



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

PARAGUAY



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Paraguay		
Year Started	2011		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	85	33	118
Grant amount committed	2,552,025	1,097,990	3,650,015
Project level co-financing in cash	775,355	355,989	1,131,344
Project level co-financing in kind	2,554,483	807,220	3,361,703
Total co-financing *	5,591,037		
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	7	1	2	1	2	1	4	18
Climate Change	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Land Degradation	4	1	4	1	4	1	3	18
Sustainable Forest Management	-	1	9	3	4	1	-	18
Capacity Development	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Total Projects Completed	13	3	16	7	10	3	7	59

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	7	1	2	1	2	1	4	18
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	1	-	4	3	5	1	1	11
Hectares of PAs	73,000	-	126,592	933,331	707,233	40,000	40,000	1,734,156
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	1	-	2	2	3	2	2	11
Hectares of ICCAs	150,000	-	1,736	560,500	47,267	55,300	50,439	715,242
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	3	-	20	6	4	59	23	115
Number of significant species conserved	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	6
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	5	3	2	-	-	10
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	4,026	38,000	46,000	-	-	88,293
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects	11	29	883	5	152	-	36	1,116

	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
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	50
Breakdown of projects								
Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks projects	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	4	1	4	1	4	1	3	18
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	150	30	272	40	545	20	163	1,220
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	150	30	272	40	545	20	163	1,220
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	2,172	23	388	113	300	9	146	3,151
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	32	-	22	10	161	20	36	281
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	5	2	11	3	38	1	7	67
Sustainable Forest Management								
Number of sustainable forest management projects completed	-	1	9	3	4	1	-	18
Hectares restored through improved forest management practices	-	29	883	5	152	4,770	-	5,839

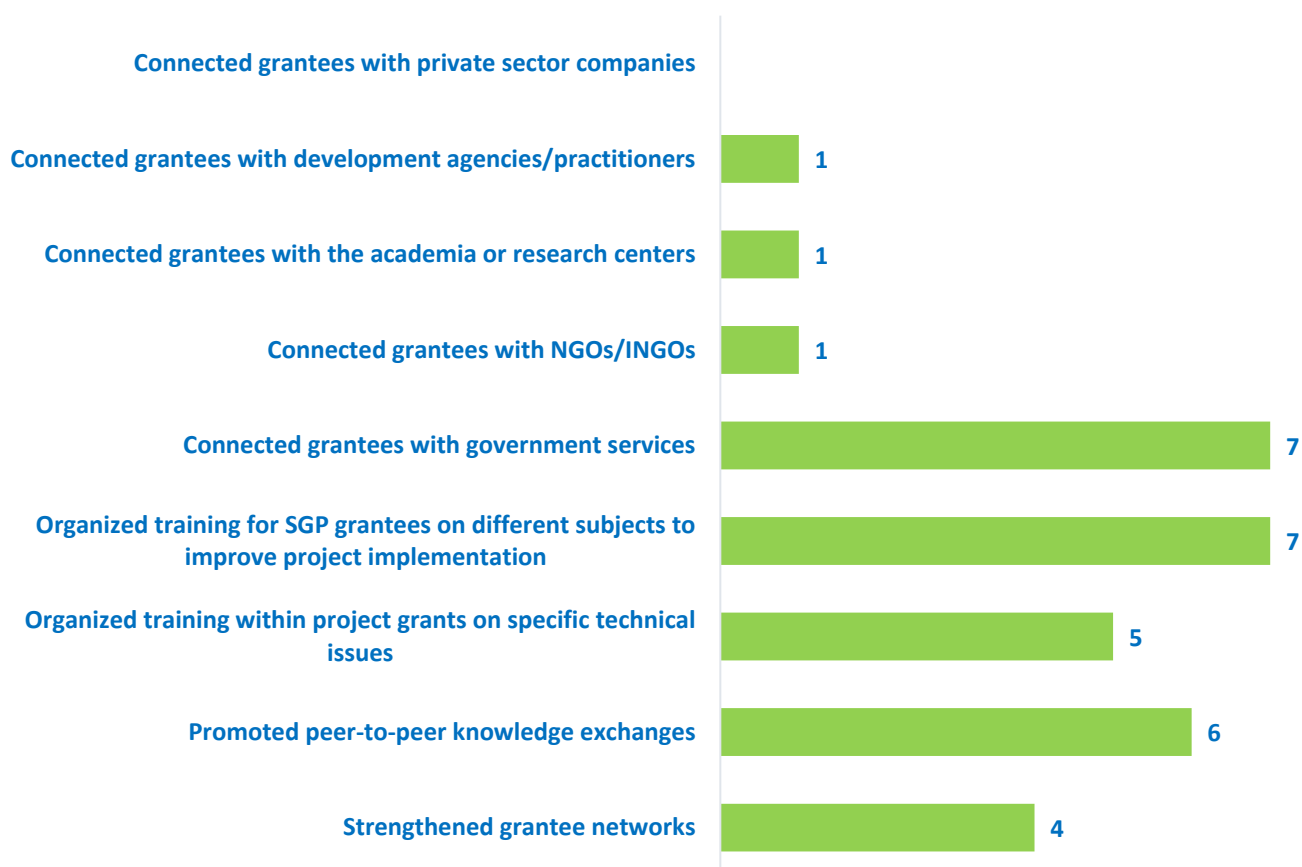
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Capacity Development								
Number of capacity development projects completed	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	3
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	4	-	-	11	-	-	-	15
Number of community-based organizations with strengthened capacities	12	-	-	12	-	-	-	24
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	70	-	-	233	-	-	-	303
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
South-South Exchange								
Number of South-South exchanges supported	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	4
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	13	3	16	7	10	3	7	59
Number of completed projects led by women	5	2	7	4	3	1	3	25
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	4
Indigenous Peoples								
Number of completed projects that included indigenous peoples	4	1	6	3	4	2	3	23
Number of indigenous leaders with improved capacities	11	3	13	23	55	5	4	114
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Ways to encourage IP projects								
Involved indigenous peoples in NSC and/or TAG (yes/no)	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	4
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6

	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 **
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	7	2	10	2	3	-	-	24
Number of youth organizations	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	12	2	11	3	9	3	6	46
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	-	2	7	7	7	5	5	33
Community-level trainings conducted	-	59	110	20	212	35	50	486
Number of projects monitored through field visits	5	15	22	18	18	22	25	125
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	12	10	8	9	7	7	5	58
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	6	6	5	6	5	6	6	6

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

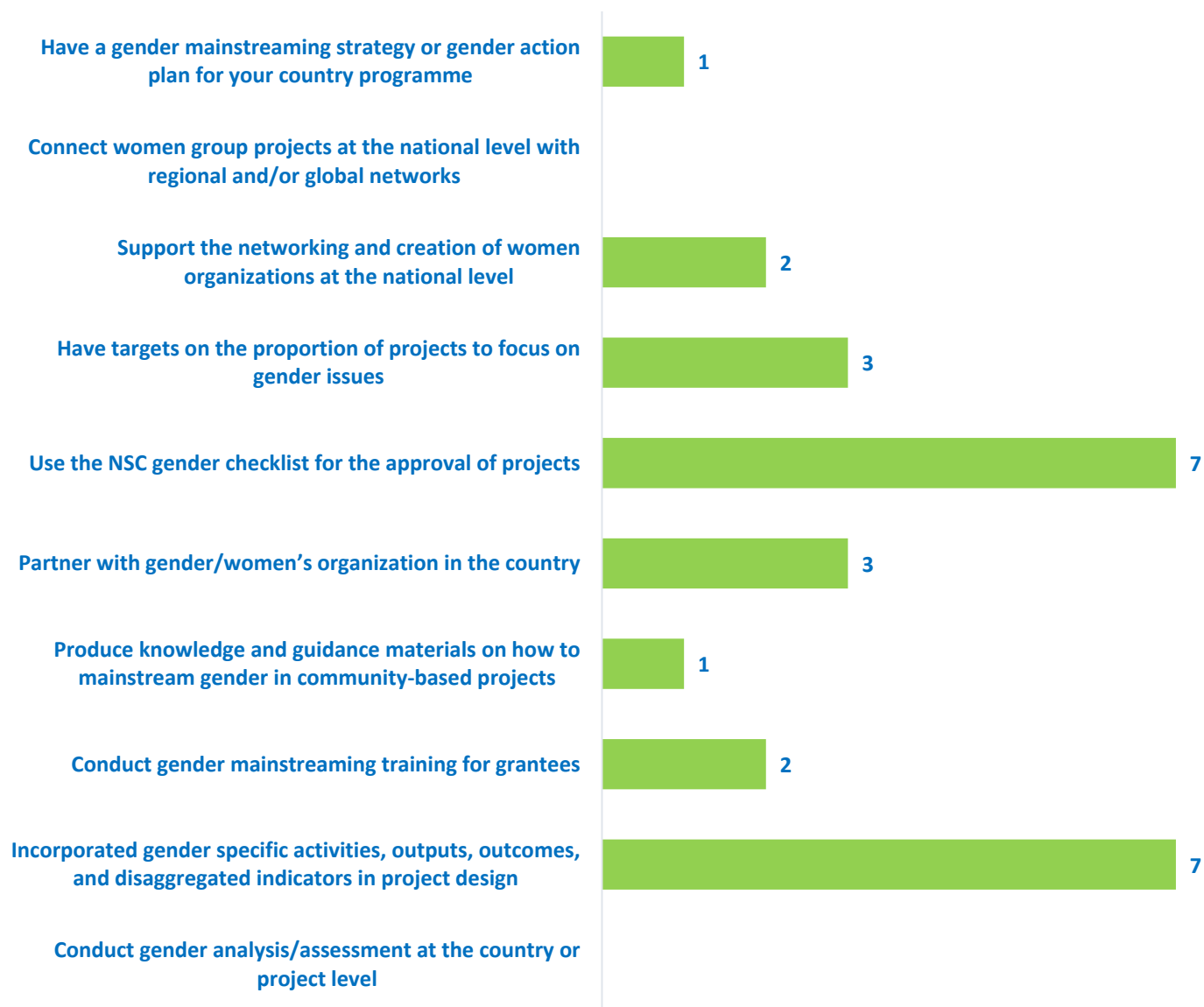
Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall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

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



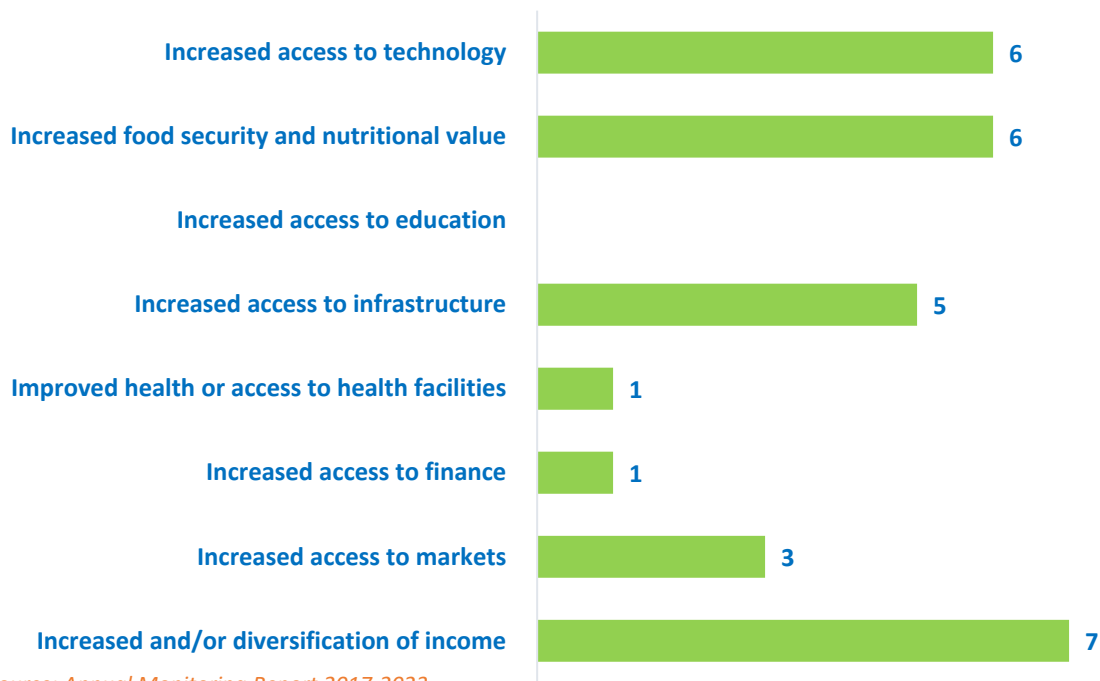
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



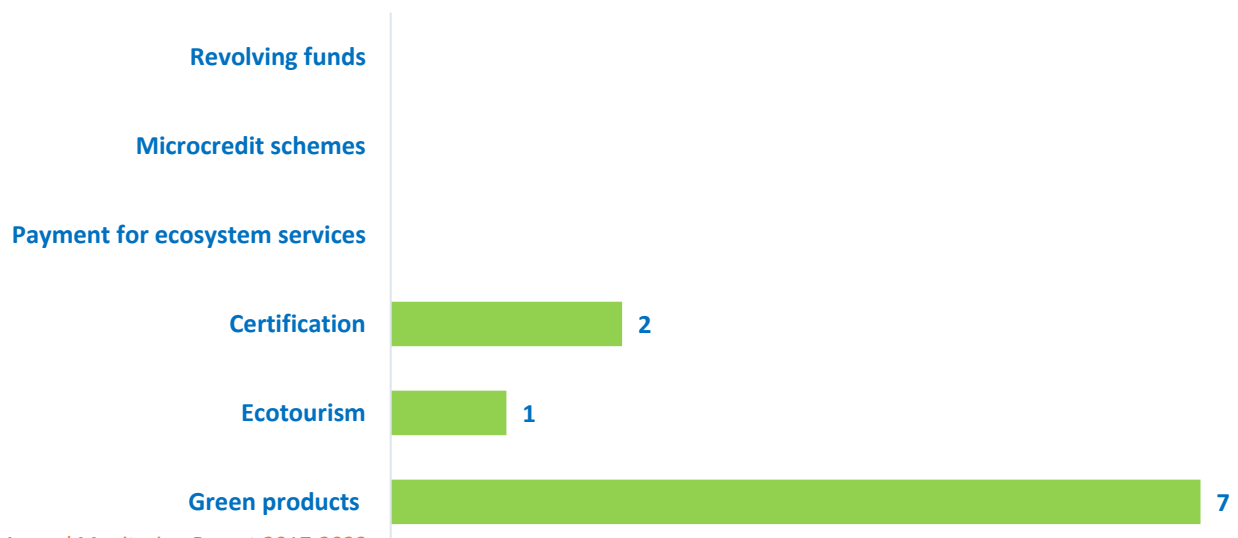
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**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 Forest Management

In **Paraguay**, an SGP project was implemented by a local community to combat the effects of climate change and for capacity development. The project involved 50 women, 33 men, 15 young people and 20 children, and the resilience of 2 peasant communities to deal with the impacts of climate change was improved. With SGP support, the community managed to install and operate 2 community nurseries which produced a total of 11,000 forest plants and 400 fruit plants. Agroforestry systems were established, and soil conservation and green manure cultivation were promoted. As a result, beans, maize and cassavas were cultivated in an agroecological way. In addition, two grassroots peasant organizations were established to ensure that the results of the project would continue sustainably after it ended. The successful strategy engaged local people with a widely participatory approach, managing to initiate processes of inclusion, conflict management and consensus building. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)**

In **Paraguay**, with support from SGP, NGO *EGAO* implemented a project aimed at increasing the forest area in the Community of San Carlos, district of San Jua Nepomuceno; Department of Caazapà targeting 65 small farms. As key results, La Esperanza grassroots committee was created and strengthened with the participation of 37 males and 13 females. 8 public places were reforested with 500 native forest seedling, 33 hectares of sustainable forest management were installed with an agro system with native forest species including 37,880 seedling of Yerba mate and 3,250 forest seedlings of Cedro, Yvyra pyta, Guayaibi and Lapacho which will generate income for rural families within four years.

These achievements were reported thanks to intensive work in agroforestry practices, reforestation and soil management and conservation. These initiatives also led to the increasing use of the National Forest Strategy for Sustainable Growth, a public policy instrument recently approved by the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, which allows for the reporting of reliable data on the forest areas, their changes and their carbon emissions. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021)**

Capacity Development

To support grant making focus at landscape/ seascape levels, and in line with evidence-based approach, twelve capacity development grants were used by SGP country programmes, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Georgia, Grenada, Jordan, Mauritania, Mozambique, **Paraguay**, Senegal, St. Lucia, Trinidad & Tobago, and Haiti, to develop their respective OP6 Country Programme Strategies (CPS). The development of the CPS has been a participatory, multi-stakeholder process that provides the framework for the grantmaking at the country level, by establishing priorities and focus during the Operational Phase. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

In **Paraguay**, SGP supported grantee, Center for Education, Training and Technology Campesina (CECTEC), to strengthen capacities of youth, local leaders, technicians from local organizations involved in SGP projects, and the grantees on project formulation, management, monitoring and evaluation, to improve the management of community environmental initiatives, and use of appropriate tools for identification and implementation of projects. The project built the capacities of 113 representatives (42 women, 71 men) of 11 NGOs and 12 CBOs. The training spread over 40 hours consisted of four theoretical courses, followed by a practical tour to one of the projects implemented. It employed a lifecycle approach to a project, with emphasis on the design, management, monitoring (+ systematization) and evaluation. The training also incorporated the instruments like problem tree, objectives tree and course of a project, in addition to the participatory rural appraisal (PRA) to study the impact of the project. The training was successful in the exchange of knowledge among the participants on project cycle, and strategies adopted for environmental conservation and improving livelihoods. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)**

South-South Exchange

In **Uruguay**, a project led by *Sociedad Apícola Uruguaya (Uruguayan Beekeeping Society)* replicated good beekeeping practices in Uruguay, **Paraguay**, and **Argentina**. A series of impactful exchanges between beekeepers across these three countries was conducted. The goal was to share and disseminate valuable knowledge and practices for the betterment of beekeeping and meliponiculture. These exchanges fostered cross-border learning and collaboration that encompassed diverse themes pertinent to sustainable beekeeping practices and honey production. In Paraguay, the exchange revolved around crucial topics such as strengthening bee and hive product production and sales through public policy tools and initiatives, meliponiculture techniques, and agroecological/organic honey production. On the other hand, the exchange in Uruguay focused on "Beekeeping and native bees of the region," delving into themes like agroecological production guidelines, urban beekeeping, commercialization strategies for honey in school settings, cooperative experiences, and legislation for the protection of native bees and pollinators.

The exchanges facilitated a sharing of innovative techniques and legislative approaches, opening doors for beekeepers from each country to adopt successful practices employed elsewhere, potentially enhancing honey production. It also bolstered the resilience of beekeeping practices and contributed to the protection and preservation of essential pollinators for ecosystem health and food security. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

Social Inclusion – Gender

In **Paraguay**, a project completed by the Paraguay Organic Association (Asociación Paraguay Orgánico) focused on women's economic and social empowerment in the production of medicinal herbs and agroecological orchards through sustainable management of resources, strengthening capacities and access to differentiated markets. Through the project, 63 women were trained and involved in exchange activities in medicinal herbal management, organic certification system, marketing, management, rural administration, and financial education. 20 women received technical assistance. 20 production plans were made under the organic system of medicinal herbs production, covering 5.47 hectares of land. 20 family gardens were installed and in the process of certification in one year, where dryers, rainwater collection systems, and irrigation systems were installed and in operation. As a result, 20 families now have access to fresh vegetables for self-consumption. In addition, the signing of a three-year commercial agreement between the women's group and a commercial company of medicinal herbs (Paraguay Teas) was formalized for joint marketing of a small lot of medicinal herbs despite the adverse climatic conditions. The first cut produced a yield of 54 kg of Paraguay cedron and 33kg of Stevia (Ka'a Hee). The vegetables produced by the organization were sold in weekly fairs in the premises of the organization, with the expectation of expanding commercial alliance with a rural tourism hotel in the area. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)**

Social Inclusion – Indigenous Peoples

In a related project on MAPs in **Paraguay**, an SGP planning grant entitled "Preparation and adjustments of the protection project of native medicinal plants and traditional handicrafts" was implemented to assist an indigenous-led organization from the *Comunidad Indígena El Estribo* (Región Occidental) to submit and administer their own proposal. On the basis of the review of the IPs concept, the SGP Paraguay country team and National Steering Committee (NSC) noted that while the basic idea was good, focused as it was to the conservation of medicinal plants, and led by indigenous women, the project still appeared weak in its formulation, presentation, and work-planning. In order to build the capacity of the IPs, a participatory planning process was prepared and carried out making it possible to address internal governance issues identified within the villages of the indigenous communities. With the support of the SGP planning grant, the indigenous women's group organized a group assembly, undertook an organizational self-strengthening process, and are in process of resubmitting a full proposal for consideration by the SGP Paraguay NSC. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Paraguay has signed various international agreements, ratified by national regulations, which have promoted a regulatory framework that allows compliance with said agreements. Additionally, the country has prepared national reports to publicize the status of complements of the assumed components. The OP7 Strategy is framed within these current national and international policies and priorities. The agreements and regulations are detailed below in the table.

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

Convenios + marcos de planificación nacionales	Fecha de ratificación/celebración
Protocolo para el Proceso de consulta y consentimiento libre, previo e informado con los Pueblos Indígenas que habitan en el Paraguay.	Decreto 1039/18 del 28/12/2018
Sistema Nacional de Monitoreo Forestal del Paraguay	Decreto 3246/2020
Ley de Recursos Hídricos del Paraguay	Ley N° 3239/2007
Estrategia Nacional de Bosques para el crecimiento sostenible (ENBCS)	Resolución 293/19 del 3/06/2019.
Marco de Sendai para la Reducción del Riesgo de Desastres (MSRRD) 2015-2030	Decreto N 5965/2016
Plan Nacional de Desarrollo del Paraguay 2030	16/12/2012 aprobado por decreto N° 2794/14
Convenio 169 de la OIT	Ratificado por el Paraguay mediante la ley 234/93, y reglamentado en parte por la resolución 2039/10 del INDI
Declaración de la ONU sobre los derechos de los pueblos indígenas	Adoptada en 2007 durante la sesión 61 de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas
Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica (CDB) (Protocolo de Nagoya sobre Acceso a los recursos genéticos y Participación justa y equitativa)	4/11/1993 mediante Ley N°253/93
Estrategia y Plan de Acción Nacional para la biodiversidad (EPANB) del CDB	Presentado en 2004 (periodo 2004-2009). Actualmente actualizándose (periodo 2011-2020)
Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático (CMNUCC)	4/11/1993 mediante Ley N°251/93

Convención sobre la Conservación de Especies Migratorias de Animales Silvestres (CMS)	Año 1998, mediante la ley N° 1314/98
Convención relativa a humedales de importancia como hábitat de Aves acuáticas (RAMSAR)	Año 1994, mediante la ley N° 350
Convención sobre comercio internacional de especies amenazadas de fauna y flora silvestres (CITES)	Año 1976, mediante la ley N° 583/94
Convenio de Basilea Control y Movimiento Transfronterizos de Desechos Peligrosos y su Eliminación	Año 1995, mediante la ley N° 61/95
Convenio de Viena para la Protección de la Capa de Ozono; y la enmienda del Protocolo de Montreal relativo a las sustancias agotadoras de la capa de ozono.	Año 1992, mediante la Ley N° 61/92
Acuerdo Paris sobre Cambio Climático	Año 2016, mediante la ley N° 5681
Protocolo de Cartagena de seguridad de la Biología / Convenio Diversidad	Año 2004, mediante la ley N° 2309/04
Política Nacional de Cambio Climático.	2011
Política Nacional Forestal	2009
Plan Nacional de Cambio Climático – Fase I – Estrategia de Mitigación	2014
Plan Nacional de Cambio Climático – Fase II – Estrategia de Adaptación al Cambio Climático	2015
Contribuciones Nacionales de la República del Paraguay (NDCs)	Aprobado
Comunicaciones nacionales sobre la CMNUCC (1.ª, 2.ª y 3.ª)	Primera CN fue presentada en el 2001, la segunda CN en el 2011 y la tercera se encuentra en fase de elaboración
Convención de las Naciones Unidas de Lucha contra la Desertificación (CNULD)	7/11/1996 mediante Ley N°970/96
Programas Nacionales de Acción de la CNULD	Elaborado 2004, actualmente en proceso de actualización
Plan Nacional de Implementación (PNI) del Convenio de Estocolmo	Inicio en el 2006, actualmente en proceso de actualización

Convenio de Estocolmo sobre Contaminantes Orgánicos Persistentes (COP)	Firmado en mayo de 2001 mediante Ley N° 2333/2004. Entrando en vigor el 17 de mayo de 2004.
Convenio de Minamata sobre el Mercurio	Adoptado en Conferencia de Plenipotenciarios en 2013, entró en vigor en agosto de 2017, el país es parte desde 2018
Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) de la Agenda 2030 de las Naciones Unidas	2015
Examen nacional voluntario para los ODS de las Naciones Unidas	2018
Programas de acción estratégicos para masas de agua internacionales compartidas	2009
Estrategia nacional de reducción de la pobreza (DELP)	Aprobada por Decreto del Poder Ejecutivo N° 8152 de fecha 8 de setiembre de 2006
Primer Informe Bienal de Actualización de la República del Paraguay ante la CMNUCC	2015
Autoevaluación de las capacidades nacionales (NCSA, por sus siglas en inglés) del FMAM	2011
Ejercicios nacionales de formulación de la cartera (ENFC) del FMAM-6	Ley 5554/201 y el decreto 4774/16 reglamentado a través del Art. 327
Valoración y retribución de los servicios ambientales	Ley 3001/06, decreto 1120/13 y decreto 10247/07

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.