**Project Identification Form (PIF) [[1]](#footnote-1)**

**Project Type:**

**Type of Trust Fund:**



**PART I: Project Identification**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Title: | GEF SGP Fifth Operational Phase--implementing the program using STAR resources II | | |
| Country(ies): | 67 countries | GEF Project ID:[[2]](#footnote-2) | 4678 |
| GEF Agency(ies): |  | GEF Agency Project ID: | 4561 |
| Other Executing Partner(s): | UNOPS | Submission Date: | February 19, 2013 |
| GEF Focal Area (s): |  | Project Duration (Months) | 48 months |
| Name of parent program (if applicable):   * For SFM/REDD+ | GEF Small Grants Programme | Agency Fee ($): | $ 2,849,854 |

**A.** [**Focal AREA STRATEGY Framework**](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/GEF5-Template%20Reference%20Guide%209-14-10rev11-18-2010.doc)**[[3]](#footnote-3):**

| Focal Area Objectives | Expected FA Outcomes | Expected FA Outputs | Trust Fund | IndicativeGrant Amount($) | Indicative Co-financing($) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1.1 | 1.1; 1.2 |  | 8,685,461 | 9,000,000 |
|  | 2.1 | 2.3 |  | 8,685,461 | 9,000,000 |
|  | 1.1 | 1.1 |  | 5,633,136 | 5,900,000 |
|  | 4.2 | 4.2; 4.3 |  | 5,633,136 | 5,900,000 |
|  | 5.1 | 5.2 |  | 5,633,136 | 5,900,000 |
|  | 1.3 | 1.2; 1.3; 1.5 |  | 5,354,933 | 5,575,000 |
|  | 3.2 | 3.2; 3.4 |  | 5,354,933 | 5,575,000 |
|  | 1.1 | 1.3 |  | 3,225,863 | 3,400,000 |
|  | 2.1 | 2.3 |  | 3,225,863 | 3,400,000 |
|  | 1.1 | 1.1.1 |  | 6,451,727 | 6,720,000 |
| CD-2 | 2.2 | 2.2.1; 2.2.2 |  | 3,225,863 | 3,400,000 |
|  | 5.1 | 5.4; 5.5 |  | 3,225,864 | 3,400,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Others | | |  |  |  |
| Sub-Total | | |  | 64,335,376 | 67,170,000 |
| Project Management Cost[[4]](#footnote-4) | | |  | 6,910,888 | 6,930,000 |
| **Total Project Cost** | | |  | **71,246,264** | **74,100,000** |

1. **Project Framework**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project Objective: Global Environmental Benefits secured through community-based initiatives and actions | | | | | | | |
| Project Component | Grant Type | Expected Outcomes | Expected Outputs | Trust Fund | | IndicativeGrant Amount ($) | Indicative Co-financing($) |
| Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity Through Community-based Initiatives and Actions |  | 1. Improved sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions  2. Mainstreamed biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions | At least 175 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting biodiversity conservation in indigenous and community conservation areas  At least 175 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting biodiversity conservation through mainstreaming |  | | 17,370,922 | 18,000,000 |
| Reduction or Avoidance of GHG Emissions While Building Climate Resilience at the Community-level |  | 3. Demonstration, development and transfer of low-GHG technologies at the community level  4. Increased energy efficient, low-GHG transport at the community level  5. Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry | At least 113 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting the transfer of low-carbon technologies  At least 113 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting low-GHG transport  At least 113 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks |  | | 16,899,408 | 17,700,000 |
| Reverse and Prevent Desertification/Land Degradation and Mitigate the Effects of Drought in Affected Areas Through Community-based Initiatives and Actions |  | 6. Maintenance or improvement in flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities  7. Reduction of pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes) | At least 107 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting maintenance or improvement of flow of ecosystem services  At least 107 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting reduction of pressures from competing land uses |  | | 10,709,866 | 11,150,000 |
| Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Bodies at the Community-level |  | 8. Communities support the implementation of Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) in trans-boundary surface and groundwater basins;  9.Communities support the implementation of Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) in large marine ecosystems management | At least 65 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting community initiatives for sustainable management of transboundary surface and groundwater basins;  At least 65 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting community initiatives for sustainable management of large marine ecosystems management |  | | 6,451,727 | 6,800,000 |
| Reduce and Eliminate the Release of Harmful Chemicals into the Environment Through Community-based Initiatives and Actions |  | 10. Phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level | At least 129 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting the phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern |  | | 6,451,727 | 6,720,000 |
| Enhance communities and CSOs’ capacity  to diagnose, understand and  transform complex dynamic nature  of global environmental problems and  develop local solutions focusing on biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, while also covering international waters and chemicals |  | 11. Communities and CSOs are better informed via global, national and local knowledge sharing/learning, workshops and trainings  about global challenges and local actions required  12. Ability of communities and CSOs to diagnose, understand and transform  information and knowledge into local actions increased and  retained | At least 645 communities and CSOs involved in knowledge sharing/learning, workhops and training with increased understanding of global environmental challenges;  At least 6454 communities and CSOs will have increased capacity to develop local solutions to global environmental challenges |  | | 6,451,726 | 6,800,000 |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |
| Sub-Total | | | | |  | 64,335,376 | 67,170,000 |
| Project Management Cost[[5]](#footnote-5) | | | | |  | 6,910,888 | 6,930,000 |
| **Total Project Costs** | | | | |  | **71,246,264** | **74,100,000** |

1. **Indicative** [**Co-financing**](http://gefweb.org/Documents/Council_Documents/GEF_C21/C.20.6.Rev.1.pdf) **for the project by source and by name if available, ($)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sources of Cofinancing** | **Name of Cofinancier** | **Type of Cofinancing** | **Amount ($)** |
|  | Multiple |  | 13,000,000 |
|  | Multiple |  | 2,000,000 |
| (UNDP) | Multiple |  | 3,000,000 |
|  | Multiple |  | 7,000,000 |
|  | Multiple |  | 12,000,000 |
|  | Multiple |  | 30,100,000 |
|  | Multiple |  | 4,000,000 |
|  | Multiple |  | 3,000,000 |
|  | Multiple |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Total Cofinancing** |  |  | **74,100,000** |

1. **GEF/LDCF/SCCF Resources Requested by Agency, Focal Area and Country1**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **GEF Agency** | **Type of Trust Fund** | **Focal Area** | **Country Name/Global** | **Grant Amount (a)** | **Agency Fee (b)2** | **Total c=a+b** |
|  |  |  | Global (STAR 2nd Tranche) | **$71,246,264** | $2,849,854 | $74,096,118 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 |
| **Total Grant Resources** | | | | **$71,246,264** | $2,849,854 | $74,096,118 |

1  In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide   
 information for this table

2 Please indicate fees related to this project.

**part ii: project JustiFication**

1. **Description of the consistency of the** **project with:**

A.1.1 the [GEF focal area](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/GEF.R.5.19.Rev_.1.2009.pdf)/[LDCF/SCCF](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/Program%20strategy%20V.2.pdf) strategies:

The objectives and expected outcomes of the GEF SGP for the 5th Operational Phase (OP5) build directly on the GEF’s strategic priorities for GEF-5. This project is aligned with the GEF 5 focal area results framework. As the grants to be provided by the GEF SGP in the 5th Operational Phase have yet to be selected, in each country GEF SGP will support a strategic approach by ensuring funding only for community-level grants that are in line with global GEF priorities. When possible and relevant, the GEF SGP supports integrated and synergistic multi-focal area approaches. While ensuring consistency with GEF strategies for each focal area, SGP is a strategic programme of the GEF that addresses environmental issues in an integrated manner through all focal areas. In each GEF SGP country programme, funding may be drawn from the national STAR allocations.

This project identification form covers STAR funding contributions made by country programmes in addition to core grant allocations, with the non-grant component (staffing cost and country operating budgets) that can be drawn from both core funds and STAR management cost. The GEF Council Document GEF/C.36/4 specified various funding criteria for different categories of country programmes. Specifically, "Countries which have an indicative overall STAR country allocation of up to $15 million, a maximum cumulative amount total of $2.4 million, with an average of up to $600,000 per year can be allocated.

Sixty seven countries, which fall under the above category, have endorsed STAR funds for GEF SGP country programmes. Some of these countries have well-established programmes and have developed a significant portfolio of projects and have high demands from the communities for project funding. This PIF is intended to obtain STAR funds to supplement the core grant allocation of GEF SGP in these 67 country programmes, so that the GEF can continue to channel funds to CBOs and CSOs in these countries without interruption. Additionally, for the program’s running cost to remain stabilized, higher STAR funds (mainly used for grants) will contribute to achieving better cost efficiency globally. Without STAR funding, some of these countries will run out of grant fund within this year, and no new projects will be developed and implemented. This will jeopardize overall targeted outcomes of these 67 country programs. Furthermore, it should be noted that the non-grant component of SGP core funding does not cover the total needed non-grant cost of SGP as it was limited to funds remaining after core funds were duly allocated as per agreed amounts to every country programme; hence additional STAR funding, within the 10% allowed by policy in the use of STAR funds, will provide needed additional non-grant component to cover the non-grant technical and management costs for the high quality delivery including project implementation follow up as well as monitoring and evaluation of the community-based projects to be funded by STAR funds in these 67 country programmes.

GEF SGP seeks impact-level results contributing to global environmental benefits through innovation, demonstration and piloting that will be up-scaled by other partners and actors. National level GEF SGP objectives reflected in the revised country program strategies will be consistent with GEF-5 objectives and STAR focal area strategies. The overall programme objective and proposed outcomes are outlined in the project framework table in Section I.A above. Since the STAR funds come from each specific focal area, the majority of the funds will be used to deliver projects addressing STAR focal area issues, with other non-STAR focal area components in the projects. To continue GEF SGP's multifocal area approach, ensure synergy between different focal areas, and leverage existing partnerships and experiences related to non-STAR focal areas (international waters and chemicals ), up to 20% of the STAR funds can be used to support international waters and chemicals projects. Additionally, 10% of STAR grant funds are planned for capacity development activities.

In the area of biodiversity conservation, GEF SGP will support the first two GEF biodiversity objectives: 1) Improving the sustainability of protected area systems, and 2) Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes, and sectors. To date, in the countries covered by this PIF, GEF SGP has provided 2995 community-based biodiversity conservation projects with $68.9 million, generating an additional $91.9 million in cash and in-kind co-financing. GEF SGP grants in OP5 will generate global benefits by leveraging community-based efforts to conserve biodiversity through improving the effectiveness and sustainability of community conservation areas and indigenous protected areas, which make up a critical component of the global protected areas system, even if they are not always recognized as such. To support sustainable use of biodiversity, the GEF SGP will promote the mainstreaming of biodiversity friendly practices in production landscapes and seascapes, through measures such as organic certification for community level and small-scale producers of biodiversity-based products; improved community-based resource use of non-timber forest products; and community level enforcement measures in near shore fisheries. With GEF SGP’s support, civil society and community-based organizations will develop the capacity to improve conservation and sustainable use efforts and ensure benefits for community livelihoods, contributing to long-term sustainability.

GEF SGP objectives will be consistent with and support the first, fourth and fifth climate change strategic objectives for GEF-5, which are the most relevant, in the context of SGP’s civil society and community-based focus, of the six GEF climate change objectives. To date, GEF SGP has provided 1286 community-based climate change projects with $31.9 million, generating an additional $44.7 million in cash and in-kind co-financing in the countries covered by this PIF. In line with the first GEF strategic objective, for OP5 GEF SGP will provide grants to promote the demonstration, development and transfer of innovative low-carbon solutions at the community level, such as micro-solar power and fuel-efficient stoves. In line with the fourth GEF strategic objective for climate change, GEF SGP will promote energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level such as low-emission and energy efficient motor scooters and small boat motors, which make up the majority of individual motorized transport in rural areas. Also in the climate change focal area, GEF SGP will support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry, which is consistent with the fifth GEF strategic objective.

To address land degradation, GEF SGP will support two objectives, both of which are consistent with the GEF land degradation strategic priorities for GEF-5. To date, GEF SGP has provided 1228 community-based land degradation projects with $27.4 million, generating an additional $29.8 million in cash and in-kind co-financing in the countries covered by this PIF. The first GEF SGP objective for OP5 is directly linked to the first strategic objective of the broader GEF for the land degradation results framework: GEF SGP will seek to maintain or improve the flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain community livelihoods. Second, GEF SGP will work with community partners to reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses at the community level.

In international waters, the GEF SGP will support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives, including community-level linkages for implementation of SAPs, in partnership with other GEF initiatives. This GEF SGP objective is consistent with the first, second and third GEF strategic objectives for the international waters focal area. To date, GEF SGP has provided 416 community-based international waters projects with $9.7 million, generating an additional $17.7million in cash and in-kind co-financing in the countries covered by this PIF.

GEF SGP will also promote and support the phase out at the community level of POPs and chemicals of global concern, for example through the introduction of POP substitutes and promotion of environmentally friendly practices in pesticide management. This is consistent with the first strategic objective of the chemicals focal area for GEF-5. To date, GEF SGP has provided 198 community-based POPs projects with $5.4 million, generating an additional $4.5 million in cash and in-kind co-financing in the countries covered by this PIF.

Capacity development is a cross-cutting issue that GEF SGP will continue to address. This is also in line with GEF focal area strategies in GEF-5 that include capacity development aspect in every focal area strategy. For the purpose of this specific PIF, 10% of project funds will be used to promote capacity development. Given the sources of the STAR funds, the capacity development activities will primarily focus on biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, while also covering international waters and Chemicals focal areas. An integrated multi-focal area approach to capacity development will be undertaken to strengthen the capacity of CSOs and CBOs in project development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in alignment with GEF policies and requirements that will result in global environmental benefits. GEF SGP will continue developing capacity of civil society organizations (CSOs), with priority for community-based organizations (CBOs) and indigenous peoples organizations in the areas such as engagement through consultative process; generation, access and use of information and knowledge; supporting participatory processes in policy and legislation development; and monitoring and evaluation of environmental impacts and trends. This is consistent with the GEF’s long-standing programmatic support for capacity development, as outlined in the GEF-5 programming document.

GEF SGP has always promoted integrated and holistic approaches to understanding the multi-faceted environmental problems faced by local communities, and helping them to address these challenges. Many SGP projects are multi-focal in their approach, resulting in benefits in more than one GEF focal area. This integrated approach will continue to be a characteristic of GEF SGP in OP5 in its country programme strategies and funded projects, in order to maximize synergies from addressing multiple focal area concerns and produce multiple global benefits.

A.1.2. For projects funded from LDCF/SCCF: the LDCF/SCCF eligibility criteria and priorities:

|  |
| --- |
|  |

A.2. National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, etc.:

The GEF SGP is a country-driven programme with policies and priorities that are developed and owned by in-country stakeholders for the benefits of global environment while bringing in local results. National strategies and plans, along with GEF’s policies and strategies, form the basis for its programming and operations at the country level. Almost all national policies and strategies such as NBSAP, NAPs, NIPs and others emphasize the importance of engaging the widest groups and stakeholders (including CSOs) in achieving the objectives, and in particular the community-based approaches to environmental protection. Hence GEF SGP’s community-based approach targets small-scale location actions are very relevant to the implementation of these national policies and strategies.

The GEF SGP operates in countries where specific requests to initiate the programme have been received from the appropriate national authorities, represented by the GEF Operational Focal Point. By first requesting and subsequently supporting implementation of the GEF SGP, a country demonstrates that the GEF SGP will be a country-driven and owned initiative supporting community-level and civil society environmental projects.

National priorities are reflected through the constitution of the National Steering Committee (or National Focal Group for sub-regional programmes), which guides implementation of the GEF SGP in each respective country. NSC members are leading national government and civil society representatives in the environmental field, who provide strategic guidance and oversight for the programme, and ensure its focus on and coherence with national priorities as they apply to and are relevant for community-level needs and priorities.

GEF SGP country programme strategies are governing documents for GEF SGP programming and operation. The development and updating of the strategies are based on national policies and action plans, such as NBSAPs, NAPs, NIPs and other national key documents, which are directly linked to GEF focal area strategies and priorities. Particularly for STAR funds, some countries have their national strategies or action plans directly related to these GEF focal areas. GEF SGP’s country programme strategies are developed and updated to reflect these national priorities, while being in alignment with GEF policies and priorities. Each of the strategies draws priorities and activities included in these national policy documents, particularly those that are suitable for communities and CSOs small-scale interventions.

1. **Project Overview:**B.1. Describe the baseline project and the problem that it seeks to address:

|  |
| --- |
| **Today’s Global Environmental Challenges: The Baseline**  International attention has been focused on global environmental issues for two decades since the Rio convention that gathered clear momentum for sustainable development and climate change awareness. This time period also covers the two decades of existence of the GEF and GEF SGP, and there have been some positive but insufficient steps made during this period. The scale and scope of these problems are such that they continue to remain critical areas for ongoing investment and require a wide range of simultaneous, integrated and multi-focused approaches. The GEF SGP is predicated on the idea that community-driven, stakeholder owned, civil society led initiatives that generate local as well as global benefits are among the most effective ways to address global environmental challenges, and this model has achieved the expected success. In effect, GEF SGP operationalizes the maxim “think globally, act locally,” and is, based on its effectiveness at the community-level, by becoming the “public face” of the GEF.  The GEF SGP supports community-level initiatives across the range of global environmental issues addressed by the GEF. Participation, democracy, flexibility, and transparency are cornerstones of the GEF SGP approach. The communities targeted by GEF SGP are often the poorest and most vulnerable, and typically have low levels of capacity to adequately address global environmental problems. Providing support for community-based and civil society initiatives is an effective and necessary component of comprehensively addressing global environmental problems, and the GEF SGP plays a critical role in channeling this support. There are few targeted and available resources for community-level actions. Stakeholders at this level often lack the capacity to access national or international donors. GEF SGP has a proven track record of effectively engaging with and leveraging community and civil society based initiatives. This support should continue, as well as it being scaled-up, to achieve a sustainable future.  2010 has been named the International Year of Biodiversity while 2011 was declared the year of the forest, but these only serves to highlight the continued loss of species and degradation of ecosystems. The Third Global Biodiversity Outlook, presented in May 2010 reflecting the most recent state of knowledge of the status of global biodiversity, found that “there are multiple indications of continuing decline in biodiversity in all three of its main components – genes, species and ecosystems.” The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) showed that the most important drivers of biodiversity loss are habitat change, climate change, invasive alien species, overexploitation, and pollution. Through OP4, the GEF SGP had contributed to the strengthening of almost 12 million hectares of protected areas. According to the most recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change synthesis report, “global GHG emissions due to human activities have grown since pre-industrial times, with an increase of 70% between 1970 and 2004.” While the majority of current global GHG emissions come from developed economies, 17.4% of GHG emissions come from the forestry sector (including deforestation), while 13.5% comes from agriculture. The 2007 “Stern Review” noted that deforestation and forest degradation are the main emission sources in many developing countries.  The MA reported that drylands occupy 41% of the earth’s land area, and 10-20% of drylands are already degraded with a much larger percentage under threat from desertification. The MA identified the direct drivers of land degradation, including land use change, natural resources consumption and climate change, which are further highlighted in the 10-year (2008-2018) strategy of the UNCCD. In OP4, more than 600 GEF SGP-supported projects generated models and good practices for sustainable agriculture, rangelands and forestry management.  The Fourth Overall Performance Study of the GEF (OPS4) found that “The conditions that gave rise to the GEF and creation of an international waters focal area have not abated, and there are rising challenges.” Key issues in this area include coastal pollution and erosion, unsustainable fisheries, nutrient transfer (particularly nitrogen) from the land to the sea resulting in eutrophication and algal blooms, unsustainable management of fresh water supplies, and invasive species. Previous GEF SGP efforts have supported the rehabilitation of coastal habitats, sustainable fishing practices, and the reduction of land-based pollution. Persistent Organic Pollutants bio-accumulate in the environment and can lead to serious health effects for humans. For example, the World Health Organization estimates that pesticides may cause 250,000 unintentional deaths a year (particularly among agricultural workers), and nearly three million people may suffer additional effects, mostly in developing countries. In Africa alone, it is estimated that more than 50,000 tons of obsolete pesticides have accumulated.  To contribute to resolving some of these challenges, the GEF SGP provides small-scale grants to community-based and non-governmental organizations for projects in-line with the strategic priorities of the GEF. Through the past 20 years, GEF SGP has supported 6464community-level projects with over $166.5 million in funding, leveraging over $210.1 million in cash and in-kind co-financing in the countries targeted in the PIF. It should be noted however, that not all countries have been within the GEF SGP programme for 20 years. While the 67 countries covered in this proposal include some experienced country programmes such as Botswana, Ghana, Jordan, and Sri Lanka and Zimbabwe, many newly established country programmes such as DR Congo, Nigeria, China, and Venezuela (all established 2-3 years ago) are also included.  For each of the 67 country programmes a Country Program Strategy (CPS) has been developed by the National Steering Committee, in consultation with key stakeholders, to identify focus areas and priority actions to implement GEF-5 focal area strategies while considering national and local conditions. For example, in arid and semi-arid countries with serious land degradation threats, country programs such as Jordan, Lebanon, Mongolia, and Tunisia will focus on projects supporting sustainable land management practices. In countries with large territories of tropical forests, such as DR Congo, Ghana, Lao PDR, Nicaragua, Panama, Uganda, and Venezuela, efforts will be on biodiversity/tropical forest conservation and piloting possible community-based REDD interventions. In Honduras and Paraguay, biodiversity/forest conservation is also a priority but with the added consideration of supporting indigenous communities in this effort. In some Eastern Europe and Central Asia countries, and especially Dominican Republic in Latin America, energy efficiency and renewable energy activities will be promoted. Geographic focus is used to enhance overall impact. Thus, country programmes such as SGP Ghana aims to develop clusters of projects in one geographic focus area, and then move on to another geographic area. Other country programmes such as SGP China however have decided to continue operating nationally with the aim to provide models of successful projects for later replication and scaling up with potential local authority partners. It should be noted that as a country-driven programme, SGP’s operations are locally driven, and priorities are set at the national level by its country stakeholders (CSOs, government, academic and research experts, donor partners) thus further assuring that they are relevant and based on sound data and assumptions. For more specific information regarding key problems and related SGP interventions in each SGP country, Country Program Strategies can be accessed at [www.undp.org/sgp](http://www.undp.org/sgp).  Within the GEF SGP portfolio, 90% of projects have achieved outcome ratings in the satisfactory range, and 80% of projects are considered to have low risks to the sustainability of outcomes. Across GEF focal areas the GEF SGP empowers local communities to seek integrated multi-focal area solutions that can be replicated and scaled up, and helps spark successful initiatives that grow beyond GEF SGP’s initial support. GEF SGP contributes to the building of networks, and strengthens civil society to unlock local capacity for solutions to these critical environmental problems. More than 60% of GEF SGP grants target poor communities in participating countries, which have the greatest need for assistance. Indigenous peoples, who have the knowledge and experience to create sustainable solutions to environmental challenges, are also targeted by at least 15% of GEF SGP grants. More than a quarter of GEF SGP grants specifically support women, another priority target group.  The GEF SGP approach leverages shifts toward environmentally sustainable livelihood options, and increases education and awareness on environmental issues. While the GEF SGP seeks solutions that are integrated across focal areas, the specific strategic objectives below are designed to address the global environmental problems described above. These strategic objectives are in-line with the GEF-5 strategic priorities, and are the means by which the project will achieve the long-term impact level results. For GEF-5, it is anticipated that the GEF SGP STAR funding for these 67 countries will support at least 1 195 projects (should the maximum grant amount $50,000 be utilized) or as many as 2 390 projects (at the average grant making of $25,000 per project).  **Small Grants Programme Objectives for the 5th Operational Phase**  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions**  Protected areas and landscapes represent one of the main global strategies for addressing the loss of biodiversity, and are a key Program of Work under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Protected areas are far from a perfect tool, but can be effective with well-considered implementation in appropriate circumstances. Community-based management, community-conservation areas, and indigenous protected areas have proven they can be an effective means of conserving biodiversity, but the sustainability of these areas must be ensured. At present, much of the global support for protected areas still focuses on national parks and other areas that are formally gazetted at the national level, with insufficient attention or resources directed toward community conservation areas and indigenous protected areas. Community-level stakeholders require financial and technical support to maximize biodiversity conservation and local benefits from community conservation areas and indigenous protected areas.  The GEF SGP will support communities and the CBD protected areas Program of Work by working at the community-level to promote community conservation areas and indigenous protected areas, increase their recognition and support at the national level, improve their effectiveness in conserving biodiversity, and ensure the generation of local benefits, which are critical for the success of protected areas and connectivity at the landscape, seascape or biome level. Potential activities for funding will include the development and improvement of management frameworks, the promotion and recognition of CCAs and indigenous protected areas in national systems of protected areas and development of communities’ capacity manage landscapes, seascapes and enforce protection measures. This will also include continuation of GEF SGP’s innovative Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation (COMPACT) initiative in priority areas such as World Heritage Sites and Biosphere Reserves. Knowledge management with respect to community-conservation and indigenous protected areas is critical to improve effectiveness over time. In addition, one of the three main GEF biodiversity learning objectives is “enhancing social impacts through improved understanding of the causal relationships between protected area management and local community welfare,” an objective to which the GEF SGP will contribute through the sharing of experiences and lessons learned under this strategic objective. The Global Environmental Benefits to be generated through this strategic objective are the conservation of globally significant biodiversity at the species, ecosystem and genetic levels.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions**  While protected areas are an effective approach, much biodiversity is located in production landscapes and seascapes. The second strategic objective is to mainstream sustainable biodiversity-friendly practices into the use of national resources across integrated landscape mosaics consisting of an array of land-use types. Activities that depend on biodiversity resources will be addressed, including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, and tourism, and GEF SGP has an established history of supporting a range of biodiversity-based sustainable products in these sectors. While international efforts to mainstream biodiversity often focus on large-scale industries, supporting the integration of biodiversity considerations in community-level activities is also necessary to conserve biodiversity resources, where the people living in biodiversity rich areas are key partners.  In developing countries, community level stakeholders have direct interaction with their environment, and, with GEF SGP’s support for community and non-governmental organizations, can contribute to the conservation of biodiversity while utilizing it for sustainable livelihoods. GEF SGP has supported more than 1,500 projects for the sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes and seascapes, and building on this experience, GEF SGP will support community-based initiatives and frameworks to incorporate market mechanisms such as recognized environmental standards that include biodiversity considerations, and the development of markets for biodiversity-friendly products. Private sector actors at the community-level are important partners, and GEF SGP will support collaborative initiatives that develop the capacity of all stakeholders to mainstream biodiversity considerations in production landscapes. In this dynamic realm, knowledge management is critical to continuously improve good practices and identify lessons for innovative market-based approaches to biodiversity conservation. Activities under this objective will support implementation of the CBD’s Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity. The Global Environmental Benefits to be generated through this strategic objective are the conservation of globally significant biodiversity at the species, ecosystem and genetic levels.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low-GHG technologies at the community level**  To mitigate climate change and develop long-term low-GHG economies, the GEF SGP will support demonstration, development and transfer of low-GHG technologies that are appropriately targeted and relevant for implementation through community-based and civil-society approaches. This strategic objective supports the UNFCCC technology transfer framework, including identified capacity development priorities. Community level stakeholders in developing countries are often overlooked and bypassed by global climate change technology transfer efforts, yet they are critical partners for the future as the developing world continues down the path of industrialization. The GEF SGP has had widely recognized successes in applying innovative low-GHG technologies, for example with a program to develop cost-effective solar houses in Pakistan. Activities in the 5th Operational Phase will build on past experiences, and will seek to continue replicating and scaling up successful approaches, while developing the capacity of community-based and non-governmental organizations to develop and implement low-GHG technologies. Examples of such activities include support for distributed micro-solar, micro-hydro, biogas and methane energy generation, and solar/fuel-efficient stoves.  The development of partnerships between civil-society, government and private sector actors will be critical to the successful development of low-GHG technologies and removing barriers to their deployment. Knowledge management to highlight best practices and lessons from the demonstration of low-GHG technologies will also be supported. GEF SGP will build technical and institutional capacity, involving directly local technical professionals, who would then spread the know-how gained in the demonstration projects. Under this strategic objective GEF SGP contributes to the overall objectives of the UNFCCC, and the anticipated Global Environmental Benefits include the reduction and avoidance of GHG emissions. In addition to important catalytic impact, GEF SGP projects directly contribute to reduction or avoidance of GHG emissions. In order to document these results, GEF SGP will focus on building capacity of the communities for participatory monitoring and accounting of emissions, which would also empower the communities and allow them to participate in global emission reduction schemes, such as REDD+, CDM, Voluntary carbon trade and others.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low-GHG transport at the community level**  The transportation sector makes up a significant percentage of global GHG emissions, and this is even truer in the remote rural areas where GEF SGP frequently works, where transportation systems are often old and inefficient, emitting high amounts of GHGs relative to the energy input. This strategic objective supports the UNFCCC Common Policy Framework to Support Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport in Developing Countries. Current efforts to address transportation related-GHG emissions generally focus on existing systems, while inefficient transportation options continue to self-propagate as motorization increases in rural areas. GEF SGP will leverage its comparative advantage of working at the community-level to catalyze investment in low-GHG transportation through community and civil-society initiatives in this underfunded and presently ignored market segment. By improving the efficiency of transportation infrastructure at the community-level through the demonstration and deployment of low-GHG transportation options, GEF SGP will contribute to mitigate the effects of climate change and set the course for limiting GHG emissions in the future. There are numerous transportation markets that can be targeted at the community level, particularly in remote areas where goods, and people, must be transported to and from markets over long-distances. The rural transportation network often involves high GHG-emitting trucks, buses and vans, and, increasingly at the personal level, motor scooters. In coastal and marine areas boats, both small and large, which rely on old and inefficient outboard motors are often the most common form of transportation. Through community and civil society actions GEF SGP will seek to catalyze technology markets and address key barriers to low-GHG transport, while developing the capacity of stakeholders to develop sustainable transportation systems. GEF SGP will also focus on advocacy efforts at local and national levels influencing policy development in the area of low emission transportation options. Partnership and knowledge management to ensure replication and scaling up will again be key elements of all GEF SGP supported activities under this strategic objective. With respect to climate change, the GEF SGP contributes to the overall objectives of the UNFCCC, and the anticipated Global Environmental Benefits under this strategic objective include the reduction and avoidance of GHG emissions.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 5: Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry**  Carbon emissions from LULUCF contribute a significant 12% of total anthropogenic GHG emissions. Moreover, according to some data, deforestation alone accounts for approximately 20% of the emissions, with the forestry sector representing upwards of 50% of GHG mitigation potential. Despite the importance of this carbon source, it, together with agriculture, is significantly underserved by the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), particularly in terms of available methodologies. Though currently the accounting for emissions for most land use is voluntary, a UNFCCC binding agreement is being negotiated and the impact on emissions of draining and restoring peat lands is gaining prominence in the LULUCF debate. Engaging community-level partners to combat unsustainable land management is critical, as they are the direct users and beneficiaries of well-functioning ecosystems, and are the most affected by climate change. Moreover, successful community initiatives, aside from reducing emissions, could have a catalytic effect on the policy process in terms of developing and testing new methodologies, as well as empowering communities to participate in emerging national and international mitigation schemes such as REDD+ or inclusion of LULUCF in the compliance mechanism. Building on its extensive biodiversity portfolio with many successful community–based reforestation and sustainable forestry initiatives, GEF SGP will support reduction of deforestation, community-level reforestation/afforestation efforts, and peatland restoration/rewetting activities. Such activities are supported by UNFCCC COP decisions 15/4, and13/2, which recognized “that the needs of local and indigenous communities should be addressed when action is taken to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries.” It has been shown, particularly in the forest sector, that activities addressing deforestation and forest degradation can be cost effective in both mitigating climate change, and reducing the vulnerability of social systems and ecosystems to climate change. GEF SGP will continue to develop and build the capacity of its civil society stakeholders in participatory monitoring, and empower them to engage in national policy process and formulation of the national emission accounting and MRV regimes. These capacity development activities will be critical for piloting new types of field-based training activities reflecting the most up-to-date guidance and developments arising from the UNFCCC negotiation process, and evolution of the global emission reduction agreements and mechanisms Knowledge products will be generated to advocate and disseminate GEF SGP experiences and practices, particularly related to new methodologies and lessons learned of community mobilization and involvement in emissions reductions mechanisms. UNDP will form partnerships with other development partners to upscale successful models and contribute to international policy processes. This strategic objective presents the opportunity to generate integrated Global Environmental Benefits in multiple focal areas including climate change, biodiversity conservation and land degradation, in addition to local economic benefits.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities**  Maintaining ecosystem services – provisioning, regulating, supporting and cultural - is critical for long-term sustainable livelihoods at the community level. If this is not done, the costs of maintaining livelihoods support sectors will escalate both locally and global. Global costs of land degradation resulting from unsustainably managed ecosystems are estimated at above US$40 billion, not including the indirect costs associated with loss of productivity, biodiversity and unique landscapes. Land degradation impacts communities directly and leads to socioeconomic problems such as food insecurity, limited development and migration. Damaged land is costly to reclaim and, if severely degraded, its inability to provide ecosystem functions and services leads to a loss of environmental, social, economic and non-material benefits that are critical for society and development. Rural communities are highly dependent on agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems for their livelihoods, and have a vested interest in ensuring the necessary flow of ecosystem services. The GEF SGP will support community-level actions and civil society initiatives for integrated natural resource management and sustainable land management to reverse and prevent desertification and land degradation, supporting the first and second strategic objectives under the 10-year strategic action plan of the UNCCD. In addressing land degradation, multi-focal synergies can also be found with biodiversity, climate change, international waters, and potentially chemicals.  Efforts will be made to link the OP5 activities on Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and multiple-use production landscapes under the biodiversity focal area with the evolving multilateral and bilateral forest investment programmes and partnerships facilities. In particular, sustainable land use, land use change, and forestry management and climate proofing practices will be adopted at the community level for forest and non-forest land use types. This will involve up-scaling and replication of good practices and lessons, as well as the restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests and non-forest lands, including peat lands.  Approaches that consider the broader landscape will be pursued, such as integrated watershed management, in which local communities and civil society are important partners whose efforts can be leveraged with GEF SGP support. The agricultural and forestry sectors are important focus areas, and GEF SGP will support activities and develop capacity to demonstrate and scale-up good practices for crop and livestock production through community-based agricultural management, to enhance agro-ecosystem services. Agro-ecosystems may include rangelands, grasslands and other landscape types that provide multiple ecosystem services. In the emerging ecosystem services area of practice, knowledge management to identify and share lessons and best practices will be highly important, as GEF SGP has the ability to reach the poorest and most distant communities to develop capacity for improved natural resources management. Global Environmental Benefits that will be generated include the maintenance or improvement of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services, reduced GHG emissions from agriculture and landscape degradation, and reduced vulnerability to climate change.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscape)**  To improve landscape management and reduce land degradation in the wider landscapes, land use degradation frontiers, such as forest/agricultural and rural/urban boundaries, must be targeted. Across the landscape, such frontiers form the nexus of competing land use pressures and conflicts with human and wildlife, and key areas where ecosystem services begin to be degraded. Community-level stakeholders live, and seek their livelihoods, in these areas, and are actors to the dynamic changes occurring as a result of intensive land use demands. Community-based and non-governmental organizations are, therefore, the effective partners and vehicles for reducing pressures in the wider landscape. GEF SGP will work with them to improve community-level actions and practices and reduce negative impacts commonly found at the landscape frontiers to inter alia demonstrate sustained ecosystem functionality, which also supports the strategic objectives of the UNCCD strategic action plan.  In OP5, improved community actions within sustainable forest management will include activities in support of: sustainable agriculture, rangeland and forest rehabilitation, forest protection and socio-economic functions. The rehabilitative activities will include reforestation, raising tree seedlings, tree planting, enrichment planting, woodlots establishments, social forestry approaches such as hedge row and boundary plantings, woodlots and home gardens, and the conventional agroforestry practices will be encouraged. The protective functions of landscapes will include watershed management; soil and water conservation; sand dune stabilization; avalanche control; desertification control; coastal areas protection; conservation area protection; natural regeneration support/afforestation; use of traditional tree management techniques for tree crop management; occupancy management of forest; and communal tree farms establishment. Conversely, the socio-economic activities will include management of communal forests for: recreation, tourism, education and conservation of spiritual and cultural heritage and general provision of social and ecosystem services. For the land degradation abatement, anticipated actions in OP5 will help to increase country ownership at national levels of the UNCCD convention and its 10 year strategic plan.  The Agriculture-based activities shall include crop diversification: crop rotation; management of agricultural wastes; improved tillage practices; agroforestry; natural resource-based conflict resolution; fire management; water harvesting and ground water recharge; small scale irrigation schemes; improving working and living conditions of farmers; as well as consumer health and safety projects. In respect to rangelands management and rehabilitation, typical projects shall revolve around strengthening traditional rangelands management systems; measures that improve soil and water conservation; conservation of crop genetic resources (in situ); livestock management targeting pastoral herd health; and grazing management as well as weed control.  Capacity development of community organizations and policy dialogue aimed at generating appropriate incentives and supportive regulatory frameworks are two important enablers of landscape planning. GEF SGP will support community and civil society-based initiatives and knowledge management to develop capacity to test innovative and adaptive approaches such as payments for ecosystem services and other market mechanisms, as appropriate. Similar and adding to the gains of the first GEF SGP Land Degradation strategic objective, integrated, multi-focal and cross-sectoral approaches will be applied and be the preferred modality of interventions. The expected Global Environmental Benefits will be accounted for in the form of the maintenance or improvement of ecosystem services, and cross-focal area benefits of reduced GHG emissions from land degradation impacts, the conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable management of water resources.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 8: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives**  Effective approaches to transboundary water body management require multi-government solutions at the policy level, but must include implementation at the community level. Communities and resource users in coastal border regions and within transboundary watersheds are the local actors affected by policies and plans, and their participation and support is essential for the sustainable management and governance of transboundary water bodies. GEF SGP will cultivate partnerships and initiatives to support implementation of international waters Strategic Action Programs (SAPs) through community-based and civil society actions. An SAP has been developed (or is in the process of being developed) for each transboundary water body where the GEF has worked, and the GEF SGP will support the implementation of SAPs with the understanding that the intervention that these strategies are technically sound and appropriate road maps to supporting sustainable transboundary water body management. In OP4, GEF SGP supported more than 200 projects in 24 countries to implement SAP priorities at the community-level.  In OP5, GEF SGP will develop the capacity of stakeholders and support knowledge management to address important issues such as the reduction of land-based pollution, improved water use efficiency, sustainable fisheries through approaches such as “fish refugia”, habitat restoration and conservation, and the demonstration of water supply protection including catchment protection. Approaches may include community level integrated coastal management and sustainable fisheries practices. Communities and civil society are key partners in approaches such as integrated watershed management and integrated coastal zone management. GEF SGP will support the relevant regional international waters conventions, such as those related to the South China Sea/East Asian Seas, Mekong River, Black Sea, Caspian Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Caribbean Sea, lake Victoria, Nile river basins and Lake Tanganyika and other transboundary waterbodies. This strategic objective will produce Global Environmental Benefits for international waters including sustainable use of water resources, reduced nutrient flows and land-based pollution to transboundary water bodies, conservation of critical habitats, and conservation of species important for ecosystem function and economic benefits.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at the community level**  GEF SGP’s strategy addressing POPs and other harmful chemicals is two-fold – first managing and reducing use of these substances; and second, addressing the disposal, clean-up and mitigation of environmental contamination. Community-level stakeholders in developing countries are often unaware of the full-extent of potential negative environmental and health effects from POPs, and lack the technical capacity to safely manage and dispose of harmful chemicals. The comparative advantage of GEF SGP is the demonstration, piloting and testing of community-based models to address POPs which can be scaled-up and replicated to catalyze successful large-scale approaches. An important element of the chemicals objective is increasing the awareness of the potential harm from POPs and other dangerous chemicals. An integrated approach to address chemical management will be tested and promoted, addressing mitigation of chemical impact on ecosystems, species and human health. Chemicals management is interlinked with other environmental issues, such as climate change, international waters, and land degradation. For example, inappropriate waste management, such as burning of waste, results not only in emissions of POPs, but also increased GHG emissions. Chemicals management activities should therefore address various aspects of the sources and impacts of chemicals, including their management, to implement an integrated approach that not only prevent, reduce and phase out chemicals, but also help to mitigate impacts on biodiversity and climate change. Given the daunting challenge of climate change, chemicals management should fully incorporate climate resilient and mitigating activities.  As in all focal areas, developing community-level capacity to implement the relevant convention (i.e. Stockholm Convention) will be a key focus area, including activities to promote the environmentally sound use of exempted POPs, and other areas of convention guidance. In OP4, data indicates that GEF SGP projects are supporting implementation of the National Implementation Plans (NIP’s) in 70% of countries that have developed a NIP. Other activities may include the reduction, elimination or avoidance of harmful chemicals, such as mercury that is commonly used in small-scale mining, and agricultural pesticides. Knowledge management for replication and scaling-up will support additional activities building on previous GEF SGP experiences to promote appropriate waste management and test alternatives to waste burning. Capacity building will remain a critical component in the POPs portfolio. GEF SGP will continue promoting the use of the POPs Training Module developed in OP-4, and raise awareness and technical capacity to address POPs issues at the local level. As a whole, the GEF SGP will support the objectives of the Stockholm Convention, and the Global Environmental Benefits generated will be reduced releases of POPs to the environment, and the mitigation of previous environmental contamination.  **GEF SGP OP5 Objective 10: Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, and implement convention guidelines as well as monitor and report on-the-ground project results**  The GEF SGP is an important contributor to the GEF’s long-standing support for capacity development. Capacity development activities in the countries combining core and STAR resources will focus on the focal areas that funding resources are drawn from, i.e. biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, while also incorporating activities to address capacity development in international waters and POPs focal area. An integrated multi-focal area approach to capacity development will be applied to strengthen CSOs and CBOs in developing, implementing and monitoring GEF eligible projects that will generate global environmental benefits.  All GEF SGP country programs are driven by the underlying goal of developing community and civil society capacity to engage and respond to key environmental challenges. Support for capacity development is critical among the program’s primary stakeholders – capacity is frequently limited among communities in poor rural areas to self-organize and address environmental problems. Local communities have much to offer in terms of local knowledge and experience, but may require external support to unlock this potential, and to build linkages for engagement at higher levels, for example, through the GEF SGP National Steering Committee. In GEF SGP’s experience, the most effective approach to capacity development at the community level is through “learning by doing”, rather than through highly technical classroom training. Results expected for capacity development will be achieved through the types of activities such as network development, experiential learning related to good practices and lessons learned, support for contributing to local, regional and national environmental dialogues and consultations, and environmental education and awareness raising. Other types of capacity development activities may be supported based on the specific context, priorities and identified barriers within each country.  The current PIF covers a specific capacity development component targeting the CSOs and CBOs in the sixty seven countries with both core and STAR grant allocation. As is outlined in Table B above, GEF SGP expects that support for capacity development will contribute to the effective engagement of GEF SGP stakeholders in national consultative processes, the establishment of knowledge platforms to share lessons learned and good practices, and more than 1,195 CSOs with strengthened capacities (the number of CSOs expected to be engaged in projects supported by the current PIF).  The capacity development activities will particularly focus on enhancing capacities of community-based and civil society organizations (CSOs) to engage in consultative processes in policy development and implementation, improving their capacity to consolidate knowledge and information; and strengthen their operational capacities to implement the Convention Guidelines at the community level. While successfully implementing projects and delivering results on the ground is critical to success, it is equally important to build CBOs and CSOs capacity in monitoring and reporting progress on the ground that will contribute global aggregation of results and impact.  Local ownership, participation, knowledge sharing and effective networking are key to ensure the retention of capacity development at the community level. To ensure sustainability of communities’ capacity, GEF SGP will ensure beneficiaries of capacity development are rooted in and deeply connected within the communities, so when projects are completed, the knowledge and technical skills remain within the communities to continue carrying out environmental protection activities. Rather than importing techniques, the program tries to utilize locally available and suitable solutions, which will be continued after project completion. GEF SGP will also strengthen grantees’ capacity to participate in national and international forum, and advocate good experiences for upscaling and replication. It will support grantees’ network for knowledge sharing and exchange of information. Lessons learnt will be consolidated at the country programme level for national dissemination and international sharing.  **Implementation Arrangements**  The global GEF SGP will continue operating in partner countries with the same implementation approach that has proven effective over the course of the past twenty years. The implementation arrangement outlined below has been covered in part by the GEF SGP global core funding PIF. GEF SGP is a country-driven grant-making programme that aims to provide direct funding access to local communities and CSOs. GEF SGP maintains a small Central Programme Management Team (CPMT) and establishes an effective country programme team where possible comprised of a National Coordinator, a National Steering Committee (NSC) and a Programme Assistant that work closely with the government, the UNDP country office and other stakeholders.  At the country programme level, a National Coordinator, supported by a Programme Assistant, operates the GEF SGP Country Programme Office on a day-to-day basis. The staffing cost and country operating budgets are drawn from both core funds and STAR management costs. The National Coordinators report directly to the Global Manager and this arrangement has proved to help the National Coordinators withstand pressures at domestic level in terms of the overall politics of controlling GEF SGP as intended by some stakeholders. For each operational phase, the Country Programme Strategy (CPS) in each country will be developed or revised to articulate in detail how the GEF SGP supports national and GEF strategic priorities as outlined in focal area strategies.  The voluntary National Steering Committee (NSC) of each country programme, is composed of national leaders with majority non-governmental membership to reflect the programme’s mandate and focus for CSO capacity building, providing overall country guidance and provide direct linkages to national policy-making and development planning. The NSC provides strategic direction for GEF SGP development, oversees country programme performance, and reviews/approves grant proposals. Often, the NSC also serves to transfer local community experiences and practices into national policies development and implementation. In many cases, NSC also plays a key role in securing STAR funds endorsement from the governments to GEF SGP.  At the global level, the CPMT is the team in-charge of managing the global programme and supervising the National Coordinators as well as facilitating the start up of new country programmes and supporting the implementation of existing country programmes. CPMT is supported by and coordinates with UNOPS, which provides execution services. Strategic guidance is provided by a GEF SGP Steering Committee chaired by the GEF CEO. All GEF agencies and the GEF NGO Network are members of this Steering Committee.    GEF SGP will also continue to be supported by UNDP country offices, and will link with relevant GEF FSPs and MSPs when possible. In addition to the standard GEF SGP grants, the Country Programme Office activities will include strategic efforts in line with the CPS and GEF strategic priorities that will enable aggregation of community-driven impacts for global environmental benefits, local to global strategic portfolio learning and capacity development, dissemination of best practices, or linkage and network building for GEF SGP portfolio grantees. This approach will support the GEF SGP and GEF catalytic role by contributing to replication and up-scaling of good practices.  GEF SGP is a cost-effective instrument for the GEF to generate global environmental benefits through NGOs and community-based organizations (Joint Evaluation 2007, pp. 46). The efficiency of outcome ratings for the GEF SGP grants appear to be better than those for the FSPs and MSPs” (Joint Evaluation 2007, pp. 50). In GEF-5, GEF SGP will undertake the following measures to further enhance the programme’s and grant projects’ cost efficiency: 1) be integrated as delivery mechanism for community/NGO components of FSPs – in which case they would have a share of the FSPs’ management budget; 2) raise co-financing from non-GEF sources in ways that management costs are defrayed. At the project level, GEF SGP will engage voluntary NSC members to provide technical and management assistance to communities, obtain local governments and other partners’ co-financing and support, ensure linkages and synergies with other ongoing activities and other proper activities to further improve projects’ cost effectiveness.  The program will take all necessary measures to ensure the visibility of the GEF financing. Such measures will be in accordance with the need to give adequate publicity to the action being implemented as well as to the support from the GEF. Therefore, a communication and visibility plan will be outlined in the project document. This will include, inter alia, the compulsory use of the GEF logo on all material, publications, leaflets, brochures and newsletters, websites, business cards, signage, vehicles, supplies and equipment, display panels, commemorative plaques, banners, promotional items, photographs, audiovisual productions, public events and visits and information campaigns. Press releases, press conferences and press visits will follow the rules currently in place. |
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B. 2[. Incremental](http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/1890) /[Additional cost reasoning](http://www.thegef.org/gef/node/1325): describe the incremental (GEF Trust Fund) or additional (LDCF/SCCF) activities requested for GEF/LDCF/SCCF financing and the associated [global environmental benefits](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/CPE-Global_Environmental_Benefits_Assessment_Outline.pdf) (GEF Trust Fund) or associated adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF) to be delivered by the project:

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| The GEF SGP provides support to achieve global environmental benefits at the community level. The current baseline scenario, partly described in Section II.A above, would remain the status quo in a business-as-usual scenario without GEF support. Community-level stakeholders in remote and marginalized areas have the least access to technical and financial resources to address global issues, and GEF SGP is a critical partner assisting communities to tackle community based environmental challenges. Over the course of its implementation the GEF SGP has developed an efficient and effective system while building a growing portfolio of demonstrated community-based approaches and results. The programme is a critical resource for GEF SGP’s partner organizations and communities, without which their available support channels would be reduced and their ability to confront and address environmental issues limited. The GEF SGP strengthens the capacity of communities and non-governmental organizations, increases knowledge and awareness about environmental threats, and provides financial leverage to overcome short-term decision-making that negatively affects environmental resources. Short-term decision-making is often unavoidable in poor regions where individuals have to secure the basic elements for survival on a day-to-day basis, and therefore do not have the possibility to plan for long-term sustainable livelihoods that ensures environmental protection. Many of the communities where GEF SGP works are in remote or marginalized areas often not targeted by large-scale national development efforts. At the same time, these communities often have detailed knowledge of their local environment built up over generations, and should be primary partners in environmental conservation and sustainable development.    Critical global environmental issues benefiting from the GEF SGP’s integrated multi-focal support are those addressed by the GEF: biodiversity conservation, climate change, land degradation, degradation of international water bodies, and the use and disposal of harmful chemicals. The baseline scenario without GEF support would therefore see:  • Ongoing poverty and unsustainable practices in communities that depend on the environment for their livelihoods;  • Continued degradation of ecosystem function due to biodiversity loss, deforestation and pollution;  • Business-as-usual increasing GHG emissions, leading to negative environmental and human impacts from climate change and air pollution;  • Further degradation and desertification of productive and non-productive land-use systems;  • Continued negative environmental trends in international water bodies;  • Unsafe use and disposal of environmentally harmful chemicals; and  • Lower levels of capacity development and knowledge management related to key global environmental issues.  Such conditions, if not addressed, will continue contributing to loss of ecosystem function, and the continuation or increase of corresponding poverty levels. The baseline scenario acknowledges that partners at local, national and international levels make an important contribution to addressing these issues, but that greater synergistic results to achieve incremental global environmental benefits will be secured with GEF SGP support, since the program brings together a range of diverse partners at the national level to address community-level issues.  In addition, efforts to address global environmental challenges in an innovative and community-driven manner are underfunded by orders of magnitude in relation to the potential need, including currently limited funding for capacity development and knowledge management at the community-level. GEF SGP provides incremental added value by catalyzing new development models, improving knowledge flows, and informing policy. The 2007 Independent Evaluation of the GEF SGP found that some of GEF SGP’s greatest contributions are in the realm of national policy development, catalyzed by country-specific GEF SGP initiatives.  Replication and scaling-up will continue to be key tenets of the GEF SGP approach to achieve incremental benefits, and the program will work with key partners, such as the GEF NGO network, to disseminate good practices throughout global civil society promoting the GEF agenda. Furthermore, without GEF SGP there would be limited monitoring and reporting on environmental conservation efforts and environmental trends in targeted areas and communities, which is critical for data collection, documenting and disseminating good practices. With its integrated and scaled-up approach to addressing environmental issues at the community level, the GEF SGP fills a critical niche in environmental efforts to achieve impact-level results for global environmental benefits.  Incremental cost reasoning is translated into individual projects by linking such projects to the country’s Country Programme Strategy (CPS), the approval of which requires an assessment that such CPS is fully aligned to the SGP OP5 strategic objectives. Furthermore, a GEF SGP Project Proposal Template has been developed by the SGP CPMT with the GEFSEC for use by proponents. Its instructions require that the proposal should indicate its contribution to GEF SGP’s overall and/or specific focal area objectives and also reflect its relationship to other relevant programmes of the government, other GEF and UNDP projects as well as by other donors, CSOs and the private sector. Guidance is also provided on measurable project indicators that are aligned to the CPS as well as to a list that reflects GEF SGP OP5 results indicators for each focal area, also pre-agreed with the GEFSEC. Raising co-financing is also detailed in the Financial Details section of the project template instructions which does not only detail the “Project Funding Summary” but also delineates funding that comes from “Community Contributions” and “Proposing Organization Contributions” both in-cash and in-kind. The policy is that no project will be supported without co-financing, if not in-cash, then at least in-kind. This co-financing is a critical component of SGP projects in that it allows provision of support resources that is limited, by policy or availability, from GEF funding as well as the complementary implementation of activities that may not be eligible for GEF funding yet vital to the overall sustainable development approach needed by communities. For example, use of local university or CSO experts enable projects to refrain from using costly professional consultants. Labor costs are non-existent or negligible in SGP projects as community members provide the volunteer labor. No land or vehicle are allowed to be purchased with GEF funds and the community or its partner NGO must either use its own or find other contributors to provide for these. In addition, the high importance put by SGP on co-financing comes from the fact that in-cash and/or in-kind contributions is a way to enhance community ownership of the project, an important component of project sustainability. |

B.3. Describe the socioeconomic benefits to be delivered by the Project at the national and local levels, including consideration of gender dimensions, and how these will support the achievement of global environment benefits (GEF Trust Fund) or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF). As a background information, read Mainstreaming Gender at the GEF.:

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| GEF SGP is rooted in the belief that global environmental problems can best be addressed if local people are fully involved in project design and formulation, have strong ownership of the activities undertaken through a "demand-driven" approach, and that direct socioeconomic benefits will accrue to communities during project implementation. In contrast with "expert-reliant" development interventions, the emphasis in GEF SGP is on creative problem-solving and innovation by the communities themselves, often based on the comparative strengths of an intimate understanding of local circumstances. GEF SGP is premised on the principle that through the provision of relatively small amounts of funding, local communities can undertake cost effective activities that will make a significant socioeconomic difference in their own lives, whilst generating global environmental benefits.  GEF SGP has always recognized the importance of socio-economic benefits to local communities, such as poverty reduction and livelihood, water and sanitation, health, education, and women’s empowerment, in achieving sustainable global environmental benefits. One of the key elements of GEF SGP is that it considers the human needs of the communities it works with and that will enable them to attain sustainable livelihoods. Some of the strategic considerations for project development are to increase productivity or generate new livelihood opportunities, as well as income and access to financial capital. GEF SGP understands that the sustainability of its projects will only be possible if there is a high level of ownership by the community and if it generates local benefits.  GEF SGP projects help communities to improve their access to tools and machinery, land, and key infrastructure such as energy and water supply. But as important as having the right infrastructure is to enhance the social capital, institutional capacity and equity of the communities, GEF SGP places special emphasis on enhancing the institutional capacities of the communities, by providing training and expanding their networks, as well as by improving their ability to address global environmental issues. To do this, the programme invests in strengthening the human capital of the community, by enhancing the skills, knowledge and abilities necessary to implement and sustain the projects.  In GEF-5, GEF SGP will further systematize its approach to local livelihoods by consolidating good experiences and strategizing partnerships for funding opportunities. In the past, GEF SGP has raised co-financing to finance sustainable alternative livelihoods activities and address the community needs for community buy-in of the projects. For instance, the Community Water Initiative (CWI) funded by bilateral donors implemented by GEF SGP has provided water supply and sanitation services to target communities, ensuring communities’ acceptance and support for projects. Such approach to combine and sequence GEF funding with non-GEF funding has proved to be mutually beneficial and re-enforcing.  GEF SGP understands the importance of gender equality and women’s empowerment as essential elements to achieve sustainable development and project impacts for the GEF.As such, gender is mainstreamed throughout the GEF SGP programme and its associated portfolio of projects. Gender is one of the mandatory cross-cutting requirements in the GEF SGP grant-making criteria and is incorporated within the GEF SGP project cycle. About 17 percent of projects supported world-wide have focused speciﬁcally on the engagement and empowerment of women. The portfolio of GEF SGP projects that focus on women grantees, empower women and/or improve gender equity has been growing and will be further strengthen during GEF 5. Although obstacles remain at the local and community level, GEF SGP has been able to support projects that have benefitted both men and women within the same communities. Many GEF SGP projects have been recognized for their success in promoting gender equality and womens’ leadership.  GEF SGP Country Programme Strategies are required to address gender mainstreaming, and all staff members are encouraged to take the UNDP online gender training, as well as to take advantage of related opportunities offered by UN agencies. Gender is one of the key results of the National Coordinators’ annual Performance and Review Assessment (PRA) carried out by UNDP Country Offices and the Central Programme Management Team at the global level. GEF SGP has also established a global partnership with the Huairou Commission to pilot capacity building for women and dissemination of gender-related good practices between GEF SGP countries worldwide. |

B.4 Indicate risks, including climate change risks that might prevent the project objectives from being achieved, and if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the project design:

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| There are few new risks that may come into the phase as GEF SGP moves into newer disciplines. However, the possibility of new insurmountable risks is minimal given the programme has been operating for nearly 20 years. Potential risks are known, and through the past experience of the GEF SGP, risk mitigation measures are in place for those that have been identified before. There still is the challenge of working directly with community-based and non-governmental organizations that have a low level of technical and management capacity. Past performance of the GEF SGP portfolio has shown that 90% of GEF SGP grants achieve outcomes in the satisfactory range. To mitigate risks, especially in the small underperforming portion of the portfolio, the GEF SGP works with all grantees to help develop capacity by identifying appropriate rates of disbursement, linking grantee partners to learn from each other, and working in a flexible manner that responds to the strengths and comparable advantages of grantees. Risks of underperformance due to capacity limitations will also be mitigated by consistent and comprehensive oversight and monitoring of the GEF SGP portfolio in each country by CPMT and the UNDP CO. The GEF SGP also reduces risk by supporting replication and revalidation of good practices that have proven to deliver on GEF strategic priorities at the community level. In each country, the National Steering Committee, with representation from civil society leaders, government institutions, and donors provides further support for effective design and implementation of GEF SGP projects.  There are two important operational risks that must be recognized for the GEF SGP in the 5th Operational Phase. First, the programme is expanding to include an even greater number of countries and is linking closely with frontiers brought about by co-financing resources linked to the phase. As the programme expands, the overall level of effort for coordination and implementation at the central level increases. The CPMT has established clear regional oversight responsibilities and a back-up system within its team that can enhance the overall support and coordination effectiveness. A second, related, risk is that as the programme continues to expand, it reaches countries that present potentially greater operational challenges and increased political and institutional risks, related to low levels of individual, institutional and systemic capacity. At the same time, such countries, including LDCs and SIDS, represent areas where GEF SGP has the potential to leverage significant global environmental benefits with relatively small levels of funding. Expansion risks in low-capacity areas will be mitigated through above-average levels of supervision oversight, and by the transference of relevant lessons and best practices from other GEF SGP countries.  There is potential for the changing climate and its impacts to influence GEF SGP grant results, positively or negatively, particularly with respect to biodiversity and land degradation. For example, climate effects could have adverse impacts on agricultural biodiversity conservation through drought or flooding, and on the application of protected areas as a conservation measure due to geographically shifting ecosystems. Such risks are not specific to the GEF SGP, but to all GEF-supported interventions. At the community level, climate risks may however disproportionately affect GEF SGP grantees: the poorest, most marginalized, least developed communities are the least able to finance climate resilience measures. Such communities, and associated organizations, are among the primary GEF SGP partners. Grants will be made keeping in mind the potential climate risks and steps towards capacity building will be taken to minimize and adapt to effects when possible.  Finally, there remain possible exogenous risks to the desired outcomes at the programme and project level, such as severe weather and other force majeure events, political stability, and global economic crisis. Mitigation measures for exogenous risks are implemented in a case by case manner as necessary and appropriate.  In addition to the general risks, the GEF SGP global programme will face other unique challenges. For example, in relation to the STAR funds in particular, there are risks related to the government support and endorsements not being realized, STAR funds availability, and inadequate amounts of STAR funding to meet the desired cost/grant ratio of 10%. The GEF SGP depends on the governments to contribute part of the STAR allocation to provide grant or complement the low core grant levels of GEF SGP country programmes (with no core or very low core) grant allocation. Some governments may take the occasion to exert dominant influence in the country programme governance, or may opt to provide no STAR funds to the specific country programmes. When governments have influence on the resources allocation, GEF SGP must maintain its operational principles following the global Operational Guidelines without sacrificing its key principles.  Given the fact that 67 country programmes depend on STAR resources to supplement core grant allocations in this phase, it is critical to ensure STAR funds availability to continue the grant-making activities. STAR grants play a key role in reducing management costs relative to grant allocations (see Annex 1 for a list of the endorsed STAR funding from countries). Late acquisition of STAR funds could pose significant programmatic, financial and operational risks to GEF SGP. Therefore, programmatically, GEF SGP country programme staff will not be able to adequately plan grant-making activities for the entire OP5 period, and also there may be a possibility of lost co-financing opportunities and damaged relationships with the stakeholders. CPMT will work closely with UNDP and UNOPS to conduct various financial scenario analyses to ensure highest cost-efficiency without jeopardizing the programme’s financial status. These risks can be controlled by conducting financial analyses and working effectively to secure STAR funds as soon as possible. Additionally, sufficient co-financing raised would further enhance the cost efficiency.  In case STAR funds are not sufficient to achieve the cost efficiency level as required by the Council, the GEF SGP will resort to the Programme Steering Committee and the Council to determine solutions and possibly reallocate resources between various activities. |

B.5. Identify key stakeholders involved in the project including the private sector, civil society organizations, local and indigenous communities, and their respective roles, as applicable:

As an integral part of its decentralized system of national-level steering committees, GEF SGP operates through a multi-stakeholder approach engaging a range of stakeholders including NGOs, CBOs, indigenous people, the private sector, government, academia, and donor partners. During OP5, CSOs will be both beneficiaries and direct participants in GEF SGP through their inclusion in NSCs and National Focal Group, where non-governmental members must be in the majority, as well as by taking on the role as National Host Institutions and other key roles related to knowledge sharing and policy advocacy. Although grants are targeted specifically at community-based and non-governmental organizations, a broad range of stakeholders are engaged as active partners during grant implementation, including inter alia research institutes, local and municipal governments, international NGOs, as well as national and international volunteers. With regard to indigenous peoples and marginalized populations, GEF SGP follows a set of principles that advocate for a flexible, time sensitive, and simple project cycle in order to allow these "difficult to reach" groups to access GEF SGP support. The programme has pioneered numerous user-friendly modalities to work with poor and marginalized groups including alternative proposal formats such as participatory video, Almanario, photo stories, and community theatre, and allowances are made for concept and project submission in local and vernacular languages so long as these concept and proposals adhere to the basic project elements. GEF SGP also allows for flexible disbursement terms to cope with indigenous peoples’ culture, customs and seasonal movements. Through stakeholder workshops, CSOs are able to learn of GEF SGP projects and activities and provide inputs on how to improve on them.

B.6. Outline the coordination with other related initiatives:

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| The GEF SGP has formed mutually beneficial long-standing relationships with international, national and community-level initiatives and partners, and will continue to seek synergies in the coming operational phase. The program works with relevant stakeholders in its geographic and thematic areas to ensure coordination of donor funding on relevant initiatives. GEF SGP will also seek linkages with other relevant GEF MSPs and FSPs whenever synergies can be found. Table 1 below highlights selected key GEF SGP relationships with related global level initiatives relevant to the 5th Operational Phase. There are also numerous national and local level GEF SGP partnership initiatives such as the UNDP/GEF Pacific Integrated Water Resources Management Project and Lake Victoria Commission and other GEF full-sized projects. National Coordinators have been given instructions to find opportunities to share successful methodologies and approaches with other GEF Full-Sized Projects, and better still, to explore the potential of SGP as a delivery mechanism for community or CSO components of FSPs. One example of on-going efforts on this is with the Great Green Wall project in which SGP NCs have initiated discussions with their country’s GEF Operational Focal Points. Although it is not possible to list all existing and potential partnerships in this document, enhancing linkages and cooperation with GEF full-sized projects and other donor partners will continue to be a priority for GEF SGP in the 5th Operational Phase.  **Table 1 Selected Partnerships of SGP during OP-5**   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Initiative Name** | **Organization(s)** | **Relevance to GEF SGP** | **Brief description of coordination, synergy with GEF SGP** | | Small Islands developing states Community based adaptation project | AusAID | Co financing for the CBA projects in additional 39 countries | Community based adaptation and support towards resilience of communities to climate induced risks. | | Mekong Asia-Pacific Community Based Adaptation programme (MAP CBA) | AusAID | Co-financing for community-based adaptation to climate change | Cost-sharing for project activities on resilience to climate change, including regional technical support and knowledge management components. | | Community Management of Protected Areas Conservation (COMPACT) | United Nations Foundation (UNF) | Strategic aggregation of small grants at landscape scale | Cost-sharing from UNF for the targeted delivery of GEF grant funding to target World Heritage Sites and Biosphere Reserves | | World Heritage  ‘Local Ecological Entrepreneurship Programme’  (WH-LEEP) | UNF & Conservation International Verde Ventures programme | Extension of COMPACT landscape approach | Cost-sharing from UNF and CI for support to SME and producer organizations through the provision of biodiversity-friendly loans. | | Community Water Initiative (CWI) | SIDA, Govt. of Norway, and Govt. of Luxembourg | Co-financing for water-related portfolio of projects | Cost-sharing for small project activities pertaining to water security and sanitation as complementary co-financing for sustainable development at the local level. | |

**C. describe the GEF agency’s comparative advantage to implement this project:**

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| In the GEF’s modality typology, the GEF SGP is considered a capacity development and technical assistance intervention type, which is deemed to be UNDP’s comparative advantage in all GEF focal areas, as highlighted in the comparative advantage matrix of Annex 1 in the relevant GEF council paper, GEF/C.31/5 rev.1. UNDP has valuable experience in human development, civil society and institutional strengthening, and non-governmental and community participation, which are all key tenets of the GEF SGP. UNDP has served as the implementing agency for the global GEF SGP since the programme’s inception, playing this role on behalf of the GEF partnership. A key comparative advantage is UNDP’s network of country offices, which provides helpful support and backstopping for the programme at the national level in each GEF SGP country. Throughout its many years of experience implementing the GEF SGP, UNDP has helped develop an efficient and effective implementation approach. UNDP has also established the necessary relationships with UNOPS and global partners who provide administrative, technical, and financial support for GEF SGP. It is anticipated that UNOPS will continue to play its important role supporting disbursement and financial management, in partnership with UNDP. |

C.1 Indicate the co-financing amount the GEF agency is bringing to the project:

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| GEF SGP has a standing expectation of 1:1 co-financing (50% in cash and 50% in kind), thus for this PIF the expected co-financing would be $ 74,100,000 which will be raised in the course of this operational phase. UNDP will directly contribute to this through its TRAC funds as well as from resources that will be raised with other bilateral and multilateral donors, foundations and the private sector. While there is yet no exact amount for the additional co-financing that will be raised in the next four years of OP5, as this will be an on-going effort throughout GEF-5, UNDP has established a post called “Senior Technical Adviser for Communities” which is tasked to develop new initiatives that would provide co-financing to GEF SGP. It should also be noted that UNDP Country Offices provide significant in-kind resources through their voluntary membership in the National Steering Committees, and in facilitating access to and helping negotiate with donors additional co-financing for GEF SGP country programmes and their projects. |

C.2 How does the project fit into the GEF agency’s program (reflected in documents such as UNDAF, CAS, etc.) and staff capacity in the country to follow up project implementation:

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| The GEF SGP is consistent with UNDP policies and procedures applying to all countries where UNDP is present and where the programme is implemented. The program contributes to UNDP's objective of fostering human development, as well as localizing the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) agreed upon by the international donor community. As the development network of the United Nations system, UNDP has country offices in the majority of countries where GEF SGP is located. In the case of SIDS in the Pacific, the UN Resident Coordinator system, led by UNDP, has put in place a 'Joint Presence' mechanism between UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA which provides on-the-ground support. GEF SGP country teams are responsible for implementing the programme within their respective countries, as well as to align with and complement the objectives of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF).  At the global level, as captured in the UNDP Strategic Plan 2008-2011, the goal of the 'Local Pillar' of the Environment and Energy Group (EEG) is to strengthen national capacity to manage the environment in a sustainable manner while ensuring adequate protection of the poor. Four key result areas have been identified to achieve this goal: (1) mainstream environmental and energy; (2) catalyze environmental finance; (3) adapt to climate change; and (4) expand access to environmental and energy services for the poor: developing national capacity for service delivery. In addition, the GEF SGP complements numerous other programmes identified in the UNDP Civil Society strategy approved in 2009. |

The GEF SGP online database is the tracking tool to capture project information and portfolio results. The database will be further enhanced during GEF-5 to feature a streamlined and simplified system of indicators. GEF SGP will track its global environmental benefits and other socio-economic benefits through the mandatory inclusion of online indicators, and incorporating these indicators and targets in country programmes’ annual reports. GEF SGP will strengthen its M&E framework to capture global environmental and socio-economic dimensions of projects. Periodic portfolio reviews will also be systematically conducted to capture results and achievements as measured against indicators and targets.

**part iii: approval/endorsement by gef operational focal point(s) and GEF agency(ies)**

**A. Record of Endorsement of GEF Operational Focal Point (S) on Behalf of the Government(S):** (Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s)](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/OFP%20Endorsement%20Letter%20Template%2009-29-2010.doc) with this template. For GEF SGP, use this [OFP endorsement letter](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/OFP%20Endorsement%20Letter%20Template%20for%20SGP%2009-08-2010.doc)).

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**B. GEF Agency(ies) Certification**

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| **This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.** | | | | | |
| **Agency Coordinator, Agency name** | **Signature** | **Date** *(MM/dd/yyyy)* | **Project Contact Person** | **Telephone** | **Email Address** |
| Adriana Dinu, UNDP GEF Acting Executive Coordinator | Adriana_signature.png | February 19, 2013 | Delfin Ganapin | 646-781-4383 | delfin.ganapin@undp.org |
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1. It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework](http://www.thegef.org/gef/sites/thegef.org/files/documents/document/GEF5-Template%20Reference%20Guide%209-14-10rev11-18-2010.doc) when filling up the table in item A. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Same as footnote #3. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)