



**SGP** The GEF  
Small Grants  
Programme



# SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

---

## LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC



# COUNTRY REPORT CARD

## FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Lao People's Democratic Republic		
Year Started	2009		
	<b>GEF</b>	<b>Non-GEF</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of projects	173	24	197
Grant amount committed	5,871,726	694,218	6,565,944
Project level co-financing in cash	989,562	15,710	1,005,272
Project level co-financing in kind	946,264	72,230	1,018,494
Total co-financing *	2,717,983		
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 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023
<b>Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)</b>								
Biodiversity	1	3	4	10	-	11	3	32
Climate Change	3	3	7	2	-	6	2	23
Land Degradation	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	4
Chemicals and Waste	-	1	2	7	2	1	4	17
<b>Total Projects Completed</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>76</b>

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.								
<b>PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES</b>								
<b>Biodiversity</b>								
Number of biodiversity projects completed	1	3	4	10	-	11	3	32
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	-	1	2	-	-	2	5
Hectares of PAs	-	-	110,905	150	-	-	95	111,150
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	-	-	2	-	7	-	1	10
Number of significant species conserved	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	110,905	-	24	-	-	110,929
<b>Climate Change</b>								
Number of climate change projects completed	3	3	7	2	-	6	2	23
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	-	4
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	127	127

	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 **
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	3
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	-	-	15	-	671	2	-	688
<b>Breakdown of projects</b>								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	1	1	-	1	2	-	5
Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks projects	-	1	1	-	-	4	-	6
<b>Land Degradation</b>								
Number of land degradation projects completed	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	4
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	-	1	-	2	1	251	255
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	-	3	-	-	1	251	255
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	-	400	-	-	20	30	450
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful	-	-	1	-	-	-	44	45

	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 **
demonstrations of agro-ecological practices								
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	3
<b>Sustainable Forest Management</b>								
Hectares restored through improved forest management practices	-	-	400	-	-	-	95	495
<b>Chemicals and Waste</b>								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	1	2	7	2	1	4	17
Pesticides properly disposed (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	240	240
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,280	8,280
Harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	40	40
<b>Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio</b>								
Sustainable pesticide management	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Organic farming	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Development of alternatives to chemicals	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	3

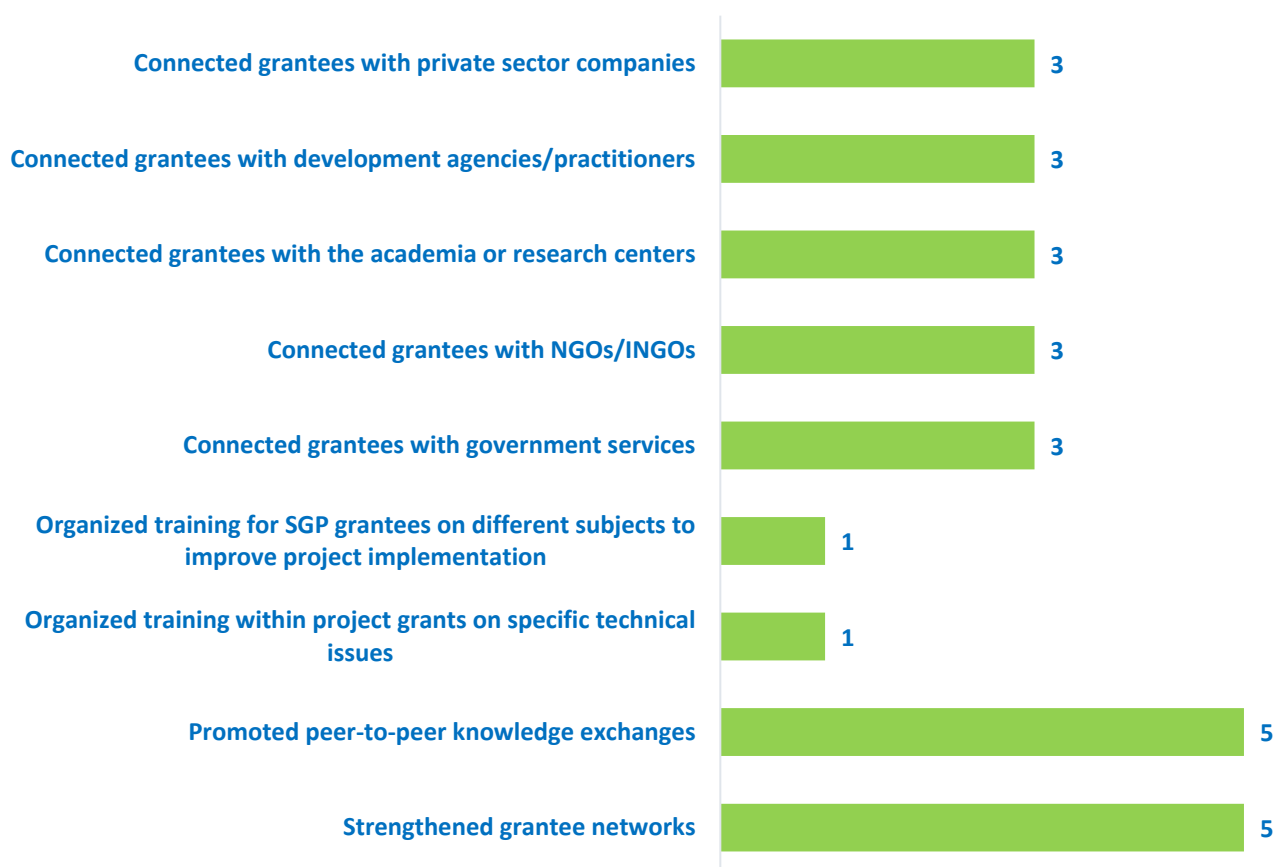
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
<b>GRANTMAKER PLUS</b>								
<b>CSO-Government Dialogue</b>								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	5
<b>Gender</b>								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	3	4	7	2	3	19	11	49
Number of completed projects led by women	-	-	3	2	3	8	5	21
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b>								
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	3
<b>Ways to encourage IP projects</b>								
Proposals accepted in local languages (yes/no)	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	2
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	-	4
<b>Youth</b>								
Number of completed projects that included youth	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Number of youth organizations	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
<b>BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)</b>								
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	-	-	7	-	15	-	11	33

	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 **
<b>PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS</b>								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Community-level trainings conducted	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Number of projects monitored through field visits	26	20	15	11	11	6	22	111
<b>PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT</b>								
<b>National Steering Committee</b>								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	1	2	-	1	2	3	3	12
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	5	4	-	6	5	2	4	4

## 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.

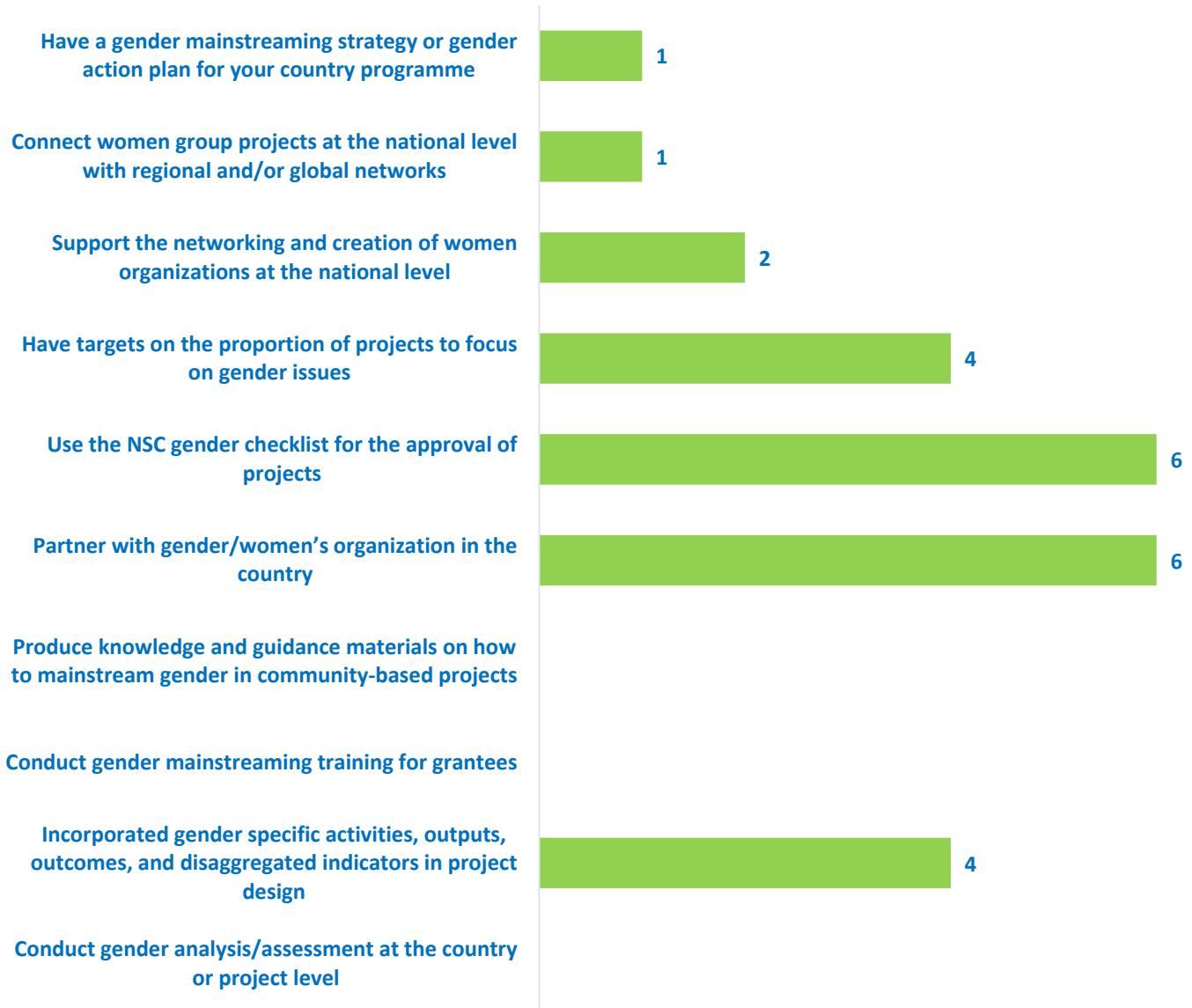
### Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Capacity Development Strategies (Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

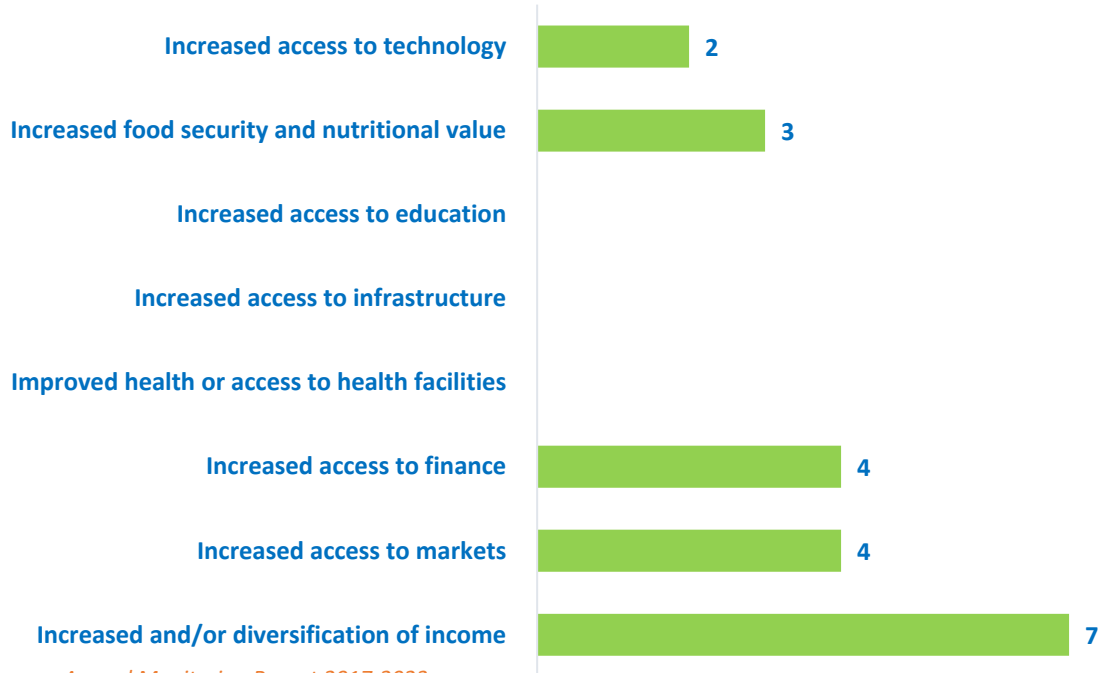


**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies  
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



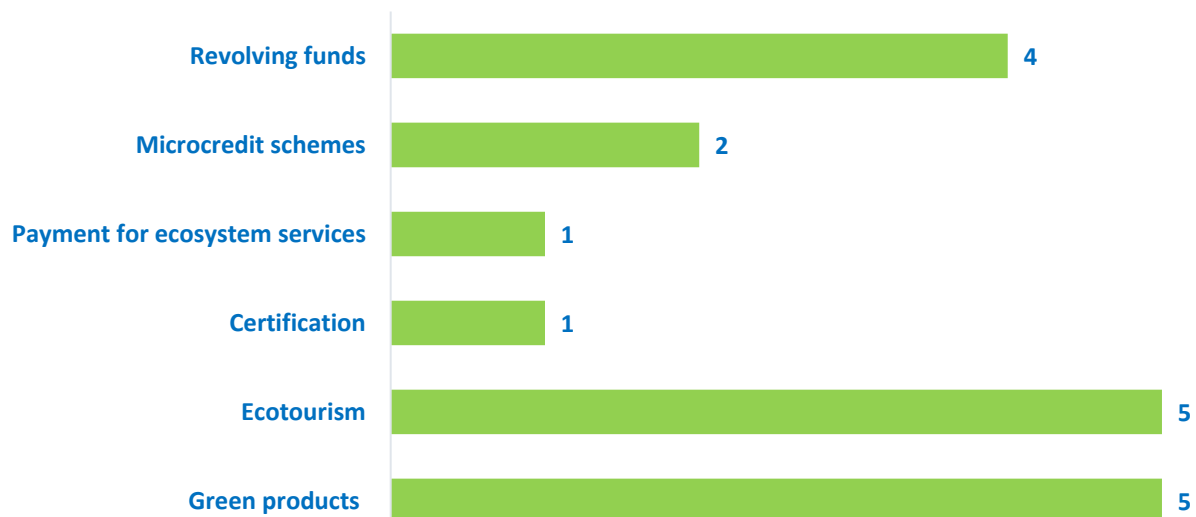
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



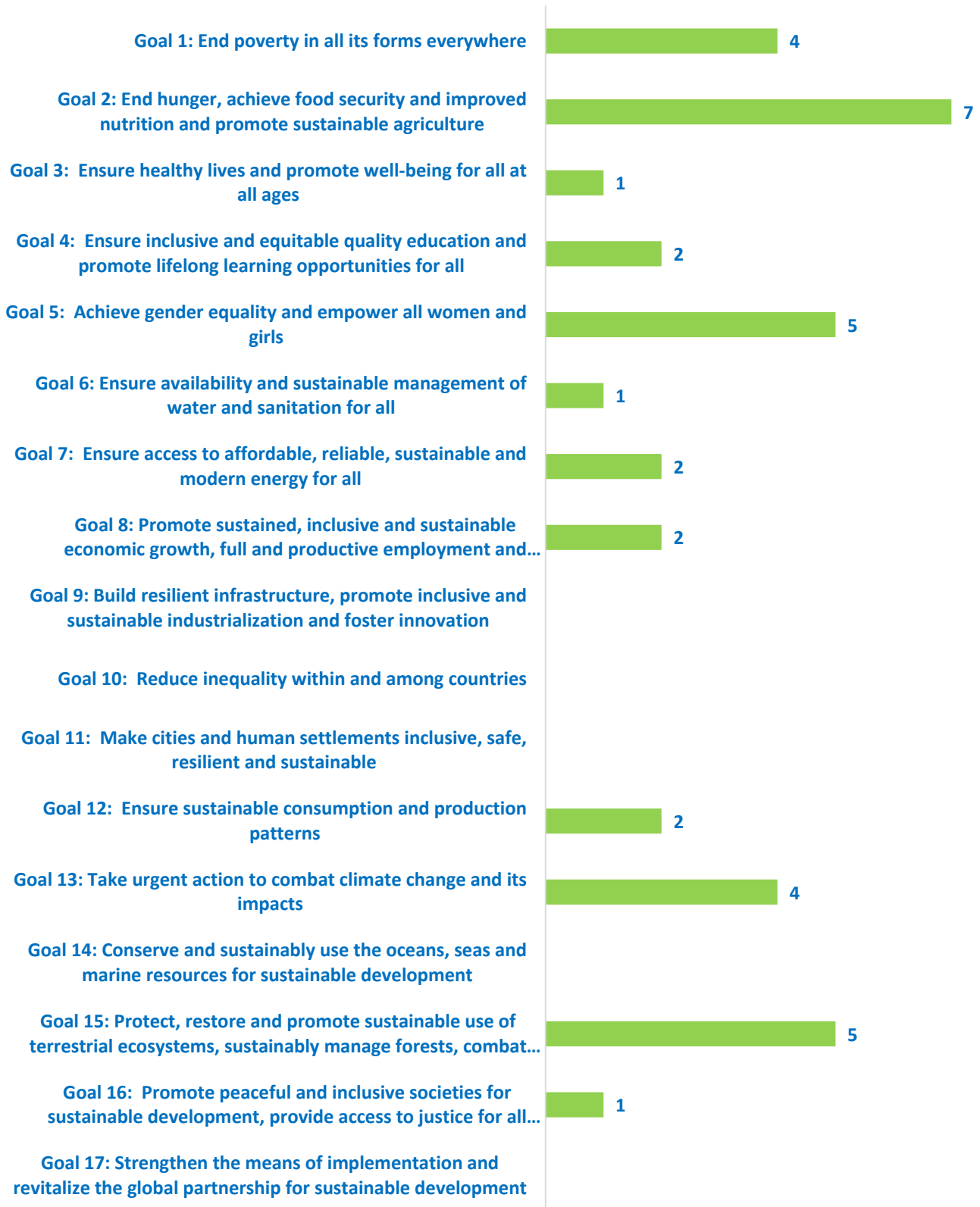
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**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

### Biodiversity

In **Laos**, SGP supported grantee *Association for Preservation for Resources Nature Environment and the Development of Community* in the conservation of the ecosystem of the Nam Ngum Headstream Forest. Nam Ngum headstream forest is a branch of the Mekong River, known as a national protected area with abundant of natural resources and suits for ecotourism destination. Recently, the natural resources of this have declined due to intense animal hunting, collection of non-timber forest products and burn practices. Therefore, the project aimed to help the target community to promote ecotourism, raise awareness and promote livelihood of the community through ecosystem conservation.

Training on forest protection was provided to 255 households and workshops on data collection benefited 5 participants who even took part in practical learning on the field. Two community forest conservation zones were also established in Phousan village. Furthermore, a 2.5-day workshop was held on how to use and manage NTFPs properly with the participation of 197 people. After the workshop, the project team continued to discuss with the villagers to draft the rules and to identify the NTFPs using in the area. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)**

### 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

Laos has ratified several international conventions and treaties then incorporated them into action plans of responsible ministries and across development sectors in relevance to their mandates for working with official development assistance and development agency to ascertain the path toward SDGs. The table below shows the ratified conventions, treaties and documents.

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

International conventions	Date of ratification
Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks.	Date of ratification / completion.
GEF -7 national dialogues.	12-14 February 2019.
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA).	2014.
Minamata Convention on Mercury.	Ratified on 25 July 2014.
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS).	Entered into force on 12 October 2014. Accession on 26 Sep 2012.
UNFCCC National Communications (1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> ).	1 <sup>st</sup> – March 2003; 2 <sup>nd</sup> – December 2008. 3 <sup>rd</sup> – March 2014.
Strategic Action Program (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies [1].	2010.
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF).	Joined in 2007.
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).	2006.
UNCCD National Action Program (NAP).	May 2006.
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA).	April 2005.
GEF-6 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE).	n/a.
The ASEAN Center for Biodiversity.	2005.
Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the CBD.	2004.
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).	Signed on 23 May 2001; Ratified on 27 May 2004.
Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC.	2003.
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).	Ratified on 6 March 2002. Entered into force on 6 June 2002.
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).	November 2004.

Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.	1998.
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).	Ratified in 1996.
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).	Ratified in 1995.
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA).	Ratified on 5 January 1995.
World Heritage Convention (WHC).	Ratified by the Government in 1987.
ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (1985)	Ratified in 1985
Ramsar Convention.	Ratified in 1982.
Laos plans to establish a National Committee for Chemicals to implement directives, strategic plans, policies and regulations relating to chemicals activities.	2016 plan and will be established in 2017.
Laos Vision 2030 and Medium-Term National Development Strategy 2025.	2016.
Draft Law on Chemicals.	July 2016 and will be approved by NA in December 2016.
8 <sup>th</sup> National Socio-Economic Development Plans 2016-2020.	2016.
National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Action Plan 2010 (NBSAP).	Endorsed in 2004/ and second NBSAP is under reviewing in 2016.
The National Strategy for Traditional Medicine.	2012-2015.
Decree for Protected Areas.	2015.
NAMA for the Renewable Energy Sector of Laos.	2015.
Biotechnology Safety Law.	2014.
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP).	March 2010; January 2014.

National Disaster Management Plan 2012-2015.	2011.
Master Plan on Land Use and Management.	Endorsed in 2011.
7 <sup>th</sup> National Socio-Economic Development Plans 2011-2015.	2010.
NSCC was approved by the Government of Laos.	March 2010.
National Climate Change Strategy 2010 and NAPA 2009.	2009, 2010.
Renewable Energy Strategy to 2025.	Endorsed in 2010.
Action Plan 2010 Strategy on Climate Change of Laos and National Adaptation Program of Action 2009.	Endorsed in 2009.
National Steering Committee on Climate Change (NSCCC) and the Technical Working Groups (TWG).	Established in 2008.
Forest law.	24 December 2007.
Aquatic Animal and Wildlife Law of 2007.	Endorsed in 2007.
National Environmental Strategy to 2020 and Environment Action Plan 2006-2010.	Endorsed in 2006.
Forestry Strategy to 2020.	2005.
Ecotourism Strategy and Action Plan 2005-2010.	Endorsed in 2005.
Long-Term Strategy of Socio-Economic Development to the year 2020.	Endorsed in 2005.
National Strategic Plan for Disaster Risk Management 2003.	2003.
Land law.	Amended in 2003.
Environmental Protection Law.	26 April 1999.
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).	Acceded in 1996.
Law on water and water resources.	Endorsed in 1996.
National Biodiversity Conservation System (NCBAs).	Established in 1989.

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.