

# **Intervention on GEF-6 Replenishment and Strategy**

**SBI 40**

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this opportunity to make this intervention and to provide an update on the outcome of the GEF replenishment process.

Mr. Chairman, we are pleased to inform you that the GEF has successfully completed its sixth replenishment process, with 30 donor countries pledging US\$ 4.43 billion over the next four years for the six focal areas it serves. This is a record replenishment for the GEF and a positive signal from the global community, including strong support from developing countries. For Climate Change Mitigation, the GEF-6 resource allocation totals \$1.26 billion for the period of July 2014 to June 2018.

Mr. Chairman, over the past 22 years the GEF has supported a wide and diverse portfolio of projects and programs in developing countries. Our projects are innovative, catalytic and responsive to the guidance which we have received from the UNFCCC. The GEF projects facilitate the establishment of renewable energy and energy efficiency programs in countries, along with enhancing and

conserving carbon stocks and climate smart agriculture. We work in partnership with civil society, government agencies and the private sector on projects which have allowed systemic change and generated global environment benefits

During GEF-6, we will continue along the innovative path with further integration, focusing on tackling the underlying drivers of global environmental degradation. This is consistent with the GEF 2020 strategy and vision to be a champion of the global environment, supporting transformational change and achieving global environmental benefits at scale.

The GEF6 Climate Change Mitigation strategy focuses on promoting innovation, technology transfer, demonstrating systemic impacts of mitigation options and providing resources to foster the enabling conditions to mainstream climate change mitigation concerns into sustainable development strategies. For adaptation, the new Climate Change Adaptation strategy focuses on reducing

vulnerability, strengthening institutional capacity, integrating climate change adaptation into policies and plans, and expanding synergies with other focal areas. Both the Mitigation and Adaptation strategies recognize the evolving landscape of climate finance architecture. Thus, the GEF-6 strategies explore complementarity in climate finance to maximize synergies towards replication and scale-up, and are built around our three unique values, which are: facilitating innovation and technology transfer; catalyzing systemic impacts through synergistic multi-focal initiatives, and; building on Convention obligations for reporting and assessments towards mainstreaming.

Mr. Chairman, let me assure you that the provision of resources for convention obligations and capacity building will remain a priority in GEF-6. In response to guidance from COP 19 from November 2013, the GEF also stands ready to provide support for the preparations of Nationally Determined Contributions.

For the GEF6 period, we have introduced three new cross cutting integrated pilot approaches, which are designed to be complementary, and cross cutting, and allow recipient countries to meet commitments of more than one global environmental convention thematic areas. These pilots are (i) Taking Deforestation out of the Commodity Supply Chains, (ii) Sustainable Cities and (iii) Fostering Sustainability and Resilience for Food Security in Sub-Saharan Africa. These integrated approaches are intended to be multi-focal and address the key drivers of environmental degradation at regional and global scales. We will have a side event on June 7<sup>th</sup> to present the GEF-6 strategy.

Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, we are pleased to inform you that the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) recently successfully completed the accreditation process to become GEF project

agencies and reviews of other applicant agencies are currently on-going.

Mr. Chairman, we (at the GEF) are pleased and extremely excited with this replenishment, and we will continue to provide resources to all parties to allow parties to meet their commitments to the UNFCCC. We will continue to be flexible and responsive to the guidance which we receive from the UNFCCC.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.