



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

ALBANIA



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Albania		
Year Started	1999		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	301	-	301
Grant amount committed	4,841,339	-	4,841,339
Project level co-financing in cash	1,538,850	-	1,538,850
Project level co-financing in kind	889,846	-	889,846
Total co-financing *	2,428,696		
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 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2023
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)						
Biodiversity	7	4	3	6	4	24
Climate Change	3	1	5	-	-	9
Land Degradation	-	-	1	1	-	2
Sustainable Forest Management	-	-	-	-	1	1
Capacity Development	-	1	-	1	-	2
Chemicals and Waste	-	-	1	2	4	7
Total Projects Completed	10	6	10	10	9	45

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

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
** Kindly note the total values 2016-2023 have undergone comprehensive quality assurance that supports aggregation of results over time. This includes removal of duplicative data over time and/or inclusion of more results based on verification by SGP country teams.								
PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES								
Biodiversity								
Number of biodiversity projects completed	-	7	4	3	6	4	-	24
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	3	2	1	2	2	-	10
Hectares of PAs	-	32,000	30,000	330	10,000	120	-	72,450
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	-	2	1	2	1	1	-	7
Number of significant species conserved	-	5	1	-	1	1	-	8
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	2	-	1	1	1	-	5
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	32,000	-	700	10,000	100	-	42,800
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	-	3	1	5	-	-	-	9
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	3
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Breakdown of projects								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	4

	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 **
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	1	1	2	-	-	-	4
Sustainable transport projects	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	-	-	240	10	-	-	250
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	-	-	240	-	-	-	240
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	-	-	30	1	-	-	31
Sustainable Forest Management								
Number of sustainable forest management projects completed	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Hectares restored through improved forest management practices	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	30
International Waters								
Number of seascapes/inland freshwater landscapes	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Hectares of river and lake basins converted	-	-	-	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Chemicals and Waste								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	-	-	1	2	4	-	7
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	-	-	2,000	-	50,000	-	52,000
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio								
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	3

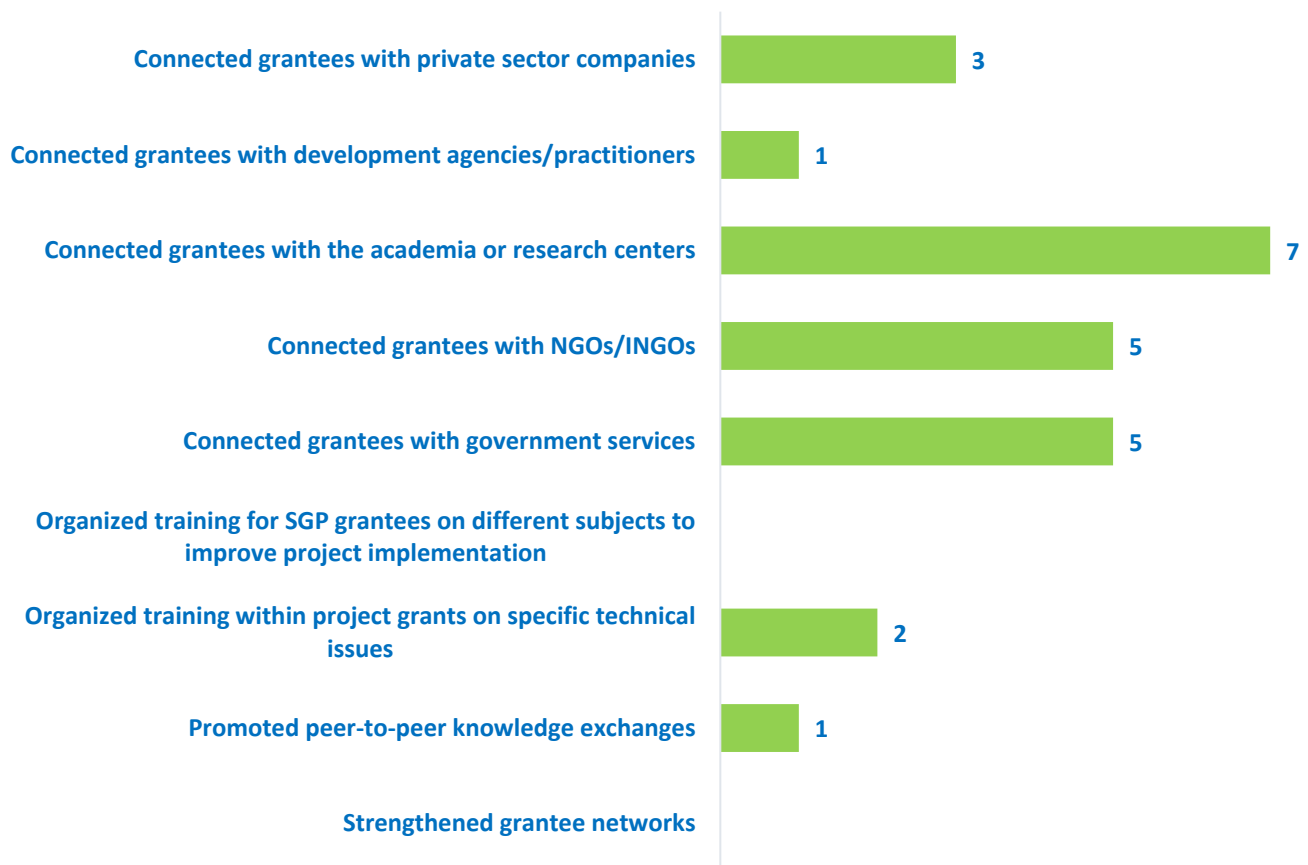
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	3
Capacity Development								
Number of capacity development projects completed	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	-	10	2	10	10	9	-	41
Number of completed projects led by women	-	2	-	4	3	5	-	14
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Number of youth organizations	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	Yes	5
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Projects with policy influence	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	4
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	-	3	3	4	3	1	-	14

	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 **
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Number of projects monitored through field visits	5	15	5	10	8	9	10	62
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	2	-	1	1	1	1	2	8
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	5	-	5	5	5	5	7	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)



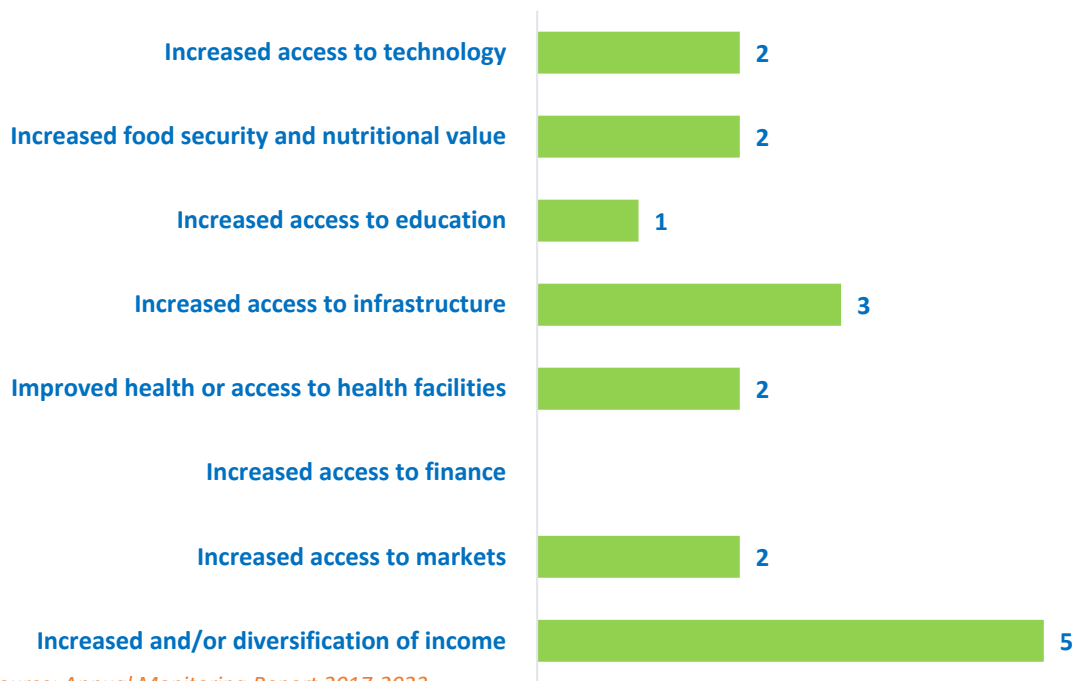
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



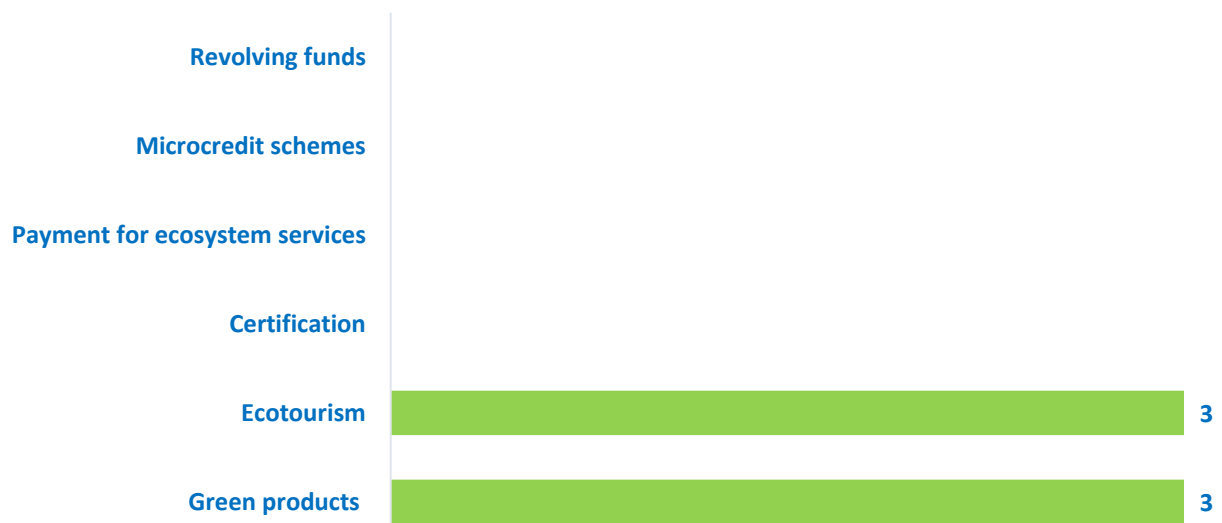
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



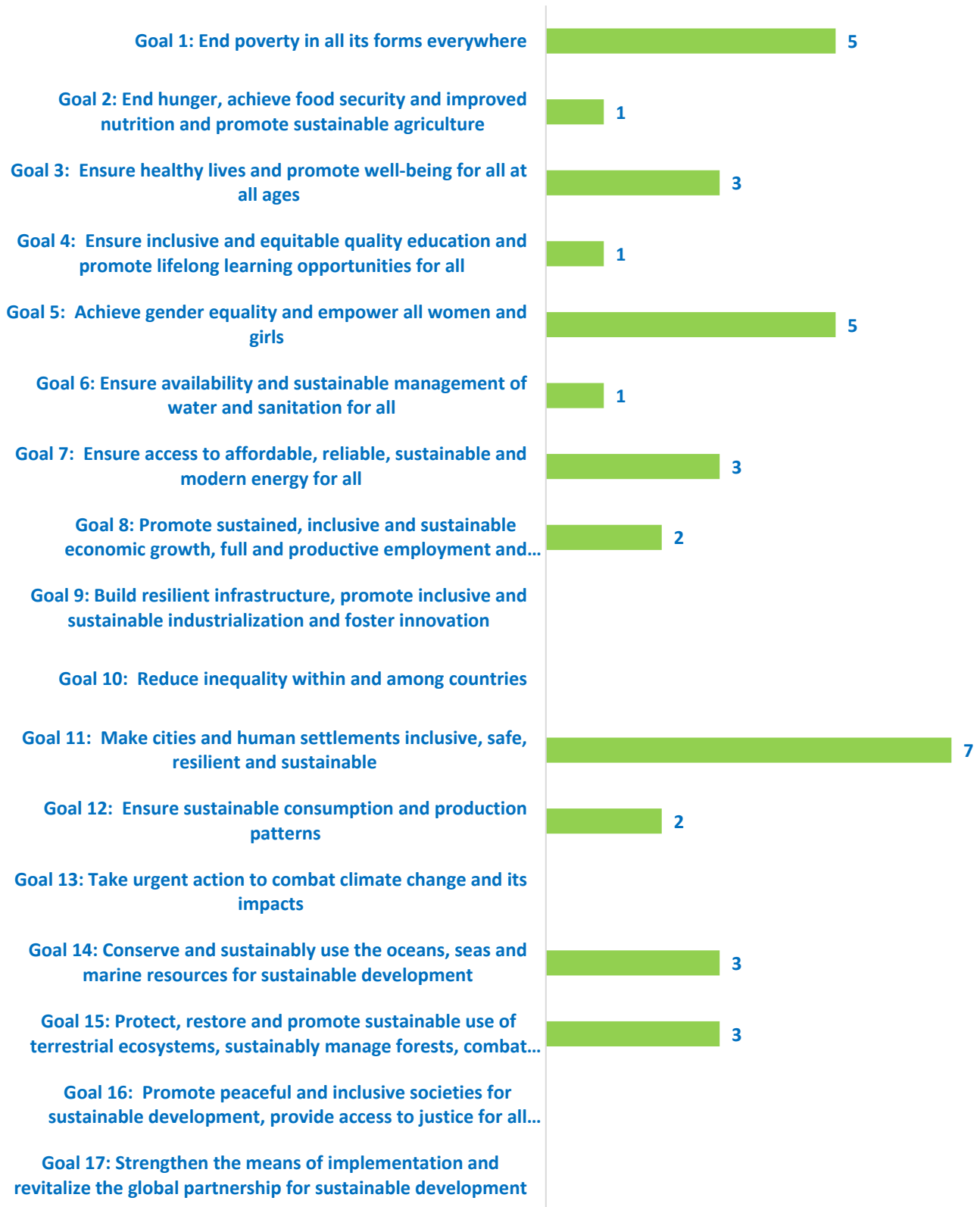
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**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)**



EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Climate Change

In **Albania**, supported by SGP and partnered with the municipality of the capital city Tirana, *Grupimi Ekolevizja* worked to pilot a green roof at the Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning of the city university, built on the academic expertise while contributing to the training of students in this key sustainable city solution. The project conducted a hands-on approach with students being fully involved in the design and implementation phases. In total, there were 38 students trained in the design and implementation of this technology. As a result, there has been a 30% reduction in energy consumption of the building. The project had good media coverage and was visited by the mayor of Tirana, who committed to including this green roof technology in the list of municipal subsidy schemes used for refurbishment of existing building stock. The scheme allows for covering about 50% of the costs involved in improvement of energy efficiency of existing buildings. The project served as a catalytic demonstration helping the municipality attract finance and deploy the technology more widely. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)**

Sustainable Forest Management

In **Albania**, with the support of SGP, the Association for Preservation of Values and Development (Shoqata per ruajtjen e vlerave dhe zhvillim) completed a project fighting against Pine processionary moths by removing overwintering caterpillar nests from trees in the town of Korca. The pine moth (*Thaumetopoea pityocampa*) is a major pest of pine trees around the Mediterranean Sea. In newly reforested areas, it causes extremely serious defoliation damage which may lead to death of trees. In mature forests, although trees are rarely killed, significant losses occur in volume growth. In collaboration with the local municipality, the project trained a significant number of local forestry workers. The cleaning process consisted in cutting off the caterpillar overwintering nests from the trees and subsequently destroying them. As a result, an area of 30 hectares with approximately 3,000 trees were treated in the vicinity of the town of Korca. Moreover, the project provided the municipality with the equipment used during the cleaning process to ensure the sustainability of the procedure in the years to come. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)**

Scaling up, Replication and Policy Influence

In **Albania**, the project “Preservation and promotion of the old beech forests in Albania” led to the government’s asking IUCN for acceptance of the proposals to protect another 5 locations. As a result of another project “Green Roofs for a sustainable city” in Albania, the capital city Tirana has vowed publicly to provide economic incentive for construction and maintenance of green roofs. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

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

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
GEF-7 National Dialogues	
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	January 1994 / April 1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	June 2016
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	October 2014
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	January 1995
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	October 2016 (3 rd)
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	3 July 2019
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	3 July 2019
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	September 2015
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	April 2000 / July 2000
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	-
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	October 2004 / January 2005
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	2017
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	October 2014 (signed not ratified)
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	July 2018
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies (IW) ³	April 2020 (Drini river) December 2012 (Prespa lake) April 2007 (Shkodra/Skadar lake)
Others (list) as relevant	

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.