



Summary of Document GEF/ME/C.41/01 GEF Evaluation Office: Progress Report from the Director

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/ME/C.41/01, *GEF Evaluation Office: Progress Report from the Director*, takes note of the on-going work of the Office and the outlines of the Fifth Overall Performance Study of the GEF that the Office is preparing, and requests the Office to prepare draft terms of reference for OPS5 for approval at the Council meeting of June 2012, taking into account comments made.

Executive Summary

1. The Progress Report of the Director is meant to provide the Council with important information on on-going work, on top of the other reports that are presented to this Council meeting, i.e. the first Annual Thematic Evaluations Report and the Evaluation of the SCCF (which is presented to the LDCF/SCCF Council). Furthermore, the Annual Report on Impact is available as an information document to Council. This report's main focus is to start up a first discussion with Council on the scope and key questions of the Fifth Overall Performance Study.
2. On on-going work special attention is asked for the emerging strong collaboration with STAP, especially on impact work, and for the fast growing Climate-Eval community of practice on evaluating climate change and development, which is a global community that delivers M&E products that are highly relevant to the work of the GEF.
3. The Fifth Overall Performance Study of the GEF is the key element in the overall work plan of the Office for GEF-5. It will deliver two concrete products to the replenishment process. First a synthetic report that will provide an overview of trends in performance, achievements, results and impact of the GEF as evident in the four evaluation streams of the Office. The second report will be presented in the final stage of the replenishment and will contain additional studies that tackle specific questions and issues that Council would like to see in OPS5, for example following up on key questions that were present in OPS4 or on issues that would be specially relevant to the replenishment process, given changes in the international context. The final report will also update the data on trends in ratings, impact, and thematic and country portfolio achievements of the GEF as reported on in the first report, where appropriate, as it may arrive a year later than the first synthesis report.

4. This report contains concrete suggestions on issues that will be addressed in the first synthesis report (see paragraph 11) and on issues that will be further explored in the final report (see paragraph 12). It describes the consultative processes that will be followed to prepare the terms of reference and in OPS5 itself. Council members may wish to raise additional issues that they feel should be explored in OPS5 that would be of specific relevance to their constituency. The consultative process leading up to the draft terms of reference will also provide further opportunities for interaction.

5. The draft terms of reference in a first version will be shared with Council members in March 2012 and Council members will be invited to comment. It is proposed that a revised version of the terms of reference will be a working document of the June 2012 Council meeting.