



[www.gefngo.org](http://www.gefngo.org)

**GEF-NGO Network Statement during 44<sup>th</sup> GEF Council Meeting  
on Agenda item 8 Update on the GEF-6 Replenishment  
18 June 2013**

On behalf of the Civil Society Organizations, we recognise the overall progress in policy reform and enhancing efficiency made during the GEF 5 period which has strengthened the country ownership and broadened the partnership. Building on this - we believe that GEF 6 must have sufficient resources available to meet its mandate, as well as, enlarge the engagement and partnership with non-state actors including the CSOs, the private sector and local and indigenous communities as to ensure the long term sustainability of GEFs work. **Such enhanced engagement is critical if we want to achieve** growing awareness of the global community on the urgency of addressing key global environmental issues in order to ensure the survival of the planet's ecosystems.

It is of great concern that many pledges have been made by the international community in the past to increase allocation of funds to address convention implementation needs. However the level of funding allocated to GEF has to date been inadequate to meet the needs.

We want to emphasize the commitment made during the CBD COP11, where Parties promised to double total **biodiversity-related international financial resource flows**. The total funding for the Biodiversity Focal Area during the entire 20 year GEF lifespan has been US\$ 3.5 billion. Yet, the assessment conducted by an expert panel group on the amount of funds needed for GEF6 replenishment found that US\$ 5-29 billion (depending on the applied co-financing ratio) may be required for the GEF-6 replenishment.

Attention should also be paid to Overall Performance Studies, which provide enough information and proper indicators in order to evaluate to what extent the Global Environment Facility achieved its objectives at local and national levels and at the same time, identify potential improvements, as well as, develop new performance indicators.

We reiterate the following key issues:

1. An ambitious replenishment in GEF6 to ensure that GEF has adequate resources to meet its mandate.
2. Further reforms and enhancements are made to improve GEFs effectiveness including:
  - a. Stimulating regional and global cooperation of shared issues through resource allocation and facilitation of partnerships.
  - b. Enhancing the level of cross cutting synergy between different focal areas.
  - c. Strengthening of mechanisms for engagement of CSOs and local and indigenous peoples.
  - d. Maintaining and enhancing country ownership and support.