

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: 19 March 2009

Screener: David Cunningham

Panel member validation by: Paul Ferraro

I. PIF Information

Full size project **GEF Trust Fund**

GEFSEC PROJECT ID: 3820

GEF AGENCY PROJECT ID: 4180

COUNTRY(IES): Mongolia

PROJECT TITLE: Strengthening of the Protected Area Networking system in Mongolia (SPAN)

GEF AGENCY(IES): UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Ministry of Nature and Environment, Protected Area Administrations, buffer zone councils

GEF FOCAL AREA (S): Biodiversity

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): BD – SO1 – SP1/ SP 3

NAME OF PARENT PROGRAM/UMBRELLA PROJECT: N/A

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. The PIF does not provide much detail on the proposed interventions under Output 2.4 to identify innovative avenues for revenue generation (para 5), diversify funding sources (para 8) and explore the opportunities for private sector engagement and contributions to PA financing (para 11). Biodiversity offsets are specified as one mechanism. The Panel advises that 'Minor Revision is Required' to highlight that if payments for environmental services are envisaged, STAP asks that its 2008 guideline document on PES¹ be referred to in developing the full project document for CEO endorsement.
3. Under part E on risks, including climate change risks, the PIF does not identify any climate change risks. The full project document should consider these risks in more detail and record what is known about the vulnerability of the three target areas to climate change and any risk mitigation strategies that should be put in place.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</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: (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.

¹ Payments for Environmental Services and the Global Environment Facility: A STAP guideline document
<http://stapgef.unep.org/resources/sq/PES>