

SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



THE GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2019-2020

THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (SGP)

RESULTS REPORT 2019-2020

INTRODUCTION

The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). It empowers local civil-society and community-based organizations (CSOs and CBOs), including women, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities, to design and lead actions that address global environmental issues. The programme implements effective and efficient projects that aim to achieve global environmental benefits while improving livelihoods and reducing poverty, as well as promoting gender equality and empowerment of women. The SGP is delivered at country level through a decentralized mechanism.

The SGP is a GEF Corporate Programme, with dedicated GEF resources and co-financing from communities, governments, and other donors. As such, it plays an important role in meeting the objectives of the multilateral environment agreements that the GEF serves. The SGP also contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030, by ensuring social inclusion and local stakeholder involvement in initiatives that promote multi-sectoral and integrated solutions to environmental challenges.

Since its inception in 1992, the SGP has implemented 25,117 projects in 133 countries, providing grants totalling US\$684.8 million. Currently, the SGP is active in 126 countries.

The Seventh Operational Phase of the SGP, with GEF-7 and other finance, officially started in July 2020 with the signing of the project document. In Operational Phase 7 the SGP will focus on promoting and supporting scalable local initiatives to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes. It will support projects that serve as incubators of innovation, potentially broadening the replication of best practices and approaches through larger projects that are supported by the GEF, UNDP and other partners. These objectives will be achieved through the SGP's core approaches on inclusion, innovation and impact.

METHODOLOGY

This report presents the results of the SGP for the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, based on the information from 126 SGP Country Programmes. A conservative methodological approach is used for results calculations using only GEF-funded projects that were completed during the reporting year.

1,171 GEF funded projects were completed in this reporting period and the results are presented in this summary document. The full report can be accessed on the SGP website at www.sgp.undp.org.



PORTFOLIO

1 JULY 2019 – 30 JUNE 2020

986
NEW
PROJECTS

1,171
COMPLETED
PROJECTS

2,812
ONGOING
PROJECTS



FUNDING

ACTIVE PORTFOLIO OF GRANT
PROJECTS FUNDED BY GEF

US\$89
MILLIONS IN
PROJECTS FUNDING

US\$85
MILLIONS IN PROJECT
LEVEL CO-FINANCING

COVERAGE



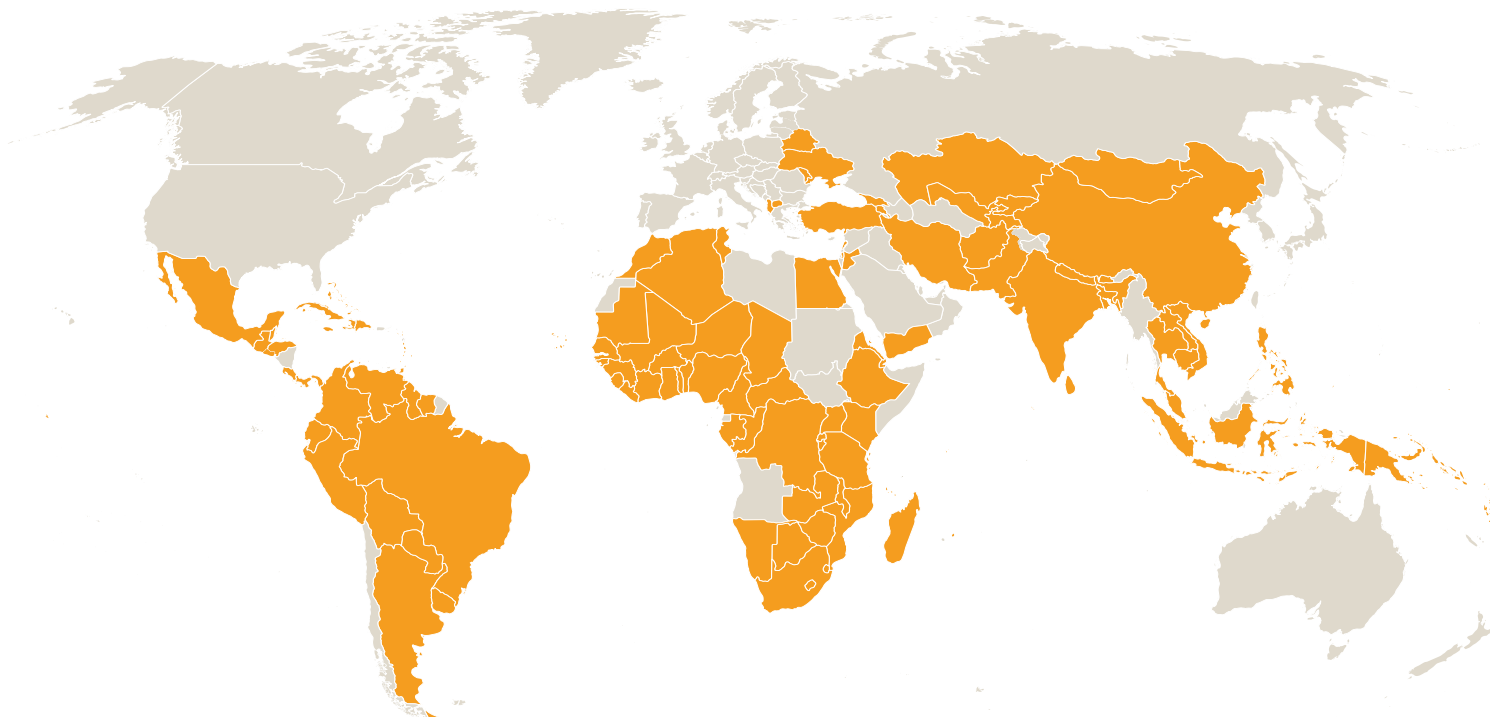
126
COUNTRIES



37
SIDS



40
LDCS

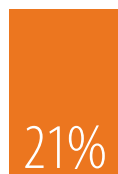


SGP is active in **126 countries**, with **111 countries** being supported by the SGP Global Programme, and **15 SGP upgraded country programs**. Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) currently account for **62% of SGP Global country programs**.

FOCAL AREA DISTRIBUTION*



BIODIVERSITY



CLIMATE CHANGE



LAND DEGRADATION



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION



INTERNATIONAL WATERS



CHEMICALS AND WASTE

* While most SGP projects benefit multi-focal area results, for reporting purposes we have reported based on the primary focal area of each project.

PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES

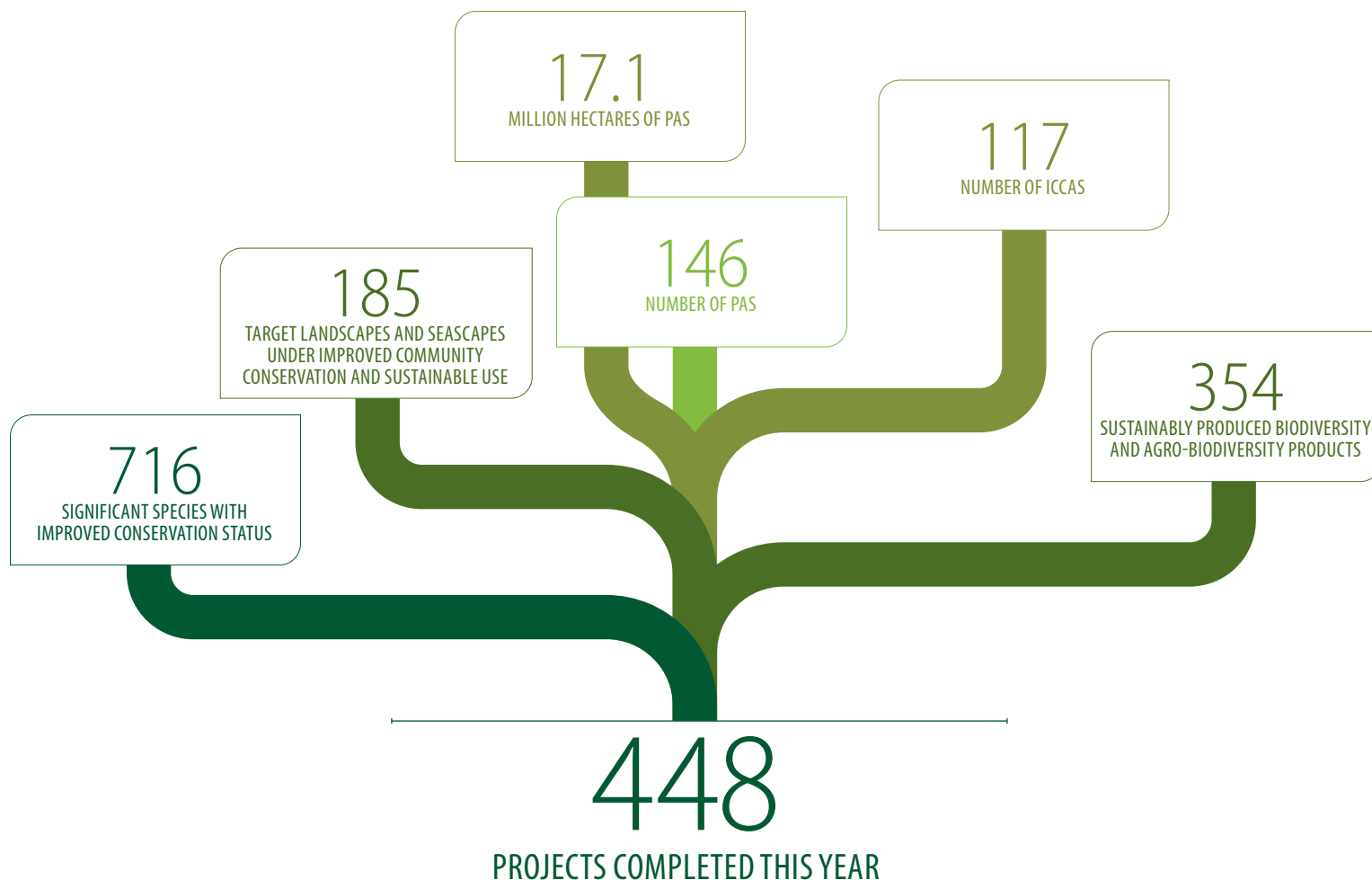
In alignment with the overall GEF programming, the SGP focuses its efforts on targeted strategic initiatives that promote integrated approaches in addressing global environmental issues by covering all GEF focal areas. Most SGP projects continue to have multiple benefits with relevance to more than one focal area, however for reporting purposes projects were categorized under its primary focal area.

BIODIVERSITY



Under the Biodiversity focal area, the SGP supports improvements in management effectiveness of protected area (PAs) systems and mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and seascapes, and other related sectors.

Support towards creation and management of Indigenous Peoples' and Community-Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) is a key part of the SGP's biodiversity portfolio.



SPOTLIGHT ON SOUTH AFRICA

In **South Africa**, the SGP supported the Community Based Organisation *Dzomo la Mupo* ("Voice of Mother Earth") to implement a project aimed at integrating indigenous knowledge systems in biodiversity conservation. The CBO works on strengthening ecological governance by reviving indigenous food systems and seeds, facilitating and encouraging intergenerational learning, and raising awareness on the value of indigenous knowledge systems. The protection of sacred natural sites plays a vital role in indigenous living as places of vital ecological, cultural and spiritual importance. This has been recognized by the best-practice guidelines produced by the World Commission on Protected Areas of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

With the support of the Limpopo Heritage Resources Agency the *Dzomo la Mupo* advocated for the recognition and protection of 49 sacred indigenous forests by the provincial government. The forests are under tremendous threat from development, especially tourism development, mining and commercial plantations. The project was a scale-up of a previous

project supported by the SGP, where the organization won a court ruling against private developers to protect three sacred sites in the area, namely the Phiphidi waterfall, Lake Fundudzi and Thathe Vondo. With women as the custodians of these sacred forests, the CBO worked with 11 clans of sacred indigenous forests, 12 communities who are safeguarding and rehabilitating rivers, wetlands and recuperating indigenous local foods as well as 12 schools in the area. Through the project, communities mapped these sacred sites to integrate indigenous knowledge systems into the school curriculum, to educate young students on ecological calendar mapping and to share information on land-use change over time, thus facilitating preservation of knowledge across generations. The project also supported rehabilitation of sacred natural sites by replanting of over 920 indigenous trees and sale of more than 3,000 tree seedlings. These results and advocacy efforts were featured widely in the media, generating dialogue amongst key local stakeholders on the protection status of natural sacred sites and addressing threats from commercial development.





CLIMATE CHANGE

The SGP's climate change projects support low-carbon energy transformation at the community level through the introduction of low-greenhouse gas (GHG) technologies, with livelihood co-benefits. These technologies include energy production from micro hydro, wind, solar and biomass.

RESULTS

293

PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

44,106

HOUSEHOLDS BENEFITED
FROM ENERGY ACCESS

58

TYPES OF LOW-CARBON
ENERGY SOLUTIONS
DEMONSTRATED, SCALED-UP
AND REPLICATED

37

COUNTRY PROGRAMMES WITH
DEPLOYMENT OF LOW-GHG
TECHNOLOGIES

SPOTLIGHT ON AFGHANISTAN

In **Afghanistan**, with support from SGP, *Ebtakar Inspiring Entrepreneurs of Afghanistan Organization* (EIEAO) implemented a project to promote renewable energy in Afghanistan through social business that also aimed

to raise awareness on climate change issues. Solar powered food carts were introduced to inspire people to take action towards climate change mitigation by replacing fossil fuel combustion with renewable energy sources.

The project supported 70 women from underprivileged communities in Kabul by offering them employment opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The women were trained to run their food business in 35 solar food carts developed by the project, and each woman earned around \$11 per day through the initiative. The project was then adapted to the changing realities of the pandemic environment, by converting the solar food carts into mobile disinfectant carts which are now being used to distribute soap, masks, sanitizer and water to local communities.

This initiative is also being supported by the government. These solar carts eliminated daily emissions of 805 kilogrammes of carbon dioxide. In addition to inspiring and educating people on using renewable energy to meet their energy demands, the project demonstrated the value of including women into the socio-economic activities and their efforts towards mitigating climate change in Afghanistan.

The project was covered in news media as an example of resilience and COVID-19 adaptation, including by BBC, Al Jazeera, and the Guardian, and received the Waislitz Global Citizens' Choice Award.





LAND DEGRADATION

The projects under land degradation support prevention and restoration of land degradation through the promotion of sustainable land and forest management practices. Activities are oriented towards rural communities that are highly dependent on agriculture and forest ecosystems for their livelihoods.

RESULTS

191

PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

5,119

FARMER LEADERS
DEMONSTRATING
AGRO-ECOLOGICAL
PRACTICES

282

FARMER NETWORKS
DISSEMINATING IMPROVED
AGRO-ECOLOGY PRACTICES

163,081

HECTARES OF LAND BROUGHT
UNDER IMPROVED MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES

99,933

COMMUNITY MEMBERS
DEMONSTRATING SUSTAINABLE
LAND MANAGEMENT

SPOTLIGHT ON TOGO

In **Togo**, the *Tandjour* zone was once considered a key agro-pastoral zone, and was rich in botanical, fauna and fishery resources. Over the last few decades, harvesting of wood for energy has significantly degraded the mountainsides. The organization *Actions Réelles sur l'Enfant et la Femme* ("Concrete action to support children and women", or AREF), with support from SGP, implemented a project to support the establishment of a green belt around the site known as the *Cuesta de Bombouaka* and popularize improved agricultural practices in the community of *Mandagou* of the *Tandjour* zone.

The technical and financial support provided through the project started the process of reversing the trend of degradation and restored more than 70 hectares of mountain slopes and agricultural land. The project also built the capacities of 135 farmers and agricultural producers, including 75 women, on improved agricultural production practices, integrated management of soil and assisted natural regeneration. Their capacities were improved through mechanical solutions such as construction of stone bunds (or ridges), ploughing along contour lines and to correct gully erosion; and biological solutions such as installation of green belts, agroforestry and reforestation.

This resulted in the installation of 7,000 metres of stone bunds, improved agricultural yields, and the planting of 25,000 trees (8,000 *Anacardium occidentale* (cashew), 3,000 *Parkia biglobosa*, 9,000 *Eucalyptus globulus*, 3,000 *Azadirachta indica* (neem), 1,500 *Acacia auriculiformis* and 500 *Anogeissus*

leiocarpus). In addition, 10 hectares of lowlands were developed for rice production benefitting 20 women, 20 beehives were installed, and a youth cooperative to produce honey was established. The project indirectly benefitted 30,000 people of *Tandjour* zone.





SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

SGP's sustainable forest management portfolio supports sustainable land use, land-use change, and forestry management interventions for both forest and non-forest land use types, to ensure that restoration activities are well suited to the transformed ecosystems.

RESULTS

31

PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

41,238

HECTARES OF FOREST AND NON-FOREST
LANDS RESTORED OR WITH ENHANCED
CARBON STOCKS

SPOTLIGHT ON VANUATU



In **Vanuatu**, the *Williams Memorial Missionary Training Institute* undertook a project with support from SGP to rehabilitate degraded forest areas within a buffer zone of protected area, featuring a natural wild stand of native Kauri tree on Erromango Island in the south of the archipelago. One of the primary goals of the project was to promote and ensure reforestation in the east of the island with increased tree coverage in the community area, and preventing harvesting of wild sandalwood within the National Forest Reserve on the island.

The project involved all the community members including youth and the Indigenous Peoples and established a community nursery where the community could raise seedlings for reforestation. The local community, including the youth, were empowered with skills and knowledge in nursery management, how to grow and manage seedlings and reforestation. Over 20,000 forest-tree seedlings were produced in the community nursery, which were used to replant degraded forested areas.



INTERNATIONAL WATERS

Under the portfolio of international waters, SGP supported the sustainable management of transboundary water bodies through the development and demonstration of effective community-based actions and practices. This was done to implement the agreed Strategic Action Plans that were developed among the regional countries for the transboundary water bodies including river basins, large marine ecosystems, and others.

RESULTS

45

PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

5,713

HECTARES OF SEASCAPES
UNDER SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT

73,870

TONS OF LAND-BASED
POLLUTION REDUCED

107,297

HECTARES OF MARINE AND
COASTAL AREAS UNDER
SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

60

SEASCAPES/
FRESHWATER
LANDSCAPES
SUPPORTED

SPOTLIGHT ON TURKEY

In **Turkey**, the *Underwater Research Society* conducted a research and monitoring studies of coastal areas designated as key biodiversity areas in Turkey, with particular focus on habitats under threat from urbanization, construction and heavy tourism. The project was supported by the SGP and ran from 2015 to late 2019. The study produced a comprehensive inventory of biodiversity rich coastal areas in addition to a publication titled *Defense and Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas Along Turkish Coasts*.

This book presents strategies to protect coastal habitats facing intrusions and threats. It explains the necessary immediate steps to stop any infringements or mismanagement of the areas. It aims to guide and help decision makers in planning and monitoring these areas, and also for Turkey's coastal development and nature conservation more widely in the future. It includes a 400-page annex of detailed correspondence regarding the habitats with the relevant officials.

The NGO's work has resulted in the protection of 20 coastal sites against illegal or ill planned coastal development, which includes important habitats for endangered Mediterranean monk seals, sea birds, marine turtles and sea grass beds.





CHEMICALS AND WASTE

The SGP's chemicals and waste management portfolio supports control and reduction of the use of harmful chemicals through sound management of chemicals and waste, including persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and mercury, to minimize adverse effects on human health and the global environment.

RESULTS

65

PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

43,530

KILOGRAMS OF HARMFUL
CHEMICALS AVOIDED FROM
UTILIZATION OR RELEASE

13,247

KILOGRAMS OF PESTICIDES
AVOIDED, REDUCED OR
PREVENTED

46

NATIONAL COALITIONS AND
NETWORKS ON CHEMICALS
AND WASTE MANAGEMENT
ESTABLISHED OR STRENGTHENED

13

MERCURY
MANAGEMENT
PROJECTS
COMPLETED

SPOTLIGHT ON NORTH MACEDONIA

In **North Macedonia**, SGP funded the local CSO *Novinari za Covekovi prava* ("Journalists for Human Rights," or JHR), to support implementation of the policies and legislation in the field of chemicals. It did this by building the

capacities of stakeholders who are key in the implementation of EU directives on the use of chemicals in children's toys, such as ministries and inspectorates, other CSOs, consumer organizations, the media, scientists and healthcare workers. With the involvement from CSOs and other sector partners, the initiative aimed to complement and strengthen the capacities of: the Ministry of Economy, which is responsible for the regulations for toy safety; the Ministry of Health; and the Ministry of Environment to encourage testing and environmental labelling of products. Within the project, more than 300 toys were tested across the country, and for the first time the government conducted inspections in major toy stores.

The project held more than 10 meetings of a coordination committee consisting of 11 representatives of the competent ministries, CSOs and media, to strengthen cooperation among the stakeholders. The advocacy efforts resulted in an alliance between the concerned citizens and toy distributors called Cooperative for Promotion of Safe Toys, which disseminated the information to over 100 participants through seven workshops.

Additionally, articles and leaflets for toy safety were widely distributed in Macedonian and Albanian languages, to raise public awareness and influence the people of Macedonia about the dangers of using untested toys and their impact on the environment and human health.





CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The SGP's capacity development portfolio enhances and strengthens the capacity of communities and CSOs to address global environmental challenges.

RESULTS

105
PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

42,559
PEOPLE WHOSE
CAPACITIES WERE IMPROVED

1,217
CSOs WHOSE CAPACITIES
WERE DEVELOPED OR IMPROVED

1,027
CBOs WHOSE CAPACITIES WERE
DEVELOPED OR IMPROVED

SPOTLIGHT ON ARGENTINA

In **Argentina**, SGP supported *Fundación Red Comunidades Rurales* (Rural Communities Network Foundation) with a strategic project focused on providing training, technical support and monitoring for the promotion of inter-sectoral networks for knowledge and the exchange of good practices among SGP grantees. As a result, 24 trainings were carried out in six provinces reaching 500 organizations. Surveys were conducted to monitor the initiatives benefiting from SGP.

The survey showed that 12 regional workshops and over 40 micro-workshops were held on strengthening the organizations, monitoring and evaluation, networking, and promoting the sustainability of the initiatives.

A total of 53 organizations benefitted from organizational strengthening strategies. In addition, new partnerships were formalized with local and provincial public agencies, technical institutions and cooperatives, including the Council for Economic Growth and Social Development of the province of Corrientes, the Secretary of the Environment of Entre Rios, the Plan of the North of Santa Fe, the Master Plan El Impenetrable - Chaco and the Secretariat of Territorial Development and Environment among others.





CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

5 GENDER EQUALITY

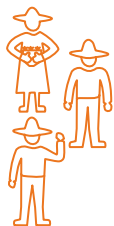
13 CLIMATE ACTION

15 LIFE ON LAND



SOCIAL INCLUSION

The SGP undertakes targeted efforts to support greater social inclusion of marginalized groups, including women, Indigenous Peoples, youth and persons with disabilities.



90% COUNTRIES HAVE A GENDER FOCAL POINT IN NSC



1,189
INDIGENOUS LEADERS
WITH IMPROVED CAPACITIES



83% PROJECTS COMPLETED WERE GENDER RESPONSIVE



41% COUNTRIES HAVE AN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FOCAL POINT IN NSC



31% PROJECTS WERE LED BY WOMEN



21% PROJECTS COMPLETED WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



47 DISABLED PERSONS ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTED TO SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES



191 YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTING TO SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES





LIVELIHOODS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Improving livelihoods is a core strategy of the SGP in addressing global environmental issues, with 773 completed projects improving livelihoods of communities. The following strategies were used by SGP country programmes to improve livelihoods.

81% INCREASED DIVERSIFICATION OF INCOME

69% INCREASED FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITIONAL VALUE

58% INCREASED ACCESS TO MARKETS

51% INCREASED ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

39% INCREASED ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURE

38% INCREASED ACCESS TO EDUCATION

38% INCREASED ACCESS TO FINANCE

32% IMPROVED HEALTH OR ACCESS TO HEALTH FACILITIES





BROADER ADOPTION SCALING UP AND REPLICATION

The SGP encourages replication and scaling up of good results and measures that have a strong impact, including influencing of relevant policies at the national, regional, and global levels.

142 PROJECTS REPLICATED/SCALED UP

123 PROJECTS INFLUENCED POLICY THROUGH PROJECT ACTIVITIES

SGP APPROACHES FOR BROADER ADOPTION



71% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH GOVERNMENT SERVICES



75% ORGANIZED TRAINING FOR SGP GRANTEEES ON DIFFERENT SUBJECTS TO IMPROVE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION



70% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH NGOs/INGOs



72% PROMOTED PEER-TO-PEER EXCHANGES



64% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH THE ACADEMIA OR RESEARCH CENTERS



72% STRENGTHENED GRANTEE NETWORKS



57% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES



52% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES/PRACTITIONERS



SGP Ghana

180

PROJECTS
ON POLICY DIALOGUE
PLATFORMS INITIATED AND
CSO AND/OR CBO NETWORKS
STRENGTHENED TO MANAGE
SUCH DIALOGUES

58

PROJECTS
ON SOUTH-SOUTH EXCHANGES
THAT SUPPORTED CAPACITY
TRANSFER ON NEW COMMUNITY
INNOVATIONS BETWEEN
COMMUNITIES, CSOS AND OTHER
PARTNERS ACROSS COUNTRIES

Below are some examples of scaling up or policy influence achieved by the projects under SGP, completed during this reporting year.



SGP Morocco

The Black Volta Basin in north-western **Ghana** is a centre for artisanal gold mining activities, which utilizes mercury during mining and extraction. High levels of mercury have been found in the area's underground and surface water, soil, and leaves of plants. The area's small-scale miners had inadequate knowledge of the health implications of their extreme exposure to mercury, and no policies were in place on safe management and use of mercury. The SGP supported the organization *Greenwater Hut* to implement a project to build the capacities of artisanal miners in improved gold-refining technologies, to reduce and finally eliminate the use of mercury. The project educated the mining community on the harmful effects of mercury on human life and the environment, as well as on health and safety principles. In total, 35 miners were trained in mercury-free technologies (gravity only, direct smelting and chemical leaching) and the good practices for reducing the use of mercury in the extraction of gold (using sluices, shaking tables, avoiding open-air burning of amalgam, use of fume hoods, and retorts to recover and contain the mercury). The project also conducted health screening for the presence of mercury in the bodies of 120 miners and other members of the community. Additionally, the artisanal miners were trained on group dynamics and conflict resolution. The project is being scaled up to other mining communities under a project supported by the World Bank and implemented by the Ministry of Environment Science, Innovation and Technology of Ghana.

In **Morocco**, the marine protected area of Al Hoceima National Park in the north of the country was faced with unsustainable and illegal fishing techniques (dynamite and copper sulphate fishing), which led to the disturbance of osprey nests, poaching of chicks and eggs, as well as the disappearance of the monk seal from the area. The SGP supported the *Association de Gestion Intégrée des Ressources* ("Association for Integrated Resource Management", or AGIR) to implement a project with the aim of improving the standard of living of artisanal fishermen in the Al Hoceima



coastal zone through good management of resources, and supporting income-generating activities through planning and marketing strategies for the fishery products. The plan of action involved finding practical and effective solutions against illegal fishing, while mobilizing and adapting participatory management programmes through training and support for sustainable management of marine resources. The project continues to expand the scale of its intervention and disseminate good sustainable fishing practices to a greater number of stakeholders. AGIR has integrated these good practices into the university curriculum for students of the Faculty of Sciences and Techniques of AI Hoceima (Coastal Engineering). The organization gives lessons on the principles of sustainable management of coastal ecosystems and blue economy, including essential and practical skill sets, to train future coastal managers.

In **Madagascar**, the association MIAHAVO (*Miaro ny Harena Voajanahary*, or "Protecting Natural Resources"), implemented a project with support from SGP in the regions of Atsinanana, Analanjirifo and Alaotra Mangoro, to improve the sustainable management of natural resources. The project's objectives included: enhancing the capacity and awareness regarding the rights and responsibilities of communities; establishing progressive inventories that include the estimation and promotion of the cultural, social and economic values of natural resources; the development of simplified land maps; establishing relations between managers and local communities; establishing community funding mechanisms; and exchange of good practices. The project paved the way for a national-level technical meeting on legislation, rights and responsibilities of local communities in the management and governance of natural resources. As a result, the project built the capacities of more than 10 local representatives from each region. At least 60 percent of local communities have developed and managed land maps and at least half of the local communities have set up community fund systems. Regional exchanges on community successes and good practices

are now frequently occurring among the communities. This initiative has been replicated in several regions of Madagascar to strengthen and empower the local communities. At present, 12 out of the 14 communities in the *Aires du Patrimoine Communautaire* ("Communal Heritage Zones", or APAC) of Madagascar have benefited from the experiences of this project. It has allowed them to develop a database of the natural resources in their respective communities, which will in turn help prepare them for inclusion in the International Register of Indigenous Peoples.

In **Colombia**, the SGP supported a community based organization, *Junta de Accion Comunal de la Vereda San Carlos del Corregimiento de Cuatro Esquinas*, in the municipality of Túquerres, to implement a capacity building project aimed at reducing deforestation and strengthening conservation of the forest reserves in San Carlos Cuatro Esquinas Túquerres. The CBO works with surrounding communities to protect the watersheds and manage their rural water systems and aqueducts using community governance systems. The project initially proposed to restore 2.5 hectares by planting 15,000 seedlings of native forest species to support water capture and recharge in upper watershed areas. The organization established a forest nursery in collaboration with the local community of farmers who also actively participated in nature conservation training events. The community's commitment and collaboration led to the expansion of the restored area to 5.5 hectares, a little more than twice the original goal. Furthermore, US\$13,323 was raised through contributions from water users and the Indigenous Council of Túquerres to expand the water systems and aqueducts to benefit an additional 300 families with water. On a regional scale, the project has shown to public and private entities that participatory governance in reforestation and restoration processes to protect water can be highly successful. At national level, the Ministry of Environment has integrated the results achieved by this and other SGP projects at the landscape level into the goals of the National Strategy for Restoration.

SGP INNOVATION PROGRAMME

During FY 2020, SGP launched additional Innovation Programmes to enable targeted investment in a portfolio of countries on emerging global environmental issues that are able to leverage partnership, facilitate knowledge sharing, and can potentially be scaled up, replicated and mainstreamed in SGP and other programmes. During this reporting period, Innovation Programmes were implemented in 42 countries.

The following SGP Innovation Programmes were launched and implemented globally in close relation to relevant GEF and other partner programmes and projects: Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining; Women-led Enterprise; Persons with Disabilities and Responsive Development; Indigenous Peoples and Energy Access; Youth and Climate Change; Big Cat Conservation; Sustainable Land Management in the Sahel Region; Mountain Products And Value-Chain Development; and South-South Cooperation. The projects are currently under implementation in alignment with overall country programme priorities.

KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNICATIONS



1,534 IN THE MEDIA



1,095 FACT SHEETS, CASE STUDIES, PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEOS DEVELOPED



872 NUMBER OF TRAININGS CONDUCTED



109 HOW-TO FACT SHEETS, CASE STUDIES, PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEOS DEVELOPED



34 NUMBER OF AWARD-WINNING PROJECTS

MONITORING AND EVALUATION



1,753 PROJECTS WERE VISITED TO TRACK PROGRESS COVERING 62% OF THE ACTIVE PORTFOLIO



ANNUAL MONITORING REPORTS PRODUCED FOR PARTNER REQUIREMENTS

Tableau ALER Prioritaire

ALER :- Inondation, Landslide

Key for Description
Heavy rainfall,

Causes (origine)
Prolifération

Effets
Frequent (common)
Perte de vies

Date

Tableau ~~ALER~~ Prioritaire

:- Electricity, water, Infrastructure. (could)

10 drague

Description

No-connection -> popo connection

11 drague -> consommateurs 12+

10 drague -> 500 5ans



SGP RESPONSE TO COVID-19

EXAMPLES OF COVID-19 RESPONSE



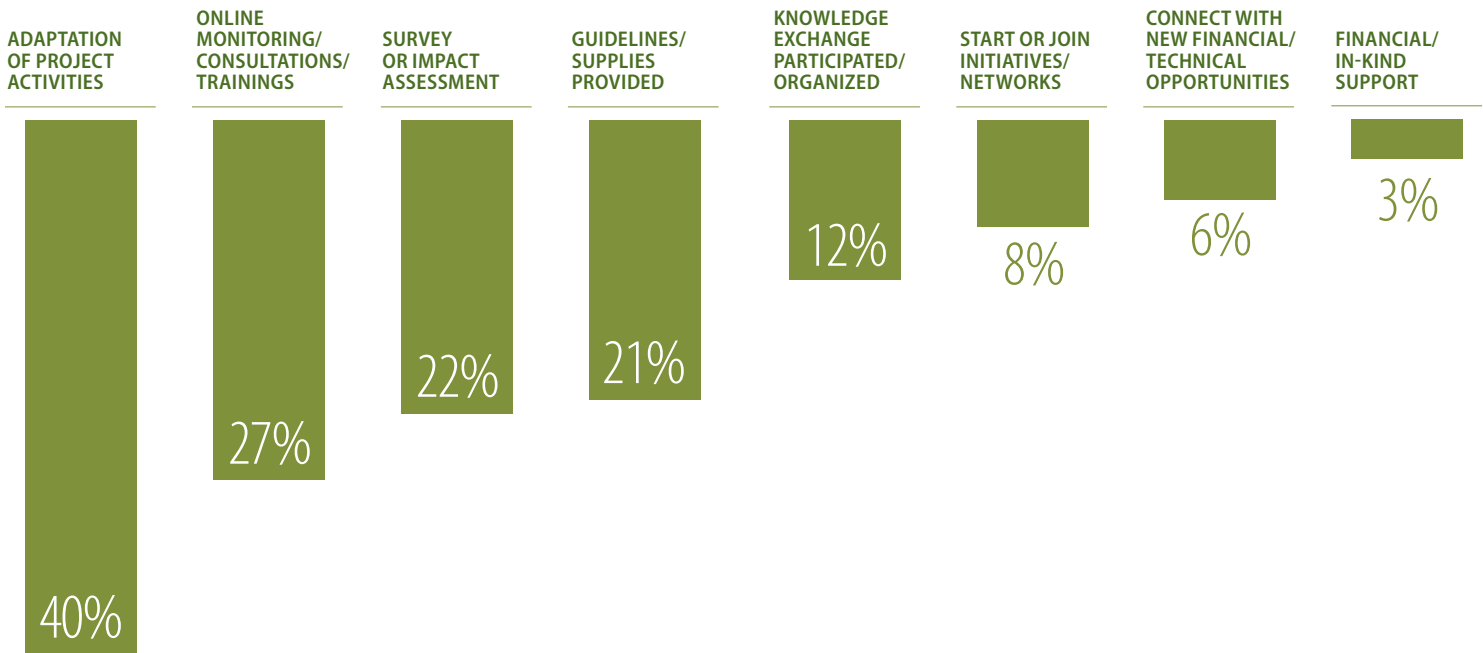
The SGP quickly responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by providing concrete, on-the-ground support to local communities. An internal guidance note was developed in line with the GEF and UNDP to provide needed guidance and support to the country programmes. At the same time, SGP country programmes have adopted innovative approaches and tools, including digital means, to actively support projects, grantees and overall country responses to the pandemic. The following represents the various measures taken by country teams and areas of innovation.



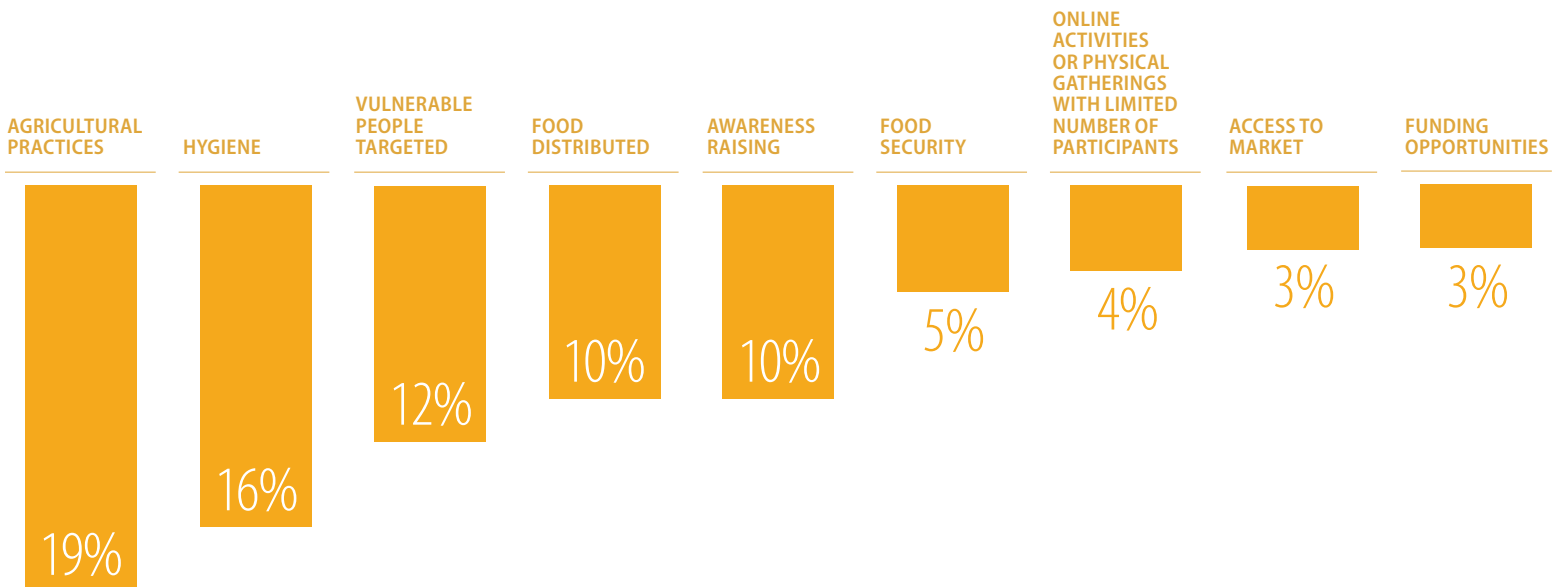
During the national lockdown in **Mauritius**, the Ministry of Environment, Solid Waste Management and Climate Change solicited the support of the SGP for a vulnerable community of 350 inhabitants in Ti Rodrigues, Cite La Cure, significantly impacted by COVID-19. After a site visit, SGP Mauritius enlisted support from the grantee, *Mauritius Red Cross Society*, to carry out a community vulnerability and capacity assessment (VCA). The Mauritius Red Cross used a community consultation technique practiced in another SGP-funded project. The one-month assessment exercise comprised of a community meeting explaining the process of the VCA and its objectives to the community members, followed by two to four VCA sessions depending on availability of community members. At the end of the assessment, a VCA report prepared by the Red Cross highlighted the vulnerabilities and community-based solutions to address them, including improved natural resource management, and shared them with community members, the Ministry, Members of Parliament of the region, the National Empowerment Foundation and local authorities. The communities are now able to develop viable proposals based on the assessment and report to seek necessary support from governments and donors.

In **Belarus**, a project titled Inclusive Green Economy targeted residents with physical and mental disabilities of the central and southern parts of the Bragin district of Gomel region. The project provided an opportunity for the residents to work together with a social enterprise where they received training in gardening, vegetable and flower production. Training usually took place inside the nursery and two solar powered greenhouses. However, since the targeted residents have a heightened vulnerability to the COVID-19 virus, the project team postponed all significant joint training activities to the autumn of 2020 and used a remote e-learning platform instead. The project team, together with volunteers, initiated individual trainings on green farming through mobile phones and the internet, while also assisting residents with accessing necessary products and medicines. The residents were also provided with personal protective equipment and instructed about safety measures to prevent the spread of viruses.

MEASURES TAKEN BY COUNTRY TEAMS



CURRENT AND POTENTIAL AREAS OF SGP INTERVENTION





PARTNERSHIPS

PARTNERS AND DONORS AT THE GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND COUNTRY LEVELS

During FY 2020, SGP made concrete efforts to galvanize new strategic partners and leverage resources for larger collective impact and upscaling.

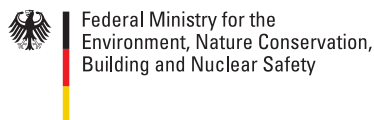
These efforts led to forging several new partnerships, including: with MAVA Foundation in the Mediterranean and West Africa; with the Japan Biodiversity Fund of the Convention on Biological Diversity for Community Development and Knowledge Management for Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS) Phase 3; and with the Government of Italy to support islands biodiversity and resilience. The new Innovation Grant Facility of the Adaptation Fund was also approved, and the SGP is collaborating with other teams at UNDP for its implementation. The SGP also entered into exciting partnerships with the private sector, including Microsoft's Project 15 to advance the use of internet-of-things technology to enhance environmental conservation.



Japan Biodiversity Fund



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The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Established in 1992, SGP's grantmaking in over 125 countries promotes community-based innovation, capacity development, and empowerment through sustainable development projects of local civil society organizations with special consideration for indigenous peoples, women, and youth. SGP has supported over 24,000 community-based projects on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable land management, conservation of international waters, and chemicals and waste management, while generating sustainable livelihoods.



The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, is a catalyst for action on the environment — and much more. Through its strategic investments, the GEF works with partners to tackle the planet's biggest environmental issues. Our funding also helps reduce poverty, strengthen governance and achieve greater equality between women and men. As such, we occupy a unique space in the global partnership for a more sustainable planet.



UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations. www.undp.org



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