



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

MALDIVES



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Maldives		
Year Started	2010		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	104	19	123
Grant amount committed	3,070,548	584,939	3,655,487
Project level co-financing in cash	1,457,367	131,545	1,588,912
Project level co-financing in kind	1,015,871	60,777	1,076,648
Total co-financing *	3,250,498		
Source: SGP database as of 2023			
* 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 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)						
Biodiversity	2	2	3	-	1	8
Climate Change	-	2	1	1	1	5
Land Degradation	-	-	2	1	-	3
Chemicals and Waste	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total Projects Completed	2	4	6	2	3	17

Source: Reporting by Country Programme as part of Annual Monitoring Process (2016-2023)

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
** Kindly note the total values 2016-2023 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	2	2	-	-	3	-	1	8
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	2	-	-	-	1	-	1	4
Hectares of PAs	1	-	-	-	2	-	20	23
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Hectares of ICCAs	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	4
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	-	-	-	-	1	-	7	8
Number of significant species conserved	1	-	-	-	1	-	9	11
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	2	-	-	-	2	-	1	5
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	3	-	-	-	2	-	2	7
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	-	2	-	-	1	1	1	5
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
Harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	25
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio								
Sustainable pesticide management	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	1
Organic farming	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	1
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	2
Development of alternatives to chemicals	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	2	1	1	12	8	15	39
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	36	80	14	22	15	29	196
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	-	-	-	-	6	2	3	11
Number of completed projects led by women	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	6
Indigenous Peoples								
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

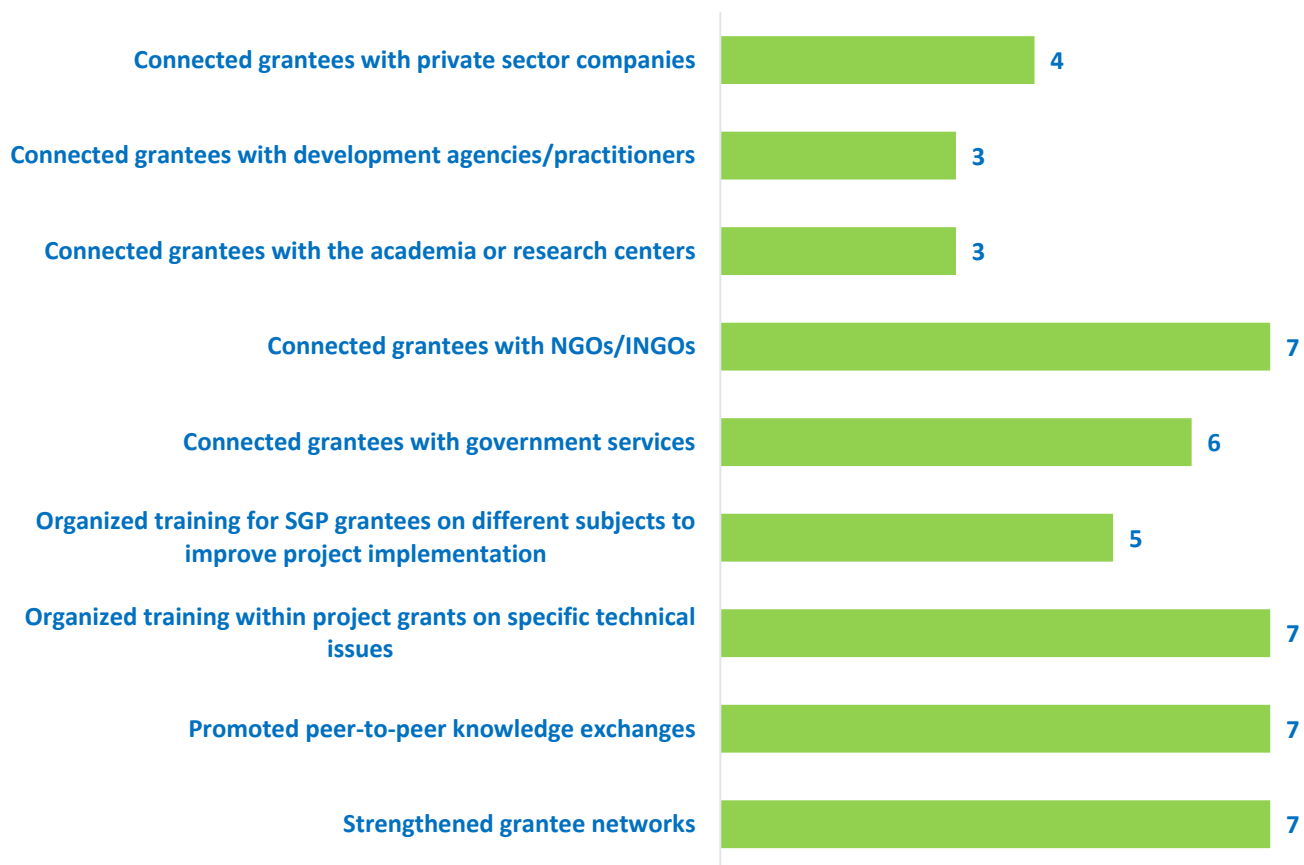
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Ways to encourage IP projects								
Proposals accepted in local languages (yes/no)	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
Proposals accepted using participatory video (yes/no)	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	1
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	1
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	-	-	-	-	6	2	3	11
Number of youth organizations	-	-	-	-	4	15	1	20
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Persons with Disability								
Number of disabled persons organizations	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Projects with policy influence	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	1	1	-	-	4	2	3	11
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	2	2	-	-	3	4	3	14
Community-level trainings conducted	2	2	-	-	1	2	6	13
Number of projects monitored through field visits	17	25	7	16	-	8	19	92

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	5	7	3	8	6	4	4	37
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	6	6	7	7	8	9	7	7

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 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)



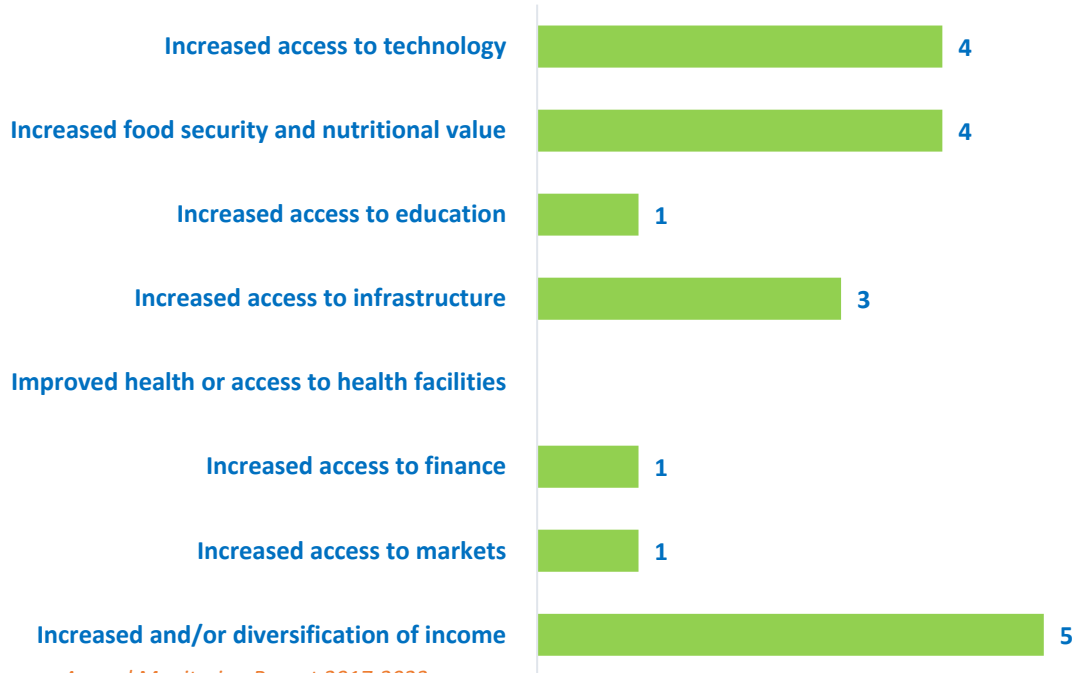
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



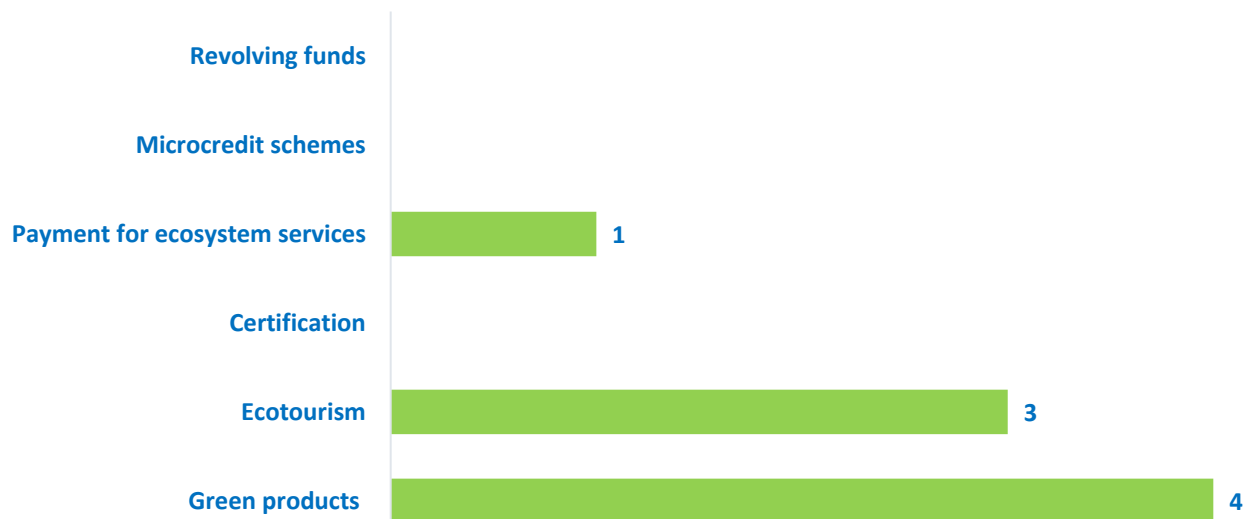
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Strategies to Improve Community Livelihoods and Quality of Life
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



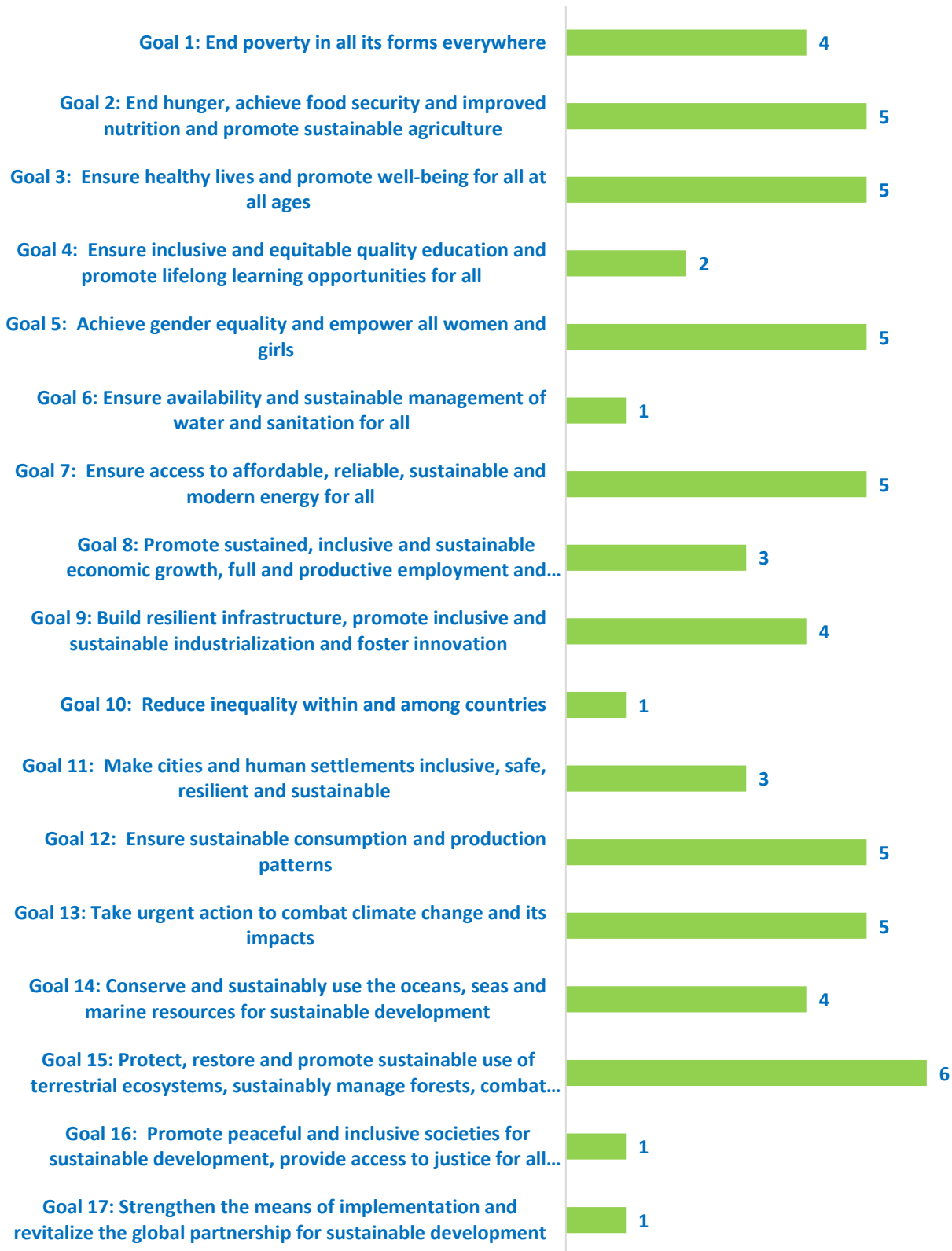
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Addressed Sustainable Development Goals
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Sustainable Land Management

In **Maldives**, the SGP supported the *FAAM Foundation* to promote alternative farming methods to commercial and fertilizer driven farming practices. The island of Kihaadhoo is one of the most agriculturally productive islands in Baa Atoll. However, like elsewhere in the Maldives, farmers are heavily reliant on chemical inputs which has led to a number of issues including the contamination of the freshwater lens, soil degradation etc. FAAM Foundation worked to minimize the use of harmful chemical fertilizers in agriculture through the introduction of alternative farming methods such as hydroponics and the application of organic input. This was primarily done through training and demonstration activities including training and exposure visits for awareness raising and capacity building; establishment of model farms using hydroponics and organic inputs as well as experimenting with the use of kitchen waste to make compost. Specifically, 15 hydroponic systems were designed, developed, and installed; beneficiaries completed a 7-day hydroponic training workshop; compost barrels were placed in the waste management center to reduce the amount of food waste its conversion to fertilizer for farmer needs, and agricultural inputs such as seeds were provided to 30 farmers on the island. While the project targeted the entire population of Kihaadhoo, a special priority was given to female farmers as a way of recognizing and overcoming some of the challenges that limit women from growing their subsistence agricultural activities into commercial farming. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021)**

Chemicals and Waste

In **Maldives**, a women-led project completed by *Maldives Authentic Crafts Cooperative Society* aimed to conserve the environment by reducing the usage of single-use plastic bags and advocating for their banning through a pilot initiative. The project focused on raising awareness about the harmful impacts of single-use plastics and introducing potential alternatives to these bags. One of the key achievements of the project was its direct contribution to policy change on single-use plastics through effective advocacy and knowledge sharing. As a representative in the government's single-use plastic phase-out committee, the project actively participated in the development of a comprehensive phase-out plan, leading to the banning of the import, production, and sale of 10 single-use plastic items and the implementation of levies on single-use plastic shopping bags. The implementation of the phase-out plan resulted in a significant reduction of plastic pollution in the country, with reports indicating that the number of plastic bags imported had halved within 2022 compared to the previous year.

As a result of the project, participants and the recipient communities increased awareness about single-use plastics. Over 3,000 reusable cloth bags were distributed to households and shops. Free data and great discounts were provided to shoppers who used reusable bags after registering with the *Plastic Noon Gotheh Rewards App*. Through the provision of reusable bags and incentivizing their use, at least 5,000 plastic shopping bags were removed. Moreover, the project empowered women by providing them with paid opportunities to produce reusable cloth bags, directly benefiting at least 20 women. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

South-South Exchange

In 2016, a team of 60 participants from *India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Timor-Leste*, convened in Kathmandu, Nepal for a workshop, funded by World Health Organization to learn from the SGP's experience on health waste management practices. Further uptake of HECAF's successfully used techniques and *modus operandi* is expected by professionals from visiting countries. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Community led initiatives such as the GEF small grant programme provides important value addition to all national priorities and help in the attainment of internationally agreed targets. The table below outlines the relevant conventions and national plans/programmes that are pertinent to this CPS.

List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes:

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	09 – 11 – 1992
Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal	1992
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	2016 - 2025
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity	2003
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	01. 07. 2019
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	09 – 11 - 1992
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	05 – 11 – 2001 (1 st), 2011 (2 nd)
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	n/a
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	2007
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	2016
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	03 – 09 - 2002
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	03 – 09 - 2002
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	17 – 10 – 2006
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	2017
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	n/a
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	2017
Others relevant conventions	
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	2002
CITES	2012
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	n/a
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	n/a
Maldives Energy Strategy	2010
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	January 2009
GEF-6 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	Not conducted
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies	1995

National Laws/Regulations/Policies	
Strategic Action Plan of the Government of Maldives	2019 – 2023
Environmental Protection and Preservation Act	1993
Uninhabited islands act	1998
Tourism Act	1999
The Land Law	2002
Ozone Layer Protection Act	2015
Disaster Management Law	2015
Gender Equality Law	2016
Regulation on protection and conservation of the environment in the tourism industry	2006
Uprooting of Trees Regulation	2007
National Waste Management Strategy	2008
Environment Liability Regulation	2011
Plant Protection Act	2011
Hanifaru Management Regulation	2012
Dewatering regulation	2013
National Waste Management Policy	2015
Maldives Energy Policy and Strategy	2015
Regulation on Environmental Impact Assessment	2012
Regulation on Land Reclamation and Dredging	2013
Migratory Birds Regulation	2014
Regulation to control import of bird species as pets	2015
Addu City Protected Area Regulation	2018
Fuvahmulah City Protected Area Regulation	2018
The Law on the Maldives Fisheries, Plant Protection Act	2010
Coral and Sand Mining Regulation	1993

UNDP-implemented Small Grants Programme is delivering integrated results at the country level supporting local level capacities aligned with multiple Multilateral Environmental Conventions. This includes support to work for CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) and National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA), UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP), and localization of Sustainable Development Goals, amongst many others.

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF COUNTRY REPORT

- Results aggregations over time are only for completed projects.
- 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 a specific unit of measurement (i.e., indicator selected) but also for results aggregation across years in a given operational phase. 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 behavioural 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 behaviours 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.