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# **Approach Paper**

## **Evaluation of GEF Support to High GEF Recipient Countries**

Draft

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#### Introduction

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was created in 1991 to serve as a financial mechanism that would ensure the achievement of global environmental benefits by supporting countries to their commitments to global environmental conventions. Among the GEF recipient countries, there are countries which have received high levels of support. These countries are particularly important to meet the concerns underling the global environmental conventions as they typically represent a larger threat to global environmental conditions than other GEF recipient countries. Yet at the same time, precisely because of these heightened threats, these countries provide high opportunities to make progress to the objectives of the global environmental conventions. Despite the implicit recognition that a few countries have a more prominent role than other GEF recipient countries in addressing global environmental challenges, only a few have been evaluated by the GEF IEO, namely Brazil, India and South Africa (GEF IEO 2007, 2011, 2012). These evaluations did not expressly assess the extent to which GEF support takes place in ways to fully explore the important role these countries have in achieving convention targets, as well as their potential, capacities and commitments.

The purpose of this evaluation is to identify forms by which the GEF can further support and enable its highest recipient countries to promote environmentally sustainable development and to rebuild better and greener as the world emerges from the COVID19 pandemic. The evaluation will focus on Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa. These five countries were selected because they are the largest GEF recipient countries, they are critical for the achievement of the objectives of the global environmental conventions and they are influential global actors. While the countries selected for this evaluation face major social and environmental challenges, in the last two decades they have seen their institutions and capacities strengthened. The growth of their economies has resulted in growing public resources. Similarly, these countries have been increasingly attractive for private investors whom could also assume an important role in addressing global challenges. This evaluation will examine the forms and extent to which GEF support to these countries helps to build on their emergent capacities.

#### The emergence of increasingly important global actors

Among the most prominent middle-income countries in terms of their population and GDP, Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa together represent 19% of the global GDP<sup>1</sup>. Over the last two decades these countries have become increasingly important global economic and geopolitical actors. Four of them - Brazil, China, India and South Africa – with Russia have formed an organization known as "BRICS" that meets regularly to discuss how to address common concerns on relations with developed countries as well as environmental conservation and their national sustainable development priorities. BRICS have also been outspoken about OECD countries shortcomings in meeting commitments to overseas development assistance.<sup>2</sup> Within a short period of time during the past decade several of the selected countries for this evaluation have jointly formed international financial institutions through which they are increasingly exercising global influence; examples include the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), the New Development Bank (NDB) and the China-led Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (Gonçalves et al., 2018; Petrone, 2019). Also, during the last decade, the emergence of China as a global power and Brazil, India and Mexico as important trade agents is contributing to economic and geopolitical adjustments in both north and south countries. Jet, as many middle-income countries, Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa face what the World Bank has called 'second generation' challenges that are linked to their development paths. Such challenges include "lifestyle

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://data.worldbank.org

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Mexico, unlike the BRICS, joined the OECD in 1994.

diseases, aging populations, pension reform, tertiary education, social inequality, competitiveness, trade and tax policy, financial literacy, green growth, and urbanization are typical".<sup>3</sup> Until recently, all of these countries have been important participants in the process of the global environmental conventions and are signatories of the most prominent conventions (see Table 1).

	UNFCCC	UNCCD	CBD	Stockholm	Rotterdam	Basel	Minamata	Marine
China	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ramsar; Fish Stocks;
								Globallast
Brazil	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ramsar; MARPOL; Fish
								Stocks; Globallast
India	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ramsar; Fish Stocks;
								Globallast
Mexico	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Ramsar; Fish Stocks
South Africa	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Accession	Yes	Convention on the Law of the
								Non-Navigational Uses of
								International Watercourses;
								Ramsar; Fish Stocks; PMSA;
								Globallast

Table 1: H Participation in the global environmental conventions by the highest GEF recipients<sup>4</sup>

The Paris Agreement of 2015 was widely seen as an important step of the global community to address climate change. But since the Paris Agreement the "second generation challenges" became increasingly prominent. The countries selected for this evaluation, like many developed and developing nations, are finding it challenging to meet their commitments to the global environmental conventions. Some countries (Brazil and Mexico) are faced with having to balance the objectives of global environmental conventions with pressing immediate social and human welfare needs. These countries are also witnessing actions which in effect roll back policies and regulations related to the global environmental conventions. The COVID19 Pandemic has magnified such challenges placing additional multiple demands on country resource. COVID19 has brough to the open the extent of social inequalities within and across countries. It has accelerated the speed of change and has heighten global tensions. Importantly, the COVID19 pandemic has exposed health, economic and governance vulnerabilities when nature is disregarded.

BRICS representatives have acknowledged that the interactions between humans and nature is rapidly intensifying challenges and risks. In recent years and in the context of the pandemic most countries have continued to express support to partnership and cooperation and support for the objectives of the environmental conventions. For example in Xiamen (2017) and in Johannesburg (2018), and Moscow (2020) the BRICS leaders have reaffirmed their commitment to take decisive action in dealing with climate change, pollution and the protection of biodiversity.<sup>5</sup> In July 2020, while acknowledging that COVID 19 represents a challenge, BRICS reiterated their committed to meeting targets in the Kyoto Protocol and Paris agreements and stressed the need to improve the environment and promote circular

<sup>4</sup> Table 1 Source: Convention websites for <u>UNFCCC</u>; <u>UNCCD</u>; <u>CBD</u>; <u>Stockholm</u>; <u>Basel</u>; <u>Minamata</u>:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/mic/overview#2

Notes: UNFCCC = United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNCCD = United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity, Stockholm = Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Rotterdam = Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, Basel = Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, Minamata = Minamata Convention on Mercury. Marine = regional or global conventions focused on the marine environment. Convention on the <u>Law of the Non-navigational Uses of International Watercourses; Ramsar</u> Convention on Wetlands; International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (<u>MARPOL 73/78</u>); Agreement on Port State Measures (<u>PSMA</u>); <u>Globallast Water Convention</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Most recently points 82 and 83 of the *XII BRICS Summit Moscow Declaration* of November 17,2020 mention specifically commitment to the objectives of the United Nations Framework Convention of Climate Change and the objectives of COV15 of Convention of Biodiversity. http://www.brics.utoronto.ca/docs/201117-moscow-declaration.html

economy approaches in the recovery of the COVID19.<sup>6</sup> There are multiple reports that COVID19 has accelerated a trend to making an increasing amount of financial resources available for ESG (environmental, social and governance) investing.

#### High GEF recipient countries and the global environment

The high GEF recipient countries selected for this evaluation have a prominent role to play in the achievement the objectives of the global environment conventions supported by the GEF. These



countries have large and expanding economies, large populations and an expanding middle class, all of which translates in a growing consumption of energy and use of natural resources. Jet, these countries capacities and the resources these countries have control on present important opportunities to address the loss of biodiversity, deforestation, climate change, and other global environmental concerns.

Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa are rich in natural resources and biodiversity. In fact, these five countries are among the 17 most biodiverse countries in the world.<sup>7</sup> These countries have been identified by UN Environment as the most biodiversityrich countries of the world, particularly in terms of endemic biodiversity. Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa as a

group also are home to over 10% of the world endangered species.<sup>8</sup> FAO in its 2020 State of the Forest *Report* indicates that, Brazil, China, and India are among the ten countries with the largest forested area and that these countries account for 19% of the forests in the world (Figure 1).<sup>9</sup> These countries have implemented policies and programs that respond to economic and social needs and that also address key global environmental challenges. China and India have recently emerged as the countries contributing the most to new green areas in the world (Chen et al., 2019). The expanding economies of the countries selected for this evaluation also offer an opportunity tackle challenges related to climate change and waist. China, Brazil, India, Mexico and South Africa were reported by the World Bank are among the ten countries with most CO2 emissions in 2019 (Table 2).<sup>10</sup>

Tahla	2. Ton	CO2	Emitting	Countrios
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Table 2.	TOP CO2 Emilia	ig countries
Country	lotal Emissions 👻	Per Capita Emissions
China	9.04 Bn	6.59
United States	5.00 Bn	15.53
India	2.07 Bn	1.58
Russia	1.47 Bn	10.19
Japan	1.14 Bn	8.99
Germany	729.77 Mn	8.93
South Korea	585.99 Mn	11.58
Iran	552.40 Mn	6.98
Canada	549.23 Mn	15.32
Saudi Arabia	531.46 Mn	16.85
Brazil	450.79 Mn	2.17
Mexico	442.31 Mn	3.66

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> "BRICS Nations Stress on Improving Environment, Promoting Circular Economy to Recover from COVID-19 Effects - The Economic Times." Accessed December 7, 2020. https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/brics-nationsstress-on-improving-environment-promoting-circular-economy-to-recover-from-covid-19effects/articleshow/77279527.cms?from=mdr.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>https://www.biodiversitya-z.org/content/megadiverse-countries.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> The IUCN red list species for these five countries includes in total 6668 species out of a total of 63878 species in the red list. The list includes mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fishes Mollusks, other invertebrates, fungi, and chromists https://www.iucnredlist.org/statistics

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <u>http://www.fao.org/state-of-forests/en/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> In 2015 the countries CO2 emission were as follows: China 9,04 Bn T, India 2.07bn T, Brazil 450.9Mn T, and Mexico 442,31 Mn T. The World Population Review https://worldpopulationreview.com/country-rankings/co2-emissions-by-country Consulted on November 30,2020.



Source: https://datacatalog.worldbank.org

The World Bank also reports that China, Brazil, India, Mexico and South Africa produced 29% of the solid waste in the world (Figure 2). <sup>11</sup> Yet, these five countries are leaders in renewable energy matters (Chen et al., 2019). They accounted for nearly half of the of the installed renewable energy capacity projected for 2020-2021 (Figure 3). China, India and Brazil are among the countries with the highest wind and solar energy production. Mexico had an important role in promoting the UN Framework

Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC). It was the first developing country to pass a comprehensive climate change legislation.<sup>12</sup> Mexico has also passed several regulations and implemented programs to

promote energy efficiency and renewable energy generation (Sosa-Rodriguez, 2014; Torres et al., 2020).

While threats to the environment persist in these countries, over the last 30 years they have strengthened their national systems of protected areas. This effort, to which the GEF has contributed, helped slowing down the rate of forests loss in protected areas.<sup>13</sup> Since the turn of the 1990's these countries have increasingly adopted more comprehensive environmental policies and have gradually strengthened their environmental institutions to address inter-sectoral environmental challenges.





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#### High GEF Recipient Countries' capacities and emerging challenges

Over the last two decades Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa emerged as leaders among their peers in promoting their national and global environmental agenda. Since the GEF was created, these countries have made progress in the establishment of their policy and regulatory environmental frameworks. They have developed moderate to robust institutional and human capacities at the central levels and have included the costs of running their environmental institutions in their national budgets. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) report that China, India and Brazil have strong capacities and compete favorably in solar and wind energy.<sup>14</sup> Also, since 2010, China has improved its energy intensity (energy consumption per GDP) and carbon dioxide intensity (emissions per GDP) by 31% and 16%; India tracks very closely at 33% and 14% respectively (World Energy Council, 2020). In the last decade some of these countries have also seen a growing public awareness of the need to address environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and resource degradation (Katar, 2020).<sup>15</sup>

worldwide/27792/#:~:text=Turkey%2C%20Latvia%20and%20New%20Zealand,Israel%20complete%20the%20top%2010.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://recyclinginternational.com/business/ranking-the-biggest-waste-producers-

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://www.wri.org/blog/2015/03/mexico-becomes-first-developing-country-release-new-climate-plan-indc
 <sup>13</sup> In the case of Mexico for example, a GEFIEO evaluation found that the GEF was widely considered a major factor in the development of the National System of Natural Protected Areas and to slow down deforestation in protected areas (GEFIEO, 2016).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup><u>https://www.irena.org/Statistics/View-Data-by-Topic/Capacity-and-Generation/Country-Rankings</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Katar reported that a large proportion of the population in China (91%) and Mexico (94%) ranked environment as a top area of concern, whereby people have established a link between a healthy environment and their wellbeing. For example, over 90% of the population believe the ocean is important to their country's economy and their wellbeing.

While there are important similarities among the five countries selected for this evaluation, it is also important to acknowledge their differences in capacities, governance systems, culture, and economic performance. The costs of addressing climate change also varies dramatically across countries. For example, a study concluded that Brazil could meet its National Determined Contributions by addressing deforestation. Mexico on the other hand faced a cost of 4 billion dollars (Octaviano et al., 2016). China, Brazil, India, Mexico and South Africa also continue to face major challenges in implementing their laws and there is a great unevenness within and across the different countries on the capacities at the provincial and local levels, and on the extent of engagement of the private sector in more environmentally sound practices.<sup>16</sup>

As indicated earlier, more recently China, Brazil, India, Mexico and South Africa have also encountered severe social, economic, and political conditions that are having a profound impact on environmental policies. Among these, the growing economic inequality and the multiple demands placed on budgetary resources in countries such as Brazil, India, and Mexico. Whereas in previous decades these countries had championed multilateral institutions and the global environmental agenda, they are now turning inward and have started questioning the effectiveness, utility, and purposes of global governance and institutions. Brazil, Mexico, and India emerging political forces in the last few years are constraining the capacities of public environmental institutions which took over three decades to build, including institutions in which the GEF made major contributions over the last 25 years.<sup>17</sup>

China has adopted a more assertive leadership with regards to its commitments to global environmental conventions. For example, in September 2020 China pledged to speed up reductions in emissions in the world's top-polluting nation and reach carbon neutrality by 2060. In 2018, China moved to promoting the Ecological Civilization seeking to improve the human interactions with nature and strengthening the public administration institutions related to the environment. China is also positioning itself to become a leader in marketing solar technology globally. Counter to these positive in-county developments, reports on China's Belt and Road initiative raise concerns on the environmental impacts of its economic activities abroad, such as financing multiple coal plants. <sup>18</sup> In general, many environmental challenges

network.org/2019/Mexico/Environmental Policies . In addition to capacities, lack of coordination mechanisms and competing agendas have also affected the implementation of the national CC policy at the scale of cities (Sosa-Rodriguez, 2014)

https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/india-s-push-relax-environmental-assessment-rules-amid-pandemic-drawscriticism ;< https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/stop-the-dismantling-of-environmental-rules/article32339131.ece. <sup>18</sup> "China Renews Its 'Belt and Road' Push for Global Sway", The New York Times.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> In the case of Mexico for example the GSI reports that application of the law remains laxed and that while capacities in the federal government are robust, capacities at the local level remain weak. <u>https://www.sgi-</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> In Brazil the current government bypassed Congress under the cover of COVID19 between March and May 2020, the government of published numerous acts such as ordinances, normative instructions and decrees and other measures some of which critics say weaken Brazil's environmental laws. <u>https://news.mongabay.com/2020/08/brazil-end-runs-environmental-laws-via-huge-surge-in-executive-acts-study/</u>. On June 5, 2020 officials that led the key environmental institutions in Mexico made public their concerns of major budget cuts (in several cases reaching 65 to 70% of their budget) that render such institutions ineffective. Examples of these include Institutions such as the National Commission of Biodiversity (CONAVIO), the National System of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), The Federal Environmental Protection Agency (PROFEPA), the National Forestry Commission (CONAFOR) all of which are highly respected internationally for their high technical standards. Meanwhile the government has been promoting policies and initiatives such as the Maya Train which will be built across several protected areas in southern Mexico and have adopted administrative decisions that will prevent compliance with national legislation and the international commitment to have 35% of clean energy by 2030. <u>https://www.planeta.com/mexico-2020-wed/</u> Reports from India also indicate that in the context of COVID19 support to economic development project is resulting in the relaxing of environmentally harmful projects.

https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/15/business/china-belt-and-road.html?searchResultPosition=3

require intersectoral approaches when public administration systems continue to be organized in sectoral lines with few or ineffective mechanisms for coordination.<sup>19</sup>

#### **GEF Support to High GEF Recipient Countries**

Since the GEF was created Brazil, China, India, Mexico, and South Africa which represent 3% of the GEF recipient countries, have received USD 4,361 million USD, or 23% of the total funds committed by the GEF from 1992 to November 2020 (19,022 million USD). Another indicator of these countries importance to meet the objectives of the global environment conventions is their STAR allocations. In the 7<sup>th</sup> GEF Replenishment the same countries got a STAR indicative allocation of \$388.11 US million which represents almost 10 % of the total replenishment (4 068 US million). As indicated in Figure 4, since GEF-4 co-financing (which includes funding from the countries national budget) has risen considerably. GEF projects in the five selected countries have also tended to perform better than projects in other countries and tend to have higher likelihood of sustainability (Batra & Uitto, 2019).



#### **Country selection**

Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa are important agents for the objectives of the environmental conventions supported by the GEF. Furthermore, they are spread across different regions and they are among the countries in which the GEF has invested the most. These are also countries for which the GEF IEO has generated a considerable amount of evaluative evidence which can serve as a solid basis for a relatively quick evaluation. Annex 2 provides a list of existing evaluations providing information on each of these countries.

#### **Evaluation questions**

The purpose of this evaluation is to identify forms by which the GEF could further support and enable high recipient countries to promote environmentally sustainable development and to rebuild better and greener as the world emerges from the COVID19 pandemic.

The evaluation will answer the following questions:

- 1. What are the current challenges and constraints these countries face in promoting environmentally sustainable development?
- 2. What is the value added of GEF support to selected countries?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "China's Pledge to Be Carbon Neutral by 2060: What It Means" <u>https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/23/world/asia/china-</u> climate-change.html

3. What are the opportunities for the GEF to support selected countries to build back better and greener drawing on the GEF's comparative advantage and considering the evolving context for environmental finance?

#### **Evaluation Approach**

The evaluation will focus on China, Brazil, India, Mexico and South Africa. To make the evaluation manageable within the available time, the analysis will focus on outcomes, challenges and opportunities that are related to policy development, institutional capacities, and financial mechanisms. The analysis will also consider the relevant scales and the level and variety of stakeholder engagement.

The evaluation team will first carry out a desk review of the current situation of the five selected countries regarding their key environmental challenges and their capacities and policies to address such challenges. Subsequently, the evaluation team will carry out a portfolio analysis to assess if and how the GEF portfolio in the selected countries differs from the support provided to the rest of the GEF portfolio. The evaluation team will then conduct desk reviews to mine information in thematic evaluations carried out by the IEO over the last ten years seeking to identify the key GEF contributions to the countries selected. Subsequently, the evaluation team will carry out additional desk reviews and stakeholder interviews to identify the key challenges faced by the countries in advancing their national and global environmental agenda and in addressing the identified challenges. At the same time, the evaluation team will seek to identify the comparative advantages of the GEF to support to the selected countries by exploring with country stakeholders the ways in which the GEF might support them to advance the national and global environmental agenda. Annex 1 presents a further breakdown of the evaluative areas of inquiry and a table indicating the sources of information that will be used.

The evaluation will be conducted in three phases:

#### Phase 1. Desk review

Phase one will consist of a compare and contrast analysis on the five selected countries, addressing the following:

- 1. Drawing information from IEO databases and selected thematic evaluations including the last two Overall Performance Studies (OPSs), the evaluation team will:
  - Identify the main domains / areas of GEF support
  - Assess to what extent have GEF contributions led to changes that are sustainable at scale
  - Identify what other factors / actors contributed to achievements
  - Understand how GEF strategic approaches worked in the countries selected for the evaluation

When addressing how the GEF support strategies worked in the selected cuntries the evaluation team will seek to identify evaluative evidence pertaining the effect of key strategic changes adopted in recent GEF replenishments. These will include the move from a strong emphasis on focal area interventions, to integrated approaches and the tacking of root causes; from environment ministry execution to cross-sectoral partnerships and engagement with the private sector; the acknowledgement of links between global benefits and local benefits and interests.

2. Through the revision of technical literature and media reports, the evaluation team will identify:

- Key existing and emerging challenges and opportunities for the five selected countries to advance the national and global environmental agenda,
- Factors affecting the identified countries challenges and opportunities. Examples of factors that will be explored include country institutions and capacities, market conditions, financial mechanism, and country ownership, commitment, and political support. Other factors that might be explored include changes in the global environmental architecture (the emergence of new actors such as GCF and others), power shifts among international actors, trends on environmental conditions, geography, policies.
- Strategies adopted by the GEF to support the selected countries in adopting opportunities and addressing challenges.

## Phase 2. Stakeholder interviews

Stakeholder interviews seek to identify the key GEF opportunities to assist the selected countries to address emerging challenges. Drawing on the information obtained in phase 1, the evaluation team will conduct stakeholder interviews to verify and complement the findings emerged from desk reviews. Interviews will also address some of the issues covered during desk reviews with an optic seeking to identify key opportunities for GEF support to the countries selected for the evaluation. Interviews will seek to obtain the country and agency perspectives on the following:

- The key GEF contributions to the countries:
  - Policy and regulations.
  - Institutional and human capacity development, as well as other related resources such as knowledge and technology
  - Financial mechanisms, including partnerships (private & other agents such as GCF)
  - Extent of integration of environmental objectives with health, social and economic objectives
- Country challenges and opportunities to move forward the national and global environmental agenda.
- The GEF's comparative advantage in supporting the selected countries to move the said agenda forward.
- The new and emerging opportunities for GEF support

Interviews will be open-ended, and web based. The evaluation team will interview three or four stakeholders per country with key persons involved in GEF projects in the five selected countries. Persons to be interviewed include focal points and Agency staff. The evaluation team will also interview a small, selected number of GEF Secretariat staff to get a broad overall perspective on GEF operations. Specific stakeholders to be interviewed will be identified with the help of other GEF IEO staff who have conducted thematic and country evaluations.

## Phase 3. Data analysis and drafting of report

The evaluation team will conduct a compare and contrast analysis of the findings on the five selected countries pertaining the topics identified in phase 2. This analysis will focus on the identification of the key challenges faced by the countries selected for the evaluations, the extent to which GEF contributions remain relevant to the continuing and emerging opportunities for GEF support. The evaluation team will consider forms of support traditionally provided by the GEF and new forms of support that the GEF is able to provide drawing on its comparative advantages and considering

contextual factors such as the evolving global financial architecture for the environment. The evaluation team will also incorporate in the drafting of the report information generated by a review of the GEF engagement with the private sector that is carried out in parallel with this evaluation.

### **Calendar of activities**

A sketched calendar of activities for the evaluation is provided here below (Table 3). A draft report containing key findings and recommendations will be circulated among GEF stakeholders for comments and will be finalized by April 30. All stakeholder comments will be considered and incorporated as deemed appropriate in the final report.

Table 3: Calendar of Activities																
	January			February				March				April				
Desk Reviews																
Stakeholder																
Interviews																
Drafting report																
Update meetings																

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Annex 1: Topics of inquiry and source	s of informa	tion and ti	ming	
Topics of inquiry	ces of informa	ation		
	Other	Existing	Interviews	Literature
	GEF IEO	evaluati		and media
	database	ons		Research
	S			
Preparation of inception report			•	
Inception report				
PHASE 1				
Question 1. What are the current challenges and constraints th	ese countri	ies face in	promoting	
environmentally sustainable development?				
a. What are the key challenges and opportunities for the five	Х	Х	Х	Х
selected countries to advancing the national and global				
environmental agenda				
b. What are the factors affecting the selected countries challenges		Х	Х	Х
and opportunities referred to above, including factors internal to				
the countries and global or international factors.				
c. What strategies has the GEF adopted in support the selected		Х	Х	
countries to address challenges and opportunities.				
GEF IEO Debriefing on desk review findings				
Question 2: What is the value added of GEF support to selecte	d countries	?		
a. What have been the main domains / areas of GEF support?	Х	Х		
b. To what extent have contributions of GEF led to changes that	Х	Х		
are sustainable at scale?				
c. What other factors / actors contributed to achievements?	Х	Х	Х	
b. How have the GEF programmatic approaches worked in the	Х	Х	х	
selected countries?				
GEF IEO Debriefing on desk review findings				
PHASE 2				
Question 3. What are the opportunities for the GEF to enhance its	support and	impact in i	n the selected	l countries
based on the GEF's comparative advantage and in the current cont	ext for envir	onmental f	inance?	1
a. What are the GEF's comparative advantage in addressing		Х	х	
challenges faced by the selected countries				
b. What emerging opportunities for GEF support?		Х	Х	Х
Debriefing 2: on interviews and emerging findings				
PHASE 3				
Draft report				
Final Report (target date)				

Annov 2. Evict	ing GEE IEO evaluative information on GEE support to the highest recipient countries
China	Drogrammatic Approaches
China	- Programmatic Approaches
	- Multiple Benefits
	<ul> <li>Chemicals and Waste Focal Area Study</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>IAPs 2017 (Cities – no case study)*</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Climate Change Mitigation Impact Evaluation 2014</li> </ul>
Brazil	- Scaling Up
	- Multiple Benefits
	- Impact of GEF Support on National Environment Laws and Policies (case
	study by consultant Sarah Irffi (Case study)
	- IAPs 2017 (Commodities – no case study but will check BTOR as there was
	a field visit)*
	- IAPs 2017 (Cities – no case study)*
	- Brazil CPE
India	- Mainstreaming Biodiversity
	- Scaling Up
	- Programmatic Approaches
	- Land Degradation Focal Area Study
	- IAPs 2017 (Cities – no case study)*
	- Climate Change Mitigation Impact Evaluation 2014
	- Independent Country Programme Evaluation (UNIDO) 2018

	<ul> <li>Programmatic Approaches</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Land Degradation Focal Area Study</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>IAPs 2017 (Cities – no case study)*</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Climate Change Mitigation Impact Evaluation 2014</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Independent Country Programme Evaluation (UNIDO) 2018</li> </ul>
	- India CPE
Indonesia	<ul> <li>Biodiversity Impact Evaluation on Protected Areas</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>IAPs 2017 (Commodities – no case study)*</li> </ul>
Mexico	<ul> <li>Biodiversity Impact Evaluation on Protected Areas (no case study)*</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>APR 2019: Sustainable Transport (no case study)*</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>IAPs 2017 (Cities – no case study)*</li> </ul>
	- Climate Change Mitigation Impact Evaluation 2014
Russia	- Climate Change Mitigation Impact Evaluation 2014
South Africa	- Mainstreaming Biodiversity
	<ul> <li>IAPs 2017 (Cities – no case study)*</li> </ul>
	- South Africa CPE

China

Brazil

India