

# 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: April 10, 2014

Screeners: Douglas Taylor

Panel member validation by: Jakob Granit  
Consultant(s):

### I. PIF Information *(Copied from the PIF)*

**FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND**

**GEF PROJECT ID:** 5753

**PROJECT DURATION :** 5

**COUNTRIES :** Regional (Angola, Namibia, South Africa)

**PROJECT TITLE:** Realizing the Inclusive and Sustainable Development in the BCLME Region through the Improved Ocean Governance and the Integrated Management of Ocean Use and Marine Resources

**GEF AGENCIES:** UNDP

**OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS:** To realize the long-term conservation, protection, rehabilitation, enhancement and sustainable use of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem to provide economic, environmental and social benefits and wellbeing of people in the BCLME region.

**GEF FOCAL AREA:** International Waters

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

Based on this PIF screening, STAP's advisory response to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency(ies):  
**Consent**

### III. Further guidance from STAP

1. STAP welcomes this proposal to support the implementation of the Benguela Current LME Implementation Plan (IP), which is complementary to the recent update of the BCC Strategic Action Program (SAP). The proposal appears to be logically structured and includes enabling actions to improve outreach and participation both within selected communities but also government ministries and regional bodies.
2. The Benguela Current Commission website states that an updated TDA, SAP and Science Plan (now replaced by an Implementation Plan), were circulated at a validation workshop in Cape Town in August 2013 and are under final review. STAP has accessed these draft documents through the DLIST BCLME portal and understands that updated and revised documents are due to be signed at a Conference of Ministers on April 24, 2014.
3. STAP advises that the PIF is weak regarding lack of output indicators presented in the project framework especially considering the long experience from cooperation on this LME. GEF activities and indicators should be carefully prioritized in light of other support projects to the BCC. The project is proposed as a catalytic support envelope to pave the way for full implementation of the revised SAP to be guided by the Implementation Plan; however the PIF appears to contain many additional scientific and technical actions not listed in the Plan. It would be helpful to map the project outputs against the approved SAP and Implementation Plan; some outputs are not directly referenced within either document. For example actions towards regional water quality standards, Regional Code of Conduct for Responsible Coastal and Offshore Mining, declaration of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Ecologically & Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs), are either absent or only speculatively mentioned in either document. For this last example the full project brief would need to be specific about how and where candidate MPAs and EBSAs are to be determined, consulted upon and managed.
4. The PIF otherwise proposes a reasonable framework for actions that, taken together, provide a logical progression towards regional uptake of the SAP. STAP welcomes the pilot activities on MSP that would provide a logic intervention in terms of mapping resource use, stakeholder interests and tradeoffs. The linkage to upstream Orange Sengu river flows is innovative and begins to connect land use practises with impacts at the open sea.

5. From a regional governance perspective and longer term sustainability of the investment STAP advises that the project develops a governance baseline analysis during project preparation. The governance baseline should assesses the regional institutional frameworks and how best to synchronize national and regional concerns, incentives and benefits to create long term sustainability of the Benguele LME including an exit strategy for GEF support. The functions and role of the BCC should be assessed in the broader regional governance system including links to multi-purpose organizations such as SADC. Both the governance baseline and the exit strategy should take the multiple stages of GEF support to the littoral countries cooperative action into account and provide a scenario for the future.

#### References

Olsen, S.B., Page, G.G. & Ochoa, E. (2009). The analysis of governance responses to ecosystem change: A handbook for assembling a baseline. LOICZ Reports & Studies No. 34. Geesthach: GKSS Research Center.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (2012). Marine Spatial Planning in the Context of the Convention on Biological Diversity: A study carried out in response to CBD COP 10 decision X/29, Montreal, Technical Series No. 68, 44 pages

Schneiderbaum, F., & Granit, J. (2014). The Political Economy of Regionalism: The Relevance for International Waters and the Global Environment Facility: A STAP Issues Paper. Global Environment Facility, Washington, D.C.

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
<b>1. Consent</b>	<p>STAP acknowledges that on scientific or technical grounds the concept has merit. However, STAP may state its views on the concept emphasizing any issues where the project could be improved.</p> <p>Follow up: The GEF Agency is invited to approach STAP for advice during the development of the project prior to submission of the final document for CEO endorsement.</p>
<b>2. Minor revision required.</b>	<p>STAP has identified specific scientific or technical challenges, omissions or opportunities that should be addressed by the project proponents during project development.</p> <p>Follow up: One or more options are open to STAP and the GEF Agency:            (i) GEF Agency should discuss the issues with STAP to clarify them and possible solutions.            (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the GEF Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP's recommended actions.</p>
<b>3. Major revision required</b>	<p>STAP has identified significant scientific or technical challenges or omissions in the PIF and recommends significant improvements to project design.</p> <p>Follow-up:            (i) The Agency should request that the project undergo a STAP review prior to CEO endorsement, at a point in time when the particular scientific or technical issue is sufficiently developed to be reviewed, or as agreed between the Agency and STAP.            (ii) In its request for CEO endorsement, the Agency will report on actions taken in response to STAP concerns.</p>