

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

**Joint Summary of the Chairs**

*Decision on Agenda Item 11*

*Work Program*

1. The Council, having reviewed document GEF/C.53/13, *Work Program for GEF Trust Fund*, approves the Work Program comprising 83 project concepts and one programmatic framework, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by December 14, 2017.
2. Total resources approved in this Work Program<sup>1</sup> amounted to \$546.1 million which include GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Program Framework Document (PFD) and Project Identification Forms (PIFs):

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

The United States, in light of its policies for certain development projects in countries whose governments do not have in place a functioning and transparent military audit and have violated human rights, abstains from participating in the decision on the following projects: Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade and Human Wildlife Conflict in Angola, Promoting sustainable energy access for rural communities in Angola, Sustainable Land Management in target landscapes in Angola, Distributed Renewable Energy Scale-Up Project in China, Partnership Program for Sustainable Agricultural Development in China, GEF Small Grants Programme - Sixth Operational Phase, Part IV in China and Cuba, Promoting Better Access to Modern Energy Services through Sustainable Mini-grids and Low-carbon Bioenergy Technologies among Forest-dependent Communities in Guinea-Bissau, Fostering multi-country cooperation over conjunctive surface and groundwater management in the Bug and Neman Transboundary River Basins and the underlying aquifer systems in Belarus, Promoting Accelerated Uptake of Environmental Technologies and Promotion of Best Practices for Improved Water, Chemicals, and Waste Management in the Black Sea Basin, in Belarus, Strengthening of the Enabling Environment, Ecosystem-based Management and Governance to Support Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem in Angola, Guinea Bissau, and Equatorial Guinea, and CReW+: An integrated approach to water and wastewater management using innovative solutions and promoting financing mechanisms in the Wider Caribbean Region in Cuba.

## **Project/Program Proposals in the Work Program**

### **Biodiversity**

1. **Angola:** Combating Illegal Wildlife Trade and Human Wildlife Conflict in Angola (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,103,800) GEF ID 9735
2. **Colombia:** Sustainable Low Carbon Development in Colombia's Orinoquia Region (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,936,073) GEF ID 9578
3. **Congo DR:** Promoting the Effective Management of Salonga National Park through Creation of Community Forests and Improving the Well-being of Local Communities (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,694,749) GEF ID 9802
4. **Ecuador:** Safeguarding Biodiversity in the Galapagos Islands by Enhancing Biosecurity and Creating the Enabling Environment for the Restoration of Galapagos Island Ecosystems. (CI) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,301,472) GEF ID 9282
5. **Lesotho:** Promoting Conservation, Sustainable Utilization and Fair and Equitable Benefit-sharing from Lesotho's Medicinal and Ornamental Plants for Improved livelihoods (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,913,699) GEF ID 9799
6. **Madagascar:** Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity in the Northwestern Landscape (Boeny region) - Madagascar (CI) (GEF Financing: \$ 6,817,431) GEF ID 9606
7. **Maldives:** Enhancing National Development through Environmentally Resilient Islands (ENDhERI) (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,532,968) GEF ID 9668
8. **Mexico:** Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation Criteria in Mexico's Tourism Sector with Emphasis on Biodiversity-rich Coastal Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 7,238,613) GEF ID 9613
9. **Uganda:** Institutional Capacity Strengthening for Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing in Uganda (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,560,842) GEF ID 9481
10. **Vanuatu:** Expanding Conservation Areas Reach and Effectiveness (ECARE) in Vanuatu (IUCN) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,450,459) GEF ID 9847

### **Climate Change**

11. **Chile:** Supporting the Chilean Low Emissions Transport Strategy CLETS (CAF) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,900,000) GEF ID 9742
12. **China:** China Distributed Renewable Energy Scale-up Project (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 7,278,600) GEF ID 9749

13. **Guinea-Bissau:** Promoting Better Access to Modern Energy Services through Sustainable Mini-grids and Low-carbon Bioenergy Technologies Among Guinea-Bissau's Forest-dependent Communities (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,912,702) GEF ID 9561
14. **Kiribati:** Promoting Outer Island Development through the Integrated Energy Roadmap (POIDIER) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,379,452) GEF ID 9905
15. **Myanmar:** Climate Change Mitigation through Methane Recovery and Reuse from Industrial Wastewater Treatment (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,984,589) GEF ID 9830
16. **Myanmar:** Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,934,228) GEF ID 9890
17. **Nigeria:** Improving Nigeria's Industrial Energy Performance and Resource Efficient Cleaner Production through Programmatic Approaches and the Promotion of Innovation in Clean Technology Solutions (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,898,265) GEF ID 9714
18. **Niue:** Accelerating Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Applications in Niue (AREAN) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,321,563) GEF ID 9752
19. **Solomon Islands:** Stimulating Progress towards Improved Rural Electrification in the Solomons (SPIRES) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9787
20. **Trinidad and Tobago:** Energy Efficiency through the Development of Low-carbon RAC Technologies in Trinidad and Tobago (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,152,392) GEF ID 9789

## **Land Degradation**

21. **Angola:** Sustainable Land Management in Target Landscapes in Angola's Southwestern Region (FAO) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9798
22. **Djibouti:** Sustainable Management of Water Resources, Rangelands and Agro-pastoral Perimeters in the Cheikhetti Wadi watershed of Djibouti (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,215,068) GEF ID 9599

## **International Waters**

23. **Regional (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro):** Implementation of the SAP of the Dinaric Karst Aquifer System: Improving Groundwater Governance and Sustainability of Related Ecosystems (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,145,000) GEF ID 9919
24. **Regional (Belarus, Ukraine):** Fostering Multi-country Cooperation over Conjunctive Surface and Groundwater Management in the Bug and Neman

Transboundary River Basins and the Underlying Aquifer Systems (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,731,050) GEF ID 9767

25. **Regional (Benin, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sao Tome and Principe, Togo, Congo DR):** Strengthening of the Enabling Environment, Ecosystem-based Management and Governance to Support Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (UNEP/FAO, UNDP, UNIDO) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,416,210) GEF ID 9911
26. **Regional (Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda):** Enhancing Conjunctive Management of Surface and Groundwater Resources in Selected Transboundary Aquifers: Case Study for Selected Shared Groundwater Bodies in the Nile Basin (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,329,452) GEF ID 9912
27. **Regional (Colombia, Ecuador):** Integrated Management of Water Resources of the Mira-Mataje and Carchi-Guaitara, Colombia–Ecuador Binational Basins (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,850,000) GEF ID 9566
28. **Regional (Mali, Niger, Chad):** Economic Growth and Water Security in the Sahel through Improved Groundwater Governance (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 13,577,982) GEF ID 9886
29. **Regional (Mauritania, Senegal):** Strengthening Trans-boundary Cooperation for Improved Ecosystem Management and Restoration in the Senegal delta (Mauritania and Senegal) (IUCN) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,061,009) GEF ID 9594

## Chemicals and Waste

30. **Regional (Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo):** Impact Investment and Capacity Building in Support of Sustainable Waste Management to Reduce Emissions of Unintentional POPs (UPOPs) and Mercury in West Africa (BOAD) (GEF Financing: \$ 15,924,771) GEF ID 9371
31. **Regional (Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan):** Demonstration of Non-thermal Treatment of DDT Wastes in Central Asia (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 15,120,000) GEF ID 9421
32. **Brazil:** Environmentally Sound Management (ESM) Of Lindane In Brazil (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 11,000,000) GEF ID 9412
33. **Kazakhstan:** HCFC Phase-out in Kazakhstan through Promotion of Zero ODS Low GWP Energy Efficient Technologies (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,586,200) GEF ID 9788
34. **South Africa:** Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of PolyChlorinated Biphenyls[PCBS] in the Republic of South Africa (DBSA) (GEF Financing: \$ 8,242,500) GEF ID 9576

## Programmatic Approaches

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

## Non-grant Instrument Projects

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

## Multi Focal Area

37. **Global (Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Bahamas, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Georgia, Jordan, St. Kitts And Nevis, Lao PDR, St. Lucia, Marshall Islands, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Palau, Sierra Leone, Turkey, Tuvalu, Tanzania, Ukraine, Uganda):** GEF SGP Sixth Operational Phase-Strategic Implementation using STAR Resources, Tranche 2 (Part IV) (UNDP) GEF Financing: \$ 19,167,177) GEF ID 9857
38. **Regional (Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis, St. Lucia, Mexico, Panama, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent and Grenadines):** CReW+: An Integrated Approach to Water and Wastewater Management Using Innovative Solutions and Promoting Financing Mechanisms in the Wider Caribbean Region (UNEP/IADB) (GEF Financing: \$ 14,943,938) GEF ID 9601
39. **Regional (Benin, Sao Tome and Principe, Togo):** Investments Towards Resilient Management of Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystems (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 20,247,607) GEF ID 9906
40. **Regional (Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela):** Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme to ensure Integrated and Sustainable Management of the Transboundary Water Resources of the Amazon River Basin Considering Climate Variability and Change. (UNEP) GEF Financing: \$ 11,735,780) GEF ID 9770
41. **Algeria:** Rehabilitation and Integrated Sustainable Development of Algerian Cork Oak Forest Production Landscapes (FAO) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,411,644) GEF ID 9806
42. **Bahamas:** Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 6,243,004) GEF ID 9791
43. **Burkina Faso:** Integrated and Sustainable Management of PONASI Protected Area Landscape (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,279,452) GEF ID 9764

44. **Cambodia:** Integrated Natural Resource Management (INRM) in the Productive, Natural and Forested Landscape of Northern Region of Cambodia (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,340,320) GEF ID 9781
45. **Cameroon:** Removing Barriers to Biodiversity Conservation, Land Restoration and Sustainable Forest Management through COmmunity-Based LANDscape Management – COBALAM (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,105,023) GEF ID 9604
46. **Chile:** Mainstreaming Conservation of Coastal Wetlands of Chile's South Center Biodiversity Hotspot through Adaptive Management of Coastal Area Ecosystems (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,146,804) GEF ID 9766
47. **Congo DR:** Mai-Ndombe REDD+ Integrated Project (GEF) (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 6,210,046) GEF ID 9760
48. **Fiji:** Community-based Integrated Natural Resource Management Project (FAO) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,119,425) GEF ID 9880
49. **Gambia:** Landscape Planning and Restoration to Improve Ecosystem Services, and Livelihoods, Expand and Effectively Manage Protected Areas (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,644,685) GEF ID 9772
50. **Guinea:** Integrated Management of Natural Resources in Middle and Upper Guinea (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 7,060,274) GEF ID 9783
51. **Guyana:** Strengthening the Enabling Framework for Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Mercury Reduction in Small and Medium-scale Gold Mining Operations (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,543,352) GEF ID 9565
52. **Indonesia:** Integrated Management of Peatland Landscapes in Indonesia (IMPLI) (IFAD) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,895,872) GEF ID 9239
53. **Indonesia:** Strengthening of Social Forestry in Indonesia (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 14,317,909) GEF ID 9600
54. **Jamaica:** Conserving Biodiversity and Reducing Land Degradation Using an Integrated Landscape Approach (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 6,210,046) GEF ID 9862
55. **Liberia:** Conservation and Sustainable use of Liberia's Coastal Natural Capital (CI) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,944,220) GEF ID 9573
56. **Madagascar:** Conservation and Improvement of Ecosystem Services for the Atsinanana Region through Agroecology and the Promotion of Sustainable Energy Production (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,789,955) GEF ID 9793
57. **Myanmar:** My-Coast: Ecosystem-Based Conservation of Myanmar's Southern Coastal Zone (FAO) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,046,347) GEF ID 9261

58. **Namibia:** Namibia Integrated Landscape Approach for Enhancing Livelihoods and Environmental Governance to Eradicate Poverty (NILALEG) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 10,823,744) GEF ID 9426
59. **Niger:** Integrated Management of Oasis Ecosystems of Northern Niger (IMOE - NN) (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,596,588) GEF ID 9405
60. **Panama:** Ecosystem-based Biodiversity Friendly Cattle Production Framework for the Darien Region of Panama (CAF) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,519,725) GEF ID 9589
61. **Philippines:** Enhancing Biodiversity, Maintaining Ecosystem Flows, Enhancing Carbon Stocks through Sustainable Land Management and the Restoration of Degraded Forestlands (FAO) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9554
62. **Philippines:** Integrated Approach in the Management of Major Biodiversity Corridors (IA-Biological Corridors) (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 12,260,241) GEF ID 9584
63. **Seychelles:** A Ridge-to-Reef Approach for the Integrated Management of Marine, Coastal and Terrestrial Ecosystems in the Seychelles (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,898,914) GEF ID 9431
64. **Sierra Leone:** Sustainable and Integrated landscape management of the Western Area Peninsula (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,209,910) GEF ID 9903
65. **Solomon Islands:** EREPA - Ensuring Resilient Ecosystems and Representative Protected Areas in the Solomon Islands (IUCN) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,918,364) GEF ID 9846
66. **Sri Lanka:** Managing Together: Integrating Community-centered, Ecosystem-based Approaches into Forestry, Agriculture and Tourism Sectors (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,346,708) GEF ID 9372
67. **St. Kitts And Nevis:** Improving Environmental Management through Sustainable Land Management in St. Kitts and Nevis (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,015,982) GEF ID 9785
68. **Sudan:** Strengthened Protected Areas System and Integrated Ecosystem Management in Sudan (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,100,913) GEF ID 9425
69. **Sudan:** Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project- Additional Financing (World Bank) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,504,586) GEF ID 9575
70. **Tanzania:** Safeguarding Zanzibar's Forest and Coastal Habitats for Multiple Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,181,671) GEF ID 9400
71. **Thailand:** Sixth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Thailand (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,381,620) GEF ID 9558

3. With respect to the 13 projects below, the Council requested the Secretariat to arrange for Council members to receive draft final project documents and to transmit to the CEO within four weeks any concerns they may have prior to the CEO's endorsing the project document for final approval by the GEF Agency.

72. **South Sudan:** Capacity Development in Reducing Illegal Wildlife Trade and Improving Protected Area Management Effectiveness in South Sudan (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,329,452) GEF ID 9551
73. **Nigeria:** De-risking Sustainable Off-grid Lighting Solutions in Nigeria (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 2,639,726) GEF ID 9743
74. **Macedonia:** Promoting Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Through Strengthening Legal and Institutional Framework, Capacity Building and Restoration of Most Vulnerable Mountain Landscapes (UNEP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,662,545) GEF ID 9759
75. **Bangladesh:** Implementing Ecosystem-based Management in Ecologically Critical Areas in Bangladesh (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,046,347) GEF ID 9913
76. **Regional (Belarus, Georgia, Ukraine):** Promoting Accelerated Uptake of Environmental Technologies and Promotion of Best Practices for Improved Water, Chemicals, and Waste Management in the Black Sea Basin (EBRD) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,933,105) GEF ID 9571
77. **Regional (Bosnia-Herzegovina, Moldova, Montenegro, Ukraine, Serbia):** Danube River Basin Hydromorphology and River Restoration (DYNA) (WWF-US) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,422,018) GEF ID 9801
78. **Micronesia:** Safeguarding Biodiversity from Invasive Alien Species in the Federated States of Micronesia (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 4,141,509) GEF ID 9917
79. **Haiti:** Sustainable Management of Wooded Production Landscapes for Biodiversity Conservation (UNDP/FAO) (GEF Financing: \$ 6,186,964) GEF ID 9777
80. **Cote d'Ivoire:** Sound Management of Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and Polychlorinated Biphenyl Ether (PBDEs) to Reduce their Emission from the Industrial Waste Sector (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,325,000) GEF ID 9263
81. **Congo DR:** Promotion of Waste to Energy Options for Sustainable Urban Management in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (UNIDO) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,959,589) GEF ID 9683



82. **Belize:** Integrated Management of Production Landscapes to Deliver Multiple Global Environmental Benefits (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 5,108,933) GEF ID 9796
83. **Angola:** Promoting Sustainable Energy Access for Rural Communities in South-Eastern Angola (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,540,468) GEF ID 9810
84. **Bangladesh:** Promoting Low Carbon Urban Development in Bangladesh (UNDP) (GEF Financing: \$ 3,767,810) GEF ID 9368

4. With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the STAP reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

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

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

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

## **Highlights of the Council Decisions**

### *Agenda Item 10      Work Program*

1. The Council welcomed the very impressive and large Work Program that showed good focal area diversity and geographic scope.
2. The Council noted the important support to LDCs and SIDS as well as the attention given to advancing all focal area programming levels.
3. The Council also noted the difficulty of obtaining high co-financing levels and private sector engagement for projects mostly from LDCs and SIDS countries.

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