

July 1, 2014

“Presentation of the new GEF strategy for GEF-6” SB40 Side Event Report

Overseas Environmental Cooperation Center, Japan (OECC)
Prepared by Jiro Ogahara

This is a report of a side event held at the 40th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies of Implementation of the UNFCCC from June 4th to 15th 2014, in Bonn, Germany.

- Title : “Presentation of the new GEF strategy for GEF-6”
- Date : June 7, 2014 (13:15-14:45)
- Organizer(s) : Global Environment Facility (GEF)
- Venue : Solar, Ministry of Environment
- Presenter(s) :
 - Mr. Franck Jesus, GEF
 - Mr. Rawlestone Moore, GEF
 - Unidentified delegate from Belgium
- Abstract: The GEF has been replenished for the period 2014-2018 with record pledges of \$4.43 billion. This side-event presented the new GEF strategy for GEF sixth replenishment and in particular the objectives set for climate change mitigation, adaptation and for the new concept of integrated approaches.

Summary

1. (Unidentified delegate from Belgium): Opening remarks
 - The speaker introduced the side event and gave a brief summary of the process held for the replenishment of the GEF as well as some of the activities discussed weeks ago in Cancun, although the process finished in April in Geneva.
 - There is a replenishment group in charge of this process composed by a group of potential donors. It also includes regional representatives to make the process transparent.
 - This strategy in an update or new focal strategies, where issues such as climate, biodiversity, land degradation, etc. are discussed.
2. Mr. Franck Jesus: “GEF 6th replenishment New Climate Change Strategy”
 - Mr. Jesus presented details of the GEF6 that comprises the period between 2014 until

2018.

- He made a summary of the GEF-6 replenishment results totaling USD 4.43 billion to be distributed in two blocks: Focal areas (biodiversity, climate change mitigation, chemicals and waste, land degradation, international waters), and a new scheme called integrated approach pilots (food security, sustainable cities, deforestation and commodities)
 - As for the climate change mitigation he explained 3 unique values of climate financing: 1) facilitating innovation and technology transfer, 2) catalyzing systemic impacts through synergistic multi-focal initiatives, and 3) building on convention obligations for reporting and assessments towards mainstreaming. The idea is assisting developing countries in defining and implementing mitigation measures towards the 2015 agreement.
 - The ultimate goal for the mitigation strategy is to support developing countries and economies in transition to make transformational shifts towards a low emission development path.
 - The second scheme of integrated approach pilots (IAP) is aiming at: 1) taking deforestation out of commodities supply chain, 2) fostering sustainability and resilience for food security in sub-Saharan Africa, and 3) sustainable cities.
3. Mr. Rawlestone Moore : “Climate change adaptation LDCF/SCCF”
- Mr. Moore gave a summary of the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF), and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF).
 - He explained that it is up to the donor countries on how much they will contribute to these funds, and that the goal is to increase resilience, enhance capacity, and reduce socio-economic losses.
 - The funds objectives are: To reduce vulnerability, strengthen institutional and technical capacity, and integrate climate change adaptation into relevant policies
 - The strategic programming pillars are: 1) integrating climate change adaptation into relevant policies, plans, programs and decision-making processes; and 2) expanding synergies with other GEF focal areas.

■ Q&A

Q.1 (Unidentified representative from Bangladesh): Please provide more conceptual clarity, as it seems there is a mix of areas especially between mitigation and adaptation, and also

the new scheme of integrated approach pilots.

A.1 (F. Jesus): Please take note that integrated approach pilots (IAP) are not part of the mitigation strategy. Actually they are beyond mitigation. Activities deliver global benefits in multiple focal areas and therefore mitigation is concerned but it is not the only area. For example, food security deals with land degradation but mitigation is there as well.

Q.2 (Unidentified representative from Senegal): I would like to know about the focus in sustainable cities. Dakar has been selected as one of the resilient cities by the Rockefeller Foundation. Are you going to work with Rockefeller cities?

A.2 (F. Jesus): We have discussed with many organizations working with cities such as ICLEI and we are studying how we can include more organizations.

Q.3 (Unidentified representative from the UN alliance): There is a need for funds for Article 6 related activities (public awareness). I believe no percentage is going to education especially in LDC countries.

A.3 (R. Moore): We have been working with Article 6 through different avenues for many years. There are components or elements for training. We have done a lot of work. As for guidelines, we receive guidelines from the COP and then we help supporting countries. However, funding is not for standalone activities.

Q.4 (Unidentified representative from NGO working on sustainable cities): Traditional knowledge is important when introducing energy efficiency technologies. This is a good way to make the city more sustainable. Can you provide some comments about this in your work?

A.4 (F. Jesus): Personally I haven't seen an example of those but if you can demonstrate a good example with multiple effects that would be interesting.

Q.5 (Unidentified representative from Brazil): GEF is working in a new method for global environmental benefits in terms of GHG emissions. Can you elaborate on this?

A.5 (F. Jesus): We have worked with experts to estimate GHG emissions. It is important to do this at the start of the project, to evaluate if the project will be approved. We have also developed methodologies for renewable energy, energy efficiency and transport. We also have started in a new methodology with results to be released in one year.



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