

INTERSESSIONAL WORK PROGRAM
SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL

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Where to send technical comments:

It is requested that Council Members send their technical comments electronically (in Word file) to the GEF Secretariat's program coordination registry at: gcoordination@TheGEF.org

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This is the 14th and the final work program presented for GEF Council review and approval in GEF-4 since the GEF Resources Allocation Framework (RAF) became applicable to the Biodiversity and Climate Change focal areas. This work program Cover Note describes how the proposed project proposals relate to the strategic objectives, are coherent with the programming, and make a collective contribution to, the GEF-approved focal area strategies.
2. The proposed work program consists of 28 new FSP PIFs, requesting GEF project grants totaling \$98.66 million (see Annex A for the financial details of proposals). Associated with these concepts are requests for Agency fees totaling \$9.88 million for the GEF Agencies to meet the project cycle management costs, resulting in a total request of \$108.54 million from the GEF Trust Fund.
3. With the approval of this final work program in GEF-4, the available resources for GEF-4 will have achieved close to 100 percent utilization in all focal areas.
4. Of the 28 new FSP PIFs submitted in this work program, there are seven (7) PIFs submitted under three programmatic approaches that were endorsed by Council in the previous Council meetings.
5. As in other intersessional work program cover notes, this cover note presents a simplified version of the note focusing solely on the focal area project portfolio in the work program.

MAIN FEATURES OF THE PROPOSED WORK PROGRAM

1. The work program presented by the Secretariat for GEF Council review and approval is the 14th and the final work program within GEF-4, and since the resource allocation system (RAF) became applicable to the Biodiversity and Climate Change focal areas.
2. There are 28 new FSP proposals in this work program. This includes the stand-alone projects as well as those within the programmatic approaches (PAs) submitted in the biodiversity, climate change, international waters, persistent organic pollutants, ozone depleting substances and multi-focal areas. The total GEF resources requested in this work program amount to \$108.54 million which included \$98.66 million for the projects and \$9.88 million for the GEF Agency fees (see Annex A for the financial details of these proposals and Annex A-1 for proposals under the PAs). The distribution of these projects by focal area is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. GEF Resources Requested in the June 2010 Work Program by Focal Area
(\$ million)

Focal Area	Number of Projects	GEF Project Grant	Agency Fees*	Total GEF Resources Requested in this WP
Biodiversity	1	2.05	0.20	2.25
Climate Change	17	46.64	4.66	51.30
International Waters	3	9.26	0.93	10.19
Land Degradation	0	-	-	-
Multi-focal	4	19.18	1.93	21.11
Ozone Depleting Substances	1	9.00	0.90	9.90
POPs	2	12.54	1.25	13.79
Total	28	98.66	9.88	108.54

* Agency fees are calculated as 10 percent of the GEF Project Grant (new request for Council approval) plus PPG fees that have not been paid previously at the time the PPG was approved by the CEO.

GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES AND THE WORK PROGRAM

3. **Biodiversity (BD): Ethiopia:** *Capacity Building for Access and Benefit Sharing and Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants* project is the only biodiversity project proposal presented in this work program. The project covers one strategic objective of GEF-4 biodiversity strategy: Capacity Building on Access and Benefit Sharing of Genetic Resources. The project is requesting a GEF project grant of \$2.05 million and leveraging \$2.03 million in co-financing. The project will contribute to the conservation of biodiversity through the sustainable use of medicinal plants in approximately 200,000 hectares, which will generate an increase in revenue flows to local communities and businesses arising from sustainable use of medicinal plants. In addition, the project will support the effective implementation of a revised national access and benefit sharing (ABS) regime. This is a very important project for Ethiopia given that the country contains an outstanding number of plant species, including more than 1000 medicinal plants. In Ethiopia, about 70% of the human population and 90% of the

livestock population are dependent on traditional medicine that uses medicinal plants. In all, 48 million consumers use some 56,000 tones of medicinal plants per annum, with consumers obtaining their plant material from healers, traders and by direct harvesting. This project will make an important contribution to building capacity in Ethiopia for a wider application of Access and Benefit Sharing of genetic resources (ABS).

4. This project is only one of a few projects in GEF-4 that countries have submitted under this strategic objective. In addition to this project, the biodiversity focal area is also making contributions to three other multi-focal area projects in this work program

5. Climate Change (CC): This work program consists of 17 climate change project proposals, plus resource contribution to two multi-focal area projects, for a total of 19 projects. These projects are closely aligned with the GEF-4 strategic programs in the climate change focal area.

6. Among the total of 19 projects, six focus on promoting energy efficiency in residential and commercial buildings (SP1), seven aim to promote energy production from renewable energy sources (SP3), three are related to promoting carbon storage from land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) (SP6), one will promote sustainable innovative systems for urban transport (SP5), and finally two projects are linked to supporting enabling activities.

7. Total GEF funding for these 19 climate change projects amounts to \$53.2 million (including agency fees), with a total co-financing of \$245.9 million. Of these 19 project proposals, 12 were submitted by UNDP (one jointly with FAO), four by UNEP, and one each by IFAD, IDB, and the World Bank , respectively.

8. International Waters (IW): Three PIFs are included under the international waters focal area in this proposed work program, one of these projects, the “*Regional Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for the Promotion of Treated Wastewater Reuse in the Mediterranean/MENA Countries*” is submitted under the “*Sustainable MED*” programmatic approach endorsed by the Council in June 2009. Another project: “*Global Foundations for Reducing Nutrient Enrichment and Oxygen Depletion from Land-based Pollution, in Support of Global Nutrient Cycle*” addresses the disruption of the global nitrogen cycle through creation of a partnership that will be instrumental in helping governments to understand, design and implement policy reforms needed to reduce “Dead Zones”. The proposed projects support three IW Focal Area strategic programs on restoring and sustaining coastal and marine fish stocks and associated biodiversity, on reducing nutrient over-enrichment from land-based pollution in LMEs and on balancing overuse and conflicting uses of transboundary water resources. In addition, two multi-focal area projects, proposed for this work program, utilize International Waters Focal Area resources and support three IW FA strategic programs as mentioned above.

9. Multi-focal Area Projects (MFA): There are four MFA projects submitted in this work program. One of these projects was submitted under a programmatic approach endorsed by Council in the previous Council meeting. These projects have utilized combined resources in the biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and international waters focal areas. For example, the Regional Project: *Integrated Natural Resources Management in the Baikal Basin*

Transboundary Ecosystem project uses combined resources of international waters and biodiversity to support the strategic program on balancing overuse and conflicting uses of transboundary water resources in the international waters focal area while at the same time aims to strengthen the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity in the biodiversity focal area.

10. Another project called *Chile: Sustainable Land Management* project, uses the combined resources in the land degradation, biodiversity and climate change focal areas, and aims to develop a national incentive program for mainstreaming sustainable land management planning and practices in order to combat land degradation, conserve biodiversity of global importance and protect vital carbon assets. The project is a very creative multi-focal area initiative that addresses the goals of each of the biodiversity, land degradation and climate change strategies.

11. Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS): The regional project: “*Initial implementation of Accelerated HCFC Phase out in the CEIT region*” completes the GEF-4 response to address the new challenge of accelerated phase out of HCFCs in countries with economies in transition. The project builds upon a multi-Agency medium-sized project initiated at the onset of GEF-4, and lays the ground for the participating countries to meet their 2015 phase-out obligations. Using 2008 HCFC consumption levels as a basis, GEF funds directed to critical institutional, regulatory and capacity strengthening activities as well as key direct phase out investments, will leverage an estimated cumulative total of at least 273 ODP tons in HCFC phase out by 2015.

12. Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs): This intersessional work program (IWP) comprises two projects in the Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) focal area. These projects are closely aligned with the GEF-4 POPs strategy, and with Stockholm Convention obligations of the participating countries. Each project addresses priority Stockholm Convention implementation goals identified as priorities in the National Implementation Plans of the participating countries.

13. The projects address PCB and PCB waste management and disposal, and the adoption of Best Available Techniques/Best Environmental Practices (BAT/BEP) for dioxins and other unintentionally produced POPs release reduction from medical waste.

GEOGRAPHIC BALANCE OF PROJECTS IN THE WORK PROGRAM

14. Climate Change: The climate change projects presented to this work program have a very good geographic balance. Out of the 19 project proposals, seven come from Latin America and the Caribbean, and four from Africa, Asia, and Eastern Europe and Central Asia each.

15. International Waters: One IW project proposal, presented in this work program is global; two other regional projects are proposed in Africa and in Asia.

INNOVATIVE ELEMENTS AND REPLICATION POTENTIAL

16. Climate Change: A wide range of climate change project proposals are featured in this work program: from enabling activities to energy efficiency, renewable energy, sustainable urban transport, and LULUCF.
17. Mexico has become the first non-Annex I Party to request funding from the GEF to support the preparation of its Fifth National Communications to the UNFCCC. Brazil is the first non-Annex I Party to request the GEF to support analysis of national mitigation actions and complementary monitoring, reporting and verification activities. Given the highly anticipated 16th Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC to be held in Mexico later this year, these projects are of high political significance.
18. For the renewable energy projects included in the work program, a diverse portfolio of technologies are featured in the seven proposals: biogas for power generation in Argentina; biomass applications in Bhutan and Sri Lanka; solar PV in Mauritius and Seychelles; concentrating solar power in Namibia; and small hydropower in Tajikistan. Most of these projects have strong elements on technology deployment, diffusion, and transfer.
19. International Waters: The project, “*Regional Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for the Promotion of Treated Wastewater Reuse in the Mediterranean/MENA Countries*” represents an innovative approach towards implementation of appropriate cost-effective technologies for wastewater treatment and approaches for reuse. This project would support the identification and piloting of some wastewater treatment technologies sub-projects as well as promotion and/or pre-feasibility planning for implementation of other WWT and recycling applications. It would promote low-cost alternatives, and target high-waste water reuse efficiency towards zero-waste discharges into the Mediterranean Sea and larger surface and aquifer water.
20. Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS): With the project “*Initial implementation of Accelerated HCFC Phase Out in the CEIT Region*” that complements a project for the Russian Federation recently approved by Council, the GEF is at the forefront of the international efforts to phase out HCFCs. The project is designed such that direct investment in HCFC phase out and the infrastructure required to support sustained long term phase out (specifically in refrigerant management) is integrated with technical assistance in areas where capacity building is fundamental to making these investments effective. Exchange of experiences with Article 5 countries in the region will be promoted.
21. Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs): The project “*Environmentally Sound Management of Medical Wastes in India*” includes a number of innovative elements and takes a multi-pronged approach to tackle the issue, including the promotion of best environmental practices to reduce the volume of waste produced, and best available and alternative techniques to reduce releases from the wastes disposed of. The project will work to strengthen capacities at all levels, from

community health centers to large provincial health care facilities, and will promote public private partnerships for the delivery of services.

PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES IN THIS WORK PROGRAM

22. There are 7 PIFs submitted under 3 PAs in this work program.¹ These 3 PAs have already been endorsed by Council in previous Council meetings. The PIFs under these 3 PAs cover the climate change, international waters and multi-focal areas.

Climate Change

LGGE Framework for Promoting Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Buildings (Lead Agency: UNDP) (Endorsed by Council in November 2008)

23. This PA aims to promote low greenhouse gas emissions buildings through comprehensive approaches at the building level, including reduction of the demand for energy and integration of renewable sources. The PA is composed of more than 30 projects in all the regions. 20 projects have already been approved. Five projects are submitted under this work program (*Syria : Energy Efficiency Buildings Codes ; Iran : Policy Reforms and Market Transformation of the Energy Efficient Buildings Sector ; Kazakhstan : Promotion of Energy Efficient Lighting in Kazakhstan ; Belarus : Improving Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings ; Jamaica : Promoting Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Buildings*).

International Waters

MED: Mediterranean Environmental Sustainable Development Program “Sustainable MED” (Lead Agency: World Bank) (Endorsed by Council in June 2009.)

24. The “Sustainable Med” Program was endorsed by Council in June 2009. The program consists of ten international waters projects with a total of \$50 million in GEF allocations (including fees) and a minimum of \$737 million in co-financing. Seven out of the 10 projects were approved since the June 2009 Council meeting with total GEF grant of \$37.6 million, including fees. Co-financing for these seven projects amounted to \$702 million. One project is proposed for this work program with a GEF allocation of \$5.0 million, including fees, and with an anticipated co-financing of \$7.3 million.

Multi-Focal Areas

CBSP: Strategic Program for Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin Biodiversity (Lead Agency: World Bank) (Endorsed by Council in November 2008)

25. The proposed project, *A Regional Focus on Sustainable Timber Management in the Congo Basin*, is submitted under the GEF Strategic Program for the Congo Basin in this work program. Including this proposed project, 13 PIFs would have been approved for a GEF contribution of \$49,657,314, representing nearly 100% of the \$49,750,088 proposed in the

¹ See Annex A-1 for the detailed financial amounts for the PIF under the Programmatic Approaches.

Program Framework Document (PFD). The projected co-financing of \$167,587,750 with a ratio of 1:3.4 exceeds slightly the \$ 150 million that was originally indicated in the PFD. This program has been financed out of the biodiversity and climate change focal area allocations from the 6 Congo Basin countries, plus a contribution of \$15 million from the Tropical Forest Account (which in turn was supported by resources from biodiversity, climate change and land degradation). The Tropical Forest Account and the programmatic approach have been instrumental to help countries to develop GEF projects, secure co-financing and establish the technical partnerships necessary for project implementation. Lessons learned during this stage of the programmatic approach will be applied during GEF-5 to strengthen these approaches.

SUMMARY OF THE FREE-STANDING PIFs & PIFs IN PAs IN THE JUNE 2010 WORK PROGRAM ²

Biodiversity

1. **Ethiopia** : Capacity Building for Access and Benefit Sharing and Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,047,000)

Climate Change

2. **Argentina** : Sustainable Use of Biogas from Agro Industrial and Solid Waste Applications (IADB) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,909,000)
3. **Belarus** : LGGE Improving Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings in the Republic of Belarus (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,500,000)
4. **Bhutan** : Promoting Sustainable Rural Biomass Energy (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,703,000)
5. **Brazil** : Mitigation Options of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions in Key Sectors in Brazil (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,180,000)
6. **Iran** : LGGE Policy Reforms and Market Transformation of the Energy Efficient Buildings Sector in the I.R. Iran (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,000,000)
7. **Jamaica** : LGGE Promoting Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in Buildings in Jamaica (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,361,000)
8. **Kazakhstan** : LGGE Promotion of energy efficient lighting in Kazakhstan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,400,000)

² Financial details of the projects and projects under the PAs submitted in this June Intersessional Work Program are presented in Annexes A and A-1.

9. **Mauritius** : Removal of Barriers to Solar PV Power Generation in Mauritius, Rodrigues and the Outer Islands (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,005,000)
10. **Mexico** : Fifth National Communication to the UNFCCC (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,707,536)
11. **Namibia** : Concentrating Solar Power Technology Transfer for Electricity Generation in Namibia (NAM CSP TT) (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,718,000)
12. **Panama** : Sustainable and climate-friendly development in Veraguas Province -Proyecto Participa (IFAD) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,500,000)
13. **Peru** : Lighting Market Transformation in Peru (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,636,000)
14. **Russian Federation** : Reducing GHG Emissions from Road Transport in Russia's Medium-sized Cities (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,400,000)
15. **Seychelles** : Grid-Connected Rooftop Photovoltaic Systems (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,160,000)
16. **Sri Lanka** : Promoting Sustainable Biomass Energy Production and Modern Bio-Energy Technologies (UNDP/FAO) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,996,250)
17. **Syria** : LGGE Energy Efficiency Buildings Codes (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,460,000)
18. **Tajikistan** : Technology Transfer and Market Development for Small-Hydropower in Tajikistan (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,000,000)

International Waters

19. **Global** : Global Foundations For Reducing Nutrient Enrichment and ODFLB Pollution in Support of GNC (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$1,718,182)
20. **Regional (Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen)** : Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Strategic Ecosystem Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,000,000)
21. **Regional (Jordan, Morocco, Palestinian Authority)** : Regional Technical Assistance and Capacity Building for the Promotion of Treated Wastewater Reuse in the Mediterranean /MENA Countries (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$4,545,455)

Multi Focal Area

- 22. **Regional (Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico) :** Meso-American Barrier Reef System II (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$6,340,000)
- 23. **Regional (Central African Republic, Congo, Equatorial Guinea) :** CBSP - A Regional Focus on Sustainable Timber Management in the Congo Basin (UNEP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,075,681)
- 24. **Regional (Mongolia, Russian Federation) :** Integrated Natural Resource Management in the Baikal Basin Transboundary Ecosystem (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$3,898,000)
- 25. **Chile :** Sustainable Land Management (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$5,863,636)

Ozone Depleting Substances

- 26. **Regional (Belarus, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) :** Initial Implementation of Accelerated HCFC Phase-out in the CEIT Region (UNDP) (GEF Project Grant : \$9,000,000)

POPs

- 27. **India :** Environmentally Sound Management of Medical Wastes in India (UNIDO) (GEF Project Grant : \$10,000,000)
- 28. **Lebanon :** PCB Management Project (World Bank) (GEF Project Grant : \$2,538,900)