

Evaluation Office



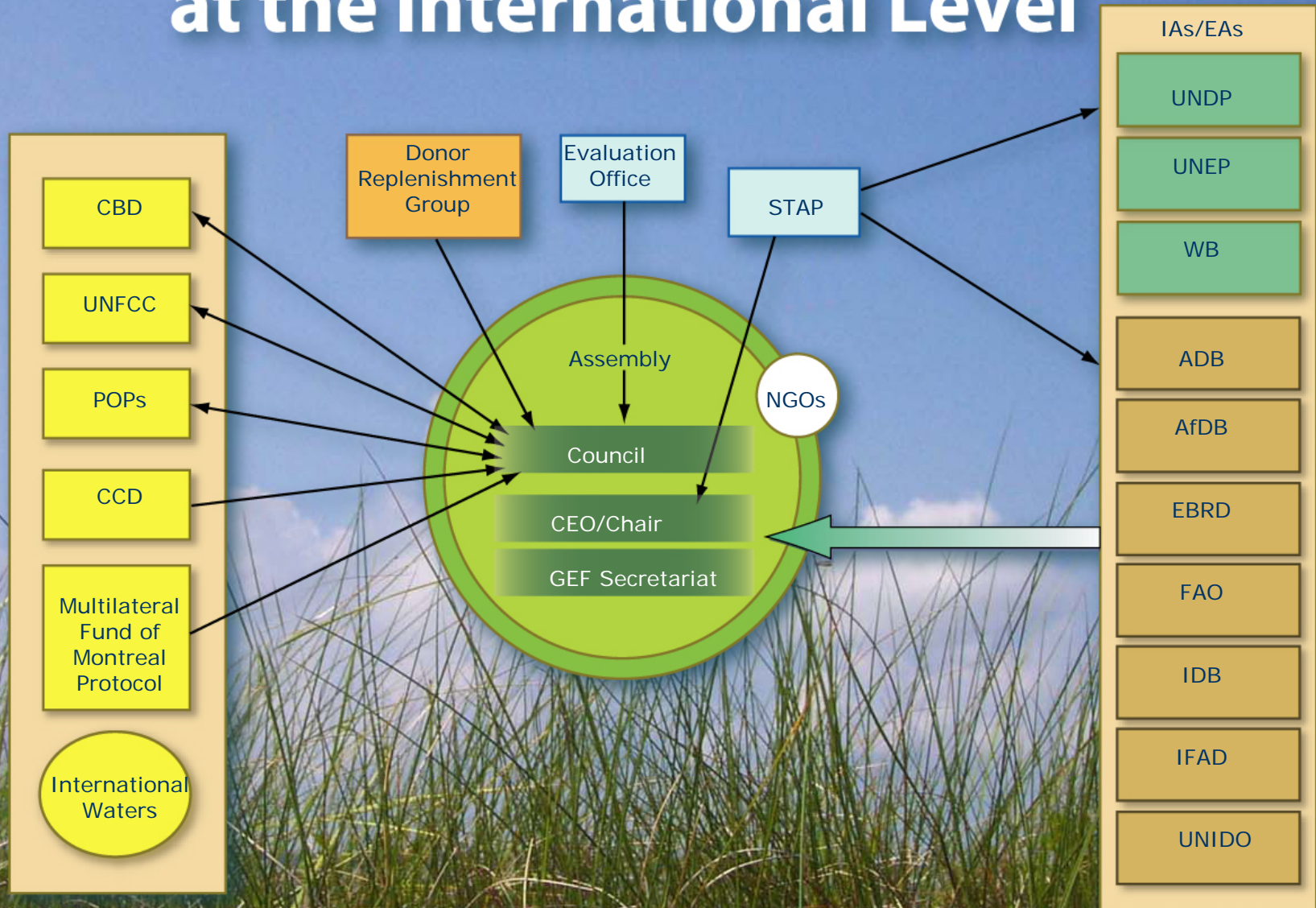
Country Portfolio Evaluation The Philippines

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The GEF Arrangement at the International Level





The GEF Evaluation Office

Mission statement:

“Enhancing global environmental benefits through excellence, independence and partnership in monitoring and evaluation”

We carry out our work with:

- Impartiality
- Professionalism
- Transparency

GEF Evaluation Office Work Program FY06-09

FY06-07

On-going Evaluations

- Joint evaluation of project cycle modalities
- Experience of ExAs
- Incremental cost calculations
- Country portfolio evaluation
- Capacity Building
- SGP
- Impact evaluation

Recurrent

- Annual Performance Report
- Consultation process
- Knowledge management

FY07-09

- Country and impact evaluations
- Catalytic role of GEF
- Mid-term evaluation of RAF
- Role of science
- (Sub-)program studies (CC, BIO, IW, LD, Ozone, POPs, LD)
- Overall Performance Study (OPS4)
- Special Council requests

Objectives of Visit - Nov. 6-10, 2006

- Present Country Portfolio Evaluation (and GEFEO) to government and other major stakeholders (IAs/EAs, NGOs)
- Discuss next steps
- Receive feedback on TORs (what are the major issues to be addressed?)
- Identify major documents and stakeholders
- Identify consultant(s)

Objectives of CPEs

- Independently evaluate **relevance** and **efficiency** of GEF support: national environmental frameworks, GEF mandate and policies
- Assess the **effectiveness** and **results** of completed projects per focal area
- Provide **feedback** and **knowledge sharing** to GEF Council, country and agencies

Context for CPEs

- GEF Council requested
- GEFEO conducted first CPE in Costa Rica in 2006 as a pilot
- No GEF assessment at country level so far
- Implications for RAF implementation
- Additional evaluative coverage for GEFEO

Selection Process

- There are 160 eligible countries.
- Council approved funding for 1 or 2 a year
- Council requested clear and transparent criteria
- Step approach: stratified random, programmatic and strategic criteria
- FY07 (Asia): Philippines and Samoa
- FY08: Africa and so on ...

Why the Philippines?

- Historically large GEF investment: about US\$125 million (at least 7 completed)
- Large RAF allocation: about US\$28 million (bio and CC)
- Established SGP (US\$5.4 million)
- Well developed and mature national environmental policy and strategy
- IAs/EAs have conducted extensive sector work, including evaluations
- Varied portfolio with good synergies with other evaluations

Key questions: Relevance

- is GEF support relevant to:
 - national sustainable development and environmental agenda; national development needs and challenges?
 - the objectives of the different GEB?
- Are GEF and IAs/EAs supporting national priorities and decision-making process?
- Is country supporting the GEF mandate with its own resources and/or other donors?

Key questions: Efficiency

- How much time, effort and financial resources does it take to develop and implement projects?
- What are the roles, responsibilities and synergies among different stakeholders?
- How is dissemination
- Sustainability of GEF supported activities?

Key questions: Effectiveness and Results

- What are the results of completed projects?
- What are the aggregated results at focal area and country levels?
- What is the likelihood that objectives will be achieved?

Focus

- All GEF supported activities (full and medium size, EAs, SGP, NCSAs) at different stages of the project cycle (pipeline, on-going and completed) and implemented by all IAs/EAs in all focal areas
- The aggregate of all these activities is the **GEF portfolio**
- CPE will not conduct project evaluations, performance of IAs nor EAs or government.

Methodology

- Evaluation Team: GEF EO staff + consultant(s)
- Qualitative: desk review of existing documents, extensive interviews, consultation workshops and field visits
- Quantitative: indicators to assess relevance and efficiency and measure results and performance
- Protocols for project reviews and interviews

Steps:

1. Preparatory work (Nov - Dec):
 - GEF EO visit (ensure government support, identification of consultants and key documents, present evaluation TORs)
 - Prepare TORs for the Philippines
 - Collect information and conduct literature review
 - Inputs to CPE: GEF portfolio database, Country Environmental Framework and Global Environmental Benefits Assessment
2. Evaluation (January - March)
3. Draft Report (March 31)
4. Consultation Workshop (April 16)
5. Final report, management response, presentation to Council (April 27)

Synergies with other GEF EO evaluations

- SGP
- Capacity Development Activities
- Catalytic role of the GEF

Next Steps and time frame

- Country specific terms of reference (Dec. 15)
- Literature review (Dec. 31)
- GEF portfolio database (Dec. 31)
- Project reviews and interviews protocols (De. 31)
- GEB Assessment and Country Environmental Framework (Feb. 28)
- First draft (March 31)
- Consultation Workshop (April 15)
- Final Report (April 27)
- Council presentation (June 2007)

Costa Rica lessons

- CPEs are valid and feasible even if no GEF strategy
- Questions on relevance and efficiency are appropriate; aggregation on results only at focal area level
- Difficulties to include regional and global projects
- CPEs are relevant for RAF implementation
- Important to use consultants based in the country and have independent credibility
- 4-5 months minimum



Costa Rica: conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions

- GEF support to CR:
 - has been relevant to the progress of the country’s environmental agenda
 - could be more relevant in terms of the country’s contribution to GEB
 - has produced GEB and has been in accordance with the GEF mandate
- The length of time required for project preparation and approval varied greatly among projects. No common “bottleneck” problem areas were identified.
- The mechanisms available for tracking project preparation and negotiation process are generally very limited.
- GEF operational information is not easily available and confusing.
- CR is preparing for dealing with RAF, though with some delay, particularly in relatively weak areas such as institutional coordination and project prioritization.

Recommendations

- Several recommendations to the GEF Secretariat and Council
- Recommendations to CR:
 - Explicitly defined the potential national contribution to GEB and use this definition in prioritizing proposals to the GEF in the future
 - Seed up processes for meeting the challenges inherent in the introduction of the RAF.



SGP Evaluation

- First independent evaluation (GEFEO/UNDPEO)
- TORs (under development):
 - Relevance: relationship with country portfolio
 - Impact: GEB
 - Results:
 - Capacity building
 - Awareness
 - Policy change
 - Replication: catalytic effect
 - Efficiency: structure and administrative costs
- Process: desk review, approach paper, TORs, first draft by August 2007



Evaluation of capacity development activities

- Evaluation of two countries in the same sub-region with a range of GEF supported capacity development activities for comparison of approaches and results
- The Philippines selected. The other country yet to be selected
- Key questions:
 - What are the individual capacity development activities and what do they achieve?
 - How are they combined to increase national capacity?
 - What are the linkages between increased capacity and GEB?
 - How can capacity development and environmental results be measured?
- Report presented to December 2007 Council