



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

SIERRA LEONE



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Sierra Leone		
Year Started	2013		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	168	-	168
Grant amount committed	3,843,593	-	3,843,593
Project level co-financing in cash	766,748	-	766,748
Project level co-financing in kind	2,242,863	-	2,242,863
Total co-financing *	3,009,611		
Source: SGP database as of 2023			
* Total co-financing = Total project level co-financing (in cash and in kind) + Non-GEF grant amount committed			

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)								
Biodiversity	-	3	3	6	-	5	2	19
Climate Change	-	2	1	6	5	-	4	18
Land Degradation	5	4	4	5	1	4	6	29
Capacity Development	-	2	-	3	2	1	-	8
International Waters	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Chemicals and Waste	-	2	1	2	1	2	2	10
Total Projects Completed	5	13	9	24	9	12	14	86

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

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
** Kindly note the total values 2016-2023 have undergone comprehensive quality assurance that supports aggregation of results over time. This includes removal of duplicative data over time and/or inclusion of more results based on verification by SGP country teams.								
PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES								
Biodiversity								
Number of biodiversity projects completed	-	3	3	6	-	5	2	19
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	1	4	3	-	2	1	11
Hectares of PAs	-	74,000	170,612	203,588	-	581	5,000	453,781
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	-	1	-	1	-	-	1	3
Hectares of ICCAs	-	650	-	650	-	-	8	1,308
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	-	-	2	3	-	4	-	9
Number of significant species conserved	-	5	3	5	-	-	1	14
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	2	2	1	-	2	2	9
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	74,650	171,262	650	-	883	5,008	252,453
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	-	2	1	6	5	-	4	18
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	3

	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 **
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects	-	90	20	1,200	126	-	65	1,501
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	3
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	-	220	-	700	1,465	-	500	2,885
Breakdown of projects								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	-	-	3	3	-	-	6
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks projects	-	1	1	3	2	-	3	10
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	5	4	4	5	1	4	6	29
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	762	3,830	1,500	4,810	200	1,406	6,600	19,108
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	3,653	3,830	8,000	3,860	780	1,406	6,600	28,129
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	73	660	1,635	931	80	143	6,908	10,430
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	153	360	1,600	250	50	650	291	3,354
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	25	54	28	21	5	23	97	253

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International Waters								
Number of international waters projects completed	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Number of seascapes/inland freshwater landscapes	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hectares of river and lake basins converted	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	25
Chemicals and Waste								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	2	1	2	1	2	2	10
Pesticides properly disposed (kg)	-	-	-	5,120	-	4,000	-	9,120
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	1,500	1,209,600	35,000	-	-	223,167	1,469,267
E-waste collected or recycled (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	250,000	250,000
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	-	2	-	-	-	4	4	10
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio								
Sustainable pesticide management	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	3
Organic farming	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	4
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	3
Development of alternatives to chemicals	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	2
Heavy metals (such as mercury) management	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	2
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	3

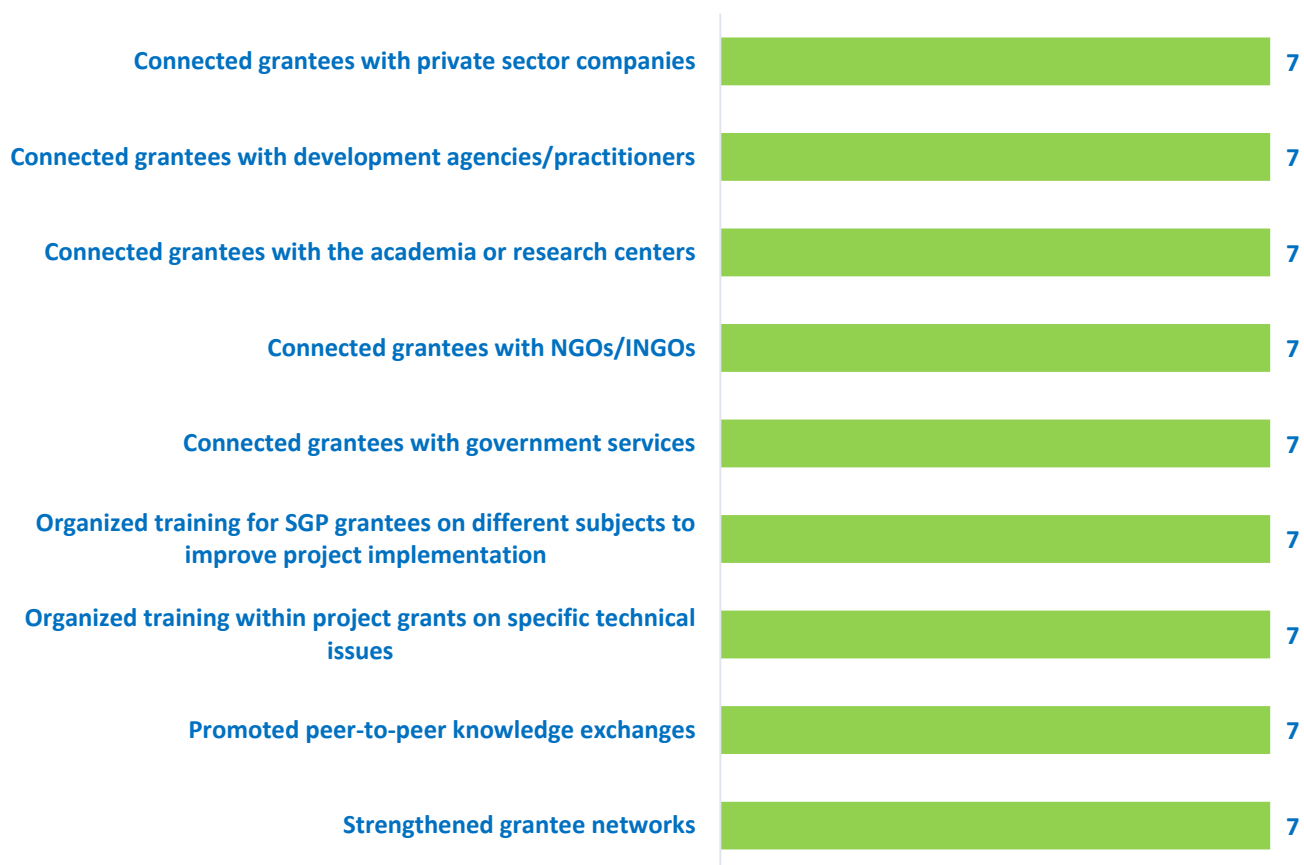
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Proposals accepted using participatory video (yes/no)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Involved indigenous peoples in NSC and/or TAG (yes/no)	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	Yes	2
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	5	13	9	12	-	12	14	65
Number of youth organizations	10	13	5	5	12	12	101	158
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Persons with Disability								
Number of disabled persons organizations	-	5	1	6	3	-	10	25
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	-	-	2	-	1	5	8
Projects with policy influence	-	-	-	-	1	-	8	9
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	5	13	9	19	9	12	14	81
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	1	1	1	2	2	3	4	14
Community-level trainings conducted	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	13
Number of projects monitored through field visits	22	23	34	12	24	26	14	155

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PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	5	4	4	4	4	5	3	29
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	5

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

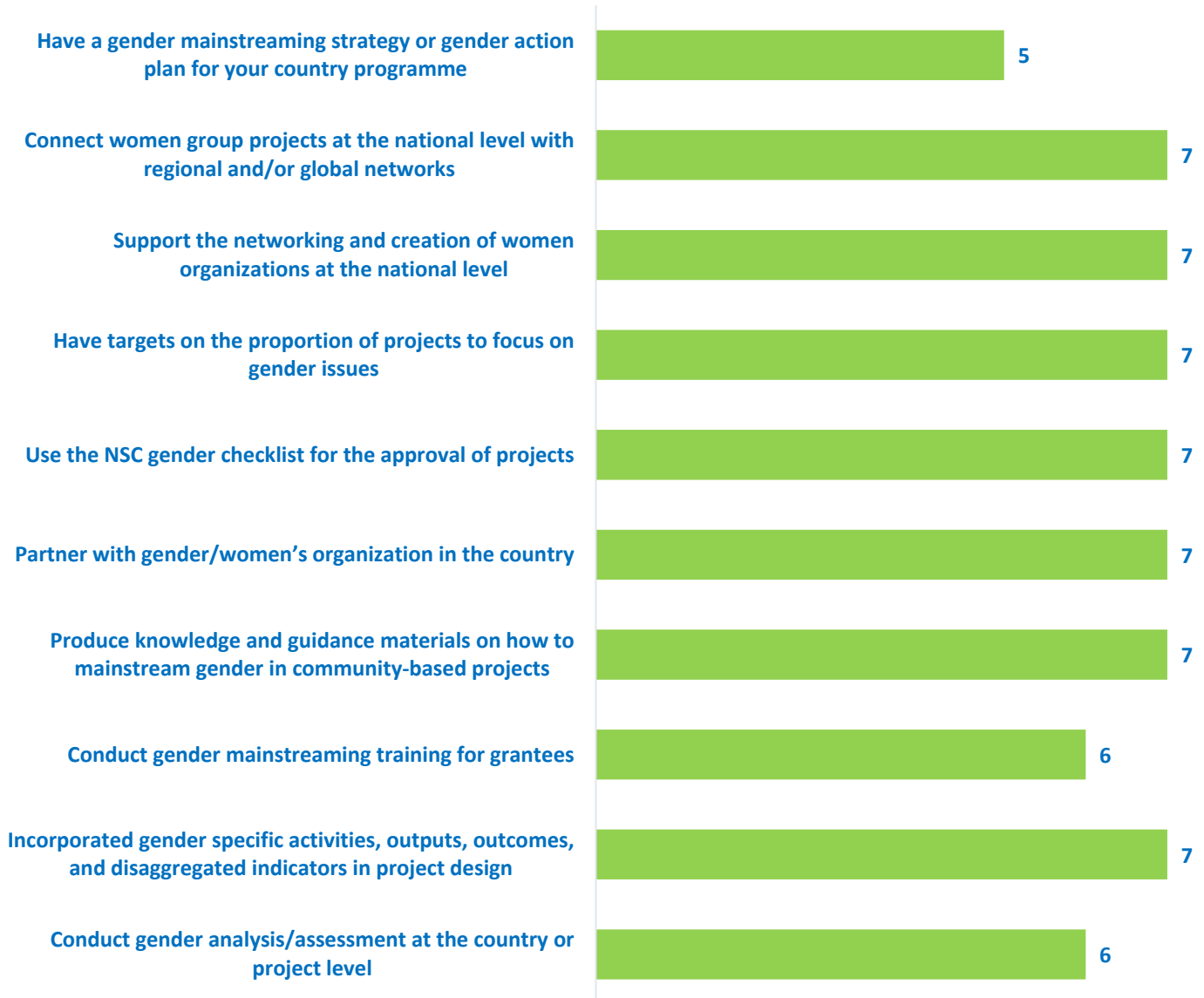
Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall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

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



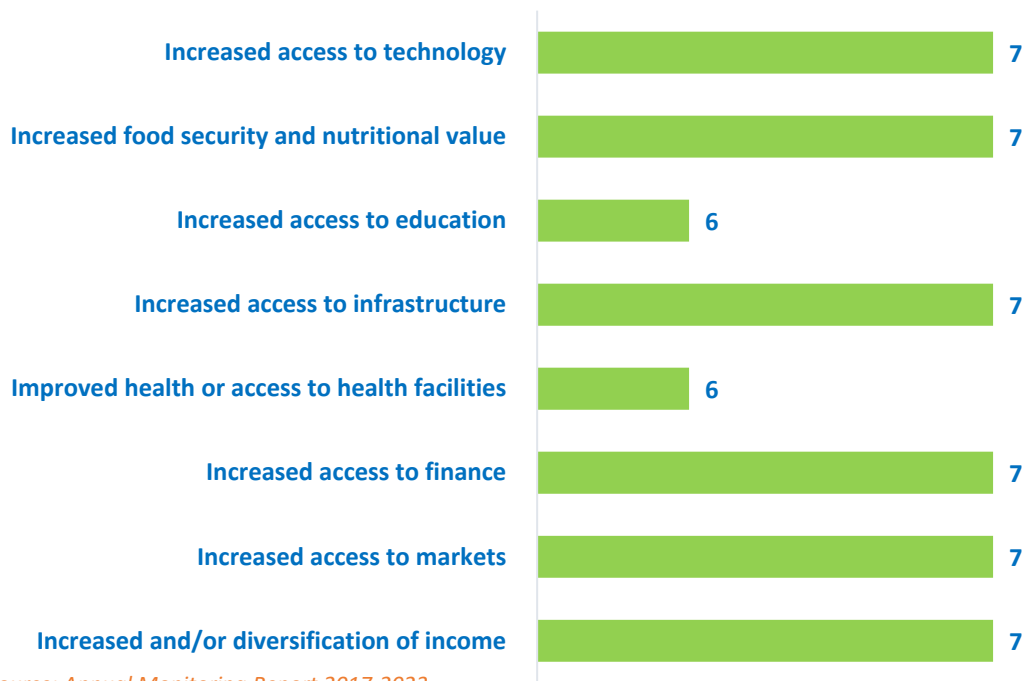
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



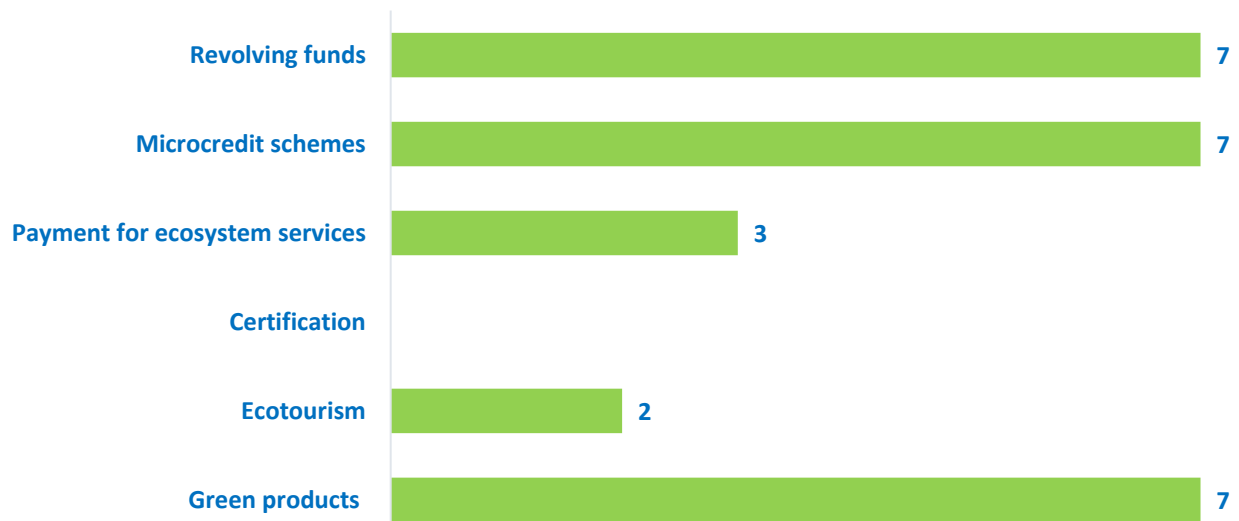
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



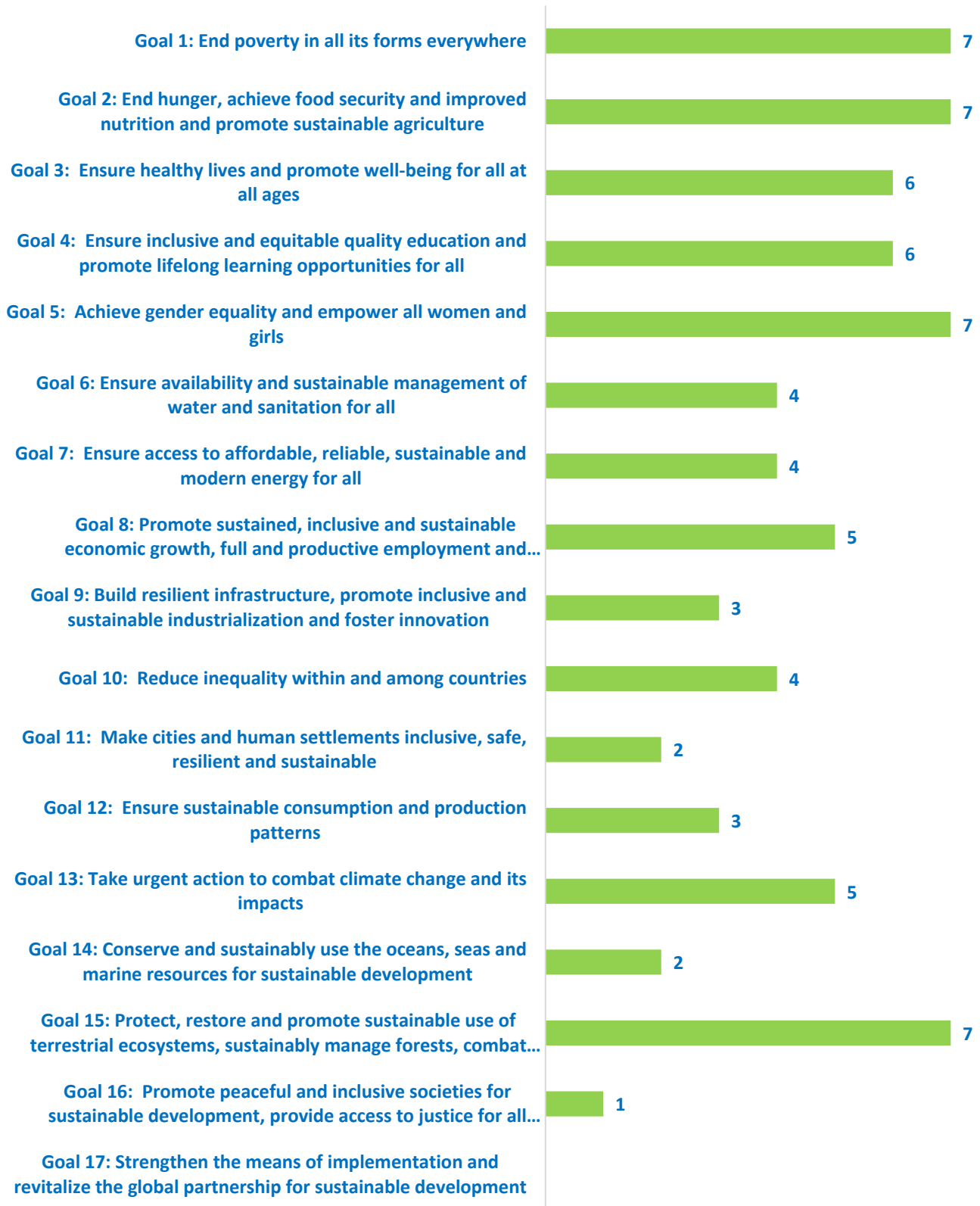
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**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

International Waters

In **Sierra Leone**, SGP supported grantee, Planning Green Futures, to undertake a research study in the riverine ecosystem of Gbondapi town, one of the major fishing communities in Pujehun district. The project aimed to document all physicochemical parameters that would influence fish abundance and biodiversity and raise awareness of locals about the status of fish species in the Gbondapi fishing community. The objectives of the project included building capacities of field staff and young scientists on testing water quality, identification of fish species and conducting research on socioeconomic and livelihood activities of the Gbondapi community, with the involvement of indigenous communities and local fishermen. As females form a predominant group involved in fishing in most rural communities, efforts were made to ensure participation of women in every meeting and deliberation. The study discovered 54 species of fish in the waters belonging to 20 families, with the majority belonging to the Cichlid family (55%), followed by Mormyridae and Mochokidae families. Though more than 95% of these fish species were of the Least Concern (LC) status, three species - *Ichthyoborus Quadrilineatus*, *Sarotherodon Occidentalis* and *Synodontis Tourei* were classified as Near Threatened species; four species - *Nannocharax fasciatus*, *Parachanna obscura*, *Mormyrus rume* and *Clarias laevis* were found to be Not Evaluated. The water quality analysis showed that pH values during the dry season ranged from 5 to 6, indicating that the water was within the acceptable threshold for most of the aquatic lives. Thus, the project succeeded in developing an inventory and database of the fish species in the River Gbondapi, forming a reference for the conservation of the fish species in the Gbondapi river ecosystem. This data is available to University and College Libraries in the country and every interested stakeholder. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)**

Chemical and Waste Management

In **Sierra Leone**, SGP supported grantee, Sierrro Enviro Hope, to sensitize rice farmers about the harmful effects of pesticides and their correct application, in Port Loko and Kambia Districts in Northern Sierra Leone. The project aimed to train farmers on identifying harmful and prohibited pesticides, handling and storage of pesticides storage, and the use of personal safety gears. The pesticide use in rice fields and its potential effects on the environment and the health of rice farmers was monitored and analyzed for residual pesticides. The project supported 40 farmers in Babara Wallah and Kyschom communities in Port Loko and Kambia districts to reduce the uncontrolled influx of pesticides by supplying a stock of internationally acceptable pesticides (300 propanil and 250 chlorpyrifos in one liter labelled bottles) free of cost in the first phase of the project post training and subsequent supplies were sold at cost recovery prices. The proceeds from the sales were used to replenish the stock when it ran low. This intervention has discouraged the illegal importation of these chemicals, and purchase of unlabeled and unknown pesticides by farmers within these communities. The project ensured that petty traders within these communities no longer sell these openly in local markets. Demonstration farms were developed, along with the training on the application of pesticides, to enable safe application of pesticides using appropriate materials and Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) and other materials. Farmers, now, no longer eat on farms after applying pesticides and are aware of the effects of eating animals killed by pesticides. The risk of accidental farmers' deaths by pesticide poisoning has been brought under control in these communities. The project's success can also be measured by reduced loads of residual pesticides on over 2000 hectares of land. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)**

Capacity Development

In **Sierra Leone**, a project completed by the *Institute of Environmental Management and Quality Control* established a tracking system for ecosystem restoration to estimate the carbon credit contribution under the GEF framework. This project empowered civil organizations with Open Data Kit (ODK) skills to collect digital information about the trees they have planted and be able to manage the information in a database, which they would create themselves. During the pilot stage, 70 individuals participated in the pilot tracking of trees planted in the northern region of the country and estimated GEF's contribution towards carbon credit with

an algorithm developed by the project. Later, the project was expanded to benefit 4,500 people countrywide, including former SGP grantees, civil society organizations (CSOs), and community-based organizations (CBOs) involved in ecosystem restoration.

The project developed an electronic questionnaire to gather information on all tree species planted. Coded questions for the ODK application were uploaded to a server. A training manual for ODK was developed, and 70 grantees and six data collector assistants were trained. The trained data collectors from various organizations collected tree data for trees planted in three chiefdoms — *Karene*, *Koinadugu*, and *Tonkolili* Districts. Equipped with mobile devices, the data collectors collected key information about trees such as botanical and local names, date planted, and tree height, using the electronic questionnaire. A geodatabase of recorded tree species was developed, and the trees were analyzed based on location, growth status, and the number of trees per chiefdom. Training manuals for carbon sequestration calculation, MS Excel database creation, and data analysis were also developed. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

CSO-Government Dialogue

With support from GEF Small Grants Programme, a national NGO in **Sierra Leone**, Women’s Network for Environmental Sustainability (WoNES), organized a one-day CSO-Government dialogue in December 2017, with various Political Parties in Sierra Leone on the theme “Moving toward Environmental Justice in 2018 and Beyond with Political party Manifestos”. The event attracted over 100 participants including 12 heads of political parties or their representatives, representatives from the Nigerian High Commission, Christian Aid Sierra Leone, Alert Sierra Leone, Environment Protection Agency, civil society organizations and the media. It was chaired by the Acting Registrar of Political Parties’ Registration Commission (PPRC). The dialogue aimed to raise awareness of environmental issues among the politicians. The participants called for the political parties to work together in finding solutions to reduce the impacts of climate change and other environmental issues. As a result, all political parties that were present made a commitment towards environmental sustainability if they won the 2018 Presidential and General elections. The current government clearly outlined in its New Direction Development Agenda the steps it would be taking to address the environmental issues in the country. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

Social Inclusion – Gender

In the Gaura Chiefdom of **Sierra Leone**, SGP supported a project to engage rural women in the conservation of the Gola Rainforest, a critical ecosystem, by linking conservation with agriculture and natural resource management. The Gola Rainforest and surrounding lands had been threatened by unsustainable logging, mining, and agricultural activities and as a result, were degraded. The local women’s group “Gaura Women and Youths in Development” sought to achieve sustainable natural resource management by empowering the local community to become environmental stewards in the area. The NGO was supported to train 60 women and 40 youths on shifting agriculture techniques, livestock (goat and sheep) management, groundnut and corn cultivation, as well as reforestation. Under the leadership of the women’s group, the community initiated environmental discussion programmes via local media and established nature clubs in 8 primary schools to raise awareness of local environmental issues. The women’s group was also contracted by the Ministry of Agriculture Forestry and Food Security to develop a training manual on forestry best practices and trained 100 farmers on crop/tree planting. Through their interactions with the community, via the radio and TV programmes as well as the nature clubs and town halls, the women have earned the respect of their fellow community members and brought 60 hectares of land under sustainable land management practices. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

Social Inclusion – Youth

In **Sierra Leone**, SGP supported grantee *Raptile and Amphibian Programme Sierra Leone (RAP-SL)* in the project titled “Clean Energy for Coastal Communities: Solar Electricity for Youths’ Capacity Building in Selected Coastal Communities in the Bonthe District”. This project benefitted approximately 500 youths by working on the construction of a Youth community center with solar equipment. This initiative also provided a Roman Catholic Primary School in Mania with solar items including panels, batteries, charge controllers, cables, switches, and sockets. Additionally, the project supplied the coastal community with phone charging kiosks

which enabled the youths who are mainly engaged in fishing to charge their phones and connect with customers to be able to sell their fish catch. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021)**

Social Inclusion – Persons with Disabilities

In **Sierra Leone**, an SGP project has already had a short impact by employing 15 youths (5 males and 10 females) including 6 persons with disabilities (PWDs). In each of the three/four clusters of village communities that were engaged in the workshop, there was at least one PWD. These communities have taken ownership of the project and are working amicably for the protection and sustainable management of the Gola Forest ecosystem. They are mostly involved in restoring part of the protected area that was destroyed by farming. The massive advocacy for the communities' sustainable protection of the forest helped provide a long-lasting impact. The piloted livelihood-support programmes included inland valley swamp (IVS) rice production and beekeeping. In each community, 15 acres of inland valley swamps were cultivated, and high-yield crops were harvested. The existing strategies put in place for continuity of the project were the creation of a seed bank, tools for the IVS, and relevant training of trainers in each community on beekeeping for further training of community members. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

In fulfilling its international obligations and international diplomacy, Sierra Leone has ratified relevant Conventions and national planning frameworks related to GEF Focal areas as shown in the table below. These are commitments geared towards sustainable management of its natural resources to contribute to macro-economic development and environmental conservation for global benefits.

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

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
GEF-7 National Dialogues	16 th -17 th January 2019
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	December 12, 1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	2003
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	1 st November 2016
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	22 June 1995
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	8 January 2007 (1st)
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	2011
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	2007
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	1 st October 2015
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	September 25, 1995
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	September 26, 2003
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	12 June 2019
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	1 st November 2016
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	2019
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies (IW) ⁶	September 2008
Kyoto Protocol	10 th November 2006
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	February 2005
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	September 2006

Cartagena protocol on biosafety to the CBD	2003
The Vienna Convention on Protection of Ozone Layer and Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	April 1993
Draft national bio-safety regulation	2000
The Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal	December 1999
Bamako Convention on the ban of the import into Africa and the control of trans- boundary movements of hazardous wastes within Africa (Bamako convention)	April 1993
Abidjan Convention and Protocol on Management and Protection of Coastal and Marine Environment In the Sub-Region	June 7, 2005
Ramsar Convention On Wetlands	June 7, 2005
Environment Protection Act	2000

UNDP-implemented Small Grants Programme is delivering integrated results at the country level supporting local level capacities aligned with multiple Multilateral Environmental Conventions. This includes support to work for CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) and National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA), UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP), and localization of Sustainable Development Goals, amongst many others.

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF COUNTRY REPORT

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