

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: May 10, 2010

Screener: Douglas Taylor

Panel member validation by: Meryl Williams
Consultant(s):

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

FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND

GEF PROJECT ID: 3809

PROJECT DURATION :

COUNTRIES : Regional (Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Yemen)

PROJECT TITLE: Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Strategic Ecosystem Management

GEF AGENCIES: World Bank

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: PERSGA - The Regional Organization for the Conservation of Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

GEF FOCAL AREA: International Waters

GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAMS: IW-1;IW-2;

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): **Minor revision required**

III. Further guidance from STAP

STAP welcomes the proposal to build on the original GEF-funded work that led to the establishment of the Strategic Action Program for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and agrees that further support from GEF will probably enhance the chances of achieving a sustainable fisheries industry. However, the PIF focuses mainly on processes and does not provide enough detail about how the work will actually be done. STAP suggests that the project document at CEO endorsement should clearly indicate the responses to the following observations.

1. This would seem to be a very challenging project to carry out given the region in which it will be implemented and its problems in controlling illegal maritime activities. The PIF has had a long lag time between the original World Bank sign-off and PIF clearance therefore STAP is concerned about the present state of buy-in from participating countries. The PIF indicates that the countries give strong support to PERSGA but overall lack the means to carry out the agreed plans. Somalia is not able to take part but yet its coastline along the south of the Gulf of Aden is critical and unstable. How will the omission of Somalia be mitigated?
2. The collaboration list with other projects does not indicate specific areas of collaboration but is simply a generic statement listing the projects, and giving their total size, instead of that part of them and their activities which would be relevant to the GEF work in this PIF.
3. Caution should be exercised as to what GEF funds cover as several of the activities, e.g. the post harvest value adding of fisheries product, are pure fisheries activities and a case has not been made here for their environmental role.

<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:

	<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 <p>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.</p>
<p>3. Major revision required</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>