

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 06, 2013

Screener: Lev Neretin

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

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

FULL SIZE PROJECT GEF TRUST FUND

GEF PROJECT ID: 5393

PROJECT DURATION : 4

COUNTRIES : Regional (Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam)

PROJECT TITLE: EAS Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas

GEF AGENCIES: UNDP

OTHER EXECUTING PARTNERS: Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

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 project proposal, one of three proposed within the parent Program "Reducing Pollution and Rebuilding Degraded Marine Resources in the East Asian Seas through Implementation of Intergovernmental Agreements and Catalyzed Investments" (GEF ID 4936). STAP finds the baseline analysis well referenced and the intervention logic clear and well presented.
2. Overall the project fits well within the overall multi-agency set of actions to support regional and national policy development and the management of migratory fish stocks. However STAP strongly recommends that the proposed project develops strong scientific and technical links with work being undertaken by FAO's ABNJ project (ABNJ Sustainable Management of Tuna Fisheries and Biodiversity Conservation, GEF ID 4581). STAP acknowledges the mention of linkage with this project, but specific collaboration should be explored on testing the potential of Rights Based Management (RBM) in the context of ecosystem based management within the areas of competence of the WCPFC in conjunction with adoption of instruments such as the Port State Measures Agreement (trade access for guaranteed legally caught fish). Additionally, regarding testing of market-based instruments such as certification (Component 2), the proponents should consider carefully the equity of such measures applied to developing countries; see for example the review of certification in developing countries by Pérez-Ramírez et al (2011).
3. The WCPFC is clearly a promising clearing house for such cooperation, given that work in ABNJs and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) needs to overlap while project managers need to be encouraged to share experience of what works and transfer lessons regionally and globally. However, the PIF does not include a component on project management, coordination, monitoring and assessment, all of which appear essential to success. STAP requests that these missing elements and an explanation of how the project will connect with the parent Program are detailed in the project brief.
4. STAP supports the assertion in the PIF that stock management calls for transboundary flexible measures based on a better understanding of climate induced stock changes, supported by adaptive management strategies, regular monitoring and assessment. This project could examine the feasibility of spatial planning approaches. Although tuna stocks are highly migratory, the ocean and its biodiversity are highly structured in time and space. For example, migration corridors have been identified for several megafauna in the Pacific ocean and seasonal exclusion zones for fishing might be possible as part of bycatch reduction and ecosystem based management

Reference

<i>STAP advisory response</i>	<i>Brief explanation of advisory response and action proposed</i>
1. Consent	<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>
2. Minor revision required.	<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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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.
3. Major revision required	<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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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.