Protocol for interaction with representatives of donor countries

September 10, 2008

This protocol describes the issues that the GEF Evaluation Office would like to raise with donor representatives for the Fourth Overall Performance Study. The list is by no means intended to be restrictive: the Office would like to invite donor representatives to raise any issue that they feel is of importance for OPS4. During meetings interaction can take place with representatives of the GEF Evaluation Office, but we would like to invite representatives to:

- Bring any documentation or reports that they feel would contribute to OPS4 or a better understanding of the issues;
- Send in any further information to OPS4@thegef.org, or to the GEF Evaluation Office, 1818 H Street NW, Washington DC, 20433 USA, Fax. No. +1 202 522 1691;
- Participate in the survey that will be sent out at a later date;
- Interact with independent experts hired for OPS4 that will assess specific areas in the GEF where the Evaluation Office would have a conflict of interest.

The following areas and questions have been specifically drawn from the Terms of Reference of the Fourth Overall Performance Study for interaction with donor representatives.

Role cluster

1. What are the major global environmental and sustainable development problems in your perspective?

2. What is the role of the multilateral environmental agreements?

3. What is the current understanding of how these problems could be addressed?
4. What could be the potential role of the multilateral environmental agreements and the GEF in its focal areas?

If any the position of your governments on any of these issues has been laid down in reports, speeches, statements we would very much appreciate receiving copies or references that would enable us to download these documents.

Results cluster

5. What are the results of the GEF that you are familiar with?

6. What sustainable impact on global environmental problems has the GEF achieved in your perspective?

If there are any documents or reports that touch upon these issues, for example from your own evaluation unit or department, we would very much appreciate receiving a copy (preferably electronically).

Relevance cluster

7. To what extent do you feel that the GEF focal area strategies, modalities and operations follow the guidance of the conventions, including multi-focal work?

8. To what extent have the GEF and in particular the Council been able to adequately address both the guidance of the conventions and the needs and priorities of recipient countries?

9. To what extent has the GEF reporting been helpful to the conventions in improving their guidance and to promote synergy and minimize conflict between the conventions?

10. To what extent has the GEF support contributed to countries’ sustainable development agenda and environmental priorities?

If there are any documents or reports that clarify your governments’ position vis-à-vis the conventions, especially regarding the role of the GEF, we would very much appreciate receiving them (preferably electronically).

Performance cluster

11. The performance cluster has a series of questions on the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the GEF (see OPS4 flyer on key questions); these questions will be answered based on data from the field and from recipient countries as well as agencies. Are there any questions that you would like to ask special attention for, and if so, why?
12. What is your perception of the role of STAP? Have STAP’s documents and positions been influential in your perspective on the GEF? Have you been able to use STAP’s documents for other purposes within your own organization?

13. How successful has the GEF been in your view in incorporating lessons learned and sharing knowledge throughout the GEF agencies and member countries?

14. How successful has the GEF been in communicating its policies, procedures and results to you, and have you been able to use this material in your own organization?

**Resource mobilization cluster**

15. What role does the GEF play in the allocation and efforts your country makes internationally to solve global environmental problems?

16. To what extent have GEF replenishment processes matched similar replenishments in other organizations, also in terms of your own involvement in the replenishment process?

17. To what extent has the contribution of your country to the GEF been “additional” in terms of “new and additional funds”?

18. Are you satisfied with the financial reporting of the GEF Trustee and of the Secretariat?

19. Are the administrative fees and expenditures comparable to those of similar organizations and funds which receive grants from your country?