

GEF-8 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

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General Project Information

Project Title

GEF Small Grants Program (SGP) Global Knowledge and Learning Platform

Region

Global

GEF Project ID

12287

Country(ies)

Global

Type of Project

MSP

GEF Agency(ies):

UNDP

FAO

CI

GEF Agency ID

10450

Executing Partner

UNDP

Executing Partner Type

GEF Agency

GEF Focal Area (s)

Multi Focal Area

Submission Date

2/25/2026

Project Sector (CCM Only)

Small Grants Program

Taxonomy

Stakeholders, Indigenous Peoples, Private Sector, SMEs, Civil Society, Local Communities, Beneficiaries, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Information Dissemination, Type of Engagement, Partnership, Participation, Consultation, Awareness Raising, Communications, Education, Knowledge Generation, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, Innovation, Capacity Development, Gender Mainstreaming, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Knowledge Generation and Exchange

Type of Trust Fund

GET

Project Duration (Months)

48

GEF Project Grant: (a)

4,308,152.86

GEF Project Non-Grant: (b)

0.00

Agency Fee(s) Grant: (c)

387,733.00

Agency Fee(s) Non-Grant (d)

0.00

Total GEF Financing: (a+b+c+d)

4,695,885.86

Total Co-financing

4,308,152.86

PPG Amount: (e)

150,000.00

PPG Agency Fee(s): (f)

13,500.00

PPG total amount: (e+f)

163,500.00

Total GEF Resources: (a+b+c+d+e+f)

4,859,385.86

Project Tags

CBIT: No NGI: No SGP: Yes Innovation: No Competitive Window: No

Project Summary

Provide a brief summary description of the project, including: (i) what is the problem and issues to be addressed? (ii) what are the project objectives, and if the project is intended to be transformative, how will this be achieved? (iii), how will this be achieved (approach to deliver on objectives), and (iv) what are the GEBs and/or adaptation benefits, and other key expected results. The purpose of the summary is to provide a short, coherent summary for readers. The explanation and justification of the project should be in section B “project description”. (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The GEF Small Grants Program’s (SGP’s) grantee partners need timely access to proven practices and practical guidance, while the GEF partnership requires stronger visibility and accountability for results. Under SGP 2.0, the inclusion of multiple Implementing Agencies—UNDP, FAO, and CI—broadens opportunity but increases the need for coherent training, coordination, and learning. Consultations for Operational Phase 8 confirmed strong community demand for accessible tools, mentoring, and training in biodiversity management, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and local monitoring. In parallel, the GEF Council and Secretariat have called for knowledge systems that unify results reporting and strengthen capacity under the SGP 2.0 pillars of Expansion, Innovation, Diversification, and Optimization.

The proposed **SGP Global Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP)** will meet these needs through a modular, searchable digital system that consolidates thirty years of SGP experience into accessible, plain-language resources. It will deliver standardized learning products, mentoring, and peer exchange aligned with country demand, while providing a single home for guidance, data, and results across agencies. Smart search, adaptive translation, and low-bandwidth design will extend access to remote communities, and streamlined reporting will increase efficiency without adding burden to users. Outward-facing communication functions will strengthen donor confidence and demonstrate that community-based environmental solutions are practical and scalable.

By reducing fragmentation and harmonizing guidance across agencies, the KLP will build local capacity, expand the adoption of proven practices, and accelerate SGP contributions to global environmental benefits across biodiversity, climate, land, and international-waters focal areas.

Indicative Project Overview

Project Objective

To operationalize SGP knowledge and learning systems to enable more effective and scalable community-driven environmental action across the global SGP network.

Project Components

Component 1: SGP Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP) design and development

Component Type	Trust Fund
Investment	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)

2,157,852.00

2,157,852.00

Outcome:

Outcome 1.1: A SGP Global Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP) that reduces fragmentation, harmonizes guidance across agencies, and provides grantee partners with easy, plain language access to curated SGP lessons, tools, and examples.

Preliminary indicators:

- KLP launched and operational, with core repository, mapping, and collaboration modules live.
- 75% of SGP Country Programmes actively using platform tools for training.
- 1,000 CSO/CBO users registered on the platform, with 50% women and 20% youth participation.
- Repository, mapping, and collaboration modules, with adaptive multilingual and AI-assisted translation features to extend accessibility.
- User satisfaction score of $\geq 75\%$ from annual surveys on accessibility, usefulness, and inclusivity of the platform.
- People benefitting from the GEF investment, disaggregated by sex (contributes to GEF8 Core Indicator 11).

Outcome 1.2: Governance and sustainability mechanisms that clarify roles, secure core staffing, and ensure long-term financing and stewardship of the platform across UNDP, FAO, CI, and the GEF Secretariat.

Preliminary indicators:

- Formal governance framework signed by three Implementing Agencies and the GEF Secretariat.
- Staff recruited and supported by focal points from Implementing Agencies.
- Long-term sustainability plan approved with identified financing sources beyond project cycle.
- Joint branding and content-sharing protocols adopted by 100% of active country programs.
- Data governance policy operational, with 90% of platform content adhering to agreed standards for quality and attribution.

Output:

Output 1.1.1: Technical specifications and system architecture for the KLP developed through stakeholder consultations and technical analyses.

Output 1.1.2: Integration with existing SGP knowledge systems (website, databases, Innovation Library) and provision of outward-facing interfaces so that implementing agencies can connect their own systems as needed.

Output 1.1.3: Build and operationalize the platform with core repository, mapping, learning, and collaboration modules built, tested, and launched for network-wide use.

Output 1.1.4: AI-enabled features, including smart search and indexing for plain-language queries of past projects and lessons learned, translations of key materials, and exploration of assistive tools to help users draft proposals, budgets, or results frameworks consistent with SGP formats.

Output 1.1.5: User adoption and accessibility measures deployed (onboarding, helpdesk, multilingual functionality, inclusive design, cybersecurity protocols) to ensure consistent uptake.

Output 1.2.1: Roles and responsibilities agreed among UNDP, FAO, CI, and GEF Secretariat for long-term management.

Output 1.2.2: Dedicated staffing structure established.

Output 1.2.3: Sustainability plan prepared, including financing strategy for maintenance beyond project cycle.

Output 1.2.4: Protocols developed for joint branding, content sharing, data governance, and cybersecurity.

Component 2: Knowledge integration and capacity building

Component Type

Trust Fund

Technical Assistance

GET

GEF Project Financing (\$)

Co-financing (\$)

1,070,000.00

1,070,000.00

Outcome:

Outcome 2.1: SGP knowledge consolidated and packaged into standardized, in-demand, quality-assured learning products that improve the consistency, accessibility, and effectiveness of training across country programmes.

Preliminary indicators:

- 10 thematic learning products produced to KLP standards.
- 75% of Country Programmes use at least one standardized learning product in training or mentoring.
- 50% of packages localized (language/context) for targeted regions.
- 100% of packages pass quality control protocol.
- User feedback shows improved grant preparation, accessibility, and effectiveness of training materials across regions ($>75\%$ positive rating).

Outcome 2.2: SGP grantee partners, community-based and civil-society organizations use training, mentoring, and peer exchange delivered through the KLP with standardized, in-demand learning products to design, implement, and sustain stronger community-based solutions, while serving as a resource for the broader development community.

Preliminary indicators:

- **Skills gain:** 75 % of participants demonstrate improved competence as evidenced by standardized pre- and post-training assessments using validated learning-effectiveness tools.
- **Application:** 50% of trained organizations apply at least two practices from the relevant learning product.
- **Mentoring:** 200 mentoring pairs/groups complete product-based curricula and document resolved design/implementation issues.
- **Feedback loop:** 50% of learning products updated at least once using feedback from training/mentoring/exchanges.

Output:

Output 2.1.1: Standard, and in-demand learning products, including curricula, toolkits, facilitator guides, and proposal or management templates, developed for priority themes identified through stakeholder consultation and review of existing SGP knowledge.

Output 2.1.2: Localization packs (translations, context notes, alternative cases) for priority regions/countries.

Output 2.1.3: Quality control (peer review, update cycle, inclusion/gender checks) applied to all products.

Output 2.2.1: Training cycles scheduled and delivered using approved learning products, with trainer guides and session plans hosted on the KLP.

Output 2.2.2: Mentoring groups and peer-learning groups use the learning products as their guides and case examples.

Output 2.2.3: South–South and Triangular exchange events structured around the learning products.

Output 2.2.4: Implementation toolkits and quick-start checklists derived from the learning products, in accessible formats/languages

Output 2.2.5: AI-assist training integrated into learning products; participants learn to ask plain-language questions, interpret results, and refine queries using the KLP’s “smart search.”

Component 3: Strategic communication and networking

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
670,000.86	670,000.86

Outcome:

Outcome 3.1: Strengthened communications and networking across the SGP family.

Preliminary indicators:

- People benefitting from the GEF investment, disaggregated by sex (contributes to GEF8 Core Indicator 11).
- Number of SGP country programmes that act on at least one shared training opportunity.
- Number of feedback items incorporated into the KLP.

Outcome 3.2: Enhanced visibility and branding of SGP-supported initiatives for donors, Implementing Agencies, and global audiences.

Preliminary indicators:

- One joint branding protocol agreed upon by GEF, UNDP, FAO, and CI for GEF SGP KML platform branding.
- 50 communication products (success stories, case briefs, videos, press kits) produced and disseminated for external audiences.
- Evidence of SGP community innovations showcased at a minimum of 5 global or regional events (e.g., CBD COP, UNFCCC COP, UNGA side events)

Output:

Output 3.1.1: Regular, network-wide exchange of training opportunities, lessons learned, and project updates across country programmes, NSCs, and grantee partners.

Output 3.1.2: Two-way feedback mechanisms established so grassroots needs systematically inform platform content, training priorities, and improvements.

Output 3.1.3: Centralized repository of official guidance, protocols, and updates from UNDP, FAO, CI, and the GEF Secretariat, ensuring consistent messaging and reducing duplication across country programmes.

Output 3.2.1: Joint branding protocols adopted by UNDP, FAO, and CI, ensuring consistent recognition of SGP and GEF.

Output 3.2.2: Global communication strategy implemented to highlight grassroots success stories in biodiversity, climate, land, and clean energy.

Output 3.2.3: Partnerships with media, civil society, and regional platforms to amplify stories of community-led solutions.

Output 3.2.4 Visibility campaigns positioned to demonstrate donor contributions, counter misinformation, and reinforce the credibility of GEF investments.

M&E

Component Type	Trust Fund
Technical Assistance	GET
GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
205,150.00	205,150.00

Outcome:

Project implementation and results strengthened through participatory monitoring and evaluation.

Output:

Project monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems established and implemented.

Component Balances

Project Components	GEF Project Financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)
Component 1: SGP Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP) design and development	2,157,852.00	2,157,852.00
Component 2: Knowledge integration and capacity building	1,070,000.00	1,070,000.00
Component 3: Strategic communication and networking	670,000.86	670,000.86
M&E	205,150.00	205,150.00
Subtotal	4,103,002.86	4,103,002.86
Project Management Cost	205,150.00	205,150.00
Total Project Cost (\$)	4,308,152.86	4,308,152.86

Please provide justification

N/A

PROJECT OUTLINE

A. PROJECT RATIONALE

Briefly describe the current situation: the global environmental problems and/or climate vulnerabilities that the project will address, the key elements of the system, and underlying drivers of environmental change in the project context, such as population growth, economic development, climate change, sociocultural and political factors, including conflicts, or technological changes. Describe the objective of the project, and the justification for it. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

A.1: Context and Purpose

For more than three decades, the GEF Small Grants Program (SGP) has shown that locally led action can deliver global environmental benefits. Across 136 countries and over 30,000 community-based projects, SGP has helped civil-society and community organizations translate global commitments into field-level practice. Under SGP 2.0, implementation has expanded to include UNDP, FAO, and Conservation International (CI) as GEF Implementing Agencies. The broader partnership increases opportunity but also complexity, creating an urgent need for more coherent training, guidance, and coordination across agencies and geographies.^[1]

The GEF-8 expansion of SGP 2.0 (22% larger than GEF-7 and now spanning 135 countries) has outpaced the program's legacy knowledge systems, underscoring the need for an integrated, multi-agency learning architecture^[2].

SGP is the partnership's largest and most enduring channel for engaging civil society in global environmental action. Since 1992, SGP has administered more than USD 1.5 billion through nearly 30 000 grants, mobilizing an additional USD 990 million in co-financing.^[3] Through this network, the program has delivered thousands of community innovations in biodiversity conservation, climate adaptation, and sustainable livelihoods—proof that global environmental goals are achievable when local actors are empowered.

The GEF-8 replenishment reaffirmed this principle, allocating USD 155 million to SGP and mandating a “whole-of-society” approach to reach the next generation of local innovators. At the same time, the Council's SGP 2.0 Implementation Arrangements introduced a new multi-agency structure that dramatically expands geographic coverage and institutional diversity. This expansion now outpaces the program's knowledge systems and management tools. Within the GEF Knowledge Management and Learning Strategy (2022), the Secretariat called for global-scale systems that transform scattered project experience into shared intelligence.^[4] The SGP Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP) directly responds to that call, i.e., serving as the connective tissue between thousands of community projects and the global partnership's results architecture.

The latest Independent Evaluation confirms that SGP remains “the only GEF-financed modality that channels small grants straight to civil-society and community organizations,”^[5] translating global objectives into local action and rated as highly aligned with national priorities. Under OP7 alone, SGP supported 3,400 grants in

118 countries, reaching 2.7 million people (more than 1.4 million women) and contributing to 11.7 million hectares of landscapes under improved management. [\[6\]](#)⁶

Beyond serving SGP operations, the Platform will strengthen the GEF partnership’s overall knowledge architecture. Its design aligns with the GEF-8 Knowledge and Learning Strategy and complements the Partnership’s Integrated Programmes, such as the Blue and Green Islands Initiative, Food Systems Transformation, Global Wildlife Programme, and Sustainable Cities Programmes, by ensuring that local community innovations inform upstream policy dialogue. The KLP thus becomes not only a delivery mechanism for community capacity-building but also a listening post for field-tested solutions, closing the feedback loop between national policy frameworks, global commitments, and local realities.

A.2: Barriers to Effective Capacity-Building and Learning under SGP 2.0

Despite its achievements, SGP now faces structural constraints that limit its ability to capitalize fully on its own success. The program’s operational complexity has grown exponentially, yet its knowledge and learning systems have not evolved at the same pace. The following interlinked barriers—rooted in fragmentation, uneven access, and institutional turnover—constrain the program’s efficiency and inclusiveness.

1. **Fragmented knowledge systems.** Lessons from past projects are scattered across agency sites, reports, and databases; no single mechanism consolidates or curates guidance for network-wide use, leading to duplication and loss of institutional memory. [\[7\]](#)⁷ As the terms of reference for the KLP notes, the diversity of implementing agencies “necessitates more sophisticated coordination mechanisms to capture learning, facilitate cross-pollination of ideas, and maintain coherent communication strategies.” [\[8\]](#)⁸

The 2025 evaluation identifies persistent fragmentation in monitoring and reporting systems, finding “no single dashboard for target tracking” and warning that multiple knowledge platforms “risk duplication unless knitted together under a unified framework.” [\[9\]](#)⁹

2. **Limited and uneven access to training.** Capacity-building opportunities are ad hoc and often constrained by geography, bandwidth, and language. Remote communities in several OP8 countries report difficulty reaching workshops or obtaining timely technical support. [\[10\]](#)¹⁰
3. **Capacity constraints among CSOs and CBOs.** Many local organizations lack technical or financial-management skills to design and sustain complex projects. Women, youth, and Indigenous organizations are particularly affected. [\[11\]](#)¹¹
4. **Cross-agency coordination challenges.** With UNDP, FAO, and CI jointly implementing SGP, knowledge-management and training functions risk inconsistency unless harmonized through a unified system.

5. **Technological and resource barriers.** Numerous grantee partners rely primarily on smartphones and low-bandwidth connections; existing digital materials are rarely optimized for those conditions. Limited agency staff time and travel budgets further constrain mentoring.

Institutional fragmentation also creates measurable efficiency losses. Country Coordinators estimate that 20–30% of new project concepts replicate lessons already documented elsewhere, a loss of both resources and learning momentum. Without a unified system, valuable data on gender, co-benefits, and community impact remain siloed, making it difficult to track cumulative GEB contributions or report consistently across focal areas. Frequent staff turnover and the absence of multilingual templates reinforce inequality across countries with differing technical capacities.

Taken together, these barriers mean that institutional learning often remains localized, while systemic innovation and replication lag behind. The costs of this fragmentation are cumulative: delayed project start-ups, inconsistent technical quality, and missed opportunities for cross-country scaling. By addressing these bottlenecks, the Platform will transform knowledge from a by-product of project delivery into a shared global asset that directly enhances program performance.

A.3: Drivers of Change and Opportunity

Several factors make this the right moment to address these systemic barriers through a global knowledge and learning platform:

- **A reformed SGP 2.0 mandate.** The GEF Council has called for expansion, innovation, diversification, and optimization—four pillars that depend on stronger knowledge management and coordination.[\[12\]](#)¹²
- **Proven institutional models.** Portfolio-wide platforms such as IW:LEARN show the value of a centralized, multi-agency system for sharing lessons and linking local practice to global policy.[\[13\]](#)¹³
- **Digital and linguistic readiness.** Advances in cloud infrastructure, adaptive translation, and AI-assisted search now make it feasible to deliver multilingual, mobile-friendly learning at modest cost.
- **Documented demand for training and mentoring.** Stakeholder consultations for OP8 Tranche 2 and the 2023 survey reveal widespread calls for accessible proposal-development tools, localized training materials, and peer learning.[\[14\]](#)¹⁴,[\[15\]](#)¹⁵
- **Momentum for equity and inclusion.** Global commitments to gender equality, youth empowerment, and Indigenous peoples leadership align with SGP 2.0’s “whole-of-society” approach, reinforcing demand for systems that democratize access to knowledge.

The evaluation also highlights early progress in digitization under SGP 2.0, noting new online grant-management systems piloted by UNDP and FAO as key efficiency enablers and “a promising foundation for cross-agency learning once integrated under a common framework”.[\[16\]](#)¹⁶

During the PPG phase, the project team will assess potential synergies with innovation ecosystems such as UNDP’s Accelerator Labs and comparable networks hosted by other UN agencies, regional research centers, and national innovation hubs. These partnerships could provide complementary data, mentoring capacity, and proof-of-concept testing for community innovations identified through SGP grants.[\[17\]](#)¹⁷

Together, these drivers create an enabling environment and the institutional and technological readiness for the SGP KLP to convert three decades of experience into a durable, scalable engine for learning, collaboration, and impact.

A.4: Ground-Level Challenges Facing Grantee Partners

Across countries, the accessibility challenge is not theoretical, it defines the daily reality of SGP applicants and grantee partners. In Pakistan and Peru, farmers described struggling to translate technical project ideas into formal proposals without professional assistance, often paying consultants from already-limited community funds. In Papua New Guinea and island states such as Tuvalu, communities reported that the nearest SGP training could require two days of travel, sometimes postponed for months when roads or ferries were impassable. In survey responses from 2023, more than 60 percent of participants indicated that they rely primarily on smartphones for connectivity, while fewer than 20 percent reported reliable broadband access.[\[18\]](#)¹⁸

Women’s groups in several OP8 consultations noted that proposal formats and training materials were seldom available in local languages, limiting their ability to lead grant preparation. Youth organizations highlighted the absence of continuing mentorship once initial workshops ended. The evaluation adds that 43% of projects were led by women but that complex procedures and language barriers still limited their participation, while Indigenous peoples participated in about 22% of projects but faced similar constraints.[\[19\]](#)¹⁹

By establishing a multilingual, mobile-friendly learning environment with on-demand templates and examples, the KLP addresses these structural inequities head-on. It transforms one-time training events into continuous, self-paced learning, bridging the gap between intention and implementation for the communities most capable of delivering transformative results.

The Platform will also treat traditional and local knowledge not merely as content to be documented but as a core knowledge stream informing modern innovation. Community practitioners will be invited to co-author learning modules and case studies that blend ancestral practices with new technologies. This two-way exchange ensures that the KLP reflects lived experience and cultural context, strengthening ownership and long-term relevance among Indigenous peoples and local communities.[\[20\]](#)²⁰

A.5 Lessons Learned

Lessons from IW:LEARN

Within the GEF portfolio, the most directly comparable precedent for the SGP Knowledge and Learning Platform is *IW:LEARN*, the long-running knowledge hub of the International Waters focal area. Over its five phases, IW:LEARN has evolved from a small website into a global network serving more than 10,000 practitioners across 170 projects. Its combination of digital resources, training events, and blended delivery demonstrates that a well-governed multi-agency platform can mobilize large communities of practice at modest cost. The current phase, IW:LEARN 5, reports a 350% increase in online participation and the introduction of AI-assisted search and translation functions—evidence that demand for accessible, multilingual learning tools continues to grow.^{[21]²¹, [22]²²}

The IW:LEARN experience also highlights what makes such systems succeed. Early phases suffered from limited participation and cumbersome data-entry interfaces that discouraged use.^{[23]²³, [24]²⁴} Subsequent modernization placed greater emphasis on user consultation and low-barrier design and the approach taken through KLP's commitment to user-driven functionality. Equally instructive are the operational lessons. IW:LEARN managers note that unclear inter-agency roles and under-resourcing complicated delivery, prompting later reforms to staffing and governance^{[25]²⁵}. The KLP addresses these issues from the outset through a single coordination unit, harmonized reporting cycles, and a minimum of three global staff supported by focal points across agencies.

Finally, IW:LEARN underlines the importance of long-term sustainability planning. Post-project continuity and funding gaps have repeatedly challenged global knowledge initiatives. In response, the KLP embeds its maintenance costs within Implementing Agency budgets and explores partnerships with established e-learning hosts such as UNESCO-IOC's Ocean Teacher Global Academy to reduce operating expenses. These design choices reflect the practical insights of two decades of IW:LEARN implementation.

Lessons from the Good Growth Partnership and Evidensia

A second relevant precedent is the *Good Growth Partnership*^{[26]²⁶} and its Evidensia platform. This initiative combines digital evidence systems with on-the-ground mentoring to link global supply-chain policy with field implementation. Its success demonstrates that digital knowledge systems achieve real value only when coupled with human learning networks and strong content curation. The KLP builds on this principle by pairing online resources with mentoring, South–South exchanges, and continuous feedback, ensuring that technology supports—not replaces—human interaction.

Lessons from the SGP Evaluation

The 2025 *Small Grants Program Evaluation* confirms that SGP has already moved “from sporadic creativity to a program-wide, structured approach to innovation.”^{[27]²⁷} Reviewers emphasize the need to consolidate and share this growing body of knowledge so that new country programmes can build on proven models rather than starting anew. The KLP directly answers that call by systematizing access to technological, social, and financial innovations and by providing a consistent framework for training, mentoring, and results reporting. It also strengthens strategic communication and visibility, ensuring coherent messaging and resource mobilization across SGP initiatives.^{[28]²⁸, [29]²⁹} In this way, the KLP translates decades of fragmented experience into a structured, enduring mechanism for collective learning across the GEF partnership.

A.6: Project Design Rationale: Why a Digital Platform

The design of the KLP draws directly on two decades of GEF experience with global knowledge systems and on the operational realities of the SGP. Lessons from IW:LEARN demonstrate that large, multi-agency portfolios achieve lasting results only when their knowledge is organized, user-friendly, and continuously refreshed. Similarly, the Good Growth Partnership’s Evidensia platform confirms that digital systems succeed when they are paired with human mentoring and active content curation. The 2025 SGP evaluation reinforces these findings, highlighting the need for structured learning mechanisms that transform project experience into replicable models. The KLP design integrates these lessons into a coherent, cost-effective solution that connects agencies, Country Programmes, and community practitioners in one adaptive system. Further alignment with the GEF Knowledge Management Strategy will be refined during the PPG phase as part of detailed system design and consultation.

At its core, the Platform responds to three persistent challenges identified across GEF initiatives: fragmentation, uneven access, and high transaction costs for training and coordination. By consolidating thirty years of SGP tools, lessons, and templates into a single repository, the KLP eliminates duplication and ensures that all Country Programmes operate from a shared evidence base. The platform’s open-source and modular architecture allows continuous improvement while keeping costs low. Each additional user, whether an Implementing Agency, a national steering committee, or a community organization, can access standardized resources at minimal marginal cost, making capacity building scalable for the first time in SGP’s history.

A central innovation of the KLP is the way it resolves the interoperability and coordination problems that have challenged earlier multi-agency platforms such as IW:LEARN. Past systems required parallel databases, separate reporting channels, and inconsistent data standards that slowed collaboration and blurred accountability. The KLP design introduces a *single coordination unit* managing a common data architecture and governance framework endorsed by UNDP, FAO, CI, and the GEF Secretariat. Open-API interfaces will allow each agency to maintain its own internal systems while sharing selected metadata automatically with the Platform. Common reporting templates and synchronized review cycles replace the patchwork of formats and timelines that previously doubled administrative workload. This approach transforms inter-agency coordination from a procedural burden into an everyday operational norm, ensuring that collective knowledge grows continuously rather than episodically.

The KLP also addresses the accessibility gap that has long constrained participation in global environmental programmes. Drawing from IW:LEARN’s experience with low-bandwidth and multilingual design, the Platform will incorporate adaptive translation and plain-language search across major world languages and

key regional dialects. These functions enable grantee partners in remote areas to engage directly with guidance and training, without dependence on external consultants or costly travel. In doing so, the project democratizes access to information and technical support—one of the most persistent structural barriers in community-based development.

A final design innovation builds on IW:LEARN’s pioneering use of AI-assisted indexing and extends it into new territory. During implementation, the project will **explore the feasibility** of using similar prompt-based technology to guide users through the structure of a small-grant proposal. This concept—essentially an adaptive, plain-language guide rather than an automated writer—would allow users to respond to simple questions about their local problem, proposed solution, and traditional practices, with the system helping them to organize their ideas into the standard SGP template. Such exploration will be tightly bounded by ethical review, data-protection standards, and mandatory human oversight. If proven feasible, this feature could become an important tool for reducing entry barriers for first-time applicants, especially in low-connectivity or non-English environments.

Face-to-face workshops and mentoring will remain essential to SGP’s model, but the Platform makes these human interactions more effective by ensuring that trainers, mentors, and applicants share common resources and terminology. In this sense, the digital architecture amplifies—not replaces—the mentoring tradition that defines the **SGP**. Together, these design choices turn the KLP into a practical bridge between SGP’s past and future: a system grounded in proven lessons yet open to new technologies that make global knowledge truly accessible to all.

The project ultimately aims to strengthen equitable access and capability among community and civil-society partners, enabling them to design and deliver effective environmental solutions that collectively contribute to global environmental benefits.

A.7: Strategic Fit with GEF-8 and SGP 2.0 Mandate

The KLP directly advances all four pillars of SGP 2.0:

- **Expansion:** Extends high-quality training and mentoring to every SGP Country Programme, including remote and low-connectivity areas.
- **Innovation:** Applies AI-assisted search and adaptive translation to make lessons usable in multiple languages.
- **Diversification:** Operates as a shared, inter-agency resource integrating UNDP, FAO, CI, and GEF Secretariat guidance.
- **Optimization:** Reduces duplication, improves reporting, and maximizes the proportion of SGP resources reaching communities.

By standardizing proposal templates and indicator training, the KLP supports consistent tracking of Core Indicator results across SGP country portfolios, aligning with the GEF-8 Results Architecture. Consistent with the Terms of Reference approved by the GEF Secretariat, the KLP is conceived as a permanent knowledge infrastructure underpinning SGP’s long-term sustainability and partnership evolution.[\[30\]³⁰](#)

Over time, the KLP is expected to redefine how the global SGP community collaborates. It will connect a village conservation group in the Pacific with a women’s energy cooperative in West Africa or an Indigenous peoples forest association in Latin America—each learning from the other’s approaches in real time. By embedding this kind of horizontal exchange within an institutional system, the Platform transforms the SGP network into a living laboratory for inclusive environmental innovation and global learning.

A.8: Expected Global Environmental Benefits (GEBs)

Although the project itself will not implement country-level field activities, it will directly enhance the effectiveness of hundreds of SGP projects that do. By strengthening training, mentoring, and proposal design across the SGP portfolio, the KLP improves the quality and replicability of community projects that generate tangible GEBs in biodiversity, climate, land, and international-waters focal areas.

Direct results include strengthened individual and institutional capacity, captured through GEF-8 **Core Indicator 11** (People benefiting from GEF-financed investments, disaggregated by sex). These reflect the number of grantee partners, community-based organizations, and agency staff trained or supported through the platform.

Indirect results accrue as improved proposal quality and implementation efficiency lead to higher success rates and larger cumulative impacts across SGP country portfolios. Over time, the platform functions as a force multiplier, amplifying the GEB yield of the entire SGP network.

[1] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *Small Grants Programme Joint Evaluation*. Washington DC: GEF IEO, 2022.

[2] UNDP GEF SGP. *Terms of Reference for the Knowledge and Learning Platform*. New York: GEF Secretariat/UNDP, July 2025.

[3] Ibid.

[4] GEF Secretariat. *Knowledge Management and Learning Strategy 2022 (Operationalization of the GEF-8 Knowledge and Learning Agenda)*. Washington DC: GEF Secretariat, 2022.

[5] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025.

[6] Ibid. paras. 35 and 60–64

[7] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *Small Grants Programme Joint Evaluation*. Washington DC: GEF IEO, 2022.

[8] *Terms of Reference for the Knowledge and Learning Platform, GEF Small Grants Programme*. GEF Secretariat, July 2025.

[9] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025. Paras 94-95.

[10] UNDP GEF SGP. *Operational Phase 8 Tranche 2: Annex 6 – Stakeholder Engagement Plan*. June 2025.

[11] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025. Paras 105

[12] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025.

[13] GEF IW:LEARN. *International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network – Phase IV Summary Report*. 2016.

[14] UNDP GEF SGP. *Operational Phase 8 Tranche 2: Annex 6 – Stakeholder Engagement Plan*. June 2025.

[15] UNDP GEF SGP. *Initiating Stakeholder Consultations: All Individual Responses Survey*. 2023.

[16] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025.

- [17] UNDP. *Accelerator Labs Global Network Overview*. New York, 2024.
- [18] UNDP GEF SGP. *Initiating Stakeholder Consultations: All Individual Responses Survey*. 2023.
- [19] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025. Paras. 108 and 113.
- [20] Ibid. Para. 52.
- [21] LEARN Task Force. *IW:LEARN 5 Mid-Term Update and Task Force Presentation*. November 2025.
- [22] Author interviews with IW:LEARN Project Coordination Unit staff, 17 November 2025. Notes on governance, staffing, and sustainability lessons.
- [23] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *Evaluation of IW:LEARN Phase I*. Washington DC: GEF IEO, 2004.
- [24] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *Terminal Evaluation of IW:LEARN Phase III*. Washington DC: GEF IEO, 2015.
- [25] Author interviews with IW:LEARN Project Coordination Unit staff, 17 November 2025. Notes on governance, staffing, and sustainability lessons.
- [26] UNDP, FAO and Conservation International. *Good Growth Partnership – Integrated Approach Program*. GEF ID 9077, 2017.
- [27] GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). *OPS-8 Main Report and Small Grants Programme Evaluation*. Washington DC, September 2025. Para. 120.
- [28] UNDP GEF SGP. *Terms of Reference for the Knowledge and Learning Platform*. New York: GEF Secretariat/UNDP, July 2025.
- [29] UNDP GEF SGP. *External Evidence Supporting the KLP Cost Model*. Internal note, 2025.
- [30] *Terms of Reference for the Knowledge and Learning Platform, GEF Small Grants Programme*. GEF Secretariat, July 2025.

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project description

This section asks for a theory of change as part of a joined-up description of the project as a whole. The project description is expected to cover the key elements of good project design in an integrated way. It is also expected to meet the GEF’s policy requirements on gender, stakeholders, private sector, and knowledge management and learning (see section D). This section should be a narrative that reads like a joined-up story and not independent elements that answer the guiding questions contained in the PIF guidance document. (Approximately 3-5 pages) see guidance here

Project Description

SGP’s greatest strength has been the diversity and ingenuity of its community-level solutions, yet the full value of this experience has never been fully captured or mobilized at scale. Valuable lessons remain scattered across projects, agencies, and databases, limiting the ability of grantee partners to learn from one another and of the GEF partnership to demonstrate results with clarity. This project changes that trajectory. By organizing proven practices into a unified, accessible, and actively used learning system, it equips communities with the tools and mentoring they need to design stronger projects, enables agencies to coordinate more efficiently, and provides the GEF with the clear evidence base it has requested. This section sets out the theory of change behind this strategy and details the three components that translate it into practice.

B.1: Theory of Change

The project’s theory of change rests on the recognition that the SGP possesses an unparalleled stock of community-based experience yet lacks the coherent systems needed to turn that experience into collective intelligence. Three decades of innovation across biodiversity, climate, land, and chemicals portfolios have produced enormous data and know-how, but this knowledge remains fragmented among Implementing Agencies and scattered across thousands of reports. As SGP 2.0 expands through UNDP, FAO, and Conservation International, the absence of a unified learning architecture limits replication, raises transaction costs, and prevents the GEF from demonstrating cumulative impact. The project therefore intervenes through three mutually reinforcing components that address these structural barriers and activate the institutional and human levers required for systemic change. Together, they transform knowledge from a by-product of project delivery into a global public good that continuously improves the quality and reach of SGP investments.

The relationships described above are illustrated in **Figure 1**, which maps the project’s causal logic from baseline barriers to long-term global environmental benefits. The figure shows how each component of the Knowledge and Learning Platform activates a distinct “impact lever” — institutional interoperability, human capacity, and information flow — that together convert SGP’s fragmented knowledge base into an integrated learning ecosystem. Feedback arrows in the figure highlight the adaptive-management loops that allow the system to evolve through continuous user input, governance review, and content updates.

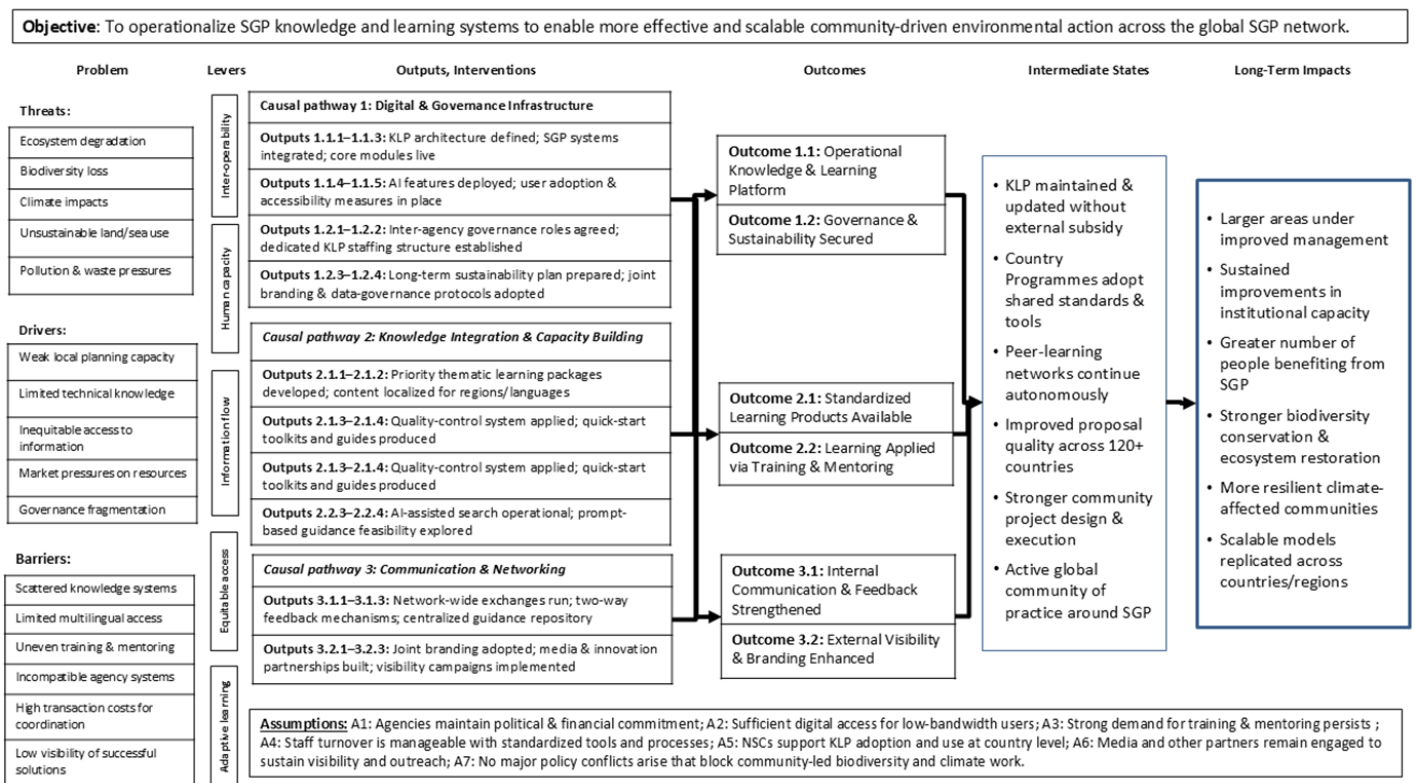


Figure 1: Theory of Change

The following narrative traces each of the three primary causal pathways shown in Figure 1. Together they illustrate how the KLP’s components work in sequence—first by establishing the institutional and digital foundation for interoperability, then by strengthening human capacity through standardized learning and mentoring, and finally by ensuring that information and results circulate through continuous communication and visibility. Each pathway concludes with intermediate outcomes that collectively lead to sustained global environmental benefits.

Causal Pathway 1: Digital and Governance Infrastructure (Component 1)

The baseline condition is a complex, multi-agency program operating with incompatible data systems, parallel reporting lines, and chronic staff overload—precisely the coordination failures documented in *IW:LEARN*'s mid-term review. The intervention activates the institutional lever of **interoperability** by creating a unified Knowledge and Learning Platform governed by a single coordination unit and financed jointly by all Implementing Agencies. Open-API architecture allows each agency to maintain its internal systems while sharing standardized metadata through common templates and synchronized reporting cycles. As these technical and governance reforms take hold, duplication and data loss decline sharply, producing immediate outputs: an operational multilingual platform, harmonized reporting, and a functioning inter-agency governance board. These outputs yield the first intermediate outcomes—reduced fragmentation, faster decision-making, and clearer accountability across the partnership. Over time, the improved institutional efficiency and transparency translate into stronger portfolio management and monitoring of GEF Core Indicators, setting the stage for sustained global environmental benefits across all focal areas.

Causal Pathway 2: Knowledge Integration and Capacity Building (Component 2)

The baseline for learning within SGP is uneven and often exclusionary: training materials differ by agency and language, mentoring is ad hoc, and new grantees face high entry barriers. The project triggers the **human-capacity lever** by consolidating proven practices into standardized, quality-assured learning products and embedding them in blended mentoring networks. Consultation-driven design—an explicit lesson from *IW:LEARN*'s modernization—ensures that products respond to user demand rather than technology push. Adaptive translation and low-bandwidth functionality extend access to partners in remote and low-connectivity settings, while regional mentors and peer groups turn training into practice. The resulting outputs—ten thematic learning packages, 200 mentoring cycles, and multilingual quick-start toolkits—lead to near-term outcomes: consistent project-design quality, greater inclusion of women and Indigenous peoples practitioners, and measurable increases in proposal success rates. As these skills become institutionalized, Country Programmes sustain mentoring networks independently, proposals align more closely with GEF focal-area indicators, and the improved portfolio collectively contributes to larger terrestrial and marine areas under improved management and to enduring capacity gains captured under Core Indicator 11.

Causal Pathway 3: Communication and Networking (Component 3)

The baseline is a diffuse network with weak horizontal communication and limited visibility of success stories. Information moves upward for reporting but rarely returns to the field for learning, and SGP's public profile under-represents its results. The intervention activates the **information-flow lever** by creating continuous internal and external communication loops. Internally, the Platform will host quarterly exchanges, feedback analytics, and a repository of official guidance; externally, it will coordinate joint branding, media partnerships, and global showcases. These actions produce outputs such as functional feedback systems, centralized guidance access, and at least fifty disseminated case stories. The immediate outcome is a

connected community of practice that learns in real time; the intermediate outcome is a recognized, credible global brand that attracts new partners and replication funding. This expanding network effect ensures that successful community models diffuse rapidly across countries and regions, amplifying every future dollar of SGP investment and multiplying long-term global environmental benefits.

B.3: Incremental / Additional Cost Reasoning

Business-as-Usual Scenario (Baseline)

Under the current baseline, SGP remains one of the GEF's most visible and participatory programs but continues to operate through fragmented knowledge systems. Each Implementing Agency maintains its own repositories, training materials, and reporting tools, which are rarely compatible. Lessons learned are archived but seldom transferred between agencies or countries, leaving practitioners to rediscover methods already proven elsewhere. The vast experience generated through three decades of SGP implementation therefore remains largely untapped. Capacity-building and mentoring activities are irregular, highly dependent on local staff initiative, and often limited to English, French, and Spanish, leaving a large portion of the network unable to participate fully. Country teams rely on their own ad-hoc solutions, duplicating effort and cost. At the global level, the absence of a shared system limits the ability of Implementing Agencies and the GEF Secretariat to analyze results, track indicators, or demonstrate cumulative impact. This business-as-usual scenario yields valuable community outcomes but no compounding effect across the portfolio; each project is successful on its own terms but the system as a whole remains less than the sum of its parts.

With-Project Scenario (GEF Increment)

GEF financing will bridge this systemic gap by providing the resources and coordination needed to transform the current patchwork of tools into a coherent global knowledge ecosystem. The incremental investment will support the design, development, and early operation of the Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP), as well as the creation of standardized learning products, mentoring networks, and a joint communication framework that binds all 135 participating countries into a single learning community. With GEF support, the Platform will deliver adaptive multilingual translation and plain-language search, ensuring that practitioners in remote or low-bandwidth settings can access lessons and templates in their own language. Shared training products and mentor networks will reduce duplication and raise the overall quality of project design, while inter-agency governance will ensure that lessons from one country or focal area are rapidly transferred to others. The "with-project" scenario therefore represents the step change that converts a rich but fragmented knowledge base into an organized, continuously improving system—one that strengthens every subsequent dollar invested in SGP field operations.

The expected global environmental benefits arise from enhanced portfolio effectiveness rather than stand-alone field investments. Better-designed SGP projects will produce stronger, more durable outcomes in biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management, and climate adaptation. The incremental outcome is

therefore a permanent institutional mechanism that multiplies the impact of the SGP network long after the project itself concludes.

Co-financing will consist primarily of in-kind contributions from the Implementing Agencies, including dedicated staff time, hosting services, and access to existing infrastructure. Agencies have committed to integrating the Platform’s maintenance into their core budgets and to financing ongoing updates after GEF resources are expended. Additional partnerships with universities, regional training institutes, and private technology providers will further extend co-financing and ensure the KLP remains at the leading edge of accessible digital learning.

Future Scenario and Adaptive Management

While the “with-project” scenario is robust, future outcomes will depend on several variables outside the project’s direct control. Sustained user engagement, reliable connectivity, consistent inter-agency coordination, and stable financing are the primary levers that will determine how deeply the Platform becomes embedded within the SGP system. Recognizing these uncertainties, the project adopts an adaptive-management approach that treats each of these levers as both a potential risk and a feedback opportunity. Regular monitoring of user analytics and participation rates will guide real-time adjustments to content and outreach. Governance agreements include built-in review cycles that allow agencies to refine roles and budgets as the system matures. The open-source and modular design of the KLP ensures that new partners, technologies, and languages can be added without major reinvestment, maintaining flexibility as conditions change. In this way, the project is designed not only to deliver immediate efficiency gains but also to remain resilient and adaptable in a dynamic institutional and technological landscape. Adaptive management will also address coordination risks common to multi-agency systems: annual governance reviews and cross-agency budget synchronization are built in to prevent the approval delays and administrative bottlenecks documented in the IW:LEARN midterm review.[\[1\]](#)³¹

B.3: Project Components and Outcomes

The project’s three components translate the theory of change into a sequenced process of transformation. Component 1 establishes the digital and institutional foundation; Component 2 converts decades of field experience into accessible learning and mentoring offers; and Component 3 ensures that knowledge circulates, informs decision-making, and gains visibility. Together they move the SGP system from fragmentation to continuous learning, creating the enabling conditions for stronger project design, replication, and measurable global environmental benefits.

Component 1: Design and Governance of the Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP)

Component 1 provides the backbone of the SGP knowledge architecture. It delivers the technical platform and the institutional arrangements that turn three decades of isolated experience into a single, durable system. By integrating repositories, data, and guidance from all Implementing Agencies (IAs), it ends duplication and creates an accessible, multilingual hub for training, mentoring, and reporting. The component also establishes governance and financing measures that guarantee the KLP's sustainability after project completion.

Outcome 1.1: Operational Platform

By the end of implementation, a fully functional and user-tested platform will serve as the primary entry point for training, mentoring, and results reporting across 135 countries. The KLP will bridge language and connectivity barriers, allowing local organizations to find, adapt, and contribute proven solutions. This outcome directly addresses the first causal link in the Theory of Change by reducing fragmentation and creating a reliable, inclusive space for knowledge exchange.

The outputs to realize Outcome 1.1 begin with **Output 1.1.1**, which defines the technical specifications and architecture through extensive cross-agency consultations, including a portfolio-wide needs assessment modelled on *IW:LEARN's 2025 modernization survey*. **Output 1.1.2** unifies existing SGP digital assets—the Innovation Library, evaluation archives, and training databases—into a single searchable repository. **Output 1.1.3** develops an adaptive user interface with AI-enabled translation in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, and key regional languages, optimized for smartphone and low-bandwidth use. **Output 1.1.4** introduces smart search, topic tagging, and plain-language summaries, all moderated by humans for accuracy. **Output 1.1.5** installs the platform's security architecture—data-privacy protocols, penetration testing, and a help-desk—to protect both institutional and community users. Together these outputs transform the KLP from a static repository into a secure, multilingual, and interactive service that communities can rely on daily.

Key Activities include user-needs and interoperability studies; procurement and software development; testing with representative Country Programmes; regional training for administrators and focal points; and onboarding of at least 75% of Country Programmes.

Preliminary Indicators (Outcome 1.1):

- Platform launched and operational.
- 75% of Country Programmes using platform tools for training and reporting.
- 1,000 registered CSO/CBO users (50% women, 20 % youth).
- Repository, mapping, and collaboration modules fully functional with adaptive multilingual and AI-assisted translation.
- User-satisfaction score ≥ 75 %.
- People benefiting from GEF investment (GEF-8 Core Indicator 11).

Outcome 1.2: Governance and Sustainability

This outcome ensures the KLP functions as a permanent, jointly owned public good rather than a short-term project deliverable. Through shared governance and predictable financing, the platform will remain credible and up to date long after GEF funding ends.

The outputs to realize Outcome 1.2 start with **Output 1.2.1**, establishing a governance charter endorsed by UNDP, FAO, CI, and the GEF Secretariat. **Output 1.2.2** operationalizes staffing (three global staff plus agency focal points). **Output 1.2.3** develops a costed sustainability plan identifying core agency contribution and co-financing options. **Output 1.2.4** implements joint branding and data-governance protocols with synchronized reporting cycles, addressing *IW:LEARN*'s mid-term review finding that parallel systems hindered delivery. These measures institutionalize stewardship so that maintenance, financing, and accountability are embedded within existing agency structures.

Key Activities include facilitating inter-agency negotiations; recruiting and training global staff and focal points; preparing and approving the multi-year business plan; and conducting annual governance and staffing reviews.

Preliminary Indicators (Outcome 1.2):

- Formal governance framework signed by all IAs and GEF Secretariat.
- Coordination unit staffed and operational.
- Multi-year sustainability plan approved with identified financing sources.
- Joint branding and data-governance protocols adopted by 100% of active Country Programmes.
- Annual governance and staffing reviews completed; corrective actions implemented.

Component 2: Knowledge Integration and Capacity Building

Component 2 turns information into capability. It translates SGP's accumulated experience into standardized, high-quality learning resources and ensures that those resources are actually used through mentoring, peer learning, and continuous feedback. This component embodies the "human-capacity" pathway in the Theory of Change—strengthening people, organizations, and networks so that community innovation becomes systemic practice rather than isolated success.

Outcome 2.1: Standardized Learning Products

By the end of the project, SGP knowledge will exist as a coherent, quality-assured curriculum accessible in multiple languages and formats. Products will blend technical rigor with cultural relevance, embedding traditional knowledge alongside scientific methods and gender-responsive practice.

The outputs to realize Outcome 2.1 include **Output 2.1.1**, which undertakes structured consultation and review to identify ten priority themes and gaps; **Output 2.1.2**, which develops ten thematic learning packages and associated templates for proposals, budgets, and management plans in multiple media; and **Output 2.1.3**, which localizes and humanizes the content through translation packs and community-authored case studies. Together these outputs create a living curriculum that can be updated through user feedback and that directly supports Outcome 2.2 by equipping trainers, mentors, and applicants with tested, consistent materials.

Key Activities include: commissioning thematic and multimedia specialists; regional workshops to test content; digitizing and uploading materials; and developing analytics to track use.

Preliminary Indicators (Outcome 2.1):

- Ten thematic learning products produced to KLP standards.
- 75% of Country Programmes use at least one product in training or mentoring.
- 50% of packages localized (language/context) for targeted regions.
- 100% of packages pass quality-control protocol (peer review, inclusion and gender checks).
- $\geq 75\%$ positive user-feedback rating on accessibility and usefulness.

Outcome 2.2: Application through Training and Mentoring

This outcome ensures that learning products move from the shelf to the field. SGP grantee partners, CBOs, and CSOs, including new applicants, will use the Platform for genuine skill development. The emphasis is on practice: communities apply what they learn to design better proposals, manage projects more effectively, and share lessons with peers.

The outputs that deliver Outcome 2.2 start with **Output 2.2.1**, formalizing training cycles in every region; **Output 2.2.2**, establishing regional mentoring and peer-learning networks; **Output 2.2.3**, supporting South-South and Triangular exchanges; **Output 2.2.4**, producing quick-start toolkits and mobile checklists; and **Output 2.2.5**, consolidating the project's innovation agenda through low-risk AI functions—multilingual translation, adaptive indexing, and plain-language search—and exploration of prompt-based guidance for small-grant applications. These outputs create a continuous learning loop where standardized content leads to confident application, and user feedback refines future training.

Key Activities include organizing 200 mentoring cycles across five regions; training facilitators in inclusive and ethical AI use; implementing pre- and post-training assessments; and tracking adoption through analytics and surveys.

Preliminary Indicators (Outcome 2.2):

- 75% of participants demonstrate improved competence via standardized assessments.
- 50% of trained organizations apply at least two practices from relevant learning products.
- 200 mentoring pairs / groups complete curricula and document problem-solving outcomes.
- 50% of learning products updated at least once based on user feedback.
- Institutions with enhanced capacity.

Component 3: Strategic Communication and Networking

Component 3 keeps the knowledge system dynamic and visible. It connects Country Programmes and agencies internally while amplifying SGP's external voice. By turning feedback into continuous improvement and visibility into influence, it ensures that learning leads to policy and investment impact. This component represents the “institutional-coordination” pathway of the Theory of Change.

Outcome 3.1: Internal Communication and Feedback

By project close, an interactive communication architecture will link all parts of the SGP network. Routine dialogue among Country Programmes, National Steering Committees, and IAs will transform SGP from a collection of projects into a connected learning community.

Outputs include **Output 3.1.1**, establishing regular exchange sessions; **Output 3.1.2**, creating two-way feedback mechanisms within the KLP interface; and **Output 3.1.3**, developing a centralized repository for official guidance and updates. Together these outputs build the infrastructure for institutional learning: data flows from field to policy and back again without delay or duplication.

Key Activities include appointing regional communication focal points; producing quarterly network updates; analyzing feedback trends; and linking analytics to governance decisions.

Preliminary Indicators (Outcome 3.1):

- Number of people benefiting from GEF investment (CI 11).
- ≥80 % of Country Programmes participating in quarterly exchanges.

- ≥ 50 feedback items incorporated into annual content updates.
- Documented evidence that feedback informs at least one policy / training revision per year.

Outcome 3.2: External Visibility and Branding

Externally, SGP will emerge as a recognized brand for community-driven environmental solutions. By coordinating messages and showcasing tangible results, this outcome builds public trust and mobilizes new partnerships and co-financing.

Outputs include **Output 3.2.1**, adoption of joint branding protocols; **Output 3.2.2**, preparation of a global communication strategy; **Output 3.2.3**, partnerships with media and innovation networks such as UNDP's Accelerator Labs and IUCN's Innovation Programme; and **Output 3.2.4**, visibility campaigns and showcases at global events, with AI tools limited to translation and tagging. **Communication and visibility activities under this component will be aligned with the GEF Communication and Visibility Policy, ensuring consistent recognition of GEF support and adherence to agreed standards across Implementing Agencies and partners.**

Key Activities include producing 50 communication products; coordinating showcases at five major events; training teams on branding guidelines; and documenting how visibility enhances replication and resource mobilization.

Preliminary Indicators (Outcome 3.2):

- Three joint branding protocols adopted by UNDP, FAO, and CI.
- 50 communication products (stories, briefs, videos, press kits) produced.
- SGP innovations showcased at ≥ 5 major global or regional events.
- Positive-media and donor-perception scores ≥ 75 %.

Integration and Cumulative Impact

The three components form an integrated results chain consistent with the Theory of Change described in Section B.1. Component 1 establishes the enabling infrastructure and governance mechanisms (Outcomes 1.1–1.2); Component 2 populates that infrastructure with standardized, inclusive content and mentoring (Outcomes 2.1–2.2); and Component 3 ensures continuous feedback, visibility, and adaptation (Outcomes 3.1–3.2). Collectively they deliver the project's outcomes during implementation, set in motion the behavioral and institutional shifts expected post-project, and create the foundation for sustained global environmental benefits. AI applications appear throughout as assistive tools to extend linguistic reach and analytical efficiency, always accompanied by human oversight, ethical safeguards, and transparency.

B.4 Innovation, Sustainability, and Potential for Scaling Up

Innovation

The project's innovation lies not in a single technology but in the way it combines digital tools, institutional cooperation, and inclusive design to solve long-standing systemic problems. For the first time in the SGP's 30-year history, a single platform will integrate the knowledge systems of three Implementing Agencies, enabling real-time exchange among 135 participating countries. The platform's architecture itself is an innovation in governance: open-source, modular, and co-owned, allowing agencies to share costs and responsibilities while maintaining their internal systems. The design prioritizes low-bandwidth and mobile access so that even remote communities can participate—an often-overlooked form of technological equity.

Artificial intelligence is applied carefully and transparently to enhance, not replace, human expertise. Its immediate roles are to provide adaptive multilingual translation beyond the traditional UN languages, to index and tag content for plain-language search, and to simplify navigation for users operating on phones or intermittent connections. During implementation, the project will also explore the feasibility of additional assistive functions, such as prompt-based guidance to help users organize their ideas when preparing small-grant proposals. Any such pilots will be strictly optional, fully supervised by mentors or national coordinators, and governed by clear ethical and data-protection protocols. In this way, AI serves as a tool for inclusion and efficiency rather than automation.

Equally innovative is the project's approach to learning products themselves, which are not pre-packaged IT push materials but co-created resources developed through iterative consultation with grantee partners. Content, format, and delivery methods will be chosen based on how communities actually prefer to learn—short videos, interactive forums, or mentoring pairs—so that the products feel owned and relevant rather than imposed. This user-driven model of content creation transforms training from a one-way transfer of knowledge into an adaptive dialogue between agencies and practitioners.

Another key is the project's **social and institutional innovation**. The Platform will treat local and traditional knowledge as a living input to innovation rather than a subject of documentation. Community practitioners will co-create learning materials and mentoring programmes, bringing traditional and scientific knowledge together in equal partnership. Governance of the platform itself is innovative: it introduces shared staffing across agencies and embeds user feedback into annual decision-making, turning a static IT investment into a continuously learning institution.

Sustainability

The sustainability of the Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP) is built on institutional commitment rather than speculative revenue streams—a deliberate response to lessons from earlier global knowledge initiatives. *IW:LEARN*'s experience showed that post-project continuity depends on embedding platform operations

within agency budgets and workplans, not leaving them dependent on periodic grant cycles. The KLP therefore secures sustainability through formalized commitments by all three Implementing Agencies to integrate platform hosting, maintenance, and updates into their regular operating budgets once GEF financing concludes. The inter-agency governance framework established under Component 1 codifies these obligations through joint work plans, cost-sharing arrangements, and annual performance reviews.

Similarly, the *Good Growth Partnership's* Evidensia platform and UNEP–IUCN's *Panorama Solutions* demonstrated that open-source, modular architecture and active content partnerships are key to durability. The KLP applies these lessons by adopting an open architecture that allows incremental enhancements to be financed through routine agency projects, in-kind technical support, or collaborative initiatives without the need for major reinvestment. Partnerships with external hosts—such as UNESCO-IOC's Ocean Teacher Global Academy, which provides cost-effective e-learning syndication—will be explored to further reduce long-term operational costs.

The staffing model of three global specialists and rotating agency focal points ensures institutional continuity while keeping overhead modest—another direct takeaway from *IW:LEARN's* mid-term review, which found that chronic under-staffing was a major risk to service quality. Over time, as the Platform's value becomes evident, additional partners may choose to contribute voluntarily through co-branded content, in-kind hosting, or integration with regional training networks. These arrangements will remain optional and governed by the KLP's board to preserve its role as a global public good, accessible to all SGP participants and aligned with GEF principles of open knowledge and inclusive capacity building.

Potential for Scaling

The KLP is inherently scalable. Its modular architecture and open standards allow new languages, partners, and functions to be added without redesign. Because it addresses a universal challenge—the need to capture, standardize, and share community-based knowledge—its model can be replicated across other GEF programs and agency portfolios. The Platform's governance and financing structure also serve as a prototype for future inter-agency systems, demonstrating how digital collaboration can reduce transaction costs and enhance accountability.

Scaling will occur along three pathways. First, **horizontal scaling** within the SGP network, as additional Country Programmes adopt the tools and materials developed through this project. Second, **vertical scaling** through institutional uptake, as Implementing Agencies embed the Platform's standards and training modules into their broader environment and energy portfolios. Third, **cross-programmatic scaling**, as other global initiatives—such as UNDP's Accelerator Labs, FAO's digital agriculture programmes, and CI's innovation hubs—draw on the Platform's content and contribute their own. These pathways ensure that the Platform evolves from a single project into a permanent fixture of the GEF partnership's knowledge architecture.

Ultimately, the platform’s greatest innovation may be its ability to make innovation itself routine: a self-sustaining, inclusive, and constantly improving system that allows the SGP network to learn faster, act smarter, and deliver larger global environmental benefits with every grant cycle.

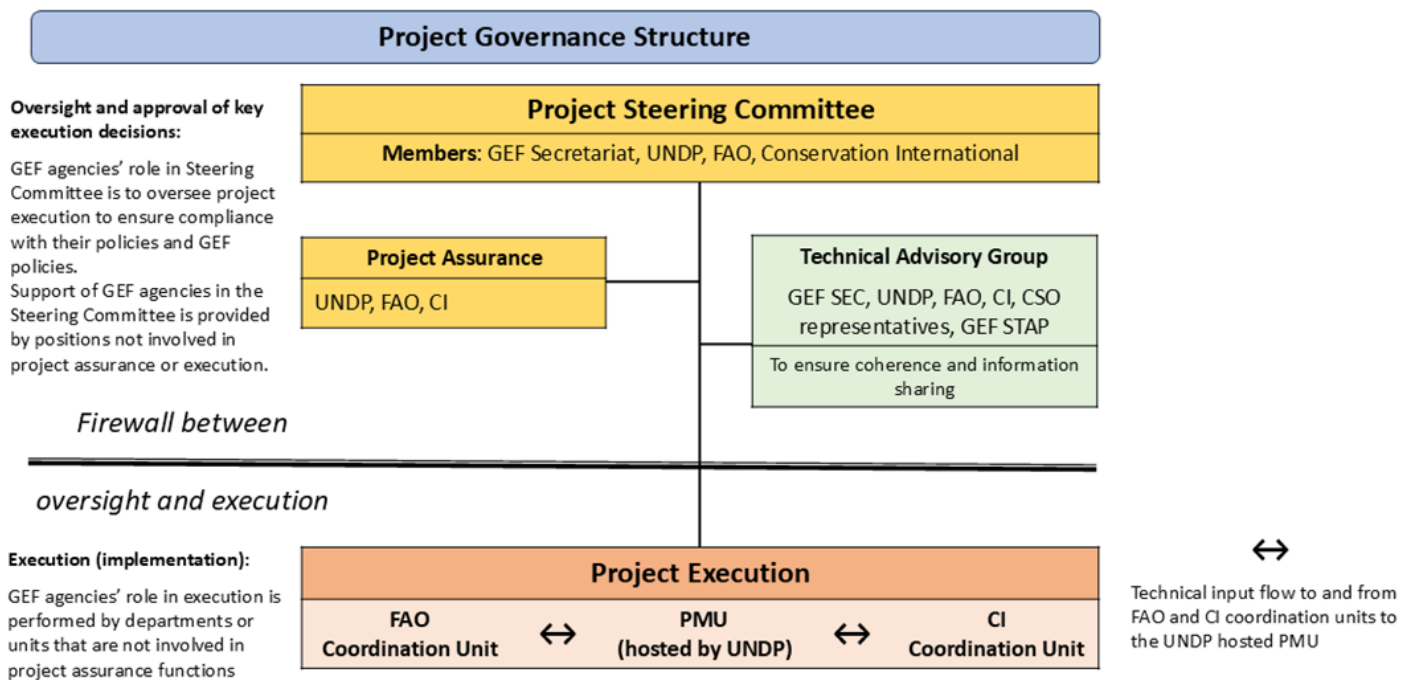
[1] GEF IW:LEARN Task Force. *IW:LEARN 5 Mid-Term Update and Task Force Presentation*. November 2025.

Coordination and Cooperation with Ongoing Initiatives and Project.

Does the GEF Agency expect to play an execution role on this project?

Yes

If so, please describe that role here. Also, please add a short explanation to describe cooperation with ongoing initiatives and projects, including potential for co-location and/or sharing of expertise/staffing



GEF Implementing Agencies:

UNDP will serve as Lead Implementing Agency (IA) for the project and have overall accountability and responsibility to report to the GEF on the delivery of results. FAO and Conservation International (CI) will serve as co-Implementing Agencies. Each agency will be responsible for the delivery of project outputs as identified in the agreed workplan. The IAs will together provide oversight of the project execution as well as technical advisory support to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards and requirements. Responsibilities of the IAs will include:

- Administration of funds from the GEF in accordance with the individual rules and procedures of UNDP, FAO, and CI.

- Monitoring project implementation in accordance with the project documents, work plans, budgets, agreements with co-financiers, and other rules and procedures of UNDP, FAO, and CI.
- Providing technical advisory guidance to ensure that appropriate technical quality.
- Reporting to the GEF Secretariat through the annual Project Implementation Report (PIR), on project progress as well as providing financial reports to the GEF Trustee. UNDP will be responsible for the PIRs, and the other agencies will provide inputs to UNDP.

A strict firewall will be maintained between the delivery of project oversight and quality assurance performed by UNDP, FAO, and CI and execution undertaken by UNDP, FAO, and CI. The IAs will separate their project implementation oversight and execution duties through: 1) Satisfactory institutional arrangement for the separation of implementation oversight and executing functions in different departments of the GEF Partner Agency; and 2) Clear lines of responsibility, reporting and accountability within the GEF Partner Agency between the project implementation oversight and execution functions.

Project Governance Structure

Under the guidance of the GEF SGP Steering Committee, the main governance and oversight body for the project will be the Project Steering Committee (PSC), composed of representatives from the GEF Secretariat, UNDP, FAO, and CI.

The functions of the PSC include assessments of major risks to the project, and decisions on management actions or remedial measures to address them effectively. The PSC reviews evidence of programme performance based on monitoring, evaluation and reporting, including progress reports, risk logs and the combined delivery report.

A Technical Advisory Group will be established, comprising representatives from the GEF Secretariat, UNDP, FAO, Conservation International (CI), civil society organizations, and the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), to facilitate the flow of information, streamline support efforts, and promote coherence in the design and operation of the Knowledge and Learning Platform. The Advisory Group will report to the PSC.

The composition of the Technical Advisory Group will also seek to include representatives from civil society, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and women's and youth organizations, ensuring that platform design and implementation are informed by diverse user perspectives.

Execution of the Project

UNDP, FAO, and CI will also act as the Executing Agencies (EAs). The EAs will each be responsible and accountable for delivery of agreed project outputs; timely monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and effective use of the GEF resources in line with the IAs' and GEF policy requirements. A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be established and hosted by the UNDP. The PMU will also serve as the Secretariat of the PSC.

The PMU will be staffed by a Project Manager and a Knowledge Management Officer. The UNDP SGP Central Programme Management Team (CPMT) will provide technical support to the PMU. The PMU will have the responsibility for supporting the technical outcomes of the project, as well as project management and coordination and communication with the project focal points of FAO and CI.

FAO and CI will each establish Coordination Units, each staffed by a Knowledge Management Officer (project focal point), with support from other functions within their organizations.

At a high level, UNDP will lead overall platform architecture, coordination, and integration with the global SGP system, including management of the Project Management Unit and reporting to the GEF. Preliminarily, FAO is envisaged to contribute technical leadership on knowledge systems related to sustainable agriculture, land use, and farmer-based learning networks, including development of relevant learning products and field-based testing, and Conservation International will support knowledge curation, innovation, and partnerships related to biodiversity and community-based solutions, including contributions to platform content and outreach. The detailed division of responsibilities across components and outputs will be further refined during the PPG phase and confirmed at CEO Endorsement.

Initiative / project	Description of cooperation, synergies with the SGP Knowledge and Learning Platform
SGP Global Website	The SGP Global Website is the primary public-facing digital entry point for the Program. The KLP will be tightly integrated with the website through aligned branding, cross-linking, and content sharing. Selected learning products, case studies, and success stories generated by the KLP will be featured on the website to strengthen visibility and outreach.
IW:LEARN (GEF)	IW:LEARN is the GEF's flagship knowledge-sharing platform for International Waters. Cooperation includes linking relevant IW:LEARN and SGP resources, co-hosting peer-learning events, and sharing best practices for curation, metadata standards, and low-bandwidth design. The KLP will draw on IW:LEARN's multi-agency governance experience and two decades of lessons on sustainability, user uptake, and content management.
Learning for Nature Platform (UNDP)	Learning for Nature delivers global biodiversity and sustainability e-learning through facilitated courses, communities of practice, and curated knowledge modules. The KLP will collaborate with Learning for Nature to cross-link content, co-develop short courses for CSOs and CBOs, and coordinate outreach and community-building. Joint webinars and harmonized metadata structures will facilitate user navigation and reduce duplication.
Panorama Solutions (UNEP-IUCN)	Panorama curates global case studies of successful nature-based solutions. The KLP will exchange methodologies for documenting community innovations, cross-link "solutions" in Panorama with SGP case materials, and adopt compatible curation and editorial standards. Panorama's extensive network offers visibility channels for SGP community practices.
Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) Donor: Agence Française de Développement (AFD)	CEPF supports civil society in biodiversity hotspots and includes learning and knowledge components that align with the KLP. Cooperation includes exchange of CSO case studies, cross-promotion of learning products, and harmonization of documentation formats. CEPF hotspot experience can enrich SGP learning modules, particularly for biodiversity and community governance themes.
Ecosystem-based Adaptation in the Indian Ocean Donor: Green Climate Fund via Agence Française de Développement (AFD) as Accredited Entity	This regional program integrates CSO capacity building, ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) implementation, and structured knowledge products. The KLP will draw on regional EbA case materials, coordinate with learning events when relevant, and integrate EbA-relevant guidance for SGP country programmes in the Western Indian Ocean and similar contexts.

Initiative / project	Description of cooperation, synergies with the SGP Knowledge and Learning Platform
Improved conservation in biodiversity hotspots by advancing gender equality Donor: Global Affairs Canada	This initiative supports gender-responsive biodiversity conservation in the Cerrado, Indo-Burma, and Tropical Andes. Its knowledge products and gender-integrated methodologies are directly relevant for SGP learning materials. The KLP will draw on completed outputs to reinforce gender-responsive design in curricula and ensure alignment with global good practice.
Data Platform for SIDS	The SIDS Data Platform provides climate, environment, and development data tailored for Small Island Developing States. Selected indicators and datasets can be incorporated into KLP learning products, dashboards, and templates for monitoring. Cooperation will focus on embedding SIDS-relevant data into community project design and learning modules.
AI Hub for Sustainable Development	The AI Hub supports responsible, inclusive AI solutions across UNDP's program portfolio. The KLP will collaborate on responsible AI use cases—particularly adaptive translation, plain-language search, and ethical guidelines for assistive tools. The Hub may provide technical assurance support to ensure AI features in the KLP follow UNDP's Responsible AI principles.
Forest and Farm Facility Phase II Climate Resilient Landscapes and Improved Livelihoods Donors: Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden UK, United States, IKEA	The second phase of the Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) aims at supporting forest and farm producers and their organizations to enable climate-resilient landscapes and improved livelihoods, through the approval of small grants for producers' organizations, training and exchanges, and the documentation and dissemination of good practices. There are good collaboration opportunities with the SGP KLP to disseminate knowledge and learnings.
AFR100 - Access to funding and technical assistance for forest and smallholder farm producers and enterprises to accelerate restoration-based value-added innovation, with focus on Africa Donor: Germany	The overall purpose of the AFR100 project is to enable the scaling up of local-driven restoration action on the ground through the provision of accessible funding solutions and technical assistance targeting Local Communities including Indigenous Peoples and Forest and farm producer organizations and decentralized entities – providing grassroots level collaboration opportunities with the SGP KLP, namely through knowledge dissemination and learning.
Farmer Field School (FFS) approaches.	FAO and other development organizations have been promoting FFS approaches in over 90 countries. Collaboration between the SGP KLP and the Global FFS platform can offer space for sharing knowledge and expertise, connecting a global Community of Practice and facilitating partnerships among institutions committed to sustainable farming, education and empowering people.

Beyond the formal institutional arrangements described above, the project will engage with a broader set of partners active in supporting civil society and community-based environmental action. In particular, IUCN and the World Bank, which play important roles in global and regional civil society support initiatives, will be engaged during the PPG phase to explore opportunities for (i) contributing relevant knowledge products and case studies to the Platform, (ii) supporting the testing and refinement of learning materials with civil society partners, and (iii) providing advisory inputs through the Technical Advisory Group. This engagement will ensure alignment with broader civil-society support mechanisms under SGP 2.0, while allowing roles to be defined in detail during project preparation.

Core Indicators

Indicator 1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Indicator 1.1 Terrestrial Protected Areas Newly created

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
N/A						

Indicator 1.2 Terrestrial Protected Areas Under improved Management effectiveness

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)
N/A									

Indicator 2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Indicator 2.1 Marine Protected Areas Newly created

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDPA ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
N/A						

Indicator 2.2 Marine Protected Areas Under improved management effectiveness

Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Name of the Protected Area	WDP A ID	IUCN Category	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)	METT score (Baseline at CEO Endorsement)	METT score (Achieved at MTR)	METT score (Achieved at TE)

N/A									
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Indicator 3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural lands under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 3.2 Area of forest and forest land under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and woodland under restoration

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (including estuaries, mangroves) under restoration

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 4 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0	0	0	0

Indicator 4.1 Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares, qualitative assessment, non-certified)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Type/Name of Third Party Certification

Indicator 4.3 Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)

0.00

Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided

Disaggregation Type	Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 4.5 Terrestrial OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Documents (Document(s) that justifies the HCVF)

Title

Indicator 5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas)

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
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0.00

Indicator 5.1 Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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0

Type/name of the third-party certification

Indicator 5.2 Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
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LME at PIF	LME at CEO Endorsement	LME at MTR	LME at TE
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Indicator 5.3 Marine OECMs supported

Name of the OECMs	WDPA-ID	Total Ha (Expected at PIF)	Total Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Total Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Total Ha (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	0	0	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0	0	0	0

Indicator 6.1 Carbon Sequestered or Emissions Avoided in the AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	0			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0			
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.2 Emissions Avoided Outside AFOLU (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) Sector

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (direct)	0			
Expected metric tons of CO₂e (indirect)	0			
Anticipated start year of accounting				
Duration of accounting				

Indicator 6.3 Energy Saved (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Total Target Benefit	Energy (MJ) (At PIF)	Energy (MJ) (At CEO Endorsement)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at MTR)	Energy (MJ) (Achieved at TE)
Target Energy Saved (MJ)	0			

Indicator 6.4 Increase in Installed Renewable Energy Capacity per Technology (Use this sub-indicator in addition to the sub-indicator 6.2 if applicable)

Technology	Capacity (MW) (Expected at PIF)	Capacity (MW) (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at MTR)	Capacity (MW) (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 7 Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Shared water Ecosystem Count	0	0	0	0

Indicator 7.1 Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program (TDA/SAP) formulation and implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 7.2 Level of Regional Legal Agreements and Regional management institution(s) (RMI) to support its implementation (scale of 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 7.3 Level of National/Local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministeral Committees (IMC; scale 1 to 4; See Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 7.4 Level of engagement in IWLEARN through participation and delivery of key products(scale 1 to 4; see Guidance)

Shared Water Ecosystem	Rating (Expected at PIF)	Rating (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Rating (Achieved at MTR)	Rating (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 8 Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Fishery Details

Indicator 9 Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Indicator 9.1 Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type)

POPs type	Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
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Indicator 9.2 Quantity of mercury reduced (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)

Indicator 9.3 Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFC) Reduced/Phased out (metric tons)

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 9.4 Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
0			

Indicator 9.5 Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing and cities (Use this sub-indicator in addition to one of the sub-indicators 9.1, 9.2 and 9.3 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
0			

Indicator 9.6 POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 9.7 Highly Hazardous Pesticides eliminated

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 9.8 Avoided residual plastic waste

Metric Tons (Expected at PIF)	Metric Tons (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Metric Tons (Achieved at MTR)	Metric Tons (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 10 Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced

Grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ (Expected at PIF)	Grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ (Achieved at MTR)	Grams of toxic equivalent gTEQ (Achieved at TE)
0.00			

Indicator 10.1 Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air (Use this sub-indicator in addition to Core Indicator 10 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
0			

Indicator 10.2 Number of emission control technologies/practices implemented (Use this sub-indicator in addition to Core Indicator 10 if applicable)

Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
0			

Indicator 11 People benefiting from GEF-financed investments

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	5,000			
Male	5,000			
Total	10,000		0	0

Explain the methodological approach and underlying logic to justify target levels for Core and Sub-Indicators (max. 250 words, approximately 1/2 page)

The project directly contributes to Core Indicator 11 through its capacity-building and governance outcomes. The platform is expected to serve 1,000 CSO/CBO organizational users by Year 4, based on adoption rates from IW:LEARN and past SGP digital pilots. Using a conservative multiplier of 10 individuals per organization (Country Programme teams, community project leads, mentors, trainers), the project will reach approximately 10,000 people, with explicit gender/youth targets (50% women, 20% youth) reflected in the design of training and mentoring systems.

Key Risks

	Rating	Explanation of risk and mitigation measures
CONTEXT		
Climate		The project meets the social and environmental screening procedure (SESP) exemption criteria under UNDP policy, specifically for projects consisting solely of the following functions or activities: (b) preparation and dissemination of reports, documents and communication materials; (c) Organization of an event, workshop, training and/or (f) Global/regional projects with no country-level activities (e.g. activities such as knowledge management, inter-governmental processes).
Environmental and Social		The project meets the social and environmental screening procedure (SESP) exemption criteria under UNDP policy, specifically for projects consisting solely of the following functions or activities: (b) preparation and dissemination of reports, documents and communication materials; (c) Organization of an event, workshop, training and/or (f) Global/regional projects with no country-level activities (e.g. activities such as knowledge management, inter-governmental processes).
Political and Governance	Moderate	Differences in institutional priorities, approval cycles, or decision-making processes among UNDP, FAO, CI, and the GEF Secretariat may delay governance decisions related to the KLP, slow adoption of harmonized data standards, or create inconsistent engagement across agencies. Changes in national or agency leadership could deprioritize knowledge management or alter commitments to coordination, cost-sharing, or staffing. Similar governance inconsistencies affected earlier multi-agency platforms such as

		<p>IW:LEARN, where unclear roles and parallel systems created delays and administrative burden. Mitigation Measures: • A single Coordination Unit is established under Component 1.2, with defined TOR, delegated authority, and direct reporting lines agreed across agencies. • A formal Inter-Agency Governance Charter (Output 1.2.1) outlines roles, responsibilities, escalation pathways, and synchronized annual work planning. • Harmonized reporting templates and metadata standards reduce the opportunity for policy or procedural divergence. • Annual Governance Reviews allow agencies to adjust responsibilities, update commitments, and respond to political or institutional changes. • Cost-sharing and sustainability commitments are formalized early to prevent budget-related delays. • National Steering Committees (NSCs) are briefed on the KLP’s role to avoid misalignment with country-level governance.</p>
<p>INNOVATION</p>		
<p>Institutional and Policy</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>The project introduces new approaches to training, digital knowledge management, and AI-assisted functions that may not fully align with existing institutional policies or workflows across UNDP, FAO, CI, and national partners. Differences in data-governance rules, branding practices, IT-security standards, and intellectual-property requirements may delay the adoption of platform features or restrict the full use of innovative tools. In some countries, policies on digital access, AI use, or knowledge-sharing may further constrain implementation. As seen in earlier GEF knowledge platforms, innovative functions can stall if institutional rules or approval processes do not adapt in time. Mitigation Measures: • The project embeds joint data-governance and cybersecurity protocols in Output 1.2.4, harmonizing the rules that previously differed across IAs. • A formal Inter-Agency Governance Charter (Output 1.2.1) establishes shared standards for branding, knowledge curation, and content authorization, reducing policy conflicts. • AI-assisted features are deliberately limited to assistive functions (translation, indexing, plain-language search) and governed by explicit ethical-use protocols developed during the PPG phase (supported by Output 2.2.5). • Localization and inclusion reviews (Output 2.1.3) ensure that learning products align with national policies, cultural norms, and traditional knowledge sensitivities. • Annual Governance Reviews include a policy-alignment checkpoint to identify and resolve mismatches early. • Countries retain full control over their own data; the KLP uses metadata-sharing only, minimizing regulatory conflicts.</p>
<p>Technological</p>	<p>Moderate</p>	<p>Interoperability barriers, including differing metadata standards, file formats, IT-security policies, and accessibility requirements, may slow development or require more customization than anticipated. There is also a risk that the volume and heterogeneity of existing content may exceed initial estimates, increasing development workload or constraining platform performance if not properly curated. These challenges were noted in previous multi-agency knowledge initiatives, including IW:LEARN’s modernization, which faced unexpected effort due to the size and variability of legacy material. Mitigation Measures: • The KLP uses modular, open-API architecture (Output 1.1.1) that</p>

		allows agencies to maintain internal systems while sharing standardized metadata rather than full datasets. • A portfolio-wide content audit and needs assessment is conducted before development (Output 1.1.1), minimizing scope creep and clarifying which assets require curation or conversion. • Content integration emphasizes metadata harmonization and curation, not wholesale ingestion, reducing technical load while improving searchability (Output 1.1.2). • The platform is developed with low-bandwidth, mobile-first design to ensure performance for end users regardless of device or connectivity (Output 1.1.3). • Annual platform performance reviews built into governance cycles enable early detection of scalability, hosting, or interface issues. • Outsourcing options for specialized technical tasks are built into procurement plans to prevent bottlenecks.
Financial and Business Model	Moderate	The project assumes that the platform can be developed, operated, and maintained within the allocated GEF budget and that Implementing Agencies will sustain ongoing costs after project completion. There is a risk that actual development costs, particularly for interoperability, content migration, or multilingual functionality, could exceed estimates, or that the volume and complexity of legacy knowledge assets require more staff time than anticipated. Long-term maintenance also depends on continued cost-sharing and operational commitments from UNDP, FAO, and CI; shifts in agency budgets or priorities could weaken these commitments. Similar GEF knowledge platforms, including IW:LEARN, have noted that insufficient long-term financing or unclear cost-sharing arrangements can undermine sustainability. Mitigation Measures: • A costed sustainability plan (Output 1.2.3) will be developed early in implementation, identifying core agency budget lines for hosting, staffing, content updating, and security. • The project uses modular, open-source architecture (Output 1.1.1), reducing licensing fees, allowing phased development, and avoiding expensive proprietary systems. • Curation—not full ingestion—of content (Output 1.1.2) keeps data-processing, storage, and harmonization costs manageable. • Procurement of platform development uses competitive bidding and allows outsourcing of specialized tasks to prevent cost overruns. • The governance charter (Output 1.2.1) formalizes inter-agency cost-sharing, ensuring that hosting, updates, and maintenance are not dependent on a single institution. • Potential partnerships with low-cost learning hosts (e.g., UNESCO-IOC’s Ocean Teacher Global Academy) will be explored to reduce long-term delivery costs. • Annual financial and governance reviews allow early adjustment of budgets and responsibilities to address cost pressures.

EXECUTION

Capacity	Moderate	The project requires consistent coordination across three Implementing Agencies and 135 SGP Country Programmes, each with different levels of capacity, staff turnover, and digital readiness. If staffing for the Coordination Unit is insufficient, or if Country Programme teams do not have the time or skills to adopt new learning products and systems, implementation quality and uptake could suffer. Experience from earlier global knowledge platforms, such
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		<p>as IW:LEARN, shows that insufficient staffing, unclear responsibilities, and heavy reliance on a few individuals can considerably slow delivery and reduce quality. In addition, variation in national-level digital capacity may affect the pace and consistency of platform adoption. Mitigation Measures: • A dedicated Coordination Unit will be established with a minimum of three global specialists supported by IA focal points (Output 1.2.2), aligning workload with IW:LEARN lessons on staffing adequacy. • The Inter-Agency Governance Charter (Output 1.2.1) clearly defines roles, responsibilities, decision-making authority, and escalation pathways for timely support and conflict resolution. • Country Programme teams will receive structured onboarding and administrator training through Component 1.1, ensuring consistent capability to adopt and use the platform. • Standardized learning products (Output 2.1.1–2.1.3) reduce the burden on Country Programme staff by providing ready-to-use materials that can be deployed with minimal adaptation. • A network of regional mentors and peer-learning groups (Output 2.2.2) will support Country Programmes with limited staffing or high turnover. • Annual governance reviews include a staffing adequacy assessment, allowing the project to adjust roles or outsource technical tasks when workload exceeds capacity. • Low-bandwidth and mobile-first design (Output 1.1.3) ensures that limited technical capacity at the country level does not hinder participation.</p>
Fiduciary	Moderate	<p>The long-term operation of the Knowledge and Learning Platform depends on Implementing Agencies sustaining budget allocations after GEF financing concludes. Because the Platform is a global public good with no identified enterprise revenue streams, it cannot recover costs through subscriptions, fees, or commercial partnerships. This reliance on donor cycles and agency core budgets presents a fiduciary risk: shifts in institutional priorities, budget constraints, or leadership changes could reduce the resources available for hosting, updates, and staffing. Multi-agency projects such as IW:LEARN have documented similar vulnerabilities, noting that unclear or unfunded long-term cost-sharing can undermine platform continuity. Mitigation Measures: • A costed sustainability plan (Output 1.2.3) will be developed early, identifying committed budget lines within UNDP, FAO, and CI for hosting, maintenance, and staffing. • The Inter-Agency Governance Charter (Output 1.2.1) will embed cost-sharing obligations and annual review cycles, reducing reliance on ad hoc or discretionary funding. • The KLP uses a modular, open-source design (Output 1.1.1) that minimizes recurring costs (licensing, hosting, updates). • Strategic partnerships with low-cost learning hosts will be explored to reduce operating expenses. • Annual governance and financial reviews allow early detection of funding gaps and reallocation of responsibilities across agencies. • The platform architecture emphasizes curation over ingestion (Output 1.1.2), lowering long-term data-processing and storage costs.</p>
Stakeholder	Moderate	<p>Given the diversity of SGP stakeholders — across 135 Country Programmes, National Steering Committees, grantee partners, Indigenous peoples organizations, women’s groups, youth-led CSOs, and multiple Implementing Agencies — there is a risk that some groups may not consistently engage with</p>

		<p>the Knowledge and Learning Platform. Uneven digital access, varied levels of technical capacity, language barriers, and limited staff time may lead to lower uptake. Lessons from IW:LEARN, Panorama, and the Good Growth Partnership show that global knowledge platforms succeed only when accompanied by active, ongoing outreach, rather than relying on passive availability of tools. Insufficient engagement would weaken the impact of learning products, limit feedback loops, and reduce the platform’s contribution to global environmental benefits. Mitigation Measures: • A portfolio-wide needs assessment and co-design process (Output 1.1.1) ensure platform features and content respond to real user demand, reducing engagement barriers at the outset. • Localization and translation of learning products (Output 2.1.3) make materials accessible and culturally relevant for women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and local communities. • Structured mentoring and peer-learning networks (Output 2.2.2) provide a human touchpoint and sustained engagement for stakeholders with lower digital readiness. • The platform employs a mobile-first, low-bandwidth interface (Output 1.1.3), addressing access challenges for rural or underserved stakeholders. • Two-way feedback mechanisms (Output 3.1.2) allow users to influence updates and report challenges, reinforcing the sense of ownership and relevance. • Proactive outreach and targeted communication campaigns (Outputs 3.2.2–3.2.4) — including regular updates, curated showcases, and direct engagement with Country Programmes — ensure that stakeholders remain aware of new features, learning products, and opportunities. • NSCs will be engaged regularly to support country-level use, embed platform resources in country workflows, and champion stakeholders who are most at risk of exclusion.</p>
Other	Moderate	<p>As the Platform grows, there is a risk that large volumes of legacy documents, inconsistent materials from different agencies, and frequent user submissions could overwhelm the system, dilute quality, or lead to outdated or contradictory guidance being circulated. Previous GEF knowledge platforms such as IW:LEARN and Panorama noted that uncontrolled content ingestion and insufficient curation can reduce user trust, make search functions less effective, and create “platform fatigue.” If not actively managed, the KLP may accumulate content faster than can be reviewed, reducing its usefulness for grantee partners and Country Programmes. Mitigation Measures: • The project uses a curation-based model, not wholesale ingestion, ensuring only relevant and high-quality content is integrated (Output 1.1.2). • Peer review, gender/IPLC inclusion checks, and quality-control protocols (Output 2.1.3) prevent low-quality or outdated materials from being posted. • A living curriculum approach schedules periodic updates and retirement of obsolete content. • Metadata harmonization and standardized tagging improve discoverability and prevent duplication. • Analytics dashboards (Output 3.1.2) will identify under-used or irrelevant materials for pruning. • The Coordination Unit holds explicit responsibility for content governance, ensuring consistent curation across agencies.</p>

Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	The project presents moderate risks related to multi-agency coordination, stakeholder uptake, long-term sustainability, and technical integration, all of which are mitigated through dedicated governance arrangements, modular platform design, structured mentoring and feedback systems, and annual reviews to support adaptive management.
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C. ALIGNMENT WITH GEF-8 PROGRAMMING STRATEGIES AND COUNTRY/REGIONAL PRIORITIES

Describe how the proposed interventions are aligned with GEF- 8 programming strategies and country and regional priorities, including how these country strategies and plans relate to the multilateral environmental agreements.

Confirm if any country policies that might contradict with intended outcomes of the project have been identified, and how the project will address this.

For projects aiming to generate biodiversity benefits (regardless of what the source of the resources is - i.e., BD, CC or LD), please identify which of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework the project contributes to and explain how. (max. 500 words, approximately 1 page)

C.1: Alignment with the GEF-8 Results Framework and Focal-Area Strategies

The proposed Knowledge and Learning Platform (KLP) is fully aligned with the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework (GEF/C.62/Inf.12/Rev.01) and the four pillars of SGP 2.0: **Expansion, Innovation, Diversification, and Optimization**. It contributes directly to Core Indicator 11. Operating as a cross-cutting enabling system rather than a single-focal-area intervention, the KLP enhances the performance of biodiversity, climate-change, land-degradation and chemicals-and-waste portfolios by improving the quality, consistency and inclusiveness of SGP-supported projects.

The Platform supports the GEF-8 Knowledge and Learning Agenda by converting three decades of SGP experience into a unified, multilingual resource that improves coordination, transparency and accountability across Implementing Agencies. Its design reflects GEF-wide lessons from IW:LEARN, Evidensia and Panorama Solutions, pairing digital delivery with human mentoring and co-creation of content. Innovation will include blended training, South–South and Triangular exchange, and the ethical use of AI-enabled translation and plain-language search to reduce barriers for grass-roots actors. Linkages with UNDP’s Accelerator Labs and IUCN’s SGP Innovation Programme will ensure coherence with other GEF-8 knowledge initiatives.

The KLP advances GEF’s mandate to reach the *last mile*—the communities and ecosystems most distant from national centers of power and finance. By delivering training and mentoring through low-bandwidth and mobile-friendly technologies, it expands governments’ ability to implement global environmental agreements in remote areas that rarely benefit from direct budget support. In this sense, the Platform democratizes access to capacity building and turns knowledge into a public good that aligns national policy aspirations with community-level action.

C.2: Alignment with Country Priorities and Global Commitments

Through the SGP’s network of 135 Country Programmes, the KLP supports national delivery of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Global Biodiversity Framework, the Paris Agreement (NDCs), and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (Land Degradation Neutrality targets). It also reinforces national chemicals and waste plans by providing training on pollution prevention and circular-economy approaches. Because the Platform improves the quality and reach of small-grant interventions, it offers countries a cost-effective mechanism for engaging civil-society organizations and local governments in achieving these commitments.

The project also contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals, notably SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water) and SDG 15 (Life on Land). By empowering local organizations—many of them women- or Indigenous peoples-led—to access training and resources in their own languages, it broadens equitable

participation in environmental governance and enhances countries' ability to report on progress under the MEAs and SDGs.

C.3: Gender, Inclusion and Stakeholder Engagement

Gender equality, inclusion and Indigenous peoples' participation are integral to the project's design and implementation. All learning products will undergo gender and inclusion review, and regional localization will ensure that women, youth and traditional knowledge are embedded throughout. At least 50% of platform users and 50 percent of mentoring participants are expected to be women. Indigenous peoples and local community organizations will co-author case studies and learning modules, turning the Platform into a participatory knowledge commons.

Stakeholder engagement follows established SGP procedures: broad consultations during project preparation, ongoing feedback through the Platform's communication tools, and adherence to UNDP's Environmental and Social Standards and the GEF Policies on Gender Equality (2017) and Engagement with Indigenous peoples (2012). Through these mechanisms, the project ensures that inclusivity, transparency and responsiveness remain central throughout implementation.

D. POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment:

We confirm that gender dimensions relevant to the project have been addressed as per GEF Policy and are clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

Stakeholder Engagement

We confirm that key stakeholders were consulted during PIF development as required per GEF policy, their relevant roles to project outcomes and plan to develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan before CEO endorsement has been clearly articulated in the Project Description (Section B).

Yes

Were the following stakeholders consulted during project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities:

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector:

Provide a brief summary and list of names and dates of consultations

During the PIF)stage, stakeholder consultations were undertaken in a targeted and strategic manner, focusing on drawing on institutional experience relevant to the design of the global learning platform. Colleagues from the three GEF Implementing Agencies—UNDP, FAO, and Conservation International—with direct SGP experience were consulted to inform the project concept, validate the identified needs, and ensure alignment with SGP 2.0 implementation realities. These early consultations helped shape the project rationale, scope, and emphasis on harmonized knowledge, learning, and coordination across agencies. Building on this initial engagement, the project will undertake extensive and inclusive stakeholder consultations, including surveys and participatory engagements with country programmes, civil society organizations, and community

partners, during the project preparation phase to further refine design, confirm demand, and strengthen ownership.

(Please upload to the portal documents tab any stakeholder engagement plan or assessments that have been done during the PIF development phase.)

Private Sector

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?

Yes

And if so, has its role been described and justified in the section B project description?

Yes

Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

We confirm that we have provided indicative information regarding Environmental and Social risks associated with the proposed project or program and any measures to address such risks and impacts (this information should be presented in Annex D).

No

N/A

N/A

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
Not available at this stage			
Medium/Moderate			

E. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge management

We confirm that an approach to Knowledge Management and Learning has been clearly described in the Project Description (Section B)

Yes

ANNEX A: FINANCING TABLES

GEF Financing Table

Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	GEF Project Grant(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total GEF Financing (\$)
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UNDP	GET	Global	Multi Focal Area	Small Grant Program	Grant	2,388,152.86	214,933.00	2,603,085.86
FAO	GET	Global	Multi Focal Area	Small Grant Program	Grant	960,000.00	86,400.00	1,046,400.00
CI	GET	Global	Multi Focal Area	Small Grant Program	Grant	960,000.00	86,400.00	1,046,400.00
Total GEF Resources (\$)						4,308,152.86	387,733.00	4,695,885.86

Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

Is Project Preparation Grant requested?

true

PPG Amount (\$)

150000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

13500

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	Grant / Non-Grant	PPG(\$)	Agency Fee(\$)	Total PPG Funding(\$)
UNDP	GET	Global	Multi Focal Area	Small Grant Program	Grant	150,000.00	13,500.00	163,500.00
Total PPG Amount (\$)						150,000.00	13,500.00	163,500.00

Please provide justification

Sources of Funds for Country Star Allocation

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country/ Regional/ Global	Focal Area	Sources of Funds	Total(\$)
Total GEF Resources					0.00

Indicative Focal Area Elements

Programming Directions	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Co-financing(\$)
SGP	GET	4,308,152.86	4308152.86
Total Project Cost		4,308,152.86	4,308,152.86

Indicative Co-financing

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount(\$)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grant	Investment mobilized	2388152.86
GEF Agency	FAO	Grant	Investment mobilized	960000
GEF Agency	CI	Grant	Investment mobilized	960000
Total Co-financing				4,308,152.86

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Indicative co-financing is expected to be mobilized primarily through the three GEF Agencies, reflecting their ongoing and planned investments in complementary projects, programmes, and institutional support mechanisms.

The platform will benefit from these complementary investments, ensuring high-quality and field-tested content and remaining responsive to emerging priorities. Collectively, these investments demonstrate strong institutional commitment by the GEF Agencies and are expected to significantly amplify the value and effectiveness of the platform.

ANNEX B: ENDORSEMENTS

GEF Agency(ies) Certification

GEF Agency Type	Name	Date	Project Contact Person	Phone	Email
GEF Agency Coordinator	Nancy Bennet	2/10/2026			nancy.bennet@undp.org
Project Coordinator	Doley Tshering	2/10/2026			doley.tshering@undp.org
Project Coordinator	Diana Salvemini	2/10/2026			diana.salvemini@undp.org

Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (s) on Behalf of the Government(s):

Name	Position	Ministry	Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

ANNEX C: PROJECT LOCATION

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place

Global project.

ANNEX D: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SCREEN AND RATING

(PIF level) Attach agency safeguard screen form including rating of risk types and overall risk rating.

ANNEX E: RIO MARKERS

Climate Change Mitigation	Climate Change Adaptation	Biodiversity	Land Degradation
Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1	Significant Objective 1

ANNEX F: TAXONOMY WORKSHEET

Please see attached file Annex F Taxonomy.