



**MANAGEMENT RESPONSE
TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE ON THE
EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT**

SECRETARIAT: SEDI

DEPARTMENT: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SIGNED BY: Juan Cruz Monticelli

NAME OF THE EVALUATION: EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF THE ENERGY AND CLIMATE
PARTNERSHIP OF THE AMERICAS (2017-2020) SID1702

PERIOD OF EVALUATION: FROM AUGUST TO DECEMBER 2020
EVALUATED PROJECTS:

- i. Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (2017-2020) SID1702

NAME OF THE EVALUATOR: DR. ACHIM ENGELHARDT

The main objective of this document is to identify the necessary actions that need to be implemented by the executing agency to respond to the recommendations made in the external evaluation. The area should state whether they accept or not such recommendations and provide an explanation on how they will be responded or incorporate them in the future. The Department of Planning and Evaluation (DPE) will follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations based on the actions identified.



OAS | More rights
for more people

RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Recommendation 1: For any future phase of ECPA, the program budget should accommodate seed funding for beneficiary countries' joint initiatives for cost-sharing purposes. At least 30% of initiatives should have a specific focus on women.	Accepted X	Not accepted
--	---------------------------------	---------------------

Response: The recommendation is consistent with GS/OAS' gender equality policies and funding principles.

Key Actions	
Description	Date of implementation
1.1 Inclusion of gender indicators in the next phase of ECPA	November 2020
1.2 Inclusion of gender performance indicators in consulting contracts for ECPA activities (e.g., webinars, seminars, workshops, etc.)	January 2021 onward

Recommendation 2: To fund a technical cooperation seed funding mechanism, comprising about 15% of the project budget (around US\$200K). Several options emerge: i) additional donor funding; ii) significantly reducing funds for the outputs on dialogue for technical cooperation and communication/ dissemination; iii) costs savings through replacing several physical meetings with virtual events; iv) a combination of i, ii and iii.	Accepted X	Not accepted
--	---------------------------------	---------------------

Response: Although this is a valuable recommendation, its full implementation would require complex structural changes to internal GS/OAS financing rules. Further, the funding provided by the donor to the energy section after the end of SID 1702 decreased by 70%. Finally, donor assigns a high value to dialogue and technical cooperation outputs. Therefore, reducing funds in these areas is not viable. It should be noted that considerable cost savings have been achieved by replacing physical meetings with virtual events.

Key Actions	
Description	Date of implementation
1.1 In-person meetings replaced with virtual meetings in SID2003	2021 onward
1.2 90% of the V ECPA Ministerial financed through external sources	February 2022

Recommendation 3: Further strengthen the private sector's involvement in ECPA events and possibly technical cooperation initiatives to leverage this external driver of change fully.	Accepted X	Not accepted
--	---------------------------------	---------------------



OAS | More rights
for more people

Response: The next phase of ECPA is contemplating a deeper engagement with the private sector through the Americas Business Dialogue and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The next phase of ECPA will also take advantage of the IX Summit of the Americas as a platform to deepen public-private collaboration in energy and climate issues.		

Key Actions	
Description	Date of implementation
1.1 Deepen the engagement with the ABD in SID2003	2021 onward
1.2 Deploy actions that take advantage of the IX SoA commitments	2022 onward

Recommendation 4: To further enhance the cost-effectiveness of ECPA, a balance between virtual and physical meetings should be considered for any future phases of the program. Cost savings could be allocated for a “technical cooperation seed funding” program component.	Accepted X	Not accepted

Response: All 2021 activities for the upcoming phase of ECPA (SID2003) will be held virtually. In-person events will begin to increase gradually in 2022, based on feasibility and taking into consideration pandemic restrictions.

Key Actions	
Description	Date of implementation
1.1 In-person meetings replaced with virtual meetings in SID2003	2021 onward

Recommendation 5: In line with R4, virtual meetings should be used as an additional communication channel particularly with national focal points to directly engage the OAS Member States and ultimately further enhance ownership of ECPA and its values.	Accepted X	Not accepted

Response: All 2021 activities for the upcoming phase of ECPA (SID2003) will be held virtually. This includes the ECPA National Focal Points preparatory meetings scheduled to take place in 2021, in preparation for the V ECPA Ministerial meeting to convene either in-person or, in hybrid format in February 2022.

Key Actions	
Description	Date of implementation
1.1 First Regional Preparatory Meeting of ECPA NFPs	August 2021
1.2 Second Regional Preparatory Meeting of ECPA NFPs	November 2022

Recommendation 6: Build on the private sector's successful engagement to expand the ECPA donor base and ensure the sustainability of ECPA. Offer the most interested companies to co-fund, for example, the ECPA technical cooperation project component in specific priority sectors, which are both relevant to ECPA members and the private sector. This approach could provide private sector actors with exposure in	Accepted	Not accepted X
--	-----------------	------------------------------



OAS

More rights
for more people

economically interesting markets, receive risk sharing in less stable markets (through the OAS co-funding) and advance the clean energy agenda both at a political and technical level under the umbrella of the OAS.

The private sector might also be interested to co-fund ECPA meetings in Washington DC, if this would allow them access to those events.

Response: Although this is an excellent recommendation, the OAS is not a suitable candidate to receive private energy sector funding for the following reasons: (1) GS/OAS has little to no bearing in funding decisions regarding infrastructure in the region; (2) GS/OAS' internal financial rules make it difficult to channel private funding to cooperation activities; (3) Neither SAF nor SEDI prioritize the channeling of private funding to projects; (4) development projects focused on energy and climate are not a priority for the General Secretariat; and (5) the Regular Fund budget does not finance any aspect of the energy program (i.e., USOAS finances 100% of the program.) For these reasons, the implementation of this recommendation is impractical in the current OAS environment.