



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)
NGO CONSULTATION

November 10, 2008

**The World Bank, H Auditorium,
600 19th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.**

1.0 OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS BY CO-CHAIRS: GEF SECRETARIAT AND GEF-NGO NETWORK

Danieluis Pivoriunas, Senior Operations Officer for Capacity Building, GEF, convened the session and welcomed Madame Barbut, GEF CEO and Chair of GEF, Dorothy Manuel, Central Focal Point, GEF NGO Network, and all parties attending. Dorothy Manuel gave introductory remarks (See Annex 2).

2.0 OPENING, QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH GEF CHAIR AND CEO, MONIQUE BARBUT

In her speech, Madame Barbut indicated that this council meeting was occurring during a period of transformation. The Council is entering a watershed period in terms of a step forward to galvanize the work of the GEF Secretariat and Network following the independent review of the GEF NGO Network. She acknowledged the addition of the IPO on the Coordinating Committee as a step in the right direction. The GEF Secretariat has supported the Coordinating Committee through efforts such as updating the database and inclusion of articles in the newsletter. There remains a need for the A-Z Guide to be updated. She mentioned two publications on gender and indigenous people's participation in sub regional. She expressed her interest that the Voluntary Fund be restarted and stated that the GEF Secretariat will also contribute to the VF. She reaffirmed that the GEF Secretariat is committed to organize regional CSO consultations every two years as an opportunity for greater interaction between government and CSOs as the role of CSOs is relevant. Monique expressed her interest in the communication methodologies such as the website to enhance the exchange of information and dialogue. In conclusion, Madame Barbut further offered that she hoped that advocacy will reach national communities to ensure growth for the next replenishment. SGP has begun the process of consultation, re-management and graduation. In January, 2009, a meeting will be convened with the SGP national coordinator and the steering committee. The purpose of this meeting is to analyze and begin to design options for consideration of the council in June, 2009. The network is represented on the steering committee. She expressed her approval and happiness that the consultation agenda has been revised to reflect a sharper focus.

(See Annex 3 for full speech).

QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH THE CHAIR AND CEO OF GEF

Question 1

Faizal Parish raised the issue on the implication of the global financial crisis and its impact on the GEF. With this in mind, he asked the CEO how she sees this impacting the direction of the replenishment. Will the GEF member countries rise to the challenge to meet the needs of the countries? He noted that it looked like the replenishment figure should be in the region of factor five.

Question 2

Timothy Geer referred to the need for NGOs to communicate clearly the responsibility to the public sector. He hoped that the GEF is replenished in a strong way and that the dialogue with governments will continue in a unyielding way.

Question 3

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi, Council member from Iran, questioned the implications of the financial crisis on the GEF Secretariat and replenishment? He wondered what the impact this would have on the promises we have received from donor countries and the operational aspects on NGOs.

Response by Monique Barbut, Chair and CEO of the GEF

Monique informed the meeting that the replenishment process would start on Friday and will conclude by the beginning of 2010. On the issue of the financial crisis, her view was that there was a crisis but, at same time, an opportunity is there during this time to look at the fundamentals of the economy in the past. People should perhaps invest in different types of strategies. We have created money but no added value. It is important at this time for governments to define and construct alternative models based on the ecosystems. Like any crisis it is a time to facilitate other types of discussion about what we want to create with the money we receive. In her personal view, a replenishment of \$4.6 Billion GEF will be a failure as this is the amount GEF received in GEF 2, if you look at the value of this money in real terms. If there is a true global interest in the conventions and if indeed this is a top global priority, \$4.6 Billion should be the floor level. It would be beneficial if it was clearer on what they want to achieve through the Climate Change Convention as you cannot have a high level replenishment without the Climate Change convention. It would be good for all parties to look at this and reconcile viewpoints. If GEF is not chosen as financial institution for the Climate Change Convention, the question to be addressed is whether there is any need for GEF.

That will be a choice that we all have to make and fight for. The fundamentals of GEF are still there and it is a fantastic idea but the world has changed. It is the only institution that is a bridge between the Bretton Wood, the environmental conventions and and civil Society. Maybe GEF has to reform itself to be the mechanism that people would want to trust. Monique informed the meeting that she would propose to council the critical reforms to allow the GEF to reform itself in a way that is globally acceptable. In conclusion, she did not believe that the crisis will impact the current operations as all donors have been making their contributions. Monique noted that all countries had settled her dues for 2008 and she was looking forward to a 2009 replenishment including the United States. In her view no problems are anticipated for replenishment.

Question 4

Herve LeFeuvre requested clarification on the timing of replenishment and the link to the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF). He queried whether there would be any merit in extending the replenishment to wait for the convention processes. The criticism on the RAF is that if it just focuses on efficiency, it could undermine the strategic positioning of the GEF.

Question 5

Randy Curtis asked what role the GEF could play in documenting ecosystems better and using funding more efficiently for these activities. What sort of campaign could be organized to convince people once that were established?

Response by Monique Barbut, Chair and CEO of the GEF

Regarding the timing of GEF, two options are available as GEF is not just about Climate change. There is no intention to destroy the instrument just because of the Climate Change discussion and there was a need to take seriously the work of replenishment, not how it impacts on Climate Change. If replenishment is postponed, others will suffer, so she strongly suggested negotiating GEF5. She will favor the replenishment but not to decide to come back and make an early replenishment because people decided to add resources because of climate change.

On the issue of the RAF, the evaluation is showing a number of problems but there is no reason in the RAF discussion to throw out baby with the bath water. It has increased the feeling of ownership of resources at country level. You know how much resources you have and each country or group has four years to plan the use of these resources. There are some deficits which affect its efficiency but there are also positives. There is no concrete analysis to indicate what GEF is creating as a value. There are two ways to look at it; (i). Depending on amount of resource received in the replenishment, if RAF is \$20 Billion then there is no problem. The GEF base of \$3.1 billion for the RAF is currently too small and it is impossible to build the RAF with small resources. There can be two intermediate RAF systems One RAF with full flexibility on how they use the funds. The minimum a country will get is \$6-7million.

We need to have figures on biodiversity and climate change we can report on. There will be need to introduce floors and ceiling by focal area for Climate Change and Biodiversity. (ii) Another system could be to create three RAFs – Climate Change, Chemicals and Natural Resources. Monique was not in favor of killing RAF but would like to develop something that affords greater control. It would be a mistake to return to the situation that was there before RAF. There are clear benefits; the 5% exception has to be increased; more resources would be required to deal with regional and global programs; and the GEF should be investing more in global and regional programs. On the issue of ecosystems, we should do a follow up focusing on a methodology which will account for this. The discussions with groups about this have not been good as they have not yielded a good way forward.

Question 6

Felipe Villagran raised the issue that since we have started on the course of ownership

within the RAF, if we keep controls as to how we will be contradicting ourselves. For instance, if a country considers that it is best to put money in SGP, this cannot be effected because of the restrictions.

Question 7

On procedure and communication issues, Faizal Parish reported that something that has been discussed at the preparatory meeting on how the network could more actively engage with council, such as providing concluding report of the day, some feedback and more effective transmission of viewpoints. Similarly ways to enhance information from the various conventions, such as the key dialogue with GEF at the Climate Change COPs to get common consensus and gather feedback. How do we operationalize this?

Response by Monique Barbut, Chair and CEO of the GEF

Monique shared with the meeting that she did not share the viewpoint on the SGP. The fact that SGP important resources can come from the RAF undermines NGOs from getting money. In GEF 4 and RAF there have been zero projects with the private sector. When we talk about ownership we speak about what government likes and is interested in doing. We cannot forcefully set aside resources in the RAF for SGP or the private sector, else we are returning to the system of exclusion. GEF resources are linked to global benefits and incremental cost. In January 2009, GEF will start a process to look at SGP as a whole and in June 2009 report to council some proposals on SGP and graduation. Before this exercise can be concluded the GEF will get views from SGP coordinators. This is the best way to advance this subject.

On the issue of NGO organization, since the network now has a website they could post position papers on the website before GEF council. GEF has a policy on transparency of documents and there is nothing to stop NGOs to make this interactive for people to provide input. Maybe it will be a good idea at one stage to develop a blog and together we can create space for discussion among stakeholders.

Question 8

Tim Geer thanked Monique and members of the network for the articulation of the ambition to move to a discussion of mechanics. Are we resolved for an ambitious replenishment in GEF 5? Do we need to display economic benefits of the world?

Response by Monique Barbut, Chair and CEO of the GEF

Monique suggested that it would be good to provide a summary of the consultation for council members.

The co-chairs thanked Monique for a most stimulating and challenging though provoking session. They hoped that all that was discussed would influence the nature of dialogue for the rest of the consultation.

3.0 PANEL 1: KEY ISSUES FOR NOVEMBER 2008 COUNCIL MEETING

GEF Council Paper “Enhancing Engagement and Partnership of Civil Society with the GEF”

Djim Nanasta Chaired this session

Panelists were: Ermath Harrington RFP Caribbean GEF NGO Network, Faizal Parish RFP South East Asia GEF NGO Network, Jagdeesh Puppala RFP South Asia GEF NGO Network

The session was chaired by Djim Nanasta. He started by introducing the panelists and then outlined how this session would be conducted. He informed the consultation that Ermath Harrington would start by presenting the current strategy and operational plan for the GEF NGO Network. After a short break for questions, Faizal Parish would give a presentation on the paper going to council on engagement and partnership with civil society (See Annex 5).

Ermath Harrington gave a presentation on the Strategy and Operational Plan (see Annex 4).

Ermath informed the consultation that he was happy to share the status of the GEF Ngo Network strategic and operational plans. The CEO of GEF had intermitted that this is a watershed period and s significant milestone. A considerable amount of work has been invested by the network Coordinating Committee to put together the strategy and operational plan. Ermath promised a short presentation which would bring all participants up to speed with the process. He underscored that they have been various iterations of the plans, the process has been long, as it began in June 2007 and done parallel to the database of GEF accredited organizations. Following guidance from the network the operational plan covers a period of two years. The objectives embody the specific deliverables based on a rationale of relevance and value addition. The operational plan has been designed with a level of flexibility put in a context of the global environmental issues. He ended by mentioning the driving force of “Momentum” which kept the network focused and the levels of investments going on the formulation this document. The chair opened the floor for questions.

Question 1

Mr. Jozef Buys, Council member Belgium, referring to the budget of \$1.6 million asked where this money would come from. He underscored that the operational plan seemed ambitious. How does the network plan to implement this plan ?

Response by Ermath Harrington

Ermath responded that the money would come from three primary sources of funding to support the budget requirements.

On the question of implementation, some activities will be deferred and deadlines shifted. The approach is that the deliverables will be assigned responsibility to different

committees in the network and working collaboratively with the GEF. By and large the fall responsibility will fall on the subcommittee and the Coordinating Committee.

Question 2

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi, Council member Iran, wanted the insurance that there would be a democratic process for the nomination of NGOs. At present he was of the opinion that the criteria for nomination were vague.

Response by Jagdeesh Puppala, RFP South Asia

Jagdeesh explained that the network was in the process of amalgamation of the existing accreditation process of the GEF and was putting this in the context of membership of the network. He promised that in a month or two there would be better crafted rules and regulations.

Question 3

A guest participant from the DRC thanked Danieluis Pivoriunas Senior Operations Officer for Capacity Building, GEF for allowing him to participate although he was not officially accredited. He underlined that he had read the criteria for eligibility which is quite clear. It informed the consultation that at present DRC could not participate in the council meeting because of the war. He explained that DRC has many NGOs working officially on the ground. He explained that he was an advisor to the minister of environment for many years and knows that exceptions can be made. He requested that some alternative arrangements be made so that DRC is not forgotten within the GEF framework.

Response by Djim Nanasta, RFP West Africa

Djim responded to the delegate from DRC saying that the consultation is happy to see him here to convey the concerns from your region. There are few DRC NGOs accredited to the network. Those that are not accredited and want to participate should seek accredited. From the operational point of view, the Focal Point (FP) of the DRC absence will not be a detriment to the country involvement in GEF.

4.0 PANEL 1: Key Issues for November 2008 Council Meeting

The second part of this panel was chaired by Khadija Razavi

Panelists were Siv Tokle Senior Evaluation Officer, German Rocha RFP South America, Randy Curtis Nature Conservancy (TNC), Herve Lefeuvre Senior Manager Multilateral Development Banks and GEF relations WWF US

Herve LeFeuvre gave an introduction to this session followed by a presentation by German Rocha on the Mid Term Review of the RAF.

Liliana Hisas gave a short presentation on findings of study on role of NGO inputs to GEF Projects.

Siv Tokle gave a presentation on the results of the Mid Term Review of the RAF (see annex 6)

5.0 PANEL 2: LAUNCH OF GEF NGO NETWORK WEBSITE

This session was chaired by Salah Sahabi

Panelists: Faizal Parish RFP South East Asia, GEF NGO Network, Boinzella Biagini Program Manager / Sr. Climate Change Specialist GEF

Faizal Parish gave a presentation on the new NGO Network website (www.gefngo.org).

6.0 PANEL 3: DEVELOPING COOPERATION BETWEEN GEF NGO NETWORK AND GEF AGENCIES CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORKS

This session was chaired by Rex Horoi RFP Pacific

Panelists: Maryam Niamir Fuller, Director of UNEP/GEF, Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager SGP, Tehmina Akhtar Knowledge Management Advisor for the National Dialogue Initiative (NDI) and Country Support Programme (CSP), Rajen Awotar RFP Eastern Africa.

The chair of the session, Rex Horoi gave introductory remarks, and then allowed the first panelist to give his remarks.

6.1 Rajen Awotar RFP the Eastern Africa.

Rajen Awotar thanked the chair, network and panelists for giving him an opportunity to speak about a topic very dear to the network---- How we might develop cooperation? The network has been trying hard over the past two years to come up with a strategy to strengthen cooperation with other networks. The network strategic operational plan gives more strength to the partnership and could serve as a model for other agencies of the GEF to come up with the same arrangements. Last year the network had discussion with SGP. Discussion have been continuous and at the stage where a Memorandum of Understanding could be signed.

Work on how to develop co-operations with other agencies i.e. Convention networks, UNEP, UNDP and other agencies is still work in progress. We have never had an institutionalized partnership. This particular model started in 1995. Partnership is innovative but the council decision further concretizes the partnership. Both parties want to work towards a common goal. The basis of the GEF and network partnership is based on trust and cooperation. We are fortunate to have an NGO coordinator to deal with us. The whole experience so far has been very enriching for the network. In our previous presentations there has been much mention of partnership and the interest on part of the network is very genuine.

6.2 Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager SGP

Delfin Ganapin began his presentation by stating that CSOs are the primary stakeholders of the SGP. This is a way to direct access by NGOs to the GEF. Whereas the relationship is not formal so far the relationship is good. The lessons learnt become an instrument for policy making. SGP has sat down with the NGO Network and had mutual input into the work plan and produced joint knowledge management products. Also important is the link to policy SGP also works with UNDP as the local pillar outside the GEF. Importance as manager as SGP...one way the keeping us grounded. Support is not one way process; we see a lot coming from Network in terms of pushing the work. In SGP national steering committees, the rule is that they must be majority non-government stakeholders. SGP has seen direct access by communities and CBOs as a result of the push by NGOs. At this stage the relationship with the network is not yet a marriage, but an experiment with living together. So far experience is good. GEF SGP sees network as a way to link to assembly and improve global level policy making. On a larger scale the GEF NGO network is a way by which GEF's public participation policy can be exercised.

The partnership is very natural. The network is in GEF SGP steering committee. Short of an MOU both parties have sat down and worked on the network work plan. Incorporated in work plan is the need to strengthen links of SGP and the network at ground level. Provisions have been made for one representative in every regional workshop of the GEF SGP. There are joint knowledge management products and plans for more products. Regarding the link to policy especially work at conventions, SGP is trying to set up products with the network on community based indigenous people and community based adaptation. SGP is doing lot of work at local and national level, but there is a big gap in terms of regional and global levels. This is where the network and SGP can complement each other. SGP is also working with UNDP as the local pillar, doing a lot of support to NGO work which goes beyond GEF.

Challenges to living together, almost married are:-

- i) Expand links should be institutionalized, asked RFPs to join regional workshops, help establish more formal links.
- ii) National coordinators to link with national NGO links
- iii) Cross linking websites and databases
- iv) Like to have joint efforts...prep for Poland
- v) Budget...all requires budget, coordinate activities within existing budget line items.
- vi) For focal points, national coordinator is doing geographic targeting. 5% limitation for capacity building. Challenges are surmountable.

6.3 Tehmina Akhtar, Knowledge Management Advisor for the National Dialogue Initiative (NDI) and Country Support Programme (CSP)

Themina Akhtar made a presentation on the GEF National Dialogue Initiative

(See Annex 8). Following on the comment made by the chair at the beginning of the session, Themima stated that have technical thing going now we can launch the rocket. Themina shared greetings from Stephen Gold.

She started her presentation by explaining a little about the National Dialogue Initiative (NDI). There are few mechanisms in GEF for multi stakeholder dialogue and some easy civil society have participated. The idea of these dialogues is to bring stakeholders in same room around same table to try to identify common issues and challenges relating to GEF. 45% felt their participation and prioritization in the RAF processes. This program has addressed many issues that have been presented to raise public awareness and to serve as vehicle for sharing lessons. Dialogues have targeted objective, each country specifies what would like to use dialogue for. All convention focal points relevant to GEF focal areas are present. The GEF NGO Network has also participated. To date the network has participated in 12 sub regional meetings.

Some of recent dialogues and the key issues have emerged. In India a unique session was held on mainstreaming SGP experiences. In Burkina Faso the main objective of the dialogue was building capacity. The main purpose of these dialogues is to build public participation.

In terms of future dialogues, there will be a national dialogue in Liberia with a key emphasis on civil society. All NDI dialogues schedules and reports are on the website. CSP provides guidance but national coordination emphasized. NDI/CSP looks forward to linking to the GEF NGO Network website. In closing, she said that NDI looked forward to maintaining direct communication with the network

6.3 Maryam Niamir Fuller, Director of UNEP/GEF

Dr. Maryam Niamir Fuller – Dr. Fuller gave a presentation on the UNEP and the GEF NGO Network (see Annex 7) Following the precedent set by the chair, Maryam said that she will show what could be the engine of the aircraft.

Maryam explained that UNEP engaging with civil society through 9 major groups. This type of arrangement gives agencies more interaction in partnership UNEP has had 30 years of work, partnership with major groups, providing technical support to major groups, bringing diverse perspective, engaging in design and implementation of projects.

The areas of collaboration are--policy and advocacy activities and issue based discussions. Accreditation takes three months of a rigorous verification process. She expressed excitement at the prospect of UNEP collaborating with the GEF NGO Network. She outlined her vision for this collaborating as follows:-

1. Integrating consultative process—this can be issue based, instrumental to influence council as well as ministerial round of discussion.
2. Joint activities on knowledge management, assessments, bio-fuels and pastoralism.

3. Scaling up of CSO-led GEF projects--systematic way to scan things on GEF horizon, programmatic approaches to reduce transaction. This would be advocacy based.

She proposed a new Corporate Fund to (a) Implement strategic operational plans (b) Portal for knowledge management-- this was a systematic way in which NGO perspective can be mainstreamed in GEF projects (c) Regular civil society consultations at global and regional levels. (d) Strengthening the programming link to country level-- mining successes of existing efforts.

There would be a dedicated budget, steered by network, administered by one of the agencies. The inter agency process truly consultative. Steering ship will be the CEO, CFP momentum type of value. She concluded by saying that the space craft is ready but before we blast we need to give time for questions.

Comment 1

Rajen Awotar welcomed UNEP proposing corporate plan stating that this goes beyond what we were expecting. If we can confirm this plan, the Network will have made an excellent and positive move forward.

Comment 2

A delegate from the Government of Ethiopia stated that what is important is not marriage on paper level but real marriage on the ground. UNEP as specialized agency on environment and GEF would make an excellent partner for the network.

Question 1

Delfin Ganapin spoke of what the network is required to do to activate this offer, and asked what the network would be giving up or changing to consummate this marriage.

Response by Maryam Fuller

Maryam said like in every marriage trust and confidence are very crucial to partnership. She said the ball was in the NGO court to define how they would like this partnership to work.

6.0 PANEL 4: DONOR MEETING ON THE GEF NGO VOLUNTARY FUND

Dorothy Manuel, CFP, GEF NGO Network

**Panelists: Tim Geer, Director, Government & Aid Agency Relations WWF,
Mr. Agus Purnomo, Indonesia Council Member**

Dorothy Manuel gave a presentation on the Voluntary Fund, its history and the purpose that it will serve in the NGO Network going forward (See Annex 6). She referred to a decision made in May 1005 to establish the GEF Voluntary Fund. He underlined a few examples which illustrate a range of activities of “consultation” activities that would be funded by the Voluntary Fund as:

- (a) NGO consultations
- (b) Regional/sub-regional consultations on implementation of GEF operational activities
- (c) GEF co-sponsored technical meetings related to GEF focal areas.
- (d) Travel costs of LDC participation in selected GEF meetings.

This Voluntary Fund is well suited to the current plans and needs of the GEF NGO Network as articulated in the strategy and two year operational plan. Most of what the fund was set up to do is still applicable. This session is an attempt to reach out to the “GEF Family” to make the network plans real and working. A huge part of making our plans a success is resources.

The network believes in its vision; there is a clear recognition of the role for the network. The network believes it has the capability and resolve to deliver and interact with different constituencies. The network can mobilize and deliver rapid response to GEF related issues and has the advantage of being closer to the frontline, acting as a bridge between the macro and micro. The key issue here is partnership, not just funding, but a movement to work together.

Tim Geer added that in the partnership between the GEF and Civil Society a common vision is necessary. The NGOs want to be more than just implementers and consultants. How do we build the partnership “brick by brick”. Challenges remain in the field and in vertical integration. Other questions yet unanswered are how we can make this happen for the benefit of GEF.

Agus Purnomo gave the perspective from the Focal Point and Operational Point. He said that they both need inputs from NGOs specifically to shape up the program itself. The NGOs are very instrumental in implementing GEF Projects. What is needed on the ground should come from the NGOs. There are issues to be addressed, such as, inherent conflict of interest---how can we weed this out and the financial part---the challenge is within existing available funds. In the remaining years of gEF4 what can we do, how can we create synergy where we do not have to change the rules. If NGOs are also applying for GEF resources how can the proposals be genuine? Can we identify activities that will endure until GEF 5?

The floor was opened for comments.

Question 1

Delfin Ganapin asked if the Voluntary Fund has several windows into which to put the funding? This would be important so that donors will be more aware of where specifically, what areas, the funds would be utilized in the operational plan. We can also challenge donors with co-financing options.

Response by Tim Geer

Tim Geer commended Delfin for touching on an important topic, how do we get married? We are advocating for the concept of “Friends of the Network”. The voluntary Fund is

not just about money. However, we need to explore further the fact that there is one donor recipient, the council.

Response by Jagdeesh Puppala

To avoid the issue of conflict of interest, the network could become a service provider as it is self organizing and independent.

Response by Agus Purnomo

We could look at a pilot approach that the meeting can evaluate from time to time. Pioneering work is needed on the ground.

Question 2

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi, Council member Iran asked for the history behind the development of the council paper by the GEF Secretariat together with the network.

Response by William Ehlers

William explained to the consultation that the paper was an answer to the evaluation, on the one hand looking at what the network has done and on the other developing a coherent plan for the future. The annex to this document is a document detailing planned activities, the budget and a timeline. Regarding the request for the participation of the network at council, the amount had not been updated since the arrangement was made. The key decision required by council is to increase the travel fund and recreate the voluntary fund. The operational plan and budget for the network activities is a separate document for information purposes.

Response by Faizal Parish

Adding to the explanation above, Faizal parish explained that the strategy was to create a bigger opportunity for CSOs in the GEF. There could be potential conflict but there is a common vision and different roles clearly outlined. It advocates partnership at council level, regional level and national and local level in line with the GEF public participation policy. The initiative intends to create capacity and mechanisms to move the partnership forward.

Comment 1

Delfin Ganapin alluded to the need for a communication strategy and clear explanation on the actions to be directed to council members.

Comment 2

German Rocha stated that the network has an operational plan which is very comprehensive. There is now a need to know how the Voluntary Fund will operate to assist the network to implement this plan. There are some open questions which still need clarity.

Question 3

Mr. Marc-Antoine Martin said that one needs to justify the extra work and value that will be added by the strategic operational plan. When one looks at the plan, it is a sizeable document, describing activities in the framework presented. Some aspects seem redundant and there needs to be more clarity to the complementary role, the need to show additionality. This is what will convince donors. There was mentioned that funding will come from three sources, who will be the donors?

Question 4

Germany asked that if funding will come from three sources, who will be the donors?

Response by Faizal Parish

In response to France and Germany, Faizal said he had two additional suggestions: the plan which has some activities, priorities to be implemented for the next two years and some resources are needed to create the voluntary fund. The fund will allow the financing for the activities of the NGO network to be put together in a coordinated manner according to fiduciary standards. Regarding the complementary nature of activities, this will be spelt out more clearly in a supplementary information document which will be made available to council members.

Response by Tim Geer

Tim Geer added that everyone who has presented a plan knows how difficult it is to develop, fund and implement it. The key issue here is that we have two years to build a more active network before GEF 5. By the time we get to GEF 5 the network will be in a better position.

Comment 3

Dr Maryam Fuller commented that regarding the concerns raised by the French and German delegates, Faizal's explanation had put things into context. Talking about feasible sources of funding there is (a) Voluntary Fund; (b) Synergies with other corporate programs; and (c) a dedicated corporate program.

There are benefits to trying to find sustainable sources of funding. If some are packaged in a corporate program, we will be able to provide linkages and transparency in a process to transform what is a proposal to council to something of enhanced value.

Comment 4

Delfin Ganapin commended the hard work put in developing the strategic operational plan. There are many additional benefits possible for the network when associating with the SGP such as linkages and knowledge management. At SGP only 5% can be put in knowledge management. There are many advantages to both organizations in sharing information at regional and global levels.

Comment 5

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi, Council member from Iran, requested that the list of activities be put in a result based framework. The availability of funds is very critical so activities need to be prioritized.

Comment 6

Jagdeesh Puppala referred to the mentions of inadequacies, inefficiency in the mid-term review of the RAF. This is why the activities of the network make sense. While the network may be limited to implementation, there is scope to participate in various stages of the GEF. This does not mean duplication.

Comment 7

Ermath Harrington commented that the discourse had been fertile in terms of the caliber of inputs and has repositioned the dialogue. One facet to understand and appreciate is this process is by no means complete but is iterative and consultative. Referring to the point raised by the German council member as to how the voluntary fund will be structured, and into what areas potential donors will be allocating funds; the plan clearly articulates activities which determine the next requirement in this process. The council member from Iran made a valid point about prioritization. All of these suggestions will be incorporated.

The session was wrapped up with a few comments from Dorothy Manuel thanking all participants for their valuable contributions and speaking on the need for “Friends of the Network” to continue to assist the network through interactive consultations and dialogues.

7.0 Presentation on GEF and Public Participation: Indigenous Communities & Gender Mainstreaming by Yoko Watanabe Program Manager / Biodiversity

(Full presentation See Annex 9)

GEF has taken steps to analyze relationship with Indigenous Communities and introduce Gender and Indigenous People’s matter for GEF. GEF has engaged in a separate portfolio review and engaged in discussion about public participation policy

GEF has observed that Indigenous People and Gender matters are crucial for success of projects but also contribute to sustainability.

At the Conference of parties (COP), GEF organized side events with Indigenous People. This type of cooperation proved very fruitful.

The main lesson learned was that early participation is essential to design of project.

Yoko defined the next steps: articulation of the vision in a guidance/action paper, strengthening of the institutional framework, raising awareness of technical staff. In addition, there will also be attention to socio-economic aspects. GEF plans to incorporate gender in monitoring and evaluation. GEF will try to ensure appropriate funding for gender analysis and related issues.

Thank you for your attention and we look forward.

Comment 1

Felipe Villagran thanked Yoko for the presentation and work.

Question 1

Khadija Razavi asked if GEF had taken into account the Indigenous People's Declaration on the right of Indigenous People.

Response by Yoko Watanabe

Yoko Watanabe told the consultation that UNEP has strengthen their gender policies but hopefully in future most projects from UNEP would reflect these issues. UNEP have developed new policies, and the reason why they did not have strong gender was because it was at global and regional level

8.0 CLOSING REMARKS

In his concluding remarks, RFP for Meso-America Felipe Villagran mentioned that sometimes to reach consensus there is at times a need to first have disagreement. He said that he was proud of what the network has achieved and thanked all his colleagues for the hard work which brought about the results. Highlighting a few points, he said he was delighted by the revamping of consultation. He thanked agencies and council members for their active participation and substantive contribution.

There remains a considerable amount of work to tie up loose ends to further develop partnerships. He welcomed the new ideas from SGP and UNEP stating that this will give the network food for thought. He suggested that the network has a vision for GEF5 which calls for continuing NDI and CSP and continued work on the conventions.

On the way forward, he mentioned that another tool for the network would be a familiarization seminar to spread awareness and understanding of GEF and how to apply for funding. In trying to prepare the basic structure a useful component would be a case study on how to prepare a project. For this exercise the network could use SGP, NGOs or a Climate Change project.

All aspects of operational parts will be continued. With regard to outreach work, the network will plan a stronger sense of ownership and partnership. Capacity building, familiarization, need new strategies with the UNDP and UNEP participating. There seems no rational reason why countries should not incorporate civil society. The network will ensure that a supplementary information note will be developed for council members so that the council paper will become clearer. This would facilitate approval of the Voluntary Fund.

ANNEX 1: AGENDA FOR CONSULTATION MONDAY, 10 NOVEMBER, 2008,
9.00AM- 17.00PM, THE WORLD BANK, H AUDITORIUM, 600 19TH STREET,
N.W. WASHINGTON, DC

Welcome and Introductions

09h00 – 09h45

Danielius Pivoriunas, Sr. Operations Officer for Capacity Building GEF and Dorothy Manuel, CFP GEF NGO Network

Opening and Q&A

Monique Barbut, Chair and CEO of GEF

09h45 – 10h00

COFFEE/TEA BREAK

10h00 – 11h30

PANEL 1: Key Issues for November 2008 Council Meeting

facilitated by DjimNanasta, RFP Western Africa

GEF Council Paper—"Enhancing Engagement and Partnership of civil society with the GEF"

- (I) GEF-NGO Network Council Paper; Strategy and Operational Plan
- (II) Financial resources for consultations and replenishment of Voluntary Fund

***Invited Panellists:** Ermath Harrington, RFP Caribbean GEF NGO Network, Faizal Parish, RFP, South East Asia GEF NGO Network, Jagdeesh Puppala, RFP South Asia, GEF NGO Network*

facilitated by Khadija Razavi, RFP Western Asia

- Mid-Term Review of the Resource Allocation Framework
- GEF 5 Strategy and Replenishment
- Other issues linked to agenda
-

***Invited Panellists:** Siv Tokle, Senior Evaluation Officer, German Rocha, RFP, South America, Randy Curtis, Nature Conservancy (TNC), Hervé Lefevre Senior Manager Multilateral Development Banks and GEF relations WWF US*

11h30-13h00

Panel 2: Launch of GEF NGO NETWORK WEBSITE

facilitated by Salah Sahabi, RFP North Africa

Invited Panellists : Faizal Parish, RFP South East Asia, GEF NGO Network, Bonizella Biagini, Program Manager/Sr. Climate Change Specialist GEF,

Future plans for outreach, participation and inclusion of major CSO groups

facilitated by Johnson Cerda, IP representative for South Americas

Presentation of recent GEF Publications

Yoko Watanabe, Program Manager/ Biodiversity Specialist, GEF, Representative

- GEF Indigenous Communities and Biodiversity
- Mainstreaming Gender in GEF Projects

OPEN DISCUSSION

13h00 – 14h00

LUNCH

14h00 – 15h00

PANEL 3: Developing Cooperation between GEF NGO Network and GEF Agencies Civil Society Networks

facilitated by Rex Horoi, RFP the Pacific

Invited Panellists: Maryam Niamir Fuller, Director of UNEP/GEF, Jocelyne Albert, World Bank Regional Coordinator, Latin Americas and Caribbean, Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager SGP, Tehmina Akhtar, Knowledge Management Advisor for the National Dialogue Initiative(NDI) and Country Support Programme (CSP), Rajen Awotar RFP the Eastern Africa.

Other Invitees

Robert H.E. Aissi, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Papua New Guinea to the UN, Yolanda Kakabase, STAP Chair

15h00 – 15h30

COFFEE/TEA BREAK

15h30 – 16h30

PANEL 4: Donor meeting on GEF NGO Voluntary Fund

facilitated by Dorothy Manuel, CFP GEF NGO Network

***Invited Panellists:** Paul Hospeth, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Environment, Norway, Thomas Kolly, Ambassador/Head of International Affairs Division (FOEN), Reinhard Gasser, Scientific Advisor/GEF Focal Point, Federal Office of the Environment (FOEN), Tim Geer, Director, Government & Aid Agency Relations WWF International, Hervé Lefeuvre Senior Manager Multilateral Development Banks and GEF relations WWF US*

***Other Invitees:** Helene Corneau, Director, CIDA, Daniel Fantozzi, Office Director, Environmental Policy, Dirk Joldersma, Deputy Director, Office of Multilateral Development Banks, Frank Fass-Metz, Head of Environment Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Josceline Wheatley, Team Leader, Global Environmental Assets Team (DFID), Marc-Antoine Martin, General Secretary French Global Environment Facility*

16h00 – 16h30

CLOSING REMARKS

Felipe Villagran, RFP Meso America, William Ehlers, Team Leader, External Affairs. GEF

ANNEX 2: INTRODUCTORY REMARKS – DOROTHY C. MANUEL (CENTRAL FOCAL POINT GEF NGO NETWORK)

Good Morning...

Please allow me to say a few words, express a few thoughts.

I am at the halfway point in my four year tenure as CFP... during this time the NGO Network has begun evolving into a more efficient and more effective Network... In spite of difficulties, challenges and obstacles, both internal and external, we have forged ahead...

The network with the cooperation of Madame Barbut and the GEF Secretariat staff has managed to achieve the following:

- * Have a council paper. “Enhancing Engagement and Partnership of Civil Society with the GEF”
- * Redesigned the NGO Consultation process;
- * Realigned and reaffirmed our partnership with the GEF Secretariat, some GEF Agencies, and International Organizations;
- * Strengthened the Network image and structures, attracting financial support from GEF members for present and future Network activities.

We take the opportunity to thank Madame Barbut and the GEF Secretariat who have been instrumental to these achievements but warn that the bar we are setting now is much higher and will require much more collaboration to succeed. Change we need in a world where the financial systems are breaking down and the environment is degenerating rapidly requiring more effort to improve this situation and sustain it.

In unity there is strength...and we can create much positive synergy within the GEF by acting in concert...this is the ideal, but we are not there yet... At this historic time, the paradigm of possibilities has been altered to a point where we all can see what happens when preparedness meets opportunity. Barack Obama, with his coalition of enthusiastic, competent campaign workers all on the same page, for a common goal, has clearly demonstrated how to succeed.

If we are able to create synergy between the GEF SECRETARIAT, Council, GEF Agencies, the private sector and CSO, all of those contributing positive efforts, the GEF will make significant progress over the next years.

With the assistance, creativity and hard work of parties, we will continue down this path of progress we are on now. I look forward to working with all those who understand, appreciate and support the goals of the Network and the GEF Secretariat.

I will end with a quote from Ralph Waldo Emerson (American Poet, Lecturer)

“The invariable mark of wisdom is to see the miraculous in the common.

Whatever course you decide upon, there is always someone to tell you that you are wrong. There are always difficulties arising which tempt you to believe that your critics are right. To map out a course of action and follow it to an end requires courage.”

We are all in it together, let us dream and realize at least 40% of this dream.

ANNEX 3: OPENING REMARKS BY MONIQUE BARBUT, CHAIR AND CEO OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

GEF NGO Consultations Monday Nov 10, 9am

Good Morning...

I am delighted to be here with you today at the beginning of this consultation. The GEF is continuing its process of transformation in a time where everything we had come to believe was timeless is now under review; and yet the relevance of Civil Society Organizations remains essential to work in the field of the environment.

Tomorrow's Council meeting should be a watershed in the development of the Network and its relations with the GEF. The document that has been prepared for the consideration of the Council is an excellent step forward that will galvanize the work that both the NGO Network and the Secretariat have done over the last three years in response to the independent review of 2005.

In this context I would like to underline the importance of having established formal representation of indigenous peoples on the Network's coordination committee as well as improving communications with the members and a greater role for international NGOs. On its part, the Secretariat has also contributed to this process by supporting the Coordination Committee in its efforts to increase its presence, by updating the NGO database, by incorporating articles written by NGOs to its quarterly newsletter and distributing it broadly to the NGO community. The joint effort of preparing the NGO guide to participating in the GEF was a very useful effort that deserves to be updated. More recently we have produced two very important publications: one on Indigenous peoples and the other on mainstreaming gender at the GEF that I see you will be discussing this afternoon.

We have also tried to ensure that, whenever possible, NGO representatives were able to participate in the sub-regional consultations of the Country Support Programme. Looking to the future, I congratulate the Network on the operational plan you have designed for 2008-2010. I hope the Council will approve the recreation of the NGO Voluntary Trust Fund so that enough resources can be obtained to put this plan in action. The Secretariat will also provide a substantial contribution.

To further develop and strengthen the Network we will be organizing regional meetings of the CSOs every two years and back -to-back with the sub-regional workshops of the CSP. This will provide an opportunity for greater interaction between government representatives and civil society leading to greater understanding of the GEF and coordination of activities.

The role of NGOs has been particularly relevant in the National Dialogue Initiatives that took place throughout this period and that will continue in the future.

I am particularly interested in the development of communications materials. I note the launching of your website that will be linked to the GEF website and those of all your member organizations. The support of the NGO community for the efforts of the GEF to enable developing countries to achieve their environmental objectives is essential. I hope that your advocacy activities will multiply and reach your national authorities and media so that we may continue to grow together, especially as we prepare the next replenishment.

The idea that the members of the NGO Network will automatically be accredited to the GEF and rebroadcast its publications, press releases, newsletters and general information in their national languages will undoubtedly contribute to these goals.

ANNEX 4: GEF-NGO NETWORK COUNCIL PAPER - STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

Presentation Content

- GEF-NGO Network Council Paper
- Strategic Objectives and Operational Plan

Process Highlights

- The process started in June 2007 with the production of a draft strategic plan document
- Network discussions
- Facilitated inputs from Bali Conference
- Constituency feedback
- GEF SECRETARIAT Inputs to Strategic Plan
- Developed Operational Plan
- Network Feedback
- Review and endorsement of Operational Plan by GEF SECRETARIAT

Strategic Plan Highlights

- The strategic plan comprises three objectives, these are:
- To enhance the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment
- To strengthen Global Environmental Policy development through enhanced partnership with Civil Society and the GEF
- To improve the NGO Network Communication and procurement of funding

Rationale for Strategic Objectives

To enhance the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment - Over the past 10 years of GEF implementation it has been increasingly recognized that Civil Society has a critical role to play in directly contributing to the safeguarding of the global environment

To strengthen global environmental policy development through enhanced partnership with Civil Society - This objective builds on the important historical role of the network to contribute and provide feedback to GEF policy making primarily through the GEF Council and GEF Assembly and feedback on project implementation

To improve the NGO Network Communication and procurement of funding - In order to deliver the new objectives and strategies the GEF NGO Network needs to enhance its capacity. As such a complimentary capacity building agenda will be developed alongside the roll out of the objectives and strategies identified.

Strategies

To enhance the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment

- Undertake outreach programs and campaigns to raise awareness on key global environment issues in partnership with the network and GEF
- Document and disseminate experience and best practice to address global environment issues
- Encourage Civil Society contributions to negotiation and implementation of Conventions
- Strengthen capacity of Civil Society to act on global environment issues

To strengthen Global environmental policy development through enhanced partnership between Civil Society and the GEF

- Stimulate dialogue and engagement of civil society in GEF activities
- Facilitate Civil Society inputs to GEF planning and policy making
- Provide feedback on results of GEF supported activities
- Support the generation and distribution of resources for Civil Society action

To improve the NGO Network Communication and procurement of funding

- Developing and building up communication and network resources for the GEF NGO Network
- Establish and support a communication strategy
- Pursue opportunities and activities to utilize capacity of the GEF NGO Network members
- To secure adequate resources for the network from international donors

The Operational Plan

The operational plan devolves from the strategic plan. It identifies:

- The Operational Programmatic Agenda
- Performance Indicators and Targets
- Resource allocations (Financial and Human)

NEXT STEPS

- Implement the operational plan with support from GEF, Agencies, Constituencies, Donors
- Implement the operational plan with support from GEF, Agencies, Constituencies, Donors

Momentum, Momentum, Momentum. Q & A THANK YOU

ANNEX 4: ENHANCING THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE GEF

Outline

- Civil society as key stakeholders in the work of GEF
- GEF Public participation Policy
- GEF NGO Network
- Paper on GEF and Civil society for GEF council

Civil society form the most important stakeholders in the work of GEF

- Local communities are the users and stewards of natural resources and environment
- Direct beneficiaries from sound environmental management
- However sometimes there is a perceived conflict between preservation of biodiversity and minimization of GHG emissions and basic development requirements for local and indigenous communities
- Civil Society should be the main partners for long term sustainability

Environmental Degradation has major Local Impacts



Communities are the best long term stewards of the environment

GEF Public participation Policy

- Adopted by GEF in 1996
- Effective public involvement is critical to the success of GEF-financed projects.
- When done appropriately, public involvement improves the performance and impact of projects by:
- Enhancing recipient country ownership of, and accountability for, project outcomes
- Addressing the social and economic needs of affected people
- Building partnerships among project executing agencies and stakeholders
- Making use of skills, experiences, and knowledge, in particular, of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community and local groups, and the private sector in the design, implementation, and evaluation of project activities

GEF Public participation Policy

Key principles

- Public involvement activities should be designed so that they contribute to the environmental, financial, and social sustainability of projects.
- Projects should, as appropriate, address the social, cultural, and economic needs of people affected by GEF-financed projects.
- Responsibility for assuring public involvement rests within the country, supported by the Implementing [GEF] Agencies
- Public involvement activities will be conducted in a transparent and open manner.
- All GEF-financed projects should have full documentation of public involvement activities.
- There should be transparency in the preparation, conduct, reporting, and evaluation of public involvement activities in all projects.

The Secretariat will:

- Establish operational guidelines for assessing the effectiveness of public involvement activities in the project's design and implementation plan;
- Subsequent monitoring of public involvement activities through the annual project implementation review; evaluation of the impacts of public involvement in terms of improving projects;
- Facilitate the exchange of best practices on public involvement
- Explore ways in which roles of NGOs and other stakeholders can be strengthened in project preparation, design, implementation, and evaluation
- Ensure that funding is available to recipient governments, executing agencies, and, as appropriate, NGOs for conducting effective public involvement.

The GEF Implementing Agencies will

Support countries and project executing agencies in:

- Involving stakeholders at the earliest phase of project identification and throughout design, implementation, and evaluation.
- Providing relevant, timely, and accessible information to as many stakeholders as possible;
- Providing the financial and technical assistance necessary for recipient governments and project executing agencies to ensure effective public involvement.
- Facilitating broad as well as project-specific consultations, especially at the local or sub-national levels; and
- Promoting the participation of stakeholder groups throughout the project cycle. This promotion includes awareness raising and capacity strengthening activities.
- Developing guidelines for public involvement in their own GEF-financed projects

GEF NGO Network

- Established in 1996 following decision by Council to enhance dialogue and partnership with Civil Society
- Links together 650 organizations accredited to GEF
- Coordinated by a global Coordinating Committee, a Central Focal point, 15 Regional Focal points and IP representatives
- 3 Sub committees: Governance, Outreach, Strategy/policy
- Regional Focal points elected every 4 years from among the members in respective regions.
- Link/exchange experience in region and contribute to global policy and outreach
- Organize GEF-NGO consultations immediately prior to each GEF council meeting
- Voluntary network supported by a \$100,000 /year from GEF Secretariat and contributions from network members and donors.

Immediate steps

- Renewal and rejuvenation of membership
- Strengthening activities of Regional Focal points (RFP)
- Identification of Country contact points in countries with large numbers of members
- Strengthening of outreach activities
- Active inputs to GEF Evaluation activities

Step 1: Strengthening partnership between GEF-NGO network and GEF (paper to GEF council November 2008)

- Strengthening partnership between GEF-NGO network and GEF (paper to GEF council November 2008)
- History of cooperation
- Review of Network (2005) and responses (2005-2008)
- Development of Network strategy and operational plan
- Restructuring and enhancing the network accreditation/membership system to empower the membership
- Proposed re-establishment of a voluntary fund to support the implementation of the Network operational plan
- Enhancing consultation

Step 2 Analysing/addressing constraints and opportunities for civil society engagement in GEF programmes in remainder of GEF 4 and GEF 5 specific report/paper for June 2009 Council on constraints and opportunities;

- Implement the GEF public participation policy to ensure the civil society participation from the very early stage of country programming to facilitate synergy between national and civil society priority setting.
- Specific civil society input to the follow-up paper to RAF MTR (for June 2009 Council).
- incorporation of issues in the GEF5 Strategy and operational mechanisms (civil society involvement in the task forces to develop GEF 5 strategy)
- Review of the future modalities for SGP especially resourcing levels and graduation policy

**Step 3 Implementation of new mechanisms for civil society engagement
Regional or country civil society consultations and better engagement in GEF programme planning and priority settings**

- Promoting the concept of community stewardship of resources /areas.
- Enhancing opportunities at country and regional level for civil society organizations to become engaged in GEF programme implementation
- Establishment of safeguards to protect rights of indigenous people potentially impacted by GEF programmes (UN Declaration) Set Policies for GEF
- Establishment /operation of GEF NGO voluntary Fund to support Network Strategy/opn plan implementation
- Enhancing resources for SGP (e.g. flexibility of allocation from RAF, review graduation policy)
- Reinvigorate MSP opportunities for NGOs

Thank you

ANNEX 6: MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE RESOURCE ALLOCATION FRAMEWORK

*NGO consultation
Presentation of preliminary findings
10 November 2008*

MTR Objective and Areas to Assess

Evaluate the degree to which resources have been allocated to countries in a **transparent** and **cost-effective** manner, based on global environmental **benefits** and country **performance**.

- **Design** of the RAF
- Early **Implementation** of the RAF
- **Compare** GEF RAF with other systems

Key Q1: Do the GEB indices reflect best available scientific data and knowledge?

Biodiversity:

Balance marine and terrestrial

Biosafety: outside RAF?

Conservation emphasis: consider ABS and sustainable development?

Climate change:

Adaptation not included

Land-use change not included

GHG vs. energy intensity

Key Q3: Is RAF designed to maximize GEB?

Emerging Issues:

Formula favors GBI and less GPI

No country knowledge of performance rank or formula to serve as incentive

No link between 'needs' (=GBI basis) and GEF programming

Funds insufficient as incentive?

Maximizing *resources* for GEB is not same as maximizing *GEB*

Can design by itself do it? Implementation.....

NGO survey feedback

Since initiation of RAF, NGO's roles in preparation or implementation of GEF projects have:

- stayed the same (32%) or Not Sure (14%)
- improved moderately (24%) or greatly (7%): 31%
- Worsened moderately (15%) or greatly (9%): 24%

NGO involvement in RAF priority-setting:

- Not at all (30%)
 - To slight extent (17%)
 - To moderate (25%) or great extent (20%):45%
- Stakeholder survey (all groups):
RAF has affected the role of...
 - Stakeholder survey (all groups):
RAF has affected the funding of...

Context, transparency and timing

The changing context influenced RAF and GEF operations

- New climate change funds; more attention to resource mobilization
- Focal area strategies, Project cycle and programmatic approaches
- Agency comparative advantages, Other GEF reforms and changes

Delays in start-up

Initial support timely - but insufficient, not tailored

Major shifts in roles of partners are still evolving

- More national consultationbut *less* with NGOs, private sector

Transparency is weak

- Predictability increased for individual allocations
- Complexity reduces transparency
-slow resource utilization and barriers of access to funds

Barriers and promoting factors

Barriers:

Project cycle ??

Eligibility

Too little funds

Group allocation

Lack of knowledge

Weak capacity

Co-funding requirements Central role of govt – barrier to others?

Promoting factors:

National consultation?

Predictability (for individual countries)
Sense of ownership (for individual countries)
Role OFP ??
Subregional meetings
Country profile page

Key Effects of RAF on SGP

GEF4 negotiations allocated US 200 M for SGP:

- US \$ 110 m core funds & 90 m RAF; shortfall likely?

Expenditure caps affect 19 country programs

Predictability of resources decreased for country programs that depend on RAF

↑ in participation of government agencies through greater representation in SGP NSCs

- A concern that NGO participation may be negatively affected

Shifted focal area focus in SGP using RAF funds:

- Significant ↑ in CC and BD – ↓ in IW, LD, MF, PoPs
- Participation of NGOs affected – IW & PoPs

Conclusions (1)

- The GEF is operating in circumstances which increase the need to purposefully allocate scarce resources.
- Data and indicators for assessing global environmental benefits used in the RAF reflect the best available information today; some gaps should be addressed over time.
- The RAF does not provide effective incentives to improve performance.
- Unclear guidelines for the group allocation system in the RAF have limited the access for countries with a group allocation in the first period of the RAF.
- Complexity of implementation rules in the RAF does not provide encouragement for flexible and dynamic use of resources for a relatively small GEF-4 funding.

Conclusions (2)

1. The design and rules of the RAF are too complex for a network partnership, and guidelines +support did not succeed in making the RAF transparent and accessible.
2. The RAF has increased country ownership in countries with an individual allocation- a neutral or detrimental effect on country ownership in countries group allocation.
3. The exclusions did not function well and may have diminished the effectiveness of the GEF in delivery of global and regional environmental benefits.
4. Recommendations
5. Reallocation of funds should be allowed in the last year of GEF-4

6. The last phase of GEF-4, including reallocation of funds, should be implemented with full public disclosure, transparency, participation and clear responsibilities
7. Implementation rules need to be simplified

Issues for the future (GEF-5)

Steps to improve RAF design and indices for GEF-5 should be taken as of now

- Improvement of the global benefits indices and their weights
- Increase of weight of the environmental portfolio performance
- Improvement of predictability and cost-benefits for the group allocation - or discontinuation of the group allocation
- Reconsideration of ceilings, floors and 50% rule
- Recognition of transboundary global environmental problems
- Expanding RAF to one integrated allocation for all focal areas

rafevaluation@thegef.org

<http://www.thegef.org/gefevaluation.aspx#id=18472>

Thank you!

ANNEX 4: UNEP AND THE GEF NGO NETWORK- EXPLORING COLLABORATION FOR GREATER SUPPORT

UNEP's Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch (MGSB)

Main connection point of civil society to UNEP, with 9 major groups:

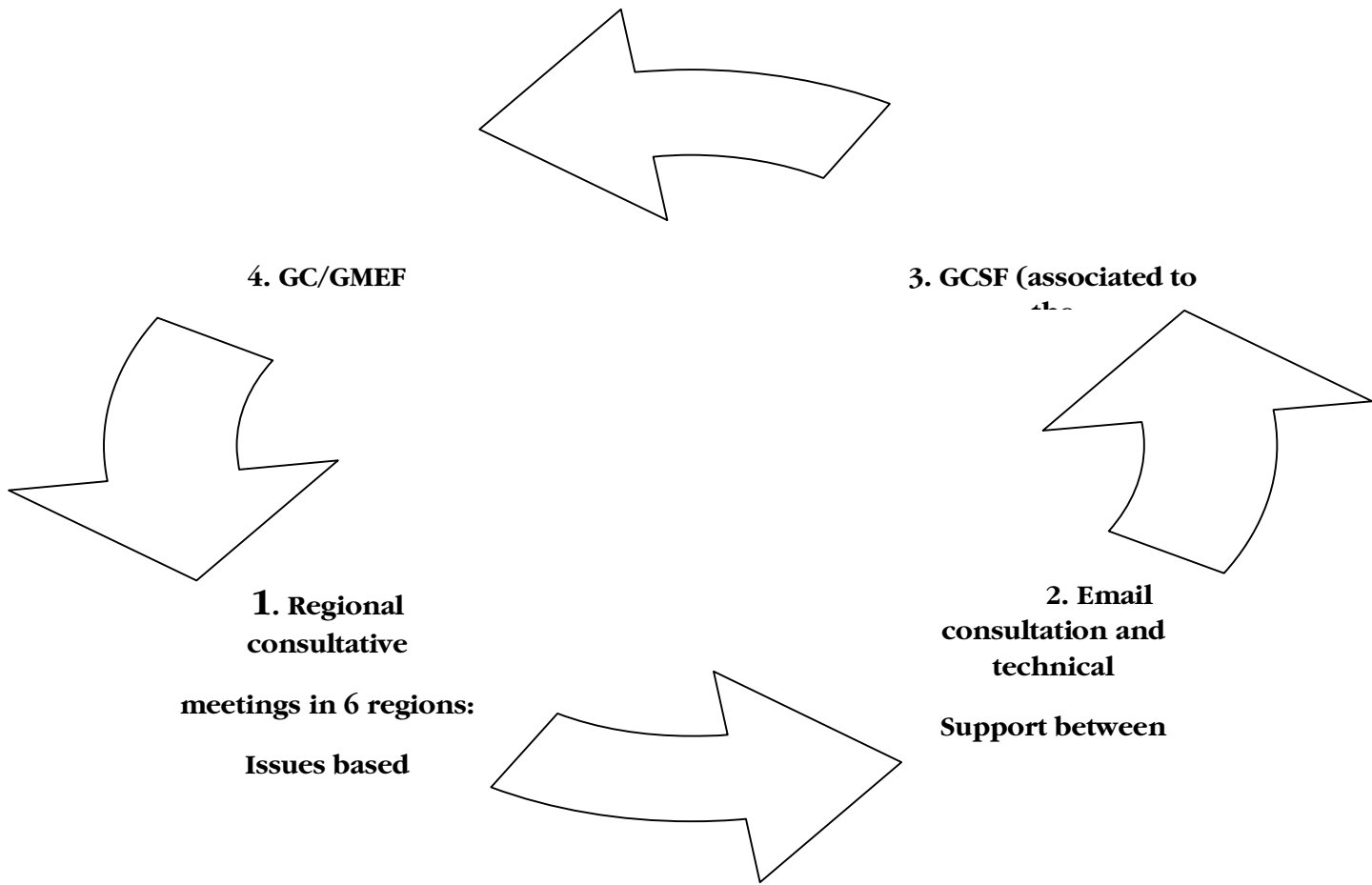
- **indigenous peoples and their communities,**
- **farmers and other land users,**
- **women,**
- **children and youth,**
- **workers and trade unions,**
- **scientific and technological community,**
- **business and industry,**
- **non-governmental organizations and**
- **local authorities**



30 years of UNEP Civil Society activities revolve around:

- **Partnership with specific major groups on advocacy campaigns for policy change, public awareness, and environmental education**
- **Providing technical support to major groups in articulating linkages between environment and development from their perspectives**
- **Bringing diverse perspectives (within Civil Society) to a dialogue**
- **Engaging in the design, implementation and monitoring of UNEP's activities**
-

Civil Society and UNEP: Policy and Advocacy activities



The MGSB is dealing with engagement of major groups at the governance level through its yearly GCSF Cycle, which feeds into the GC/GMEF. The MGSB draws its mandate from several decisions:

1. Rule 69 of the rules of procedures of the Governing Council on civil society engagement at the policy level, calling on “International non-governmental organizations having an interest in the field of the environments, to designate representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Governing Council and its subsidiary organs and make oral statements on matters within the scope of their activities”;
2. Governing Council Decision SSVII.5 (2002) calling on the “Executive Director continue the current practice of convening a civil society forum ... in conjunction with the meetings of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum ...”

The cycle comprises:

1. Six Regional consultative meetings, normally held between October to November every year, to prepare for the GCSF, with a few capacity building sessions, e.g. on poverty and environment in Africa and Asia;
2. Email consultations on the GC/GMEF policy documents (e.g. programme of work, thematic policy documents, GMEF thematic issues) as part of the interaction between CSOs and the CPR / governments;
3. The GCSF which is held prior to the GC/GMEF, and which provides a platform for civil society to finalise their positions and actively participate in the GC/GMEF.

For the past five years, there has been an increasing participation by CSOs and a greater diversity of major groups.

Major Groups Facilitating Committee

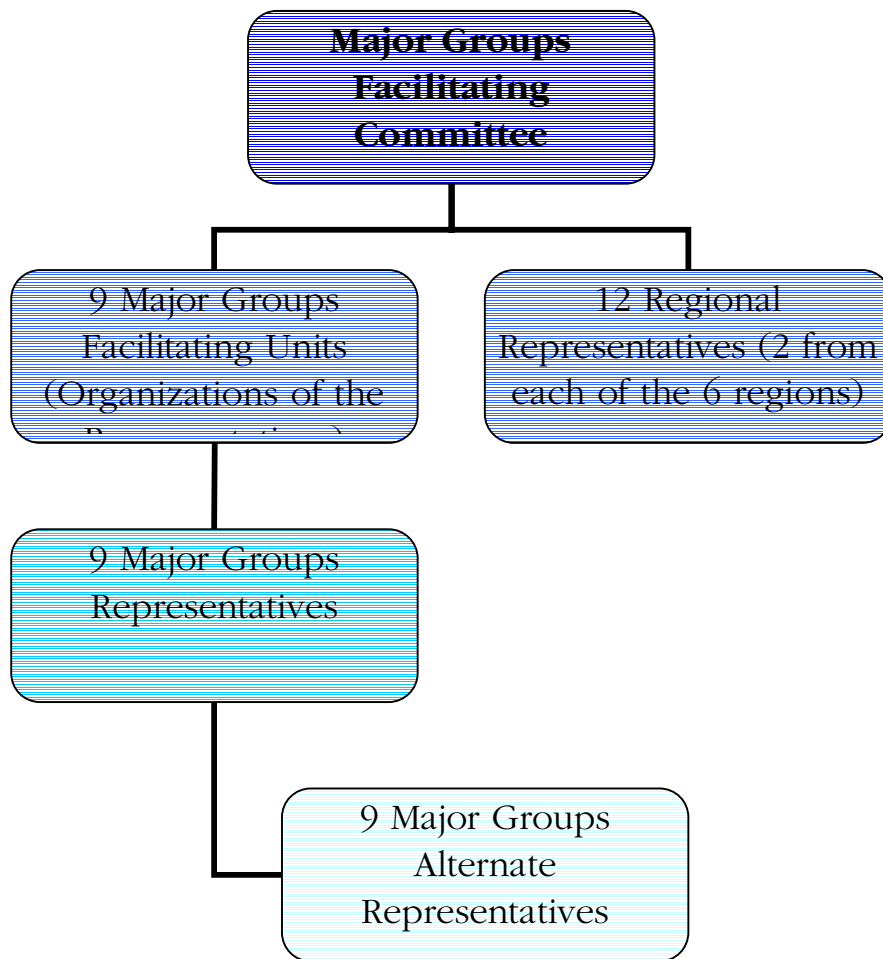
- Committee combines Major Groups with Regional Groups
- Committee, with support from UNEP, provides guidance and expertise to develop policy positions

Advantages:

- Balance between regional and major group representation
- Identify individuals best able to represent the views/positions of each group
- Appoints ex-officio members - to improve technical expertise
- Respect of the principle of self organisation
-

Disadvantages:

- Assumes sufficient internal cohesion at both global and regional levels
- Gender balance not guaranteed, because of relatively small number of representatives



ACCREDITATION

The accreditation process comprises the following steps:

1. The NGO submits application to UNEP's Major Groups and Stakeholders Branch, with proof of interest in the environment, and detailed account of the scope of its activities.
2. The office of the Secretariat for Governing Bodies of UNEP reviews and makes a decision on accreditation.
3. The accreditation review process takes approximately three (3) months, including verification tasks. UNEP has accredited over one thousand NGOs globally.
4. All NGO GEF Regional Coordinators are accredited with UNEP.
5. UNEP features over 150 accredited NGOs in the LAC region.
6. In the LAC region GEF features 67 accredited NGO, only 7 of these are accredited with UNEP.

Civil Society and UNEP: Project Activities

- Civil Society design and execute projects in cooperation with UNEP
 - Numerous projects, both GEF and non-GEF
 - Examples : Mount Kenya; Globe International Parliamentarian consultations; Global Environment Center assessment on peatlands; Indigenous Peoples Network for Change, etc.

GEF NGO Network Objectives

1. Enhancing the Role of Civil Society Safeguarding the Global Environment
2. Strengthen Global Environmental Policy Development Through Enhanced Partnership between Civil Society and the GEF
3. To Strengthen the GEF NGO Network Capacity

Potential Areas of Collaboration

Integrating consultative processes

- Issues based consultations, jointly with UNEP Regional Consultative Meetings and GEF NGO Network Consultations
- Strengthen civil society impact on environmental policy (beyond GEF and GC, to environmental conventions and wider public)
- Provides formal access by GEF NGO Network to UNEP GC and Ministerial Forum
- What issues? What frequency?

Joint activities on knowledge Management

- Syntheses, assessments and reviews of concern to civil society, emerging from GEF issues
- Dissemination of knowledge products for wider political impact
- Closer dialogue with STAP and other UNEP scientific networks for greater credibility and validity.

Scale up CSO-led GEF projects

- *Set asides under RAF*
- *Better “mining” of successes from Small Grants Programme and Targeted Research projects – systematic portfolio analyses*
- *Programmatic approaches*
- *More advocacy-based project*

Drawing it all together

Propose a new Corporate Program to focus on :

- ✓ implement GEF NGO Network’s Strategic Operational Plan
- ✓ knowledge products, strategic assessments, outreach and awareness
- ✓ GEF NGO Network to systematically review PIFs similar to STAP reviews
- ✓ regular civil society consultations at global and regional levels
- ✓ strengthen civil society engagement in GEF programming at country level with links to NDI and CSP
- ✓ stronger GEF NGO engagement in GEF projects, through identifying opportunities for up-scaling successes (especially SGP and targeted research projects)
- ✓ A dedicated (project) budget approved every two years by Council
- ✓ To be directed by GEF NGO Network and GEF Secretariat
- ✓ Administered by a GEF Agency: UNEP ?
- Synergies and cost effectiveness with UNEP core programs and GCSF processes
- Harmonizing the UNEP and GEF NGO accreditation process
- Inter-Agency process, to draw in all GEF Agency NGO networks

For more information : www.unep.org

ANNEX 8: CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION: GEF NATIONAL DIALOGUES & COUNTRY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

GEF National Dialogue Initiative: Objectives of multi-stakeholder dialogues

Targeted multi-stakeholder dialogue processes:

- Promote GEF Country Level Coordination
 - among national and local gov'ts, NGOs, CBOs, private sector, etc. and synergies across GEF focal areas
- Raise Public Awareness
 - including identifying national strategies, processes and implementation challenges related to global environmental issues and their links to GEF Strategic Priorities
- Integrate GEF themes in national planning
 - GEF priorities/strategies integrated into nat'l planning frameworks
- Share Lessons Learned
 - Project design, implementation, partnerships, results on the ground

GEF National Dialogue Initiative: Process of multi-stakeholder dialogue

1. Dialogues have targeted objectives and are assisted by GEF partners
2. Provide forum for valuable feedback from broad-based group of stakeholders to maximize impact of GEF in the country
3. Dialogues enable:
 - Identification/endorsement of Country's GEF priorities
 - Determination of local needs linked to global benefits
 - Ownership at country and local level
 - Opportunities to build partnerships and joint ventures (co-financing)
 - Opportunities for assistance, knowledge exchange among multiple sectors
 - Review of Country's commitments under the Conventions

GEF National Dialogue Initiative: Role of NGOs in recent Dialogues (1)

1. India National Dialogue - October 2007
 - Experiences shared on local community project design, implementation and impacts in SGP projects
 - Regional session on mainstreaming SGP experiences from South Asia – including participation of Bhutan, India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan
 - Site visits to 2 SGP projects

- Burkina Faso National Dialogue – January 2008
 - Main objective: building capacity for decentralized environmental governance by local collectivities
 - Large number of NGOs, Academic and Research organizations participated
 - Presentations on SGP & Niger River Basin grants scheme to inform local stakeholders
- Cambodia National Dialogue – March 2008
 - Lessons learned at the community level for consideration in GEF national strategy presented by Chair of SGP National Steering Committee
 - Call for coordination with civil society in moving the GEF National Strategy forward
 -

GEF National Dialogue Initiative: Role of NGOs in recent Dialogues (2)

Cameroon National Dialogue – June 2008

- Active participation of NGOs, Academia and research organizations from several regions of the country
- Presentation on SGP programme and discussion of priorities for SGP
- Site visit to SGP project

Colombia National Dialogue – July 2008

- Renewed commitment to SGP start-up by GEF OFP and supported by Dialogue participants
- Need for coordination with civil society by GEF national committee

Ecuador National Dialogue – September 2008

- SGP project results and impacts incorporated in broader GEF priority-setting process
- Inspiring site visits to SGP projects

GEF National Dialogue Initiative: Upcoming Dialogues

Liberia National Dialogue – 20-21 November 2008

- Representatives from Liberia NGO Coalition, Civic associations, and private sector will attend
- Agenda includes sessions on GEF SGP, and on Public-private partnerships
- Dialogue to be followed by the National Environment Forum – with objective to raise broad public awareness, involve all sectors of society and integrate gender & youth perspectives in environmental management

- Egypt National Dialogue – December 2008
- Pakistan National Dialogue – January 2009
- Argentina National Dialogue – dates to be determined
- Bolivia National Dialogue – dates to be determined
- Turkey National Dialogue – April 2009
- GEF National Dialogue Initiative:
Multi-stakeholder participation in 2008 Dialogues
- Country Support Programme (CSP):
Link to civil society
- Guidance on National coordination emphasizes
 - FP outreach to national stakeholders from civil society – NGO's, CBOs, academic/scientific institutions, private sector
 - Greater public participation and responsiveness to local needs
- Outreach and communications
 - Greater opportunities for accessing knowledge and raising awareness
- CSP Knowledge Facility – an online resource www.gefcountrysupport.org
- Country Support Programme (CSP):
Knowledge Facility
- Response to request from NGO's
during June 2007 GEF-NGO Consultation
- During June 2007 GEF-NGO Consultation, RFP participants requested funding to participate in Sub-regional Workshops
- As follow-up CSP explored funding options; made proposal to CEO using existing project funds; CEO endorsed proposal
- Since October 2007 12 RFPs have participated in 10 Sub-regional Workshops in all sub-regions
- RFP participation has provided unique opportunities for knowledge exchange and consultations with government GEF Focal Points, GEF SECRETARIAT and Agencies, and participation in RAF-MTR and OPS4
- Sub-regionals have helped to highlight civil society and SGP experiences and issues where requested by Focal Points – in some cases special sessions on these themes have been organized:

- Special civil society session with participation by GEF-NGO Network and SGP National Coordinators from Cuba and Dominican Republic (Caribbean 2008)
 - SGP RAF and graduation policy session with participation by Mexican SGP National Coordinator and GEF OFPs from Chile, Costa Rica, and Uruguay (Latin America 2008)
- Continuing cooperation with GEF-NGO Network
 - GEF NGO Network positions on programmes conveyed through representation on Steering Committee
 - CSP will continue to invite and seek funding to support RFPs to participate in Sub-regional Workshops
 - GEF-NGO Network will continue to be kept informed of upcoming National Dialogues
 - Local NGOs encouraged to liaise with national GEF Focal Points re civil society participation in National Dialogues
 - CSP Knowledge Facility will continue to be updated with the latest information

ANNEX 9: GEF AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

IUCN World Conservation Forum Alliance Workshop on “GEF and Indigenous Communities” Barcelona, Spain, 6 Oct 2008



Agenda

1. Opening Remarks and Moderator
Gustavo Fonseca
2. GEF Portfolio on Indigenous Communities
Yoko Watanabe
3. The GEF Small Grants Programme
Terrence Hey-Edie
4. Indigenous Communities involvement in GEF Policy Dialogue and Project
Johnson Cerda
5. Discussions on Future Directions

GEF Portfolio related to Indigenous Communities- **Yoko Watanabe, Program Manager**
GEF Secretariat



Topics

- GEF's Policy and Biodiversity Strategy
- GEF's Portfolio related to Indigenous Communities
- Highlights of Projects
- Lessons Learned
- Future Direction & Next Steps

GEF Policy and Indigenous Communities Participation



GEF Public Involvement Policy

- *Approved in 1996*
- *Stakeholder participation in every step of project cycle, notably the indigenous and local Communities.*

GEF Agencies' Policy on IPs

- *World Bank, UNDP, ADB, IDB's policies on IPs apply to GEF projects.*

Participation of Indigenous Communities

- Access to GEF funds for projects
- Involvement and participation in GEF projects
- Involvement in policy processes (e.g. GEF Assembly, Council, etc)
- Involvement in CBD COP process and help provide guidance to GEF

Indigenous Communities & GEF Biodiversity Strategy



CBD Guidance to GEF

Support activities related to Article 8j and related provisions.

GEF Biodiversity Strategy

- Participation of ILCs in every step of project cycle for relevant projects.
- Promoting capacity development of ILCs, and support community and indigenous conserved are

GEF Portfolio related to Indigenous Communities

Total of more than 102 Projects

FIGURE 1
Degree of Indigenous Community Involvement
in GEF Projects

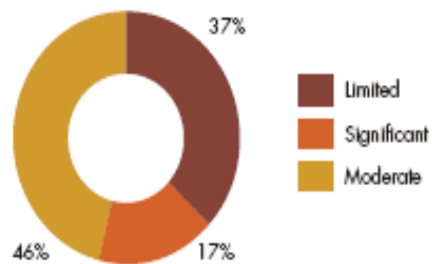
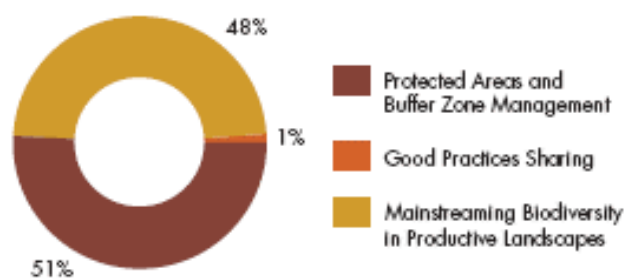
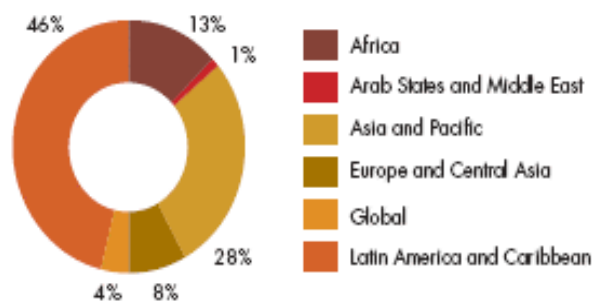


FIGURE 2
Types of Projects Involving Indigenous Communities



GEF Portfolio related to Indigenous Communities

FIGURE 3
Regional Distribution of GEF Projects Involving Indigenous Communities



Highlights of Projects



GEF Small Grants Programme

Protected Areas:

Ecuador Pastaza Project

Production Landscape/Sustainable

Use: Vanuatu Project & Central
America Integrated Ecosystem Mgmt
Project

Knowledge Mgmt/Lessons Sharing:

- Global Indigenous Peoples' Network Project

Lessons Learned

- Participation
- Communication
- Institutional Structure Governance
- Flexibility/
- Adaptive Mgmt
- Cultural Integrity
- Income Generation & Environmental Education Activities

Future Directions and Next Steps



Based on CBD guidance, GEF will continue to support initiatives under the Article 8j.

Next Steps

- Analyze and identify areas and themes that require further improvements.
- Establish appropriate tools that compliment existing policies.
- Exchange of best practices
- Strengthen strategic approach of existing related programs and projects
- Appropriate funding is allocated to projects for effective ILC involvement

Thank you!

**GEF Secretariat Contact:
Yoko Watanabe, Program Manager**