



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) NGO CONSULTATION

APRIL 21, 2008

**The World Bank, H Auditorium,
600 19th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.**



1.0 OPENING REMARKS AND INTRODUCTIONS BY CO-CHAIRS: GEF SECRETARIAT AND GEF-NGO NETWORK

The session opened with a brief introduction of the agenda items and introductions from participants.

2.0 QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH GEF MANAGEMENT

The chair acknowledged the presence of Gustavo Fonseca, Team Leader, and Natural Resources who would take questions on behalf of the GEF Secretariat management and would later be joined by William Ehlers, Team Leader, External Affairs.

Question 1

Faizal Parish asked about the future perspective on replenishment, what are the steps being considered and what needs to be done there? He pointed out that previous replenishments have largely been supply-based and asked what considerations were being made to look more at the demand side to support incremental costs of the conventions for the next replenishment process.

Response by Gustavo Fonseca, Team Leader, and Natural Resources

Gustav Fonseca noted that the answer to this question was multi-faceted. He related the first point to strategies that have to be contemplated for GEF 5, qualifying this by saying that the size of the need will determine the strategies to support focal areas. He highlighted that it was interesting times in terms of the GEF. In view of this there was need to look at the emerging scenarios. He volunteered that one of the important milestones will be the conclusion of evaluation of the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF).

Question 2

Johnson Cerda asked about the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) as a subject of the forthcoming Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) Conference of Parties (COP). He noted that there were currently 109 projects involving Indigenous Peoples (IPs). Will these be assessed in terms of trying to enhance them?

Response by Gustavo Fonseca, Team Leader, and Natural Resources

Gustav Fonseca responded by saying the first assessments of GEF projects involving IPs had been initiated. On the subject of a CBD COP, a publication on IPs would be released at the next COP. He explained that GEF hoped to have a detailed analysis of the lessons learnt from these projects. The GEF hoped to enhance the public participation policy. GEF has been in touch with IPs about the launch of document. He expressed hope COP would have a side event with IPs.



Question 3

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi, GEF expert, Iran Question raised a broad question on the coordination between GEF and government and GEF and NGOs, citing the example of the necessity for coordination between the GEF and NGOs. He questioned that kind of policy GEF and Implementing Agencies (IAs) follow or should follow to strengthen the coordination between these two sectors. He noted that this strategy is unclear and clear they could be disputes and conflicts, decision making that is not well communicated.

Response by Gustavo Fonseca, Team Leader, and Natural Resources

Gustav Fonseca's reaction to this question was that GEF has a public involvement policy means any GEF intervention must have extensive participation of all stakeholders. What the policy says is instrumental and key. Three steps have been designed; dissemination of information to stakeholders, the consultation and finally participation throughout project steps and activities. Work through partnership with agencies. The design of the projects in all countries is driven by Operational Focal Points (OPFs).

GEF has a public involvement policy which reflects IP involvement and has a chapter which emphasizes some aspects of how GEF engages with IPs. Based on analysis they will be further tools. He indicated that the issue raised by Iran was an important one and expressed his intention to discuss this further bilaterally with Iran.

Question 4

Felipe Villagran queried whether there was increased participation of IPs in GEF projects. He asked whether since GEF does not implement projects is was it actually going to have an implementation policy. He also wanted to know how GEF planned to increase the number of projects.

Question 5

Khadija Razavi pointed out that if the GEF Council is looking for project sustainability; it should not confine itself to global benefits but also talk about local benefits. There was therefore a need for GEF to add community-driven priorities to their implementation conditions.

Question 6

Delfin Ganapin related his question to IPs and the fact that within the next two weeks there will be a UN forum on IP issues. He questioned IPs can be supported especially in relation to Climate Change. It is one thing to get UN Agencies to be aware of the international declaration of the IPs but quite another to find ways of integrating these into SGP, to find relevant portions to be converted into systems. These two steps can go a long way to supporting IPs. Since Bali, NGOs have approached SGP for funds to participate. There have been meetings on how to manage the Adaptation Funds. The key



questions remains: Can NGOs access the Adaptation Fund? Are there opportunities for inclusion or possibilities for communities and NGOs? Little resources went to NGOs from the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). NGOs need to see how they can be involved in the early stages of setting up strategies for the Adaptation Fund.

Question 7

Felipe Villagran asked how the Network can have input into paper. He indicated that we would not like to see a paper which in practicality is lip service. He cautioned that there is nothing the CEO can do without participation.

Response by Gustavo Fonseca, Team Leader, and Natural Resources

Gustav Fonseca said that it is disputable how do achieve global benefits as well as providing local benefits. GEFSEC has a duty to address the various interests and demands starting with countries that have their own rules of engagement. GEF Agencies have their safeguards. GEF policy vis-à-vis engagement of NGOs and IPs is much more complex and needs more consideration. There is a need to do more and to do it better. GEF needs to consult on this and learn. Although there are entry points in the project cycle much more has to be considered.

Regarding the Adaptation Fund it pointed out that it was too early to answer this question as it is still under development. He hinted that the discussion at the first meeting started to touch on direct access when considering the design continuing by stating that there will be opportunities for engagement of communities and NGOs. He underlined that through the Conflicts Resolution Office, GEF has passed on some complaints to the GEF Agencies.

Question 8

Erich Vogt inquired why the Adaptation Fund was not provided for in the agenda asking whether one was a meeting where potential donors and recipients came together and decided how to move forward. He solicited GEF to explain how it sees the coordination between the existing Adaptation Funds in GEF and the UNFCCC Adaptation Fund. Reference to creating synergies between initiatives, he asked, how GEF sees this.

Question 9

Faizal Parish speculated on what has been the experience of projects which integrated Climate Change and Biodiversity as reflected in a recent version of GEF strategy. At previous meetings there was an understanding of incentive methods that could provide more funds for sustainable forests management and land degradation.



Response by Gustavo Fonseca, Team Leader, and Natural Resources

Gustav Fonseca explained that there are new dynamics that have to confront when we think about GEF replenishment. There are many more complex emerging issues that we must make reference to. For instance, we all want more resources yet the challenges are to exercise safeguards so that we do not undermine sectors.

GEF always had multi-focal projects in the past; this is becoming a more interesting feature as you cannot tackle Climate Change without taking into consideration land use. The area that does provide synergy is the tropical forests. GEF has spent US\$70 million in co-financing and pipeline is becoming quite sizeable. Projects present opportunities if they are synergetic. As a condition to reporting back to these conventions, GEF must evolve to have the model of multiple sector projects.

Yabanex Batista, the co-chair, concluded this Question & Answers session, encouraging GEF management to continue to discuss these issues bilaterally.

He introduced the next session as a panel discussion related to the GEF-NGO Network process to come up with new Strategy and Operational Plan. He indicated to the floor that some good progress has been achieved. William Ehlers from GEF management joined the meeting and apologized for arriving late, stating that he was glad to see all here. He hoped results of this consultation will be positive and useful.

3.0 PANEL DISCUSSION: GEF-NGO NETWORK STRATEGY AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

3.1 Progress on GEF NGO Network Strategy and Four-Year Operational Plan - *Ermath Harrington, Regional Focal Point (RFP) Caribbean*

Ermath Harrington prefaced the session on work of the GEF-NGO Network by updating the meeting on the process highlights for 2007.

He underlined the process highlights which started June 2007. He explained how the Network used the opportunity at Bali to solicit inputs from Network members and non-Network members and then circulated to NGOs for input as we promised this would be from the bottom up.

He explained the Strategic Objective and Rationale and the intent to build the capacity elements to really build the network. He underscored that the strategies are results-orientated and not task-based and seem to be preoccupied more with the inputs rather than tangible results. It was indicated that the Network will be working with Evaluation Office to perfect this.



Ermath stressed need to rejuvenate the interest and the application of NGO work throughout world. There is an emerging disconnect between roles and inputs in terms of projects and programs.

Many NGOs have raised awareness that capacity building can support successful outcomes. He told the meeting that complementary to the strategic plan the Network must display capability to self-manage with clear regulations in place. He emphasized the importance of good governance, identifying several in roads in this regard.

Ermath communicated his understanding that in the course of implementation of Strategy and Operational Plan the Network needs to be well resourced, equipped and structured. The Network needs to demonstrate to GEF and other partners that we are capable of self-management. Communication has to be of high quality, frequent and facilitated in the spirit of an organic type of framework rather than on an ad hoc basis.

In terms of the Operational Plan, Ermath submitted that this was program-based approach. The Network has identified deliverable components and in the continuous process of engagement would be moving from this preliminary stage to identifying concrete actions.

As part of the next steps, he emphasized that to attract funding the Network has to demonstrate the internal capability to manage this funding. The Network planned to convene an intercessional workshop to reconcile some of these aspects. He was presently happy to report favorable response. He also mentioned that in looking to mobilize resources, the Network is looking inward at RFP and constituency level. The continuous commitment to capacity building is not a one-off thing but an evolutionary process. He optimistically projected that the Network would start implementation somewhere towards the end of 2008.

See Full Presentation included in *Annex 2*.

3.2 Civil Society Engagement - *UNEP and World Bank*

3.2.1 *UNEP - Kristin McLaughlin and Maryam Niamir-Fuller*

The presentation was introduced by reference to the fact that UNEP has been going through a very similar exercise. An invitation was extended to see how these efforts maybe coordinated with those of the GEF-NGO Network. Reference was made to the UNEP Civil Society document on the UNEP web page. UNEP has for many years recognized the importance of engaging major groups and stakeholders as partners. UNEP



appreciates the perspectives they bring to the table, valuable research and advocacy functions they perform and their role in helping foster long-term, broad-based support for UNEP's mission.

UNEP has reflected on how to engage civil society in its policy process. In this respect, UNEP has employed a bottom-up approach in terms of the six (6) regional meetings convened which feed back into the global civil society forum. These efforts were made to get civil society organizations organized in a way that will increase their influence and advocacy capabilities.

The presenters highlighted that globally there was a debate about civil society. At the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, nine (9) major groups were identified. The nine (9) major groups are: farmers, women, the scientific and technological community, children and youth, indigenous peoples and their communities, workers and trade unions, business and industry, non-governmental organizations and local authorities

At this juncture the business community expressed the feeling that they had been excluded. Taking this into account, in addition to two representatives from twelve (12) regions, UNEP agreed to establish a Major Group Facilitating Committee applying the twelve (12) plus nine (9) formula. The purpose of this of process is to facilitate the representation of UNEP which has taken steps to ensure that all major groups:

1. Access to information and documents along with government.
2. Seat in UNEP's ministerial environmental forums through round tables.
3. Are involved in the program and implementation side of UNEP business (UNEP hopes to get civil society more involved in these program).

To put this into practice, the UNEP Secretariat drafted Guidelines for Improving the Global Civil Society Forum Cycle, which was subjected to a peer review and an open electronic consultation with the major groups from June 2007 to February 2008. It was further presented during the Regional Consultation Meetings where it was discussed and recommendations made. A final draft was subsequently presented at the Ninth GCSF in Monaco in February 2008 and approved by the Forum. It is now awaiting final endorsement by the UNEP Executive Director before it can become fully operational.

The Roadmap outlines the major steps towards the adoption of the "Guidelines for Enhancing Major Groups Participation at UNEP's Governance Level" (now called Guidelines for Improving the Global Civil Society Forum Cycle).

The presentation moved to discuss UNEP's involvement with Indigenous Peoples. The presenter submitted to the meeting that UNEP has been working on an IP policy for three years. The third draft of this policy would be ready by (Tuesday) evening in preparation for a meeting scheduled for Wednesday. This policy plans to streamline IPs in the program and policies of UN. There are currently eight (8) IPs accredited to UNEP.



The presenter updated the meeting on the project “IP Network for Change”, financed by GEF and now in its third year of implementation. The thrust of this project is to build capacity of IPs worldwide, to share international processes and seminars and to participate in a communication radio program. Training of over 200 IPs through a series of seminars has been accomplished.

Questions & Answers

Question 1

Johnson Cerda acknowledged that he was aware of these activities and highlighted that the project supported international debates but these are constrained by limited resources. He hinted that more resources are needed so that more colleagues can be included and the information sharing extended.

Response

Kristin McLaughlin sympathized, noting that resources were always required. On a more positive note she submitted that the project covered an extensive network globally. With respect to sustainability, she stated that they were presently working to integrate some of these efforts into the SGP.

Response

UNEP have made strenuous efforts to invite GEF RFPs. Project implementation is not formal. UNEP had in its books very impressive statistics and records of robust NGO execution.

3.2.2 World Bank - John Garrison

John Garrison opened his presentation with the World Bank’s definition of civil society which, he says, has evolved over the years. He made it clear that the World Bank does not regard the private sector as civil society.

Historically, he explained that the World Bank started interacting with civil society in the 1980s. Environmental NGOs first began approaching the Bank to discuss controversial projects such as dams in fragile ecosystems such as the Amazon. The first reaction was to ignore and/or go on the defensive. After this initial reaction the Bank began to undertake studies on participation, holding meetings, and hiring staff with the requisite skills in this area.

The Bank set up a participation working group in early 1990s. The next step was adopting policies in the area of participation, and the first of which were adopted at this time, fifteen (15) different policies (OP 17.40, good practice notes, sourcebooks). The



Bank then began hiring staff (120 focal points) in 1996 before consulting on major policy reviews.

Perhaps the first large global consultation was on the Forestry Policy in the early 1990s, followed by involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples, rural development, and structural adjustment. More recently, the World Bank had extractive industries, loan conditionalities, GAC etc.

He went on to consider the Bank's five-page engagement continuum as:

1. Information disclosure (no decision-making aspects, but it is very important)
2. Political policy dialogue --- several through advisory. When you work with multi-stakeholders there are bound to be different approaches and rivalries. There was a lot of policy dialogue which was timely and significant.
3. Consultations (some decision-making power, consulting on large policies, such as forest policy review, Structural Adjustment). The Bank is revising how it consults on policy, individual projects, government bureaucracy (consult less). There are in existence three approaches: unilateral, collaborative and independent (trade unions).
4. Collaboration (ad hoc basis).
5. Participation (shared goals and decision-making responsibility)

Communication

Communication is a one-way process of engagement in which CSOs do not have any decision-making powers.. The Bank has a much more proactive information disclosure policy today with Public Information Centers in over 100 countries.

Dialogue

The Bank has evolved vastly in its dialogue with civil society and today has ongoing dialogue on a variety of issues. In addition, it has had several advisory group mechanisms with civil society: Bank-NGO Committee which lasted from 1982-2000 and played an important role in promoting dialogue which resulted in key Bank reform policies such as information disclosure, environmental protection, debt relief and social safeguards. Joint Facilitation Committee which lasted from 2002-2005 and involved not only NGOs, but social movements, trade unions, foundations and faith-based organizations. The Bank is now considering establishing a new advisory group but is yet to decide on the format. The World Bank and UN Agencies have different approaches to dialogue with civil society with the Bank's approach being more informal. Many of the UN Agencies have had formal accreditation processes and advisory groups for decades, which is not the case with the Bank.



Consultations

Today, the Bank consults on research (World Development Report), country strategies (CAS), global policies (Governance and Anti-Corruption), and individual projects. They include several approaches: unilateral, collaborative, and independent.

Collaboration

Collaboration is usually ad hoc and one-off events such as organizing joint conferences, research projects, and short-term programs. The Bank also funds CSOs either *directly* through its own grant making mechanisms (i.e. Development Marketplace, Civil Society Fund, and Post-Conflict Fund) or *indirectly* through governments through social funds and community-driven development funds. We estimate that the Bank disburses about US\$30 million a year directly or US\$2 billion indirectly.

Partnership

Partnerships are more permanent and have shared decision-making and ownership. These include existing institutional partnerships on forest conservation with WWF and on vaccines with the Gates Foundation and numerous other partnerships.

In providing a comparison between the World Bank and the UN, he stated, that in terms of UN Agencies who are more constituency-based, they are more stakeholder-focused while the World Bank is multi-stakeholder. In terms of the accreditation the UN is way ahead. The World Bank only accredits CSOs to attend their meetings. World Bank CSOs are considered stakeholders but not shareholders. The UN is moving to set up resident Civil Society Focal Points. The World Bank has invested considerable funds into this area.

John identified poor electronic communication and illiteracy as the main stumbling blocks to local network formation and linkages with global networks. It is also a major problem in terms of building strong national advocacy capacity and sharing of lessons learnt.

More information is available at www.worldbank/civilsociety.

Questions & Answers

Question 1

How is US\$2 billion packaged? What is the legal commitment and mechanism of consultation at all levels? Are CSOs only a tool or observers?

Response

The US\$2 billion is disbursed in grants and loans. The Bank never lends money to CSOs except in the area of micro-enterprises.



Participation policies are voluntarily, not binding. CSOs are seen as an important stakeholder not a shareholder. The voice of civil society has been heard at the Bank and is changing the Bank. The Bank is more corporately structured. Civil society voice is heard but mostly through informal processes.

Response

The World Bank has advanced in terms of engagement. Although there are many linkages, these are not formal.

3.3. Future Potential for GEF NGO Network to Strengthen Various Aspects of SGP - *Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager SGP*

Delfin Ganapin focused his presentation on how to fruitfully work together with the GEF-NGO Network for mutual benefit. The presentation included proposals which required a response from the GEF-NGO Network. Describing the relationship as a “living together proposal” not a marriage, he stated that the links between SGP and the GEF NGO-Network were natural. He reiterated SGP’s commitment to supporting the work of the GEF-NGO Network.

Presenting proposals for collaboration he emphasized that it was important to bring these down to country level in line with the fact that SGP follows targets set by the GEF Council.

On the awareness-raising front he outlined the following:

1. Access/reach to local NGOs and CBOs. Expand awareness of procedures of SGP.
2. Local network formation. The Network can bring in geographical cover and numbers. The wider Network will present more powerful arguments at global level. SGP can help identify ten (10) the best SGP projects and link with them to the Network through the accreditation process.
3. Sharing lessons learnt and models that work. The GEF-NGO Network can join the advocacy groups. We are both in these advocacy groups but we do not plan together. There are possibilities for organizing side events, getting expertise and presence of the Network.
4. Knowledge management platforms. The Network brings inputs from other NGOs outside SGP.
5. Monitoring and Evaluation, in a sense of providing SGP with more feedback from other NGOs in country
6. If SGP paper is approved 5% of grant portfolio goes to activities on policy management. This means that there will be more workshops. The Network could participate in these workshops while holding consultations at the same time..



7. Strategic and programmatic partnership. This can be extended through planning and plotting new proposals, new initiatives.

On partnerships, Delfin outlined his thinking as follows:

1. Country Focal Points assigned to National Coordination who will lead Network to the NGO identified as best so they can be members
2. Updated and representative memberships
3. Agreed protocols for consultation, communication and coming to agreement.

Full Presentation is included in Annex 3.

3.4 GEF Perspective - *William Ehlers, Team Leader, External Affairs, GEF Secretariat*

William Ehlers thought that the debate and exchange of views was very interesting and thought-provoking. He acknowledged that the GEF was strategically positioned to expand its knowledge horizons.

He recognized that the Network has been working hard under very difficult circumstances and expressed his admiration and appreciation for that. He informed the meeting that an intercessional meeting would be held to decide and come up with a position paper along the lines reiterated throughout the meeting. The aim is to make it as practical and feasible as possible. There is also need to examine how to profit from the experiences of others so that when we come to the intercession we have a clearer view. The work is invaluable and through SGP and GEF-NGO Network alliance a lot more can be achieved. There was still need to decide the most appropriate time to hold this meeting.

Question 1

Faizal Parish sought clarification on the linkages between the Network and the GEF Agencies. How does the Network consult within GEF family to involve NGOs?

Response

William Ehlers responded that this work was being done through project preparation. He underlined that naturally the GEF would like this involvement to be as deep as possible.

Question and Answers

Question 1

Felipe Villagran referred to the experiences in Mexico where his organization MERO LEC works closely with the National SGP representative. He mentioned that MERO LEC was part of the National Steering Committee. As part of their role, the national



representative always sends requests for proposals in addition to helping put these proposals together.

Response

Delfin agreed that this can be quite useful.

Comment 1

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi emphasized the necessity of boosting local and IPs communities. True friendships and/or partnerships do exist among a wide range of NGOs, whether or not they are accredited to GEF. Everything revolved around the SGP. A link should be established in GEF and UNDP, with a mechanism that can be established to make this a reality. Through collaboration we could reach local communities at country level much better. He added that there is need to clarify the difference between the National Steering Committee and National Focal Points.

Response

Delfin explained that there was a good reason why the country focal person should sit on the National Steering Committee and this has always been very beneficial. He added that SGP National Coordinators in each country are given latitude to develop their own policies.

Comment 2

Faizal Parish acknowledged the discussion about the collaboration. He indicated the Network's willingness to engage with the positive suggestions and develop mechanisms to work with SGP. He referred to the Network's own processes, having just finalized its new governance structure and guidelines.

On Network membership, he highlighted that it currently stood at a collective 600 organizations worldwide. There is an urgent need to reconfirm engagement with these organizations and embark on a drive to promote new membership. Once updated and improved, the database will facilitate easier linkages. We would like to set timetables and targets so that we can establish clear and specific achievements.

Comment 3

Rajen Awotar thanked Delfin for his very positive presentation. He indicated that was in favor of the idea of GEF-accredited NGOs and Focal Points promoting GEF at country and grassroots level. Until recently, most GEF projects were dominated by elite organizations, but this would soon be a thing of the past. At grassroots level, Network members can have greater impact by educating more people about the SGP and GEF. He suggested this presentation be submitted to SGP National Level Coordinators and also recommended that it be translated for the benefit of a wider audience.



CONCLUDING REMARKS AND WRAP UP

Summarizing the session the Co-chair raised some important questions as follows:

- How incorporate lessons learnt from World Bank and UNEP?
- How does the GE-NGO Network organize itself to work together with partners, such as the World Bank, UNEP and SGP?

4.0 PANEL DISCUSSION: ROLE OF NGOs IN MONITORING AND EVALUATING GEF PROJECTS

The Mid-Term Review of the RAF; Four-Year Work Program - Emphasis on Key Questions for Fourth Overall Performance Study of the GEF Evaluation Office

The Mid-Term Review of the RAF - *Siv Tokle, Senior Evaluation Officer*

After a quick introduction, Siv Tokle prefaced the presentation by stating that there were two issues of great interest; (i) the Mid-Term Review of RAF and the start-up arrangements for the Fourth Overall Performance Study. She alluded to the fact that it was difficult to get uninterrupted collaboration with NGOs through the Network. She felt a huge void existed between Council meetings...

In her presentation on the Mid-Term Review of RAF, Siv touched on: Design of the RAF, Team and Timeframe, Flag consultations of the draft---Sept 2008, Interviews: April to June 08, Key Issues for NGOs and input needed from NGOs.

Siv reassured participants that they were on track in terms of the timeframe and confirmed that drafts had been circulated to NGOs. It outlined the next steps as participation in sub-regional meetings, electronic surveys and conducting of interviews, the Delphi study and a formal proposal to the GEF-NGO Network developing concrete ways to work with NGOs. It mentioned that it is good to handle concerns, examples and empirical data and welcomed written and consolidated inputs. She underscored the need for documentation from NGOs at country level to assist with the identification of the key barriers to accessing GEF funds.

Question 1

Tim Geer called for benchmarking, pre- and post the RAF to track whatever changes have taken place and their effectiveness or otherwise.. This benchmarking needs to be against something other than GEF.

Question 2

Khadija Razavi called for a rethink on the Council policy regarding SGP. The local benefits of GEF were not particularly strong. Neither were they sustainable. It was therefore imperative for decision-makers to understand this.



Question 3

Referring to the engagement mechanism and opportunities for engagement, Faizal Parish cautioned that it was not possible to engage effectively in the absence of proper country studies. He also wanted to know if the country dialogue engagement had been dropped. If so, he warned this will have a negative impact and that side meetings in Bonn or Bali will not suffice, which was regrettable.

Response

Siv Tokle responded that benchmarking, assessments before and after and the issue of access have been taken into account. A mechanism had been introduced in the revised project cycle. Although this was within the PIF, a reference to civil society engagement was not mandatory.

Benchmarking can provide half positive answers. They can look at pre- and post-NGO figures of NGO participation. They are currently seeing slow uptake of projects. However, Siv noted that benchmarking against other funding would be difficult.

Siv further explained that SGP was not part of Mid-Term Review which does not look at policy issues but is confined to an assessment of the impact of the RAF on the SGP.

Siv reported that the country consultations and case studies were cut. She questioned how they could get the information they need. With support of the GEF-NGO Network, they can say something about participation and priority setting but there is no baseline information on how the NGOs participated before in the local benefit study. When looking at PIFs they will be looking at the entire portfolio. The country studies in the portfolio studies also pay attention to RAF issues.

OPS 4 - Claudio Volonte, Chief Evaluation Officer

The next presenter, Claudio Volonte, looked at the forthcoming OPS4. He submitted that this was calculated from the time GEF3 went into action. The replenishment process would start more quickly than anticipated. The work plan for next year was developed taking into account OPS3 and would engage as many sectors as possible on the approach paper. The second round of consultation will be translated into a draft Terms of Reference (TORs) to be presented to Council. He added that he hoped to get the terms of OP4 before the November 2008 Council meeting.

He explained that OPS3 had developed innovative mechanisms to work with the GEF-NGO Network.

On every occasion evaluations try to reach the NGO community through the Network or a particular country. It had not been easy to reach the NGO community particularly at local level. OPS4 proposes to have a one-day consultation with representatives from each



country, namely Central Asia, Russia and Eastern Europe. OPS4 was going to be implemented using a fast track approach. On the question of organization, he underscored the need to think ahead. He underlined that there were opportunities to participate and provide feedback at every stage. The Evaluation Office will convene a side event at CBD COP to discuss the RAF. Consultants would be required and every effort would be made to select those with linkages to NGOs. He took note that IPs were among the groups missing from the RAF and OPS4. He asked the Network to pass around the announcement.

Comment

One of the issues discussed was the possibility of interaction, to which no answers were provided. There is need to discuss how the Evaluation Office can better interact with the Network out of session. The challenges remain, as there was no existing architecture/harmony. A call was also made to reconcile the Northern focus on mitigation and the Southern focus on food, need for capacity building and the need to look at global benefits misinterpreted by GEF Agencies and the likelihood of NGO participation in the Mid-Term Reviews.

Response

The partnership question is the key and the Evaluation Office will approach different sectors.

See full presentation included in *Annex 4*.

5.0 NEW INTERNATIONAL FINANCING ARCHITECTURE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND ITS COHERENCE TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND AID PRINCIPLES -

Tim Geer, Director of Government and Aid Agency Relations and David Reed, Head of Macro-Economics, WWF

David Reed spoke on the New International Financing. He introduced this topic by reviewing the changing trends in funding for the environment and the architecture behind it. He gave an overview of the funding situation with the help of a table, highlighting the magnitude of changes and questioning what was driving the change.

David explained that as governments tried to respond they have met with numerous difficulties, such as uncertainties in terms of incentives and grappling with inefficiencies. No system was perfect and limitations were not always obvious.

According to David, the responses are shaped by: the need for ownership and need to demonstrate.



Looking ahead, he underlined the need for preparedness.. Architecture is not happening under the purview. It was dependent on relationships and the environmental standards. These standards are commonly shared and rely on standards that have emerged from the Stockholm Convention. No coherent framework or easy decision-making forum exists. In addition, thought must be given to finding common ground between South and North.

The global context is changing, with lots of challenges and this is the main reason why coherence should be the buzzword. The context in which GEF operates is changing radically. With regard to GEF, how can NGOs interact with a mechanism whose aspirations they do not fully understand? This is exactly what we are seeing. We hope that the GEF continues to be responsive.

Question

Faizal referred to the large range of funds seeking an explanation.

Response

The British had proposed the idea of transformative funds.

Full presentation is included in Annex 4.

6.0 SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM: FOLLOW-UP TO THE 2007 JOINT EVALUATION - *Delfin Ganapin, SGP Global Manager*

Delfin Ganapin introduced the topic with an overview of the process and explained that the paper was translating into action recommendations that came from the Joint Evaluation of SGP. The key issues identified were high management costs for services rendered, strengthening of monitoring and evaluation and management cost vs. risk and disruption of projects. In addition, questions were raised about National Steering Committees focusing on certain geographical regions, the need for more co-financing by governments and the inaccessibility of SGP head offices to IPs.

Elaborating on the process, he underlined the assignment from the GEF management to cut costs, explaining that some costs were technical and not management costs. He clarified that some activities were essential to the program, and required funding. SGP has suffered budget cuts, even though it has to immediately start up the program in twenty-three (23) new countries. There was a need to adjust to the fast growth and increased complexity as well as clarifying roles for accountability. Touching on the recommendations, he outlined them as: (i) SGP Steering Committee to prepare review by June 2009; and (ii) 10 country program to initiate graduation process.



Apart from these demands and challenges, the performance by SGP must be met. Even though SGP goes through changes, it must still strive to be country driven and to reach local community. The high cost of travelling was likely to erode the budget. Therefore, operations in some areas might have to be scaled down. On the other hand, the use of video proposals will be boosted to make up for the lack of capacity to write projects among some IP groups.

Speaking on the need to graduate countries, he informed the meeting that SGP would try to see how they can handle 10 graduations first. These would target mature and middle-income countries.

Countries remaining in the SGP must grow and develop capacity. Countries that graduate are still eligible for GEF funds, but issues will have to be studied. The challenges appear positive and graduation is necessary to allow for more countries to come into the program.

Question 1

Rajen Awotar referred to Page 15 of the paper, “.....recommendation for GEF4 which states that SGP must be equitable....” seeking an explanation on its meaning?

Response

Delfin responded saying that SGP must make sure that it is equitable. Costa Rica started in first five years with strong NGOs. The priority is to reach the poorest and most vulnerable communities.

In the evaluation report there was a table indicating how many communities SGP is reaching. SGP should look at poverty and vulnerability as well as how NGOs can generate global environment benefits.

Question 2

Johnson Cerda referred to co-financing, pointing out that Ecuador was a member of committee. The committee felt they were retracting resources that could be given nationwide. How do you feel about the participation of IPs? What is being done to give other people access to the resources?

Response

Responding to these questions, Delfin explained that more countries are going geographical. He gave the budget as the reason. One way of husbanding the budget is to select areas, hit 10 projects in one visit and this way be able save money. In India, SGP must go throughout the country, without this India will not survive. Travel can exhaust the budget, so this is a balancing act. Regarding access of IPs to SGP, one limitation is



IPs do not have contact with national coordination in country? Many CBOs cannot write the proposal. This week we will be presenting the video approach to several countries.

Question 3

Faizal Parish queried the figures relating to graduation. He asked if graduation takes place in forty-one (41) countries will 44% be saved. Will the budget then be cut in GEF5? The principle for replenishment should look to need rather than donor willingness.

Response

Delfin said he would look into that when the other paper is developed. The ideal situation is that whatever countries remain, they will be able to grow to the same capacity as the outgoing countries. The grant allocations will not be considered savings. Rather they will still be able to access RAF funds, but be de-linked from global SGP. In other words, there will still be GEF funds flowing into these countries.

Question 4

German Rocha asked about the factors for defining graduation, including reference to non-environmental objectives.

Response

Delfin's response was that instead of setting up new structures, donors can approach SGP. So you can sell these services. This could result in shifts in SGP.

Question 5

Simlelia Fekau asked how the SGP office was responding to concerns that NGOs sitting on National Steering Committees are not eligible for project funds. On one side of the coin you have to take into account that you want high quality projects, but the people sitting on committee do not benefit from SGP. Expectations and policy proposal were in conflict and discouraging some country members keen to join. Is the number twenty-three (23) for graduation fixed or is it can it be relaxed to accommodate more countries?

Response

Responding Delfin said the critical issue was how SGP deals with conflict of interest issues. We are planning to identify this problem country by country. Membership in NSC is rotational. Members of NSC might have to stand aside for two years before they have access to funding. In a sense, there are concerns about recruiting staff who are not part of the UN since they might have different execution modalities. The number twenty-three (23) was rigid for the moment, so too was the budget.. This number includes many African countries. The next countries to come in will be in 2010.



Question 6

Khadija Razavi asked why Council members have cut the SGP budget when they were aware of its positive impact.

Response

Delfin said there was need to look at challenges in a more positive way, the amount of funds available, and ways of bringing in the other countries by graduating the old ones and letting them access RAF funds. On salaries, attempts are being made to secure more funds for grant making as well as bringing in new countries. SGP will also have to analyze whether the proposed solutions becomes a problem later on.

7.0 ELABORATING A STRATEGIC PROGRAM TO SCALE UP THE LEVEL OF INVESTMENT IN THE TRANSFER OF ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND TECHNOLOGIES -

Richard Hosier, Team Leader, Climate and Chemicals, GEF Secretariat

Richard Hosier outlined the purpose of the paper which he underlined first takes into account mitigation followed by adaptation. The focus of the paper represents synergies between global programs for climate change. The European community is concerned about energy effectiveness and renewables. Indigenous Peoples might be able to provide new perspectives towards climate change adaptation. This fund is about technology transfer, North-North, North-South and South-South. GEF management prepared the paper in consultation with other parties.

This paper does not propose a new fund to address these needs, nor does it presume that such large financial requirements can be met from any single source, be it public or private in nature. Rather, the approach described in this paper seeks to begin a process of taking actions to increase investment flows in the specific technologies that hold the greatest potential for mitigation or adaptation and that are of interest to a large number of developing countries. Initially, the program may work with limited additional resources, but as interest in and commitment to climate change grows, the resources devoted to environmentally sound technologies from all possible sources must grow astronomically. This program, therefore, will serve an essential facilitative role to ensure that those resource flows are directed to where they are needed and will have the greatest possible effect.

Below is a four-step process to initiate a strategic program:

1. The identification of those Energy Sound Technologies with the greatest strategic potential to mitigate (or adapt to) climate change.
2. Technology market assessments (TMAs) to identify the reasons why these technologies are not already diffusing through the markets.



3. Aggregating or grouping those promising technologies into categories or “technology-sector platforms” from which actions and best practices can be proposed, shared and implemented.
4. Concrete actions being taken to implement those approved activities considered to be most effective in leading to the widespread adoption of the environmentally sound technologies.

One of the goals is to increase the number of financing sources, but also the volume of financing to be devoted to ESTs from international financial institutions, bilateral and multilateral sources, other public sector sources and the private sector.

The process proposed in this paper is anticipated to be a medium to longer-term approach to the challenge of technology transfer in the climate change focal area. . However, the paper does propose four discrete, but related activities for funding in the next year. These are:

1. **Pilot Assessment and Program Formulation:** From TNAs to TMAs to Technology Sector Interventions: This activity is intended to begin with the existing technology needs assessments; identify those technologies of strategic value to a number of countries; assess the markets for those technologies; identify likely technology sector platforms; and propose sets of activities that might be supported under this platform to accelerate the diffusion of ESTs.
2. **Funding of Technology Needs Assessment:** Many countries have already received funding for technology needs assessments. For these and other countries that have not, there is a need to update the analysis and utilize a revised methodology that clearly focuses on assessing the markets for key technologies and what can be done to make those markets work more effectively and efficiently.
3. **Preparation of Report on the Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technologies:** This report, envisioned as a bi-annual undertaking, will begin a more thorough process of reporting on technology transfer, initially focusing on efforts of ODA but expanding through time to cover transfer of ESTs financed through all sources.
4. **Pilot Development of Four Technology-Sector Platforms:** Linked to Activity 1 above, it will be important to begin formulating work on technology-sector platforms as soon as possible. Initially, it is proposed to establish four such platforms where previous work indicates widespread need for international cooperation: Energy-Using Devices; Renewable Energy Supply; Energy-Intensive Industries; and Efficient Fossil-Fuel Generation.



This paper will be presented to GEF Council to get their views. GEF management will be requesting written comments from Council so the paper can be revised.

Question 1

Salah Sahabi presented three questions. The first question related to the synergy between the global program by European Union aiming to help countries to have access to non-polluting energy sources. The second question related to finances ---IPCC considers that it needs US\$210 billion. What will be the impact of program through the budget allocated? What is the relationship between science and decision-making as the main obstacle is 90% of energy is produced from fossil fuels.

Question 2

Faizal Parish, highlighted that the focus of the paper was on technologies, asked about the scope of further work on technology transfer, looking at South-South technology transfer and not just North-South transfer.

Response

In terms of synergy, Richard said they were not well informed about the European funds. The paper is not primarily about the source of funds but seeding and facilitating. More information on European funding will be welcomed.

Participation of IPs gets into the question on technology transfer for mitigation rather than adaptation. GEF decided to start with mitigation and over the next two years will shift its attention to adaptation. It would be valuable to know how to get to IP knowledge.

8.0 FROM PROJECTS TO PROGRAMS: CLARIFYING THE PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH IN THE GEF PORTFOLIO - *Christopher Briggs, Team Leader Operations, Policies & Finance, GEF Secretariat*

Christopher Briggs explained the changes and transition from projects to programs. He hoped that this would make initiatives country owned and assist to build onto national priorities. He continued to qualify that all GEF areas have experience with programmatic issues and hoped that looking at the Congo, Amazon and Pacific would allow GEF to look at a bigger pictures, being more cost effective in the process. A programmatic approach also allows for more discussion at stakeholder level. The initiative is owned by a large group of people and the quality of results is higher.

The funding is more predictable and ideal for agencies. This approach caters for horizontal and vertical integration with increased opportunities to get co-financing and attract it from different sources. It puts agencies in a position to plan better as the program could go through a replenishment cycle. The programmatic approaches are



likely to be able to show projects that will come in as it is simple, straightforward, and hopefully non-controversial.

Question 1

Faizal Parish posed several questions. What is GEF's experience with the programmatic approach in terms of its management, evaluation and ownership? What are the implications for programs that were initiated in GEF3, and the risks of this approach? He mentioned that in past the programmatic approach had been implemented in different ways. He wanted to know what the GEF had learnt from this experience and what the future risks were. How does GEF ensure adequate stakeholder engagement in the development of the programs?

Question 2

Masoud Rezvanian Rahagi agreed that the idea was good but going back to Iran's experiences as a recipient country, similar problems might arise. We have seen that some have been withdrawn from their projects. We have seen some Implementing Agencies (IAs) with project concepts and regional level, we find them positive and have endorsed. If there is no mention of PIF, what happens? This prolongs the process.

Response

The old programmatic approach is now winding down and the last projects are being treated in the same way as their predecessors.. Future risks will include how we manage to get this approach managed well. How do we ensure adequate monitoring and evaluation? The reduced oversight is a simplification, it does not exist. All projects will get some level of oversight. If they are very important regional questions then it might be given priority. The lead agency will talk with GEF and see if it fits focal areas or programmatic approach. A Programmatic Framework Document must be presented to Council meetings, but PIFs can follow. It will have to be signed by as many Focal Points (FPs) as possible.

The Programmatic Approach will have as many PIFs as possible ready for the Council meeting as they must be planned in-between Council meetings.

9.0 CLOSING REMARKS AND SUMMARIES

We appreciate the attendance and the staying power. The network is working hard to improve, adapt and progress.

The consultations are a platform for exchange, dialogue, learning and particularly a place where the NGO Network can highlight issues which are relevant and critical to NGOs and IPs. We can say with gratification that the exchange today has been very beneficial, firstly by contributing valuably to the GEF-NGO Network Strategy and Operational Plan



and, secondly, the sharing that has indeed been thought-provoking in terms of how the Network can organize itself to ensure it is effective and efficient in the future. It has highlighted areas where we need to pay more attention and consolidate our thinking and structure to become more engaged and more involved. We have been challenged by the SGP, the GEF Secretariat and the Evaluation Office to start well and finish exceptionally well.

The Network is enlightened, we feel rich today with ideas that can translate into potential actions. We thank all participants and contributors. We say a particular thank you to the translators have done an exceptionally good job.

The confidently inform you that the Network we are working hard to improve, adapt and progress.

All good things come to end, thank on behalf of the GEF Secretariat for much appreciated presentations and interventions. See you at the reception this evening.



ANNEX 1

GEF-NGO NETWORK CONSULTATION Monday, 21 April, 2008 9.00am- 16.30pm World Bank, Eugene R. Black Auditorium (H Auditorium), 600 19th Response Street, N.W., Washington D.C.	
09h00 09h15	Registration and election of co-chair (NGO) Opening Remarks and Introductions by Co-Chairs: GEF Secretariat and GEF-NGO Network
09h15 –10h15	Question and Answer Session with GEF Management
10h15 -12h00	Panel Discussion: GEF-NGO Network Strategy and Operational Plan 2 Progress GEF-NGO Network Strategy and Four-Year Operational Plan - Facilitated by Ermath Harrington, Regional Focal Point (RFP), Caribbean 3 Civil Society Engagement - UNEP and World Bank 4 Future Potential for GEF-NGO Network to strengthen various aspects of SGP, Delfin Ganapin, Global Manager SGP 5 GEF Perspective – William Ehlers, Team Leader, External Affairs, GEF Secretariat 6 Concluding Remarks and wrap-up Open Discussion
12h30 – 13h00	Panel discussion: Role of NGOs in Monitoring and Evaluating GEF Projects The Mid-Term Review of the RAF - GEF Evaluation Office Four-Year Work Program - Emphasis on Key Questions for Fourth Overall Performance Study of the GEF – GEF Evaluation Office
13h00 – 14h00	LUNCH
14h00 – 14h30	New International Financing Architecture for the Environment and its coherence to global environmental governance and aid



	principles , Tim Geer, Director of Government and Aid Agency Relations and David Reed, Head of Macro Economics, WWF
14h30 – 15h00	Small Grants Program: Follow-up to the 2007 Joint Evaluation , Delfin Ganapin, SGP Global Manager
15h00 – 15h30	Elaborating a Strategic Program to Scale Up the Level of Investment in the Transfer of Environmentally-Sound Technologies , Richard Hosier, Team Leader, Climate and Chemicals, GEF Secretariat
15h30 – 16h00	From Projects to Programs: Clarifying the Programmatic Approach in the GEF Portfolio , Christopher Briggs, Team Leader Operations, Policies & Finance, GEF Secretariat
16h00 – 16h30	Closing Remarks and Summaries



ANNEX 2: PRESENTATION ON THE STRATEGIC AND OPERATIONAL PLAN OF THE GEF-NGO NETWORK

PRESENTATION CONTENT

- Highlights of the Strategic Planning Process to Date
- Strategic Objectives and Rationale
- Strategies and Capacity Building Inputs
- The Operational Plan

PROCESS HIGHLIGHTS

- The process started in June 2007 with the production of a Draft Strategic Plan Document
- Submitted to GEFSEC for preliminary review
- 1st revision completed
- Facilitated inputs from Bali Conference
- Circulated to all constituency NGOs for comment and feedback
- Engagement with reps of GEFSEC
- 2nd Draft completed
- Prepared preliminary operational plan document

STRATEGIC PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

The Strategic Plan comprises the objectives (outputs) and capacity building (inputs).

The strategic objectives are:

- To strengthen GEF implementation through enhanced partnership with Civil Society
- To enhance the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment

The Capacity elements are:

- Governance
- NGO Network Communication

RATIONALE FOR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

To strengthen GEF implementation through enhanced partnership with Civil Society

This objective builds on the important historical role of the network to contribute and provide feedback to GEF policymaking primarily through the GEF Council and GEF Assembly and feedback on project implementation.



To enhance the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment

Over the past 10 years of GEF implementation it has been increasingly recognized that Civil Society has a critical role to play in directly contributing to the safeguarding of the global environment

STRATEGIES

To strengthen GEF implementation through enhanced partnership with Civil Society

- Stimulate dialogue and engagement of Civil Society in GEF activities
- Facilitate Civil Society inputs to GEF planning and policy making
- Provide feedback on results of GEF supported activities
- Support the generation and distribution of resources for Civil Society action

To enhance the role of Civil Society in safeguarding the global environment

- Document and disseminate experiences and best practice to address global environment issues
- Support outreach and awareness on global environment issues
- Encourage Civil Society contributions to Convention negotiations and implementation
- Strengthen capacity of Civil Society to act on global environment issues

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CAPACITY BUILDING

Complementary Capacity Building Agenda:

GOVERNANCE

- Completion of the Network Guidelines to inform governance
- Strengthen the membership base through active involvement and contributions from RFP's
- Enhance focus and activities at the regional country levels to assess GEF activities
- Establish and formalize cooperation mechanisms between the network and with SGP, Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and other International NGOs
- To secure adequate resources for the Network and develop financial management/ governance framework
- Complementary Capacity Building Agenda

NGO NETWORK COMMUNICATION

- Develop communication channel between various stakeholders and the regional/ country/SGP/ and Central Focal Point and with GEFSEC
- Develop and build communication and network resources for the GEF- NGO Network
- Establish and support a communication strategy
- Assess opportunities and activities to utilize capacity of the GEF- NGO Network

THE OPERATIONAL PLAN

The Operational Plan devolves from the Strategic Plan. It identifies:

- The Implementation Methodology
- The Operational Programmatic Agenda
- Key Deliverables and Expected Results
- Resource Allocations (Financial and Human)

The Operational Plan is at the in a preliminary stage of development



NEXT STEPS

- Commence engagement process to finalize Operational Plan
- Develop the financial governance framework for the Network
- Convene intercessional workshop meeting
- Mobilize resources for implementation
- Continuous commitment to capacity building
- Implement the operational plan

Q & A

THANK YOU



ANNEX 3: GEF SGP PROPOSED JOINT EFFORTS WITH THE GEF NGO NETWORK

Links between SGP and NGO Network

- Both aim to support NGO work and advocacies
- Both are organizing and managing NGO networks
- Many of SGP's key staff have NGO background

Considerations for Working Together

- SGP is decentralized and country-driven with NSCs for decision-making
- SGP is a GEF corporate program implemented by UNDP and executed by UNOPS
- Resources limitations: in terms of budget and also in policies and procedures for fund access

Awareness-raising on SGP

- One major challenge that SGP faces is to provide access to local CBOs and NGOs that need support the most, oftentimes the ones with little access to information sources
- Members of the GEF- NGO Network can help expand awareness of SGP and its procedures to the communities, CBOs and NGOs that they are working with

Local Network Formation; Global Linking

- SGP is building capacity of local CBOs/NGOs in even remote areas and support their networking
- SGP and GEF- NGO Network can strategically identify CBOs and NGOs that can through their participation bring in key geographic and thematic representation to the Network and allow them to input into global GEF- related advocacies

National Policy Advocacy

- SGP influences national policy making by sharing its lessons learned and providing models and tools that make improved policies easier to implement
- SGP also directly advocates through its NSC which includes high government officials
- GEF- NGO Network members can join the effort and expand the constituency of SGP

Participation in COPs, etc.

- SGP seeks to share lessons learned and input into global environmental policy through its participation in COPs and other international meetings; GEF NGO Network members do the same.



- Planning for joint exhibits, side events, site visits and other activities will be more cost efficient and could create greater impact

KM Partnerships

- Aim of SGP knowledge management products (i.e. publications) is to share the successes and lessons learned of SGP partners as well as that of other NGOs.
- The GEF- NGO Network can input those experiences that are outside SGP
- Both SGP and the GEF- NGO Network can develop a knowledge platform to reach all NGOs working on GEF matters

Monitoring and Evaluation

- SGP seeks well informed and constructive feedback from as many stakeholders as could be reached in the country and at the global level
- GEF- NGO Network members can be a source of such feedback
- Appropriate participation of GEF- NGO Network members can be designed by the GEF EO into SGP's independent evaluation

Stakeholder Workshops

- In SGP country programs, CBOs and NGOs are brought together to share lessons learned, consult on strategic issues and conduct project writeshops
- Members of the GEF- NGO Network can join these stakeholder workshops and provide inputs on matters regarding GEF and Network activities

Strategic /Programmatic Partnerships

- Certain members of the GEF- NGO Network particularly the International NGOs have projects that are implemented over several countries, or regionally, even globally.
- Since SGP now operates in more than 100 countries and in most cases covers whole regions, there is a natural overlap of activities in many countries
- What can be done is to look for synergies and complementation both with existing projects and in planning for future ones so that countries and regions are covered more fully with a broader set of support activities

Partnership requires the following

- Country Focal Points to be assigned for SGP NCs to link with
- Updated and representative membership within countries, across regions as well as sectors
- Agreed protocols for consultation, communication and coming to agreements
- Strengthened capacity for the GEF NGO Network in resource mobilization and for co-financing joint activities



**ANNEX 4: MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE RESOURCES ALLOCATION
FRAMEWORK NGO CONSULTATION, 21 APRIL 2008-
*Siv Tokle***

To discuss

1. Status and progress of the MTR process (Q&A)
2. Feedback on NGO involvement in RAF development and implementation
3. Other comments

Three Areas to Assess

1. Design of the RAF – does it facilitate maximization of impact of GEF resources (quality and indices)?
2. Early Implementation of the RAF - is it providing countries with predictability and transparency and enhancing country- driven approaches (changes from past)?
3. Compare GEF RAF with other systems (any new experiences?)
 - Early timing MTR: focus on design + process so far
 - What results are you expecting from the MTR

Team and Timeframe

- Managed and executed by GEF EO
- Team: GEF EO Director, Senior Evaluation Officer, Lead Consultant, Specialized and Junior consultants
- TOR to Council in November 07
- Implementation: December 07 to July 08
- Draft report: end August 08
- Consultations on draft: September 2008
- Submission to Nov 08 Council: October 08

MTR - Next Steps

- Country interaction: 6 sub-regional workshops: Asia/Middle East (Bali, Dec 07) +East Europe (Apr08); East and SE Asia (May 08); Africa West/Central and East/Southern (June 08)
- Electronic Survey: May 08
- Interviews: April to June 08
- Delphi Study (expert panel): April-June 08
- Proposal to NGO network for cooperation
- Your suggestions?



Key issues for NGOs (from TORs)

- How has the RAF affected the funding of:
 - The Small Grants Program?
 - LDC and SIDS?
 - NGOs and Civil Society?
- Relevant databases by NGOs? Other data?
- Involvement in RAF design + Implementation
- Effects on project execution and pipeline:
 - NGO involvement and nature of projects?
- Involvement in GEF priority-setting at country level
- Effects of *other* changes or factors?
- Other issues?

Issues for NGOs (1): Design

- What was your (and your NGO's) role or involvement in developing the RAF and its indices?
- How were you informed or consulted?
- What was your experience with guidelines and support provided?
- What is your perception of the indices and design?
- Do you know of alternative data/indicators?

Issues for NGOs (2): Implementation

- What are the main effects of RAF so far?
 - For the NGO community?
- Has the NGO role changed with RAF? If yes, how?
 - From other changes?
 - Changed relations with other partners?
 - In the RAF focal areas vs. other focal areas?
- How does the RAF help or hinder GEF in interaction with other donors (including NGOs)?
- How has the RAF affected NGO portfolio and pipeline?
 - What are key barriers (or promoting factors) to access GEF funds?
 - Level of funding?
- Effects of *other* changes or factors?



INPUT NEEDED FROM NGOS

Documentation needed:

- Assessment of how NGOs are informed?
- Assessment of barriers to access of funds?
- Examples of effects at country level and changes to portfolio
- New/other indicator data
- Consolidated comments on draft report?

Meetings and Interviews:

- NGO sources of data
- Sub-regional workshops
- Country representatives?
- NGO Consultation 21 April?

Other:

- Help shape/ distribute/ respond to survey
- Provide suggestions for experts for Delphi

Methodology issues:

- What results are you expecting from the MTR? What should be included in the report?
- Suggestions on how to improve the methodology: how do we reach all GEF stakeholders?
- How do we reach accredited NGOs/ networks?
- How do we reach NGOs at country level?
- What inputs can you provide?

rafevaluation@thegef.org

<http://www.thegef.org/gefevaluation.aspx#id=18472>



ANNEX 5: THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

David Reed & Tim Geer, GEF NGO CONSULTATION- 21 APRIL 2008

Overview of Recent Funds (created within the past 5 years)

CLIMATE	ADAPTATION	FORESTS	BIODIVERSITY	OTHER
Bio-Carbon Funds (WB)	UNFCCC-CDM Adapt. Fund	FCPF	Life Web (DE)	Earth Fund (IFC)
Clean Tech. Fund (WB)	SCCF (GEF)	Global Init. on Forests and Climate (Aus)		Spanish/UNDP
Tech. Fund (US)	LDCF (GEF)	Norwegian Fund		Major Foundations
ETF (UK)	SPA (GEF)	Sustainable Forest		Red denotes funds created in the past 12 months
Cool Earth Part. (Japan)	Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (WB)	Management Fund (GEF)		
GEEREF (EC)				
German Carbon Funding				
GCCA				

What is Driving the Change?

- Belated recognition of the severity of climate change
- Recognition of limitations of current institutional architecture:
- Challenges in engaging private sector



- Challenges in providing adequate incentives for public and private actors
- Inefficiencies, funding gaps, short-term

Responses shaped by:

- Need for ‘ownership’
- Need to demonstrate public accountability
- Desire to influence the overall architecture

Potential Problems/Issues

- An architecture for environmental finance outside the purview of existing MEAs and multilateral platforms under the aegis of the United Nations;
- Coherence between funds, including established mechanisms (such as the GEF) to implement the mandates of major multilateral environmental agreements;
- Coherence between Development and Environment objectives and outcomes;
- Need to respect the international standards of global environmental governance, including transparency, accountability and shared decision- making.

Pending Challenges

- No existing architecture by which to harmonize activities;
- No global decision- making forum to address breadth and complexity of issues;
- Lack of agreed standards for global environmental governance;
- No shared agreement on relationship between ODA – climate financing;

Challenges

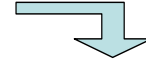
- Harmonizing Northern and Southern agendas
- Addressing architectural issues in the North, in the South, and in linking the two

Building capacity and ensuring access to increasingly diverse carbon markets



Issue:

HIV/AIDS



Financial mechanism:



The directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system

Governance: World Health Assembly

Governance: Board: Representatives of donor and recipient governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and affected communities.

Also participate: Key international development partners including the World Health Organization (WHO), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the World Bank.

