

GEF 7 Policy recommendations and Programming directions:

1. The GEF-7 investment framework seeks to: eliminate/restrict/control emissions from chemicals listed under the Stockholm Convention; eliminate mercury emissions and releases, and support SAICM objectives, including building capacity for e-waste management.
2. GEF-7 is expected to focus on assisting parties to use the entry point of the Stockholm and Minamata conventions to continue the transformation in the management of chemicals and waste for SIDS in the Pacific region.
3. The major shift from previous replenishment cycles is a focus on working at the sector level, as opposed to chemical-specific issues. This will involve management approaches linked to sustainable consumption and production and circular economy, rather than end of pipe solutions arising from a linear economy approach of production, use, and discard.
4. Stronger involvement and more inputs from the private sector will be sought in order to ensure appropriate scales of activities and sustainable solutions are introduced through new projects and programmes. This more integrated approach to the problems of chemicals and waste management is especially needed in the SIDS regions where the low volume of chemicals used and waste generated often make sustainable solutions difficult to achieve.
5. Many lessons have now been learnt over past decades in other SIDS regions. It is intended that as a global programme, the three SIDS regions can learn from each-others' experience.
6. The programme is being designed to implement the articles of the various chemicals and waste conventions by integrating action into key developmental issues including agricultural policy, fisheries, marine pollution and more general pollution management.
7. GEF-7 will seek to address the issues of marine litter and microplastics by drawing on synergies between the GEF Focal Areas of International Waters, Biodiversity, and Chemicals and Wastes, noting that marine litter to a significant extent derives from land-based.
8. Programme design remains open to collaboration with parallel activities in the International Waters and Biodiversity Focal Areas. Drawing on experience in the Mediterranean Region, it is likely that the programme will not be fully integrated into a single proposal.

SIDS Programme Concept:

9. The Programmatic concept has been developed around the intersection of GEF policy directions and recommendations, and SIDS priorities and needs. GEF expects SIDS activities under GEF-7 to pursue *inter alia*: sustainable low and non-chemical development strategies; promotion of BAT/BEP to eliminate uPOPs; strengthening the management system for e-waste; gender mainstreaming; and investments that are solidly linked to enhance countries' ability to deal with POPs in a sustainable manner.
10. In light of this, the Programme Framework has four key components, defined during the consultation with Pacific SIDS in March 2018, and will be further refined in consultation with Caribbean and the AIMS SIDS. These are: knowledge management and awareness raising; policy framework strengthening; technology transfer and promotion of best practice; and institutional capacity building.
11. The programme will look to maximize activities at national level to achieve impact on the ground. This will be achieved through a series of three Regional Child Projects in the Caribbean, Pacific and AIMS. The three regional projects will then feed into a fourth child project which aims to ensure exchange of information and knowledge between the three regional projects. The "Knowledge Management" child project will thus ensure that all countries included in the programme will benefit from international best practice as applied in other SIDS. The concept for the programme has been discussed with representatives from SPREP, the Regional Centre for the Caribbean in Trinidad, the BRS Secretariat in Geneva, the GEF Secretariat in Washington. All partners have endorsed the national, regional and global dimensions of the programme.