

50th GEF Council Meeting
June 07 – 09, 2016
Washington, D.C.

Agenda Item 14

MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT – 2015

(Prepared by the GEF Secretariat)

APR 2015 MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

1. The Secretariat welcomes the Annual Performance Report (APR) 2015 prepared by the Independent Evaluation Office. The report provides a series of useful insights that can contribute to portfolio management at the GEF.
2. The Secretariat notes the report's conclusion that the outcome achievements of 75 percent of completed projects reviewed in the APR 2015 were rated in the satisfactory range. These figures are lower than the average of 81 percent of projects and 79 percent of funding in the satisfactory range for the projects covered in the past APRs. The evaluation notes that this is due to a larger representation of projects from the Africa region, where a smaller percentage of projects have received outcome ratings in the satisfactory range.
3. The Secretariat notes the report's recommendation that the GEF needs to reassess its approach to tracking tools for GEF-7. The Secretariat agreed with the findings of the evaluation that significant progress has been made in meeting the OPS-5 recommendation that the tracking tools be simplified and the reporting burden on Agencies be reduced.
4. The Secretariat is particularly encouraged with the finding that both promised and realized median co-financing ratios have continued to rise over the GEF replenishment period as well. While the Secretariat keeps close track of planned co-financing, it is not until a project has completed an evaluation that an accurate figure of materialized co-financing is known.
5. The Secretariat welcomes the finding that ratings on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Implementation have improved considerably from the Pilot phase, although the Secretariat concerns with the finding that 30 percent of completed GEF-4 projects have unsatisfactory M&E Design and Implementation ratings.
6. The Secretariat notes that the quality of the terminal evaluations submitted during APR 2015 represented a drop from the past years. Seventy-three percent of the terminal evaluations in the APR 2015 cohort are rated "satisfactory". The evaluation report indicates that this drop is due to a relatively high number of Medium Sized Projects (MSPs) in the cohort.