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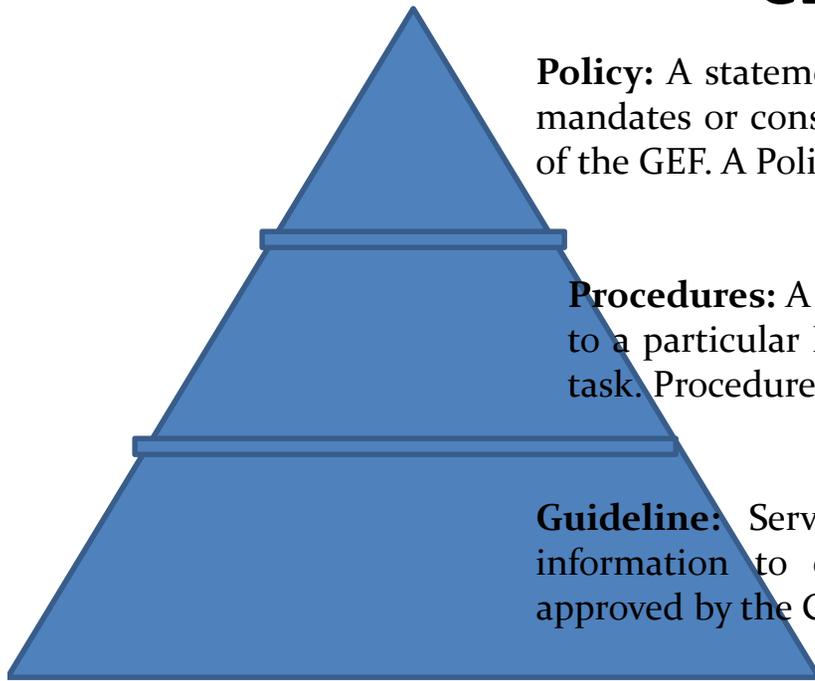
GEF Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards: Update on Implementation

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GEF Policy Framework

- Types and Hierarchy of Policy and Procedures

GEF Instrument



Policy: A statement of principles or values approved by the GEF Council that mandates or constrains activities undertaken to achieve the institutional goals of the GEF. A Policy' has greater legal power than procedures or guidelines.

Procedures: A set of instructions or process that must be followed to adhere to a particular Policy or to accomplish an operational function or a specific task. Procedures are approved by the GEF CEO.

Guideline: Serves as a supplementary directive, or provides additional information to explain or implement a particular policy. Guidelines are approved by the CEO, or a team leader, in certain instances.

Secretariat Rules: A rule or statement regulating staff, administrative and other non-operational activities of the GEF Secretariat.



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Policies & Guidelines Related to Sustainable Development and Safeguards

- *Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards, PL/SD/03*
- *Guideline: Application of Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards, GN/SD/03*
- *Guideline: Principles and Guidelines on Engagement with Indigenous Peoples (to be numbered)*
- *Policy: Public Involvement in GEF Projects, PL/SD/01.*
- *Policy on Gender Mainstreaming, PL/SD/01.*



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Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards

- Sets forth key principles that constrain the type of operations the GEF will finance.
- Clarifies that the GEF relies on the **safeguard systems** of GEF Partner Agencies, but sets forth minimum standards for them in:

(1) Environmental and Social Impact Assessment; (2) Protection of Natural Habitats; (3) Involuntary Resettlement; (4) Indigenous Peoples, (5) Pest Management; (6) Physical Cultural Resources ; (7) Safety of Dams; (8) Accountability and Grievance Systems.
- Potentially affected parties may bring disputes or complaints about GEF Projects to GEF Conflict Resolution Commissioner. (Also may also bring complaints to Agencies directly.)
- GEF Partner Agencies required to report on complaints brought to their resolution systems regarding GEF projects.



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Review of GEF Project Agency Applicants

As Summarized in GEF/C.43/07, *Progress Report: Accreditation Process for GEF Project Agencies*:

- The Council approved 11 Applicant Agencies to move to Stage II, where the GEF Accreditation Panel assesses whether they comply with GEF Policies on minimum fiduciary standards, minimum safeguard standards, and gender mainstreaming.
- The Stage II Application includes a detailed questionnaire that requires applicants to answer questions and provide supporting evidence and documentation on how they meet applicable GEF safeguard standards. (See: <http://www.thegef.org/gef/content/stage-ii-application-form>)
- The GEF Accreditation Panel has an expert with significant experience on the application of environmental and social safeguards.
- Reviews of Applicants are on-going.



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Review of Existing GEF Agencies

- GEF Secretariat will lead review of existing Agencies over the next year – on safeguards and gender policy – through consultants.
- First priority has been on establishing a rigorous and credible Accreditation Process for GEF Partner Agencies.
- Complex undertaking: review of Stage I applications, establishment of Accreditation Panel, Drafting of Stage II Application, extensive guidance and education of Panel on how Policies should be applied, etc.
- Terms of reference is drafted, and will be shared with Agencies and Council for review.
- Either a company or team of consultants will be hired.
- To ensure level playing field, will use the same questionnaire on safeguards and gender, and similar approach.



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A photograph of a globe held by several hands of different skin tones, symbolizing global unity and environmental care. The globe is centered, showing the Americas. The hands are positioned around the globe, with fingers resting on its surface. The background is a clear blue sky with a few white clouds. The text "Thank you for your attention" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Thank you for your attention