SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

SRI LANKA

COUNTRY REPORT CARD
FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	**Sri Lanka**		
Year Started	1994		
	GEF	**Non-GEF**	**Total**
Number of projects	425	38	**463**
Grant amount committed	9,993,674	1,175,932	**11,169,606**
Project level co-financing in cash	2,405,872	208,831	**2,614,702**
Project level co-financing in kind	3,549,372	252,160	**3,801,532**
Total co-financing *	**7,592,166**		

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	**9**	**3**	**1**	**1**	**15**	**2**	**2**	**33**
Climate Change	**5**	**1**	**1**	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**8**
Land Degradation	**3**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**6**	**5**	**-**	**15**
Capacity Development	**-**	**4**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**3**	**2**	**10**
International Waters	**-**	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1**
Chemicals and Waste	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1**
Total Projects Completed	**17**	**10**	**4**	**1**	**22**	**10**	**4**	**68**

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	9	3	1	1	15	2	2	33
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	3	-	5	5	9	2	-	24
Hectares of PAs	7,086	-	-	-	1,015	140	-	8,241
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	-	-	-	2	8	-	-	10
Hectares of ICCAs	-	-	-	-	2,305	-	-	2,305
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	8	1	-	-	41	-	-	50
Number of significant species conserved	5	1	2	-	15	-	-	23
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	-	2	3	2	-	7
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	-	-	150	21,736	140	-	22,026
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	5	1	1	-	1	-	-	8
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	209	-	-	-	-	-	-	209

	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	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	5
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	161	55	-	-	75	-	-	291
Breakdown of projects								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Energy efficiency solutions projects	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	4
Sustainable transport projects	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	3	1	-	-	6	5	-	15
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	408	5	-	12	1,406	574	-	2,405
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	408	-	-	15	658	574	-	1,655
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	208	-	-	172	4,158	1,400	-	5,938
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	80	2	-	4	6	19	-	111
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	4	1	-	-	2	-	-	7
Sustainable Forest Management								
Hectares restored through improved forest management practices	-	-	-	220	9,998	-	-	10,218

	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 **
International Waters								
Number of international waters projects completed	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Number of seascapes/inland freshwater landscapes	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	5
Hectares of marine/coastal areas of fishing grounds brought under sustainable management	-	-	3,200	-	-	-	-	3,200
Chemicals and Waste								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio								
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	1
Capacity Development								
Number of capacity development projects completed	-	4	1	-	-	3	2	10
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	-	12	-	-	-	23	35	70
Number of community-based organizations with strengthened capacities	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	-	60	-	-	-	1,557	6,335	7,952
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	1	-	-	-	5	1	7
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	20	-	-	-	54	10	84
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	17	10	4	1	14	10	1	57

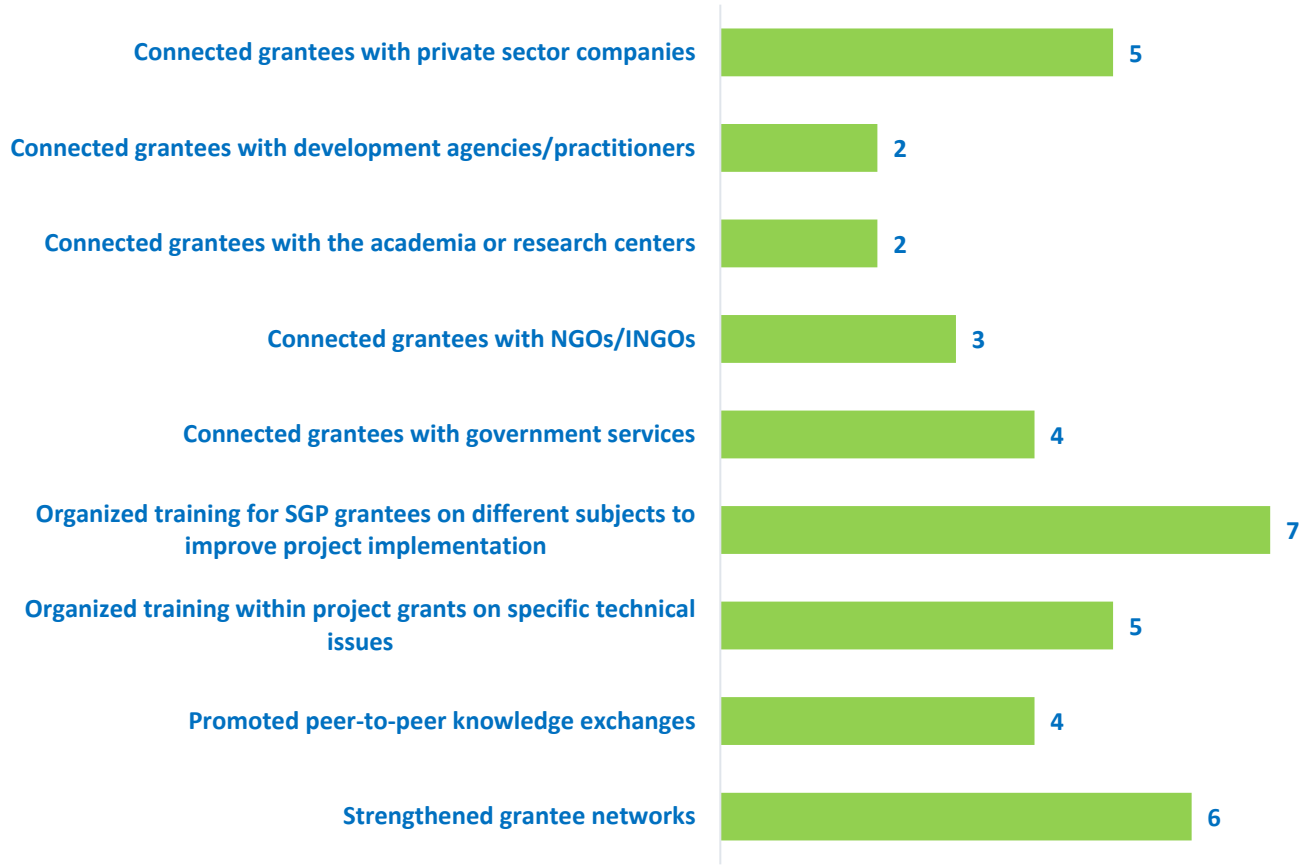
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Number of completed projects led by women	11	3	2	-	7	5	-	28
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	12	9	4	1	3	6	1	36
Number of youth organizations	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	5
Persons with Disability								
Number of disabled persons organizations	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	1	-	-	-	2	2	-	5
Projects with policy influence	4	-	-	-	2	1	-	7
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	17	8	1	1	7	6	2	42
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Community-level trainings conducted	55	10	-	-	-	-	-	65
Number of projects monitored through field visits	31	8	30	29	35	10	4	147
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	4	7	9	5	5	3	9	42

	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 **
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	**8**	**8**	**9**	**8**	**10**	**9**	**10**	**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)



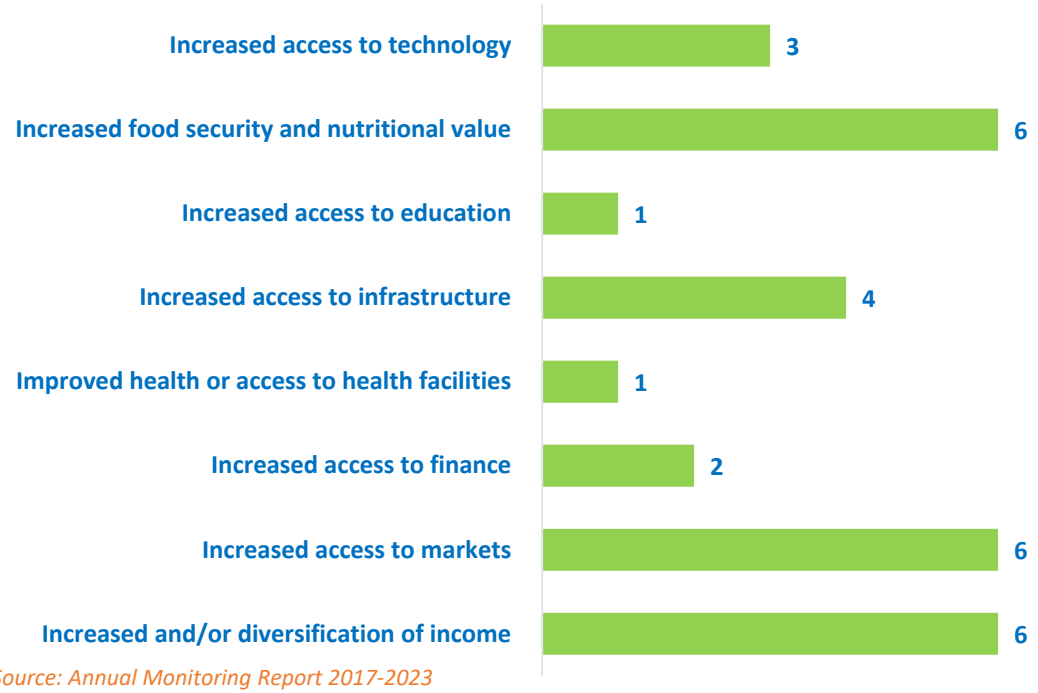
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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

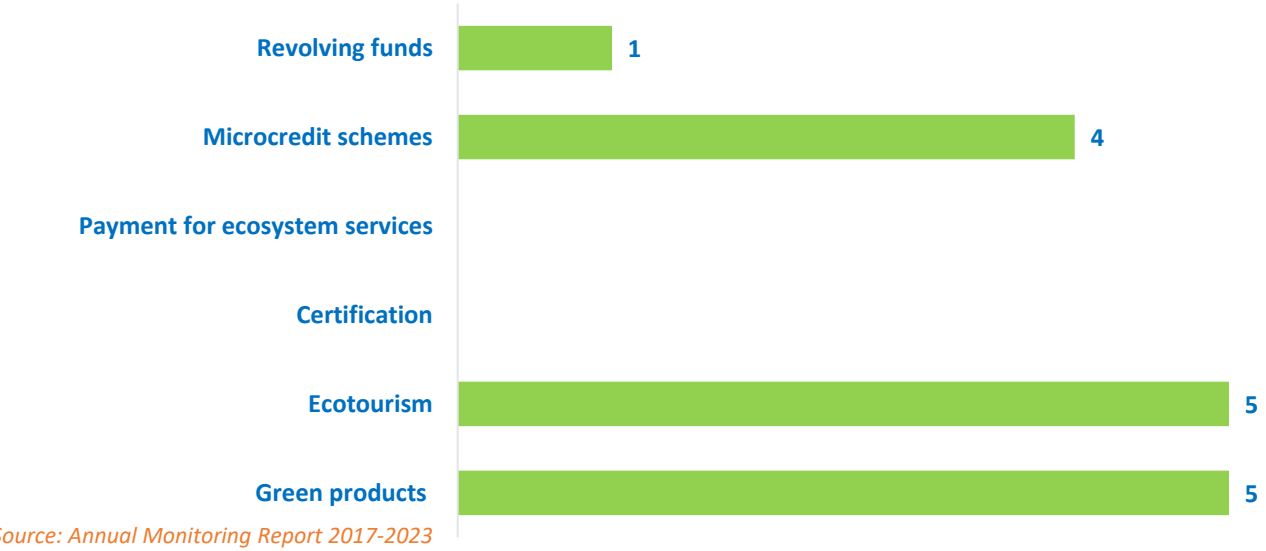
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

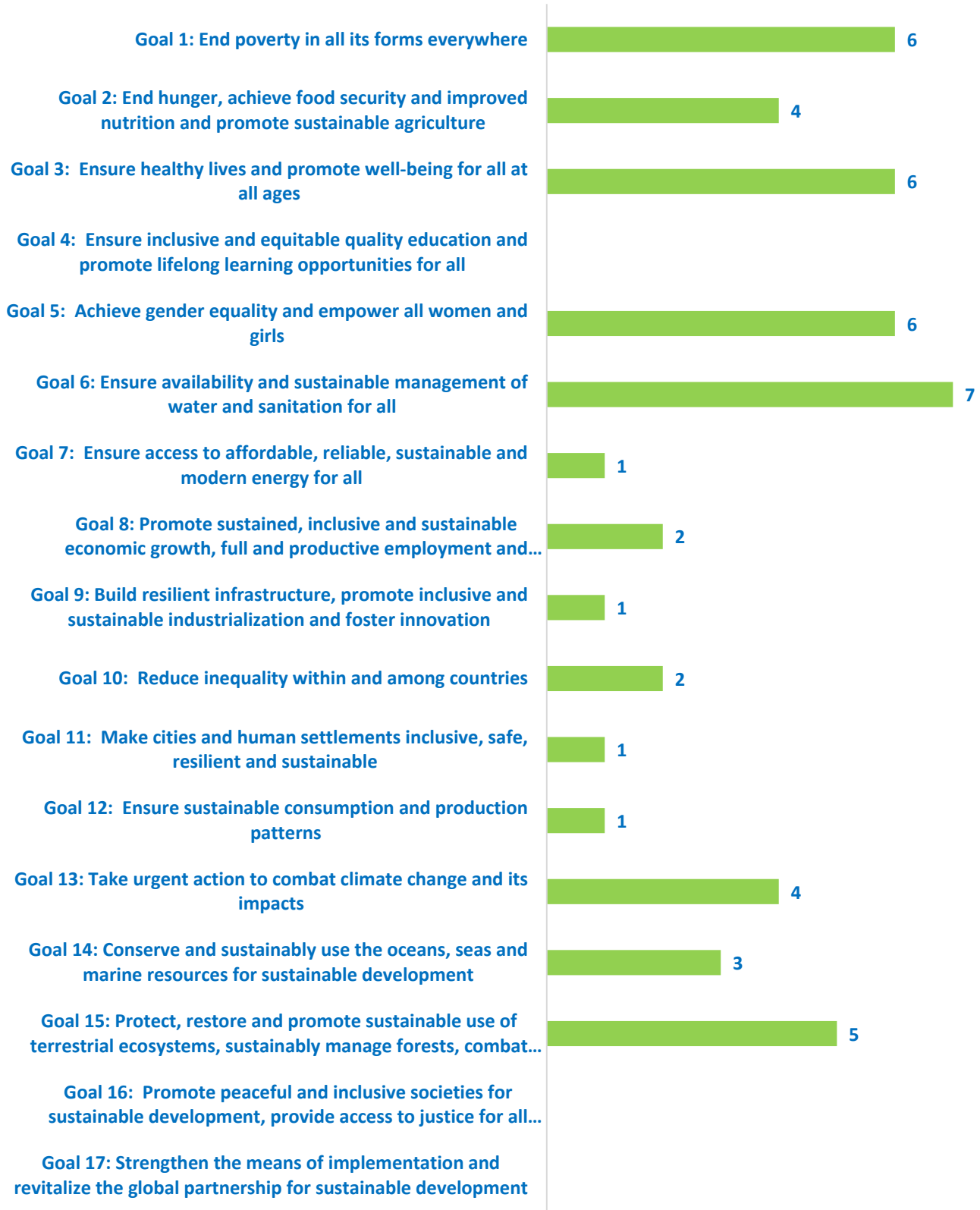
Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods

(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

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Sustainable Forest Management

In **Sri Lanka**, a project implemented by the *Centre for Integrated Indigenous Knowledge Systems* has reduced the occurrence and spreading of forest fires by 50% in the Kandegama, Kobonilla, Hare Park villages and surrounding forest reserves. 7,000 trees were planted in the conservation areas of the Hare Park Estate and on land allocated by the Department of Forest. A fire protection belt was established by Agave plants. Other land was also rehabilitated mainly by off-farm soil conservation and by a limited amount of on-farm soil conservation. Young people of the community actively participated in all the project activities such as tree planting and maintenance activities, preparation and maintenance of fire belts, installation of notice boards for environmental protection, etc. 60 community members were trained on soil conservation methods. Two experience sharing programmes were conducted on the same topic. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021)***

Capacity Development

For example, **Sri Lanka**, implemented a project with the objective to conduct a landscape-wide baseline assessment of the Knuckles Conservation Forest and Buffer Zone and develop a landscape strategy for building socio-ecological resilience through community engagement and stewardship. For this purpose, the grantee conducted literature reviews, field visits, pre-consultation meetings, selection of consultation participants, consultation workshops, analysis of baseline information and identification of knowledge gaps to prepare the landscape strategy. Design and translation of workshop materials were also a key part of the workshop. The key results of the project include understanding the biodiversity of the landscape, ecosystem protection and ecological interactions, diversity of local food systems, maintenance and use of local crop varieties and animal breeds, sustainable management of common resources, traditional knowledge related to biodiversity, and documentation of biodiversity knowledge. There was also improved understanding of women's knowledge and skills, community-based landscape governance, rights in relation to land, water and other natural resource management, as well as social capital, equity and income diversity. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)***

South-South Exchange

In *Nepal*, SGP supported *Health Care Foundation Nepal (HECAF)*, known for success in developing Nepala health care waste management system at small scale village level clinics. This waste management system has been implemented in 5 clinics in the Chitwan district and has drastically reduced the burning of medical waste and hence prevented the release of persistent organic pollutants into the environment, with a 73% reduction in waste generation. The project has also developed a guidance manual for health care waste management in small health care facilities. 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)***

Scaling up, Replication and Policy Influence

In **Sri Lanka**, SGP project on Promotion of Bio Gas Technology & Efficient Rubber Drying Houses to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions Associated with the Rubber Industry in the Midland Forests of Kegalle District was awarded as first runner up at the International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF) Conference of the Yale Chapter. ISTF offers the Innovation Prize annually to honor outstanding interdisciplinary projects that address sustainable tropical forest use, conservation and the well-being of those living in or dependent on them. Human and Environment Development Organization (HEDO), with the assistance of the Rubber Research Institute and UNDP- GEF- SGP, addressed related environmental problems. They established five energy efficient rubber drying houses fueled by waste sawdust which would have otherwise been disposed along riverbanks or open burning. As a result, the vast amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the production process

is drastically reduced and has reduced health problems which arise due to inhaling smoke while working inside the conventional smoke houses. Further, these efficient drying houses enabled the beneficiaries to reach the highest quality of rubber sheets which resulted in higher profits. The NGO introduced biogas technology using rubber wastewater, converting this environmental hazard into profits. Two biogas plants were built as models which generate biogas from effluents discharged in the processing of rubber sheets as well as household waste. Mushroom cultivation was introduced as an optional livelihood when the income from rubber is low. A market chain was also established with the support of a private company and funding from Sampath Bank. SGP project expects that communities will remain in the rubber industry with the increase of income due to the value addition, and HEDO expects to upscale the project to national level**.** ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)***

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

The Sri Lanka SGP Country Programme will continue to support national priorities under OP7 and work in full partnership with relevant government policies, plans, and programmes.

The SGP Sri Lanka proposed project aligns perfectly with Sri Lanka's **National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan 2016-2022** (NBSAP) concepts of conserving biodiversity; sustainably using biological resources; conserving and efficiently using agro-biodiversity; promoting human well-being through the ecosystem approach; and multi-stakeholder consultation and engagement.

The **National Red List of Sri Lanka – Conserving Fauna and Flora (2012)** evaluates — using standard Red List™ criteria — most of the known species of flora and fauna and provides objective listing of the threat status of each species, thereby highlighting those species most at risk from extinction, in turn, underscoring priority areas for research and conservation. The process of Red Listing is currently ongoing and project activities related to biodiversity conservation will support this.

In two of the three landscapes selected for activities under this project are Wetlands recognized under the **Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) (1971**). The Vankalai Sanctuary under the jurisdiction of the Department of Wildlife Conservation is in the coastal stretch from Mannar island to Jaffna was designated a Ramsar Site in 2010. In 2018, Colombo was accredited as a Ramsar Wetland City in recognition of the important urban wetlands there. Proposed activities for the SGP Sri Lanka project fully support one of the three pillars of the Convention — 'Ensuring the conservation and wise use of wetlands it has designated as Wetlands of International Importance', as well as the urban wetlands recognized by Ramsar.

The third landscape — the Knuckles Conservation Forest — is part of a World Heritage Site (the Central Highlands), declared under the **United Nations Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (1972).** By signing this Convention, each country is encouraged to undertake scientific and technical conservation research and adopt measures which give this heritage a function in the day-to-day life of the community. Component 1 of the proposed SGP Sri Lanka aligns perfectly with this statement.

Mannar Island, with the coastal stretch from Mannar Island to Jaffna is an important feeding grounds of many migratory water birds. In 1990, Sri Lanka ratified the **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species** (also known as CMS or Bonn Convention) (1979). The CMS Convention provides a global platform for the conservation and sustainable use of migratory animals and their habitats. Project activities that relate to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, including eco-tourism, not only align with the Convention but will be also extremely important for this area, especially Mannar Island, which is becoming an emerging tourism hub for avi-tourism in Sri Lanka.

The project will contribute towards achievement of the national **Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) Targets for Sri Lanka (December 2017), which include** halting the conversion of forests and wetlands to other land cover classes, restoring and improving degraded forests, increasing forest cover, and reducing the rate of soil degradation to improve land productivity and soil organic carbon stocks.

The National Action Programme for Combating Land Degradation in Sri Lanka 2015-2024 addresses land degradation which has emerged as a serious problem in Sri Lanka. The population has been expanding rapidly and this has led to an increased demand for land for economic and domestic purposes. Evidence of this degradation can be seen in heavy soil loses; high sediment yields; decline in soil fertility, salinization and the marginalization of agricultural land. The objective of the plan is to reduce land degradation and mitigate the effect of drought with the participation of affected communities, Public Sector Agencies, CBOs, NGOs, and the Private Sector. Activities such as promoting on-farm and off-farm soil and water conservation measures; participatory approaches to land and resource

management; proven low-cost soil improvement practices, vegetation conservation techniques, agronomic practices and agroforestry systems in degraded areas through demonstrations and awareness creation programmes, implementation of organic farming and other nutrient management activities have been identified for NGO/CBO involvement – these are aligned with proposed project activities.

Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity Conservation and Use in Sri Lankan Agro-ecosystems for Livelihoods and Adaptation to Climate Change is a GEF-funded project implemented by the Sri Lanka Ministry of Environment jointly with the Plant Genetic Resource Centre, Department of Agriculture of the Ministry of Agriculture. Its aim is to ensure that agro-biodiversity is conserved and used to meet the challenges of climate change and improve rural livelihoods. The project explores the role of agro-biodiversity in helping farmers and rural communities to adapt to climate change and to improve their livelihoods. The proposed outcomes and activities in this project support this aim.

The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) for Climate Change Impacts in Sri Lanka: 2016 – 2025 lists as two of its objectives (i) 'To build the capacity of communities, economic sectors and ecosystems to adjust more readily to unfolding changes of climate through supportive investments on adaptive actions and increased awareness and (ii) To increase the skills and knowledge on successful practices of adaptation through well designed education, training and awareness programmes'. The proposed outcomes, outputs and activities of the OP7 project fit well within these objectives.

The Third National Communication to the UNFCCC (under development). The Second National Report, among its components has one on vulnerability and adaptation. Under this component, it recommends adaptation in the water sector for agriculture and ecosystem-based adaptation, which is a holistic approach that requires intersectoral collaboration. The proposed outcomes of the SGP Sri Lanka project exemplifies these recommendations.

The National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) under UNCBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD (2007) lists among its objectives 'enhance capacity for communication, education and public awareness on conservation and sustainable use of resources to mobilize commitment and participation of all stakeholders; and enhance capacity to integrate (mainstream) environment concerns into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies and programmes of public agencies.' These are, fundamentally, what multi-stakeholder governance platforms under Component 2 of the OP7 project are envisaging to achieve.

Through the **UNDP BIOFIN** (the Biodiversity Finance Initiative), Sri Lanka is developing a sustainable certification system for Sri Lankan tourism industry. Eco-tourism in planned in all three proposed landscapes, and guidance on sustainable tourism would be beneficial to the project.

Sri Lanka is also party to regional agreements such as the **Dhaka Declaration** and **SAARC Action Plan on Climate Change**, **Male Declaration** on transboundary air pollution, and the **South Asia Seas Action Plan** all of which are strongly supportive of the objectives of the project.

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.