

Concept note for GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) for the Technical workshop on Strategic Planning, Identification of Regional and National Priority and implementation of projects for GEF/LDCF/SCCF Financing

Bangkok, Thailand 3-4 December 2013

CONCEPT NOTE

1. Background

FAO assists member countries to mobilize financing from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as one of ten GEF Agencies through which countries can request GEF funds.

As the new funding cycle (GEF6: July 2014 – June 2018) will start soon, FAO are beginning to plan strategically at the country level for GEF-6. Since GEF investment decisions are always made by the GEF operational focal point (OFP) at the country level and through national prioritization exercises, robust FAO involvement with GEF OFP, and processes in their countries to identify and develop GEF projects is crucial. Through holding a workshop on GEF, the FAORs, Operational Focal Points and National Ministerial representatives can build a collaborative partnership that enhances confidence to proactively pursue GEF project opportunities and participants are given the opportunity to establish/strengthen their personal relationships.

2. Objectives of the workshop

The objective of the workshop is to strengthen the capacity of Government counterparts, FAORs, country office staff who directly handle GEF projects and relevant RAP officers to assist and support member countries to identify, prepare and implement GEF/LDCF/SCCF projects. Through this workshop, project identification, formulation, resource mobilization and implementation capacities will be enhanced by consolidating the network of country and field offices, regional office and the HQs.

3. Target Participants of the workshop

The workshop is being organized for the Assistants-FAOR/Programme and for other CO officers directly handling GEF projects. This event is also open to the Operational Focal Point representatives (OFP) and National Ministry Officials. The workshop will be held over 3 days at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) from 2-4 December 2014. The first day is allocated specially for the Assistant-FAOR/Programme and other CO Officers for practical GEF information dissemination and training. Day two and three will include participants from FAO, Operational Focal Point representatives (OFP) representatives and National Ministry Officials, and the program will focus on strategic planning, capacity development, focal area strategies and project cycle requirements.

Workshop prerequisites for participants

This workshop includes various modalities and tools, such as case studies and small group discussion that are integrated in such a way to give the participants an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding on GEF, share experiences, discuss implementation issues and enhance capacity in order to develop projects based on country priorities GEF strategic and programme priorities.

Target participants are: the GEF Operational Focal points (OFP), relevant ministerial officials and the country office staff directly dealing with GEF projects

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4. Planned outputs of the workshop

The workshop aim to produce the following outputs:

- a) Participants have shared information on country programming strategies and opportunities and developed areas of collaboration based on FAOs comparative advantage and the GEF - 5/GEF-6 program.
- b) Project concepts discussed with line ministries and GEF Focal points
- c) General procedures to prepare PIF understood, including roles and responsibilities of project proponents.
- d) GEF-6 Focal Area and LDCF/SCCF Strategies and financing opportunities have been evaluated
- e) Adaptation and mitigation priorities, Napa, Nama, Pops and SFM priorities identified within member countries.
- f) Matching of country priorities GEF strategic and programme priorities
- g) Identification of FAO staff to work closely with national GEF focal point ministries and other ministerial offices
- h) Elements of a strategic approach developed that strengthens collaboration between OFP, Ministerial officials and FAO staff to discuss GEF-6 strategies and opportunities..

5. Program

Further details on the program and venue will be circulated prior to the workshop