



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

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IRAN



# COUNTRY REPORT CARD

## FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Iran		
Year Started	2001		
	<b>GEF</b>	<b>Non-GEF</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of projects	270	63	<b>333</b>
Grant amount committed	5,959,525	1,340,000	<b>7,299,525</b>
Project level co-financing in cash	5,067,337	52,882	<b>5,120,219</b>
Project level co-financing in kind	22,960,349	516,217	<b>23,476,566</b>
Total co-financing *	<b>29,936,785</b>		
Source: SGP database as of 2023			
* Total co-financing = Total project level co-financing (in cash and in kind) + Non-GEF grant amount committed			

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2023
<b>Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)</b>							
Biodiversity	3	1	-	8	2	2	16
Climate Change	6	-	2	2	1	-	11
Land Degradation	1	-	-	-	2	5	8
Sustainable Forest Management	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Capacity Development	1	1	-	1	1	3	7
International Waters	1	-	-	1	1	2	5
Chemicals and Waste	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Total Projects Completed</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>49</b>

Source: Reporting by Country Programme as part of Annual Monitoring Process (2016-2023)

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
** Kindly note the total values 2016-2023 have undergone comprehensive quality assurance that supports aggregation of results over time. This includes removal of duplicative data over time and/or inclusion of more results based on verification by SGP country teams.								
<b>PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES</b>								
<b>Biodiversity</b>								
Number of biodiversity projects completed	3	1	-	8	2	2	-	16
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	1	-	-	4	1	-	-	6
Hectares of PAs	465,181	-	-	88,260	85,000	-	-	638,441
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	-	1	-	3	7	-	-	11
Hectares of ICCAs	-	12,000	-	5	19,665	-	-	31,670
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	5	10	-	6	3	5	-	29
Number of significant species conserved	2	6	-	2	17	1	-	28
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	1	1	-	7	-	-	-	9
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	465,181	12,000	-	88,265	-	-	-	565,446
<b>Climate Change</b>								
Number of climate change projects completed	6	-	2	2	1	-	-	11
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	1
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects	48	-	-	-	12	-	-	60

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
<b>Breakdown of projects</b>								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Sustainable transport projects	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks projects	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	2
<b>Land Degradation</b>								
Number of land degradation projects completed	1	-	-	-	2	5	-	8
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	80	-	-	-	-	25	-	105
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	383	-	-	-	174	25	-	582
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	3,200	-	-	-	175	-	-	3,375
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	83	-	-	-	42	-	-	125
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	83	-	-	-	1	-	-	84
<b>Sustainable Forest Management</b>								
Number of sustainable forest management projects completed	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

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Hectares restored through improved forest management practices	37,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	37,000
<b>International Waters</b>								
Number of international waters projects completed	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	5
Number of seascapes/inland freshwater landscapes	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Land based pollution reduced (tons)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Hectares of marine/coastal areas of fishing grounds brought under sustainable management	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	4
Hectares of seascapes covered under improved community conservation and sustainable use management systems	-	-	-	-	78,000	-	-	78,000
<b>Chemicals and Waste</b>								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio</b>								
Awareness raising and capacity development	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	2
<b>Capacity Development</b>								
Number of capacity development projects completed	1	1	-	1	1	3	-	7
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	-	1	-	-	50	1	-	52
Number of community-based organizations with strengthened capacities	-	-	-	-	60	2	-	62
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	-	20	-	700	320	35	-	1,075

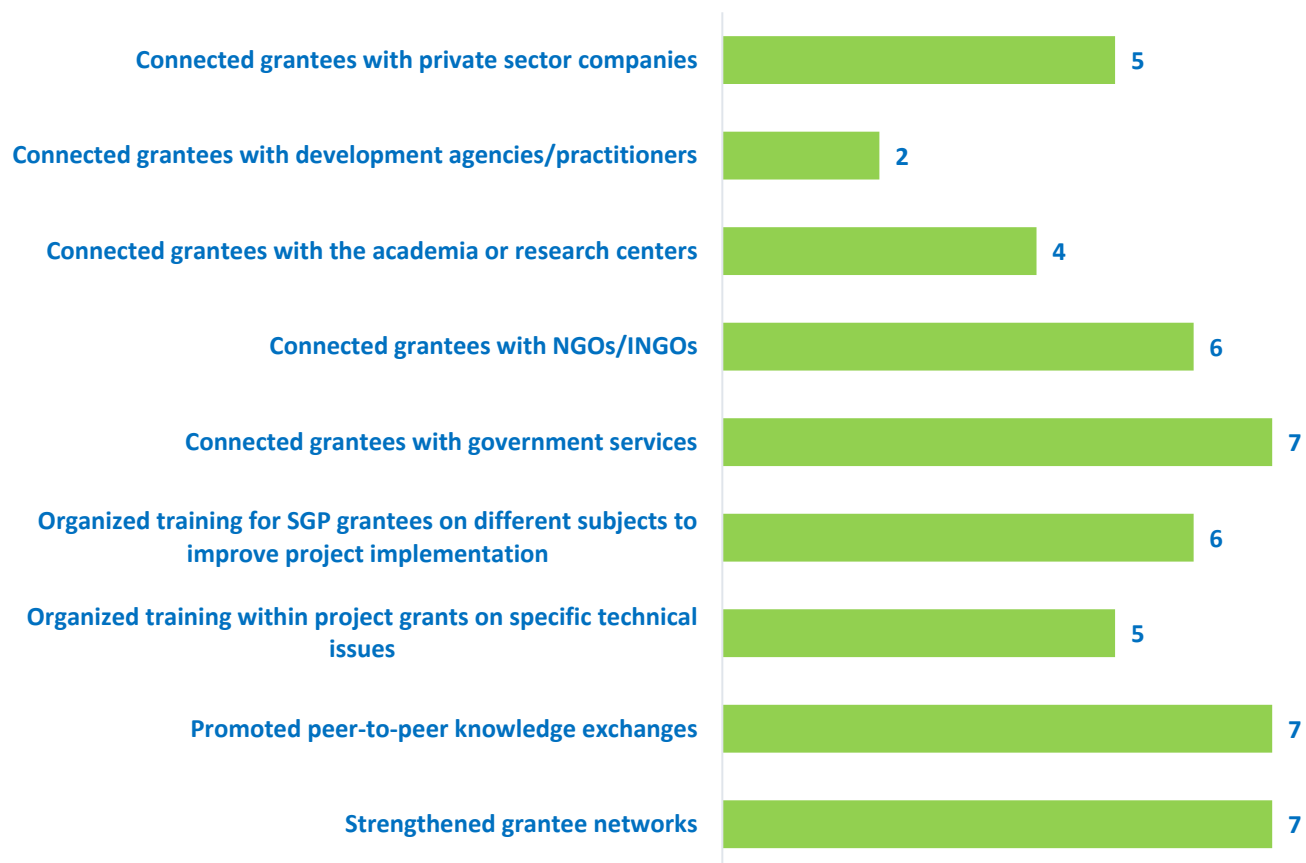
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
<b>GRANTMAKER PLUS</b>								
<b>CSO-Government Dialogue</b>								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	6	-	12	31	-	-	9	58
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	20	-	21	31	-	-	4	76
<b>South-South Exchange</b>								
Number of South-South exchanges supported	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
<b>Gender</b>								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	14	-	2	2	5	12	-	35
Number of completed projects led by women	5	-	-	-	1	4	-	10
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
<b>Indigenous Peoples</b>								
Number of completed projects that included indigenous peoples	1	1	-	2	-	2	-	6
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	6
<b>Ways to encourage IP projects</b>								
Involved indigenous peoples in NSC and/or TAG (yes/no)	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	4
<b>Youth</b>								
Number of completed projects that included youth	-	1	-	11	5	4	-	21
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
<b>BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)</b>								
Projects replicated or scaled up	3	-	-	4	2	-	-	9
Projects with policy influence	2	-	1	1	2	-	-	6
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	20	-	1	4	6	1	-	32
<b>PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS</b>								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	5	-	-	8	-	24	3	40
Community-level trainings conducted	25	-	-	3	-	18	5	51
Number of projects monitored through field visits	10	2	6	19	-	7	3	47
<b>PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT</b>								
<b>National Steering Committee</b>								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	2	3	5	2	12	10	5	39
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	11	12	10	11	8	9	8	10

## GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

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

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



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

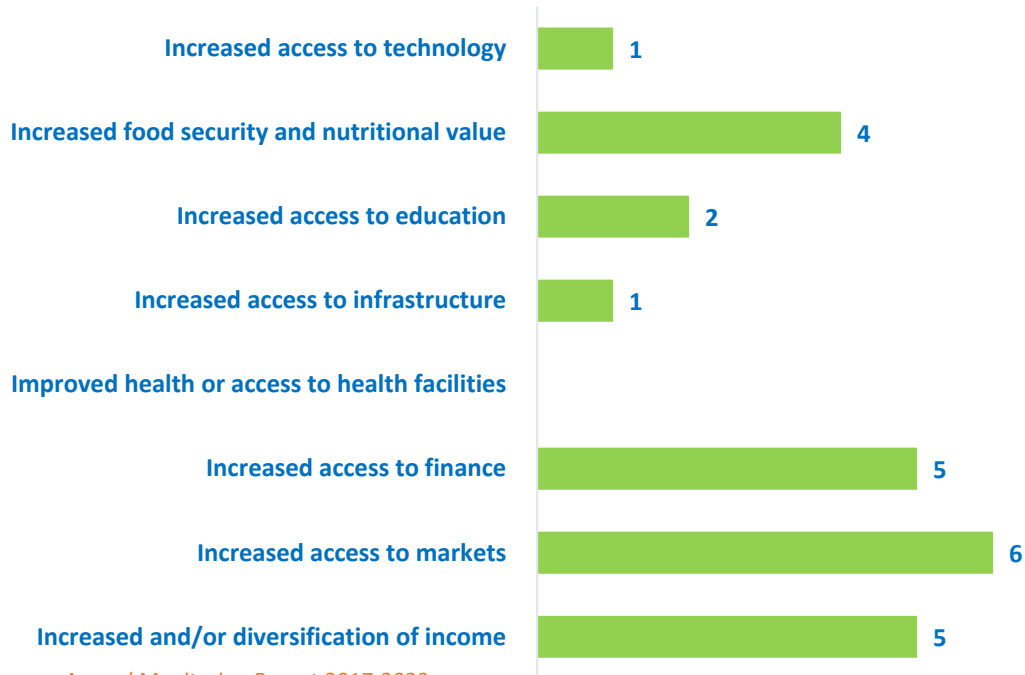


**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies  
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



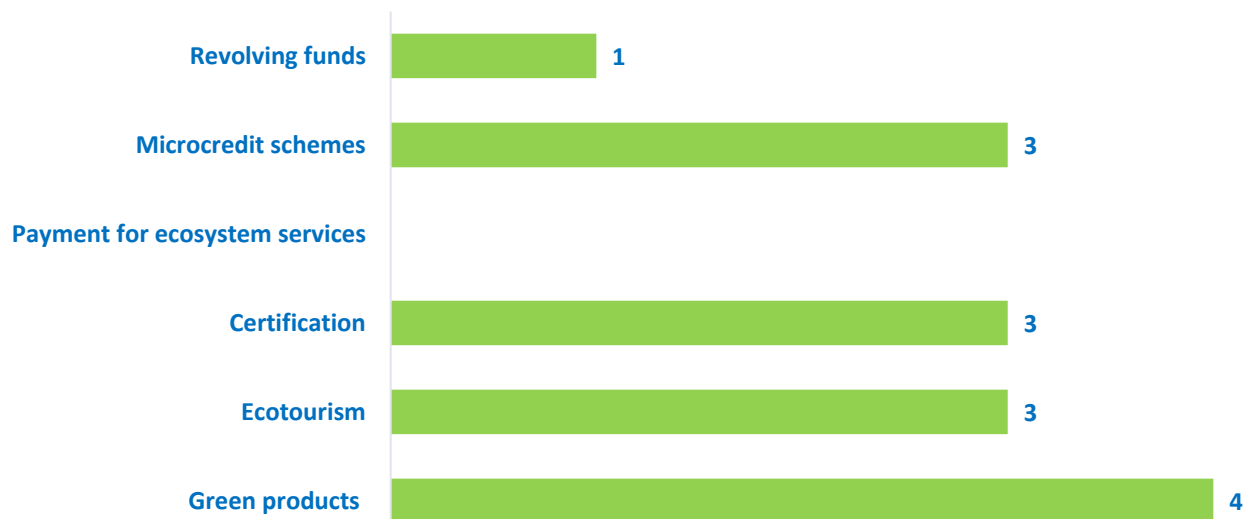
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



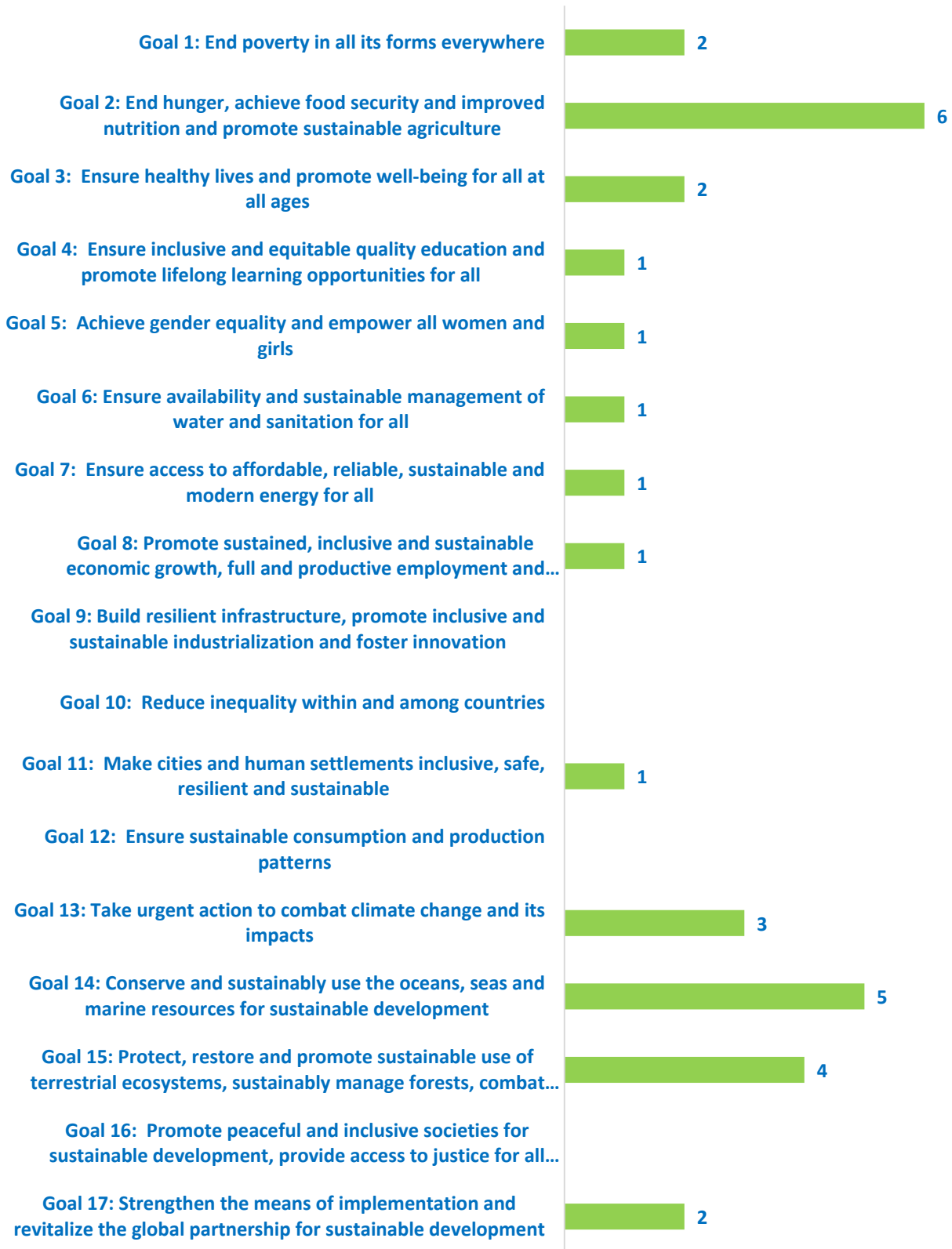
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods  
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Addressed Sustainable Development Goals  
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

## EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

### Sustainable Land Management

In **Iran**, SGP supported a project that addressed the role of dust storms in mortality of Oak -Zagros forests and solution for rehabilitation management in Ilam province in western Iran. The project objectives were to undertake an overall assessment of forest ecosystems of Ilam, selection of pilot sites and rehabilitation management of a pilot ecosystem with local community collaboration. With SGP support, activities undertaken included identification and introduction of genetic diversity of oak forests of Ilam province as a basis for the rehabilitation management; determination of stable intra-species varieties of oak to apply rehabilitation management; provision of certified seedlings and introduction and promotion of biological fertilizers in each ecosystem; and assessment of ecological, economic, socio-cultural potentials of selected sites for rehabilitation management. Project implementation also supported community-based support in protection of critically endangered *Asiatic Black Bear (Ursus thibetanus gedrosianus)* through protection of vegetative cover of *Daz plant (Nannorrhops ritchiana)*, which is a consumption staple of the bear, against land degradation. This was done by creating necessary financial incentives for the locals to protect Daz vegetative cover by promoting locally made Daz handicrafts and facilitating access to markets for them. Project has contributed to increasing awareness on conservation values of Asiatic black bears amongst local communities and 1,200 hectares has been protected and brought under sustainable land management with potential for further upscaling to 50,000 hectares. This demonstration of reclaimed land serves as an example of how local communities *are* and *can* manage and rehabilitate forest land for wildlife conservation. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

### Partnership

In **Iran**, over 4,500 community members from villages in *Babol City* partnered with the SGP, through the ICCA-GSI, to document biodiversity, traditional knowledge, and factors contributing to biodiversity loss in ab-bandaans. Ab-bandaans, a type of wetland, play a vital role in preserving biodiversity, indigenous culture, and supporting various environmental and economic functions. These ecosystems, which were historically managed using traditional knowledge, have served as lifelines for local communities, particularly in agriculture and fishing. However, a lack of documentation, combined with the encroachment of modern, technocratic approaches, led to their gradual conversion into fish farms and agricultural lands. Pollution from fertilizers, toxic waste, and invasive species further threatened these ecosystems, endangering local livelihoods and traditional practices.

The project's primary objective was to revive traditional practices as alternative livelihood options, encompassing 20 villages in *Babol City*, which boasts the highest number of ab-bandaans in Iran. Through a scoping study in nine villages, the project identified 2,000 hectares of wetland ecosystems, home to 219 animal species, including crucial fish varieties supporting local livelihoods. The study also highlighted deforestation threats to 17 native tree species in surrounding forests. To bolster conservation, a data bank for 16 ab-bandaans in nine villages was established, ensuring an evidence base for future policy. The communities underwent a self-strengthening process, enabling them to prioritize environmental and cultural preservation alongside other needs such as fishery hatching methods and gender inclusivity. Training 150 community members from six villages in restoring indigenous conservation methods, including the reintroduction of 17 native tree species, promoted sustainable silviculture and improved aquatic habitats. Moreover, traditional handicraft practices, on the decline due to imported industrialized products, were reintroduced, empowering women and diversifying livelihoods in an eco-friendly manner. Through workshops and campaigns, the project reached over 5,000 individuals, including government officials and civil society, fostering multi-level collaborative efforts for the sustainable management of these invaluable wetlands. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

## METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF COUNTRY REPORT

- Results aggregations over time are only for completed projects.
- With SGP's rolling modality, results reflect all ongoing operational phases during the indicated period. Please refer to the total projects completed on the first page for information in this regard.
- The source of reported results is the annual monitoring process, which is part of the annual monitoring requirements for each country programme. Additionally, evaluative evidence sources have also been leveraged, if available for the country programme.
- This results report benefits from extensive quality assurance. All information across all countries in the portfolio is harmonized, verified, and evidenced before being reported. Several layers of this quality assurance have been implemented in the generation of this report and there are no result duplications across years. This point is important not only for a specific unit of measurement (i.e., indicator selected) but also for results aggregation across years in a given operational phase. Reported results include both direct and indirect global-environmental and socio-economic benefits. This is due to SGP's work in two key areas:
  - SGP works towards behavioural change at individual, organizational, and community levels. Social determinants that shape human interaction with the environment play an important role, especially at the community level, as sustainability and the continuation of environmental gains often depend on them. These factors include positive shifts in knowledge, attitudes, practices, social and cultural norms, and conventions. Such interventions shape not only demand but also communication between community leaders and other influencers in promoting the adoption of environmentally friendly behaviours and practices. Often, SGP projects have ripple effects that go well beyond the direct scope of the project, emphasizing the importance of measuring indirect impact.
  - Encouraging Community Action for Environmental Change. For many years, SGP has focused on promoting and supporting local community groups to bring about broader and sustainable environmental change. This approach is a key aspect of SGP's work and recognizes the power of motivated community groups to create significant impact and drive positive transformation. Community group action refers to informal gatherings of individuals and organizations in the community who share a common belief and purpose. It involves taking practical steps over time to address environmental and socioeconomic challenges and creating positive change. This grassroots-level approach relies on the active involvement and empowerment of the community, with the initial efforts acting as a catalyst for further mobilization. By encouraging self-governance and involving those most affected by the issues, community action can extend its influence to more people in the community, underscoring the importance of measuring indirect impact.