



GEF CSO Network Statement

Agenda Item 10: GEF KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT APPROACH PAPER

48th GEF Council Meeting, Washington DC, USA

The GEF CSO Network welcomes the proposed GEF *Knowledge Management Approach Paper* for GEF 6. We appreciate the effort of the GEF to consider most of the recommendations provided by the GEF CSO Network on the draft of the Council paper. <http://www.gefngo.org/index.cfm?&menuid=285&parentid=49>

We welcome the commitment of GEF to pursue an open-access approach to data, information and project documentation.

CSOs are instrumental in delivering better knowledge management for GEF work since they have a key role in catalyzing knowledge management between projects, exchange, as the source for learning, and uptake in key policy setting processes.

Whilst the GEF CSO Network supports urgent action on KM within the GEF, we consider the document to be still generic and too focused on what and how rather than why. Thus, we appreciate that GEF has changed the title of the document from Action Plan to Approach Paper and hope that a more complete plan will be presented to the October Council.

GEF CSO Network puts forward the following recommendations to the KM Approach Paper:

- **Recommendation 1:** As indicated in the Proposed Roadmap of Actions for 2015, we strongly encourage GEF to “Conduct a baseline analysis of demand for actual and potential GEF-generated knowledge within and outside of the GEF partnership, including consultation with external stakeholders” as a priority step and to use the outputs of this activity to guide formulation of KM strategy and action plan”. The analysis will identify the target groups, crosscutting issues (such as gender, youth, vulnerable groups), KM needs, priority products and services.
- **Recommendation 2:** We recommend the establishment of a mechanism/framework/process for addressing traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples in the GEF projects to enhance IP knowledge transfer and management.
- **Recommendation 3.** We recommend the further examination of GEF projects and customary systems of indigenous peoples as knowledge managers.
- **Recommendation 4.** We recommend that more emphasis is placed on governments to be held accountable in generating, capturing and sharing knowledge related to GEF projects and programmes at the national level.

- **Recommendation 5.** We recommend establishment of adequate mechanisms for meaningful stakeholder engagement with defined roles & responsibilities in GEF projects and programs for stakeholder learning, outreach at the national and grassroots levels to add value to achieve the goals. GEF CSO networks at national levels to serve as the platform (possibly to extend its scope as multi-stakeholder platform)
- **Recommendation 6.** We recommend putting more emphasis on partnership with the SGP and the GEF CSO Network to access and share knowledge with broader civil society stakeholders.
- **Recommendation 7.** We recommend GEF to apply the knowledge products such as: exhibitions and outreach materials in different languages, videos, interviews, e-learning and other interactive knowledge materials, targeted knowledge products for recipient country use, booklets of best practices and case studies, policy papers / briefs, audio or video documentary on experience and lessons learned; newsletters, training manuals and technical publications.
- **Recommendation 8.** GEF needs a GEF Knowledge Platform to better serve the total GEF processes with multi-dimensional approaches including:
 - a) support for GEF Council Members to be access information on global progress & processes;
 - b) GEF Secretariat to effectively oversee and guide the GEF portfolio and agencies
 - c) GEF agencies and country partners to freely share experiences and lessons learned from the GEF portfolio across agencies, countries and CSOs including adequate knowledge Products, exchange learning and dialogue mechanisms to enhance quality of work and avoid duplication.

We strongly believe that such knowledge platform will increase productivity and enhance effectiveness and sustainability of GEFs work.

We are happy to work with GEF to help advance some of these issues.