIFs in the Programmatic Approaches in the January 2009 Intersessional Work Program⁴

Biodiversity

1. **Global (Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Venezuela, Colombia)** : Communities of Conservation: Safeguarding the World's Most Threatened Species (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$1.78 m)
2. **Global (Chile, Vietnam, Trinidad and Tobago, South Africa, Lesotho)**: Project for Ecosystem Services (ProEcoServ) (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant: \$6.30m)
3. **Global**: Threatened Species Partnership/Save Your Logo (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.90 m)
4. **Regional (Central African Republic, Congo DR, Congo, Gabon)**: CBSP Sustainable Management of the Wildlife and Bushmeat Sector in Central Africa (FAO) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.25 m)
5. **Regional (Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Niue)**: PAS Forestry and Protected Area Management (FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$6.29 m)
6. **Regional (Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Vanuatu, Niue)**: Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species in the Pacific Islands(UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.03 m)
7. **Regional (Chad, Gambia, Mali, Sierra Leone)**: SPWA Evolution of PA systems with regard to climatic, institutional, social, and economic conditions in the West Africa Region (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3.64 m)
8. **Bahamas**: Building a Sustainable National Marine Protected Area Network (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.20 m)
9. **Colombia**: Designing and Implementing a National Sub-System of Marine Protected Areas (SMPA) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4.85 m)
10. **Ecuador**: Sustainable Financing of Ecuador's National System of Protected Areas (SNAP) and Associated Private and Community-managed PA Subsystems (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$6.40 m)
11. **India**: BS Capacity Building on Biosafety for Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol - Phase II under the Biosafety Program (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2.73 m)
12. **Madagascar**: Support to the Madagascar Foundation for Protected Areas and Biodiversity (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$10.0 m)

Climate Change

13. **China**: Provincial Energy Efficiency Scale-Up Program (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$ 13.39 m)
14. **India**- IND Energy Efficiency Improvements in Commercial Buildings - under the Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$5.20 m)

⁴ The GEF Project Grant is the funding request for the project and does not include project preparation grants nor Agency fees.

15. **India** - IND Improving Energy Efficiency in the Indian Railway System - under the Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$5.20 m)
16. **India** - IND Promoting Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Selected Micro SME Clusters in India – under the Programmatic Framework for Energy Efficiency (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant: \$7.17 m)
17. **Pakistan:** Pakistan Sustainable Transport Project (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.85 m)
18. **Russian Federation:** RUS - Building Energy Efficiency in the North West of Russia (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$5.84 m)
19. **Turkey:** Improving Energy Efficiency in Industry (UNDP/UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant: \$5.90 m)

Persistent Organic Pollutants

20. **Regional (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Philippines, Thailand):** Demonstration of BAT and BEP in Fossil Fuel-fired Utility and Industrial Boilers in Response to the Stockholm Convention on POPs (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant: \$4.0 m)
21. **Argentina:** Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs in Argentina (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant: \$3.40 m)
22. **India:** Environmentally Sound Management and final disposal of PCBs in India (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant: \$14.10 m)
23. **Peru:** Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PCBs (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant: \$2.58 m)