



**GREEN  
CLIMATE  
FUND**

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# Consideration of funding proposals – Addendum XVI

Responses from the accredited entities to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment

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## **Summary**

This addendum contains the response from the accredited entities to the independent Technical Advisory Panel assessments of funding proposals (FP038-FP046) submitted for the Board's consideration at its sixteenth meeting.

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## Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 038)

Proposal name: GEEREF NeXt

Accredited entity: European Investment Bank (EIB)

<b>Impact potential</b>
<i>No comments</i>
<b>Paradigm shift potential</b>
<i>No comments</i>
<b>Sustainable development potential</b>
<i>No comments</i>
<b>Needs of the recipient</b>
<i>No comments</i>
<b>Country ownership</b>
<i>No comments</i>
<b>Efficiency and effectiveness</b>
We would recommend using the expression “crowding-in” rather than “crowd sourcing”
<b>Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:</b> <i>No comments</i>

## Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 039)

Proposal name: GCF-EBRD Egypt Renewable Energy Financing Framework  
 Accredited entity: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

<b>Impact potential</b>
<p>Thank you for the positive review. No further comments.</p>
<b>Paradigm shift potential</b>
<p>The Framework aims at supporting Egypt to unlock its vast renewable energy potential by addressing key barriers hindering its development via EBRD's proven business model of combining finance with technical assistance and policy dialogue. In this context EBRD is committed to continue the extensive engagement it has maintained with the authorities over the past years to assist the government to develop further the regulatory framework for renewables to create a competitive and sustainable renewable energy market which attracts developers and commercial banks to invest in the sector.</p>
<b>Sustainable development potential</b>
<p>Thank you for the positive review. No further comments.</p>
<b>Needs of the recipient</b>
<p>Thank you for the positive review. No further comments.</p>
<b>Country ownership</b>
<p>Thank you for the positive review. No further comments.</p>
<b>Efficiency and effectiveness</b>
<p>Thank you for the positive review. No further comments</p>

### **Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

Thank you for the positive review.

The proposed Framework builds on the strong commitment demonstrated by Egypt to encourage the development of renewable energy and the involvement of the private sector, both at the policy and strategic level through the adoption of ambitious and specific targets, and at the detailed implementation level through the development of a detailed contractual and regulatory framework. The Framework aims to make the robust renewables regulatory environment a success for private sector participation, by complementing it with practical knowledge sharing and capacity enhancement and by making available adequately termed and priced financing for accelerated project structuring and implementation. It is envisioned that the impact of the Framework will be extended beyond the projects finance by it.

EBRD appreciates the recognition of the merits of the proposal by the iTAP and the recommendation for the study to support the government to meet the ambitious renewable energy targets and promote the development of 3700MW without GCF Financing. The discussions with the government about such study will be done in the context of the on-going policy dialogue that the EBRD has with the authorities and any study agreed to be developed would be funded by EBRD. The results would be shared with GCF.

## **Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 040)**

Proposal name: Tajikistan: Scaling up Hydropower Sector Climate Resilience  
 Accredited entity: European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

<b>Impact potential</b>
<p>The focus of the Proposal is on supporting the Tajik hydropower sector to adapt to climate change impacts and introduce international best practices in managing these. EBRD thus fully agrees with iTAP’s assessment of the transformational impact on the Tajik energy sector that the technology and skill transfer, and transboundary cooperation components pose.</p> <p>EBRD also recognises the Proposal’s additional mitigation potential takes note of iTAP’s advice on monitoring the project’s mitigation and social impact further.</p>
<b>Paradigm shift potential</b>
<p>EBRD fully agrees with iTAP’s assessment of how crucial the issue of climate change impacts is for hydropower development and operations in Central Asia. As iTAP recognises, the Proposal offers an integrative approach to rehabilitating hydropower assets and increasing the sector’s resilience to the projected impacts of climate change that can serve as a replicable model for other countries.</p>
<b>Sustainable development potential</b>
<p>EBRD agrees with iTAP’s appreciation of the Proposal’s potential and believes that the introduction of best practices, new technologies and environmental and social standards under the Proposal can significantly contribute to the sustainable development of the country’s hydropower sector, which is crucial for Tajikistan’s economy and population.</p>
<b>Needs of the recipient</b>
<p>EBRD fully concurs with iTAP’s assessment of Tajikistan’s vulnerability to climate change and its need to strongly prioritise adaptation measures. The GCF contribution to this transformative Proposal is crucial for enabling the country’s hydropower sector to move to climate resilient practices and for ensuring energy security and affordability for Tajikistan and its people.</p>
<b>Country ownership</b>
<p>In EBRD’s view, the high prioritization of hydropower sector climate resilience in Tajikistan’s INDC and its Strategic Programme for Climate Resilience (SPCR) is a clear reflection of the importance of the topic to the government and the country at large. Hence, EBRD strongly agrees with iTAP’s assessment of the strong country involvement and ownership of the Proposal and the associated reforms.</p>
<b>Efficiency and effectiveness</b>
<p>EBRD welcomes iTAP’s detailed comments on the efficiency and effectiveness of the Proposal. As pointed out, the USD 50 million of GCF resources will help to mobilise further investment of USD 158 million. EBRD would like to emphasize the Proposal’s strong potential for achieving better climate resilience, sustainable development and social outcomes. We also</p>



take note of iTAP's recommendation on the importance of paying close attention to the development of effective cross-boundary collaboration and to monitoring the implementation and impact of the Proposal.

**Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

EBRD would like to thank iTAP for the very constructive collaboration on this proposal and looks forward to presenting this innovative project at the upcoming GCF Board Meeting (B.16).

## **Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 041)**

Proposal name: Simiyu Climate Adaptation Project

Accredited entity: KfW

### **Impact potential**

The Project has a high impact potential. Simiyu is a semi-arid region already facing significant climate variability and change. As a result, surface water resources like dams and the Simiyu river are drying out. People, particularly women, are seriously suffering from shortage of drinking water during the extending dry periods. The population is predominantly poor and dependent on rainfed agriculture. We agree that delivery capabilities of national institutions are crucial to the Project. We therefore put special emphasis on institutional strengthening of urban water service providers and local government institutions, on community empowerment, and on the continuous support to national institutions by experienced consultants.

### **Paradigm shift potential**

The Project has a substantial potential to stimulate and promote paradigm shift. For the first time in Tanzania interventions in drinking water, sanitation and agriculture are combined in a joint approach with the unified target to improve climate resilience. Especially the poorest and most vulnerable are challenged by diverse climate-related threats. By tackling this in a harmonized approach and by leaving locked-in institutional paths, effectiveness increases and significant efficiency gains are reached. With the Project, the high-profile example of the Simiyu Region serves as a role model for the institutional setup of multi-sectoral, community driven climate adaptation action. Upscaling and replication throughout the country is facilitated.

### **Sustainable development potential**

Amongst many other benefits, the project increases the climate change resilience especially of poor people, improves the availability of water and sanitation, reduces water borne diseases, empowers women and girls and promotes sustainable economic growth. High impacts are also expected from increasing knowledge and decision making power of local user associations, water utilities and municipalities in planning and sustainable operation. This delegation of responsibilities to the local level goes hand in hand with a strong and holistic concept on capacity strengthening. The Project offers a high direct and indirect contribution to sustainable development for Tanzania and in particular the Simiyu Region.

### **Needs of the recipient**

The Project addresses the needs of one of the most vulnerable groups in Tanzania. Tanzania belongs to the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and requires support for the implementation of climate change adaptation projects. The Government of Tanzania adheres to the project approach and is willing to contribute to the Project to a large extent.



### **Country ownership**

The Government of Tanzania strongly supports the Project and has proven its capacity to implement such projects through the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and the Regional Administration. The Government committed itself to providing safe and clean drinking water to the entire Tanzanian population by 2025. The very strong ownership of the Government of Tanzania is demonstrated by the substantial contributions to the Project and the high direct involvement in its implementation.

### **Efficiency and effectiveness**

The overall investment costs are on the higher side, however, they are comparable to similar water and agriculture projects. The main part of the investment costs is caused by the transport of drinking water from Lake Victoria over a distance of nearly 100km. This is the only sustainable and effective solution for the people from the Simiyu Region, who are affected by climate change .

A project under these particular circumstances can hardly be financially viable. However, economic viability of the Project has been proven. The operation concept has been prepared in a way to reach coverage of O&M costs through affordable tariffs.

### **Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

We fully agree and stress that preparatory studies and plans (in particular RAP, PRPF, Gender Action Plan, Operational Manuals, Stakeholders Engagement Plan, Tariff study, Exit and O&M Strategy) have to be prepared prior to the physical implementation of the Project. These tasks will be carried out at the beginning of the Project with the support through an experienced and qualified consultant. The consultant needs to be co-financed from the first disbursement of the GCF contribution.

We also fully accept the ITAP recommendations with regard to in-kind contribution, women participation and fostering synergies. It is also understood that we will duly monitor the outcomes of the Project. However, reporting should remain in line with the stipulations of the AMA which provides for annual reports, a completion report and one ex-post evaluation 2-3 years after the Project is completed.

## **Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 042)**

Proposal name: Irrigation development and adaptation of irrigated agriculture to climate change semi-arid Morocco

Accredited entity: Agence Française de Développement (AFD)

### **Impact potential**

AFD would like to thank the ITAP for its careful review.

Available data suggests that exploitation of groundwater by commercial date farmers has not yet crossed any unsustainable limits. The current trend of exploitation is reversible and may lead to a sustainable equilibrium of the aquifer if regulations and adequate institutional measures (such as an Aquifer Contract) are put into practice.

### **Paradigm shift potential**

AFD concurs with the positive assessment from iTAP and believes it accurately reflects the strength of the Funding Proposal in promoting paradigm shift concepts that are important to the GCF and its board.

Indeed, the paradigm shift promoted by the project intends to show the existence of a third path between 2 worse-case-scenarios (1) "irrigation having devastating effects on future agriculture due to overexploitation of groundwater" and (2) "no irrigation and no economic development (value and jobs)", consisting of (3) "well managed combined water resources (ground and surface water) for a sustainable agricultural development in semi-arid conditions". (1) and (2) are not inevitable and (3) is indeed possible ; that is what the project intends to demonstrate.

### **Sustainable development potential**

AFD concurs with the positive assessment from iTAP and believes it accurately reflects the strength of the Funding Proposal in promoting sustainable development.

### **Needs of the recipient**

We concur with iTAP's conclusions on this point.

### **Country ownership**

We concur with most of iTAP's conclusions and findings on this point. To be accurate: AFD is not a co-financier of the water retention dam.

### **Efficiency and effectiveness**

AFD concurs with the positive assessment from iTAP, concluding to the full justification of the GCF grant funding for the project.



**Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

AFD has the following comments / requests with regard to the set of conditions suggested by iTAP:

- Condition 1 does not seem necessary: these dispositions will be included in the Term Sheet as a covenant;
- Condition 2 does not seem necessary: there will be no expropriation for the water transmission corridor due to its location along the road (for which expropriations have already taken place);
- Condition 3 is acceptable;
- Condition 4 is acceptable.

## Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 043)

Proposal name: Saïss Water Conservation Project – Morocco

Accredited entity: European Bank for Reconstruction & Development (EBRD)

### Impact potential

The Project will prevent water table depletion through the transfer of 90 – 110 **million** m<sup>3</sup>/yr plus efficiency savings of 11.2 **million** m<sup>3</sup>/yr.

M’Dez dam sustainability is detailed in the nationally-owned Sebou Basin Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (PDAIRE). With peak runoff in winter and peak irrigation demand in summer, water transfer needs can be met under projected climate change scenarios.

Water infrastructure is central to the nationally-owned *Plan Maroc Vert*, and the Project will deliver benefits to farmers **immediately** through sub-components 1.1, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.2, which will commence well in advance of the infrastructure/PPP sub-components.

This project is part of the *Plan Maroc Vert*, a comprehensive, nationally-owned framework for addressing broader agro-environmental issues.

### Paradigm shift potential

The Project is highly innovative by creating one of highest-diameter pipelines in the world and the largest irrigation PPP in the world, with extensive private sector involvement.

The Project will begin to support community governance and awareness **immediately** through sub-components 1.1, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.2, which will commence well in advance of the infrastructure and PPP sub-components.

Stakeholder consultation has been extensive, mainly under the PPP preparatory studies conducted by the Moroccan authorities, who also have extensive, nationally-owned experience of setting water tariff regimes that ensure social cohesion and stability.

### Sustainable development potential

Environmental sustainability considerations in the Sebou-Saïss basin are extensively covered in Annex VII (Environmental and Social Appraisal and Action Plan).

Aquifer recharge options were extensively explored under the Sebou basin PDAIRE, but this analysis identified the transfer scheme as the most appropriate and cost-effective option.

Increasing irrigation efficiency from 59 per cent to 69 per cent represents huge water savings of 11.2 million m<sup>3</sup>/yr.

The Project will begin to deliver social co-benefits **immediately** through sub-components 1.1, 2.1, 2.2 and 3.2, which will commence well in advance of the infrastructure and PPP sub-components.

### Needs of the recipient

Morocco has highly developed and technically advanced nationally-owned institutional arrangements for planning and managing water infrastructure improvements.

River basin management is organized under a framework that reflects best international practices and principles (e.g. EU Water Framework Directive), under the *Ministère de l'Énergie, des mines, de l'eau et de l'environnement* (MEEM) and regional water basin agencies.

*Ministère de l'agriculture et de la pêche maritime* (MAMF) has one of the longest and strongest track records of irrigation PPP delivery in the world.

### Country ownership

EBRD has extensive experience of designing and financing water sector investments with major climate change adaptation impact. EBRD has financed 129 water major infrastructure investments over the past 25 years, resulting in a water infrastructure portfolio of EUR 1.07 billion portfolio. This includes more than 70 water infrastructure investments with dedicated climate resilience measures, totaling a business volume of EUR 600 million including incremental adaptation finance of more than EUR 400 million.

Stakeholder consultation has been extensive, mainly under the PPP preparatory studies conducted by the Moroccan authorities, who have also ensured that the wider population is aware of the Project, which is supported by the King and has been widely publicized in the Moroccan media.

### Efficiency and effectiveness

EBRD considers that the grant contribution from the GCF is necessary in order to make the Project affordable to the water users (i.e. farmers) including vulnerable groups, while at the same time making it commercially attractive to private investors under the PPP element. The nationally-owned policy priorities of the Government of Morocco require such investments to be made sufficiently concessional in order to avoid placing undue strain on public indebtedness.

### Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:

EBRD welcomes the detailed assessment conducted by iTAP and would like to thank iTAP for the careful thought and analysis that was put into this exercise.

EBRD considers that the valid issues raised by iTAP in this assessment are all covered in various parts of the Funding Proposal package. However, the lengthy and complex structure of the current GCF FP template may have made it more difficult than necessary for EBRD to explain all of these points clearly, and for iTAP to pick them all up in their review of a very long and complex set of documents, no doubt with only a limited amount of time available.

EBRD has the following observations on the additional conditions suggested by iTAP:

- **Action plan on community involvement:** EBRD is happy to accept this condition in principle, as it can readily be addressed under sub-components 2.1 and 2.2.
- **Management plan for the Saïss-Sebou river basin:** EBRD is happy to accept this condition in principle, as it can readily be addressed under sub-component 3.2.
- **Matrix of climate change indicators:** EBRD is happy to accept this condition in principle, and has already drafted an initial matrix (attached as a separate document) which can be refined further together with the GCF Secretariat.

**PPP bidding process:** This item is not under EBRD's direct control, and will need to be considered by the Government of Morocco, which is responsible for overseeing the PPP



process. EBRD is ready to raise this issue with the Government of Morocco in advance of the B.16 GCF Board meeting.

## Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 044)

Proposal name: Tina River Hydropower Development Project

Accredited entity: World Bank

### Impact potential

The Team would like to correct the statement in Para 3, stating that the tariff will reduce from USD 0.82/kwh to USD 0.22/kwh. The former number is a retail tariff and the latter is the levelized cost of sale of electricity from the Project Company to Solomon Power. This has been correctly captured in Para 6, so we recommend amending Para 3 to reflect the same description of tariff impact.

### Paradigm shift potential

*No comments*

### Sustainable development potential

*No comments*

### Needs of the recipient

*No comments*

### Country ownership

*No comments*

### Efficiency and effectiveness

*No comments*

### Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:

The Team acknowledges that there may be some displacement of other renewable energy sources through the reduction of the electricity tariff brought about by the project and the associated addition of new customers on the Honiara grid. As such, the Project may not offset 100 per cent diesel, non-renewable energy sources. However, the Team does not consider the possible difference to be significant. The displacement of other renewable energy sources, mainly small solar panels, through new grid connections is expected to be very small. Most new generation demand, particularly in the early years, is expected to be commercial customers who are currently using their own diesel generators. There are no commercial users of clean, renewable energy in Honiara. New residential customers would very likely be low users of electricity, and they would be mainly replacing a combination of kerosene used



for lighting and small solar panels (20w) used for charging small electronic devices like phones and radios, and perhaps some lighting. In order to more accurately capture the project emission reduction, the Team will produce the recommended study, including a methodology for reporting on project impacts against a dynamic GHG emissions baseline. As Project reporting will end shortly after commissioning, the Team proposes training the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification to apply the model and report on emissions reductions as part of its achievement of emissions reductions targets, or through another sustainable means of reporting outside of the limited project reporting period.



## **Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 045)**

Proposal name: Ground water recharge and Solar Micro Irrigation to ensure food security and enhance resilience in vulnerable tribal areas of Odisha

Accredited entity: National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

### **Impact potential**

Para 2: Details of direct & indirect beneficiaries (5.29million) are presented in Table 4 (page 34 of FP). However, exact number of direct and indirect beneficiaries would be available based on the detailed tank wise baseline survey & livelihood assessment proposed under component 1 and 2.

Para 3: The benefits of GWRS would be regularly monitored by Ground Water Survey & Investigation wing of Executing Entity (component 5).

Para 4: Necessary training and capacity building interventions for solar pumping are planned under component C.4. AE has been implementing ground water recharge structures in various parts of country under its various programmes. AE has experience of implementation of solar pumping programme.

Para 7: We agree and it would be integrated under sub-component 5.2.

### **Paradigm shift potential**

*No comments*

### **Sustainable development potential**

Para 17: Under component 4 capacity building of stakeholders would cover climate resilient practices, organic farming, integrated pest and nutrient management, etc. would be taken up, so that the likely contamination can be avoided due to ground water recharge structure. The farmers in the catchment areas of the tank would be sensitized and trained under the component on these aspects.

### **Needs of the recipient**

*No comments*

### **Country ownership**

*No comments*

### **Efficiency and effectiveness**

Para 47: Under component 4 on capacity building climate smart agricultural practices would be integrated as part of trainings. Further, the same would include, better crop management practices such as tree planting (field bund planting) to enhance climate change resilience.

Para 48: Micro irrigation would be part of better water management strategy under tank command areas and would be part of water sharing plans proposed to be prepared under component 2. Further, as part of component 4.4 which is aimed at convergence with existing programmes of Government as well as credit linkages, the micro irrigation would be promoted as an important water management strategy for water saving, improved crop productivity and income.

### **Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

The project design would include promotion of organic farming practices, integrated pest management, agro-forestry systems and small scale waste management treatment as part of capacity building and training under component 4 of the project. NABARD would ensure the necessary capacity building of farmers during the project implementation through Executing Entity.

## **Reply to the Independent Technical Advisory Panel assessment findings (FP 046)**

Proposal name: Responding to the increasing risk of drought: building gender-responsive resilience of the most vulnerable communities - Ethiopia

Accredited entity: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

### **Impact potential**

The project has strong impact potential. The cross sectoral nature of the proposal and the focus on multiple interventions reflects the diverse set of threats that Ethiopia is facing due to climate change. The proposal takes a holistic and interconnected approach to resilience building, while giving emphasis to emissions reduction. Each activity proposed applies as a singular response to a set of specific challenges and also collectively - having synergetic effects and contributing to sustainability. It contributes to 11 of the 19 Fund level impacts.

Ethiopia has a track record of implementing high value, complex, multi-sectoral programmes, which contributed to its economy and its nascent ability to adapt to climate change (summary of experience provided in the full submission). Moreover, the project will make use of existing institutional and implementation modalities that have a track record of successfully implementing complex programmes. This experience will ensure that this project is delivered efficiently, effectively and has lasting impact.

### **Paradigm shift potential**

The results that GCF resources will help to achieve will be transformational. GCF financing will bring fundamental changes to promoting climate resilient sustainable land use practices in Ethiopia. The proposed project advances a holistic and new approach, in the Ethiopian context, to sustainability and climate resilience building. It delivers inter-connected real world outcomes that are cross-sectoral and multi-intervention focused. It aligns with several SDG goals.

It is targeted, drawing on learning from previous large-scale projects in Ethiopia to maximize positive spillovers and scale –up across the widest number of woredas.. The project’s approach is significantly more effective than the prevailing conventional silo approach.

The project is implemented in 22 woreda to ensure there is scale of impact, a hallmark of the GCF’s aspirations. GCF resources will benefit over 1.2 million highly vulnerable and drought affected people. The design adopts an ecosystem based adaptation approach, and operationally will link to existing administrative localities. This is vital to ensure that results are sustained over a long period and lessons are captured/disseminated to inform future interventions that promote resilience of communities in the targeted regions.

### **Sustainable development potential**

The proposal, at its’ core, is designed with Ethiopia’s sustainable development ambitions in mind. The project aligns with SDG goals - 1, 2, 6, 8, 12, 13 and 15. It will ensure that Ethiopia’s natural resource potential remains to be a valued asset, and is developed, protected and managed for a sustainable and equitable growth.

The feasibility studies on aquifers have analyzed the groundwater system and have recommended safe yields to avoid over-extraction, factoring in hydrological properties of these aquifers. These studies are robust and credible. Moreover, the natural resource management interventions will protect the watershed and consequently improve the groundwater recharge capability.

The role of women is well pronounced in this project and due consideration is given to have women have equal participation in working towards and achieving the results sought through GCF financing.

### **Needs of the recipient**

The project is aligned with Ethiopia's climate resilient growth plan, and its NDC which encompasses several sectors. In this case UNDP, MOFEC and four line ministries that have jointly implemented several projects in the past will oversee and execute this project, with clear lines of responsibility and accountability, in a coordinated manner. Ethiopia has had the track record of successful implementation of much larger projects with multiple partners and implemented in several Woredas. This previous experience serves as the basis to maximize recipient ownership, ensure delivery on the ground and embed sustainability of outcomes. A detailed sustainability strategy was provided in the proposal.

Project-hired experts (many of whom will be Ethiopian and from the region, in addition to the best the world has to offer) will be paired with existing human resource (all of them Ethiopian), fostering learning and knowledge transfer and up-take. The design has accounted for Ethiopia's strong experience of sustainable capability building of government personnel through the secondment of project-hired experts.

### **Country ownership**

We would like to thank the ITAP for their recognition of the strong country ownership.

### **Efficiency and effectiveness**

The project design is founded on effectiveness and efficiency principles. The perceived complexity of the project reflects both the political economy of Ethiopia and the urgency of the problem. A measured and strategic approach, maximizing synergies and resources at both federal and local level ensures impacts that are both sustainable and offer value for money. It is not a stand-alone project, but intrinsically linked with the government's wider economic plan, and activities will continue to deliver beyond the life of the project, embedded within a broader development and resilience strategy. The UNDP and MOFEC will coordinate the implementation of the project and are responsible for financial management and accountability. The project avoids parallelism or duplication, with existing structures playing a major role. Only 3.5 per cent of GCF funding is operations and management activities.

### **Overall remarks from the independent Technical Advisory Panel:**

*No comments.*

**Concluding remarks:**

The Govt of Ethiopia, supported by UNDP, strongly believe that this proposal has all the components and integrated activities to deliver a sustainable impact and reduce the vulnerability of a large number of people to drought and extreme weather events in Ethiopia. This is in line with the investment framework of the Green Climate Fund. The project is also designed and will be implemented with sufficient safeguards in place to ensure financial, technical, environmental and social risks are managed effectively and efficiently. The tranche disbursement approach to fund transfer that the GCF typically applies for projects approved by the Board, and the associated annual reporting requirements that UNDP will comply with, offers an additional mechanism by which to manage risks during the implementation phase.