

## Message from GEF CEO and Chairperson Naoko Ishii on extension of project cycle deadlines

*April 23, 2020*

Dear GEF Council Members, Operational Focal Points and GEF Agencies,

You may recall that I informed you by mail dated March 21, 2020 of our decision to extend by three months the deadlines for CEO Endorsements and Approvals for projects approved after the effectiveness date of the updated GEF Policy on Cancellation (March 1, 2019).

I am writing to inform you that I have decided to apply the same three month extension of deadlines to all projects approved to date. The previous GEF Policy on Cancellation contains provisions for extensions under extraordinary circumstances that are identical to those in the updated Policy. The current situation with COVID-19 fits within these circumstances. The extension communicated in my earlier message applies to deadlines for all such projects seeking CEO Endorsement or Approval.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will come back to you in due course if more time needs to be added to this extension, in the event that the extraordinary conditions of the pandemic affecting the work continue to prevail. As noted also in my earlier communication, there is no need to submit any notification signed by either the GEF OFP or the Agency.

Naoko Ishii, GEF CEO and Chairperson