SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2022)

MOLDOVA

COUNTRY REPORT CARD
FY 2017 - 2022

Country Programme Name	Moldova		
Year Started	2013		
Portfolio Profile	**GEF**	**Non-GEF**	**Total**
Number of projects	68	6	**74**
Grant amount committed	2,455,032	195,417	**2,650,449**
Project level co-financing in cash	2,922,220	35,830	**2,958,050**
Project level co-financing in kind	1,017,988	22,565	**1,040,553**
Total co-financing *			**4,194,020**

Source: SGP database as of July 2022
*** Total co-financing = Total project level co-financing (in cash and in kind) + Non-GEF grant amount committed**

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)							
Biodiversity	**1**	**1**	**5**	**2**	**3**	**2**	**14**
Climate Change	**-**	**1**	**3**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**10**
Land Degradation	**-**	**-**	**4**	**2**	**4**	**2**	**12**
Capacity Development	**1**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**5**
Chemicals and Waste	**-**	**-**	**-**	**3**	**1**	**2**	**6**
Total Projects Completed	**2**	**3**	**13**	**10**	**10**	**9**	**47**

Source: Reporting by Country Programme as part of Annual Monitoring Process (2016-2022)

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
** Kindly note figures in column "Total Value 2016-2022" have undergone comprehensive quality assurance that supports aggregation of results over time. This includes removal of duplicative data over time and/or inclusion of more results based on verification by SGP country teams.							
PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES							
Biodiversity							
Number of biodiversity projects completed	1	1	5	2	3	2	14
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	1	1	2	-	1	-	5
Hectares of PAs	326	208	16	-	4	-	554
Number of biodiversity based products sustainably produced	-	-	9	1	-	-	10
Number of significant species conserved	3	1	5	-	-	-	9
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	8	1	2	1	12
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	63	6	24	4	97
Climate Change							
Number of climate change projects completed	-	1	3	1	2	3	10
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	4
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects	-	-	-	-	37	-	37
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful	-	1	2	-	3	6	12

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
demonstrations or scaling up and replication							
Number of communities achieving energy access with locally adapted community solutions, with co-benefits estimated and valued	-	6	2	-	1	3	12
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	-	45	965	-	-	2,264	3,274
Breakdown of projects							
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	1	1	-	1	2	5
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	-	1	-	1	3	5
Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks projects	-	-	2	-	1	3	6
Land Degradation							
Number of land degradation projects completed	-	-	4	2	4	2	12
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	-	709	14	3,169	150	4,042
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	-	709	14	2,374	150	3,247
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	-	1,165	-	13	80	1,258
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	-	-	709	-	236	110	1,055
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	-	-	2	-	4	5	11

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
Sustainable Forest Management							
Hectares restored through improved forest management practices	-	-	55	-	-	-	55
Chemicals and Waste							
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	-	-	3	1	2	6
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	-	-	55,000	-	60,000	115,000
E-waste collected or recycled (kg)	-	-	-	45,406	70,000	-	115,406
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio							
Organic farming	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Development of alternatives to chemicals	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	1
Awareness raising and capacity development	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Capacity Development							
Number of capacity development projects completed	1	1	1	2	-	-	5
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	29	15	-	200	-	-	244
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	62	76	-	342	-	-	480

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GRANTMAKER PLUS							
CSO-Government Dialogue							
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	1	2	-	-	-	-	3
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	9	2	-	-	-	-	11
South-South Exchange							
Number of South-South exchanges supported	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gender							
Number of gender responsive completed projects	2	3	11	10	10	9	45
Number of completed projects led by women	-	2	6	8	6	5	27
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5
Youth							
Number of completed projects that included youth	2	3	11	7	6	6	35
Number of youth organizations	-	-	2	-	-	1	3
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	3
Persons with Disability							
Number of disabled persons organizations	-	-	1	1	-	1	3
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)							
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	2	1	-	1	-	4
Projects with policy influence	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	1	1	4	7	7	5	25

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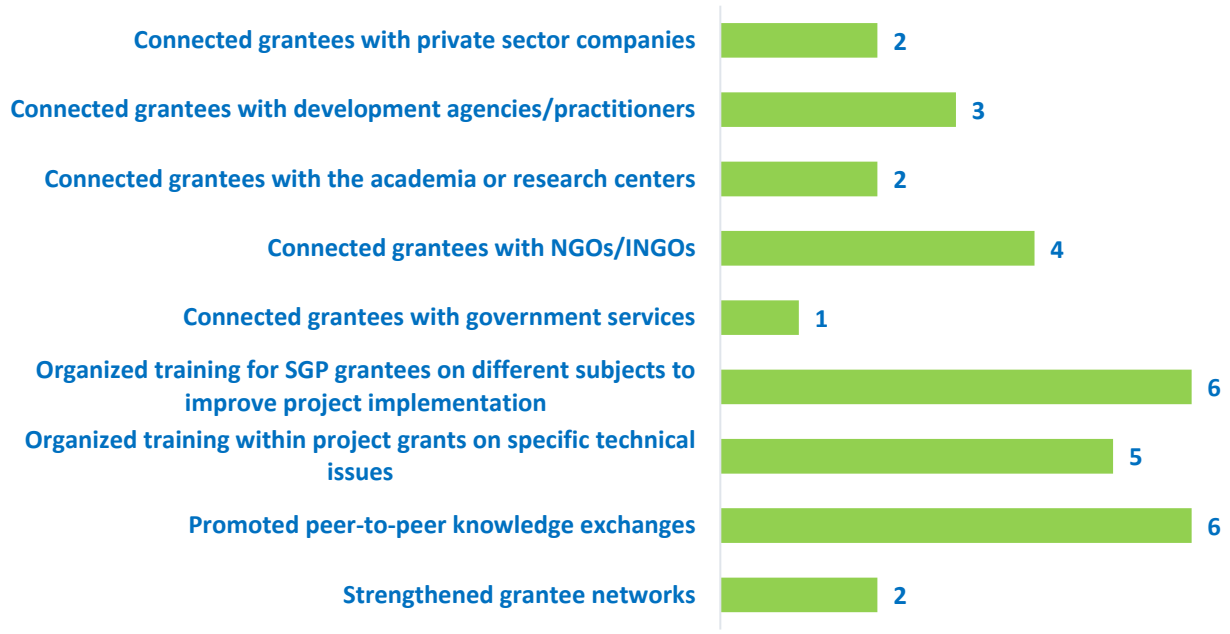
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS							
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Community-level trainings conducted	3	7	-	-	1	3	14
Number of projects monitored through field visits	4	12	11	8	10	8	53
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT							
National Steering Committee							
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	5	4	6	5	3	2	25
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	5	5	4	4	4	5	5

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

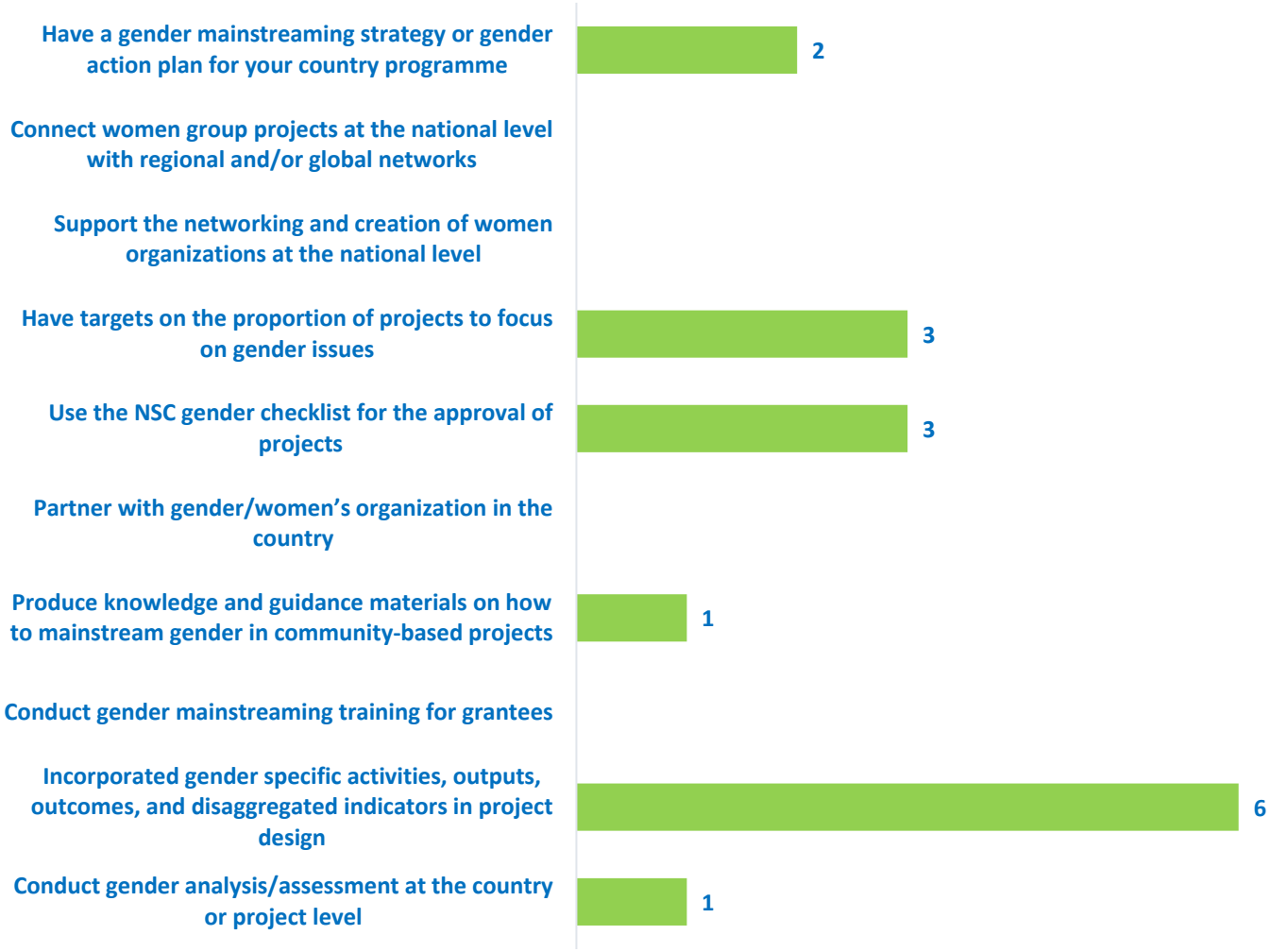
Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall aggregated SGP portfolio.

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Capacity Development Strategies
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



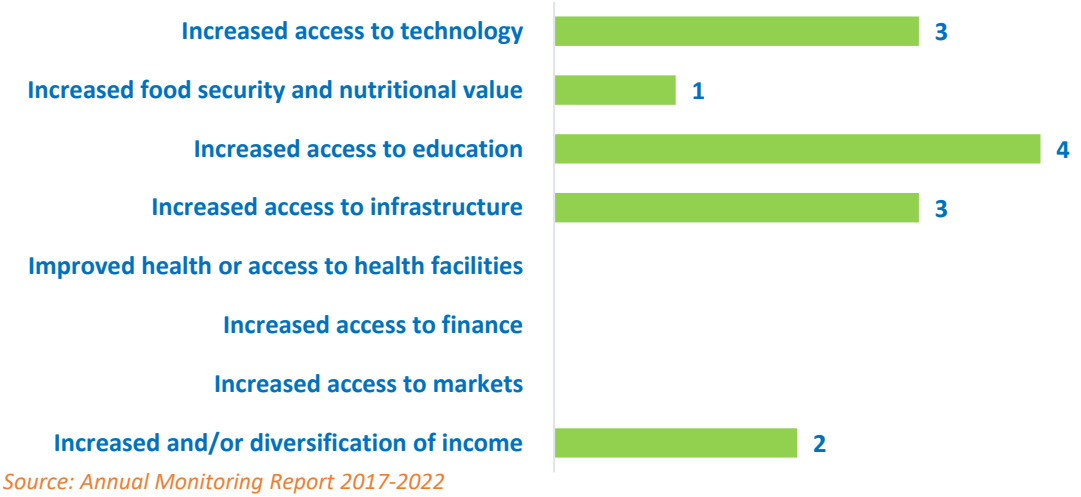
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



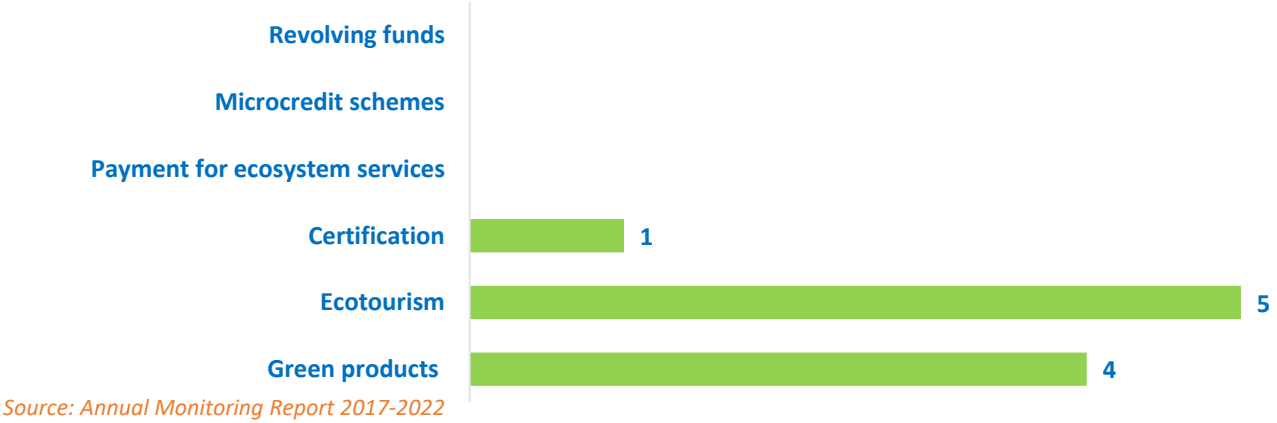
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Strategies to Improve Community Livelihoods and Quality of Life
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



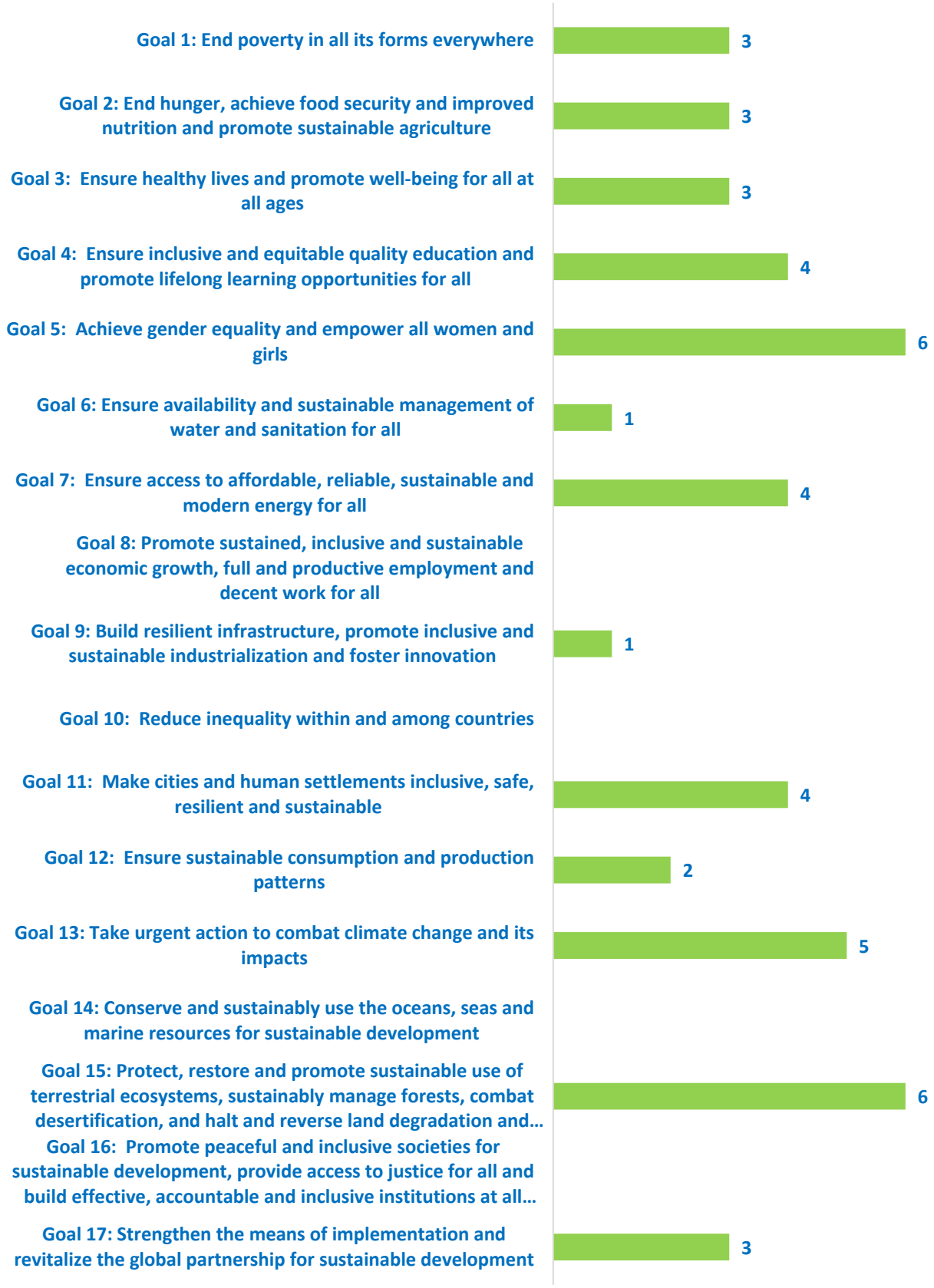
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Addressed Sustainable Development Goals
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

EVALUATIVE EVIDENCE

Independent Country Programme Evaluation: Moldova, 2021

- The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme, implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services with UNDP support, ensured the engagement of 56 environmental NGOs including support for their participation in policy dialogue platforms with the Government.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

SGP project in the Republic of **Moldova** addressed conservation of freshwater biodiversity in the *Dniester* river. Developed by a multi-actor working group, it has introduced measures to minimize anthropogenic sediment and pollution load to improve riverine habitat and increase the abundance of rare species of freshwater fish. Target results included the preparation of proposals to amend environmental legislation in the Republic of Moldova to: (i) improve the legal framework; (ii) monitor water quality and the state of aquatic biological resources; (iii) publish a guide on reproduction methods of rare fish species; (iv) develop a national aquaculture strategy; and (v) offer government subsidies to specialized companies and households to microchip fish under state protection. Using existing technologies for fish reproduction, the SGP project focused on practical techniques and local actions to breed the rare fish species in the *Dniester* River. In total, about 2 tons of juvenile fish were released into the river, comprising of 60% Tench (*Tinca Tinca,* sometimes referred to as the "doctor fish"), 15% European Catfish (*Silurus Glanis*), and 25% Zander (*Sander Lucioperca*). As bottom feeders, the Tench is often kept as an ornamental fish in ponds and waterways to keep them clean and healthy, while the Zander is known as a popular gamefish with anglers. The SGP project organized four training sessions on both banks of the *Dniester* with outputs including: (i) 142 local residents, local fishermen, and interested stakeholders trained in measures to conserve rare fish species; (ii) measures to provide the riverine population with both edible and economically important gamefish; and (iii) environmental legislation for freshwater fish species conservation introduced into public decision-making. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018).***

Chemical and Waste Management

In **Moldova**, SGP supported grantee, *AO Asociatia pentru Valorificarea Deseurilor*, in a project aimed at empowering and encouraging the community to adopt sustainable and green practices by designing a separate network for the collection and recycling of hazardous waste such as WEE and batteries. 60 institutions were selected and benefitted from this project, and 160 dumps, two for each beneficiary, were purchased to store electronic waste. A map of collection points was also developed to increase and facilitate the number of citizens informed about the service and it has reported 50,000 views. Through this project over 70tons of e-Waste were collected and CO2 emissions were reduced by 100.8 tons.

Eco-friendly courses were also delivered to enhance the knowledge and practices of students, teachers and librarians in the field of e-Waste management, a guide has been elaborated for project implementation and 6 editions of the magazine 'Waste Management' were published. The country also participated in activities during the Environment Day event in 2019 and 2020. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021).***

GRANTMAKER PLUS

Capacity Development

In **Moldova,** SGP supported a project to improve the performance of environmental information in the Republic of Moldova to comply with European standards. SGP Moldova worked with the *NGO AO Oikumena* to develop a public portal for environmental data, *spdm.oikumena.md*, that uses web-based, geographic

information system (GIS) technology for the collection and dissemination of data. It can be used by NGOs and other community-based organizations to collect environmental data following both international and regional (INSPIRE) standards. In 2016, training sessions were conducted in Ungheni, Chisinau, and Balti, introducing and presenting the theoretical concepts of GIS, the relevance of the portal to environmental NGOs, and how to use it, to improve GIS capabilities at the community level. *AO Oikumena* is connected with other NGOs to expand the user base and support future users of the portal. This system improves NGOs and CBOs' capabilities to collect, process, and distribute environmental data they gather during the implementation of their environmental protection initiatives. The data collected is checked and validated by a portal administrator and is free and accessible to all stakeholders. Results have been significant for local communities and their ability to participate in decision- making at the policy level. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017).***

CSO-Government Dialogue

In Guatemala, Jamaica, Haiti, Morocco, **Moldova**, Niger, Tanzania, Thailand, the dialogues were timed around global conventions and events such as UNFCCC and UNCCD COPs and aimed to help local communities, CSOs, indigenous people and other SGP constituents to meaningfully participate at the critical time as country positions were being developed. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017).***

South-South Exchange

In November 2021, SGP Belarus in cooperation with SGP teams in **Ukraine** and **Moldova** organized a two-day seminar in a hybrid form, sharing experience in youth participation in climate change mitigation. Young representatives of the NGOs in Belarus were invited to visit the eco-center which was built within an SGP project. The GEF/UNDP SGP, together with a team of experts, representatives of NGOs, businesses, and the state authorities prepared a number of presentations on SGP projects dedicated to youth, as well as a video on this topic. After the completion of the online part of the event, a quiz was conducted among the young participants for SGP project ideas involving young people in activities to tackle climate change. In total, 12 new ideas were received, among which the most notable ones were "Development of an online platform for green volunteers throughout the country", "Mobile school camp for planting trees", and "Youth teach each other". A few days after the seminar, the participants created a common group on Facebook to exchange experiences and project results, as well as for subsequent interaction. In the future, it is planned to hold such seminars twice a year and regularly organize travels to the participating countries to exchange experiences and create new project ideas. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

Social Inclusion – Youth

In **Moldova**, a project completed by the Alliance for Energy Efficiency and Renewables (Alianta pentru Eficienta Energetica si Regenerabile) focused on smart energy solutions in Cantemir, a small municipality with approximately 5,000 residents in south Moldova. Solar collectors were installed in two kindergartens, which improved the quality and accessibility of hot water production. 303 children now have access to hot water all day round. During the day, children are able to often wash their hands. As a result, children do not get sick as frequently, and this year's attendance rate was almost 100%. In addition, last year, high school students of Cantemir began to study a new course - Energy Management that aimed to teach the practical applications of energy efficiency measures and the use of renewable energy sources. In class, students learned how photovoltaic panels work and measured how much energy various models with various capacities generate. They also learned about the usage peculiarities of solar panels, such as how the panels' direct or indirect exposure to sunlight affects the amount of energy produced. Together with experts, they used various professional equipment and gained knowledge of certain technical aspects that were usually only studied by students at specialized colleges or technical faculties. Following the feedback from the Educational Department of the Cantemir region, this subject would be included in the curriculum of local schools to further promote energy efficiency and renewable energy sources (RES). ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

Social Inclusion – Persons with Disabilities

In **Moldova**, the selection criteria for households and social parameters helped the local coordinators to identify the families that were vulnerable, with low income or individuals with disabilities. SGP supported individuals with disabilities to participate in theoretical and practical courses on building solar panels at the best vocational school in Balti. Through which, the PWD beneficiaries socialized with the other beneficiaries, participated at all stages for building the solar panels. As final beneficiaries of solar technology, there were 3 people with disabilities who benefited. In households with at least one individual with disabilities, the solar energy utility was of great help to improve the economic situation of the household. Also, solar panels have been installed in social centers (such as the rehabilitation and social integration center *"Hope"*), Zorile village, Orhei district and within the social bathroom in Pirlita village and Falesti district. As a result, 70 elderly people, most of which with disabilities, benefitted from this support. The social bathrooms, especially, have been renovated, equipped with solar panels and handed over to the administrator of Pirlita village who committed to support the center, paying annually 30% of the incurred expenses. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018).***

Asociatia pentru Protectia si Restabilirea Echilibrului Ecologic "Pomul Vietii" led a SGP project in **Moldova** to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, to organize ecological lessons and to inform households on successful agricultural practices adapted to climate change. The objective of the community was to produce and use organic products in urban conditions, as well as to integrate the socially vulnerable groups and people with disabilities. The main idea of the project was to organize the production of organic fertilizer and use it for the year-round cultivation of organic products including onion, spinach, arugula, dill, parsley, lettuce, radish, and tomatoes. The grown products were to be used in the framework of a social project including people with disabilities in social activities, namely, people with mental disabilities in the preparation and delivery of meals to poor citizens. The implementation of the project helped reduce waste from the kitchen by 70% and enabled the vulnerable (poor and disabled) to have access to food products in good quality that are beneficial to health. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

All results are aggregated reflecting projects completed and are consistent with SGP results generated in past years.

With SGP's rolling modality, results reflect all ongoing operational phases during the indicated period. Please refer to the total projects completed on the first page for information in this regard.

The source of reported results is the annual monitoring process, which is part of the annual monitoring requirements for each country programme. Additionally, evaluative evidence sources have also been leveraged, if available for the country programme.

This results report benefits from extensive quality assurance. All information across all countries in the portfolio is harmonized, verified, and evidenced before being reported. Several layers of this quality assurance have been implemented in the generation of this report, and there are no result duplications across years. This point is important not only for the specific unit of measurement (i.e., indicator selected) but also for results aggregation across years in a given operational phase. Results reported across all countries have been treated uniformly to ensure overall standardization and methodological soundness.

Reported results include both direct and indirect global-environmental and socio-economic benefits. This is due to SGP's work in two key areas:

- **SGP works towards behavioral change at individual, organizational, and community levels.** Social determinants that shape human interaction with the environment play an important role, especially at the community level, as sustainability and the continuation of environmental gains often depend on them. These factors include positive shifts in knowledge, attitudes, practices, social and cultural norms, and conventions. Such interventions shape not only demand but also communication between community leaders and other influencers in promoting the adoption of environmentally friendly behaviors and practices. Often, SGP projects have ripple effects that go well beyond the direct scope of the project, emphasizing the importance of measuring indirect impact.
- **Encouraging Community Action for Environmental Change.** For many years, SGP has focused on promoting and supporting local community groups to bring about broader and sustainable environmental change. This approach is a key aspect of SGP's work and recognizes the power of motivated community groups to create significant impact and drive positive transformation. Community group action refers to informal gatherings of individuals and organizations in the community who share a common belief and purpose. It involves taking practical steps over time to address environmental and socioeconomic challenges and creating positive change. This grassroots-level approach relies on the active involvement and empowerment of the community, with the initial efforts acting as a catalyst for further mobilization. By encouraging self-governance and involving those most affected by the issues, community action can extend its influence to more people in the community, underscoring the importance of measuring indirect impact.