



Progress Report

GEF Council 34

Agenda item 7

November 11, 2008

Issues

- **Fourth Overall Performance Study of the GEF (OPS4)**
- **Impact evaluations**
- **Follow-up of the International Conference on Evaluating Climate Change and Development in Alexandria, Egypt, May 10-13, 2008**

OPS4 (1)

- TOR approved on September 5
- Work has started on:
 - Interactions with GEF stakeholders
 - Meta-evaluations and desk reviews
 - Development of methodology and protocols
 - Country case studies
 - TORs for sub-studies
 - Peer review of the GEF's evaluation function

OPS4 (2)

- More to start up in the next few months
- On-going work to feed into OPS4:
 - Annual Performance Report
 - Impact evaluations
 - Country Portfolio Evaluations in Egypt and Syria
 - Case studies for catalytic role and capacity building
 - Joint evaluation with DANIDA on adaptation
 - RAF mid-term review

Peer review of the Evaluation Function

- Panel assembled in June/July
- TOR shared with Council
- Desk study
- Self-assessment of GEF EO
- Interviews in Washington in October
- 2 Panel members present at Council meeting
- Visits to the Philippines and Kenya
- Report to be expected in March
- Summary of report will be included in OPS4

Quality assurance

- Two Senior Independent Evaluation Advisors appointed to provide judgment on whether TOR were met and OPS4 is of the required quality
 - Shekhar Singh and Bob Picciotto
- Quality Assurance Group, composed of colleagues of the evaluation units of the GEF agencies, to peer review draft products, technical papers, etc.
 - Invitation to go out after Council
- Reference Group, composed of colleagues from GEF Secretariat, STAP, Agencies, and wider GEF stakeholder community, to discuss whether the GEF perspectives have been adequately represented and understood
 - Invitation for meeting on January 13 to go out after Council
 - Meeting on Jan 13 to focus on theories of change for focal areas

Annual Report on Impact 2008

- Two quasi-experimental studies in collaboration with STAP
- Focus on social impacts of 2 Protected Areas
- Comparison of PA areas to non-PA areas:
 - Positive socio-economic impact of PA (up to 14% less poverty)
 - Income inequality increased near PA in the case of Thailand
 - Rigorous statistical counterfactual analysis

On-going impact work

- More studies on the way
 - Most effective approach is to combine quantitative studies with case studies
- Ozone Depleting Substances impact evaluation
 - Russian Federation, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan
 - Findings to be incorporated in OPS4
 - Full report in Annual Report on Impact 2009

Alexandria Conference

- High level of attendance
- In post-conference evaluation: high rates of satisfaction and even higher interest in follow-up
- Survey on community of practice: more than 300 potential participants, many from developing countries
- Publication based on conference papers will be published early 2009 by Transaction Publishers
- Further work on support to evaluators in the South and development of best practices, guidelines and indicators will need to be supported