



## **Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Malaysia**

### **Part I: Project Information**

#### **GEF ID**

10363

#### **Project Type**

FSP

#### **Type of Trust Fund**

GET

#### **CBIT/NGI**

☐ CBIT

☐ NGI

#### **Project Title**

Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Malaysia

#### **Countries**

Malaysia

#### **Agency(ies)**

UNDP

#### **Other Executing Partner(s)**

UNOPS

#### **Executing Partner Type**

Others

#### **GEF Focal Area**

Multi Focal Area

#### **Taxonomy**

Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Mitigation, Renewable Energy, Sustainable Urban Systems and Transport, Energy Efficiency, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Climate Change Adaptation,

Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Community-based adaptation, Climate resilience, Innovation, Livelihoods, Biodiversity, Species, Wildlife for Sustainable Development, Threatened Species, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Productive Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Mainstreaming, Tourism, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Biomes, Tropical Rain Forests, Rivers, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Land Cover and Land cover change, Land Productivity, Food Security, Sustainable Land Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Ecosystem Approach, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Forest, Income Generating Activities, Sustainable Agriculture, Influencing models, Demonstrate innovative approach, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Stakeholders, Indigenous Peoples, Beneficiaries, Local Communities, Communications, Behavior change, Education, Public Campaigns, Awareness Raising, Private Sector, Individuals/Entrepreneurs, Type of Engagement, Consultation, Participation, Partnership, Information Dissemination, Civil Society, Academia, Non-Governmental Organization, Community Based Organization, Gender Equality, Gender Mainstreaming, Women groups, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Gender-sensitive indicators, Gender results areas, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Participation and leadership, Knowledge Generation and Exchange, Access to benefits and services, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Enabling Activities, Knowledge Exchange, Targeted Research, Knowledge Generation, Learning, Adaptive management, Indicators to measure change, Theory of change

**Rio Markers****Climate Change Mitigation**

Climate Change Mitigation 1

**Climate Change Adaptation**

Climate Change Adaptation 1

**Submission Date**

5/7/2021

**Expected Implementation Start**

10/1/2021

**Expected Completion Date**

9/30/2025

**Duration**

48In Months

**Agency Fee(\$)**

237,500.00

**A. FOCAL/NON-FOCAL AREA ELEMENTS**

<b>Objectives/Programs</b>	<b>Focal Area Outcomes</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Co-Fin Amount(\$)</b>
BD-1-1	BD 1-1 Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors	GET	1,430,000.00	1,842,500.00
CCM-1-1	CCM 1-1 Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs for decentralized power with energy storage	GET	1,070,000.00	907,500.00
<b>Total Project Cost(\$)</b>			<b>2,500,000.00</b>	<b>2,750,000.00</b>

## **B. Project description summary**

### **Project Objective**

To enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in i) the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah; ii) the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and iii) the Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia for global environmental benefits and sustainable development

<b>Project Component</b>	<b>Financing Type</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>GEF Project Financing(\$ )</b>	<b>Confirmed Co-Financing(\$ )</b>
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Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection	Technical Assistance	<p><b>Outcome 1.1:</b> Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions .</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.2:</b> Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level</p>	<p><b>Output 1.1.1:</b> Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services</p> <p><b>Output 1.1.2:</b> Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring</p> <p><b>Output 1.2.1:</b> Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications</p> <p><b>Output 1.2.2:</b> Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed</p>	GET	1,462,960.00	1,610,000.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building, and knowledge management	Technical Assistance	<p><b>Outcome 2.1:</b> Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience.</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.2:</b> Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches</p>	<p><b>Output 2.1.1:</b> Multi-stakeholder platforms established and/or strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes</p> <p><b>Output 2.1.2:</b> Landscape strategies for effective governance developed based on results of participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments in the selected intervention landscapes</p> <p><b>Output 2.1.3:</b> Partnership building and policy advocacy among governmental stakeholders, civil society, financial institutions, and private sector for facilitating broader adoption of participatory approaches</p> <p><b>Output 2.2.1:</b> Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized,</p>	GET	792,992.00	869,048.00

Project Component	Financing Type	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	GEF Project Financing(\$)	Confirmed Co-Financing(\$)
Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation	Technical Assistance	<b>Outcome 3.1:</b> Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation	<b>Output 3.1.1:</b> Project implementation effectively monitored and evaluated	GET	125,000.00	140,000.00
Sub Total (\$)					2,380,952.00	2,619,048.00
<b>Project Management Cost (PMC)</b>						
GET			119,048.00		130,952.00	
Sub Total(\$)			119,048.00		130,952.00	
Total Project Cost(\$)			2,500,000.00		2,750,000.00	

**C. Sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type**

<b>Sources of Co-financing</b>	<b>Name of Co-financier</b>	<b>Type of Co-financing</b>	<b>Investment Mobilized</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>
GEF Agency	United Nations Development Programme	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Ministry of Environment and Water	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	200,000.00
Recipient Country Government	Sabah Parks	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	100,000.00
Private Sector	Habitat Foundation	Grant	Investment mobilized	100,000.00
Donor Agency	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) ICCA GSI	Grant	Investment mobilized	500,000.00
Civil Society Organization	CSO grantees	In-kind	Recurrent expenditures	1,100,000.00
Civil Society Organization	CSO grantees	Grant	Investment mobilized	550,000.00
<b>Total Co-Financing(\$)</b>				<b>2,750,000.00</b>

**Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified**

Area of land restored (Core Indicator 3): The total estimated area of land restored is broken down by 500 ha of degraded agricultural lands restored (Sub-Indicator 3.1) and 500 ha of forest and forest land restored (Sub-Indicator 3.2). Restoration-rehabilitation projects are expected in each of the three landscapes.

Landscapes under improved practices (Core Indicator 4): The total estimated area of landscapes under improved practices in OP7 is 43,000 ha, broken down by 24,000 ha of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (Sub-Indicator 4.1), 8,000 ha of landscapes that meet national or international third-party certification and that incorporates biodiversity considerations (Sub-Indicator 4.2), and 11,000 ha of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (Sub-Indicator 4.3).

Estimated GHG emissions mitigated (Core Indicator 6): Based on experiences during earlier SGP operational phases and potential in the project landscapes identified during PPG consultations, an estimated



6,500 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (lifetime direct) and 26,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e (lifetime indirect) are estimated to be avoided through community RE and EE interventions (Sub-Indicator 6.2) - see breakdown of the estimations in Annex 15 to the Project Document. GHG emissions avoided through interventions in the agriculture, forestry, and land use sector (AFOLU) are included in the Core Indicator 6 estimations (Sub-Indicator 6.1). Using the FAO Ex-Ante Carbon Balance Tool (EX-ACT), roughly 335,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e over a 20-year lifetime are estimated to be avoided as co-benefits of the project interventions in the AFOLU sector (see Annex 15 to the Project Document for EX-ACT output). Direct beneficiaries (Core Indicator 11): The end target is based on experience during earlier operational phases; the project's gender mainstreaming target for the proportion of direct female beneficiaries is 50%. The project will also contribute to achievement of the targets outlined in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which was under development at the time of developing the Project Document. The project is aligned with the following draft 2030 Action Targets of the zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework: ? Target 1. By 2030, [50%] of land and sea areas globally are under spatial planning addressing land/sea use change, retaining most of the existing intact and wilderness areas, and allow to restore [X%] of degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial natural ecosystems and connectivity among them. ? Target 7. By 2030, increase contributions to climate change mitigation adaption and disaster risk reduction from nature-based solutions and ecosystems-based approaches, ensuring resilience and minimizing any negative impacts on biodiversity. ? Target 9. By 2030, support the productivity, sustainability and resilience of biodiversity in agricultural and other managed ecosystems through conservation and sustainable use of such ecosystems, reducing productivity gaps by at least [50%]. ? Target 11. By 2030, increase benefits from biodiversity and green/blue spaces for human health and well-being, including the proportion of people with access to such spaces by at least [100%], especially for urban dwellers. ? Target 13. By 2030, integrate biodiversity values into policies, regulations, planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts at all levels, ensuring that biodiversity values are mainstreamed across all sectors and integrated into assessments of environmental impacts. ? Target 19. By 2030, ensure that quality information, including traditional knowledge, is available to decision makers and public for the effective management of biodiversity through promoting awareness, education and research. ? Target 20. By 2030, ensure equitable participation in decision-making related to biodiversity and ensure rights over relevant resources of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and girls as well as youth, in accordance with national circumstances.

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

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Trust Fund</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Focal Area</b>	<b>Programming of Funds</b>	<b>Amount(\$)</b>	<b>Fee(\$)</b>
UNDP	GET	Malaysia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	1,430,000	135,850
UNDP	GET	Malaysia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	1,070,000	101,650
<b>Total Grant Resources(\$)</b>					<b>2,500,000.00</b>	<b>237,500.00</b>

**E. Non Grant Instrument**

NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT at CEO Endorsement

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Includes Non grant instruments? **No**

Includes reflow to GEF? **No**

F. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

PPG Required

☐

PPG Amount (\$)

100,000

PPG Agency Fee (\$)

9,500

Agenc y	Trust Fund	Country	Focal Area	Programmin g of Funds	Amount(\$)	Fee(\$)
UNDP	GET	Malaysia	Biodiversity	BD STAR Allocation	70,000	6,650
UNDP	GET	Malaysia	Climate Change	CC STAR Allocation	30,000	2,850
Total Project Costs(\$)					100,000.00	9,500.00

## Core Indicators

### Indicator 3 Area of land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1000.00	1000.00	0.00	0.00

#### Indicator 3.1 Area of degraded agricultural land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
1,000.00	500.00		

#### Indicator 3.2 Area of Forest and Forest Land restored

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	500.00		

#### Indicator 3.3 Area of natural grass and shrublands restored

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

#### Indicator 3.4 Area of wetlands (incl. estuaries, mangroves) restored

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

### 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)
43000.00	43000.00	0.00	0.00

#### 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)
23,000.00	24,000.00		

**Indicator 4.2 Area of landscapes that meets national or international third party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (hectares)**

Ha (Expected at PIF)	Ha (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Ha (Achieved at MTR)	Ha (Achieved at TE)
	8,000.00		

**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)
20,000.00	11,000.00		

**Indicator 4.4 Area of High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) loss avoided**

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

**Documents (Please upload document(s) that justifies the HCVF)**

Title	Submitted
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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 CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	300000	341500	0	0
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)	0	26000	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 CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)		335,000		

Total Target Benefit	(At PIF)	(At CEO Endorsement)	(Achieved at MTR)	(Achieved at TE)
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)				
Anticipated start year of accounting		2022		
Duration of accounting		20		

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 CO <sub>2</sub> e (direct)	300,000	6,500		
Expected metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e (indirect)		26,000		
Anticipated start year of accounting		2022		
Duration of accounting		20		

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)				

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)
Small Hydropower	0.06			
<a href="#">select</a>				

Indicator 11 Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

	Number (Expected at PIF)	Number (Expected at CEO Endorsement)	Number (Achieved at MTR)	Number (Achieved at TE)
Female	5,000	5,000		
Male	5,000	5,000		
Total	10000	10000	0	0

## Part II. Project Justification

### 1a. Project Description

There are no significant changes in alignment with the project design of the original PIF. A few of the indicative outcomes and outputs outlined in the PIF were revised and merged through the process of refining the project design during the project preparation phase. These changes are described below in Section 1a.3.

#### *1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed (systems description)*

Malaysia is one of the megadiverse countries in the world[1], with rich terrestrial, coastal and marine habitats harbouring globally significant biodiversity. Malaysia's natural habitats support diverse array of flora and fauna, including estimated 15,000 species of vascular plants, 306 species of mammals, 742 species of birds, 242 species of amphibians, 567 species of reptiles, over 449 species of freshwater fish, over 1,619 species of marine fish and more than 150,000 species of invertebrates.[2]

The country has undergone significant population increase and socioeconomic changes in recent years. The population has increased from 23 million in 1998 to an estimated 32.7 million in 2020, and the per capita gross domestic product (GDP) has almost tripled.[3] The transition towards a developed, high-income nation has exerted various pressures on our biodiversity, leaving many species vulnerable with some even facing threats of extinction. Nearly half of the nation's plant diversity is facing various levels of threat. Other pressures that threaten Malaysia's biodiversity include habitat fragmentation, invasive alien species, pollution, poaching, increasing competition for land as well as climate change. Furthermore, there is a general lack of awareness on the importance of biodiversity throughout the country as well as significant knowledge gaps. There are also weaknesses in management capacities and shortage of funding ? both which are crucial to ensure that Malaysia's biodiversity is effectively conserved.

Climate change is also a significant threat to the people and ecosystems of Malaysia. Average temperatures are forecast to increase up to 2.6°C by the year 2050. Annual precipitation is predicted to fluctuate by 30% (with both more prolonged droughts and more intense floods). Since the 1990s, droughts have periodically resulted in fires that have destroyed large areas of forest and peatlands. These fires have also resulted in the phenomenon known as the 'haze' which causes significant increases in respiratory illness.

The decade from 2008-2018 saw extreme weather patterns in terms of both temperature and rainfall. Over this period, there were increased minimum, mean and maximum air temperature and the intensity of rainfall also increased. Major floods occurred in 2010, 2012 and 2014, with the 2014 northeast monsoon floods being one of the worst in recorded history. The prolonged 2016 El Niño resulted in water shortages, heat waves and wild fires. Droughts from climate change are predicted to cause a 20% decline in yields from crops such as rice and oil palm. On the other hand, increased flooding would



affect around 9% of the land area, affecting millions of residents and costing the country MYR 100 million (approx. USD 20 million) annually. Increased rainfall is also predicted to increase diseases such as malaria and cause a reduction in yields from crops such as rubber. Climate change also threatens to lead to rising sea levels, resulting in coastal erosion throughout much of Malaysia.

In supporting the efforts of government for long term sustainable development, enhanced governance will facilitate the shift towards sustainable growth and enable better natural resource management. The seventh Operational Phase (OP7) of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) in Malaysia has been conceived to engage non-governmental organisations and community organisations in three regions of Malaysia to take collective actions for adaptive landscape management through participatory landscape planning and project management by communities aimed at enhancing socio-ecological resilience producing local and global environmental benefits.

The SGP has extensive experience and is broadly recognised in Malaysia, with respect to strengthening the capacities of local communities to deliver mutually beneficial conservation and socioeconomic outcomes. The SGP has developed strong multi-stakeholder partnerships with local governments, national agencies and ministries, NGOs, the private sector and others. SGP interventions have been implemented in alignment with government priorities and programmes and supporting Malaysia in meeting international commitments. The view of national stakeholders shared during PPG phase consultations is that the SGP is a successful and visible programme that continues to generate positive environmental and development benefits, with strong buy-in and ownership at local and national levels..

Starting in OP7, Malaysia has been included in the Upgraded Country Programmes (UCP) of the SGP. With the aim of achieving impacts at scale and ensuring sustainability of results achieved, the programme level strategy of the UCP is based on a landscape approach, following the UNDP approach of community-driven planning and management of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS).[4] The three landscapes selected for OP7 in Malaysia are listed below and shown on the country map in *Annex E*.

- ? Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah
- ? Middle and Upper Baram River Basin, Sarawak
- ? Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia

**Selection of project landscapes:** The three project landscapes have been selected in consultation with government and civil society partners and the consolidation of experiences and lessons learned from the on-going and previously supported community initiatives of GEF 5 and 6 for forthcoming replication, upscaling and mainstreaming. Over the course of the planning and consultation process for OP7, the following criteria were utilized in selecting the three priority landscapes:

- 1) The community land use patterns and practices, policies and laws on land, water and resources differs between Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak. Selecting a landscape representing each region will enabling important lessons learned, case studies and reviews of policies for comparative purposes.

- 2) Richness of biodiversity, the important role of ecosystem services the landscape provided to the community and surrounding areas and potential for overcome climate change issues.
- 3) Potential contribution to addressing poverty and improving community livelihood issues.
- 4) Community readiness to take action or capabilities to implement SGP projects.
- 5) Availability of NGO partners capable of providing capacity building and guidance to the local communities in the selected landscapes.
- 6) Social dimensions of conservation work, e.g., NGO presence, community awareness, involvement of women and indigenous peoples.
- 7) Site-level local governance openness to community and CSO participation.
- 8) Potential replication and scaling up of SGP projects implemented in previous operational phases.
- 9) Potential for government and private sector partnerships.
- 10) Presence of similarly oriented environmental programmes and initiatives by government, NGOs, private sector and foundations.
- 11) Sufficient information and understanding about the selected landscapes (e.g., geography, people, economic activities, poverty, threats and biodiversity, livelihoods, governance).
- 12) Site accessibility and security

### ***Landscape 1: Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (CRBR), Sabah***

The Crocker Range was established as a forest reserve in 1969, designated as the Crocker Range National Park in 1984 and renamed Crocker Range Park in 1996. Managed by Sabah Parks, the Crocker Range Park is located in the interior, western region of the state of Sabah. It is the largest terrestrial protected area in Malaysia, stretching across eight administrative districts, namely Keningau, Tambunan, Tenom, Beaufort, Papar, Penampang, Tuaran and Ranau. The Park forms the core zone (144,492 ha) of the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (CRBR). The CRBR was established as a UNESCO site under the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme in 2014. Apart from the core zone, the CRBR also includes a 60,313-ha buffer zone and a 145,779-ha transition zone. The CRBR covers a total area of **350,584 ha** of mixed tropical dipterocarp rainforests and montane landscapes, extending approximately 120 km north to south, and 40 km east and to west. The topography of CRBR is undulating with different elevations ranging from 6 m to 2,076 m above sea level[5]. Some 27% of the total core area of CRBR is more than 1,000 m above sea level, with 16 peaks above this elevation[6].

The core zone is strictly utilized for long-term research programmes, environmental education, tourism, etc. There are about 30 households of indigenous peoples residing in the core zone of the reserve ? allowed to stay and practice sustainable natural resource utilization. There are 52 villages situated within the buffer zone, where common land uses include small-scale agriculture and rubber tree cultivation. The transition zone features at least 264 villages with subsistence small scale farming[7]. The total population in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve is approximately 99,000.

There are four forest reserves in and around the CRBR, including: (a) Raflessia Virgin Jungle Reserve; (b) Crocker Range Virgin Jungle Reserve; (c) Kawang Domestic Forest Reserve, and (d) Lumaku Protection Forest Reserve. Raflessia and Crocker Range Virgin Jungle Reserves are totally protected

areas owing to their unique ecosystems. Kawang Forest Reserve on the other hand is reserved for the purpose of community use while Lumaku Forest Reserve is reserved for the protection of watershed ecosystem services[8]. The four forest reserves are managed by the Sabah Forestry Department.

The Crocker Range harbours globally significant biodiversity, designated as one of the 61 Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) in Malaysia.[9] CRBR encompasses a variety of ecosystems, supporting a significant number of endemic species and diverse tree flora. Lower montane forests are found in areas below 500 m in the CRBR. Between 500 to 1,000 m, there are upland mixed dipterocarp forests and beyond that, montane forests[10]. At the highest-elevation sites, the forest vegetation zone is upper montane rainforest, also known as 'cloud-forest' or 'mossy-forest'. It is classified as a primary forest and dominated by montane plants from the Fagaceae, Myrtaceae and Ericaceae. These sites have high abundance of bryophytes[11].

In terms of fauna, the core zone and its surrounding area are home to approximately 101 mammals, 259 birds, 47 reptiles, 63 amphibians, and 42 freshwater fish[12]. The area supports a small population of orangutans (*Pongo pygmaeus*, IUCN Red List Critically Endangered CR), estimated to be around 180[13], sun bears (*Helarctos malayanus*, IUCN Red List Vulnerable VU), and clouded leopards (*Neofelis nebulosa*, IUCN Red List VU)[14]. Endemic to Borneo, the Bornean ferret badger (*Melogale everetti*, IUCN Red List Endangered EN) one of the least known Bornean carnivores, is associated with upland and highland forests in and around Kinabalu Park and Crocker Range Park[15]. The core zone is also a suitable habitat of the threatened Bornean highland endemic Hose's civet (*Diplogale hosei*, IUCN Red List VU)[16].

CRBR is also a main water catchment area for the west coast and interior of Sabah. The Crocker Range Park alone provides water for approximately one third of Sabah's population. There are four dams inside the park where people draw gravity water for household use and farming, and one in Penampang for commercial use[17].

#### Threats and Root Causes: CRBR landscape:

The CRBR faces threats from **illegal harvesting of forest resources** (poaching and timber extraction)[18]. In view of the high biodiversity with many rare and endemic species, the CRBR is subjected to illegal encroachment and poaching since it is conveniently located along the Kota Kinabalu-Tambunan-Keningau-Tenom highway (Federal Route No. 500). The **road networks** in Sabah are constantly being upgraded and expanded and some of them are located in and around the CRBR as shown in the following figure.

The area around CRBR has been encroached through **illegal logging** in the past. **Shifting cultivation** may have also contributed to the loss of the forests[19]. Chung et al. (2016) observed that the heavy clearing through nomadic agricultural practices by villagers living at the surrounding area of the Crocker Range Forest Reserve had rendered some of the forests there degraded and overgrown by secondary plant species[20]. While traditional practices such as harvesting of non-timber forest products and hunting for subsistence purposes are allowed in Community Use Zones (CUZs), rising

market demand tends to intensify demand for agriculture land and force **expansion of agriculture into the forest**. The legal framework for the establishment of Community Use Zones (CUZs) was approved by the State Legislative Assembly in the 2007 amendment to the Parks Enactment, however CUZs are still a relatively new approach to safeguard forests from ongoing degradation while at the same time providing opportunities for the affected communities to improve their living conditions and livelihoods. In fact, there is no strong evidence suggesting that the CUZ approach has moderated divergent interest on the forest[21]. Findings from stakeholder interviews conducted during the project preparation phase of SGP OP7 indicated that **land rights** are still an issue facing the CRBR.

Degraded forests and secondary vegetation are prone to **wildfire**. Sui et al. (2019) observed that the eastern slope of the Crocker Range was razed due to repetitive wildfire events. The fire might have started at the forest edges or from commercial plantation estates. Patches of secondary vegetation in the study area have the tendency to become simpler in structure and less diverse over time, which is detrimental to both abiotic and biotic components in the ecosystems[22].

**Climate change** is another driver of biodiversity loss and is projected to particularly affect highland species, such as the Bornean ferret badger, in the CRBR as the potential for upslope range shifts is limited[23].

#### CRBR landscape delineation:

The CRBR landscape for the OP7 project covers the transition, buffer, and core zones of the reserve, the aim of strengthening engagement of local communities and reducing threats to globally significant biodiversity and important ecosystem services. Through consultations with Sabah Parks during the PPG phase, focused activities are envisaged in three key intervention areas, namely (1) Kinabalu Ecolinc, (2) Ulu Papar, and (3) Ulu Senagang-Mongool Baru Community Use Zone (see below *Figure 2* of the *Project Document*).

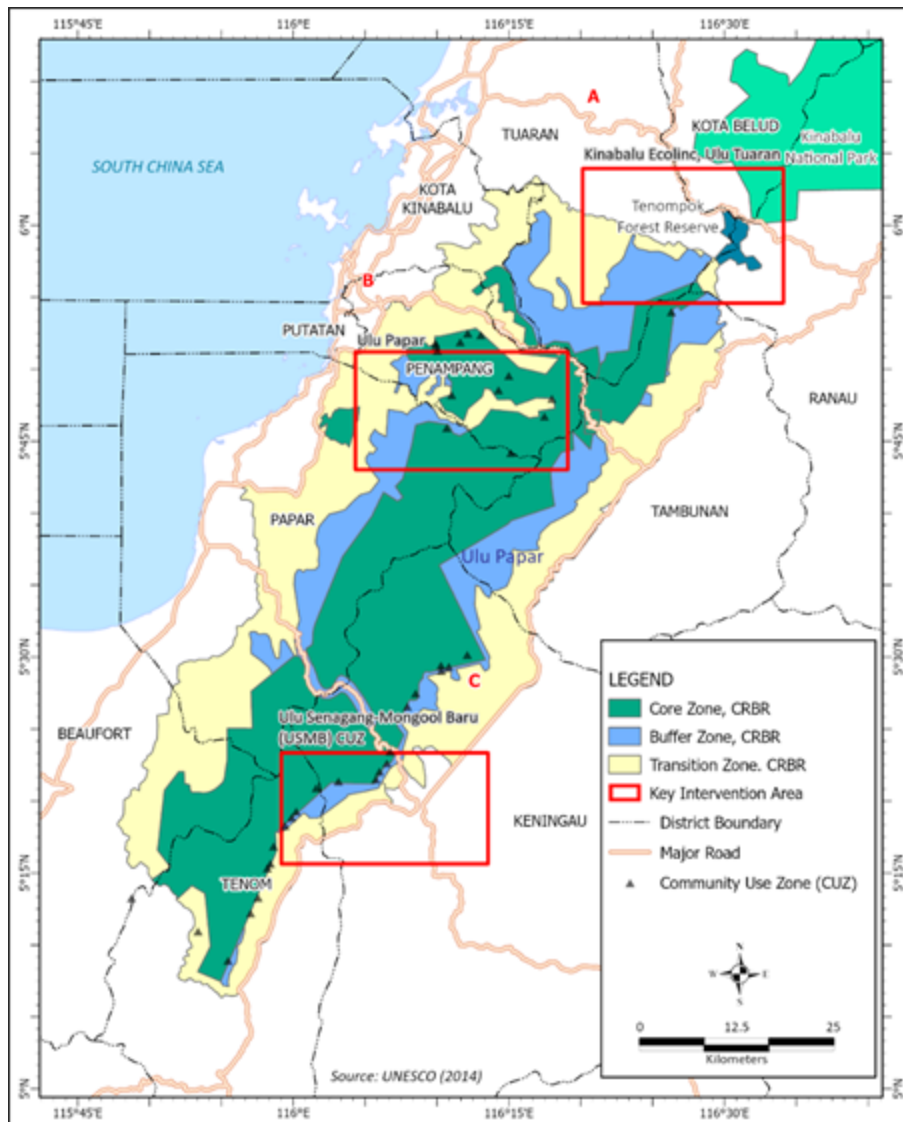


Figure 2 of the Project Document: Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve landscape map

## Landscape 2: Baram, Sarawak

The Baram landscape is defined by the district of Telang Usan, situated in the Miri Administrative Division in the northeast part of the state of Sarawak, in the interior of Upper Baram River basin. There are very limited biodiversity studies conducted in the Middle and Upper Baram landscape. However, the following studies/expeditions conducted in and around Middle and Upper Baram have shown that the area is rich in biodiversity. During the 1998 expeditions to the adjacent Pulong Tau National Park, a total of 67 species of birds from 29 families, of which 13 species (19.4%) are endemic to Borneo was recorded. Besides, 28 species of mammals, 12 of which are endemic to Borneo was also recorded. Examples were: Mountain Giant Rat (*Sundamys infraluteus*), Summit Rat (*Rattus baluensis*), and Civet. In addition to that, 18 species of frogs and four species of snakes discovered. Examples were:

Wagler's Pit Viper (*Trimeresurus wagleri*), and Golden legged bush frog (*Philautus aurantium*). Insects such as Trilobite beetles (*Platerodrilus*), fruit flies (*Drosophila*), and weevils can also be found in this region[24].

A 2010 study conducted in the Sela?an Linau Forest Management Unit (FMU), a logging concession of 55,949 ha located in the Upper Baram (figure below), found that the majority of the area supports mixed dipterocarp forest (60%), with some montane forest (4%), tropical heath forest (kerangas) (21%), and slash and burn areas (temuda) (15%). The primary submontane forest with some montane forest in the higher elevation areas (750?1550 m) had low anthropogenic disturbance. Roughly 3,000 ha of forest was destroyed during the 1997? 1998 El Ni?o event though secondary growth, regenerating forest had since reclaimed the area (Mathai et al. 2010)[25].

A wildlife monitoring programme conducted in 2010 in a logging concession in the Upper Baram of Sarawak found that Sun Bear, Yellow-throated Marten, Binturong, Masked Palm Civet, Common Palm Civet, Banded Civet and Short-tailed Mongoose were fairly widespread, and Hose's Civet, endemic to Borneo and listed on the IUCN Red List as Vulnerable, was recorded often at the site. Through opportunistic sampling, Asad et al (2015) detected 36 reptile species (16 lizards, 18 snakes, and two turtles) comprising 12 families, including 12 species that are endemic to Borneo in Upper Baram. A total of 18 amphibian species comprising six families, including 11 species that are endemic to Borneo, were also detected. This represents 12.4% and 11.9% of all known Bornean reptile and amphibian species, respectively. All reptiles encountered (with the exception of two montane species, *Phoxophrys spiniceps* and *Popeia sabahi*) were lowland forest-dwelling species.

More recently, in August 2017, a 10-day botanical survey organized by Forest Department of Sarawak in Tama Abu Protected Forest in Ulu Baram (figure below) discovered four families of mycoheterotrophic plants of angiosperms group (Burmanniaceae, Orchidaceae, Polygalaceae and Triuridaceae). These comprise of seven genera and 12 species reported for this protected forest. Among the species, *Epirixanthes confusa* and *Gymnosiphon aphyllus* were recorded for the first time in Sarawak. Two species endemics to Bornean region, *Cystorchis saprophytica* and *Epirixanthes confusa*. Orchidaceae and Polygalaceae families are the most diverse families, with four recorded species for each. The expedition area was considered pristine as many large dipterocarp trees above 60 cm diameter could be seen in the area.

Inland waterway transport is the mode of choice for movement of people and goods in and out of Middle and Upper Baram. The Baram River provides cost-effective means for transporting large volume of cargo and passengers. Express boat services utilise the many waterways to get to rural areas in Middle and Upper Baram inaccessible by road. Besides, the Baram basin's ecosystem is used in a number of ways, including for water supply, food, irrigation, tourism and waste disposal.

#### Threats and Root Causes: Baram landscape:

**Logging and expansion of plantation commodities**, including palm oil and rubber, have resulted in significant deforestation, resulting in biodiversity loss and deterioration of ecosystem services, such as soil and water conservation.

Much of the area identified as rich in wildlife is inhabited by indigenous communities, in which **hunting** is widespread. Snares and nets are often used during hunting activities and being indiscriminate in what they catch. Existing wildlife protection laws and ordinances are broadly appropriate on paper, but implementation is highly patchy. The old and existing logging trails in the area have allowed access to the forests for hunting. Encroachment, shifting cultivation and natural disasters such as droughts and fire have also contributed to land use change and forest degradation in Middle and Upper Baram. Roughly 3,000 ha of forest in Upper Baram was destroyed during the 1997-1998 El Niño event.

The combined impact of **climate and land cover change** in highland forests in the central spine of the mountainous interior of Borneo (including Upper Baram) is said to have negatively affected species which are physiologically specialised to narrow environmental conditions (e.g., Hose's civet).

Landscape delineation: Baram, Sarawak

The OP7 landscape in the Baram River basin is delineated by the jurisdictional borders of the Telang Usan District, which covers an expansive area of 982,900 ha in the north-eastern part of the state of Sarawak, as shown below in the landscape map in *Figure 3* of the *Project Document*.





Figure 3 of the Project Document: Baram landscape map

### Landscape 3: Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia

The Klang Valley landscape is geographically delineated by Titiwangsa Mountains to the north and east and the Strait of Malacca to the west. It extends to Rawang in the northwest, Semenyih in the southeast, and Klang and Port Klang in the southwest. The conurbation is the heartland of Malaysia's industry and commerce. Based on the data from year 2016, the Klang Valley is home to roughly 7.2 million people (22% of total Malaysia population). The city remains as the economic and business hub



of the country. Kuala Lumpur is a centre for finance, insurance, real estate, media and the arts of Malaysia. The infrastructure development in the surrounding areas such as the Kuala Lumpur International Airport at Sepang, the creation of the Multimedia Super Corridor and the expansion of Port Klang further reinforce the economic significance of the city.

There are four main forest landscapes in and around the Klang Valley landscape: (a) the Selangor State Park situated in the eastern fringe of the state; (b) mangrove forests along the state's coastline; (c) peat swamp forest in the northern and southern regions; and (d) remnants of lowland dipterocarp forest scattered across the landscape.

***Selangor State Park in the eastern fringe of the state.*** The Selangor State Park, managed by the Forestry Department of Selangor, was gazetted by the state in 2007 under the National Forestry Act Enactment 2005 of Selangor. The Selangor State Park covers 108,000 ha of land, representing the third largest park in Peninsular Malaysia. It spans three districts, from Hulu Selangor at the northern tip of Selangor State, through Gombak, down to Hulu Langat in the south. The Park has many distinct physical features, including unique quartz ridges, montane sites and the southernmost foothills of the main range. It is classified as an Environmentally Sensitive Area Rank 1 under the National Physical Plan, i.e., no development, agriculture or logging shall be permitted, except for eco-tourism, research and education.

The Park is the largest stretch of contiguous forest tract remaining in Selangor, part of the expansive Hulu-Gombak-Sungai Lalang forest ? designated as a Key Biodiversity Area (KBA)- and is identified as a crucial link in the Central Forest Spine, which is supposed to connect fragmented forests and create viable habitats for wildlife. The Park consists of mostly lowland dipterocarp forest (mostly found at elevations below 300 m) and hill dipterocarp forest (at elevations of 300-750 m). A total of 3,140 vascular plant species, 114 mammal species, 355 bird species, 104 freshwater fish species, and 202 reptilian and amphibian species were recorded. Over 1,000 moth species are found in the forests of the Hulu Gombak area alone.

Selangor and the Federal Territories of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya depend on the Park for their most basic needs of clean air, water and maintenance of local climatic stability. The Park is a catchment for water contributing to the upper reaches of all major rivers in Selangor, including Bernam River, Selangor River, Klang River and Langat River. The Park area also feeds the five water-supply reservoirs that provide 98% of the water supply to Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya. These dams are the Sungai Selangor, Batu, Klang Gates, Langat and Semenyih dams.

***Mangrove forests along the coastline.*** Selangor has a large area of mangrove forest. Selangor has about 90 km long of coastline starting from the mouth of Bernam River in the north to Sepang River in the south, not including the coastline of its islands. Along this stretch, more than 60% is covered by mangrove forest, part of the North-central Selangor Coast KBA. Out of 796,084 ha of the total land of Selangor, mangrove forests corresponded to between 2% and 3% of the total land area. This forest type plays an important role in protecting coastlines from wave actions and acts as a buffer for the surrounding communities as well as a source of income for the state. Mangrove ecosystems provide breeding grounds and nursery sites for a variety of terrestrial and marine organisms, including many commercial species and juvenile reef fish. Mangrove forests accumulate carbon in tree biomass.

***Peat swamp forest in the northern and southern regions.*** Peat swamp forests cover more than a third of the total permanent forest reserves in Selangor. The North Selangor Peat Swamp Forest is one of the main peat swamp forests in Selangor. It covers an area of 81,304 ha, comprising of Raja Musa Forest Reserve, Sungai Karang Forest Reserve, Sungai Dusun Forest/Wildlife Reserve and part of Bukit Belata Forest Reserve Extension. Peat swamp forests are also found in the southern region of Selangor. The peat swamp forest provides the following ecosystem services: a source of natural products (timber and non-timber forest products); source of freshwater supply; regulation of hydrology/flood mitigation; biodiversity conservation; carbon storage; ecotourism. Peat swamp forests are rich in flora and fauna. Valuable timbers such as Ramin, Meranti Bakau and non-timber forest products such as daun palas and fishes such as Tapah are found in these forests. Tapir (*Tapirus indicus*, IUCN Red List Endangered EN), sun bear (*Helarctos malayanus*, IUCN Red List Vulnerable VU), Wild Boar, white-handed gibbon (*Hylobates lar*, IUCN Red List Endangered EN), long-tailed macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*, IUCN Red List Vulnerable VU) are observed in the forests.

***Remnants of lowland dipterocarp forest.*** Due to years of urbanisation and infrastructure development, the lowland dipterocarp forest that once dominated the Klang Valley landscape are now fragmented. These patches of lowland dipterocarp forests such as the Kota Damansara Community Forest, Shah Alam Community Forest, Bukit Cerakah Forest Reserve, forests in the buffer to the Selangor State Park, and Bukit Kiara still harbour rich biodiversity and offer great recreational, educational and aesthetic value to the urban population.

#### *Threats and Root Causes: Klang Valley landscape*

**Urbanisation** exerts great pressure to the natural ecosystems of the Klang Valley landscape. Pressures include increased demands for water, pollution, disposal of rubbish and fragmentation of forests. The construction of Phase 1 of the Kuala Lumpur Outer Ring Road has seen a de-gazettement of 106.6 ha of land from four forest reserves in Selangor, namely the Ampang, Bukit Seputeh, Ulu Gombak and Ulu Langat Forest Reserves.

Due to anthropogenic development activities (e.g., housing development, road constructions and golf course development), many of the natural ecosystems have become isolated and are suffering from diminishing functionality within the patch-mosaic matrix of the Klang Valley landscape. Reza et al (2016) estimated that the proportion of the built-up area in Selangor stood at 19.1% in 2005, much higher than the 4% recorded in 1995. Among the different ecosystems, the lowland area experienced most destruction. More specifically, the lowland dipterocarp forests, peat-swamp forests, and mangrove forests had been modified at a faster rate compared to other forest ecosystems.

Land development including for urban and suburban settlements, establishment of shrimp farms, and expansion of agricultural lands has been identified as the main factors contributing to the depletion of the mangrove areas. In addition, **natural phenomena** such as El-Nino and La-Nina and coastal erosion have also significantly deteriorated the prominence of mangroves in the region.

A major threat to the peat swamp forest is **fire** which has impacted more than 5,000 ha of the forest over the past 10-15 years. Fires lead to loss of forest habitat and biodiversity and generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and smoke which affect the health of local communities.

Some of the existing/proposed community forests (e.g., Shah Alam Community Forest, forests in the buffer to the Selangor State Park, Bukit Kiara) do not yet have the necessary legal protection for them to be protected permanently. Even for environmentally sensitive sites around the Selangor State Park such as areas to Batang Kali, Gading, Hulu Langat, Serendah and Sungai Lalang Forest Reserves, and whole of Semangko (Extension) Forest Reserve (about 15,355 ha) are yet to be gazetted by the Selangor State Government.

Some forests are **overused** and not well maintained and conserved. More often than not, they do not have a management plan/landscape development master plan. As a result, most of the development that has been implemented is on an *ad hoc* basis and seeks to satisfy users' demand. This has resulted in difficulty in creating recreational forest identity and fulfilling sustainable landscape development requirements. The Kota Damansara Community Forest management plan has yet to get the full buy-in from the Selangor Forestry Department.

#### Landscape delineation: Klang Valley

Klang Valley is an urban conglomeration in Malaysia that is centred in Kuala Lumpur and includes its adjoining cities and towns in the state of Selangor. There are no official borders drawn, so in general it encompasses the federal territories and several other districts in its vicinity, namely Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Federal Territory of Putrajaya, and the adjacent Selangor districts. The soft boundary delineation of this OP7 landscape is shown on the map *below in Figure 4 of the Project Document*.

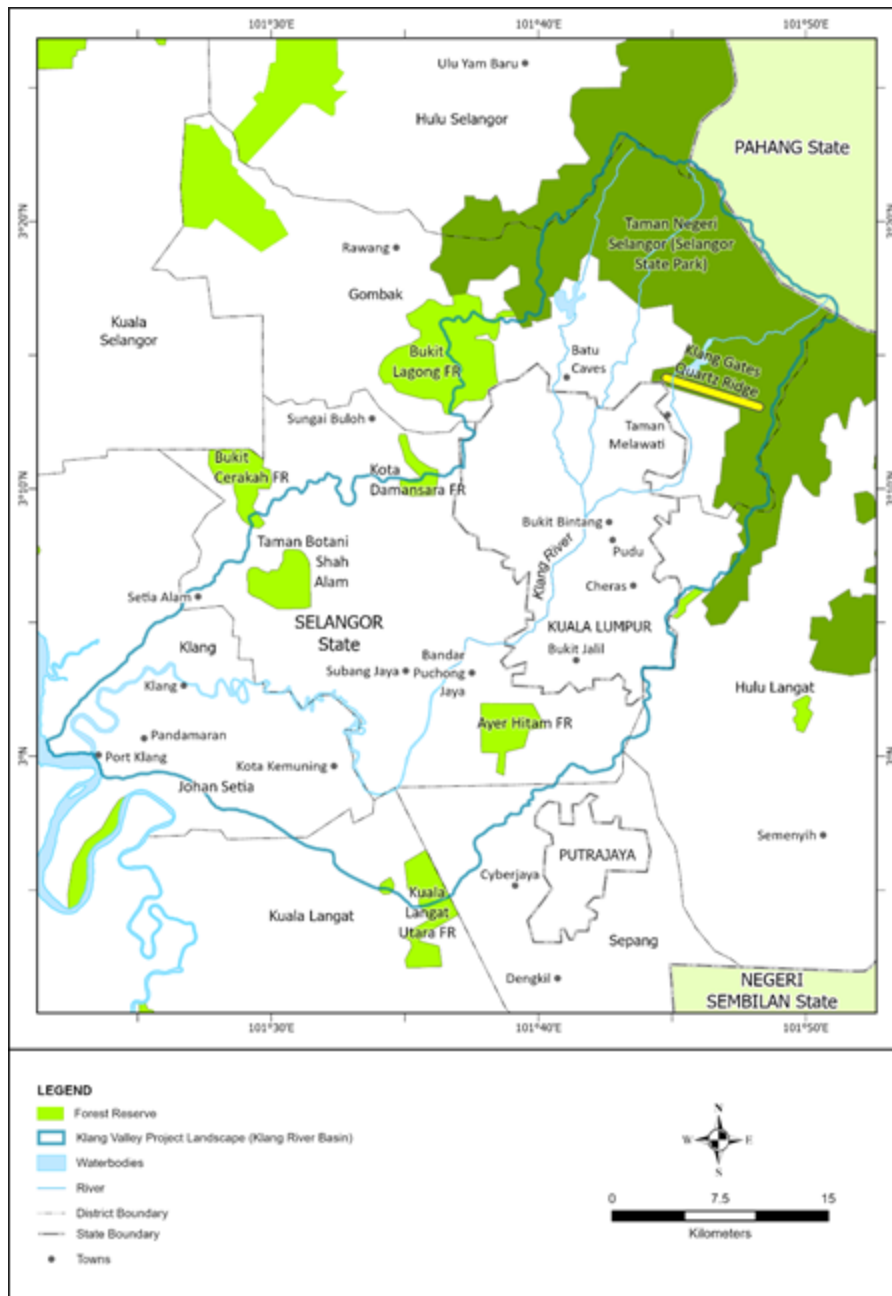


Figure 4 of the Project Document: Klang Valley landscape map.

More information on the project landscapes, including threats and root causes is provided in the *Landscape Profiles* in Annex 12 to the Project Document.

**Long-term vision of the project:**

The long-term vision of the OP7 project is to generate multiple benefits for biodiversity, climate change, land degradation, and the well-being of local communities through participatory, integrated land and resource management approaches implemented across socio-ecological production landscapes.

#### **Barriers analysis:**

**Barrier 1:** Community organizations in rural landscapes, as well as NGOs in urban areas, lack greater long-term visions and strategies for ecosystem and resource management and suffer from weak adaptive management capacities, i.e. to innovate, test alternatives, monitor and evaluate results and adjust practices and techniques to meet challenges and lessons learned.

**Barrier 2:** Community organisations have insufficient organizational capacities to plan, manage, and implement initiatives and actions of their own design in favour of landscape resilience objectives in rural areas efficiently and effectively.

**Barrier 3:** Community organisations and NGOs coordinate insufficiently with other community organisations to pursue collective action for global environmental and landscape management outcomes at a landscape scale.

**Barrier 4:** Knowledge from project experience with innovation/experimentation is not systematically analysed, recorded or disseminated to policy makers or other communities, organizations and program initiatives.

**Barrier 5:** Community organisations and NGOs lack sufficient financial resources to lower the risks associated with innovating land and resource management practices and sustaining or scaling up successful experiences.

These barriers result in poor coordination among stakeholders within the landscape, inadequate technical, managerial and other capacities, lack of awareness and information, inadequate funding and incentives, and poor implementation of projects and other initiatives.

## ***2) The baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects***

### **Baseline scenario**

The results achieved during earlier SGP operational phases, and from investments of the Government of Malaysia and funding from other donors provide a solid foundation upon which the OP7 project will build. The Government of Malaysia is committed to improving biodiversity conservation, restoring degraded lands, and mainstreaming low-emissions development. These environmental objectives are underpinned by the government's priority to increase the well-being of citizens across the country, particularly those in marginalized and under-developed communities. The SGP has a strong track record in Malaysia, developing capacities among the civil society sector for genuine participation in sustainable development initiatives throughout the country.

Through the focused investment of GEF resources, together with strong cofinancing, the OP7 project will bring together and build on baseline investments, demonstrating the multiple benefits associated with integrated landscape approaches, where landscape management is based on consensus among multiple stakeholders. Driven by bottom-up approaches in accordance with the SGP mandate of empowering local communities, the project will bring together multiple actors to collectively generate global environmental benefits and strengthen socio-ecological resilience.

#### **Baseline - SGP in Malaysia:**

The SGP Malaysia Country Programme has supported more than 233 projects since 1999 for a total amount in grants of USD 8,456,484 from GEF and USD 12,174,608 from co-financing in cash and USD 6,107,025 co-financing in kind. SGP has supported more than 160 grantee organizations in the three sub-national regions of Malaysia (Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak).

**Biodiversity:** SGP has contributed significantly to the eventual gazettement of **Tun Mustapha Marine Park** (TMP) with a protected area of 900,000 ha, by provide funding and technical support to local communities to build their capacities for co-management and alternative livelihoods development. It also helped to scale up community participation in resource management and capacity building to support the establishment of the TMP as well as to facilitate sustainable livelihood improvement. This has contributed to Aichi Target 11 where the total coastal and marine areas gazetted as protected areas in Malaysia increased from 1.1% in 2013 to 3.4% in 2017 due to gazettement of Tun Mustapha Park as protected area in 2016.

In terms of flagship species conservation, SGP supported projects that promoted the use of **turtle excluder devices** (TEDs) on commercial shrimp trawling to reduce sea turtle by-catch. The TED project has changed fishery policy and achieved nationwide impacts. Through capacity building for both the fisherfolk communities and authorities/policy makers, an NGO-led initiative was expanded to a national level and led to the establishment of a national policy on the use of TEDs on shrimp trawlers, beginning in Peninsular Malaysia. This project especially contributed to the National Plan of Action for the Management of Fishing Capacity in Malaysia (Plan 2) under the Strategy 2: Review and implement effective conservation and management measures.

SGP was one of the first to provide support for **mangrove** ecosystem regeneration in Malaysia through fishermen's associations. The positive impacts generated by this activity have attracted the interest of many private enterprises to fund such projects under their corporate social responsibility. Knowledge of mangrove rehabilitation techniques, such as Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation, and traditional knowledge have been shared with many other communities as an effective way of mangrove rehabilitation. By using these techniques, local livelihoods have been improved through higher fish catch, promotion of ecotourism and production and sale of handicrafts in several sites located in Penang, Selangor and Johor.

The SGP Annual Report 2015 quoted the Sabah Bio-Cultural Law Project (SBLP) as an exemplary gender empowerment project. By using focus groups in the community, women are able to get involved in planning and decision-making processes. Participatory methods in training sessions, workshops, role-playing scenarios, and dialogues also increased the participation of women in the

project planning process. As a result, when project implementation began, women were elected by the community to fill five representative positions on the Melangkap Bio-Cultural Committee, whose task was to ensure smooth relations between the project proponent and the five districts. The Sabah Biodiversity Centre is now using this protocol to set up Prior Informed Consent Protocols in other communities for the Access and Benefit Sharing Law that is currently under development in Malaysia.

SGP Malaysia also participated in the **SGP Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI)**. There are eight community-based ICCA projects implemented by indigenous peoples with focus on ICCA territory documentation, community protocol development, documentation of traditional knowledge and practices, and governance and management of ICCAs. A legal review of Malaysian laws related to indigenous customary land rights was also conducted to identify gaps and obstacles to the recognition of ICCA territory rights. The outputs of the ICCA project will provide valuable inputs to new government efforts in reviewing policy and laws on indigenous people land rights.

The Country Program has achieved good results in supporting local community adoption of various **sustainable livelihood** activities. SGP has funded projects on the promotion of ecotourism at Tasek Bera (Pahang), Ulu Geroh (Perak), Sedili Kechil, Kg. Linting and Endau Rompin (Johor), Langkawi (Kedah), Sg. Nenggiri (Kelantan), Ma'Daerah (Terengganu), Kota Belud, Penampang, Kinabatangan, and Kudat (Sabah), Bau and Semantan (Sarawak). In addition, the development of environmental and conservation education programmes at the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre (BSBCC) raised awareness on the importance of protecting Sun Bear habitats and preventing poaching and trafficking. The collaboration between the BSBCC and Sabah's State Forestry and Wildlife Department further led to a policy that supports the conservation of the Sun Bear.

**Climate Change:** The SGP portfolio has supported 11 micro-hydro, solar energy and biogas projects under the Climate Change focal area for over 3,000 local people that were without access to the electrical grid in remote locations. The power generated ranges from 3 kWh to 20 kWh. These projects reduce reliance on fossil fuels for lighting and reduce the burden to buy diesel to run generators with a cost saving of USD 100 ? 200 per month per household. The reduced fossil fuel usage also contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions as well as generating alternative income. The women were able to generate incomes from sewing and bakery, men were able to start businesses on carpentry and rice milling. The success of these projects also lies within project design that incorporates other cross cutting areas, such as protection of watershed catchments (an important element of conservation of biodiversity) and more importantly, enforcing ownership through active local community engagement. Through capacity-building and training, local communities have learned to manage renewable energy systems, ensuring the sound financial viability and the sustainability of micro-hydro systems, for example, through the establishment of community-based committees. The micro-hydro systems built with the support of SGP remain in operation more than 10 years after the end of SGP project support. Common principles and underlying modalities of community-based micro-hydro systems have been shared with government authorities. There are promising developments for replicating micro-hydro projects in another 20 villages in Sabah, and similar efforts are required in Sarawak.

**Land Degradation:** SGP Malaysia supported many projects on sustainable farming such as organic farming, agroforestry, System of Rice Intensification (SRI paddy), and production of natural fertilizers and pesticides. Many communities, especially indigenous groups, have increased their knowledge of resilience-enhancing farming practices and are able to become self-sustaining in producing rice, vegetables, fruits and livestock for their own consumption. A community-learning resilient farm in Penampang, Sabah, was established with support from SGP to provide consistent training for indigenous peoples and has served as seed bank for indigenous species in Sabah. Several Farmer Field Schools to promote SRI paddy planting were also established with SGP support in Selangor, Kelantan, Johor, Sabah and Sarawak to provide hands-on training for farmers on SRI methods of paddy planting. SRI methods enable the farmer to use less water (30% saving of water) and obtain higher rice yields in paddy planting.

**Chemicals and POPs:** SGP funded a project to raise the awareness of consumers, demonstrate viable and cost-effective alternatives to POPs products and reduce emissions of unintentional POPs and facing out of the use of mercury products. The project was conducted in five states: Penang, Perlis, Kedah, Perak and Selangor. A well-documented book was published with an explanation of POPs, advocating a POPs-free lifestyle. Provision of alternatives and lessons learned in this project can be facilitated for replication of good practices at the national, regional and global levels.

To ensure the influence of upscaling and policy on conservation while generating co-benefits in terms of additional income and capacity for the grantees, SGP will use the experience and resources from the past operational phases to identify potential projects to identify and link sub-national research and training organizations in project formulation and implementation.

#### **Baseline - Government programmes:**

Malaysia is committed to pursuing sustainable development and has continuously undertaken efforts in mainstreaming of biodiversity, to achieve a low-carbon, resource-efficient, resilient and sustainable economy in the Twelfth Malaysia Plan (2021-2025). The plan provides post-2020 a clear strategic direction and includes measures for further strengthening the enabling environment for green growth, adopt sustainable consumption and production (SCP) concepts, conserve natural resources and strengthen resilience against climate change and natural disasters.

#### **Baseline activities: CRBR landscape, Sabah**

There have been at three major conservation programmes implemented in and around the CRBR, namely **Bornean Biodiversity and Ecosystem Conservation Programme (BBEC)** (Phases I-III ? 2002-2017), **Kinabalu Ecolinc** (2014-2021) and **EU-REDD+ project** (2013-2020).

? Supported by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the BBEC was a bilateral technical corporation programme between the Government of Malaysia and Government of Japan. The programme sought to provide capacity building and enhance networks for the implementation of sustainable development for biodiversity and ecosystem conservation in the CRBR.



? Initiated by Sabah Parks with technical support of the European Union (EU), the aim of the Kinabalu Ecolinc project was to improve ecological connectivity between Kinabalu Park and Crocker Range Park.

? The Sabah-EU-REDD+ project was carried out concurrently with the Kinabalu Ecolinc project, a demonstration initiative involving community-conserved areas and community-based forest management under the REDD+ framework in Sabah, led by Sabah Parks in coordination with the EU-REDD+ project of Sabah Forestry Department. The Ecolinc project has been granted two time-extensions and is scheduled to close in November 2021.

The three initiatives listed above gave special attention to creating alternative livelihoods for local communities and strengthening their involvement in sustainable farming and forest management. The SGP OP7 projects may build upon the results of these three initiatives.

There are several CCM initiatives in Sabah that are complementary to the work of the SGP. In terms of renewable (RE), in addition to the micro-hydro projects, Green Empowerment has been working with the PACOS Trust and Tonibung to bring biogas digester technology to rural communities.

There are also several carbon sequestration projects in Sabah. To the east of the Crocker Range, the Innoprise-Face Foundation Rainforest Rehabilitation Project (INFAPRO) involves rehabilitating 25,000 ha of logged-over forest (with estimated avoided emissions of 4,140,409 tCO<sub>2</sub>e). This project received validation from the Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS) in 2011 and has a crediting period of 30 years from 2007 to 2036. The carbon sales are being implemented by the Face the Future Foundation of The Netherlands which has been selling CO<sub>2</sub> certificates (known as ?VERs: Verified Emission Reductions?, also ?Voluntary Emission Reductions?) since 2005 and has marketed over 2 million VERs. The average price for VERs was around EUR 3 in 2017.

In addition, the Kinabalu Ecolinc landscape to the north of the Crocker Range was one of three focal sites for the Sabah-EU REDD+ project. This REDD+ project's full title was ?Tackling Climate Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Community Development? and was carried out from 2014 to 2020 with a total amount of over EUR 4 million.[46] The project involved the establishment of Community Conserved Areas (CCAs) in selected communities; community-based restoration of degraded habitat in CCAs and adjacent areas; development of sustainable agriculture for livelihoods and enhanced land management; and enhancing forest-related community tourism options to support forest management. The EU project combined LIDAR and ground survey of forest in Sabah suggests an average carbon stock in the range of 100-200 t C per ha.

Finally the Crocker Range is within a 220,000-km<sup>2</sup> area that has been declared to be the ?Heart of Borneo? (HoB) under by a 2007 declaration by the governments of Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia (with the support of WWF). The aim of the Heart of Borneo initiative is to conserve biodiversity through a network of protected areas, sustainable management of forests and other sustainable land uses. The Heart of Borneo involves several aspects related to the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector, and is also relevant to the Crocker Range landscape.

**Baseline activities: Baram landscape, Sarawak**

The Borneo Project, a US-based NGO has been supporting local communities in Middle and Upper Baram to preserve and conserve biodiversity and local ecosystems, promote sustainable livelihoods, preserve indigenous land rights and support cultural conservation efforts. Save Rivers, a local NGO, supports and empowers local communities to protect their land, rivers, and watersheds through capacity building, networking, research, education, and advocacy. Having succeeded in stopping the proposed Baram Dam, Save Rivers is now work with local and international partners to promote village-scale renewable energy systems, promote indigenous land rights and indigenous-led conservation, build capacity in rural communities, and further the protection of all of Sarawak's rivers. By and large, the focus of these two NGOs is very much on policy advocacy and campaigning.

Environmental NGOs such as WWF-Malaysia is not an active player in the area and WCS has left the area 10 years ago. Friends of the Earth Malaysia is more active in the lower part of the Baram River and it does not have the resources to operate in Upper Baram. PACOS and Tonibung have only intermittent presence in the area.

In short, apart from the achievement by some of these NGOs and community leaders in getting the various multi-ethnic settlements of Penan, Kenyah, Kelabit and Saban to come together to develop the proposed Baram Eco-Community Forest, there are limited numbers of complementary biodiversity conservation baseline activities that the SGP OP7 could build upon in this landscape.

The OP7 project may collaborate with and build on the works of the NTFP-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP). NTFP-EP is a collaborative network of over 60 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) working with forest-based communities to strengthen their capacity in the sustainable management of natural resources in the Philippines, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Cambodia. The NTFP-EP established its presence in Miri, Sarawak in 2006. Its main areas of work include empowering its partners through information and knowledge exchange of appropriate resource management techniques and experiences, technical support and training, inputs in strategy discussions, documentation of best practices and success stories, mobilization of resources and contacts, advocacy support for local initiatives, and lobby for enabling policies.

There are several Sarawak-level policies, programmes and stakeholders that are relevant to CCM. In terms of RE, the Sarawak policy has been evolving. In 2008, the government launched the Sarawak Corridor of Renewable Energy (SCORE) which envisioned the creation of several new mega-hydro projects including a hydroelectric dam on the Baram river. In 2016, following public opposition, the Baram Dam project was cancelled, and the government embarked on a programme named the Sarawak Alternative Rural Electrification Scheme (SARES) which involves support for solar and micro-hydro technologies for remote communities.<sup>[51]</sup> Presently more than 1,700 households from 87 villages have been given access to 24-hour renewable energy under this initiative. Sarawak Energy Berhad (SEB) is the state-owned company responsible for the generation, transmission and distribution of electricity for the state of Sarawak. SEB aims to connect more than 30,000 additional rural households under this scheme by 2025.

In addition to these forest-based initiatives, there is the Sabah and Sarawak Biomass Industry Development Plan. This plan was developed in 2016 by Agensi Inovasi Malaysia (AIM), the Ministry

of Industrial Development Sabah and the Sarawak State Planning Unit (SPU). This plan calls for the building of biofuel and biochemical plants in clusters across Sabah and Sarawak.[52]

### **Baseline activities: Klang Valley landscape, Peninsular Malaysia**

The Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) initiative provides a natural template for developing and managing community forests in Klang Valley. Through the joint effort of like-minded CSOs, NGOs and local communities, a remnant of lowland mixed dipterocarp rainforest of 800 acres (324 ha) in Kota Damansara was finally gazetted as a permanent reserve in February 2010.

There are also similar initiatives of other community groups (registered and unregistered) that the SGP OP7 projects may leverage. This includes, among others, initiatives by Friends of Bukit Kiara, Shah Alam Community Forest Society, Ampang Jaya Forest Collab, MyChangkul, and Urban Biodiversity Initiative, and Selamatkan Kuala Lumpur.

TrEES (Treat Every Environment Special) is an active member of the Save Selangor Forest Coalition which includes six other NGOs, including Pertubuhan Alam Sekitar Sejahtera Malaysia (GRASS Malaysia), Persatuan Aktivis Sahabat Alam (KUASA), Centre for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC), Malaysian Nature Society (MNS), Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM), and Global Environment Centre (GEC). TrEES is also working to support grassroots initiatives in Ampang and Shah Alam.

The Habitat Foundation, one of the OP7 project's co-financing partners, has agreed to work together with SGP to promote community-based forest management in the Klang Valley.

PLAN Malaysia has carried out a study proposing that the forested headwaters of the Klang Valley catchment be designated as a UNESCO Geopark.

The Government of Malaysia and NGOs have several ongoing initiatives related to CCM in the Klang Valley. To date the government's efforts to increase rail-based public transportation are reported to have resulted in a reduction of 242.24 Gg CO<sub>2</sub>eq of carbon emissions.

In 2019 the federal government has allocated about MYR 800,000 (approx. USD 200,000) to the Mineral and Geoscience Department of Malaysia (JMG) to build two tube wells in Johan Setia under its peat fire prevention programme.

An IFAD-GEF project (endorsed in Jan 2018) on Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems is under implementation with the Global Environment Centre (several activities under this project are focused on Selangor and may be relevant to the Klang Valley).

### ***3) The proposed alternative scenario with a description of outcomes and components of the project***

The project objective is to enable community organizations to take collective action for adaptive landscape management in building socio-ecological resilience in i) the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah; ii) the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and iii) the Klang Valley, Peninsular

Malaysia for global environmental benefits and sustainable development?. The project strategy as the GEF alternative aims, at removing the barriers outlined above in the Development Challenge section through achievement of the following mutually supportive outcomes:

**Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection**

**Outcome 1.1:** Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions

**Outcome 1.2:** Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level

**Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management**

**Outcome 2.1:** Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience

**Outcome 2.2:** Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches

**Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation**

**Outcome 3.1:** Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation

**Overview of project strategy:**

**Component 1.** Community projects will be supported in agreement with the relevant GEF focal areas, including biodiversity (BD), climate change mitigation (CCM) and land degradation (LD). The landscape strategies and multi-stakeholder platforms developed and established under Component 2 will provide guidance to the selection and prioritization of these actions to be addressed by the community-level projects. The project's landscape approach provides an ecological and socio-economic framework for participatory biodiversity conservation and restoration initiatives, sustainable agroecological practices, and restoration of degraded land and forest ecosystems. Activities under Component 1 are also designed to strengthen capacities for community-level renewable energy (RE) and energy efficient (EE) solutions. Community grants will enable development of proven technologies such as micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators, energy efficient lighting systems, etc., as well as the broader adoption of successful applications that were implemented in previous operational phases.

Capacity building is an important aspect covered in Component 1. Training will be delivered to CBOs for technical skills, as well as financial management and business development, with a particular emphasis placed on developing capacities of women micro-entrepreneurs.

**Component 2** focuses on facilitating participatory, multi-stakeholder governance across the target landscapes. Participatory landscape strategies will be developed based upon the results obtained through participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments. The strategies will include landscape-level priorities, complementary initiatives and cofinancing opportunities, and also highlight social inclusiveness, including promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment. Through the multi-stakeholder governance platforms, successful interventions and approaches will be mainstreamed by linking up with local and national initiatives, as well as complementing COVID-19 recovery efforts.

The durability of the project results will be further enhanced through facilitating new and strengthened partnerships with governmental departments and agencies, civil society, private sector, donor, and academic-research institutes. The OP7 project will build upon the knowledge management approaches that are a hallmark of the SGP, not only in Malaysia but globally, recording best practices and lessons learned and sharing with the multiple stakeholder groups.

Under **Component 3**, participatory monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be implemented to ensure the envisaged project results are achieved and social and environmental safeguards are respected. The M&E inputs from the individual grant projects will be consolidated, interpreted, and reported towards achievement of the end targets specified in the project results framework.

#### **Strategic projects facilitating durable impacts:**

Resources have been allocated in the OP7 budget for strategic grants, to help facilitate durable impacts. The strategic grants are envisaged to be awarded to experienced NGOs for delivering technical and strategic support, guiding local stakeholders in the implementation of landscape approaches and delivering advocacy for policy reform and upscaling.

Terms of reference will be developed during project implementation for the strategic grants in consultation with the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC), Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU), the UCP Global Coordinator, and the UNDP Country Office (CO), and then awarded through competitive procurement and agreed by the NSC.

#### **Theory of Change:**

The proposed GEF alternative to overcoming the barriers hindering achievement of genuine sustainable development in the target landscapes is predicated on a participatory and integrated landscape management approach, as outlined below in the project theory of change (see *Figure 5* of the *Project Document*). As shown in this diagram, the theory of change for the project is broken down into the following three causal pathways.

#### **Causal Pathway 1: Enhancing landscape resilience**

Participatory models of conservation and restoration-rehabilitation of ecosystems under the project will feed into the government's commitment and regulatory frameworks, assuming that governance conditions in the target landscapes permit restoration and conservation and local stakeholders are motivated and committed to participate. Over the longer term, ecosystem functions and environmental

services will be ensured through conservation and restoration, with co-benefits generated for participating local communities. The effectiveness of these models will depend on enabling policies and incentives that are assumed will adapt to changing circumstances over time. The theory of change is also driven by mainstreaming agroecological practices and other biodiversity-focused approaches into production sectors. Furthermore, there need to be clear linkages between conservation goals and social outcomes, e.g., diversification of livelihoods through sustainable use of natural resources, genuine participatory conservation arrangements involve local communities into decision-making ? including women and other marginalised groups, and traditional knowledge is respected and protected.

Sustaining and upscaling the low emission RE and EE solutions at the community level are similarly a function of having local capacity developed for operating and maintaining the systems. Moreover, the systems or solutions need to be reliable and affordable. Changing behaviours and preferences is also critical, which takes time and concerted effort. The project will be promoting RE and EE solutions through awareness campaigns, workshops and community meetings. Having accessible incentive mechanisms is also considered an impact driver for achieving upscaling and sustaining low emission energy interventions.

### **Causal Pathway 2: Mainstreaming the landscape approach**

One of the key assumptions outlined in the project theory of change for advancing from project level outcomes to longer-term outcomes and ultimately to durable impacts is that the landscape approach is mainstreamed, e.g., through integrating the landscape strategies and priority action plans into local development mechanisms. Sustaining the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms is also important in ensuring the landscape strategies are maintained. The project will endeavour to strengthen existing governance platforms rather than establishing new ones, and advocating for broader representation, including women and other marginalized groups. The role of ?change agents? in facilitating the requisite stakeholder engagement is critical. Such change agents could be local government officials, members of local NGOs or CBOs, or other individuals or groups. Identifying and strengthening the capacity of change agents will be a part of the landscape approach in each of the target landscapes.

Further development of enabling partnerships is an important impact driver, supporting upscaling across the project landscapes. Durable partnerships will help ensure alternative livelihood models are sustained, and unsustainable approaches, such as poor agricultural practices and inefficient use of water resources, will be reduced.

### **Causal Pathway 3: Enabling adaptive management**

Achieving durable changes in attitudes and practices depends on ensuring CBOs attain and keep abreast of knowledge and best practices and models. One of the enduring strengths of the SGP is the transfer of knowledge to local communities, including women and marginalized groups. The project will implement an inclusive knowledge management strategy that is also linked with the UCP and SGP knowledge management priorities, facilitating collaborative interactions across local, national, regional, and global levels. The receptiveness of stakeholders to knowledge inputs is an important impact driver

in this regard, and it is assumed that human resources and institutional frameworks remain stable. Another important assumption imperative to ensure is that the causal linkage on this pathway is achieved in a macro-policy context that remains stable, i.e., committed to sustainably managing the globally significant biodiversity and important natural resources of Malaysia. The coordination, collaboration, and knowledge management strengthened in this project will foster systemic change and replication, thus maximising the effectiveness, durability, and scale of socio-ecological resilience.

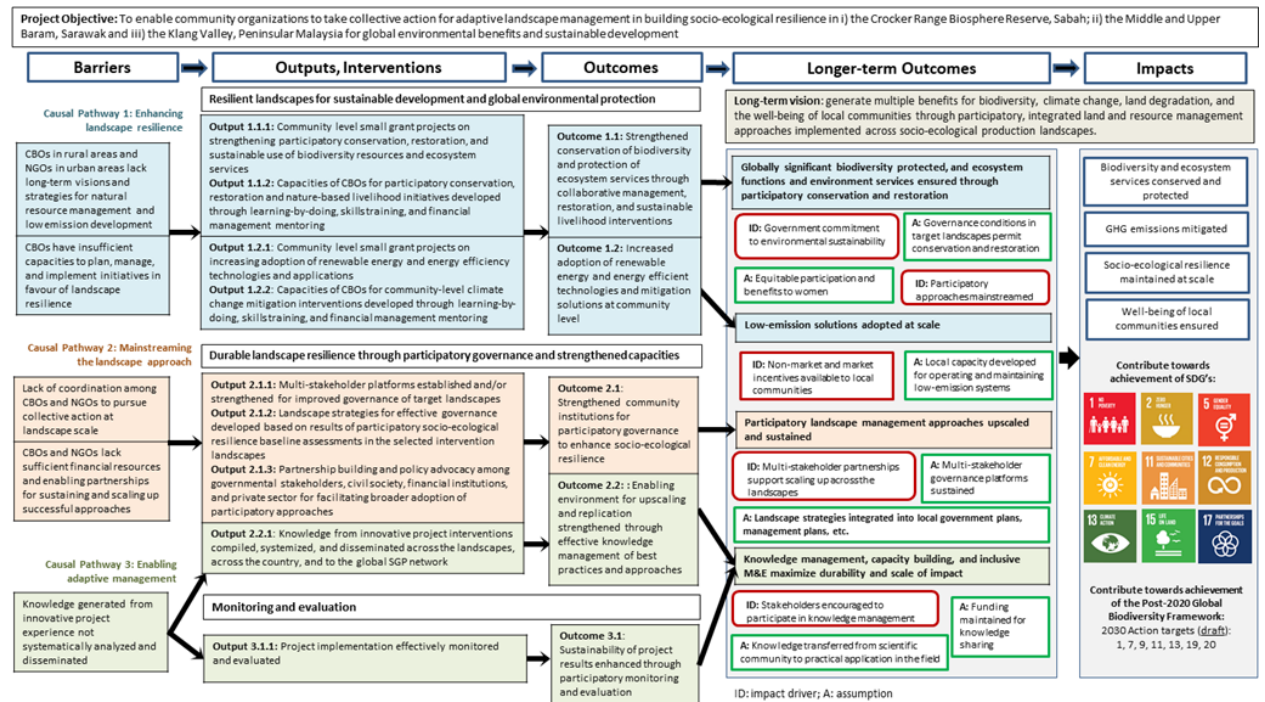


Figure 5 of the Project Document: Theory of Change

## Changes in Alignment with the Project Design with the Original PIF

The following adjustments were made to some of the indicative outputs and outcomes outlined in the PIF.

Original PIF	Change at CEO Endorsement
<b>Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection</b>	No change
<p><b>Outcome 1.2.</b> Civil society and community organisations in selected landscapes build their adaptive management capacities by implementing community level projects to achieve biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and socio ecological production landscape resilience</p> <p>Output 1.2.1. Community level small grant projects that conserve biodiversity and enhance ecosystem services (participatory decision, co-management of protected areas, watershed management).</p> <p>Output 1.2.2. Community level small grant projects that build the ecological resilience of mosaic production landscapes through cropping system diversification</p> <p><b>Outcome 1.3.</b> Livelihoods of communities in the target landscapes are improved by developing sustainable community enterprises and improving market access</p> <p>Output 1.3.1. Community level small grant projects in the selected landscapes that develop community enterprises through access to fair trade and new markets, increase effective distribution of community products, improve marketing strategies (business model innovation and new technology) and improve quality of community products</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1.1:</b> Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions</p> <p>Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services</p> <p>Output 1.1.2: Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring</p>
<p><i>Output 1.1 from the PIF was moved to Component 2, consistent with the aim of mainstreaming the landscape approach. Outcomes 1.2 and 1.3 from the PIF were consolidated into Outcome 1.1 in the CEO ER, as most of the SGP projects have livelihood dimensions to them.</i></p>	



Original PIF	Change at CEO Endorsement
<p><b>Outcome 1.4:</b> Increased adoption (or development, demonstration and financing) of renewable and energy efficiency technologies and climate mitigation options at community level</p> <p>Output 1.4.1. Community level small grant projects to build the capacities of community organisations to plan strategically and implement projects that increase energy efficiency and reduce impact on climate through the use of renewable energy and waste management.</p> <p>Output 1.4.2. Broader adoption of successfully piloted community level renewable energy (RE) and energy efficient technologies through upscaling programs at landscape level</p>	<p><b>Outcome 1.2:</b> Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level</p> <p>Output 1.2.1: Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications</p> <p>Output 1.2.2: Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring</p>
<p><i>Minor revisions to some of the phrasing of Outcome 1.2 (PIF 1.4), and outputs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 (PIF 1.4.1 and 1.4.2). Partnership building is included under Component 2, including allocation of resources for strategic projects.</i></p>	
<p><b>Component 2. Knowledge Management on landscape governance and adaptive management for Upscaling and Replication</b></p>	<p><b>Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building, and knowledge management</b></p>
<p><i>The phrasing of Component 2 was revised to emphasize the aim to enhance sustainability through participatory governance and upscaling of best practices.</i></p>	
<p><b>Outcome 1.1.</b> Improved governance of selected landscapes for socio-ecological resilience through multi-stakeholder governance platforms and participatory decision making</p> <p>Output 1.1.1. Multi-stakeholder groups formed, and Memorandum of Agreement signed among the major stakeholders regarding long term outcomes for each landscape</p> <p>Output 1.1.2. Comprehensive socio-ecological baseline assessments conducted through participatory research and planning</p> <p>Output 1.1.3. Landscape strategies developed by multi-stakeholder groups for each landscape</p> <p>Output 1.1.4. Typology of community level small grant projects and selection criteria developed by multi-stakeholder groups</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2.1:</b> Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience</p> <p>Output 2.1.1: Multi-stakeholder platforms established and strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes</p> <p>Output 2.1.2: Landscape strategies for participatory governance developed or updated based on results of socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments</p>
<p><i>Outcome 2.1 in the CEO ER is aligned with Outcome 1.1 from the PIF.</i></p>	

Original PIF	Change at CEO Endorsement
<p><b>Outcome 2.1:</b> Knowledge from community level engagement and innovative conservation practices is systematically assessed and shared for replication and upscaling across the landscape, country and to the global SGP network</p> <p>Output 2.1.1. Knowledge generation through project monitoring and evaluation, with lessons compiled, systematized and disseminated to multiple audiences</p> <p><b>Outcome 2.2:</b> Adoption of successful SGP supported technologies, practices or systems by policy makers, government agencies, financial partners and private sector at regional and national levels</p> <p>Output 2.2.1. Detailed analysis of successful grant project portfolios in each landscape, lessons learned/best practices and market opportunities documented to provide policy inputs at regional and national level</p>	<p><b>Outcome 2.2:</b> Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches</p> <p>Output 2.2.1: Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized, and disseminated across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network</p>
<p><i>Indicative Outcomes 2.1 and 2.2 described in the PIF were consolidated into Outcome 2.1 in the CEO ER, aimed at strengthening the enabling environment for upscaling through capacity building and knowledge management</i></p>	
	<p><b>Component 3: Monitoring and evaluation</b></p> <p><b>Outcome 3.1:</b> Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation</p> <p>Output 3.1.1: Project implementation effectively monitored and evaluated</p>
<p><i>A separate component (3) was established on monitoring and evaluation. Consistent with the GEF budget template, having a separate component on M&amp;E enables separation of M&amp;E costs. Moreover, the over-arching function of M&amp;E on the project is better represented through having a dedicated component on M&amp;E.</i></p>	

### **Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection**

Under this component, landscape resilience will be strengthened through community-level small grant interventions aimed at achieving the mutually beneficial outcomes of sustainable socioeconomic development and conservation and protection of the ecosystem goods and services that many local communities rely upon. The small grant projects will cover the three GEF focal areas of biodiversity, land degradation and climate change mitigation.

#### **Outcome 1.1: Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions**

The target landscapes each contain rich terrestrial habitats harbouring globally significant biodiversity, and many of the local communities in these areas are dependent upon natural resources for sustaining

their livelihoods and well-being and are increasingly vulnerable to threats to these natural resources from unsustainable exploitation and the impacts of climate change. Through the landscape approach and in collaboration with the governance structures and strategic planning completed under Component 2, this outcome aims to strengthen participatory models of conservation, restoration, and sustainable use. In line with the COVID-19 green recovery efforts, the project is in a good position to promote sustainable natural resource management, including limiting encroachment into forest ecosystems, thereby safeguarding critical habitats and reducing human-wildlife interactions.

**Output 1.1.1: Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services**

Under this output, community projects will be implemented on sustainable utilization of NTFPs, rehabilitation and managed regeneration of degraded terrestrial ecosystems, collaborative management of conservation areas, ecotourism and other conservation and land degradation interventions. The actual interventions will be developed by local CBOs, based on the socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments of the target landscapes and in line with the priorities outlined in the landscape strategies.

*Indicative activities under Output 1.1.1 include:*

1.1.1.1.	In accordance with the priority actions identified in the landscape strategies produced under Component 2, provide assistance, e.g., through preparation grants, to CBOs for developing concepts and proposals for community projects on participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood interventions.
1.1.1.2.	Engage government, private sector, donor agencies, NGOs, and other partners to provide technical assistance and co-financing for community interventions.
1.1.1.3.	Award and implement community level conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood projects, with an emphasis on those run by women and other marginalised groups.
1.1.1.4.	Assist the CBO grantees in monitoring and evaluating the results of the participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood interventions.

**Output 1.1.2: Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring**

Under this output, project resources will support capacity building of CBOs in participatory conservation, restoration, and nature-based livelihood initiatives. In collaboration with the strategic projects planned under Output 2.1.3, local CBOs will be connected with experienced NGOs, protected area management agencies, and other strategic partners for learn-by-doing capacity building on participatory conservation and restoration interventions. Skills training will also be facilitated through linkages with agricultural extension services, e.g., with respect to good agroecological practices, including post-harvest processing and marketing.

*Indicative activities under Output 1.1.2 include:*

1.1.2.1.	Facilitate learning-by-doing capacity building to local CBOs through linking up with experienced NGOs, protected area management entities, and other strategic partners, on participatory conservation and restoration techniques.
1.1.2.2.	Deliver capacity building on good agroecological practices and systems to CBOs, in partnership with local extension services, government departments, academic/research institutions and the private sector.
1.1.2.3.	Provide capacity building to CBOs (specifically women's groups) on quality control, marketing, financial management, partnership building, etc., for strengthening initiatives regarding organic and green products and ensuring women's participation and decision making in supply/value chains.
1.1.2.4.	Deliver capacity building on documenting traditional biodiversity knowledge among indigenous communities.

**Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level**

The OP7 project will build on previous successful experience of SGP Malaysia with community-level climate change mitigation (CCM) interventions, including micro-hydro power generation, as well as solar PV, biogas and fuel-efficient stoves, to support implementation of energy-efficiency and renewable energy technologies in areas underserved by the national power grid. Building upon the analyses made during the project preparation phase, the project will support CBOs in identifying the appropriate technologies, plan and manage installation, develop operations and maintenance plans, as well as financing and cost-recovery plans.

**Output 1.2.1: Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications**

Indicative types of community CCM projects under this output include fuel-efficient cook stoves, energy-efficient lighting (LED) replacing incandescent lamps, energy-efficient roofing and walls in urban areas, micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators for off-grid communities, solar PV for off-grid communities, biogas (at community level) for cooking, off-grid solar-powered combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) systems, gasification system & turbine generator producing both power and biochar (for use in agriculture), and advocating and policy reform for expanded and improved sustainable transportation options.

Project interventions will be aligned with the COVID-19 recovery efforts in the project landscapes, e.g., exploring RE options for health facilities, enhancing energy access, etc.

*Indicative activities under Output 1.1.2 include:*

1.2.1.1.	In accordance with the priority actions identified in the landscape strategies produced under Component 2, provide assistance, e.g., through preparation grants, to CBOs for developing concepts and proposals for community projects on RE and EE technologies and applications in the target landscapes.
1.2.1.2.	Engage government, private sector, donor agencies, NGOs, and other partners to provide technical assistance and co-financing for community interventions.

1.2.1.3.	Award and implement community level RE and EE projects, with an emphasis on ones run by women and other marginalised groups.
1.2.1.4.	Support the CBO grantees in monitoring and evaluating the results of the community RE and EE interventions.

**Output 1.2.2: Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring**

Under this output, training will be delivered to CBOs on financial management and business development. Building capacities of women micro-entrepreneurs and training on accessing digital financial services will also contribute towards the COVID-19 recovery efforts in lesser developed communities. Partners involved in grant funding and microlending will be invited to participate in the training sessions, describing opportunities and terms and conditions for accessing available schemes.

Synergies with complementary government programs, private sector initiatives and other schemes will be facilitated through delivering training to CBOs to increase their understanding and awareness of such programs. Moreover, leading research technical institutes and civil society partners will be engaged to provide technical guidance and capacity building to CBO partners.

*Indicative activities under Output 1.2.2 include:*

1.2.2.1.	Provide capacity building to CBOs (including women and other marginalised groups) on RE and EE technologies and applications, assisting in the formulation of project proposals.
1.2.2.2.	Build understanding of CBOs (including women and other marginalised groups) for enabling their participation in government programmes and schemes, as well as other initiatives sponsored by private sector or other stakeholders.
1.2.2.3.	Provide training to CBOs on financial management and access to microcredit opportunities, specifically targeting women and other marginalised groups.
1.2.2.4.	Engage with research and academic institutes, delivering skills training to CBOs on innovative approaches and techniques.

**Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management**

Component 2 focuses on facilitating participatory, multi-stakeholder governance across the target landscapes. This process will include establishing multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, carrying out updated participatory baseline assessments, and developing landscape strategies that outline priority issues and actions to focus on.

Project resources are also earmarked for potential 'strategic projects', in line with SGP's operational guidelines. Strategic projects aim to bring broader adoption of specific successful SGP-supported technologies, practices or systems through engagement of potential policy makers, donor agencies, experienced NGOs, financial partners, private sector enterprises and associations, and academic-research institutes.

Knowledge and project lesson learned from the SGP project will be documented for evaluation, systematized and codified for dissemination at the landscape level; at the national level through the National Steering Committee, strategic partnerships and their networks, and national knowledge fairs where appropriate; and globally through the SGP global network of SGP Country Programmes and UNDP's knowledge management system.

**Outcome 2.1: Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience**

The landscape approach requires engagement by multiple stakeholders, with cross-sectoral representation and from government, civil society, private sector, and academia. Multi-stakeholder collaboration will help leverage resources and facilitate impact at scale, further strengthened mainstreaming participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable livelihood initiatives into local planning frameworks.

Development of landscape strategies will be participatory and multi-stakeholder to ensure the widest possible buy-in, support and commitment to the strategic outcomes. Multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms will serve to establish ties between communities in the landscape, socialize information and learn about global environmental values and their relationship to socio-ecological resilience, and agree on actions or outputs to achieve the desirable future outcomes.

**Output 2.1.1: Multi-stakeholder platforms established and/or strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes**

An integral aspect of the project's landscape approach is establishment or strengthening of multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, providing local communities enhanced opportunities to participate in development planning. Building upon the analyses carried out during the PPG phase on existing and potential governance mechanisms (see *Landscape Profiles* in *Annex 12* to the *Project Document*), the project will facilitate multi-stakeholder platforms in the project landscapes, with representation by local civil society organisations, state and local government departments, private sector enterprises and/or associations, women's groups, and others. Considering the expansiveness and urban complexities of the Klang Valley landscape, the composition of the stakeholder platform there is envisaged to be different as compared to the rural landscapes in Sabah and Sarawak. The Klang Valley platform will build upon existing coalitions of civil society organisations, to strengthen networking, partnerships, and advocacy capacities.

Building capacity of the landscape governance mechanisms will also contribute towards COVID-19 recovery efforts, e.g., providing practical platforms for increasing awareness and outreach, particularly for lesser developed communities that are vulnerable to the health and safety and economic impacts of the pandemic and similar social disruptions.

*Indicative activities under Output 2.1.1 include:*

2.1.1.1.	Engaging with key stakeholders in the project landscapes, agree upon the best approach for multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms and prepare terms of reference for the platforms.
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2.1.1.2.	Convene regular meetings of the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms, discussing landscape strategies, linking with complementary initiatives, facilitating capacity building, organising awareness campaigns strategic, etc.
2.1.1.3.	Sensitise and build capacity of stakeholders on gender mainstreaming and inclusion of indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups.
2.1.1.4.	Advocate and assist local government units in mainstreaming the multi-stakeholder platforms into local governance structures.

**Output 2.1.2: Landscape strategies for effective governance developed based on results of participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments in the selected intervention landscapes**

Building upon the information gathered during the project preparation phase for OP7, socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments will be carried out for the three project landscapes. The assessments will include participatory stakeholder mapping, discussions of socio-ecological resilience, scoring of resilience, deliberation of key issues in the landscapes and discussions of potential actions. A wide range of local stakeholders, including local communities, local government officials and community leaders will be invited to participate in the assessments. The types of information to gather during the baseline assessment consultations include:

- ? Community priorities, key environmental threats, socioeconomic conditions.
- ? Existing and planned projects and programmes in the target landscapes, and opportunities for collaboration.
- ? Capacities of the CBOs and other stakeholders.
- ? Potential local champions who could represent the interests of the communities and help facilitate the project interventions.

The results of the baseline assessments will be used to develop landscape strategies, aimed at enhancing the socio-ecological resilience of the target landscapes based on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, energy, and ecosystem services. The strategies will provide an outline of the biodiversity values and socioeconomic conditions, present the expected goals and outcomes, describe stakeholder roles and responsibilities and present priority community-based actions, including those associated with response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic. The terms of reference for the call for proposals for small grants under Component 1 will be updated according to the priority actions agreed upon in the landscape strategies. To ensure sustainability of the landscape approach initiated under the OP7 project, the multi-stakeholder landscape governance platforms will provide an interface for mainstreaming the landscape strategies into local development plans and advocacy initiatives.

Developing the landscape strategies will be carried out through participatory processes, to ensure the widest possible buy-in, support and commitment to the strategic outcomes. The process of developing the strategies will also serve to establish ties between communities in the landscape, socialize information and learn about global environmental values and their relationship to socio-ecological resilience, and agree on actions or outputs to achieve the desirable future outcomes.



*Indicative activities under Output 2.1.2 include:*

2.1.2.1.	Deliver training to the selected NGOs on the socio-ecological resilience assessment process.
2.1.2.2.	Carry out participatory baseline assessments of socio-ecological resilience for each of the target landscapes, ensuring equitable participation of women and other marginalized groups.
2.1.2.3.	Prepare baseline assessment reports for the target landscapes, including updated information on priority areas for biodiversity conservation, rehabilitation of degraded land, priorities for renewable and clean energy among local communities, opportunities for introducing or enhancing alternative livelihoods for local people, and incorporating gender-responsive processes.
2.1.2.4.	Prepare landscape strategies for the target landscapes using the results of the baseline assessments and follow-up consultations with local stakeholders (government officials, NGOs/CBOs, women groups, and private sector), and including a gender mainstreaming and social inclusion action plan for ensuring representation and participation of women and other marginalised groups.
2.1.2.5.	Present the landscape strategies and action plans to the multi-stakeholder platforms and the SGP National Steering Committee for endorsement.
2.1.2.6.	Identify and train local champions in the target landscapes, with emphasis on inclusion of women and youth, for helping to facilitate the implementation of the landscape strategies.
2.1.2.7.	Prepare and disseminate information on the landscape strategies to stakeholders within the target landscapes, through print media, social media and local media outlets, taking into consideration interests and culturally appropriate communication approaches for women and other marginalised groups.
2.1.2.8.	Engage with local government officials and other key landscape partners, advocating for mainstreaming the priority actions of the landscape strategies into local development planning and budgeting frameworks.

**Output 2.1.3: Partnership building and policy advocacy among governmental stakeholders, civil society, financial institutions, and private sector for facilitating broader adoption of participatory approaches**

The durability and upscaling potential of the interventions implemented on the project will largely depend on enabling partnerships and successful advocacy for strengthening policy and incentive frameworks for sustaining and expanding participatory approaches. Under this output, resources are allocated for granting strategic projects aimed at for building and strengthening partnerships and leading advocacy initiatives with local, state, and national, regional, and international level stakeholders. A business development consultant will support the trainings and also help facilitate linkages with enabling partners from local and national governmental agencies, civil society, and private sector.

*Indicative activities under Output 2.1.3 include:*

2.1.3.1.	Through support from strategic partners, facilitate CBOs/NGOs in identifying and fostering potential partnerships to upscale successful interventions.
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2.1.3.2.	Based on evaluations of portfolio results and lessons, prepare policy briefs to advance the enabling environment for incentivising participatory approaches.
2.1.3.3.	Advocate for policy reform through liaising with key stakeholders and convening stakeholder workshops, inviting local and national government officials, financial institutions, donor agencies, civil society, private sector, and research-academic institutes.

## **Outcome 2.2: Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches**

Recording and disseminating the knowledge gained through the implementation of the community small grants is an important aspect of the SGP, as the GEF funding is primarily intended to catalyse investments for upscaling and replication.

### **Output 2.2.1: Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized, and disseminated across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network**

Under this output, CBOs will be trained on collecting, recording and documenting knowledge and experiences of community development initiatives. Resources are allocated for development of case studies and other knowledge products and disseminating them among relevant stakeholders groups, using print media, social media, radio, or other communication approaches. At least one of the knowledge products is envisaged to highlight women's role in ensuring socio-ecological resilience.

*Indicative activities under Output 2.2.1 include:*

2.2.1.1.	Update the SGP knowledge management strategy for Malaysia and develop a communications strategy.
2.2.1.2.	Train CBOs (including women, indigenous peoples and other marginalised groups) on collecting and documenting information gained through implementation of community projects.
2.2.1.3.	Distil information from the individual case studies produced by the grantees in Component 1 into consolidated knowledge products highlighting best practices on adaptive management for landscape resilience, including at least one case study highlighting the role of women.
2.2.1.4.	Disseminate the case studies and other knowledge products among relevant stakeholder groups through appropriate communication techniques, including print media, social media and other local media outlets, and stakeholder gatherings.
2.2.1.5.	Participate in one SGP-UCP global workshop for sharing experiences and best practices, learning approaches implemented in other countries that could be replicated in Malaysia and fostering international and regional partnerships.

## **Component 3: Monitoring and Evaluation**

The activities under this output are designed to put in place enabling procedures and protocols to facilitate effective monitoring & evaluation (M&E), as outlined in *Section VI: Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan* of the Project Document.

### **Outcome 3.1: Sustainability of project results enhanced through participatory monitoring and evaluation**

Outcome 3.1 focuses on delivering participatory and timely M&E feedback, consolidating inputs from the individual grantees and evaluating progress towards achievement of the overall project objective. The findings of the M&E activities will inform adaptive management measures, aimed at ensuring the durability of project results.

#### **Output 3.1.1: Project implementation and results effectively monitored and evaluated**

The project inception workshop is a critical M&E milestone on the implementation timeline, providing an opportunity to validate the project document, confirming governance implementation arrangements, including agreements with responsible parties; assessing changes in relevant circumstances and making adjustments to the project results framework accordingly; verifying stakeholder roles and responsibilities; updating the project risk assessment and agreeing to mitigation measures and responsibilities; and agreeing to the multi-year work plan. An inception workshop report will be prepared and disseminated among the NSC members.

The SGP National Steering Committee (NSC) will be the main platform for high-level and strategic decisions (see **Section VIII: Governance and Management Arrangements**).

The CMPU will oversee monitoring achievement of the performance metrics included in the project results framework, with direct input from the CBO grantees from M&E feedback from the individual projects. In addition, carrying out M&E of the implementation of the project safeguard plans, specifically the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and Gender Action Plan, is included among the activities under this output.

According to GEF requirements, two independent evaluations will be carried out of the project, a midterm review and terminal evaluation. At least one month before the midterm review (MTR) and terminal evaluation (TE), the project will contract a local institute, local consultant or other service provider to carry out assessments of the GEF core indicators and other results requiring verification/analysis.

This output also includes preparation of a sustainability plan, providing guidance to local partners on ensuring the durability of landscape strategies and multi-stakeholder platforms.

*Indicative activities under Output 3.1.1 include:*

3.1.1.1.	Organise the project inception workshop, including review of multi-year work plan, project results framework, gender analysis and gender action plan, stakeholder engagement plan, social and environmental screening procedure, etc., and prepare an inception report to provide guidance for initiating the implementation of the project.
3.1.1.2.	Organise NSC meetings, providing strategic guidance to the country programme management unit and approving project grants.
3.1.1.3.	Monitor and evaluate the project progress, risks and results, facilitating adaptive management, and prepare annual PIR reports and other project progress reports.

3.1.1.4.	Monitor the implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan.
3.1.1.5.	Monitor the implementation of the gender action plan, review annually and regularly update the SESP, with the support of a Gender-Safeguards Consultant.
3.1.1.6.	Assess midterm achievement of GEF core indicator targets and other project results.
3.1.1.7.	Procure and support an independent midterm review of the project, according to UNDP and GEF guidelines.
3.1.1.8.	Assess end-of-project achievement of GEF core indicator targets and other project results.
3.1.1.9.	Procure and support an independent terminal evaluation of the project, according to UNDP and GEF guidelines.
3.1.1.10.	Prepare a sustainability plan.

#### ***4) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or impact program strategies***

The project is aligned with the following GEF-7 focal area objectives:

- ? **BD-1-1:** Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes through biodiversity mainstreaming in priority sectors.
- ? **CCM-1-1:** Promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs for decentralized power with energy usage.

#### ***5) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF and co-financing***

Although government agencies and institutions can be seen to be taking concrete steps to tackle environmental problems by setting plans and strategies and implementing activities on the ground, these are often piecemeal and rarely comprise an integrated approach to enhancing socio-ecological resilience of rural and urban landscapes. Sectoral approaches are often top-down, which results in lack of local ownership since stakeholder agency is diminished, goals do not arise from stakeholder dialogues and felt needs, and local capacities are left limited. In the absence of GEF funding, local CBOs will not be able to overcome the barriers that block the design and implementation of community-driven resilience-enhancing activities. Local civil society will continue to be frustrated in addressing sustainable development problems affecting their communities, landscapes and the global environment. These organizations will not build their capacities through learning-by-doing and will be unable to play a vital role in changing people's behaviour to favour sustainability and global environmental values. Government funding will continue to be spent ineffectively without tackling the landscape trends and patterns determining socio-ecological resilience. Government resources are rarely directed towards community engagement with global environmental protection. Without GEF resources, land degradation and biodiversity loss will continue given the tendencies to involve communities only peripherally in addressing these problems.

Women and youth will be also affected by the absence of GEF funding since one of the main targets of SGP initiatives is their empowerment, in particular by assisting them to launch small-scale sustainable businesses. Without GEF funding, demonstration and application of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies are unlikely to occur at scale or as dynamically as occurs through the SGP networks of community organizations.

The business-as-usual scenario in the absence of the GEF Small Grants Programme will mean ongoing global environmental degradation from unsustainable production activities, primarily affecting biodiversity in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve and the Baram watershed in Sarawak, but also in inhibiting the rehabilitation of biodiversity in the Klang Valley. Government or other top-down initiatives will enjoy only partial support from local stakeholders and their results will be diminished as a consequence. In the absence of pro-active involvement by local stakeholders, the prospects of sustainability will be difficult. In the Klang Valley, in particular, the lack of community involvement and ownership of green space initiatives within a broad cityscape strategy to reinvigorate biodiversity in an urban setting will result in weak attempts and failure. The BAU scenario for climate change would reflect diminishing or weak citizen engagement in energy efficiency and renewable energy alternatives in cooling, water heating, transport and lighting, while in remote areas of Sarawak or Sabah, communities will be unlikely to access electricity from renewable resources and, given the prohibitive cost of grid extension, remain unserved and dependent on fossil fuels for lighting, in particular.

GEF incremental funding and co-financing will be applied to overcome the barriers mentioned above and to add value, where appropriate and possible, to existing initiatives by the government, the private sector or CSOs in the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve (Sabah), Middle and Upper Baram (Sarawak) and Klang Valley (Peninsular Malaysia) in Malaysia.

GEF incremental funding and co-financing will contribute to the long-term solution of adaptive management of three important targeted landscapes in Malaysia for social, economic and ecological resilience and human well-being. Resources are also allocated in the OP7 project budget through the SGP strategic grant modality to upscale proven technologies, systems or practices based on knowledge from analysis of community innovations from past experience gained during previous phases of the SGP Malaysia Country Programme.

Formal multi-stakeholder group partnerships will provide technical assistance, strategic guidance and financial support, where possible, to community-based organizations for individual community initiatives, as well as landscape level projects and strategic upgrading projects.

## ***6) Global environmental benefits (GEFTF)***

The global environmental benefits generated by the SGP Malaysia Upgraded Country Programme (UCP) are estimated based on the expected aggregated benefits created by individual interventions implemented under the proposed participatory and integrated landscape approach. GEF support will be catalytic in mobilizing action at local levels to innovate new strategies and technologies to improve the

management of vulnerable natural resources and ecosystems. More importantly, the programme will enhance the capacity of stakeholders in different sectors and at different levels (NGOs, CBOs, etc.) to promote adaptive participatory resource management and clean energy access. The lessons learned from the community and landscape level initiatives will be analysed by multi-stakeholder groups at landscape and regional levels for potential policy inputs and disseminated to other landscapes and communities where they will be upscaled, mainstreamed and replicated, as well as integrated into other local and national level programs.

With respect to biodiversity, the project will seek to promote the conservation and sustainable use of globally significant biodiversity in part by strengthening biodiversity-based livelihoods. Indicative community projects include the following:

- ? Strengthened participatory conservation and restoration of forest ecosystems in partnership with Sabah Parks, to benefit biodiversity in buffer and transition zones of CRBR.
- ? Improved management of forest ecosystems to benefit biodiversity and promoting nature-based ecotourism options for local communities.
- ? Strengthened community forest management, building capacities for establishment of a Baram Eco-Community Forest.
- ? Securing and strengthening legal protection over the existing and proposed community forests and green spaces in the Klang Valley.
- ? Promoting volunteerism such as in planning and building of biking and hiking trails in community forests, producing campaign and promotional materials, organising community-based events such as outings and gotong-royong.
- ? Demonstrating the benefits of green spaces to the well-being of urban poor and how promotion of urban biodiversity can go hand in hand with initiative to alleviate urban poverty.
- ? Developing and implementing sound management plans and masterplans for the co-management of community forests and green spaces.
- ? Documentation of traditional knowledge related to biodiversity (e.g., traditional knowledge recordings, resource classification systems, etc).
- ? Through partnership with logging concession holders under the certification processes of the Malaysian Timber Certification Council (MTCC), enhance social and economic well-being of local communities through sustainable management and utilization of forest resources.

The improved landscape management practices that benefit biodiversity are also envisaged to have co-benefits towards achievement of land degradation focal area objectives. Some of the viable interventions under OP7 include:

- ? Promoting sustainable agriculture for enhanced protection and participatory restoration of water catchment areas and other environmental sensitive sites.
- ? Participatory restoration of degraded forest land as part of improved landscape management.
- ? Sustainable utilisation of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) in buffer and transition zones of CRBR, strengthening livelihoods of local people, including for production of nature-based handicrafts.
- ? Climate-resilient agriculture.

? Rehabilitation of degraded soils, including improved management of peatlands in the Klang Valley landscape.

With respect to climate change mitigation, indicative energy efficiency (EE), renewable energy (RE), and sustainable transportation interventions including the following:

- ? Fuel-efficient cook stoves.
- ? Energy-efficient lighting (LED) replacing incandescent lamps.
- ? Energy-efficient roofing and walls in urban areas.
- ? Micro- and pico- hydroelectric generators for off-grid communities.
- ? Solar PV for off-grid communities.
- ? Biogas (at community level) for cooking.
- ? Off-grid solar-powered combined cooling, heating and power (CCHP) systems.
- ? Gasification system & turbine generator producing both power and biochar (for use in agriculture).
- ? Advocating and policy reform for expanded and improved sustainable transportation options.

Mitigation of GHG emissions is also envisaged as a co-benefit of the project interventions in the AFOLU sector, including avoided forest loss through strengthened participatory conservation and avoided GHG emissions through participatory restoration-rehabilitation of degraded land.

### ***7) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up. ?***

**Innovativeness:** The OP7 project is the first GEF replenishment cycle in which the SGP in Malaysia functions as an SGP Upgraded Country Programme (UCP). The landscape approach proposed for the two forest landscapes (Crocker Range Biosphere and Middle and Upper Baram) and the urban cityscape of the Klang Valley is aimed at enhancing social and ecological resilience through community-based, community-driven projects to conserve biodiversity, optimize ecosystem services, manage land ? particularly agro-ecosystems ? and water sustainably, and mitigate climate change.

Using the knowledge and experience gained from global and national landscape level initiatives delivered by SGP ? through its COMDEKS and COMPACT programs, GSI-ICCA initiatives and others ? this project will pilot three distinct landscape planning and management processes in Malaysia and, building on experience and lessons learned from previous SGP operational phases in Malaysia, assist community organizations to carry out and coordinate projects in pursuit of outcomes they have identified in landscape/seascape plans and strategies. The capacities of community organizations will be strengthened through a learning-by-doing approach in which the project itself is a vehicle for acquiring practical knowledge and organizational skills in a longer-term adaptive management process.

This adaptive landscape planning and management process is quite innovative in the context of the two forest landscapes, as well as the urban cityscape, given that this kind of participatory, community-driven process has not been implemented at this scale or with this methodology. The process is adaptive in that it incorporates new information, experience and lessons from community resource management but also evolves together with the organisational capacities of communities in the landscapes. In these three landscapes, stakeholders strengthen their abilities to analyse trends in land and resource use as well as their consequences, to plan strategically at landscape level but also at community level and to adapt through learning-by-doing to new circumstances, information and resources. This project will particularly support innovation in developing and applying practical solutions to issues of gender equality in terms of access to resources and project benefits.

SGP activities will build on experience and lessons learned from previous SGP operational phases in Malaysia and will continue to assist community organizations to carry out and coordinate projects in pursuit of outcomes they have identified in landscape plans and strategies. This will build community ownership of individual initiatives as well as landscape management overall. Coordinated community projects in the landscape will generate ecological, economic and social synergies that will produce greater and potentially longer-lasting global environmental benefits, as well as increased social capital and local sustainable development benefits. The capacities of community organizations will be strengthened through a learning-by-doing approach in which the project itself is a vehicle for acquiring practical knowledge and organizational skills in a longer-term adaptive management process. The project will consider previous community experiences and identify and support potential upscaling opportunities during this project's lifetime.

**Sustainability:** In order to ensure sustainability of community-based landscape management initiatives, the SGP Malaysia Country Program will actively develop and maintain broad-based relationships/partnerships that promote collaboration. For example, to ensure market access for agroforestry products, SGP will not only focus on local markets but also leverage the opportunity to establish market linkages with other private sector companies that are interested in integrating local products into their supply chain. Community ownership is a critical factor contributing to the sustainability of project benefits. SGP Malaysia will involve all community members (men, women, youth, indigenous and disabled people) in all stages of the grant project cycle: design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The growing network of voluntary support, as a result of cooperation with more than a hundred NGOs, CBOs and indigenous peoples groups, has made it possible for SGP Malaysia to reach out to more vulnerable groups efficiently, particularly addressing gender and indigenous peoples' concerns. This network consists of scientists, practitioners in community-based entrepreneurship, project cycle development facilitators, government officials, indigenous people's groups, and decision makers. Sustainability will be maintained further by aligning the program with government policies, building the capacities of community and indigenous people's groups, and engaging the private sector, universities, and research institutes in providing services (including financial services from corporate and foundation).

*Financial dimension of sustainability:* The majority of the community projects are envisaged to include livelihood related activities, such as capacity building, skills development, market linkages, etc.

Experience gained through the SGP interventions will strengthen the capabilities of CBOs to develop proposals and raise funds. The 1:1 co-financing requirement for each of the community projects will help promote enabling partnerships with governmental, civil society, donor, and private sector stakeholders. Moreover, the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms will provide direct linkages with local government development planning mechanisms and opportunities for funding upscaling and replication.

*Socioeconomic dimension of sustainability:* The landscape approach integrated into the project strategy is predicated on strengthening socio-ecological resilience. Involving multiple stakeholders in the landscapes-seascape in identifying priority issues and developing strategies for addressing them increases the overall social capital of the local communities. Contributing towards the COVID-19 recovery efforts, the project interventions, such as diversifying local food production, strengthens the resilience of the local communities.

*Institutional framework and governance dimension of sustainability:* Building capacities of local governance mechanisms and involving multiple stakeholders in the landscape platforms will enhance the likelihood that project results will be sustained after GEF funding ceases. Representatives of local government entities are important members of the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, helping to foster linkages with complementary government programmes and to identify incentives for upscaling project interventions. These institutional level stakeholders will also have the opportunity to participate in capacity building activities under the project, providing them with an expanded knowledge base of innovative approaches and a broadened network of stakeholder alliances, including with the civil society, private sector, and other governmental partners, both at the national level and with counterparts in the other project landscapes. Mainstreaming the priority actions outlined in the landscape strategies into local development planning frameworks will further strengthen the durability of the institutional framework and governance dimensions requisite for effective landscape management approaches.

*Environmental dimension of sustainability:* A substantial number of the envisaged community projects involve activities that conserve biodiversity and protect and restore ecosystem services, e.g., improved sustainable land management, collaborative community management of natural resources, adopting sustainable agricultural practices, restoration-rehabilitation of degraded agricultural land and forest ecosystems. As outlined in the *Social and Environmental Screening Procedure* (see *Annex 5* to the *Project Document*), biodiversity conservation, land degradation, and climate change mitigation grants will be primarily carried out in partnership with expert organizations, e.g., conservation agencies, NGOs, and local government entities, thus building capacities and partnerships that will help ensure sustainability of the implemented interventions.

Moreover, the overall strategy is focused on enhancing the socio-ecological resilience of local communities. These efforts will strengthen coping capacities in response to long-term climate change and associated increased risks associated with climate and disaster hazards. For instance, climate-smart agricultural practices will enhance resilience. And the grant proposals will be required to include provisions for managing climate and geophysical hazards, which will help build capacities of local CBOs and ensure more durable landscape management practices.



**Potential for Scaling Up:** Successful interventions under each thematic area can be replicated/upscaled in other geographic regions of the country facing similar issues of development and environmental protection and management. Through improved financial capacities, grantees may ensure progressive innovation and broader adoption. Resources are allocated in the OP7 project through the SGP strategic grant modality to finance key elements of upscaling initiatives to reduce the risk to other donors and investors. SGP Malaysia has already undertaken systematic outreach activities as an effort to promote scaling-up of community practices by involving government, research and technical support institutions, foundations, and NGOs.

Multi-stakeholder partnership mechanisms for this project in the three targeted areas will be applied taking into account the following elements: (1) understanding the potential core values of each actor and their resources, such as specific technologies, practices or systems; (2) identifying potential scaling up opportunities, analysing and planning the scaling up process; and (3) implementing the scaling up program and evaluating its performance and impacts as a lesson learned or case study for adaptive management, policy discussion and potential replication of the model in other areas of the country. The scaling-up and replication strategy will be conducted by SGP Malaysia through advocacy and publication of best practices targeted to relevant stakeholders.

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#### **1b. Project Map and Coordinates**

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

See map and geo-coordinates included in *Annex E*.

#### **1c. Child Project?**

**If this is a child project under a program, describe how the components contribute to the overall program impact.**

## 2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Civil Society Organizations

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Private Sector Entities

If none of the above, please explain why:

Please provide the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent assessment.

A stakeholder analysis was undertaken during project preparation to identify key stakeholders, consult with them regarding their interests in the project and define their roles and responsibilities during project implementation. A list of key project stakeholders and their envisaged role on the project is provided below in *Table 4 of the Project Document*.

*Table 4 of the Project Document: Key project stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities*

Stakeholder	Description and envisaged involvement in project
<b>Civil society</b>	
Community-based Organisations (CBOs)	Main beneficiaries of project interventions. Responsibilities include effective implementation of SGP projects, skills-building, and use of easy-to-handle technologies, including training and documentation of experiences. They also are the primary agents for accessing markets and micro-finance. CBOs participate in landscape planning and analyses of lessons learned, dissemination of knowledge gained through peer-to-peer exchanges, etc. Signatories to community level partnership agreements.
Non-governmental organisations (NGOs)	NGOs lead and facilitate participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape; are signatories to community level partnership agreements; provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; and are potential participants on policy platforms. Potential NGO stakeholders will include those with experience in the specific areas of action for socio-ecological resilient landscape management, including gender mainstreaming. NGOs will be engaged through strategic grant modalities, participation on multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, etc.
<b>Federal, State and Local Government Units</b>	
Ministry of Environment and Water (KASA)	The Ministry serves as GEF Operational Focal Point and has co-chaired the National Steering Committee of SGP Malaysia. The ministry is in the administrative structure of the Central Government and is responsible for planning, promoting, coordinating and overseeing implementation of the energy sector, science and technology, environment and climate change related policies and programme. The ministry also served as UNFCCC National Focal Point.

Stakeholder	Description and envisaged involvement in project
Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources (KeTSA)	The ministry is the UNCBD National Focal Point and is the lead ministry responsible for planning, promoting, coordinating and overseeing policy implementation on water management, land and natural resources including biological diversity. KeTSA is one of the project's co-financing partners and will be represented on the SGP National Steering Committee (NSC). And the project will engage with the Ministry in advancing the involvement of local communities in conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.
Sabah Parks	Sabah Parks is a conservation-based statutory body established in 1964 with the purpose of conserving the scenic, scientific and historic heritage of the state of Sabah. Sabah Parks is the management entity for the Crocker Range National Park, and as one of the OP7 project's co-financing, the SGP will collaborate with Sabah Parks on strengthening engagement with local communities residing in and near the national park and the Biosphere Reserve.
Government Agencies	Including but not limited to the Forestry Departments of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak, Sabah Biodiversity Centre, Sarawak Biodiversity Centre at district and state levels: Primary participants in landscape planning exercises; first-order partners in the multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape; partners in landscape level projects; participants in landscape level policy platforms.
State and local government units	State and district government units and lower tier administrative units will be key partners on the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms and will be closely involved in the development of the landscape strategies and implementation of the project interventions.
<b>Other stakeholders</b>	
Private sector	Including but not limited to the Habitat Foundation (one of the project's co-financing partners) and Hasanah Foundation: Partners in multi-stakeholder platforms for each landscape; signatories to community level partnership agreements, as appropriate; potential participants in policy dialogues. Private sector engagement will be facilitated during project implementation for leveraging resources and strengthening partnerships for increased livelihood opportunities for local communities. The SGP will also explore possible linkages with private sector corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives for wider resource mobilisation for grantee partners and for upscaling or replicating best practices.
Academic Research Institutions	University of Sabah, University of Sarawak, University Malaya, University Kebangsaan Malaysia and University Putra Malaysia: Assist in participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multi-stakeholder partnerships for each landscape; build the capacity of community; develop low cost, easy-to-adopt technologies tested on farmers' fields as well as energy and waste management technology; provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; potential participant on policy platforms.
Other GEF and donor projects and initiatives	Synergies and complementary opportunities will be advocated among other GEF and donor financed projects and initiatives.

Effective and inclusive stakeholder engagement will be essential not only for achieving the project outcomes but also for sustaining and replicating the best practices and innovative approaches implemented on the project. A *Stakeholder Engagement Plan* (Annex 8 to the *Project Document*) has been developed to guide the implementation team. Specific stakeholder engagement at the project output level is described below in *Table 5* of the *Project Document*.

In addition, provide a summary on how stakeholders will be consulted in project execution, the means and timing of engagement, how information will be disseminated, and an explanation of any resource requirements throughout the project/program cycle to ensure proper and meaningful stakeholder engagement

*Table 5 of the Project Document: Planned stakeholder engagement across the project outputs*

Output	Stakeholder roles
<b>Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection</b>	
<b>Outcome 1.1: Strengthened conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through community collaborative management and sustainable livelihood interventions</b>	
<b>Output 1.1.1:</b> Community level small grant projects on strengthening participatory conservation, restoration, and sustainable use of biodiversity resources and ecosystem services	? <b>Local CBOs:</b> developing and implementing project interventions. ? <b>NGOs:</b> providing technical assistance in project development and introduction of innovative approaches, policy reform and advocacy. ? <b>Federal ministries:</b> advocating for policy reform regarding participatory conservation, e.g., community forest management. ? <b>PA management entities (including Sabah Parks):</b> cooperating on participatory conservation initiatives with local CBOs and communities. ? <b>Local government units:</b> facilitating community development and conservation initiatives, sustainable livelihood initiatives, solid waste management, gender mainstreaming, inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, etc. ? <b>Academic institutes and government agencies:</b> providing technical assistance.
<b>Output 1.1.2:</b> Capacities of CBOs for participatory conservation, restoration and nature-based livelihood initiatives developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring	? <b>Private sector:</b> strengthening or establishing new partnerships with CBOs, e.g., eco-tourism operators. ? <b>UNDP (and other bilateral and multilateral agencies):</b> exploring synergies, sharing experiences and lessons learned.

Output	Stakeholder roles
<b>Outcome 1.2: Increased adoption of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies and mitigation solutions at community level</b>	
<b>Output 1.2.1:</b> Community level small grant projects on increasing adoption of renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies and applications	? <b>Local CBOs:</b> developing and implementing project interventions. ? <b>NGOs:</b> providing technical assistance in project development and introduction of innovative approaches, policy reform and advocacy. ? <b>Federal ministries:</b> advocating for policy reform regarding low-emission development at the community level. ? <b>Local government units:</b> facilitating community-level low-emission development, gender mainstreaming, inclusion of Indigenous Peoples, etc. ? <b>Academic institutes and government agencies:</b> providing technical assistance. ? <b>Private sector:</b> strengthening or establishing new partnerships.
<b>Output 1.2.2:</b> Capacities of CBOs for community-level climate change mitigation interventions developed through learning-by-doing, skills training, and financial management mentoring	? <b>UNDP (and other bilateral and multilateral agencies):</b> exploring synergies, sharing experiences and lessons learned.
<b>Component 2: Durable landscape resilience through participatory governance, partnership building and knowledge management</b>	
<b>Outcome 2.1: Strengthened community institutions for participatory governance to enhance socio-ecological resilience</b>	



Output	Stakeholder roles
<p><b>Output 2.1.1:</b> Multi-stakeholder platforms established and/or strengthened for improved governance of target landscapes</p> <p><b>Output 2.1.2:</b> Landscape strategies for effective governance developed based on results of participatory socio-ecological resilience baseline assessments in the selected intervention landscapes</p> <p><b>Output 2.1.3:</b> Partnership building and policy advocacy among governmental stakeholders, civil society, financial institutions, and private sector for facilitating broader adoption of participatory approaches</p>	<p>? <b>Local CBOs:</b> participating in the landscape baseline assessments and development of landscape strategies, representing the interests and concerns of local communities.</p> <p>? <b>NGOs:</b> providing technical assistance in the landscape baseline assessments and development of landscape strategies.</p> <p>? <b>Local government units (LGUs):</b> participating in the landscape baseline assessments and mainstreaming the landscape strategies into local development plans; promoting and assisting in ensuring equitable participation and generation of benefits for women, Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups.</p> <p>? <b>PA management entities:</b> participating in the landscape approaches, promoting participatory conservation initiatives.</p> <p>? <b>Private sector enterprises and associations:</b> participating in the landscape approaches.</p>
<b>Outcome 2.2: Enabling environment for upscaling and replication strengthened through effective knowledge management of best practices and approaches</b>	

Output	Stakeholder roles
<b>Output 2.2.1:</b> Knowledge from innovative project interventions compiled, systemized, and disseminated across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network	<p>? <b>Local CBOs:</b> receiving capacity building support and participating in skills training, financial management mentoring, and networking with enabling stakeholders.</p> <p>? <b>NGOs:</b> delivering training and other capacity building support services.</p> <p>? <b>Federal ministries, state and local governments:</b> facilitating policy reform and knowledge sharing for strengthening community involvement in sustainable development, biodiversity conservation, etc.</p> <p>? <b>UNDP Country Office and Global SGP UCP:</b> facilitating knowledge management and replication through linkages with other projects and initiatives; promoting knowledge management across the global portfolio, sharing best practices, lessons learned, and innovative approaches.</p>

Safeguards have been designed for implementing adaptive stakeholder engagement measures if the COVID-19 pandemic is prolonged or recurrent during the project implementation phase (see *Annex 14: COVID-19 Analysis and Action Framework*). Local NGO partners have important roles in facilitating integrated landscape approaches, such as the participatory baseline assessments, development of landscape strategies, and convening multi-stakeholder landscape platforms. The Country Programme Management team will provide strategic guidance to the local partners through a variety of in-person and virtual techniques accordingly. Travel to and within the project landscapes will be made consistent with the requisite protocols according to relevant national, state, and UNDP directives.

**South-south cooperation (SSTrC):** The project will also link up with the South-South Community Innovation Exchange Platform launched by SGP Global during its Sixth Operational Phase (OP6). During OP7 this tool will be used to share information and to replicate the knowledge and innovation created, promoted, and/or tested by civil society and communities on the ground that could fill critical gaps in national action plans and produce timely and significant results. The goal of the South-South cooperation initiative is to support communities in mobilising and taking advantage of development solutions and technical expertise available in the South. In this regard, learning opportunities and technology transfer from peer countries will be further explored during project implementation.

The project will facilitate dissemination through global ongoing South-South and global platforms, such as the UN South-South Galaxy knowledge sharing platform and PANORAMA[1]. To bring the voice of Malaysia to global and regional fora, the project will explore opportunities for meaningful participation in specific events where UNDP could support engagement with the global development discussion on socio-ecological resilience at the landscape level. The project will furthermore provide

opportunities for regional cooperation with countries, e.g., Indonesia, that are implementing initiatives on conservation and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity and community-level clean energy solutions in geopolitical, social and environmental contexts relevant to the proposed project in Malaysia.

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[1] <https://panorama.solutions/en>

**Select what role civil society will play in the project:**

**Consulted only;**

**Member of Advisory Body; Contractor;**

**Co-financier;** Yes

**Member of project steering committee or equivalent decision-making body;** Yes

**Executor or co-executor;** Yes

**Other (Please explain)** Yes

as participants in the landscape government platforms

### **3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

**Provide the gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assesment.**

SGP Malaysia is widely recognized in the country for the programme's focus on mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment. During the project preparation phase of OP7, a *Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan* (see *Annex 10* to the *Project Document*) were prepared, building upon the experiences and lessons of the programme. The gender action plan for the project was developed in accordance with the SGP OP7 Technical Guidance Note on Gender, the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2021[1], and the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming.

Women in the targeted landscapes are key players in managing basic household resources, as care takers, as well as participants in income-generating activities. Expansion beyond these roles is marked by cultural, physical, information and capacity barriers. Women are inhibited from being actively engaged in landscape management in decision making roles in particular by community norms and standards that strongly limit women's leadership of mixed groups and activities and inhibit their more active participation in mixed groups. Women's control of income-generating assets like land is also weak, and decisions regarding family-related expenditures and other financial matters are rarely under their sole control.

The gender responsiveness of the SGP is ensured through specific attention to gender throughout the grant project cycle and landscape management processes. The potential benefits to and impacts upon women are considered throughout the process of grant project design and implementation, and their roles within implemented community-based initiatives is monitored. The SGP will continue to ensure the equitable participation of women and other vulnerable groups in all landscape management discussions and activities by ensuring that their voices can be heard, where relevant in separate groups from men. Specific project ideas will be actively identified with women's groups that will respond to women's expressed needs in regard to landscape or resource management

A description of the gender situation in Malaysia, along with separate discussions for each of the target landscapes, are presented in the gender analysis presented in *Annex 10* to the *Project Document*. The gender action plan for the project recognizes the differences between labour, knowledge, needs, and priorities of men and women, and calls for:

- a. Consultation with women groups on needs and requirements associated with project interventions.
- b. Promotion of equitable representation of women and men in project activities and groups established and/or strengthened, including the landscape level multi-stakeholder governance platforms.
- c. Development of strategic and planning documents in consultation with women.
- d. Targeted budgeting of activities promoting active involvement of women and monitoring and evaluation of such activities.
- e. Participation, training and skills building of women identified and budgeted in relevant project outcomes.
- f. Encouragement of women participation in the recruitment of project implementation staff, including consultancies and other service providers.
- g. When applicable, equal payment of women and men.

Specific gender equality and mainstreaming actions include ensuring equitable representation of women in project decision-making bodies; ensuring equitable proportion of benefits realized from the project will be delivered to women; ensuring gender considerations are integrated into landscape strategies; promoting gender awareness throughout the project implementation phase and promoting equal opportunity for employment for positions within the project management office, consultancies and other service providers.

The CPMU will work with the gender focal point on the NSC to help ensure gender sensitivity in all projects for approval, and to identify lessons learned and knowledge attained for adaptive management and gender-specific policy recommendations.

The project will track the following gender indicators, enabling assessment of progress towards the GEF Gender Policy and to the UNDP Gender Equality Strategy (2018-2021):

- ? Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated)
- ? Number of women-led projects supported

- ? Number of projects that contributing to equal access to and control of natural resources of women and men
- ? Number of projects that improve the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance
- ? Number of projects that target socioeconomic benefits and services for women

These indicators are incorporated into the project results framework and the monitoring plan (see *Annex 4* to the *Project Document*). Progress will be monitored and evaluated during project implementation, with results reported in project progress reports, and adaptive management measures implemented as needed. Resources have been allocated in the project budget for of a part-time Gender-Safeguards Consultant, to support development of landscape strategies, guidance in the preparation of proposals for community grants and monitoring and evaluation of implementation of community projects and achievement of the gender mainstreaming targets outlined in the Gender Action Plan.

During implementation, qualitative assessments will be conducted on the gender-specific benefits that can be directly associated to each grant project. These assessments will be incorporated in periodic M&E progress reports as well as in Midterm Review and in the Terminal Evaluation. The gender responsiveness of knowledge products generated through SGP initiatives will also be a key criterion in their design and development, and dissemination strategies will be adopted that ensure that project information reaches as many women as possible.

[54] See for example <https://comdeksproject.files.wordpress.com/2014/10/communities-in-action-comdeks-web-v2.pdf>

[55] <https://panorama.solutions/en>

[56] UNDP Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2021

**Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment?**

Yes

**Closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes**

**Improving women's participation and decision making Yes**

**Generating socio-economic benefits or services or women Yes**

**Does the project's results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators?**

Yes

**4. Private sector engagement**

**Elaborate on the private sector's engagement in the project, if any.**

The private sector will be engaged in multiple ways in this project. Private sector engagement will be facilitated during project implementation for leveraging resources and strengthening partnerships for increased livelihood opportunities for local communities. Private sector enterprises will be engaged in the development and upscaling of renewable energy (RE) and energy efficiency (EE) interventions, providing technological solutions, distribution channels, financing access, etc.

The SGP will also explore possible linkages with private sector corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives for wider resource mobilisation for grantee partners and for upscaling or replicating best practices.

**5. Risks to Achieving Project Objectives**

**Elaborate on indicated risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, the proposed measures that address these risks at the time of project implementation.(table format acceptable):**

The key risks that could threaten the achievement of results through the chosen strategy are described in the risk register in *Annex 6* to the *Project Document*, along with proposed mitigation measures and recommended risk owners who would be responsible to manage the risks during the project implementation phase. A few of the identified risks are operational, including the low level of technical and managerial capacity of some CBOs to implement grant projects. These risks will be mitigated through capacity building and qualified guidance delivered by the NSC, the SGP Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU), the UNDP Country Office, the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, and other partners, including those engaged through strategic project modalities.

The social and environmental risks that were assessed as part of the social and environmental screening procedure (see *Annex 5* to the *Project Document*) are also consolidated into the risk register. The overall risk-rating for the project is 'Moderate'. Six (6) of the identified seven (7) social and environmental project risks described through the SESP have been assessed as Moderate and one was rated as Low. To meet the SES requirements, the following safeguard plans have been prepared: (i) *Stakeholder Engagement Plan* (see *Annex 8* to the *Project Document*); (ii) *Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan* (see *Annex 10* to the *Project Document*); (iii) *Climate and Disaster Risk Screening* (see *Annex 13* to the *Project Document*); and (iv) *COVID-19 Analysis and Action Framework* (see *Annex 14* to the *Project Document*).

The risk associated with vulnerable and marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, possibly being excluded from fully participating in decisions regarding priority actions on lands claimed by them and including utilisation of natural resources, is rated as moderate. The SGP in Malaysia has extensive experience in engaging with indigenous peoples' communities. The SGP operational guidelines and UNDP policies and procedures provide further guidance on ensuring inclusive and equitable participation. Consistent with Standard 6 (Indigenous Peoples) of the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) processes will be implemented for activities involving possible access restrictions to land, territories, and resources, and accessing of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples.

The project will institute adaptive management measures, building upon SGP's unique position in facilitating socio-ecological resilience and delivering global environmental benefits through community-driven initiatives. The project design is predicated on enhancing socio-ecological resilience. Facilitated by multi-stakeholder collaborative processes, the project strategy promotes landscape approaches for achieving sustainable management of natural resources. Bringing together cross-sectoral and multiple stakeholders into participatory processes will help enhance the knowledge of the risks associated with zoonotic diseases like COVID-19 and how landscape management approaches can help mitigate the risks and build social and ecological resilience of local communities. The project will also promote on-farm diversification and improved agroecological farming practices, which will contribute to increased food and income security of local communities, strengthening their coping capacities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other socioeconomic disruptions.

Risks associated with biodiversity conservation and natural resource management, climate change, and community health, safety, and working conditions will be addressed through application of UNDP social and environmental standards, mitigation measures and proactive stakeholder engagement during project implementation. Specific management measures are captured in the project design, including a Risk Register which captures all project risks, including the ones identified in the SESP, identifies risk management measures and risk owners. Standard M&E and adaptive management procedures will be applied during project implementation.

The risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, which coincided with the project preparation phase, are relevant with respect to operational, financial, and community safety aspects. Safeguards have been designed for implementing adaptive stakeholder engagement measures if the COVID-19 pandemic is prolonged or recurrent during the project implementation phase (see *Annex 14 to the Project Document: COVID-19 Analysis and Action Framework*). For example, virtual meetings will be held where feasible, and as needed, developing Internet skills of women and disabled people and facilitating Internet access through local NGOs, etc. SGP Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be reviewed and updated to address risk of virus exposure. Hazard assessments will be required for project proposals involving gatherings of multiple people, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc.

As outlined in the *Climate and Disaster Risk Screening* (see *Annex 13 to the Project Document*), hazard levels associated with flooding and extreme weather conditions are high in some of the project landscapes and potential short-term incidents and long-term consequences would likely affect vulnerable communities the most, such as the poor, the elderly, women, and children. In severe cases leading to physical destruction, loss of lives, and migration, it would have impactful effect on the livelihoods and access to education of project beneficiaries. Risks associated with damage from potential hazards are relevant for some of the climate change mitigation interventions in rural areas, micro-hydroelectric power units, biogas digesters, and solar PV installations. There are also risks to the restoration-rehabilitation of degraded lands and forest areas. These risks could be mitigated by proper siting, selection of durable materials, installation of equipment on impermeable layers/platform, use of protective structures, integrating erosion control measures into the planned interventions, etc.

Community-based organisations will be required to assess in their project proposal documents the risks of climate and geophysical hazards on proposed infrastructure and assets and describe what measures are proposed to reduce and manage the risks. Climate and geophysical hazards will also be addressed in the project SESP, which will be reviewed annually. Moreover, the design and implementation of project interventions will be guided the CPMU and the NSC and supported by the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms.

*Extracted from Project Document Annex 5: UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP)*

<i><b>Risk Description</b></i>	<i><b>Impact and Probability (1-5)</b></i>	<i><b>Significance  (Low, Moderate, High)</b></i>	<i><b>Comments</b></i>	<i><b>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</b></i>
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<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 1:</b> Vulnerable or marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, might be excluded from fully participating in decisions regarding priority actions on lands claimed by them and including utilization of natural resources; and there may be a heightened risk of vulnerability due to a prolonged or recurrent outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic or similar crisis.</p> <p>Principle 1, Q4; Principle 3, Standard 6, Q6.1, Q6.2, Q6.3 and Q6.5.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>Indigenous peoples populations are significant in some of the project landscapes, especially in the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah. In Baram there are a diverse group of indigenous peoples such as: Iban, Bidayuh, Kenyah, Kayan, Kedayan, Murut, Punan, Bisayah, Kelabit, Berawan and Penan. They make up over 50% of the 2.3 million people in Sarawak. Sabah has vast indigenous diversity too. At least 39 different indigenous groups make up the indigenous population in Sabah (IWGIA, 2008). In Sabah, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve has been home for generations of indigenous</p>	<p>Involvement of indigenous peoples populations is addressed in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan that is annexed to the project document.</p> <p>The multi-stakeholder platforms that will be established in the landscapes are planned to have equitable representation of indigenous peoples and women, and customary rights issues will be addressed in the landscape strategies and action plans. Indigenous peoples populations and other marginalized groups will also be engaged in decision-making regarding crisis response and recovery utilizing tailored approaches.</p> <p>CBOs from indigenous peoples populations will be assisted in preparing grant proposals, as needed, e.g., allowing local language to be used. Activities on lands claimed by indigenous peoples populations will only commence upon consent from local communities. And recording or otherwise documenting traditional knowledge held by indigenous peoples populations will only be made upon free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).</p> <p>The SGP in Malaysia has demonstrated over the past two decades that indigenous peoples populations' rights, livelihoods, culture and resources are fundamental concerns when assessing grant project proposals for approval for financing. Through involvement in the Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI), the SGP team in Malaysia has further developed their capacity and a strong track record in working with communities of Indigenous Peoples in the country.</p>

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 2:</b> Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit; and there is a risk that a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic would exacerbate gender inequality and possibly also increase gender-based violence.</p> <p>Principle 2, Q2.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>According to the Gender Inequality Index (GII, 2018) reported in the 2019 UNDP Human Development Report, Malaysia, Malaysia has a GII value of 0.274, ranking it 58 out of 162 countries in the 2018 index. Gender inequalities prevail in many spheres in Malaysia such as access to natural resources, division of labour, social mobility, participation in the workforce, access to economic opportunities, and participation in the decision-making processes. Inequality is more pronounced in rural communities, where many of the SGP community projects are envisaged to be implemented.</p>	<p>This risk was assessed during the PPG phase in the gender analysis and will be managed through the gender action plan, which are both annexed to the project document and integrated into the overall project management systems. The gender analysis and gender action plan will be regularly reviewed and updated to account for gender differentiated impacts, e.g., regarding the impacts and response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Women groups and other marginalized groups will be targeted during project implementation for equitable participation and benefit. The project decision-making structures, including the multi-stakeholder platforms in the intervention landscapes will have equitable representation by women. Resources have been allocated in the implementation budget for a Gender-Safeguards Consultant, who will facilitate fulfilment of gender mainstreaming objectives, and provide training to project team members and partners. In general, the project will be implemented in such a way that respects the principles of gender equality and women's empowerment across all activities, while taking into account the local specificities in terms of traditions. Specific targeting of women as beneficiaries of the project will be undertaken. If mitigation measures are not well incorporated however, women may be unfairly disadvantaged in sharing in the benefits of the proposed activities. A gender-responsive approach will examine these risks especially in times of Covid-19, supported by a comprehensive</p>

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 3:</b> Poorly designed or executed project activities could damage critical ecosystems, including through the introduction of invasive alien species during land or forest rehabilitation or restoration, or result in human-wildlife conflicts.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 1, Q1.2, Q1.5 and Q1.6.</p>	<p>I = 4 P = 2</p>	<b>Moderate</b>	<p>There are critical ecosystems situated within some of the project intervention landscapes in the Middle and Upper Baram, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah and the Klang Valley.</p> <p>The project aims to improve landscape management across the Middle and Upper Baram in Sarawak, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah and the Klang Valley in West Malaysia.</p>	<p>Biodiversity conservation related community grants will be primarily carried out in partnership with expert organizations, e.g., conservation agencies, protected area management administrations, NGOs or local governments. Specific activities will be designed through collaborative arrangements with these organizations. Utilization of natural resources, e.g., within buffer zones, will be carried out sustainably and according to relevant regulations.</p> <p>Restoration/rehabilitation activities will be carried out in accordance with management plans developed through participatory processes. No invasive alien species will be used; preference will be given to native species. And project interventions will not entail logging of primary forests or other areas of high conservation value.</p> <p>Conservation outcomes can sometimes result in unintended consequences of increased human-wildlife conflicts. Local communities will be trained on how to safely manage such conflicts.</p> <p>Moreover, an NGO specialized in conservation will be recruited through one of the three thematic strategic grants and provide guidance to CBOs on the design of grant proposals and facilitate stakeholder liaison.</p>

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 4:</b> Micro hydropower installations may alter environmental flows, possibly resulting in adverse impacts to local ecology.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 1, Q1.1.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 2</p>	<b>Moderate</b>	<p>Local communities in the target landscapes have stressed interest in micro hydropower installations as one of the renewable energy solutions, providing additional energy security and contributing towards low emission development strategies.</p>	<p>Micro hydropower installations have been successfully implemented during earlier operational phases of the SGP in Malaysia. The typical capacities of the units do not require environmental impact assessments under Malaysian regulations. The entire streambed is not dammed for the operation of these micro hydropower units and there is minimal impact to environmental flows. As a safeguard measure, SGP proposals will be required to include an assessment of potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures planned. And, proposals will be reviewed by qualified specialists, e.g., members of the Technical Advisory Group.</p> <p>Project implementation will be monitored by the Country Programme Management Unit and/or strategic partner organizations supporting the landscape activities.</p>

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 5:</b> Project interventions, e.g., involving the installation and use of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, may result in release of pollutants to the environment and in the generation of hazardous waste.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 7, Q7.2.</p>	<p>I = 2 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Low</b></p>	<p>Unsafe handling and disposal of batteries from solar systems and LED lamps may release harmful pollutants to the environment. Potential environmental impacts would likely be limited in terms of magnitude and can be easily avoided and managed. Projects are assessed by the Country Programme Management Unit and the NSC as part of proposal development, and actions to mitigate risk are incorporated into each proposal prior to approval. Moreover, project proponents are trained in all aspects of RE technology operations and maintenance, including disposal or recycling of used technology elements.</p>	

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 6:</b> Climatic unpredictability, periodic droughts, changes in rainfall distribution, altered frequency of extreme weather events, rising temperatures may affect project results, including agroecological practices, rehabilitation of degraded terrestrial and coastal-marine ecosystems, etc.; and a potential economic downturn as a result of a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic (or similar) may increase the vulnerability and coping capacities of local communities.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 2, Q2.2.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 3</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>The ecosystems in the project landscapes are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change in the Middle and Upper Baram in Sarawak, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah and the Klang Valley in West Malaysia.</p>	<p>A Climate and Disaster Risk Screening was prepared during the PPG phase and annexed to the Project Document. The screening report includes descriptions of risk mitigation measures that will be taken during implementation. The landscape approach implemented under the project promotes socio-ecological resilience. The landscape strategies will include priority actions to achieve enhanced resilience, based upon the circumstances in the landscapes and capacities of the local communities. The strategies will also address potential increased vulnerability related to the COVID-19 pandemic. CBOs will be required to include an assessment in the project proposal documents on the risks of climate and geophysical hazards on proposed infrastructure and assets, and describe what measures are proposed to reduce and manage the risks. Moreover, the design and implementation of project interventions will be guided by the Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU) and the National Steering Committee (NSC) and supported by the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms.</p>

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 7:</b> Local community members involved in project activities may be at a heightened risk of virus exposure, e.g., stakeholder meetings, workshops and trade fairs, community field work, etc.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 3, Q3.6.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 4</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>The landscape approach promoted on the project is predicated on participatory processes, including multi-stakeholder meetings, community field work, showcasing products and services in workshops and trade fairs, learning exchanges, seminars, etc. Risks to local communities might also be compounded due to increased numbers of tourist visits through ecotourism related interventions. Travel restrictions to the Baram landscape in the state of Sarawak have been the particularly strict, as the state and local government units have implemented measures to minimize exposure to the indigenous communities residing there.</p>	<p>Adaptive management measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of virus exposure during a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic, or similar crisis. A COVID-19 analysis and action framework has been prepared and is annexed to the project document.</p> <p>SGP Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be reviewed and updated to address risk of virus exposure. Malaysian Covid-19 SOPs will be strictly followed. Hazard assessments will be required for project proposals involving gatherings of multiple people, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc. Virtual meetings will be held where feasible.</p> <p>The project Communications Strategy will include specific considerations for communication, public awareness and exchange of information under these circumstances. As COVID-19 is an evolving situation and could potentially exacerbate other vulnerabilities and risks, it will be important to remain abreast of the situation during project implementation and regularly review the risk and update mitigation measures as needed.</p>

## 6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination

**Describe the institutional arrangement for project implementation. Elaborate on the planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.**

### Institutional arrangements

**Implementing Partner:** The Implementing Partner for this project is **United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)**.

The Implementing Partner is the entity to which the UNDP Administrator has entrusted the implementation of UNDP assistance specified in this signed project document along with the assumption of full responsibility and accountability for the effective use of UNDP resources and the delivery of outputs, as set forth in this document.

The Implementing Partner is responsible for executing this project. Specific tasks include:

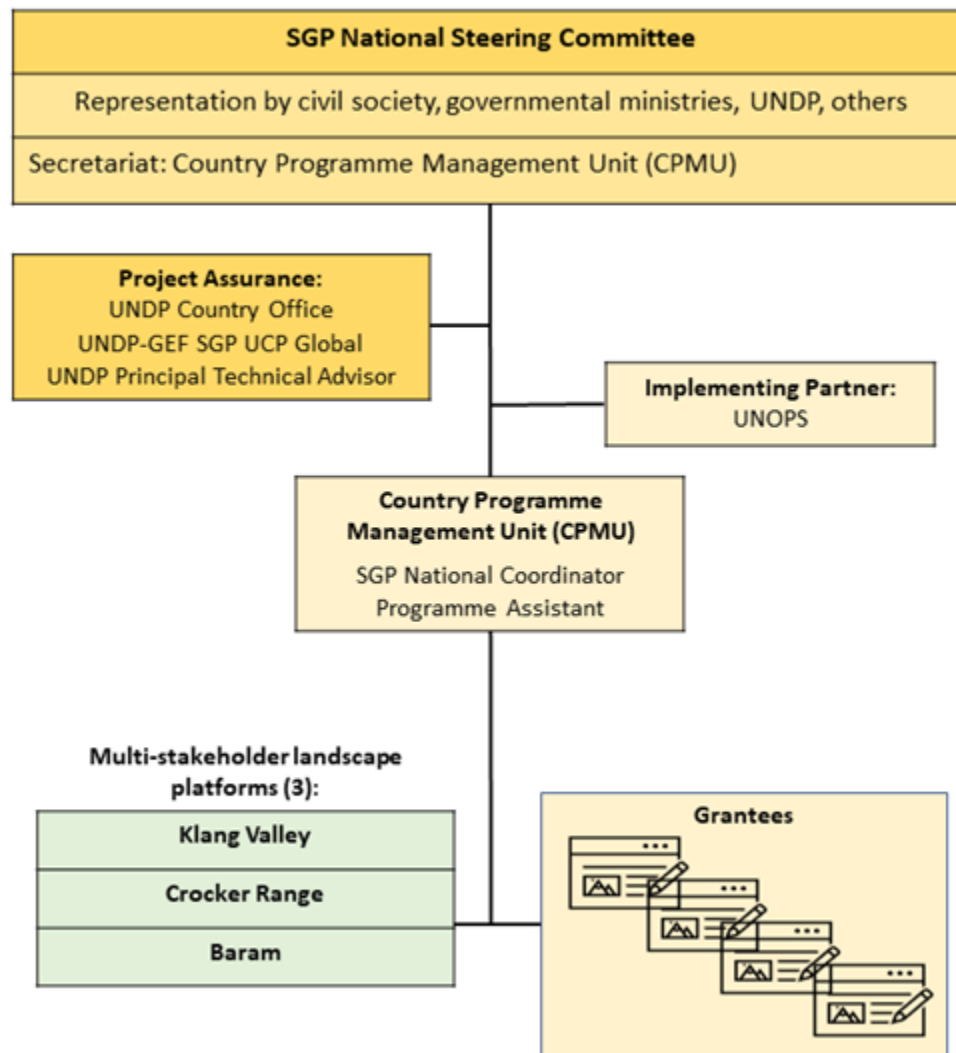
- ? Project planning, coordination, management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting. This includes providing all required information and data necessary for timely, comprehensive and evidence-based project reporting, including results and financial data, as necessary. The Implementing Partner will strive to ensure project-level M&E is undertaken by national institutes and is aligned with national systems so that the data used and generated by the project supports national systems.
- ? Risk management as outlined in this Project Document.
- ? Procurement of goods and services, including human resources.
- ? Financial management, including overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets.
- ? Approving and signing the multiyear workplan.
- ? Approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year.
- ? Signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

**Project beneficiary Groups:** CBOs, CSOs and NGOs in the target landscapes: These stakeholders, with support of the multi-stakeholder governance platforms in each of the four landscapes, as well as technical and strategic assistance from the SGP, will design and implement the projects to generate global environmental benefits and community livelihood benefits.

**UNDP:** UNDP is accountable to the GEF for the implementation of this project. This includes oversight of project execution to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards and provisions. UNDP is responsible for delivering GEF project cycle management services comprising project approval and start-up, project supervision and oversight, and project completion and evaluation. UNDP is also responsible for the Project Assurance role of the SGP National Steering Committee.



**Project organisation structure:** The roles and responsibilities of the various parties to the project are illustrated in the organogram shown below in *Figure 6 of the Project Document* and described in the SGP Operational Guidelines (see *Annex 18 to the Project Document*).



*Project Document Figure 6: Project organization*

**Project Board:** The Project Board (called **SGP National Steering Committee, NSC**) is responsible for taking corrective action as needed to ensure the project achieves the desired results. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, NSC decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value for money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. Establishment and operations of SGP National Steering Committees are carried out in accordance with the SGP Operational Guidelines (see *Annex 18 to the Project Document*).

In case consensus cannot be reached within the NSC, the UNDP Resident Representative (or their designate) will mediate to find consensus and, if this cannot be found, he/she will take the final decision to ensure project implementation is not unduly delayed.

Specific responsibilities of the NSC include:

- ? Provide overall guidance and direction to the project, ensuring it remains within any specified constraints.
- ? Address project issues as raised by the project manager (also called SGP National Coordinator).
- ? Provide guidance on new project risks and agree on possible mitigation and management actions to address specific risks.
- ? Agree on project manager's tolerances as required, within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF, and provide direction and advice for exceptional situations when the project manager's tolerances are exceeded.
- ? Advise on major and minor amendments to the project within the parameters set by UNDP-GEF.
- ? Support coordination between various donor and government-funded projects and programmes.
- ? Support coordination with various government agencies and their participation in project activities.
- ? Track and monitor co-financing for this project.
- ? Review the project progress, assess performance, and appraise the Annual Work Plan for the following year.
- ? Appraise the annual project implementation report, including the quality assessment rating report.
- ? Ensure commitment of human resources to support project implementation, arbitrating any issues within the project.
- ? Provide direction and recommendations to ensure that the agreed deliverables are produced satisfactorily according to plans.
- ? Address project-level grievances.
- ? Approve the project Inception Report, Mid-term Review and Terminal Evaluation reports and corresponding management responses.
- ? Review the final project report package during an end-of-project review meeting to discuss lesson learned and opportunities for scaling up.

- ? Ensure highest levels of transparency and take all measures to avoid any real or perceived conflicts of interest.

**Project Assurance:** UNDP performs the quality assurance role and supports the NSC and Country Programme Management Unit by carrying out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions. This role ensures appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed, and conflict of interest issues are monitored and addressed. The SGP-NSC cannot delegate any of its quality assurance responsibilities to the SGP National Coordinator. UNDP provides a three ? tier oversight services involving the UNDP Country Offices and UNDP at regional and headquarters levels. Project assurance is totally independent of project execution.

**Project extensions:** The UNDP Resident Representative and the UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator must approve all project extensions. All extensions incur costs, and the GEF project budget cannot be increased. A single extension may be granted on an exceptional basis only if the following conditions are met: one extension only for a project for a maximum of six months; the project management costs during the extension period must remain within the originally approved amount, and any increase in PMC costs will be covered by non-GEF resources; the UNDP Country Office oversight costs in excess of the CO's Agency fee specified in the DOA during the extension period must be covered by non-GEF resources.

**UNDP** will provide overall Programme oversight and take responsibility for standard GEF project cycle management services beyond assistance and oversight of project design and negotiation, including project monitoring, periodic evaluations, troubleshooting, and reporting to the GEF. UNDP will also provide high level technical and managerial support from the UNDP GEF Global Coordinator for the SGP Upgrading Country Programmes, who is responsible for project oversight for all SGP Upgraded Country Programme projects.[1] The SGP Central Programme Management Team (CPMT) will monitor Upgraded Country Programmes for compliance with GEF SGP core policies and procedures.

In accordance with the global **SGP Operational Guidelines** (see *Annex 18 to the Project Document*) that will guide overall project implementation in Malaysia, and in keeping with past best practice, the UNDP Resident Representative will appoint the **National Steering Committee** (NSC) members in consultation with the GEF Operational Focal Point. The NSC, composed of government and non-government organizations with a non-government majority, a UNDP representative, and individuals with expertise in the GEF Focal Areas, is responsible for grant selection and approval and for determining the overall strategy of the SGP in the country. NSC members serve without remuneration and rotate periodically in accordance with its rules of procedure. The Government is usually represented by the GEF Operational Focal Point or by another high-level representative of relevant ministries or institutions. The NSC assesses the performance of the SGP National Coordinator with input from the UNDP RR, the SGP UCP Global Coordinator, and UNOPS. The NSC also contributes to bridging community-level experiences with national policymaking.

On an as-needed basis, the NSC can invite specialists having specific technical expertise to provide guidance on subjects being deliberated by the NSC or to deliver technical feedback as part of the NSC decision-making processes, e.g., evaluation of project proposals.

The **UNDP Country Office** is the business unit in UNDP for the SGP project and is responsible for ensuring the project meets its objective and delivers on its targets. The Country Office will make available its expertise in various environment and development fields as shown below. It will also provide other types of support at the local level such as infrastructure and financial management services, as required. UNDP will be represented in the NSC and will actively participate in grant monitoring activities. The CO will participate in NSC meetings, promoting synergies with other relevant Programmes, and support the design and implementation of the SGP strategy, among other things.

The **Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU)** composed of an SGP National Coordinator and a Programme Assistant, appointed by the Implementing Partner, is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Programme. This includes supporting NSC strategic work and grant selection by developing technical papers, undertaking ex-ante technical reviews of project proposals; taking responsibility for monitoring the grant portfolio and for providing technical assistance to grantees during project design and implementation; mobilizing cash and in-kind resources; preparing reports for UNDP, GEF and other donors; implementing a capacity development Programme for communities, CBOs and NGOs, as well as a communications and knowledge management strategy to ensure adequate visibility of GEF investments, and disseminating good practices and lessons learnt. The terms of reference for the members of the CPMU are included in the overview of technical consultancies/subcontracts in *Annex 7 to the Project Document*.

**Grants** will be selected by the NSC from proposals submitted by CBOs and NGOs through calls for proposals in specific thematic and geographic areas relevant to the SGP Country Programme strategy, as embodied in this document. Although government organizations cannot receive SGP grants, every effort will be made to coordinate grant implementation with relevant line ministries, decentralized institutions, universities and local government authorities to ensure their support, create opportunities for co-financing, and provide feedback on policy implementation on the ground. Contributions from and cooperation with the private sector will also be sought.

**UNOPS** will provide Country Programme implementation services, including human resources management, budgeting, accounting, grant disbursement, auditing, and procurement. UNOPS is responsible for SGP's financial management and provides monthly financial reports to UNDP. The UNOPS SGP Standard Operating Procedures guide the financial and administrative management of the project. UNOPS will provide a certified expenditure report as of 31 December of each year of implementation.

A key service of UNOPS is the contracting of SGP staff as needed and required by the Programme, and once contracted, UNOPS provides guidance and supervision, together with the UNDP CO acting on behalf of UNOPS, to the SGP country staff in their administrative and finance related work. UNOPS also provides other important services (as specified in the GEF Council document C.36/4) that include (1) oversight and quality assurance: (i) coordinate with the Upgrading Country Programme (UCP) Global Coordinator on annual work plan activities and (ii) undertake trouble-shooting and problem-solving missions; (2) project financial management: (i) review and authorize operating budgets; (ii) review and authorize disbursement, (iii) monitor and oversee all financial transactions, (iv) prepare semi-annual and annual financial progress reports and (v) prepare periodic status reports on grant allocations and expenditures; (3) project procurement management: (i) undertake procurement activities and (ii) management of contracts; (4) project assets management: (i) maintain an inventory of all capitalized

assets; (5) project risks management: (i) prepare and implement an annual audit plan and (ii) follow up on all audit recommendations; and (6) Grants management: (i) administer all grants, (ii) financial grant monitoring and (iii) legal advice.

Under its legal advice role, UNOPS takes the lead in investigations of UNOPS-contracted SGP staff. UNOPS services also include transactional services: (1) personnel administration, benefits and entitlements of project personnel contracted by UNOPS; (2) processing payroll of project personnel contracted by UNOPS, (3) input transaction instruction and automated processing of project personnel official mission travel and DSA; (4) input transaction instruction and automated processing of financial transactions such as Purchase Order, Receipts, Payment Vouchers and Vendor Approval and (5) procurement in UN Web Buy.

UNOPS will continue with a number of areas for enhancing execution services started during the fifth Operational Phase, including: inclusion of co-financing below \$500,000; technical assistance to high risk/low performing countries; developing a risk-based management approach; strengthening the central structure to make it more suitable for an expanded Programme; resolving grant disbursement delays; enhancing country Programme oversight; improving monitoring & evaluation; increasing the audit volume and quality assurance work; and optimizing Programme cost-effectiveness. To facilitate global coherence in execution of services, guidance and operating procedures, UNOPS through a central management team and NSC, coordinates primarily with UNDP/GEF HQ respectively.

UNOPS will not make any financial commitments or incur any expenses that would exceed the budget for implementing the project as set forth in this Project Document. UNOPS shall regularly consult with UNDP concerning the status and use of funds and shall promptly advise UNDP any time when UNOPS is aware that the budget to carry out these services is insufficient to fully implement the project in the manner set out in the Project Document. UNDP shall have no obligation to provide UNOPS with any funds or to make any reimbursement for expenses incurred by UNOPS in excess of the total budget as set forth in the Project Document.

UNOPS will submit a cumulative financial report each quarter (31 March, 30 June, 30 September and 31 December). The report will be submitted to UNDP through the ATLAS Project Delivery Report (PDR) system and follow the established ATLAS formats and PDR timelines. The level of detail in relation to the reporting requirement is indicated in the Project Document budget which will be translated into the ATLAS budgets. UNDP will include the expenditure reported by UNOPS in its reconciliation of the project financial report.

Upon completion or termination of activities, UNOPS shall furnish a financial closure report, including a list of non-expendable equipment purchased by UNOPS, and all relevant audited or certified financial statements and records related to such activities, as appropriate, pursuant to its Financial Regulations and Rules.

Title to any equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP or procured through UNDP funds shall rest with UNDP until such time as ownership thereof is transferred. Equipment and supplies that may be furnished by UNDP or procured through UNDP funds will be disposed as agreed, in writing, between UNDP and UNOPS. UNDP shall provide UNOPS with instructions on the disposal of such equipment and supplies within 90 days of the end of the Project.

The arrangements described in this Project Document will remain in effect until the end of the project, or until terminated in writing (with 30 days' notice) by either party. The schedule of activities specified in the Project Document remains in effect based on continued performance by UNOPS unless it receives written indication to the contrary from UNDP. The arrangements described in this Agreement, including the structure of implementation and responsibility for results, shall be revisited on an annual basis and may result in the amendment of this Project Document.

If this Agreement is terminated or suspended, UNDP shall reimburse UNOPS for all costs directly incurred by UNOPS in the amounts specified in the project budget or as otherwise agreed in writing by UNDP and UNOPS.

All further correspondence regarding this Agreement, other than signed letters of agreement or amendments thereto should be addressed to the UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator and the UNDP Resident Coordinator.

UNOPS shall keep UNDP fully informed of all actions undertaken by them in carrying out this Agreement.

Any changes to the Project Document that would affect the work being performed by UNOPS shall be recommended only after consultation between the parties. Any amendment to this Project Document shall be affected by mutual agreement, in writing.

If UNOPS is prevented by force majeure from fulfilling its obligations under this Agreement, it shall not be deemed in breach of such obligations. UNOPS shall use all reasonable efforts to mitigate the consequences of force majeure. Force majeure is defined as natural catastrophes such as but not limited to earthquakes, floods, cyclonic or volcanic activity; war (whether declared or not), invasion, rebellion, terrorism, revolution, insurrection, civil war, riot, radiation or contaminations by radioactivity; other acts of a similar nature or force. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, UNOPS shall in no event be liable as a result or consequence of any act or omission on the part of UNDP, the government and/or any provincial and/or municipal authorities, including its agents, servants and employees.

UNDP and UNOPS shall use their best efforts to promptly settle through direct negotiations any dispute, controversy or claim which is not settled within sixty (60) days from the date either party has notified the other party of the dispute, controversy or claim and of measures which should be taken to rectify it, shall be referred to the UNDP Administrator and the UNOPS Executive Director for resolution.

This project will be implemented by UNOPS in accordance with UNOPS' Financial Rules and Regulations provided these do not contravene the principles established in UNDP's Financial Regulations and Rules.

UNOPS as the Implementing Partner shall comply with the policies, procedures and practices of the United Nations security management system

#### Planned coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives

The project strategy has a strong emphasis on building upon baseline activities implemented by project partners, as well as on establishing new and strengthening existing partnerships to ensure the sustainability of the results achieved. The project will collaborate with and build on the lessons of a range of related

initiatives. The NSC has consistently promoted the collaboration of the Country Programme with government initiatives, as well as with GEF-financed and other donor funded projects and programmes. Members of the NSC endorse collaborative arrangements and partnerships to maximize the efficiency of the GEF SGP investment and ensure that experience and lessons learned are disseminated and absorbed by government programmes and institutions.

*Project Document Table 3: Intersection of related initiatives with project outputs*

Other Initiatives	Main Partner(s)	Intersections with project outputs
<b>Landscape 1: Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah</b>		
Ecolinc Kinabalu	Sabah Parks	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Heart of Borneo Initiative	Sabah Forestry Dept., WWF	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
UNDP-GEF: FOLUR project (under development GEF-7)	Federal Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities, Sabah Forestry Dept.	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
<b>Landscape 2: Middle and Upper Baram (Telang Usan District, Sarawak)</b>		
Heart of Borneo Initiative	Forest Dept. Sarawak, WWF	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Baram Eco-community Forest	Save Rivers, Bruno Manser Fund	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
UNDP-GEF: FOLUR project (under development GEF-7)	Federal Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities, Sarawak Ministry of Urban Development and Natural Resources	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
<b>Landscape 3: Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia</b>		
Kota Damansara Community Forest (KDCF) Reserve	KDCF Society	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1

Other Initiatives	Main Partner(s)	Intersections with project outputs
Save Selangor Forest Coalition	Seven NGOs (TrEES, GRASS Malaysia, KUASA, COAC, MNS, SAM, GEC)	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Community-based forest management	Habitat Foundation	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Bukit Persekutuan Urban Community Forest Project	Malaysian Nature Society	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
Urban Biodiversity Initiative (UBI)	UBI Services, Habitat Foundation,	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
UNIDO-GEF: GHG Emission Reductions in Targeted Industrial Sub-Sectors through Energy Efficiency and Application of Solar Thermal System in Malaysia	Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources,	1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1
IFAD-GEF: Sustainable Management of Peatland Ecosystems in Malaysia	Ministry of Environment and Water, Global Environment Centre	1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2.1

[57] GEF/C.54/05/Rev.01 *GEF Small Grants Programme: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-7*, approved by GEF Council.

## 7. Consistency with National Priorities

Describe the consistency of the project with national strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions from below:

NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc.

- National Action Plan for Adaptation (NAPA) under LDCF/UNFCCC

- National Action Program (NAP) under UNCCD



- ASGM NAP (Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining) under Mercury
- Minamata Initial Assessment (MIA) under Minamata Convention
- National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD
- National Communications (NC) under UNFCCC
- Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) under UNFCCC
- National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD
- National Implementation Plan (NIP) under POPs
- Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)
- National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) under GEFSEC
- Biennial Update Report (BUR) under UNFCCC
- Others

The Malaysia SGP Country Programme will continue to support national priorities under OP7 and work in full partnership with all relevant government policies, plans, and programmes including but not limited to the following:

- ? **12th Malaysia Plan 2021-2025**; particularly with respect to the strategic thrust on pursuing green growth for sustainability and resilience.
- ? **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD 2016-2025**; aligned with the five overarching goals of the NBSAP, including stakeholder empowerment, reducing pressures on biodiversity, safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity, ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilisation of biodiversity, and building the capacity of stakeholders. Moreover, Goal 1 and Target 2 call for the contributions of indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society in conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity, this project is targeted to build the capacity for collective actions for local community and indigenous peoples to provide efforts in biodiversity conservation. The NBSAP also highlights the need to develop community conserved areas as an integral part of the country Protected Areas system.
- ? **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under UNFCCC 2015**, which outlines how Malaysia intends to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030, which consists of 35% on an unconditional basis and a further 10% conditional upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries.
- ? **National REDD Plus Strategy**; closely aligned with the three parts of the strategy: (1) actions to build synergies and coherence between Federal and State governments in addressing climate change, biodiversity, and forest policies; (2) actions to reduce emissions and enhance sinks in forests and conservation of biological resources; and (3) develop a sustainable financing mechanism.

? **Heart of Borneo Initiative**; assuring adequate and timely resources are channelled into biodiversity conservation in Sabah and Sarawak.

**National Action Plan on Peatlands (NAPP) 2011-2020**; regarding assessment, protection, rehabilitation, integrated management, fire protection and control of peatland resources.

## **8. Knowledge Management**

**Elaborate the "Knowledge Management Approach" for the project, including a budget, key deliverables and a timeline, and explain how it will contribute to the project's overall impact.**

Resources have been allocated in the OP7 project budget to further develop the Knowledge Management Strategy for SGP in Malaysia, and to develop a Communications Strategy. It will be important to address issues associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the knowledge management and communications strategies, e.g., including specific considerations for communication, public awareness and exchange of information under these circumstances. As COVID-19 is an evolving situation and could potentially exacerbate other vulnerabilities and risks, it will be important to remain abreast of the situation during project implementation and regularly review the risk and update mitigation measures as needed.

Each SGP grant project is designed to produce three things: global environmental and local sustainable development benefits (impacts); organizational capacities (technical, analytical, etc.) from learning by doing; and knowledge from evaluation of the innovation experience. Knowledge management, including the dissemination of best practices and lessons learned, will remain an essential element of the SGP Malaysia Country Programme during OP7. The knowledge management approach involves assessing and sharing lessons learned and best practices from target landscapes based on evaluation of implementation results and their contributions to Global Environment Benefits (GEB), local development objectives and landscape level outcomes, including the development of social capital.

Each small grant project will have as a primary product a case study that will be further systematized and codified for dissemination at the landscape level through policy dialogue platforms, community landscape management networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and knowledge fairs and other exchanges; at the national level through the National Steering Committee, strategic partnerships and their networks, and national knowledge fairs where appropriate; and globally through the SGP global network of SGP Country Programmes and UNDP's knowledge management systems.

The project will strengthen knowledge management platforms to facilitate links among communities, promote information sharing, and provide access to knowledge resources that are relevant to their individual projects. The knowledge obtained from project experiences and lessons learned will be socialized through SGP's well-established national network of stakeholders and SGP's global platform, and it will be used in upscaling successful initiatives. The increased capacity of community-level stakeholders to generate, access and use information and knowledge is expected to increase the sustainability of project activities beyond the life of the grant funding. Knowledge sharing and replication will help ensure that the impacts of the project are sustained and expanded, generating additional environmental benefits over the longer-term. At the global level, the project will contribute to knowledge platforms, including the SGP website and Communities Connect (a platform to share knowledge from civil society organizations around the world).

A case study of the landscape planning and management experience in each of the selected landscapes will highlight the processes of stakeholder participation, as well as the progress toward the targets selected during landscape planning, using the Satoyama Resilience Indicators.<sup>[1]</sup> A detailed analysis will be produced of the successes and failures in each landscape in regard to the generation of synergies between individual community projects around landscape level outcomes, lessons learned, and future efforts to strengthen the landscape planning and management processes. The results of these studies will be published and disseminated throughout the country through print and digital media and SGP's institutional partners, NGOs, SGP-supported CSO networks, universities and others.

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<sup>[58]</sup> UNU-IAS, Bioversity International, IGES and UNDP. 2014. Toolkit for the Indicators of Resilience in Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes (SEPLS).

## 9. Monitoring and Evaluation

### Describe the budgeted M and E plan

The project's monitoring and evaluation is provided in *Section VII Monitoring and Evaluation Plan* of the Project Document, summarized below.

*Project document Table 7: Monitoring and evaluation plan and budget*

GEF M&E requirements	Indicative costs (US\$)	Time frame
<b>Inception Workshop</b>	26,240	Within 60 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
<b>Inception Report</b>	None	Within 90 days of CEO endorsement of this project.
<b>M&amp;E of GEF core indicators and project results framework</b>	28,140	Annually and at mid-point and closure.
<b>GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)</b>	None	Annually typically between June-August
<b>Monitoring of gender action plan, SESP, stakeholder engagement plan</b>	20,140	On-going
<b>Supervision missions</b>	None	Annually
<b>Independent Mid-term Review (MTR)</b>	25,240	December 2023

GEF M&E requirements	Indicative costs (US\$)	Time frame
Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE)	25,240	June 2025
<b>TOTAL indicative COST</b>	<b>125,000</b>	5% of total GEF grant

Certain adaptive management measures are envisaged during project implementation in case of a prolonged or recurrent pandemic. Through implementation of possible adaptive management measures, project implementation is expected to be carried out without major impacts to the budget over the four-year duration. For example, local NGO partners have important roles in facilitating integrated landscape approaches, such as the participatory baseline assessments, development of landscape strategies, convening multi-stakeholder landscape platforms, and carrying out site-level monitoring and evaluation tasks. CPMU will provide strategic guidance to the local partners through a variety of in-person and virtual techniques accordingly.

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[59] The costs of UNDP CO and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

[60] The costs of UNDP CO and UNDP-GEF Unit's participation and time are charged to the GEF Agency Fee.

## 10. Benefits

**Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the project at the national and local levels, as appropriate. How do these benefits translate in supporting the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF)?**








The project will generate socioeconomic benefits for an estimated cumulative total of 10,000 direct project beneficiaries, of whom 5,000 are female. Women play a particularly important role in the project landscapes, considering their tasks and responsibilities for management of agroecological systems in rural areas and marketing agricultural products and services. Socioeconomic benefits include:



- ? Sustainable livelihood benefits generated as a result of application of agroecological practices, insertion into sustainable value chains, and diversified farming systems.
- ? Improved access to RE-EE technology.
- ? Increased socio-economic resilience of local communities through implementation of participatory landscape management.
- ? Protection of traditional knowledge.
- ? Increased social capital through expanded association of local people, and inclusive participation of local communities in conservation and restoration of local ecosystems.

Adopting the integrated, socio-ecological resilience landscape approach on the project will help ensure the socioeconomic benefits are coupled with achievement of global environmental benefits. Facilitated through multi-stakeholder, participatory processes, collective action initiated at the community level will lead to conservation of biodiversity resources at scale. And protection and restoration of critical ecosystems at landscape dimensions will provide increased resilience to the impacts of climate change, providing a buffer against extreme weather events, floods, and droughts.

The project is relevant with respect to several of the **sustainable development goals (SDGs)**, most notably SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 15 (Life on Land), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), as outlined below in *Table 1 of the Project Document*.

*Table 1 of the Project Document: Project contributions towards Sustainable Development Goals*

SDG	Project Contribution:
	10,000 estimated direct beneficiaries, participating and benefitting in interventions on strengthening access to natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services. (aligned with SDG 1.1) Landscape strategies provide pro-poor and gender-sensitive frameworks for accelerating development in poverty-stricken areas. (aligned with SDG 1.b)
	Project will promote sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production and help maintain ecosystems and strengthen resilience to climate change. (aligned with SDG 2.4)
	50% of the envisaged direct beneficiaries are estimated to be female (5,000 individuals). Women empowerment is expected to be strengthened through increased autonomy on agricultural production systems and energy use, enhanced decision-making regarding credit, increased leadership through active participation in women's groups, and reduction in workload. (aligned with SDG 5.a)
	Local communities have increased access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, through increased access to renewable energy and broader adoption of energy efficient solutions. (aligned with SDG 7.1)
	The landscape strategies will provide integrated frameworks towards social inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change and resilience to disasters. (aligned with SDG 11.b)
	An estimated 43,000 ha of landscapes will be brought under improved management practices, through implementation of sustainable land management, participatory management of natural resources, and participatory restoration-rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems. (aligned with SDG 12.2)
	Climate change measures will be integrated into the landscape strategies and implemented across the target landscapes. (aligned with SDG 13.2) Local communities will have increased awareness of climate change mitigation through learning-by-doing capacity building and training delivered through partnerships with expert organizations and interactions with the NGOs, local, state and national government and the private sector. (aligned with SDG 13.3)

	The project aims to improve management practices across 43,000 ha (aligned with SDG 15.2) and facilitate restoration-rehabilitation of 1,000 ha of degraded ecosystems (aligned with SDG 15.3). Biodiversity values will be integrated into the landscape strategies (aligned with 15.9), and co-financing from government, private sector and civil society will be mobilised to support conservation and restoration interventions (aligned with SDG 15.b).
	Enhancing South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to best management approaches, specifically participatory models strengthening socio-ecological resilience of production landscapes (aligned with SDG 17.6).

## 11. Environmental and Social Safeguard (ESS) Risks

Provide information on the identified environmental and social risks and potential impacts associated with the project/program based on your organization's ESS systems and procedures

Overall Project/Program Risk Classification \*

PIF	CEO Endorsement/Approval	MTR	TE
<b>Medium/Moderate</b>			
<b>Measures to address identified risks and impacts</b> Elaborate on the types and risk classifications/ratings of any identified environmental and social risks and impacts (considering the GEF ESS Minimum Standards) and any measures undertaken as well as planned management measures to address these risks during implementation.			

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
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<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 1:</b> Vulnerable or marginalized groups, including indigenous peoples, might be excluded from fully participating in decisions regarding priority actions on lands claimed by them and including utilization of natural resources; and there may be a heightened risk of vulnerability due to a prolonged or recurrent outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic or similar crisis.</p> <p>Principle 1, Q4; Principle 3, Standard 6, Q6.1, Q6.2, Q6.3 and Q6.5.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>Indigenous peoples populations are significant in some of the project landscapes, especially in the Middle and Upper Baram, Sarawak and the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah. In Baram there are a diverse group of indigenous peoples such as: Iban, Bidayuh, Kenyah, Kayan, Kedayan, Murut, Punan, Bisayah, Kelabit, Berawan and Penan. They make up over 50% of the 2.3 million people in Sarawak. Sabah has vast indigenous diversity too. At least 39 different indigenous groups make up the indigenous population in Sabah (IWGIA, 2008).</p> <p>In Sabah, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve has been home for generations of indigenous</p>	<p>Involvement of indigenous peoples is addressed in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan that is annexed to the project document.</p> <p>The multi-stakeholder platforms that will be established in the landscapes are planned to have equitable representation of indigenous peoples and women, and customary rights issues will be addressed in the landscape strategies and action plans. Indigenous peoples and other marginalized groups will also be engaged in decision-making regarding crisis response and recovery utilizing tailored approaches.</p> <p>CBOs from indigenous peoples will be assisted in preparing grant proposals, as needed, e.g., allowing local language to be used. Activities on lands claimed by indigenous peoples will only commence upon consent from local communities. And recording or otherwise documenting traditional knowledge held by indigenous peoples populations will only be made upon free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).</p> <p>The SGP in Malaysia has demonstrated over the past two decades that indigenous peoples' rights, livelihoods, culture and resources are fundamental concerns when assessing grant project proposals for approval for financing. Through involvement in the Global Support Initiative for Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI), the SGP team in Malaysia has further developed its capacity and has a strong track record in working with communities of Indigenous</p>



<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 2:</b> Project activities and approaches might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit; and there is a risk that a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic would exacerbate gender inequality and possibly also increase gender-based violence.</p> <p>Principle 2, Q2.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>According to the Gender Inequality Index (GII, 2018) reported in the 2019 UNDP Human Development Report, Malaysia, Malaysia has a GII value of 0.274, ranking it 58 out of 162 countries in the 2018 index.</p> <p>Gender inequalities prevail in many spheres in Malaysia such as access to natural resources, division of labour, social mobility, participation in the workforce, access to economic opportunities, and participation in the decision-making processes. Inequality is more pronounced in rural communities, where many of the SGP community projects are envisaged to be implemented.</p>	<p>This risk was assessed during the PPG phase in the gender analysis and will be managed through the gender action plan, which are both annexed to the project document and integrated into the overall project management systems. The gender analysis and gender action plan will be regularly reviewed and updated to account for gender differentiated impacts, e.g., regarding the impacts and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Women's groups and other marginalized groups will be targeted during project implementation for equitable participation and benefit. The project decision-making structures, including the multi-stakeholder platforms in the intervention landscapes will have equitable representation by women.</p> <p>Resources have been allocated in the implementation budget for a Gender-Safeguards Consultant, who will facilitate fulfilment of gender mainstreaming objectives and provide training to project team members and partners.</p> <p>In general, the project will be implemented in a way that respects the principles of gender equality and women's empowerment across all activities, while taking into account the local specificities in terms of traditions. Specific targeting of women as beneficiaries of the project will be undertaken. If mitigation measures are not well incorporated however, women may be unfairly disadvantaged in sharing in the benefits of the proposed activities.</p> <p>A gender-responsive approach will examine these risks especially in times of Covid</p>



<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 3:</b> Poorly designed or executed project activities could damage critical ecosystems, including through the introduction of invasive alien species during land or forest rehabilitation or restoration, or result in human-wildlife conflicts.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 1, Q1.2, Q1.5 and Q1.6.</p>	<p>I = 4 P = 2</p>	<b>Moderate</b>	<p>There are critical ecosystems situated within some of the project intervention landscapes in the Middle and Upper Baram, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah and the Klang Valley.</p> <p>The project aims to improve landscape management across the Middle and Upper Baram in Sarawak, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah and the Klang Valley in West Malaysia.</p>	<p>Biodiversity conservation-related community grants will be primarily carried out in partnership with expert organizations, e.g., conservation agencies, protected area management administrations, NGOs or local governments. Specific activities will be designed through collaborative arrangements with these organizations. Utilization of natural resources, e.g., within buffer zones, will be carried out sustainably and according to relevant regulations. Restoration/rehabilitation activities will be carried out in accordance with management plans developed through participatory processes. No invasive alien species will be used; preference will be given to native species. And project interventions will not entail logging of primary forests or other areas of high conservation value. Conservation outcomes can sometimes result in unintended consequences of increased human-wildlife conflicts. Local communities will be trained on how to safely manage such conflicts.</p> <p>Moreover, an NGO specialized in conservation will be recruited through one of the three thematic strategic grants and provide guidance to CBOs on the design of grant proposals and facilitate stakeholder liaison.</p>

<i><b>Risk Description</b></i>	<i><b>Impact and Probability (1-5)</b></i>	<i><b>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</b></i>	<i><b>Comments</b></i>	<i><b>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</b></i>
<p><b>Risk 4:</b> Micro hydropower installations may alter environmental flows, possibly resulting in adverse impacts to local ecology.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 1, Q1.1.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>Local communities in the target landscapes have stressed interest in micro hydropower installations as one of the renewable energy solutions, providing additional energy security and contributing towards low emission development strategies.</p>	<p>Micro hydropower installations have been successfully implemented during earlier operational phases of the SGP in Malaysia. The typical capacities of the units do not require environmental impact assessments under Malaysian regulations. The entire streambed is not dammed for the operation of these micro hydropower units and there is minimal impact to environmental flows. As a safeguard measure, SGP proposals will be required to include an assessment of potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures planned. And, proposals will be reviewed by qualified specialists, e.g., members of the Technical Advisory Group.</p> <p>Project implementation will be monitored by the Country Programme Management Unit and/or strategic partner organizations supporting the landscape activities.</p>

<i><b>Risk Description</b></i>	<i><b>Impact and Probability (1-5)</b></i>	<i><b>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</b></i>	<i><b>Comments</b></i>	<i><b>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</b></i>
<p><b>Risk 5:</b> Project interventions, e.g., involving the installation and use of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, may result in release of pollutants to the environment and in the generation of hazardous waste.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 7, Q7.2.</p>	<p>I = 2 P = 2</p>	<p><b>Low</b></p>	<p>Unsafe handling and disposal of batteries from solar systems and LED lamps may release harmful pollutants to the environment. Potential environmental impacts would likely be limited in terms of magnitude and can be easily avoided and managed. Projects are assessed by the Country Programme Management Unit and the NSC as part of proposal development, and actions to mitigate risk are incorporated into each proposal prior to approval. Moreover, project proponents are trained in all aspects of RE technology operations and maintenance, including disposal or recycling of used technology elements.</p>	

<i>Risk Description</i>	<i>Impact and Probability (1-5)</i>	<i>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</i>	<i>Comments</i>	<i>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
<p><b>Risk 6:</b> Climatic unpredictability, periodic droughts, changes in rainfall distribution, altered frequency of extreme weather events, rising temperatures may affect project results, including agroecological practices, rehabilitation of degraded terrestrial and coastal-marine ecosystems, etc.; and a potential economic downturn as a result of a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic (or similar) may increase the vulnerability and coping capacities of local communities.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 2, Q2.2.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 3</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>The ecosystems in the project landscapes are vulnerable to the impacts of climate change in the Middle and Upper Baram in Sarawak, the Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah and the Klang Valley in West Malaysia.</p>	<p>A Climate and Disaster Risk Screening was prepared during the PPG phase and annexed to the Project Document. The screening report includes descriptions of risk mitigation measures that will be taken during implementation. The landscape approach implemented under the project promotes socio-ecological resilience. The landscape strategies will include priority actions to achieve enhanced resilience, based upon the circumstances in the landscapes and capacities of the local communities. The strategies will also address potential increased vulnerability related to the COVID-19 pandemic. CBOs will be required to include an assessment in the project proposal documents on the risks of climate and geophysical hazards on proposed infrastructure and assets, and describe what measures are proposed to reduce and manage the risks. Moreover, the design and implementation of project interventions will be guided by the Country Programme Management Unit (CPMU) and the National Steering Committee (NSC) and supported by the multi-stakeholder landscape platforms.</p>

<i><b>Risk Description</b></i>	<i><b>Impact and Probability (1-5)</b></i>	<i><b>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</b></i>	<i><b>Comments</b></i>	<i><b>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</b></i>
<p><b>Risk 7:</b> Local community members involved in project activities may be at a heightened risk of virus exposure, e.g., stakeholder meetings, workshops and trade fairs, community field work, etc.</p> <p>Principle 3, Standard 3, Q3.6.</p>	<p>I = 3 P = 4</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>	<p>The landscape approach promoted on the project is predicated on participatory processes, including multi-stakeholder meetings, community field work, showcasing products and services in workshops and trade fairs, learning exchanges, seminars, etc. Risks to local communities might also be compounded due to increased numbers of tourist visits through ecotourism-related interventions. Travel restrictions to the Baram landscape in the state of Sarawak have been particularly strict, as the state and local government units have implemented measures to minimize exposure to the indigenous communities residing there.</p>	<p>Adaptive management measures will be implemented to reduce the risk of virus exposure during a prolonged or recurrent COVID-19 pandemic, or similar crisis. A COVID-19 analysis and action framework has been prepared and is annexed to the project document.</p> <p>SGP Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) will be reviewed and updated to address risk of virus exposure. Malaysian Covid-19 SOPs will be strictly followed. Hazard assessments will be required for project proposals involving gatherings of multiple people, and mitigation measures will be implemented accordingly, e.g., ensuring physical distancing, providing personal protective equipment, avoiding non-essential travel, delivering training on risks and recognition of symptoms, etc. Virtual meetings will be held where feasible.</p> <p>The project Communications Strategy will include specific considerations for communication, public awareness and exchange of information under these circumstances. As COVID-19 is an evolving situation and could potentially exacerbate other vulnerabilities and risks, it will be important to remain abreast of the situation during project implementation and regularly review the risk and update mitigation measures as needed.</p>

**Supporting Documents**

Upload available ESS supporting documents.

Title	Module	Submitted
6477_Annex 5_SESP_14Apr2021	CEO Endorsement ESS	

**ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK** (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

The project results framework can be found in *Section V of the Project Document*.

**ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS** (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Comment	Response	Project Document Reference
<b>GEF Secretariat comments to the PIF:</b>		
Is it possible to include an estimate for the carbon sequestration benefits? These are mentioned in the PIF (under sub-indicator 6.1). Perhaps the Agency can provide a rough estimate based on the hectare estimates under indicators 3 and 4 or, alternatively, use a proxy from similar projects (1 tCO <sub>2</sub> e /1\$). These estimates can be refined at CEO endorsement, using the Ex-ACT tool and the 20-year accounting period	<p>Estimates of reduced greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration through the interventions plan in the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) sector were made using the FAO Ex-Ante Carbon Balance Tool (EX-ACT).</p> <p>The estimates are included in the estimated end target for GEF-7 Core Indicator 6, and the assumptions and EX-ACT spreadsheets annexed to the Project Document.</p>	<p>CEO ER: Table F (Project's Target Contributions to GEF 7 Core Indicators);</p> <p>Project Document, Annex 15 (Estimations of end targets for the GEF 7 Core Indicators)</p>

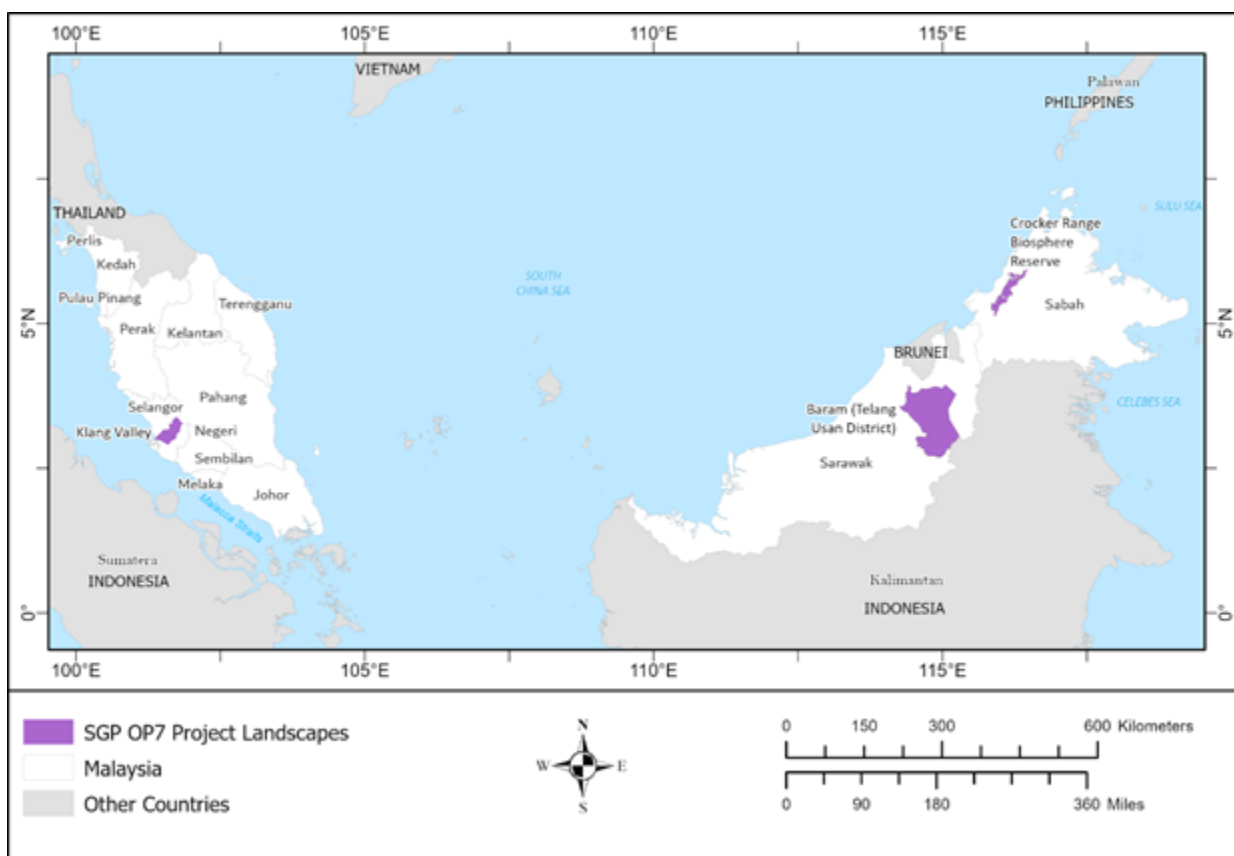
**ANNEX C: Status of Utilization of Project Preparation Grant (PPG).**  
(Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: <b>USD 100,000</b>			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i>	<i>Amount Spent To date</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i>
Component A: Preparatory Technical Studies & Reviews.	25,000.00	10,000.00	37,763.33

Component B: Formulation of the UNDP-GEF Project Document, CEO Endorsement Request, and Mandatory and Project Specific Annexes.	67,000.00	27,236.67	25,000.00
Component C: Validation Workshop and Report	8,000.00	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>	<b>37,236.67</b>	<b>62,763.33</b>

#### ANNEX D: Project Map(s) and Coordinates

Please attach the geographical location of the project area, if possible.



Country map showing target landscape

Landscape	Midpoint geospatial coordinates
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	Latitude	Longitude
Crocker Range Biosphere Reserve, Sabah	5.558 N	116.118 E
Telang Usan (Baram), Sarawak	3.358 N	114.829 E
Klang Valley, Peninsular Malaysia	3.125 N	101.634 E

## ANNEX E: Project Budget Table

Please attach a project budget table.

Annex 1:  
GEF  
budget

Expenditure Category	Detailed Description	Component (USDeq.)							Total (USDeq.)	Responsible Entity (Executing Entity receiving funds from the GEF Agency) [1]
		Component 1		Component 2		Sub-Total	M&E	PMC		
		Outcome 1.1	Outcome 1.2	Outcome 2.1	Outcome 2.2					
Works						0			0	
Goods	Computer/IT equipment					0		2,708	2,708	UNOPS
Vehicles						0			0	
Grants/ Sub-grants	Small grants (max. US\$50k)	795,000	477,000			1,272,000			1,272,000	UNOPS
	Strategic grants (max. US\$150k)			477,000		477,000			477,000	UNOPS
Revolving funds/ Seed funds / Equity						0			0	
Sub-contract to executing partner/ entity						0			0	

<b>Contractual Services ? Individual</b>	Programme Assistant	40,800	27,200	40,800	27,200	<b>136,000</b>	6,800	20,400	<b>163,200</b>	UNOPS
<b>Contractual Services ? Company</b>						<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>	
<b>International Consultants</b>	Midterm Reviewer, International					<b>0</b>	17,000		<b>17,000</b>	UNOPS
	Terminal Evaluator, International					<b>0</b>	17,000		<b>17,000</b>	UNOPS
<b>Local Consultants</b>	Gender-Safeguards Consultant	6,000	6,000			<b>12,000</b>	10,000		<b>22,000</b>	UNOPS
	Business Development Consultant			16,000		<b>16,000</b>			<b>16,000</b>	UNOPS
	KM/Communications Consultant				16,000	<b>16,000</b>			<b>16,000</b>	UNOPS
	M&E Specialist					<b>0</b>	10,000		<b>10,000</b>	UNOPS
	Midterm Reviewer, National					<b>0</b>	4,000		<b>4,000</b>	UNOPS
	Terminal Evaluator, National					<b>0</b>	4,000		<b>4,000</b>	UNOPS
<b>Salary and benefits / Staff costs</b>	National Coordinator	54,000	36,000	54,000	36,000	<b>180,000</b>	9,000	27,000	<b>216,000</b>	UNOPS
						<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>	
<b>Trainings, Workshops, Meetings</b>	Trainings, trade fairs, seminars	4,240	4,240	21,200	19,300	<b>48,980</b>			<b>48,980</b>	UNOPS
	Inception workshops					<b>0</b>	6,360		<b>6,360</b>	UNOPS
	NSC meetings					<b>0</b>	7,420		<b>7,420</b>	UNOPS
<b>Travel</b>	Travel costs, technical components	4,240	4,240	25,440	24,052	<b>57,972</b>			<b>57,972</b>	UNOPS

	Travel costs, inception workshops					0	5,860		5,860	UNOPS
	Travel costs, NSC meetings					0	14,840		14,840	UNOPS
	Travel costs M&E visits					0	4,240		4,240	UNOPS
	Travel costs for MTR					0	4,240		4,240	UNOPS
	Travel costs for TE					0	4,240		4,240	UNOPS
<b>Office Supplies</b>						0			0	
<b>Other Operating Costs</b>	Rental-maintenance					0		25,440	25,440	UNOPS
	Miscellaneous Expenses	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	8,000		2,000	10,000	UNOPS
	Audiovisual-Print Production Costs				32,000	32,000			32,000	UNOPS
	Financial audit(s)					0		26,500	26,500	UNOPS
	Office Supplies					0		15,000	15,000	UNOPS
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>906,280</b>	<b>556,680</b>	<b>636,440</b>	<b>156,552</b>	<b>2,255,952</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>119,048</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	

[1] In exceptional cases where GEF Agency receives funds for execution, Terms of Reference for specific activities are reviewed by GEF Secretariat

#### **ANNEX F: (For NGI only) Termsheet**

Instructions. Please submit an finalized termsheet in this section. The NGI Program Call for Proposals provided a template in Annex A of the Call for Proposals that can be used by the Agency. Agencies can use their own termsheets but must add sections on Currency Risk, Co-financing Ratio and Financial Additionality as defined in the template provided in Annex A of the Call for proposals. Termsheets submitted at CEO endorsement stage should include final terms and conditions of the financing.

#### **ANNEX G: (For NGI only) Reflows**

Instructions. Please submit a reflows table as provided in Annex B of the NGI Program Call for Proposals and the Trustee excel sheet for reflows (as provided by the Secretariat or the Trustee) in the Document Section of the CEO endorsement. The Agency is required to quantify any expected financial return/gains/interests earned on non-grant instruments that will be transferred to the GEF Trust Fund as noted in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy. Partner Agencies will be required to comply with the reflows procedures established in their respective Financial Procedures Agreement

with the GEF Trustee. Agencies are welcomed to provide assumptions that explain expected financial reflow schedules.

**ANNEX H: (For NGI only) Agency Capacity to generate reflows**

Instructions. The GEF Agency submitting the CEO endorsement request is required to respond to any questions raised as part of the PIF review process that required clarifications on the Agency Capacity to manage reflows. This Annex seeks to demonstrate Agencies' capacity and eligibility to administer NGI resources as established in the Guidelines on the Project and Program Cycle Policy, GEF/C.52/Inf.06/Rev.01, June 9, 2017 (Annex 5).