

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel



The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility (Version 5)

STAP Scientific and Technical screening of the Project Identification Form (PIF)

Date of screening: 3 March 2008

Screener: Guadalupe Duron

Panel member validation by: Meryl Williams

I. PIF Information

GEFSEC PROJECT ID:

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: P106063

COUNTRY(IES): MAURITANIA, SENEGAL, THE GAMBIA, CAPE VERDE, GUINEA BISSAU, GUINEA, SIERRA LEONE, LIBERIA AND GHANA

PROJECT TITLE: Sustainable Fisheries Development Projects in 9 West African Countries

GEF AGENCY(IES): World Bank

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): *Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches (CSRP), Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy (Mauritania); Ministry of Maritime Economy (Senegal); Department of Fisheries (The Gambia); Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy (Guinea-Bissau); Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Guinea); Ministry of Marine Resources (Sierra Leone); Ministry of the Environment and Agriculture (Cape Verde); Bureau of national Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture (Liberia); and Ministry of Fisheries (Ghana).*

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): International Waters

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): SP1

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa

Full size project GEF Trust Fund

II. STAP Advisory Response (see table below for explanation)

1. Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies):
Minor revision required

III. Further guidance from STAP

2. STAP welcomes this proposal on "Sustainable Fisheries Development in Nine West African Countries. The focus on national level investment supporting the critical transboundary regional investment of other projects is noted and strongly supported.
3. Questions whether the the short term objective (iii) increasing the value and profitability of fisheries, is a GEF objective, but notes that this will be an important requirement for gaining incentives for sustainably management
4. STAP notes that global environment benefits will be measured using a set of indicators. A detailed reference to this aspect is raised in the Partnership Investment Fund for which GEF support was approved in November 2005, and reference to these indicators and any revisions (especially to results-based indicators of ecosystem status) that have been proposed could strengthen the scientific validity of the stated global benefits. In particular, the projects would need to ensure that baselines for the indicators were available in order to track progress due to the projects (including the CCLME and GCLME projects which are related), noting that all the countries have weak fisheries management regimes and rapid improvement in this challenging area and region is not expected.
5. In addition, STAP notes that detailed outputs will be defined during project preparation and submitted at CEO endorsement. STAP could provide, therefore, more targeted advice on indicators when the proposal is developed further. To initiate the process, STAP encourages the World Bank to contact STAP as each country sustainable fishery strategy is developed.
6. With respect to risk mitigation, suggestions for managing illegal fishing corruption are weak. More proactive measures should be contemplated, including action involving the countries of the main offenders where possible. Illegal fishing is rightly noted as a major problem in the region - of the order of 20% of the value of the catch (MRAG 2005. Review of impacts of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing on developing countries, Final Report for DFID, UK.)

STAP advisory	Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed
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<i>response</i>	
1. Consent	STAP acknowledges that on scientific/technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasising any issues that could be improved and the proponent is invited to approach STAP for advice at any time during the development of the project brief prior to submission for CEO endorsement.
2. Minor revision required.	STAP has identified specific scientific/technical suggestions or opportunities that should be discussed with the proponent as early as possible during development of the project brief. One or more options that remain open to STAP include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Opening a dialogue between STAP and the proponent to clarify issues (ii) Setting a review point during early stage project development and agreeing terms of reference for an independent expert to be appointed to conduct this review The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.
3. Major revision required	STAP proposes significant improvements or has concerns on the grounds of specified major scientific/technical omissions in the concept. If STAP provides this advisory response, a full explanation would also be provided. Normally, a STAP approved review will be mandatory prior to submission of the project brief for CEO endorsement. The proponent should provide a report of the action agreed and taken, at the time of submission of the full project brief for CEO endorsement.