SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

ARMENIA

COUNTRY REPORT CARD
FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	**Armenia**		
Year Started	2009		
	GEF	**Non-GEF**	**Total**
Number of projects	110	10	**120**
Grant amount committed	4,714,000	400,000	**5,114,000**
Project level co-financing in cash	4,919,344	83,190	**5,002,534**
Project level co-financing in kind	1,726,529	129,034	**1,855,563**
Total co-financing *	**7,258,098**		

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
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)								
Biodiversity	-	-	1	1	5	2	1	10
Climate Change	1	1	1	4	3	4	-	14
Land Degradation	-	5	4	2	1	-	-	12
Capacity Development	-	-	1	1	1	3	1	7
Chemicals and Waste	-	-	1	3	1	-	1	6
Total Projects Completed	1	6	8	11	11	9	3	49

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	-	-	1	1	5	2	1	10
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	-	-	1	2	2	1	6
Hectares of PAs	-	-	-	1,200	2,587	2	4,392	8,181
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	-	-	5	5	2	-	-	12
Number of significant species conserved	-	-	3	6	4	24	4	41
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	1	1	2	1	1	6
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	6	1,200	245	722	1,000	3,173
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	1	1	1	4	3	4	-	14
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	6
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects	-	670	1	-	-	-	-	671

	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	1	2	4	4	4	-	16
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	-	427	24	47	747	5,815	-	7,060
Breakdown of projects								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	1	1	3	2	3	-	10
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	2	1	4	1	3	-	11
Sustainable transport projects	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	3
Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks projects	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	4
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	-	5	4	2	1	-	-	12
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	-	11,131	4,424	820	-	-	16,375
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	8,054	11,131	4,424	1,101	-	-	24,710
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	730	9,020	3,140	210	-	-	13,100
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	-	66	98	976	9	-	-	1,149

	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 farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	-	5	34	3	3	-	-	45
Chemicals and Waste								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	-	1	3	1	-	1	6
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	-	-	190,000	800	-	20,000	210,800
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	-	-	4	8	-	-	3	15
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	Yes	-	Yes	3
Capacity Development								
Number of capacity development projects completed	-	-	1	1	1	3	1	7
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	-	-	10	17	19	-	7	53
Number of community-based organizations with strengthened capacities	-	-	-	9	34	-	-	43
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	-	-	10	325	372	-	605	1,312

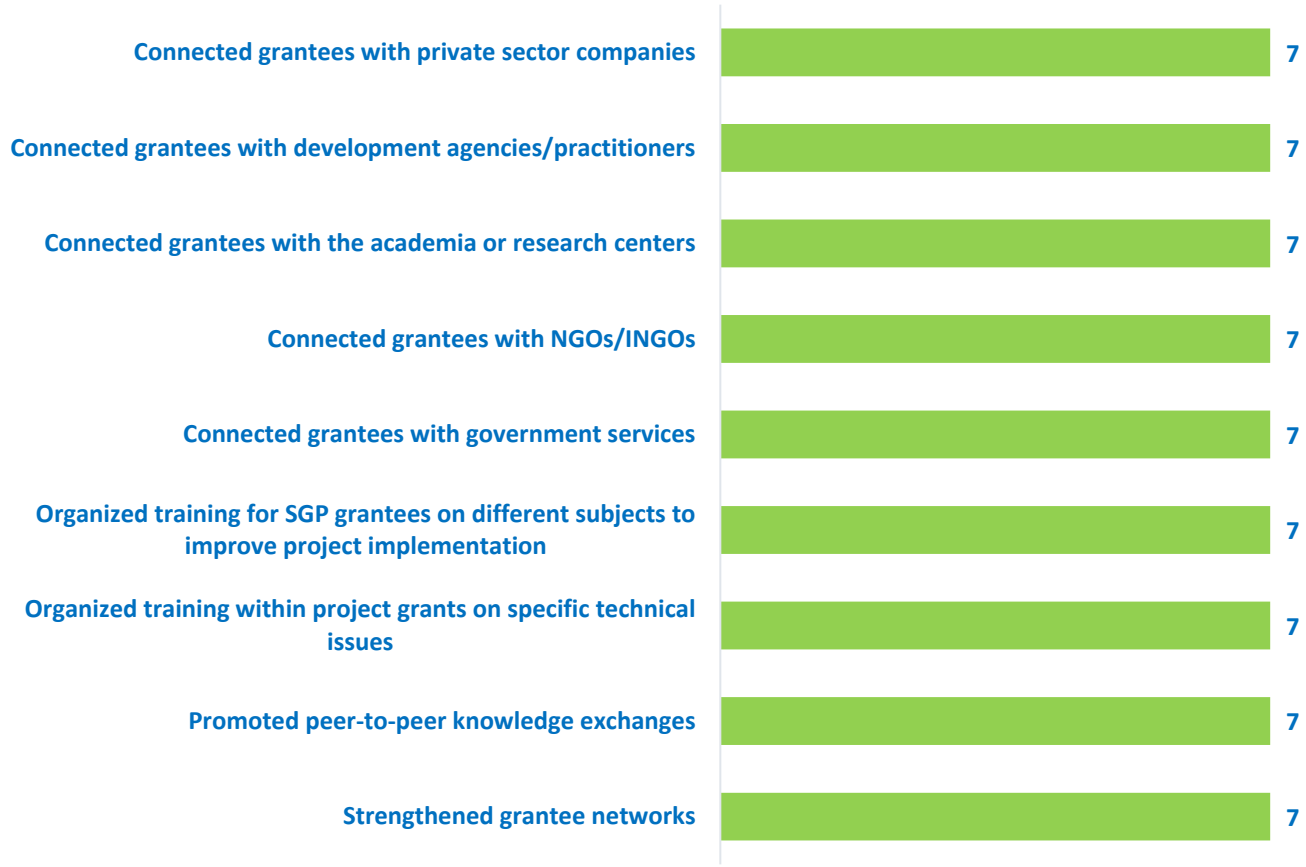
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	**20**	**-**	**1**	**8**	**27**	**8**	**4**	**68**
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	**211**	**-**	**10**	**15**	**75**	**60**	**150**	**521**
South-South Exchange								
Number of South-South exchanges supported	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2**
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	**-**	**6**	**9**	**11**	**11**	**7**	**3**	**47**
Number of completed projects led by women	**-**	**-**	**5**	**6**	**5**	**6**	**2**	**24**
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**Yes**	**7**
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	**-**	**2**	**9**	**6**	**5**	**5**	**2**	**29**
Number of youth organizations	**-**	**4**	**-**	**6**	**5**	**5**	**-**	**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**	**3**	**4**	**2**	**6**	**2**	**5**	**24**

	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 **
Projects with policy influence	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**4**	**2**	**2**	**14**
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	**-**	**6**	**8**	**7**	**7**	**8**	**1**	**37**
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	**29**	**16**	**29**	**6**	**14**	**77**	**9**	**180**
Community-level trainings conducted	**37**	**30**	**46**	**39**	**72**	**248**	**49**	**521**
Number of projects monitored through field visits	**19**	**23**	**20**	**19**	**17**	**23**	**16**	**137**
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	**2**	**2**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**2**	**13**
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	**9**	**9**	**8**	**10**	**11**	**10**	**8**	**9**

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)

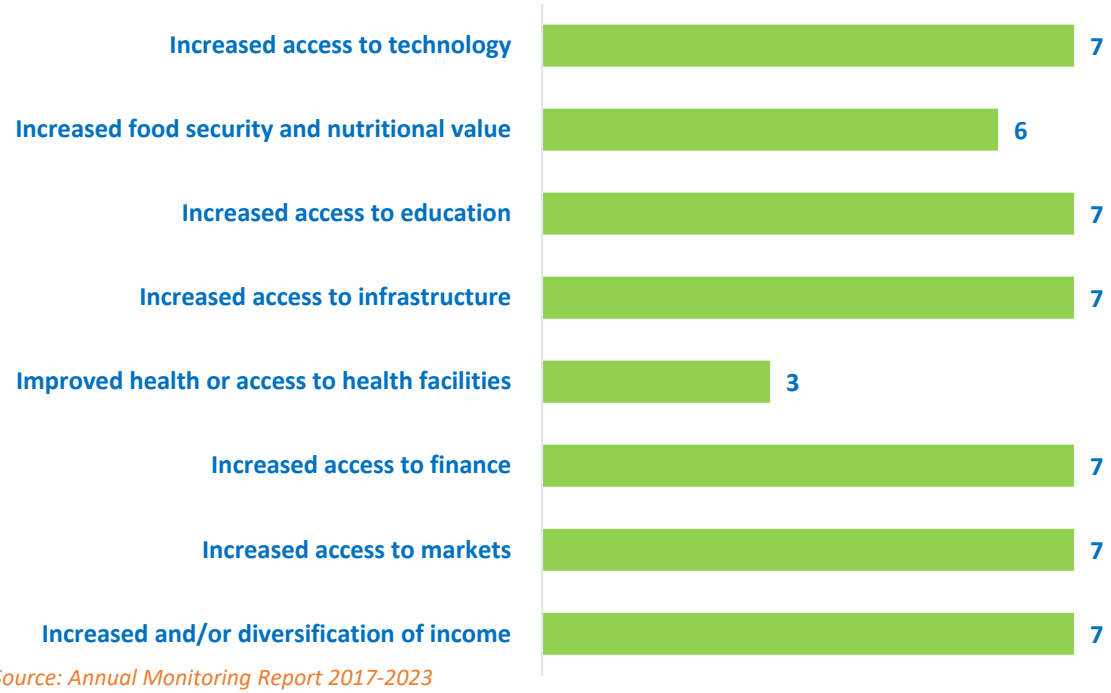


Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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

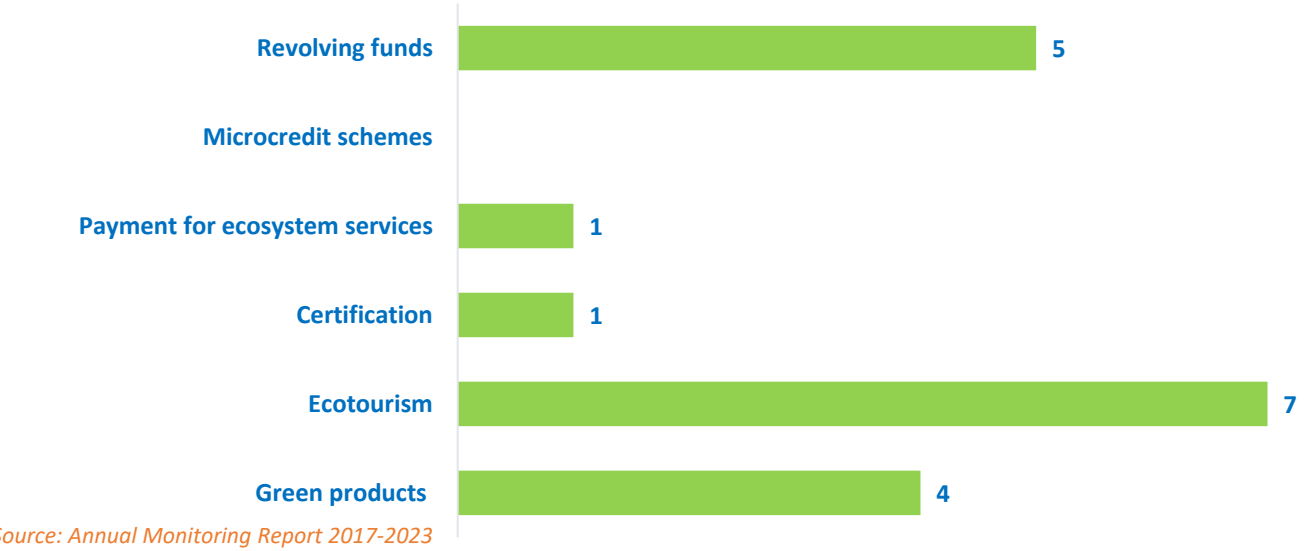
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



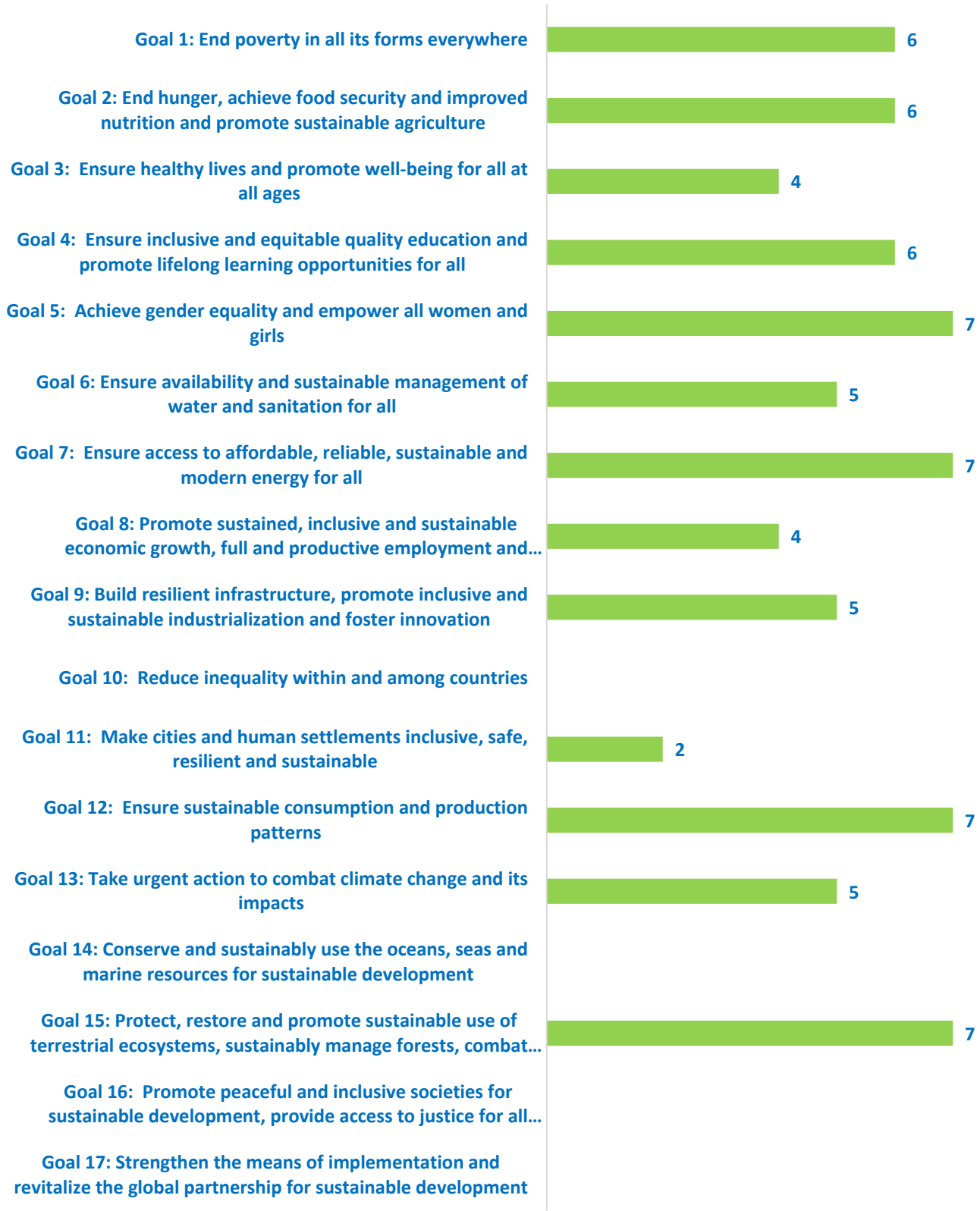
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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

EVALUATIVE EVIDENCE

UNDP **Independent Country Programme Evaluation: Armenia, 2019**

- UNDP has successfully managed the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) for Armenia, through which it has funded a range of community-based initiatives addressing key environmental priorities and targeting marginalized communities. This work has resulted in the promotion of a number of innovative approaches and technologies that address key environmental problems in the country.
- The grants provided by the GEF SGP have addressed key country priorities related to the environment with a focus on marginalized and underserved communities and testing innovative approaches and technologies (such as greenhouses, solar panels, intensive orchards).
- According to estimates by the CO, at least 10,000 households have directly benefited from SGP initiatives and over 1,000 people have received permanent or temporary employment in more than 70 rural communities. It should also be noted that SGP activities have been complementary and well-coordinated with the activities of other projects in the CO's environmental and inclusive growth clusters.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

In **Armenia**, *Green Shield* completed a project supporting the conservation of migration corridors for large mammals and biodiversity species of national and global significance within the breathtaking landscape of the *Lesser Caucasus* Eco-corridor designated. The project introduced a community-oriented form of conservation. By developing ecotourism infrastructure, the project attracted tourists and generated revenue for the local population. The establishment of a mobile tourist center equipped with solar systems, a campsite, horse riding routes, a community eco-center, and other amenities transformed *Azatek* into an attractive eco-tourism destination. Additionally, the project supported a women-led B&B operation, fostering a culture of sustainable entrepreneurship and improving the socio-economic conditions of the community. To protect the region from illegal activities, the project installed trap cameras for monitoring illegal poaching and logging activities. This measure not only helped gather valuable biodiversity data but also acted as a deterrent to potential offenders, ensuring the safety and preservation of wildlife and natural resources. The installation of a 1.7 km-long street lighting system with 22 LED lamps was implemented. The well-lit streets increased the security and comfort levels for both tourists and residents, encouraging more visitors to explore the area and boosting the local economy further.

The projects enabled the sustainable management of about 1,000 ha of communal pastures and grazelands, thus safeguarding crucial habitats for endangered species. Moreover, an additional 4,392 ha within the eco-corridor benefited from the project's conservation efforts. The creation of additional temporary and permanent jobs for 18 community members injected a much-needed economic stimulus while enhancing the livelihoods of 527 community members (259 women and 268 men). ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)***

Climate Change

In **Armenia**, SGP sustainable transport project promoted alternative emission-free transportation with electric and regular bikes, while raising awareness of climate change. Seventeen bikes were made available for testing and renting for people representing different social groups in the capital Yerevan and in two regions. Four stationary and mobile solar powered bike charging and renting stations are operational offering a viable alternative to motorized transport, reducing traffic jams and greenhouse gases emissions. The stationary stations are located at Yerevan Zoo, and in the educational complex in the public park. The project was accompanied by an extensive awareness campaign with participation of over 500 youth and schoolchildren. Seven regular bikes were provided to disadvantaged

communities in the regions and the project helped regional stakeholders to develop business models for tourism development using non- motorized transportation. Several companies in the capital involved in tourism and delivery services tested the possibility of using non-motorized transportation. As a result of the pilot, several banks and insurance companies expressed interest in introducing a financing scheme to scale up the use of e-bikes, and advanced negotiations are underway. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)***

Sustainable Land Management

In **Armenia**, small plot farming is considered the main source of income for the vulnerable population in Spitak. Application of traditional farming practices, cultivation of crops with low productivity rates, as well as outdated and damaged irrigation systems resulted in diminished household income, increased migration and thus more abandoned farmlands. Lack of knowledge on modern climate resilient agricultural approaches and techniques made farming difficult and unsustainable. To address these issues, a farmers' training and production center was established by the *Young Men's Christian Association of Spitak* to introduce and promote innovative climate-resilient crop-farming practices through educational and practical training of youths. Techniques such as intensive orchard cultivation, PV-powered water- efficient irrigation and efficient greenhouse systems, cold storage and other agroecological approaches and proven practical techniques were demonstrated in the center. This center is now serving as a knowledge hub for local farmers, especially youths, to learn and implement climate-smart solutions. The project boosted the number of households successfully involved in high-yield and efficient farming, expanded the area of sustainably cultivated lands, and reduced the migration rate in the region. Moreover, farming innovations demonstrated by the project, such as intensive orchards and solar-powered irrigation attracted private investors and were presented at the Lori Regional Investment Business Forum with participation of the Prime Minister of Armenia in February 2019. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

Chemical and Waste Management

In **Armenia**, with support from SGP, *Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment* (AWHHE) developed and implemented a project to complement the ongoing GEF-UNDP Full-Size Project *"Elimination of Obsolete Pesticide Stockpiles and Addressing POPs and Contaminated Sites within a Sound Chemicals Management Framework in Armenia."* The project contributed to informed participation and decision-making of communities, CSOs, active groups and decision-makers for implementation and monitoring of measures towards protection of human health and environment locally and globally through elimination of POPs and obsolete pesticide stockpiles. In close collaboration with the full-sized project, a Local Stakeholder Analysis Report helping in the design of community-based awareness raising and participation approaches was developed. As a result, the project indicated an increased awareness of the target population about the risks of hazardous chemicals to human health and environment (about 80% of the population, measured by pre- and post-questionnaires). Knowledge-based participation of the local community in decision-making on harmful chemicals and waste was also increased. In addition, capacity building training strengthened the monitoring capacity of CSOs and decision-makers. 21 participants representing stakeholders from Ministries, Armavir and Ararat Regional Administrations, and national NGOs obtained information and exchanged experience on proper management of hazardous waste. AWHHE actively shared the project results with the international NGO networks, and partnerships and networking from local to global level were enhanced. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

Capacity Development

In **Armenia**, SGP supported grantee, Aires Development Foundation (Aires), to improve environmental governance through development of capacities of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and the Government working in the field of environmental conservation and management via AirAid platform– an innovative and participatory technology. The platform will channel the issues of common concern among participating organizations serving as a link between the CSO and the respective governmental agencies. It provides opportunities for data collection, processing and availability through – use of UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicle) for remote monitoring and earth observation followed by aerial imagery acquisition, processing and analysis training; and application of a communication channel - Ushadir.am crowdsourced citizen reporting web-portal with data integration, mapping and visualization functionality.

The project built the capacities of the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Environmental Inspectorate, NGOs and activists across Tavush and Gegharkunik regions in data collection through aerial imagery acquisition, its processing and analysis. The consultations with the MoE led to the utilization of UAVs for identifying the fire sources at Khosrov Forest State Reserve, as well as observations and imaging of Lake Sevan shoreline and Ijevan forest. There are discussions to provide UAV services in agro-forestry-environmental imaging among potentially interested parties on contractual basis. Moreover, the project secured approval from the MoE for the establishment of a formal collaboration mechanism for using both the Ushadir and the UAV platforms for greater engagement with the MoE and relevant departments, capacity building and institutionalization of the project results in the near future. In addition, the MoE has shown interest in the adoption of the Ushadir platform for citizen reporting purposes as well as considering using the crowdsourced mapping capabilities for visualization of the ongoing "10 Million Tree Planting" initiative led by the Government. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)***

CSO-Government Dialogue

In **Armenia**, an SGP project led by the *"EcoLur" Informational NGO* was partnered with the Ministry of Environment, enabling CSO participation in a dialogue focused on small scale hydro deployment. The CSOs, government agencies and small hydropower business owners discussed sectoral policies and reforms for sustainable use of river ecosystems in Armenia. The project established a multi-stakeholder public council - a permanent forum for cooperation on small hydro sectoral reforms involving public, state and business stakeholders, enhancing the transparency and making small hydro reform process more inclusive. This multi-stakeholder dialogue platform facilitated by the project was instrumental in developing several policy documents: Action Plan Ensuring Provisions of Hydropower Development Concept in the Republic of Armenia, a draft package of reforms in the hydro power sector proposed to the Government of Armenia; decision on approving the environmental impact assessment criteria for construction and operation of Small Hydro Power Plants Projects; and a bill on making amendments and supplements to Water Code of Armenia (http://parliament.am/draft_history.php?id=10380). ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

Social Inclusion – Gender

In **Armenia**, a project was developed and implemented by the *Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment* (AWHHE) to complement the ongoing GEF-UNDP Full-Size Project "Elimination of Obsolete Pesticide Stockpiles and Addressing POPs and Contaminated Sites within a Sound Chemicals Management Framework in Armenia." This project contributed to informed participation and decision-making of communities, CSOs, active groups, decision-makers for implementation and monitoring of measures directed towards protection of human health and environment locally and globally through elimination of POPs and obsolete pesticide stockpiles. In close collaboration with the full-sized project, a Local Stakeholder Analysis Report helping in the design of community-based awareness-raising and participation approaches was developed. The participatory tools used in the project helped build confidence with the local population and decision-makers at the community level on the risks associated with the problem and the need to find a speedy solution.

The project recorded an increased awareness of the target population on the risks from hazardous chemicals to human health and environment (about 80%, measured through pre- and post- questionnaires). Knowledge-based participation of the local community in decision-making on harmful chemicals and waste increased. The capacity building training contributed to strengthening watchdog capacity of CSOs and decision-makers. 21 participants representing stakeholders from Ministries, Armavir and Ararat Regional Administrations, and national NGOs obtained information and exchanged experience on proper management of hazardous waste. The grantee partner NGO actively shared the project results with the international NGO networks, and partnerships and networking from local to global level are enhanced. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

Social Inclusion – Youth

In **Armenia**, SGP supported the *Young Men's Christian Association of Spitak* to establish a training and production center on agroecological innovations for young farmers of Spitak district. The center provided opportunities for local farmers, especially the youth, to learn and implement climate resilient and innovative farming practices through educational and hands-on training. The project engaged around 300 youths in most of the activities related to the establishment of the center and its further operation.

Another project implemented by *Armenian Women for Health and Healthy Environment* contributed to informed participation and decision-making of communities, CSOs, active groups, decision-makers for implementation and monitoring of measures towards protection of human health and the environment locally and globally through elimination of POPs and obsolete pesticide stockpiles. This project mainly focused on young women of reproductive age, who were getting increasingly involved in the activities associated with pesticide poisoning risks. As a result, the project informed at least 380 women aged 20- 40 in 5 communities affected by POPs and obsolete pesticide stockpiles. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

Social Inclusion – Persons with Disabilities

In **Armenia**, a project on the use of solar energy and energy conservation in a boarding school addressed the needs of children with disabilities. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)***

Scaling up, Replication and Policy Influence

In **Armenia**, SGP project developed an action plan for small hydro-power plants within the Hydropower Development Concept. The concept was included in Armenian Government's draft protocol resolution, '*Approving Action Plan Ensuring Provisions of Hydro-power Development Concept in the Republic of Armenia*' and is currently put in circulation in the Government. In another project, with ongoing CSO- government policy planning dialogue, the concept and road map on '*Reduction of Plastic Wrapping',* was elaborated and is currently under discussion with the representatives of Ministries of Nature Protection; Economic Development and Investments; Healthcare; and Territorial Administration and Development. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)***

In **Armenia**, SGP project "Reusing discharge waters from fish-farms for irrigation and reclamation of saline soils in Ararat valley" aimed to test and verify the technical and economic feasibility of using wastewater from fish farms for irrigation purposes. As result of a study, the project selected Hayanist village as the pilot site to experiment with a new irrigation system. Through collaborative partnerships with a USAID-funded ASPIRED project and Coca-Cola HBC Armenia, an additional USD 138,000 financing was leveraged to scale up the 30,000 USD initiative of the project for constructing a larger system supplying about 1,200,000 m^3 of water per year to 40 hectares of farmlands (84 water user) in Hayanist. Currently, the model irrigation system is being replicated by the USAID ASPIRED project in Sayat Nova and other Hayanist communities for irrigation of 200 and 300 hectares of land, respectively. The project contributed to the prevention of uncontrolled discharge of highly polluted effluents into water bodies and the supply of additional water for irrigation of idle lands exposed to degradation. Production of solid biomass briquets is now being scaled up in Shirak and Lori regions through SLM/SFM project and SGP strategic grants. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018).***

In **Armenia**, the *Association for Sustainable Human Development* successfully replicated and upscaled the experience of another completed SGP project on expanding access to affordable and clean energy through introducing innovative low-carbon energy solutions in *Mrgashen* community, aiming to utilize the high potential of solar energy in the region and create enabling conditions for generalization and commercialization of low-carbon technology in the community. The energy efficiency of the apartment building which housed beneficiaries was achieved through the insulation of the entrance and the roof and the replacement of

windows and doors. As a result, PV systems were installed with an overall capacity of 25 kW, as well as two solar heating systems with 300 L capacity each. 250 streetlights were also replaced with LED lamps. These low-carbon energy solutions were estimated to result in an annual saving of around USD 10,000, reducing 14 tons of CO_2 emissions each year. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021)***

In **Armenia**, a strategic project conducted by *FERTI* aimed to enhance the employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for students and young practitioners through the development of a learning platform on low-carbon technologies. Through the project, six Low Carbon Energy Education Centers were established in four regions, equipped with materials and devices for theoretical and practical knowledge. Trainers from a local technical college were selected and instructed to deliver career development and capacity building in the Centers. By applying the "learning-by-doing" principle, the project supported 13 community micro-projects proposed by the students on the use of low carbon technology. This approach equipped them with the knowledge of formulating project proposals with necessary calculations, holding active meetings with private sectors and beneficiary institutions, and participating in actual assembling of the systems. Every year, each Center provides training to 15-25 young practitioners and consultation to 150-200 students and unemployed youths on the use of renewable energy sources (RES) and energy-efficient technologies. As a result of the project, the specialization "Installation, Repair, and Maintenance of Renewable Energy Power Stations/Energy Sites" has been officially approved by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture, and Sports of Armenia. Moreover, at the request of the Ministry, a textbook on RES use for colleges was developed and published by the project, which is now officially part of the curricula for relevant specializations. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Until now, the Republic of Romania (RoA) has ratified and signed numerous International multilateral environmental agreements (Conventions and Protocols) and most of them are tied to the GEF strategic priorities. The list of relevant Rio Conventions ratified by Armenia and national planning framework is illustrated in the table below.

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

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
GEF-7 National Dialogues	-
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	31.03.1993
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	10.12.2015
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	Not ratified
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	14.05.1993
UNFCCC National Communications (1st, 2nd, 3rd)	04.11.1998, 07.09.2010, 15.05.2015
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	29.01.2010
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	Under development, expected by the end of 2020
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Agreement	10.09.2015, 08.02.2017
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	23.06.1997
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	28.03.2002,27.05.2015
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	22.10.2003
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	13.01.2005
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	13.12.2017
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	September 2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	July 2018
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies (IW)	A regional SAP was developed and signed by Azerbaijan and Georgia. Armenia is considering signing the SAP.
Republic of Armenia 2014-2025 Strategic Program of Prospective Development	27.03.2014
National Security Strategy of Armenia	26.01.2007

It's worth noting that according to the RoA legislation, international agreements have supreme legal force and become constituent of the country's legal system. The norms stipulated in the international Agreements are subject to immediate execution and need to be specified in the national legislation of Armenia.

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.