



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
EVALUATION OFFICE

Revising GEF's M&E Policy

Carlo Carugi

Senior Evaluation Officer

AEA Evaluation 2011

Anaheim - November 2011



The GEF Arrangement at the International Level



Background

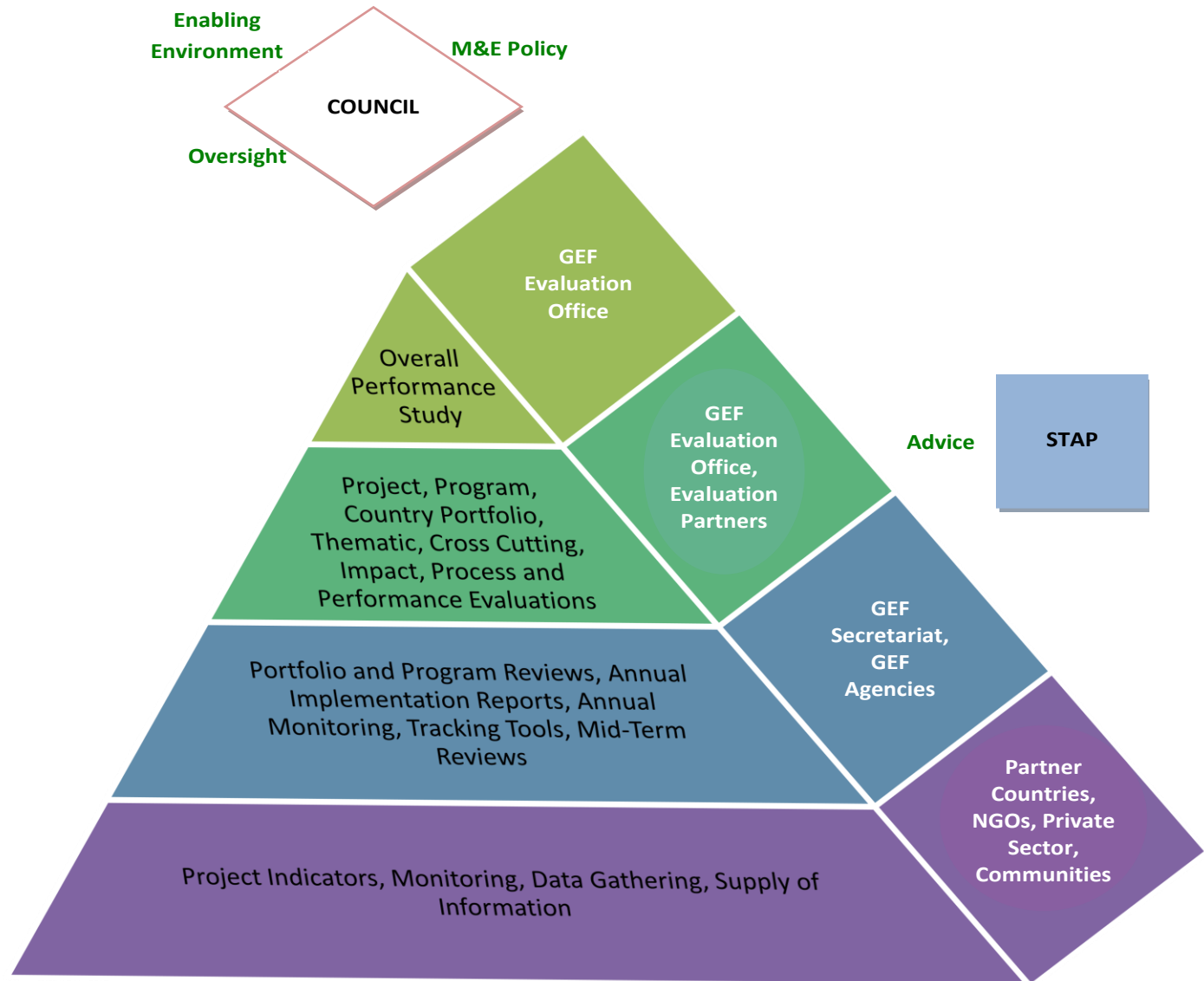
- ❑ The GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy was approved by Council in February 2006
- ❑ The Policy sets norms and standards for M&E
- ❑ The Policy contains minimum requirements for M&E of GEF activities
- ❑ Council requested the GEF Evaluation Office to revise the GEF M&E Policy for GEF-5

M&E in the GEF

Two overarching objectives:

- ❑ Promote **accountability** for the achievement of GEF objectives through the assessment of **results**, **effectiveness**, **processes**, and **performance** of the partners involved in GEF activities
- ❑ Promote **learning**, **feedback**, and **knowledge sharing** on results and lessons learned among the GEF and its partners as a basis for decision making on policies, strategies, program management, programs, and projects; and to improve **knowledge** and **performance**

M&E Levels and Responsible Agencies



Revision Process

- ❑ Revision of GEF M&E Policy managed by GEF EO, but:
 - Update of “Monitoring” led by the GEF Secretariat
 - Update of “Evaluation” led by the GEF Evaluation Office
- ❑ Wide consultation and interaction with stakeholders through e-survey, interviews, and interagency meetings:
 - E-survey provided substantial feedback was received from Council members, focal points, and agency evaluation units
- ❑ Interaction with focal points was also pursued through ad hoc questionnaires and discussions during sub-regional workshops
- ❑ Audit Trail circulated with the final version of the M&E Policy to all stakeholders having provided written comments to previous drafts

New M&E Policy (Nov 2010): What's New?

- ☐ Reference to GEF Results-based Management (**RBM**)
- ☐ Strengthened **knowledge sharing** and learning
- ☐ Clarification of roles and responsibilities
- ☐ Inclusion of programs and jointly implemented projects
- ☐ **Baseline data for M&E** to be established by CEO endorsement
- ☐ Stronger role for GEF Operational **Focal Points** in M&E, through the introduction of a **New Minimum Requirement** on engagement of GEF Operational Focal Points in project and program M&E activities

M&E: Minimum Requirement 1

Design of M&E Plans

Concrete and fully budgeted M&E plan by CEO endorsement for FSP and CEO approval for MSP. Project logical frameworks should align with GEF focal area results frameworks. M&E Plan should include:

- ☐ SMART indicators
- ☐ Baseline data for M&E by CEO endorsement
- ☐ Mid Term Reviews (where required or foreseen) and Terminal Evaluations included in plan
- ☐ Organizational set up and budget for M&E

M&E: Minimum Requirement 2

Implementation of M&E Plans

Project/program monitoring and supervision will include execution of the M&E plan:

- ☐ Use of SMART indicators for process and implementation
- ☐ Use of SMART indicators for results
- ☐ Baseline for the project is fully established and data are compiled to review progress
- ☐ Organizational set up for M&E is operational and its budget is spent as planned

M&E: Minimum Requirement 3

Project/Program Evaluations:

- ❑ All full sized projects and programs will be evaluated at the end of implementation
- ❑ Evaluations should:
 - Be independent of project management or reviewed by GEF Agency evaluation unit
 - Apply evaluation norms and standards of the GEF Agency
 - Assess, as a minimum, outputs and outcomes, likelihood of sustainability, compliance with Minimum Requirements 1 & 2
 - Contain basic project data and lessons on the evaluation itself (including TORs)
 - Should be sent to GEF EO within 12 months of completion of project/program

M&E: New Minimum Requirement 4

Engagement of Operational Focal Points

- ☐ M&E plans should include how OFPs will be engaged
- ☐ OFPs to be informed on M&E activities, including Mid Term Reviews and Terminal Evaluations, receiving drafts for comments and final reports
- ☐ OFPs invited to contribute to the management response (where applicable)
- ☐ GEF Agencies keep track of the application of this requirement in their GEF financed projects and programs

To Conclude

- ❑ Inclusiveness and participation are essential elements in constructing consensus for M&E
- ❑ Challenges with the GEF M&E Policy were the width and diversity of its institutions. Addressed through e-survey and other forms of consultation
- ❑ Transparency in how each and everybody's point of view was considered was key. We achieved this with the audit trail.

Thank you

GEF Evaluation Office website:

www.gefeo.org

The GEF M&E Policy can be downloaded at:

<http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/4184>

ccarugi@thegef.org