



## **OPERATIONAL PHASE 8 (OP8)**

### **SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY (CPS)**

**BELIZE**





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## OP8 Financial Resources - SGP Country Programme (estimated US\$)<sup>1</sup>

|                                                                   |                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total SGP Grants to date since Country Programme start date (309) | USD 8,799,520   |
| OP8 GEF Core Funds                                                | USD 500,000 TBC |
| OP8 GEF STAR Funds                                                | USD 800,000     |
| Other funds (secured)ICCA-GSI                                     | USD 500,000 TBC |
| Other funds (expected/to be mobilized)                            | USD 600,000     |

<sup>1</sup> The level of SGP OP8 resources is an estimated total of: (a) the GEF8 core grant allocation; (b) approved STAR resources; as well as (c) other sources of cost sharing & co-financing (country, regional and/or global levels). SGP countries with remaining OP7 balances that have not been pipelined will be expected to use these balances in line with the OP8 strategic approach in order to be coherent in terms of SGP programming and results expected.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Eighth Operational Phase of the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP OP8) builds on 31 years of successful experience in empowering local civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) in designing and leading community driven innovative, impactful and inclusive initiatives that have enhanced household wellbeing, increased awareness and resilience regarding environmental threats, and generated global environmental benefits. With economic development pressures intensifying in many parts of the developing world and the associated rising inequalities, local communities, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are becoming more and more marginalized, unable to cope with threats associated with ecosystem degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change. Lessons learned and experience gained in previous SGP Operational Phases have demonstrated that integrated, landscape-seascape approaches are effective in mobilizing multiple stakeholder collaboration, linking local CSOs/CBOs with enabling partners and achieving mutually supportive livelihood and environmental outcomes at scale.

The objectives of the GEF SGP OP8 is to engage local CSOs/CBOs in landscape-seascape approaches across the world, providing them access to knowledge and information, capacitating them through learning-by-doing, skills development, and delivering technical and grant assistance for interventions that enhance wellbeing and socioeconomic conditions and generate global environmental benefits.

The OP8 objectives reflect the key features of GEF Small Grants Programme 2.0, including new approaches to support youth, women and Indigenous Peoples, linking up with complementary mechanisms, such as the Microfinance Initiative and CSO Challenge Programme, cooperating with other GEF Agencies, and leveraging opportunities with GEF strategies, including the delivery of the GEF-8 Integrated Programmes. In addition, OP8 will facilitate opportunities for innovation and scaling up, catalyze multi-stakeholder alliances to test new approaches through CSOs, and leverage its dialogue platforms towards greater impact. OP8 will also align and contribute to the UNDP Strategic Plan (2022-2025).

## 2. COUNTRY PROGRAMME SUMMARY: Key results and achievements

The GEF Small Grants Programme has been active in Belize since 1993, providing over US\$8.7 million and leveraged US\$11.5 million for investments to more than 309 projects grounded in the communities, building capacity, addressing vulnerabilities and providing opportunities to spark and nurture innovations that are inspired by the rich mix of biodiversity, heritage and culture in Belize. SGP's investments support the generation of sustainable livelihoods, while addressing the GEF Focal Areas of: Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Prevention of Land Degradation, Protection of International Waters, Reduction of the Impact of Chemicals.

The GEF Small Grants Programme nurtures emerging community-based organizations, building their capacity, increasing their exposure to external ideas and bringing them to the table in national discussions, ensuring their voices are heard. It supports their growth into vibrant, effective non-governmental organizations, building long-term partnerships based on shared visions, respect, and a mutual level of understanding of the need for the sustainable use of Belize's natural resources. The SGP integrates improved recognition of the natural resource values, ecosystem services and the need to live in balance with the environment into its projects. It also provides a learning platform for sharing ideas, best practices, lessons learnt and successful strategies across Belize, regionally, and around the world,



encouraging replication and scaling up of successful outcomes, strengthening the impact of local contributions to national and global sustainable development goals.

### 3. COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

#### 3.1 Alignment with national priorities

Table 1. List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes

| Conventions + national planning frameworks                                   | Date of ratification / completion                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| GEF-8 National Dialogues                                                     |                                                                                                              |
| Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) | Signature: 13 June 1992<br>Ratification: 30 Dec 1993<br>Effective date: 30 March 1994                        |
| CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)                   | Belize National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2016                                                   |
| Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)                          | None submitted                                                                                               |
| UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)                           | Date of signature<br>22 April 2016<br>Date of ratification<br>22 April 2016                                  |
| UNFCCC National Communications                                               | 1st Communication: 16 Sept 2002<br>2nd Communication: 28 Oct 2011<br>3rd Communication: 27 Apr 2016          |
| UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)                      | None submitted                                                                                               |
| UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)                            | None submitted                                                                                               |
| Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the Paris Accord              | 1st submitted 20 Apr 2016                                                                                    |
| UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)                              | UNCCD, 1994                                                                                                  |
| UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)                                       |                                                                                                              |
| Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)            | Signature: 14 May 2002<br>Accession: 25 January 2010                                                         |
| SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)                                        | Submitted: 03 Feb 2011                                                                                       |
| Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury                                          |                                                                                                              |
| UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)                                 | 25 Sept 2015                                                                                                 |
| Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs                            | 1st VNRs 2017<br>2nd VNRs 2020 HLPF<br>VNRs 2024 HLPF                                                        |
| Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies (IW) | Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystems and Guyana and Brazil Shelf (CLME+) and management of the Gulf of Honduras |
| Horizon 2030                                                                 | March 2011                                                                                                   |



|                                                          |               |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| National Protected Areas Policy and System Plan          | Updated 2016  |
| Agriculture and Food Security Policy                     | May 2002-2020 |
| National Forest Policy                                   | May 2015      |
| National Integrated Water Resources Authority Act        | 1 Sept 2015   |
| UNESCO World Heritage Site Convention                    | 6 Nov 1990    |
| GoB Policy on Adaptation to Global Climate Change        | Sept 2014     |
| National Climate Change Policy, Strategy and Action Plan | 18 Mar 2015   |
| National Gender Policy                                   | 18 April 2024 |

### 3.2 Gaps and opportunities

Belize has a total of 118 globally threatened species 9 critically endangered, 32 endangered and 77 vulnerable and a further 62 near threatened / of least concern (IUCN, 2016). Of these, the critically endangered Central American River turtle (“hicatee”) is considered at highest risk of local extinction. Two species of sawfish (the small tooth and large tooth sawfish) are considered ecologically extinct from Belize in the last 30 to 40 years.

The connected mangroves, seagrass and reefs of the clear coastal waters provide habitat for a rich mix of vibrant marine life, and the barrier reef that runs parallel to the mainland provides physical protection to the cayes and coastline, reducing the strength of oceanic waves and tropical storms. These complex, natural landscapes and seascapes support vulnerable communities and livelihoods - farming, hunting and fishing - tightly tied to the health of the natural resources. They form the foundation for Belize’s nature-based tourism industry, with an estimated direct contribution of 15% or more to the national economy.

The Belizean economy has been buoyed by natural resources-based activities such as fisheries, agriculture and tourism. Indigenous and rural communities have traditionally relied on natural resources at the subsistence level, particularly the use of non-timber forest resources. This requires that there is sustained focus on the stewardship of these resources. If proper management and best practices are employed, then the resources can and will provide opportunities for income generation and general livelihoods for present and future generations. These communities are also able to do damage to the very resources on which their livelihoods are based. Opportunities exist for communities to become more involved in the stewardship efforts of these resources at the landscape and seascape level. Experience has shown that, when given the opportunity, rural and indigenous communities can become, the best stewards of the resources on which they depend utilizing a community-driven rights-based approach.

The OP8 Strategy is in line with the United Nations Multi Country Development Assistance Framework 2022-2026, UNDP Country Programme Document, Medium Term Development Strategy and supports the localization and 2030 agenda priorities. At the community level, the OP8 strategy will provide a mechanism for meaningful community consultation and participation. Making use of existing strategic partner organizations resident in the communities is one method that will be used to ensure that there is a two-way flow of information. It also provides for participation in the planning and management process. With the



development of new policies and plans the opportunities exist for communities to be factored in as a formal and functional part of the planning, design and implementation of natural resources management activities.

A review of the information available on project funding indicates that when a project fails, often it is because of a lack of adequate technical and managerial capacity within the recipient groups. This also impacts on the ability and willingness of groups to continue to participate in management and sustainable use of natural resources. Therefore, there needs to be some emphasis placed on developing the requisite capacity in the following areas: group organization and conflict resolution, development and use of best practices, scalability and replicability of projects, particularly income generating projects, viability, management and marketing of income generating project, self-sufficiency and reduced impact. Additionally, support needs to be provided in the areas of technical support in all aspects of project development and implementation. Investments in grassroots leadership capacities and human capital is necessary to attain sustainable inclusive human development.

Projects shall focus on promoting equity, sustainability and resilience to Climate Change. Specifically, projects will address the following:

- ✓ Strategic support to implementation of a portfolio of blue economy initiatives.
- ✓ Supplemental livelihood and income generation that looks at equitable alternative sources or methods of using natural resources.
- ✓ Value adding to income generating projects that utilize natural resources.
- ✓ Including best practices in traditional, cultural and economic activities.
- ✓ Reducing impact on the community conserved areas and protected areas.
- ✓ Capacity building in the areas of business management, marketing and record keeping.
- ✓ Information dissemination and community participation.
- ✓ Pilot projects for community based small and medium enterprises.
- ✓ Mitigation of climate-induced forest fires through innovative preventative community-driven approaches; and
- ✓ Piloting Agri-photovoltaics within food production landscapes.

This list is not exhaustive, but it should serve as the starting point for the development and meaningful participation of communities in transformational projects at the local level.

### **3.3 OP8 strategic priorities of the SGP Country Programme**

There are several initiatives that have the potential to provide synergies with the GEF Small Grants Programme. Over the last four years the Government of Belize has undertaken a comprehensive approach to environmental and natural resources management. In the Public Sector Investment Programme portfolio there are 15 environment and natural resources management projects listed which are being implemented by or on behalf the Government of Belize. These projects focus on social mobilization, facilitation and community co-management of natural resources, promotion and strengthening of entrepreneurship, and the enhancement of Belize's resilience to the impacts of climate change. It also supports sustainable fisheries and forestry and the economic development of these two important sectors.



Strengthening natural resource management and biodiversity conservation, the development of administrative, legal and financial frameworks for the effective management of Belize's protected areas and public awareness of the need for and importance of the management of natural resources are also included.

SGP's community -driven approach informs ongoing larger projects that are being implemented by the Government of Belize and funded by GEF/UNDP, IFAD, GCF, World Bank and other agencies all have large capacity building, natural resource management, climate adaptation and mitigation, community co-management and alternative livelihoods components. The Protected Areas Conservation Trust as the national trust fund is a key partner in providing support to protected areas management via its new investment strategy model. The focus is primarily on capacity building, capitalization and some operational support for NGOs. The Belize Fund for A Sustainable Future is a private conservation fund established on 8 March 2022, through the Conservation Funding Agreement under the Blue Bonds to support government and non-government partners, focused on Belize's coastal and marine resources. The Belize Fund disburses grants to non-government partners involved in conservation efforts, scientific research, climate change adaptation activities and blue businesses. The Belize Barrier Reef Fund via the Mesoamerican Reef Fund provides capacity development and operational support to organizations involved in seascape stewardship efforts.

Table 2. SGP Country Programme's alignment with SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives and country priorities/projects/programmes

| SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives - Global                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | SGP Country Programme's OP8 Priorities<br>(Choose priorities among the SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives on the left column. Some are mandatory and already included.)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | SGP Country Programme's complementarity with GEF, UNDP, and other projects and programmes<br>(identify related projects/programmes for cooperation)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b><i>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species</i></b></p> <p>1) Improve the effectiveness of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and management through equitable governance systems by recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.</p> <p>2) Improve community-led biodiversity friendly practices and approaches, including promoting blue economy approaches (e.g. agriculture, fisheries,</p> | <p>Continue the sustainable management of Belize's landscape and seascapes with the aim of building climate resilience, ensuring water and food security, reducing disaster risk, and preserving Belize's natural and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Support capacity building initiatives in landscape/seascape management planning and approaches.</p> <p>Support the development of strategic interventions at landscape/seascape towards achieving sustainable use and management of marine and terrestrial resources. Scaling down of national plans at the local level</p> | <p>The UNDP Country programme for 2022 to 2026 is derived from the United Nations Multi-Country Sustainable Development Frameworks.</p> <p>Belize adopts a path to green, resilient, inclusive, and sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, as it addresses the dynamic relations between natural resource management, climate change, disaster risk reduction and economic development.</p> <p>Belize adopts a path to green, resilient, inclusive, and sustainable</p> |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| <p>forestry, tourism, infrastructure, etc.).</p> <p>3) Enhance community led actions for protection of threatened species.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <p>Support sustainable livelihood activities within selected landscape/seascape.</p> <p>Support the implementation of key strategies and actions outlined in existing Conservation Action Plans, with emphasis on ensuring connectivity of key biological corridors overlapping proposed OP8 landscapes and seascapes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, as it addresses the dynamic relations between natural resource management, climate change, disaster risk reduction and economic development</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p><b><i>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</i></b></p> <p>1) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of overall food production and value chain, including in vulnerable ecosystems (mountains, island ecosystems, etc.).</p> <p>2) Increase diversification and livelihood improvement.</p> <p>3) Remove deforestation from supply chain and expand restoration of degraded lands.</p> | <p>Support capacity building initiatives in climate smart agricultural production and agro-forestry.</p> <p>Support the implementation of climate smart agricultural best practices in prioritized landscapes and seascapes (coastal zone)</p> <p>Support the integration of agriculture, tourism and forestry best practices in prioritized Landscapes (biological corridors)</p> <p>Support climate smart sustainable livelihood activities in production buffer zones within the selected landscapes/seascapes</p> | <p>Indicator 2.1 State of environmental performance and sustainability: Environmental Performance Index Baseline (2020): 57.79 Target (2026): 57.79</p> <p>Output 2.4. Local communities have improved access to green development opportunities linked to the sustainable exploitation of green and blue resources for expanded livelihoods, decent work and employment opportunities in formal and informal sectors Indicator 2.4.1. Number of new green jobs (formal and informal) and livelihood opportunities directly supported through UNDP programming Baseline (2022): 0 Target: 750 Source: UNDP Frequency: Annually</p> |
| <p><b><i>Low-carbon energy access co-benefits</i></b></p> <p>Support implementation of Paris Agreement and the NDCs</p> <p>1) Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies providing socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods.</p> <p>2) Promote off-grid energy service needs in rural and urban areas.</p>                                                                                 | <p>Support capacity building and awareness on Low Carbon Energy (LCE) access options in communities without access to electricity in prioritized areas.</p> <p>Support LCE access options for electricity and cooking in communities without access to electricity.</p> <p>Support private sector- community partnerships which promote shifts towards energy technologies with low carbon emissions.</p>                                                                                                             | <p>SEA for all- energy for development – look at a broader support of Secretary General Energy for All.</p> <p>Sustainable Development Goal #7 – Affordable and Clean Energy</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p><b><i>Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</i></b></p> <p>1) Reduce and promote alternative to mercury use</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>Support national efforts towards phasing-out single use plastics through targeted knowledge exchanges and partnerships with CSOs, local communities and indigenous peoples</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |



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| <p>in artisanal and small-scale gold mining.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2) Promote plastics/solid waste management and circular economy.</li> <li>3) Reduce/remove use of chemicals in agriculture.</li> <li>4) Enhance local to global coalitions on chemicals, waste and mercury management.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |
| <p><b><i>Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Improve capacities to promote community-driven, socially inclusive and integrated solutions to address low-emission and resilient urban development.</li> <li>2) Demonstrate innovative socially inclusive urban solutions/ approaches (including waste and chemical management, energy, transport, watershed protection, ecosystem services and biodiversity).</li> <li>3) Implement public-private partnership approach for low carbon energy access for marginalized urban communities.</li> </ol> | <p>Support to enhance capacities in urban areas to implement innovative socially urban solutions bridging landscape and seascape connectivity, vitality and functionality as corridors of life</p> |  |
| <p><b><i>Community-Based Adaptation (CBA Phase 3) (only applicable to CBA Phase 3 participating countries) (with DFAT funding)</i></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Reduce vulnerability and improve the adaptive capacity of communities.</li> <li>2) Provide countries with concrete ground-level experience on Climate Change Adaptation and CBA.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |



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| <p>3) Provide clear policy lessons and mainstream CBA within national processes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                      |
| <p><b>Global ICCA Support Initiative (ICCA GSI Phase 2)</b> (only applicable to ICCA GSI Phase 2 participating countries) (with BMUV IKI funding)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Work Package 1: Provide national level ICCA small grants.</li> <li>2) Work Package 2: Provide legal and governance assistance to ICCAs.</li> <li>3) Work Package 3: Network exchange and knowledge management for ICCAs.</li> </ol>                                   | <p>Support to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to operationalize the Belize Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas Country Programme Strategy.</p> <p>Targeted grantmaking to projects in support of Indigenous led participatory governance approaches and stewardship of Community Conserved Areas in Belize.</p> <p>Foster legal and governance assistance to the ICCA Network in Belize.</p> <p>Support three knowledge exchanges between the ICCA network to enhance ICCA governance, stewardship and innovative financing approaches.</p> | <p>The Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Targets 3, 21, 22 and 23 (2023-2028).</p> |
| <p><b>Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS Phase 4)</b> (only applicable to COMDEKS Phase 4 participating countries) (with Ministry of Environment, Japan and Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund funding)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Sustainable landscape and seascape management and restoration.</li> <li>2) Knowledge Management for capacity building, replication, and up-scaling.</li> </ol> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                      |



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| <p><b>CSO-government-private sector policy and planning dialogue platforms</b></p> <p>1) Promote/enhance community voices and participation in global and national policy, strategy development related to global environment and sustainable development issues.</p> | <p>Support civil society in coordination to participate in national level dialogue platforms.</p> <p>Support capacity building of civil society organizations in negotiation, conflict resolution and good governance principles to prepare for dialogue among themselves and with Government</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
| <p><b>Enhancing social inclusion (mandatory)</b></p> <p>1) Promote inclusive targeted initiatives.</p> <p>2) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects. (e.g. women/girls, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities).</p>                           | <p><b>Enhancing social inclusion</b></p> <p>Promote targeted inclusive initiatives.</p> <p>Mainstream social inclusion in all projects.</p> <p>Support coordination activities and capacity building to promote women's, youth and IPs participation and leadership in community initiatives at the local and national levels.</p> <p>The SGP will support initiatives which incorporate women, youth and IP participation throughout OP8. The CPS will adopt the Social and Environmental Safeguards and Human Rights Based approach to participation in all projects.</p> <p>Enhancing women's participation and role in natural resources decision-making processes, with women as agents of change at all levels by: (i) promoting women's equal engagement in community, rural and urban planning processes; (ii) promoting women's voice in decision-making and policy in global and national planning and decision-making bodies; (iii) supporting women's engagement in producer organizations, cooperatives, labour unions, outgrow</p> |  |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>schemes etc.; (vi) promoting women's voice (including indigenous peoples and local community groups) in partnerships and alliances with regional and national networks; and (v) providing policy level training opportunities to help women participate in decision-making forums.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <p><b>Knowledge Management (KM)</b><br/><i>(mandatory)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities.</li> <li>2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs.</li> <li>3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices.</li> </ol> | <p><b>Knowledge Management</b></p> <p>Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities.</p> <p>Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs.</p> <p>Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices.</p> <p>Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities</p> <p>Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs</p> <p>Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices</p> <p>Contribute to the use of existing National knowledge platforms i.e. ICCA Network</p> <p>Support exchange programs at the national and international levels to promote knowledge sharing on innovative community initiatives</p> |  |
| <p><b>Results Management, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation (M&amp;E)</b> <i>(mandatory)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Administer new M&amp;E strategy in Country Programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms.</li> </ol>                                      | <p><b>Results Management, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b></p> <p>Administer M&amp;E strategy in Country Programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms.</p> <p>Mainstream country-driven M&amp;E strategy within established mentorship approaches to capacity development and assurance role/oversight functions</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |



## 4. OP8 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

### 4.1 Grantmaking within the priority landscape/seascapes

#### a) Process for selecting priority landscapes and seascapes

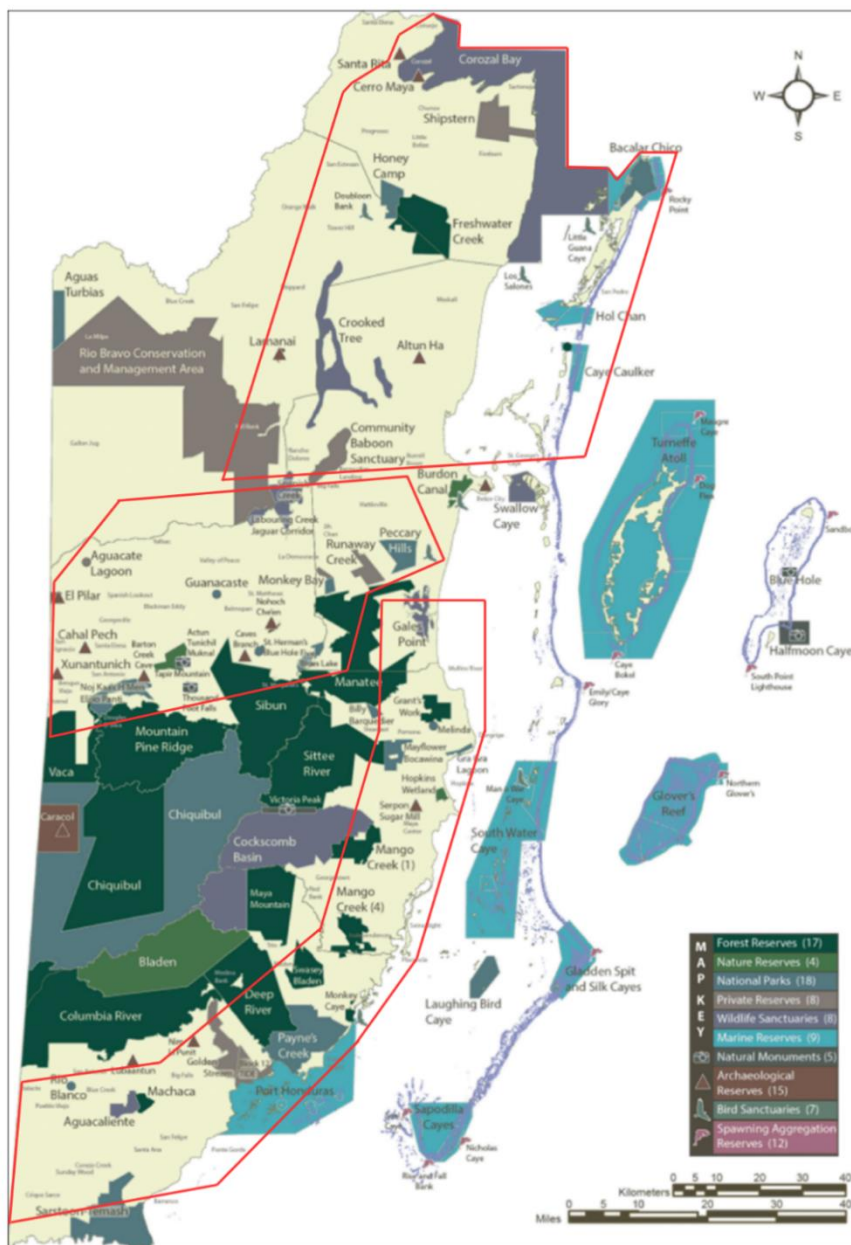
The process of identifying the priority landscapes and seascapes for OP8 involved utilizing environmental and socio-economic attributes which highlight the communities and regions that truly require the greatest levels of consideration and investment. The watersheds of Belize were the foundation of the mapping process of the terrestrial areas. The environmental and socio-economic factors were layered and weighted to determine where the highest concentrations of threats are located. The eight (8) criteria selected are:

- a) Proximity to protected areas (closer, the higher the score).
- b) Proximity to roads (further away, the higher the score).
- c) Proximity to rivers (further away, the higher the score).
- d) Proximity to forests (closer, the higher the score).
- e) Susceptibility to flood (higher flood susceptibility, the higher the score).
- f) Richness of species (higher the richness, the higher the score).
- g) Population estimates for 2024 (lower the population, the higher the score); and
- h) Urban or rural status (lower score for large urban areas, higher score for villages).

The criteria were processed in GIS resulting in Map 1 below. The priority areas match closely those initially proposed (Map 2). During the Consultation and Scoping Exercise, stakeholders were in general agreement with the landscapes/seascapes in OP6 and further consolidation and systematizations during OP7. Since the SGP proposed and the weighted maps correspond well, only minor edits were made to update the final prioritized landscape and seascapes for OP8 (see map1 annex 1).

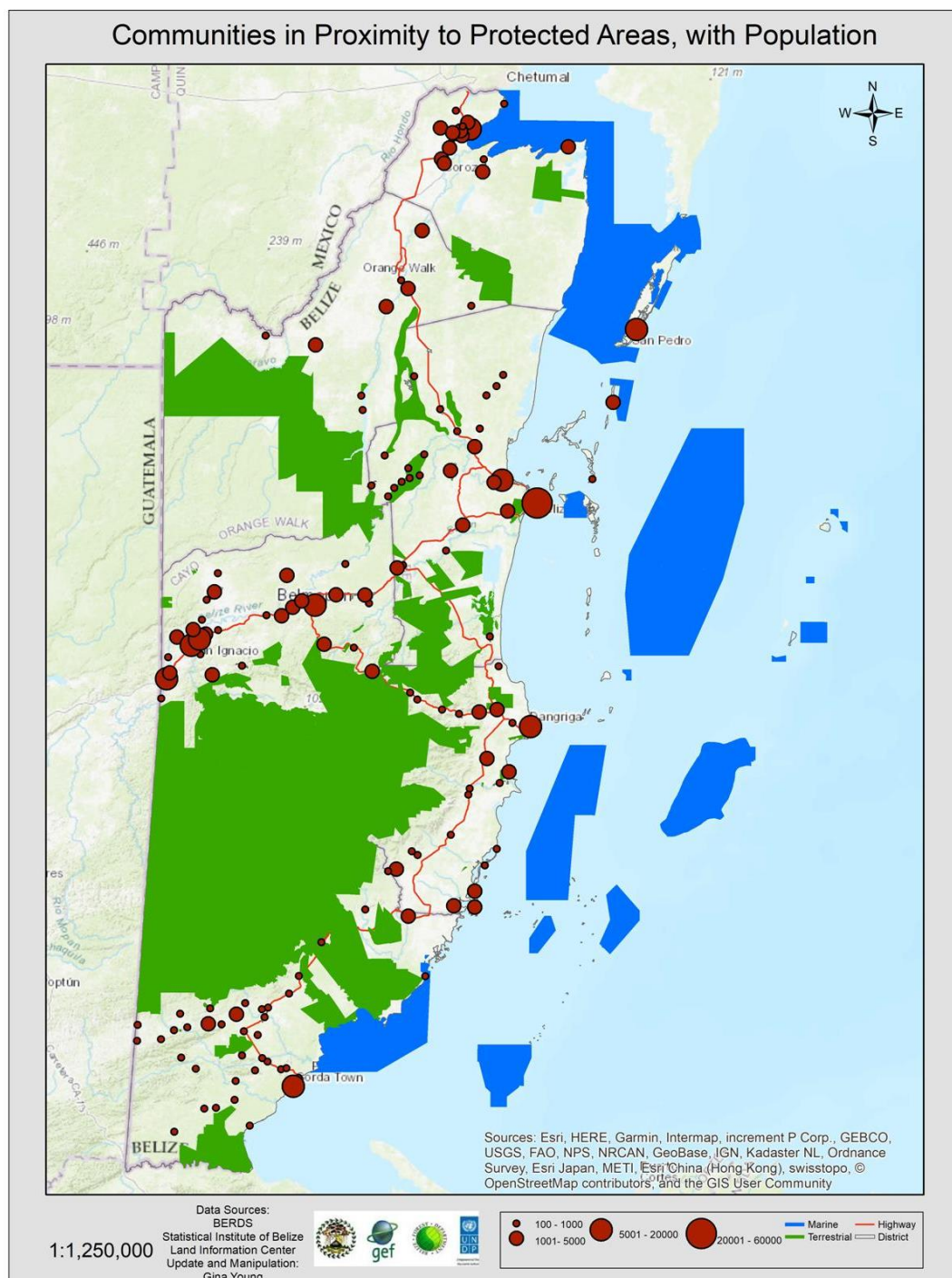
#### b) Selected landscapes/seascapes for OP8

##### a) Map 1: Showing communities and OP8 Landscapes and Seascape Target Areas





**Map 2. Communities in Proximity to Protected Areas with Population**





### c) OP8 Strategic Initiatives in the landscapes/seascapes

The GEF Small Grants Programme supports Belize's national development framework, and the GSDS through investment in local-based actions to achieve national goals that aligned to Critical Success Factor 3 (CSF3 - the sustained or improved health of natural, environmental, historical and cultural assets), which integrates the environment, biodiversity, and ecosystem health more firmly into national development goals. This to being achieved through implementation of national plans such as the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the road map for meeting Belize's commitments to the Convention on Biological Diversity. SGP Belize will prioritize implementation of Strategic initiatives, Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species and Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security with direct investments of 70% of the total allocated grant resources during OP8.

### d) Grantmaking Outside the Priority Landscapes/Seascapes

The landscape/seascape conservation approach is the foundation for holistically addressing sustainable development issues, activities outside of the selected landscape/seascape should focus on i) capacity building and awareness of landscape/seascape level planning, and ii) all three Grant Maker Support Initiatives. By supporting activities of landscape and seascape level planning outside of the targeted OP8 landscape/seascape, the SGP will ensure that the efforts undertaken within its target sites are not undermined by other initiatives within the zone of influence. In the terrestrial realm, a diagnostic of the cumulative effects of various land use practices within a selected watershed or biological corridor (landscape) would put into perspective the interlinking and domino effects (positive and negative) of all activities. It would also serve to identify priority sites and thematic areas of attention for future projects of the SGP and other agencies. The same can be done in the ensuring a functioning marine protected area network (seascapes). It is then expected that the landscape/seascape planning activities would necessitate a very limited number of strategic grants. The Grant Maker+ Support Initiatives should be scaled to national level processes to foster an enabling environment for successful and impactful sustainable development projects, which necessarily form a part of national growth and sustainable development actions. SGP proposes to issue open calls for two strategic grants to consolidate previous investments and scale-up innovative nature-based solutions.

## 4.2 CSO-government-private sector dialogue platforms

The Country Programme Strategy recognizes that strengthened dialogue between Government and Civil Society is necessary to advance the goals of the SGP. In view of this, the CPS will:

- ✓ Support increased public awareness of civil society on good governance principles.
- ✓ Support dialogue platforms between Government and Resource users and Managers.
- ✓ Support CSO participation in national level policy and planning processes relating to MEAs, national policy and planning processes and emerging national issues; and,



- ✓ Within the SGP annual work plan, schedule and incorporate discussions between and among Government and CSOs on issues of concern which emanate from the portfolio of projects within the prioritized landscapes/seascapes.

An often overlooked and undervalued process in project management is the systematization of experiences. Systematization is the reconstruction and analytical reflection about an experience in which what has happened is interpreted to better understand it. This allows the acquiring of consistent and sustained knowledge, communicating this knowledge, comparing it with other existing theoretical knowledge, thereby contributing to the accumulation of knowledge generated by and for practice (Bernechea and Morgan, 2007). The knowledge, recommendations and lessons learned from a systematization exercise can be institutionalized for creating change and can be communicated with other stakeholders towards advocacy for change.

### **4.3 Promoting social inclusion, including gender equality and women's empowerment**

Compliance with the Gender Policy requires efforts on the part of different sectors; governmental, non-governmental and civil society entities, across landscapes and seascapes. Approximately 23,400 people (16% of the labour force) are employed in agriculture. Of that total, 9.4% are women, working mainly in the agro-processing sector. Rural women are the most affected by poverty and lack of access to services and resources for personal development and for their contribution to the development of their communities and indigenous territories.

SGP will support targeted grants to women and youth organizations and capacity development opportunities will be prioritized establishing and sustaining small and medium enterprises led by women. Investment in agri-businesses and value-chains, food storage and processing, seedbanks, marketing, organization and negotiation skills will be prioritized. Empowering women and youth can change overall gender inequality, safeguard food security and ensure sustainability of landscapes and seascape outcomes in line with national priorities and sustainable development goals. Grantmaking directly to women-led organizations will foster access to finance to directly design and implement their own innovative solutions to sustainable development challenges.

Gender-response affirmative action will be applied to every project and as such will require participation of men, women and youth which will be documented and measured over the lifetime of the projects. Project indicators will be gender-disaggregated as appropriate. Interested proponent organizations are required to complete an Environmental, Social and Gender Checklist. This will assist in identifying any potential risks and appropriate mitigation measures. In OP8, SGP will prioritize investments targeting Persons with Diverse Abilities in keeping with the principle of 'leaving no one behind'. All projects approved by the NSC will comply with gender marker requirements. This will involve supporting activities which cultivate leadership roles, coordination, planning and exchange of experience within/among these vulnerable groups, and participation in national level dialogue and decision-making mechanisms with regulatory agencies as necessary.

### **4.4 Knowledge Management**



It has been previously discussed that regular dialogues within and among different sectoral national initiatives is necessary for promoting synergies. Furthermore, regular (annual) convening of SGP Grantees to share experiences, good practices and lessons learned will be encouraged and supported. These events and their results will be widely publicized at the national and international levels through existing national media and international networks of the GEF, SGP, UNDP and broader UN System. The SGP will provide support for in-country exchanges between and among different initiatives and SGP project activities. Similarly, international exchanges will expose grantees in Belize to other innovative and successful initiatives. 10 CSO-Government and private sector dialogues will be conducted in coordination with women-led organizations to foster and enhance pooled investments and knowledge management efforts. SGP Belize will support 15 peer-to peer exchanges and five knowledge management fairs during OP8.

## 5. COMMUNICATION PLAN

As a part of the strategy, the SGP must develop a structured mechanism to deliver the message of its processes and projects in such a manner that is easily understood by all its stakeholders. There should be recognition that the various stakeholders who access this facility do not use the same language and the same media to acquire information. Therefore, messages will need to be tailored for specific audiences, using appropriate tools and mechanism of dissemination.

Specifically, the SGP will develop and implement an SGP Communications and Public Awareness Strategy for OP8 CPS. This strategy will cover thematic areas such as:

- Making the grant application form more user-friendly.
- Improving the language of SGP documents for user-friendliness.
- Planning an SGP calendar of events and for public information purposes.
- Developing and sharing appropriate public awareness and information material.
- Holding training sessions with rural and remote stakeholders on SGP's grant making processes.
- Recognizing the role of and formalizing strong relationships with the media.
- Use of SGP Belize Facebook and X platforms for dissemination of SGP results.
- Utilizing news media mechanisms for broad dissemination of the communications strategy; and
- Contribute stories and case studies to SGP global.

## 6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN

Resource mobilization will occur at three levels as outlined below. At the:

**Project level:** Grantees will be encouraged to make, in every instance, an in kind and where possible, an indicative cash contribution to the project. Contributions, particularly cash, will ensure that there is real commitment to the goals and objectives of the project.



**Landscape/seascape level:** Grantees will be encouraged to look at collaborative approaches to the execution of their projects including the establishment of consortia both in the design and implementation. Overall, this will give credence to the use of SGP funds being used as leverage for additional resources.

**Country level:** Project proponents will be encouraged, even facilitated by the GEF SGP staff, to promote collaboration between and among grant making and loan financing agencies operating in Belize. This approach will enable greater amounts of grant and loan financing resources to be directed to projects which originate in the SGP portfolio. In this regard, Belizean funding agencies such as PACT, Belize Fund for A Sustainable Future and the Belize Marine Fund could be promoted as partners in this endeavour.

#### **a.) Secured and planned cash and in-kind co-financing**

SGP Belize has secured 10% of the GEF 8 STAR resources. Secured co-financing from the Grantee Partners Network via Conservation Investments by the Protected Areas Conservation Trust, Belize Fund for A Sustainable Future and the Belize Marine Fund secured as cash and in-kind co-financing for respective proposed projects.

#### **b.) Cofinancing opportunities**

SGP Belize's established track record of mobilizing additional grant resources beyond the GEF Core grant resources will be bolstered during OP8. SGP Belize is in discussion with the UNDP CO for delivery of a percentage of the US\$1million of India/IBSA resources to support upscaling of photovoltaics to Otoxoha, Mabil Ha and Na Lum Cah villages. SGP Belize partner with international donors and foundations to re-grant resources for landscape and seascape management, climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.

## **7. PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

SGP Belize has secured 10% of the GEF 8 STAR resources. Secured co-financing from the Grantee Partners Network via Conservation Investments by the Protected Areas Conservation Trust and the Belize Marine Fund secured as cash and in-kind co-financing for respective proposed projects. SGP Belize's established track record of mobilizing additional grant resources beyond the GEF Core grant resources will be bolstered during OP8. SGP Belize will continue to deliver the ICCA-GSI initiative to support Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. SGP Belize is in discussion with the UNDP CO to support delivery of the IBSA photovoltaics project to upscale low carbon energy solutions to three rural and remote communities. SGP Belize will partner with international donors and foundations to re-grant resources for landscape and seascape management, climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.

The SGP projects will occur alongside other ongoing initiatives at the landscape/seascape level leveraging investments from Government Ministries. In accordance with this overall planning approach, the SGP office must be in harmony with programs and actions of other agencies in the priority areas defined. Whether Public, Private, Statutory or International, synergies will be achieved with sustained assistance from the UNDP country office, through annual planning and coordination sessions among the relevant agencies.



In so doing, the SGP and other similar agencies will be assured of up-to-date information, thereby reducing the probability of duplication and creating greater impacts for their beneficiaries. At the SGP programme level, semi-annual review sessions need to be held with all grantees to share updates between and among the grantees themselves. This will promote a culture which shares experiences and lessons learned, and thus build a knowledge base on which improved synergies and impacts can be launched at the broader landscape/seascape levels.

## 8. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Table 3. Description of risks identified in OP8

| Describe identified risk                                                                                                               | Degree of risk<br>(low, medium, high) | Probability of risk<br>(low, medium, high) | Risk mitigation measure foreseen                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Extreme weather events - hurricanes, floods or droughts impact OP8 Landscapes and Seascapes                                            | High                                  | Medium                                     | Implement adaptation and mitigation measures to build resilience in the various sectors                 |
| The ability to operate when struck by environmentally influenced diseases such as vector borne, water borne and respiratory epidemics. | High                                  | Medium                                     | Maintain vector control measures already in place, increase where necessary.                            |
| Belize current economic performance particularly in the primary agriculture, tourism, fisheries sector comes under threat.             | Medium                                | Medium                                     | GoB urgently implement policy measures to address the critical factors influencing economic performance |

## 9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

The Monitoring & Evaluation Plan at the country programme level will support the implementation of the CPS by ensuring that the Strategy's objectives are effectively tracked by providing necessary information for progress monitoring. The plan will facilitate adaptive decision-making and will also provide information for the country programme to communicate to relevant partners.

A participatory external mid-term evaluation of the CPS will be carried out involving all relevant partners to determine the progress being made and what can be improved in implementation of the CPS. Finally, a



terminal external evaluation will be made at the end of the Operational Phase to assess level of achievement and impact. The results of M& E activities will contribute to the assessment at country level of the Country Programme Strategy.

### **9.1 Monitoring approaches at project and country levels**

A Monitoring and Evaluation plan (M&E plan) for individual SGP grants will be developed in the proposal format. The Plan will be used by the SGP project team to help the grantee plan and manage all M&E activities throughout a project cycle. It should be a basic plan that outlines what you should monitor, when you should monitor, who should monitor, and why you should monitor.

The M&E Plan include goals and objectives of the plan; M&E questions and methodologies; Matrix of M&E indicators and expected results; a proposed timetable of all M&E activities; M&E instruments for gathering data; and a mid-term internal evaluation.

Additionally, a comprehensive participatory end of project external evaluation will be conducted at the end of projects is integral to the M&E Plan. The primary objective is to identify and determine results achieved by the project and to share the lessons learnt and best practice experiences. Also, this will enable the building of new capacity within grantee organizations. These evaluations will also help to inform the overall CPS evaluations.

A protocol is to be developed on how to monitor new grantees in comparison to traditional ones. For example, it may be necessary to conduct several monitoring visits in the early phase of project implementation and to provide ongoing guidance and oversight for project implementation for new grantees. This is where practical oversight and mentorship by more established NGOs or another civil society organization can be undertaken. These emergent grantees may very well lack the necessary project monitoring and reporting capacity. Mentors are resource persons who are familiar with SGP guidelines and procedures and who will have specific TORs and responsibilities identified in the M&E plan. All projects will have a Project Steering Committee with representation from regulatory agencies, grantee partner representatives and other donors' partners.

SGP promotes a shift from a gender-aware, "do no harm" approach to a gender-responsive, "do good" approach by requiring robust standards in the design, implementation and evaluation of its activities with the aim of enhancing leveraging of strategic opportunities to address gender gaps to achieve global environmental benefits. It includes due regard to the welfare, beliefs, and customs of those involved or affected, avoiding or disclosing any conflict of interest, and acknowledging the influence of culture within and across groups. Innovative engagement approaches will be encouraged i.e. video proposal in local indigenous languages, proposals in flip charts and fostering communication and coordination with IPLCs representatives to participate in community monitoring efforts and tracking of project results and outcomes.



Table 4. M&amp;E Plan at the Country Programme level

| M&E Activity                                                                                                | Purpose                                                                                                                         | Responsible Parties                                                                                                                      | Budget Source                                                                                 | Timing                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Country Programme Strategy elaboration                                                                      | Framework for action including identification of community projects                                                             | NC, NSC, country stakeholders, grantees                                                                                                  | A SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to update OP8 CPS                      | At start of OP8                                                                                                                                                           |
| As part of NSC meetings, ongoing review of project results and analysis. This includes an Annual CPS Review | Assess effectiveness of projects, country portfolio; learning; adaptive management                                              | NC, NSC, UNDP Country Office. Final deliberations shared/ analysed with CPMT colleagues                                                  | Staff time, Country Operating Budget                                                          | At least one annual CPS review to ensure OP8 CPS is on track to achieve its results and make timely and evidence-based modifications to CPS as may be needed <sup>2</sup> |
| Annual Monitoring Report Survey <sup>3</sup>                                                                | Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF. It serves as the primary tools to record and analytically present results to donors | NC/PA in close collaboration with NSC. CPMT provides technical guidance support and receives final country submission for further action | Staff time                                                                                    | Once per year in June- July                                                                                                                                               |
| Country Portfolio Review                                                                                    | Methodological results capture of the portfolio at a given point to note impact level                                           | NC, NSC                                                                                                                                  | SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to undertake previous operational cycles | Once per operational phase                                                                                                                                                |

<sup>2</sup> It is recommended that the Annual CPS review is done close to AMR submissions for both processes to benefit from each other (suggested timeframe is May- July). Note that OP8 CPS will be regarded as a dynamic document and can be updated by the SGP country team and NSC on a periodic basis to reflect any necessary adjustments to ensure maximum impact.

<sup>3</sup> Timely and quality country level submissions to Annual Monitoring Process are mandatory. As a Global Programme, it enables aggregated reporting by CPMT to GEF, UNDP and other stakeholders.



| M&E Activity | Purpose                                                                                                                                                     | Responsible Parties                                                 | Budget Source                                                                                                                             | Timing                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|              | change as well as broader adoption. The goal is to support reporting to stakeholders, learning, and support to strategic development/ implementation of CPS |                                                                     | impact review and utilize lessons for both OP8 CPS development and its implementation<br><br>Global technical M&E support can be expected |                                                                                                                                              |
| SGP Database | Ensure recording of all Project and Country Programme inputs in SGP database                                                                                | NCs, PAs,                                                           | Staff time                                                                                                                                | Throughout the operational phase. Ensure quality assurance and completion of data prior to annual monitoring cycle (May- June of every year) |
| Audit        | Ensure compliance with project implementation/ management standards and norms                                                                               | External/independent auditors. NC/ PA to provide requisite support. | Global Operating Budget                                                                                                                   | Annually for selected countries on risk-assessment basis                                                                                     |



## 9.2 CPS Results Framework

Table 5: Results Framework of SGP OP8 Country Programme Strategy

| <b>Alignment with SDGs</b><br><br>Biodiversity- Sustainable Development Goals #15 – Life on Land and # 14 – Life Below Water<br><br>Climate Change – Goals #7, Affordable and Clean Energy and Goal#13 Climate Action<br><br>International Waters- Goal# 13 Climate Action<br><br>Land Degradation – Goals # 13 Climate Action and #15 Life on Land<br><br>Cross-cutting- #1 No Poverty, #2 Zero Hunger, #3 Good Health and Well-being, #4 Quality Education, #5 Gender Equality, #8 Decent Work and Economic Growth, #10 Reduced Inequalities, #11 Sustainable Cities and Communities, #12 Responsible Consumption and Production, #17 Partnerships for the Goals                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Synergy with UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD)2022-2026:</b><br><br>NATIONAL PRIORITY OR GOAL: Belize adopts a path to green, resilient, inclusive, and sustainable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, as it addresses the dynamic relations between natural resource management, climate change, disaster risk reduction and economic development. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): 8, 11, 13<br><br>COOPERATION FRAMEWORK OUTCOME INVOLVING UNDP 1: MSDCF Outcome 5: Caribbean people, communities, and institutions have enhanced their adaptive capacity for inclusive, gender responsive disaster risk management and climate change adaptation and mitigation.<br>RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME: 1. Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions.<br><br>Output 2.1: The Government and natural resource managers apply sustainable financing solutions options as they expand financing for the sustainable use of the seascape. |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>OP8 SGP Programme Goal:</b> Engage local CSOs/CBOs in landscape-seascape approaches across the world, providing them access to knowledge and information, capacitating them through learning-by-doing, skills development, and delivering technical and grant assistance for interventions that enhance wellbeing and socioeconomic conditions and generate global environmental benefits.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                           |
| 1<br>OP8 SGP CPS Strategic Initiatives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2<br>CPS Indicators and Targets                                                                                      | 3<br>Means of Verification                                                                                                                                |
| <u>Strategic Initiative 1:</u><br><br>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 300,000 hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (GEF core indicator 4.1 and 4.3) | Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)<br><br>Baseline assessment comparison variables (use of |



|                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                       | <p>100,000 hectares of marine protected areas created or under improved management (GEF core indicator 2)</p> <p>75,000 hectares of marine habitat under improved practices (GEF core indicator 5)</p> <p>2 community-based protected area/ conserved area designations and/or networks strengthened</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>conceptual models and partner data as appropriate)</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p>                                                                                                                                |
| <p><u>Strategic Initiative 2:</u></p> <p>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</p> | <p>50,000 hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration (GEF core indicator 3.1)</p> <p>6 partnerships to advance sustainable agriculture and fisheries and/or food security (such as diversification, sustainable intensification, sustainable fisheries management, agroecological farming practices, climate-smart agriculture, certification programmes, local sourcing initiatives, waste reduction and circular economy, etc.)</p> <p>200 small-holder farmers supported towards the achievement of national Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets</p> <p>6 projects supporting linkages and partnerships for sustainable food production practices (such as diversification and sustainable intensification) and supply chain management including in sustainable fisheries management</p> | <p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p> <p>Socio-ecological resilience indicators for production landscapes (SEPLs)</p> |
| <p><u>Strategic Initiative 3:</u></p> <p>Low-carbon energy access co-benefits</p>                     | <p>tons of greenhouse gas emissions mitigated/avoided (GEF core indicator 6)</p> <p>2 communities with 500 kW increase in installed renewable energy capacity from community-scale systems (e.g., biomass, micro-hydro, solar, etc.)</p> <p>2 typologies locally adapted solutions promoting low-carbon technologies (such as new/modified biogas technology, locally developed energy-efficient stoves, innovative uses of solar/wind energy, etc.)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | <p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p> <p>(NSC inputs)</p>                                                    |



|                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                            | <p>3 community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication</p> <p>150 households achieving energy access, with co-benefits estimated and valued</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <p><u>Strategic Initiative 4:</u></p> <p>Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</p> | <p>2 policy recommendations or advocacy initiatives related to land-based pollution as an outcome of SGP's investments.</p> <p>1 local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management strengthened and/or established</p> <p>1 project working on increasing awareness and outreach for sound chemicals, waste and mercury management.</p>                                                                                                                                      | <p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)</p> <p>Strategic partnership with IPEN and Mercury GOLD country partners</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p> |
| <p><u>Strategic Initiative 5:</u></p> <p>Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions</p>                        | <p>1 community-based urban solutions/ approaches (including chemical and waste management, energy, transport, watershed protection, ecosystem services and biodiversity) deployed.</p> <p>1 community with improved capacities to promote community-driven integrated solutions for low-emission and resilient urban development.</p> <p>1 project supporting improved capacities to promote community-driven integrated solutions for low-emission and resilient urban development.</p> | <p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p>                                                                                                                      |
| <p><u>Strategic Initiative 6:</u></p>                                                                      | <p>2 CSO-government-private sector dialogues formed or strengthened</p> <p>2 high-level policy changes associated with increased community participation in multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |



|                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms                     | 50 representatives from social inclusion group (Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, persons with disability, farmers, other marginalized groups) meaningfully engaged in multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database<br><br>Country Programme Review                                                              |
| <u>Strategic Initiative 7:</u><br><br>Enhancing social inclusion                         | 5,500 people benefitting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (GEF core indicator 11)<br><br>10 projects with focused interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment<br><br>8 projects that demonstrate models of engaging (a) Indigenous Peoples, (b) youth, and (c) persons with disabilities.<br><br>10 grants with targeted support for 1) women or women groups; 2) youth or youth-led groups; 3) Indigenous Peoples' groups<br><br>60% of total grant portfolio accessed by 1) women or women groups; 2) youth or youth-led groups; 3) indigenous peoples' groups                                   | Individual project reporting by SGP country teams<br><br>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database<br><br>Country Programme Review |
| <u>Strategic Initiative 8:</u><br><br>Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management | 18 projects with meetings involving local CSOs/CBOs or communities to monitor project results, assess impacts, and identify lessons learned<br><br>3 knowledge exchange/sharing events with participation of local communities<br><br>2 online knowledge repositories developed as an outcome of SGP's investments.<br><br>2 country/cross-country impact reviews conducted with evidence of SGP impact and lessons learned.<br><br>2 South-South exchanges between communities, NGOs/CSOs, or other partners within or across countries to transfer knowledge, replicate technology, tools or approaches on global environmental issues | Individual project reporting by SGP country teams<br><br>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database<br><br>Country Programme Review |



## 10. NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

| NSC members involved in OP8 CPS development,<br>review and endorsement                                        | Signatures                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Angeline Valentine- Chairperson, Belize Marine Fund/ MARFUND Representative                            | DocuSigned by:<br><i>Angeline Valentine</i><br>A7E7E2928A447... |
| 2. Mr. Roy Cayetano- Indigenous Peoples Advisor                                                               | Signed by:<br><i>E Roy Cayetano</i><br>82E5F082147424...        |
| 3. Dr. Leandra Cho- Ricketts- Belize Fund for a Sustainable Future Representative                             | Signed by:<br><i>Dr. Leandra Cho</i><br>5F09508449984A3...      |
| 4. Mr. Saul Cruz- Convention on Biological Diversity Focal Point & GEF Operational Focal Point representative | Signed by:<br><i>Saul Cruz</i><br>5981787FF07444...             |
| 5. Ms. Felicia Cruz- Blue Economy Focal Point                                                                 | DocuSigned by:<br><i>Felicia Cruz</i><br>50F389DC080DE...       |
| 6. Ms. Julianne Robinson Stockbridge, The Nature Conservancy Representative                                   | Signed by:<br><i>Julianne Robinson</i><br>1A5D4CCA4608413...    |
| 7. Mr. Berisford Codd- Youth Focal Point                                                                      | Signed by:<br><i>Berisford Codd</i><br>8020P4N1991F49F...       |
| Ryan Zuniga                                                                                                   | Signed by:<br><i>Ryan Zuniga</i><br>8AD7F051D114429             |

26-Nov-2024

### ANNEXES (optional)

**Annex 1:** Approved ICCA-GIS Country strategy available as a separate document with description for participation in the global co-financing partnership with the Global ICCA Support Initiative (GSI) Phase 2 funded by the German BMUV IKI in line with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Targets 3, 21, 22 and 23 (2023-2028). Front page photo credit @Adbon Tzib.