



GEF CSO Network Statement

Agenda item 08: Four-Year Work Program and Budget of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office

48th GEF Council Meeting, Washington DC, USA

We support the Four-Year Work Program and Budget of the GEF Independent Evaluation Office with the following comments.

M&E Policy:

We support the proposal to review and update the M&E policy believe its scope should be extended with assessment of roles & responsibilities of stakeholder engagement in project formulation, implementation, internal monitoring and external evaluation and requirements for collection and maintenance of information to enable effective M&E. We also believe a more participatory approach to M&E be included with clear requirements for stakeholder consultations during M&E activities.

Evaluation of GEF CSO Network

We welcome the proposed evaluation of the GEF CSO Network and have already had preliminary engagement with the IEO in this matter. We hope that the evaluation will not only look at the results of the Network's work but also at the barriers which constrain our activities – such as policies, resources and access to GEF programme and project planning processes. We hope that the report will include recommendations of how these barriers could be overcome.

Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF

We support the general scope of the comprehensive evaluation of the GEF but believe it should include additional assessments of the level of CSO and stakeholder engagement beyond the assessment of the Network. The CSO sub-study under OPS5 made specific recommendations for Updating of the GEF Public involvement policy, development of measures to enhance its implementation and changes to the GEF project management information system to enable more systematic review of Civil society engagement in GEF projects and programs. We believe that the comprehensive evaluation should include a review of progress on these and other recommendations of the CSO sub-study in OPS5.