

Third Meeting for the Sixth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund  
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## **VERIFICATION NOTE ON GEF SECRETARIAT DATA ON THE REALIZATION OF GEF-5 TARGETS**

**(Prepared by the GEF Evaluation Office  
in consultation with the GEF Secretariat)**

## Overview and Summary

1. The programming document for the Fifth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (GEF/R.5/31) lists the overall targets for the GEF-5 activities.<sup>1</sup> Tracking progress against these targets is important to determine the extent the targets are being met or are likely to be achieved in future, and to incorporate this information in future planning and management actions.
2. The actual results of the GEF-5 activities will become apparent only when the activities have been implemented on the ground and sufficient time has passed to allow the long term results to become evident. The GEF Evaluation Office has been tracking the outcome achievements of completed projects. Based on the evidence provided in the terminal evaluations it has assessed outcome achievements of more than 80 percent of the completed projects to be in the satisfactory range.<sup>2</sup> Given the past track record, aggregation of the expected results listed in the project documents is likely to provide a measure of the extent to which targets may be met in future. Although GEF-5 project information forms (PIFs) that had been Council Approved by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013 account for about 70 percent of the resources budgeted for programming such activities, GEF-5 projects that had been CEO Endorsed or CEO Approved by that point account for only 17 percent<sup>3</sup>. Since tracking tools are provided at the CEO Endorsement or CEO Approval stage, the aggregation of results promised in project documents is possible only for a small proportion of the complete GEF-5 cohort. Thus, even though the aggregated results promised for GEF-5 projects that have been CEO Endorsed or CEO Approved so far do provide some indication of the progress, these may not be relied upon to make projections for the overall expected achievements for the GEF-5 period.
3. In this paper, targets listed in the Annex 2 of the GEF-5 Programming Document (GEF/R.5/31) have been compared with the aggregated results expected for the projects that are CEO Endorsed or CEO Approved by June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013. The comparisons presented in Table 2 of this document show that on some of the indicators such as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided, forest landscapes brought under sustainable management, and number of innovative technologies transferred, the aggregated expected results of the GEF-5 projects already exceed the GEF-5 targets. For most of the indicators, given that the CEO Endorsed or Approved projects represent only 17 percent of the programmable resources, the aggregate of promised results of projects is considerably lower than the GEF-5 target.

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<sup>1</sup> GEF Secretariat, 2010. *GEF-5 Programming Document*. Available online: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/2959> (GEF/R.5/31; May 2010)

<sup>2</sup> Definition: As is standard convention in development practice, the “satisfactory range” includes projects with overall Outcome ratings of moderately satisfactory or above. Source of data: GEF EO 2013. Annual Performance Report 2012. Available online: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/APR%202012>.

<sup>3</sup> The estimates provided in the programming document are based on US \$ 4.2 billion replenishment. Of the replenishment, the programming budget including budgets for focal areas, SGP, and outreach to private sector, but excluding but excluding corporate programs and corporate budget, is US \$4.01 billion dollars. The amount of US \$ 615 million does not take into account agency fees. Once these are taken into account, the figure increases to US \$ 670 million, which is about 17 percent of the total amount.

## Methodology

4. For assessment of progress towards the GEF-5 targets, all GEF-5 projects funded through the GEF Trust Fund, and that have been CEO Endorsed (for Full Size Projects) or CEO Approved (for Medium Size Projects and Enabling Activities) were considered. This also includes activities funded as part of the Small Grants Programme (SGP) and projects under other programmatic approaches. As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 93 GEF-5 projects including 64 full-sized projects and 29 medium-sized projects had been CEO Endorsed and Approved, respectively. These 93 projects represent US \$ 670 million in GEF funding, which also includes support for project fees. This is only about 17 percent of the total programmable resources for project activities for GEF-5.

5. Of these 93 projects, 21 were eventually excluded from reporting because either these were either focused on creating an enabling environment or, in a few instances<sup>4</sup>, data on project's expected results was not available. Data on the remaining 72 projects was compiled by the GEF Secretariat and verified by the GEF Evaluation Office. In this paper only the verified figures have been presented.

Table 1. Breakdown by focal area and project status of the 72 projects included in the GEF Secretariat spreadsheet for verification by the GEF EO.

	Biodiversity	Land Degradation	Climate Change	POPs	International Waters	Multi-Focal Area	Total
<b>Total CEO Endorsed (FSPs)</b>	9	4	12	2	1	28	56
<b>Total CEO Approved (MSPs)</b>	3	1	5	4	1	2	16
<b>Total</b>	12	5	17	6	2	30	72

6. The analysis presented in this note is very limited in its scope. It does not involve assessment of the scientific and technical validity of the expected results listed in the project documents – it's assumed that the expected results that are listed are based on scientifically and technically valid methodologies. Exclusion of a few projects that did not have tracking tools that were readily available through PMIS from the analysis leads to some underreporting of expected results. The targets that are linked with the country support program and are difficult to link with individual projects have also not been covered in this paper.

## Comparison of GEF-5 Targets with Progress

7. Table 2 presents a comparison the targets listed in the GEF-5 Programming Document and the aggregate of the expected results of the CEO Endorsed or Approved projects. The comparisons show that expected results for indicators such as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided, forest landscapes brought under sustainable management, and transfer of innovative technologies, already exceed the GEF-5 targets. For indicators such as hectares of protected areas brought under effective conservation and new renewable energy capacity installed, the progress is in line with what may be expected at this stage. On other indicators the aggregate of expected results is lower than expectations or no specific targets had been specified.

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<sup>4</sup> A small number of projects (<5) were excluded because project data was not available.

8. As mentioned earlier in this paper, the overall lower level of aggregated expected results for GEF-5 projects vis-à-vis the GEF-5 targets is primarily due the fact that the CEO Endorsed and Approved projects account for only 17 percent of the resources that would be programmed for these activities in GEF-5. It may be expected that as more of the GEF-5 projects are CEO Endorsed and Approved, the aggregate of expected results of projects will increase significantly.

**Table 2: Progress towards meeting the Targets listed in the GEF-5 Programming Document<sup>5</sup>**

Strategic Goals	GEF-5 Target  (US \$ 4.2 billion replenishment with \$ 3.8 billion for programming)	Expected results of the CEO Endorsed or Approved GEF-5 projects  (based on utilization of 17 percent of programming resources)
<b>1.1 Strategic Goal 1: Conserve, sustainably use, and manage biodiversity, ecosystems and natural resources globally, taking into account the anticipated impacts of climate change</b>		
Improved Sustainability of Protected Area Systems	Effective conservation and management of 170 million hectares of protected areas	18.3 million ha
Sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation increased	Sustainable use and management of biodiversity in 60 million hectares of production landscapes and seascapes	3.62 million ha landscape 0.09 million ha seascape Total: 3.71 million ha
Arrested or reversed current global trends in land degradation, specifically desertification and deforestation	Sustainable management of agriculture, range and forest landscapes, including in drylands and affected transboundary areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100 million hectares in agriculture</li> <li>• 200,000 hectares of forest landscapes</li> <li>• 175 million hectares in wider production landscapes</li> </ul>	Sustainable management of agriculture, range and forest landscapes, including in drylands and affected transboundary areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture land: unable to assess</li> <li>• Forest landscapes: 394,501 hectares</li> <li>• Production landscapes: unable to assess</li> </ul>
Catalyzed multi-state cooperation to balance conflicting water uses in transboundary surface and groundwater basins	No target listed	Not applicable

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<sup>5</sup> The goals and targets listed in this table are derived from Annex 2 of the GEF-5 programming document (GEF/R.5/31; May 2010). The targets are based on US \$ 4.2 billion replenishment. The aggregated expected results are based on aggregation of the expected global environmental benefits of the projects that have been CEO Endorsed or

Catalyzed multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs)	No target listed	Not applicable
<b>1.2 - Strategic Goal 2 – Reduce global climate change risks by: 1) stabilizing atmospheric GHG concentrations through emission reduction actions; and 2) assisting countries to adapt to climate change, including variability</b>		
Slowed growth in GHG emissions to the atmosphere from demonstration and transfer of advanced low-carbon technologies and deployment and diffusion of technologies in energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainable transport and urban systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 500 million tons of CO2 equivalent avoided – CC</li> <li>• Demonstration of 3-4 innovative technologies in 10-15 countries - CC</li> <li>• 0.5 gigawatt new renewable energy capacity installed - CC</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tons of CO2 equivalent avoided: 110 million tons direct; 389 to 393 million tons of indirectly avoided emissions; about 500 million tons of total avoided emissions.</li> <li>• Demonstration/transfer of new innovative technologies: 8 technologies</li> <li>• New renewable energy capacity installed: 0.104 gigawatt</li> </ul>
Conserved and enhanced carbon sinks from reduced GHG emissions from Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) activities.	315 – 675 million tons of CO2 equivalent avoided – SFM	CO2 equivalent avoided: 1.85 million tons direct; 4.67 million tons indirect; and 6.52 million tons total.
<b>1.3 - Strategic Goal 3 – Promote the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle to minimize adverse effects on human health and the global environment</b>		
Phased out and reduced releases of POPs, ODS, and other chemicals of global concern	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10,000 tons of obsolete pesticides, including POPs pesticides, disposed of in an environmentally sound manner</li> <li>• 23,000 tons of PCBs, PCB-related wastes disposed of, or decontaminated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 55 tons of obsolete pesticides disposed</li> <li>• 800 tons of unintentionally produced PoPs (dioxins / furans) reduced.</li> </ul>

9. The difference among indicators in terms of the relative progress in meeting the GEF-5 targets is driven by several factors. Firstly, the GEF-5 targets were based on over the envelope estimates with considerable scope for variations. Secondly, in the STAR allocation system recipient countries play a major role in actual programming of GEF resources in terms of intra-focal area priorities and to a limited extent in terms of inter-focal area priorities. The differences due to these factors are likely to remain as far as results for GEF-5 projects are concerned. However, the difference in relative progress on indicators due to variation in speed with which some set of activities were programmed and received CEO Endorsement or Approval, will dissipate as a greater proportion of GEF-5 projects get CEO Endorsement or Approval.

10. There are several other indicators on which specific targets had not been specified in the GEF-5 Programming Document. Annex A, B and C of this paper present aggregated expected results of CEO Endorsed or CEO Approved GEF-5 projects on a wider range of indicators. Annex A presents aggregated expected results for all types of projects including SGP. Annex B presents expected results for Full Size and Medium Size projects, whereas Annex C presents it exclusively for SGP.

**Annex A. Aggregated expected results for all CEO Endorsed or Approved GEF-5 projects (as of 6/30/2013). The covered activities include both non-SGP and SGP projects (72 projects).**

Indicator		# of individual targets reported	Aggregate of verified expected results
Direct Mitigation	Reduced emissions	14	1,850,108
	Avoided emissions	29	110,189,331
	<b>Total direct target</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>112,039,439</b>
Indirect Mitigation	Reduced emissions	3	4,670,310
	Avoided emissions	20	388,973,245 to 392,730,606
	<b>Total indirect target*</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>393,643,555 to 397,400,916</b>
# of technologies transferred		7	8
Energy saved (lifetime, MJ)		5	172,642,222,553
# of RE units installed		6	1,070
Renewable power generating capacity installed (MW)		4	104
Renewable power generated (lifetime, kWh)		7	623,232,015
# of protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		19	937
Total Ha of protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		25	18,320,962
# of new protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		18	35
Total Ha of new protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		6	437,036
# of protected species (total)		10	955
Ha under Sustainable Land Management		28	3,616,882
Ha of Marine area under Sustainable Management		4	93,267
Ha under vegetative cover		12	911,210
Ha under Sustainable Forest Management		15	730,292
Ha of forest landscape restored		12	394,501
# of policy changes supported		36	122
Inter and Intra government collaboration achieved		2	3
# of Strategic Action Plans implemented		3	16
Tons of unintentionally produced POPs reduced (Dioxins/Furans)		4	800
Tons of obsolete pesticides reduced (including POPs)		2	55
Tons of DDT disposed of properly (removed/reduced)		1	0
# of project(s) that helped establish "Sound Chemical Management" strategies		1	1
# of capacity building activities		15	Unable to verify
# of individuals/organizations targeted for capacity building activities		7	Unable to verify

\* Indirect avoided emissions related expected results shown is the range of emissions estimates reported (low to high).

**Annex B. Aggregated expected results for all CEO Endorsed or Approved GEF-5 projects (as of 6/30/2013). The covered activities includes only FSPs and MSPs. (n=60).**

Indicator		# of individual targets reported	Aggregate of verified expected results
Direct Mitigation	Reduced emissions	9	1,466,182
	Avoided emissions	23	79,259,170
	<b>Total direct target</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>80,725,352</b>
Indirect Mitigation	Reduced emissions	2	4,670,310
	Avoided emissions	19	388,399,247 to 392,156,608
	<b>Total indirect target*</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>393,069,557 to 396,826,918</b>
# of technologies transferred		6	8
Energy saved (lifetime, MJ)		5	172,642,222,553
# of RE units installed		4	55
Renewable power generating capacity installed (MW)		4	104
Renewable power generated (lifetime, kWh)		6	615,177,415
# of protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		15	98
Total Ha of protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		19	7,754,202
# of new protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		15	15
Total Ha of new protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		5	337,036
# of protected species (total)		3	36
Ha under Sustainable Land Management		17	2,096,732
Ha of Marine area under Sustainable Management		3	83,267
Ha under vegetative cover		9	739,710
Ha under Sustainable Forest Management		8	457,792
Ha of forest landscape restored		8	347,201
# of policy changes supported		28	31
Inter and Intra government collaboration achieved		2	3
# of Strategic Action Plans implemented		1	1
Tons of unintentionally produced POPs reduced (Dioxins/Furans)		1	600
Tons of obsolete pesticides reduced (including POPs)			
Tons of DDT disposed of properly (removed/reduced)		1	0
# of project(s) that helped establish "Sound Chemical Management" strategies		1	1
# of capacity building activities		14	Unable to verify
# of individuals/organizations targeted for capacity building activities		4	Unable to verify

\* Indirect avoided emissions related expected results shown is the range of emissions estimates reported (low to high).



**Annex C. Aggregated expected results for all CEO Endorsed or Approved GEF-5 projects (as of 6/30/2013). The covered activities include only SGP projects. (n=12).**

Indicator		# of individual targets reported	Aggregate of verified expected results
Direct Mitigation	Reduced emissions	5	383,926
	Avoided emissions	6	30,930,161
	<b>Total direct target</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31,314,087</b>
Indirect Mitigation	Reduced emissions	1	0
	Avoided emissions	1	573,998
	<b>Total indirect target</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>573,998</b>
# of technologies transferred		1	Unable to verify
Energy saved (lifetime, MJ)			
# of RE units installed		2	1,015
Renewable power generating capacity installed (MW)			
Renewable power generated (lifetime, kWh)		1	8,054,600
# of protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		4	839
Total Ha of protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		6	10,566,760
# of new protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		3	20
Total Ha of new protected areas directly affected by GEF projects		1	100,000
# of protected species (total)		7	919
Ha under Sustainable Land Management		11	1,520,150
Ha of Marine area under Sustainable Management		1	10,000
Ha under vegetative cover		3	171,500
Ha under Sustainable Forest Management		7	272,500
Ha of forest landscape restored		4	47,300
# of policy changes supported		8	91
Inter and Intra government collaboration achieved			
# of Strategic Action Plans implemented		2	15
Tons of unintentionally produced POPs reduced (Dioxins/Furans)		3	200
Tons of obsolete pesticides reduced (including POPs)		2	55
Tons of DDT disposed of properly (removed/reduced)			
# of project(s) that helped establish "Sound Chemical Management" strategies			
# of capacity building activities		1	Unable to verify
# of individuals/organizations targeted for capacity building activities		3	Unable to verify