



Regional– CPIC Conservation Finance Initiative - scaling up and demonstrating the value of blended finance in conservation - Programme document review

Adopted on 6 July 2021

EB.2021.08

Considering:

1. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) project document ‘CPIC Conservation Finance Initiative - scaling up and demonstrating the value of blended finance in conservation (“THE INITIATIVE”) and its annexes shared by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
2. The GEF Chief Executive Officer’s endorsement of the program and approval of a co-financing amount of US\$ 8 million (M) in May 2019
3. GEF pre-requisite to secure additional minimum US\$ 2M junior equity to enable disbursement funding in the project pipeline
4. The program document submitted to CAFI in May 2021 by IUCN for the program named “CPIC Conservation Finance Initiative - scaling up and demonstrating the value of blended finance in conservation (Nature+ Accelerator Fund)”

The CAFI Executive Board (EB):

5. Thanks, IUCN, for its interest and their program document and express its interest in pursuing discussions on CAFI possible support to the proposed program;
6. Asks IUCN to review its program document to include the following:
 - a. Description of specific investment projects included in the existing pipeline and examples of potential projects in CAFI countries. Description should include project types, scales, objectives, and revenues streams;

- b. Description of main types of project revenues based on which revenue calculations were made for investors;
 - c. Description of implementation modalities, operations, and governance arrangements of the technical assistance facility (TAF) to be implemented in Central Africa. Description should include details on the staff that will be operating the TAF (number, expertise, location, responsibilities, outreach strategies, etc.), tasks to be undertaken, associated needs, and governance arrangements (including decision-making bodies) to assess and select projects that will be benefiting from TAF small grants and/or technical assistance;
 - d. Additional deliverables, including in-depth analysis of CAFE countries' project profiles, investment barriers at both micro and macro level. Deliverables should clearly point out which barriers have been or can be addressed by the program and provide recommendations on how to address barriers that cannot be addressed by the program;
 - e. REDD projects should be properly nested into jurisdictional programs. This means, inter alia, that:
 - i) Project reference levels should be decided by the jurisdiction. The reference level must have high environmental integrity and be based on historical reference levels
 - ii) The jurisdiction should decide the share of credits marketed by the project
 - iii) Clear rules and procedures should be decided and implemented by the jurisdiction to avoid double counting
 - iv) Project results can only be marketed to the extent that the jurisdictional programme has results
 - f. A first draft of disbursements conditions for a second tranche including (i) conditions to demonstrate success, (ii) conditions to demonstrate further needs and feasibility to address needs and (iii) verification modalities to be reviewed and approved by CAFE ;
7. Asks the CAFE Secretariat and IUCN to work together to ensure alignment with CAFE's Terms of Reference ;
8. Asks the CAFE Secretariat to provide the CAFE EB with an assessment of information requested under point 6, so that the EB can re-evaluate the relevance of the project according to CAFE's Terms of Reference.