Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel

The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, administered by UNEP, advises the Global Environment Facility

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

Date of screening: 18th May 2009
Screener: Lev Neretin
Panel member validation by: N.H. Ravindranath

I. PIF Information

Full size project GEF Trust Fund
GEF PROJECT ID: 3927
COUNTRY(IES): ALGERIA
PROJECT TITLE: INTEGRATED APPROACH FOR ZERO EMISSION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT IN THE NEW TOWN OF BOUGHZOUL
GEF AGENCY(IES): UNEP
OTHER EXECUTING PARTNER(S): UNEP/DTIE WITH THE MINISTÈRE DE L’AMÉNAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE, DE L’ENVIRONNEMENT ET DU TOURISME (MATET) AND THE BOUGHZOUL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (BDA)
GEF FOCAL AREA (S): CLIMATE CHANGE
GEF-4 STRATEGIC PROGRAM(S): MULTIFOCAL (SP1-BUILDING EE, SP2- INDUSTRIAL EE, SP3-RE, SP4-BIOMASS, SP5-TRANSPORT)

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): Consent

III. Further guidance from STAP

1. The STAP welcomes the first “eco-cities” project proposed for financing by GEF. This is very important and innovative project aiming at carbon neutral urban development and promotion of “zero” GHG emission towns and cities. STAP commends the use of integrated approach to energy use utilizing EE and RE, waste, transport and land-use planning.

2. At the CEO endorsement stage, STAP advises to define project impacts and results dissemination strategy on the overall improved national capacity to introduce best practices of RE and EE in urban areas and promote climate-friendly business environment. Some proposed project interventions have explicit national benefits such as e.g., the establishment of Center of excellence for technology transfer and R&D and National Clean Energy Information Center. However, it is not clear how project guidelines for application of building codes, bio-climate architectural design, standards and labels for appliances will be adopted and disseminated at the national level.

3. The project could consider non-technological options such as bicycle paths and land use planning to reduce GHG emission in addition to energy sectors of the urban centre. All utilities could be included to reduce energy use as well as to shift to renewables.

4. This project could also consider promotion of mitigation-adaptation synergy to ensure that GHG emission reductions are sustained.

5. A long list of barriers is given in the PIF. It is desirable to conduct a scientific assessment of the barriers and prioritize them for interventions.

6. The risk associated with the incremental cost involved in promoting EE and RE aimed at zero emission urban centres should be considered, along with mitigation measures.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STAP advisory response</th>
<th>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Consent</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Minor revision required.</td>
<td>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:</td>
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(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.