



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

ECUADOR



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Ecuador		
Year Started	1993		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	361	38	399
Grant amount committed	11,646,299	1,005,037	12,651,336
Project level co-financing in cash	7,160,570	854,002	8,014,572
Project level co-financing in kind	7,857,679	665,620	8,523,299
Total co-financing *	17,542,908		
* 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 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	1	23	3	17	1	13	58
Total Projects Completed	1	23	3	17	1	13	58

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	1	-	23	3	17	1	13	58
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	6	6	6	-	1	1	16
Hectares of PAs	-	-	262,643	262,643	-	58	58	262,759
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	-	9	7	7	-	1	1	10
Hectares of ICCAs	-	-	1,279,182	1,279,182	-	40	40	1,150,585
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	4	39	31	31	17	3	3	128
Number of significant species conserved	-	7	7	7	-	-	-	15
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	10	5	5	4	1	1	16
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	77,986	69,014	69,014	10,485	58	58	226,615
Climate Change								
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	1

	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 **
Land Degradation								
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	270	-	-	-	-	-	270
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	270	-	-	-	-	3	273
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	-	-	-	-	-	115	115
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	36
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	18
International Waters								
Number of seascapes/inland freshwater landscapes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	10	5	10	-	9	3	-	37
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	168	-	30	-	75	3	-	276
South-South Exchange								
Number of South-South exchanges supported	3	2	6	-	3	2	3	19
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	1	-	23	3	17	1	12	57

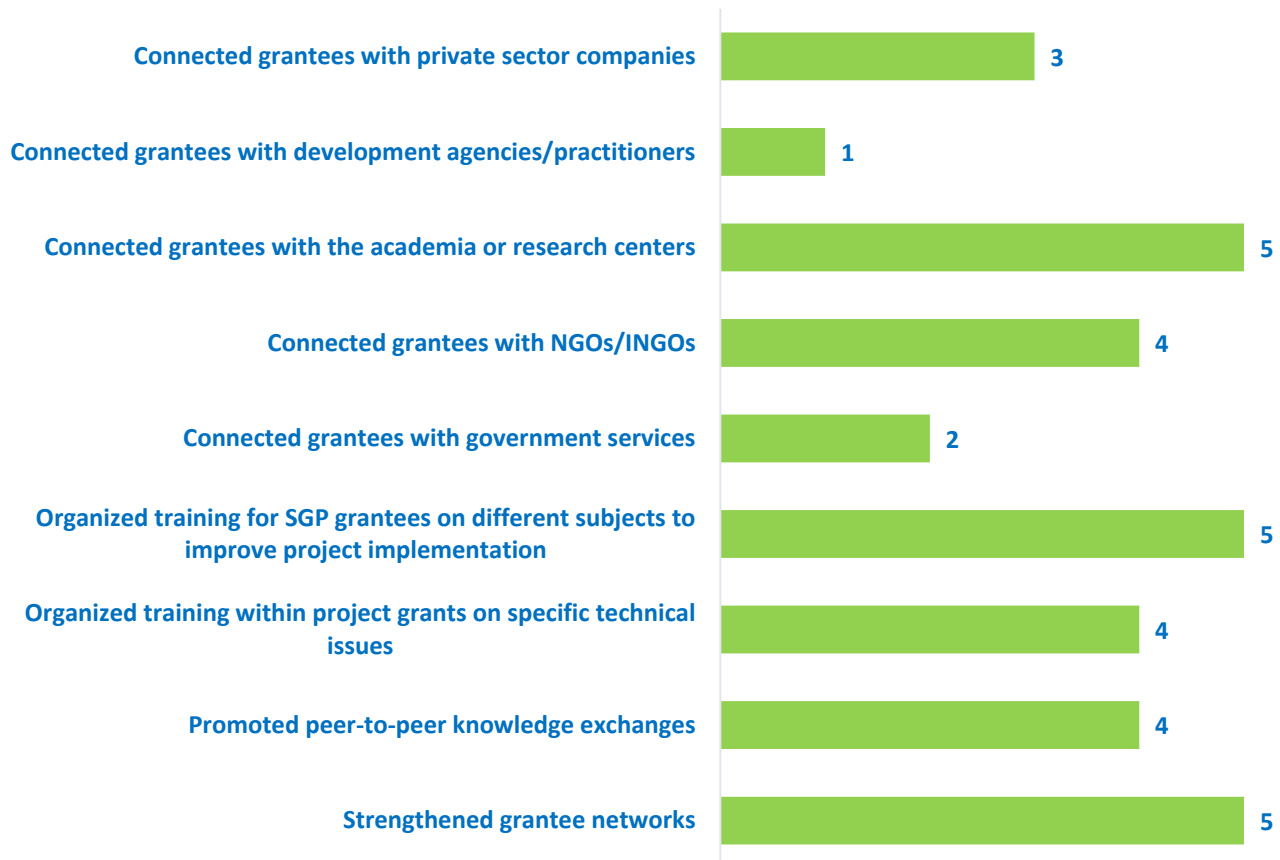
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Number of completed projects led by women	1	17	12	1	9	1	6	47
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Indigenous Peoples								
Number of completed projects that included indigenous peoples	1	-	23	1	12	-	1	38
Number of indigenous leaders with improved capacities	-	27	8	2	12	-	1	50
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Ways to encourage IP projects								
Proposals accepted in local languages (yes/no)	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Involved indigenous peoples in NSC and/or TAG (yes/no)	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	4
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	4
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	1	-	23	1	17	1	1	44
Number of youth organizations	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	7
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	-	1	-	12	1	1	15

	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 **
Projects with policy influence	-	-	-	-	12	-	1	13
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	1	17	23	-	17	1	-	59
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	1	20	2	4	16	-	5	48
Community-level trainings conducted	-	20	4	-	21	8	2	55
Number of projects monitored through field visits	16	10	23	2	12	1	12	76
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	7	5	4	8	4	3	3	34
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	5	12	7	7	5	6	6	7

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)



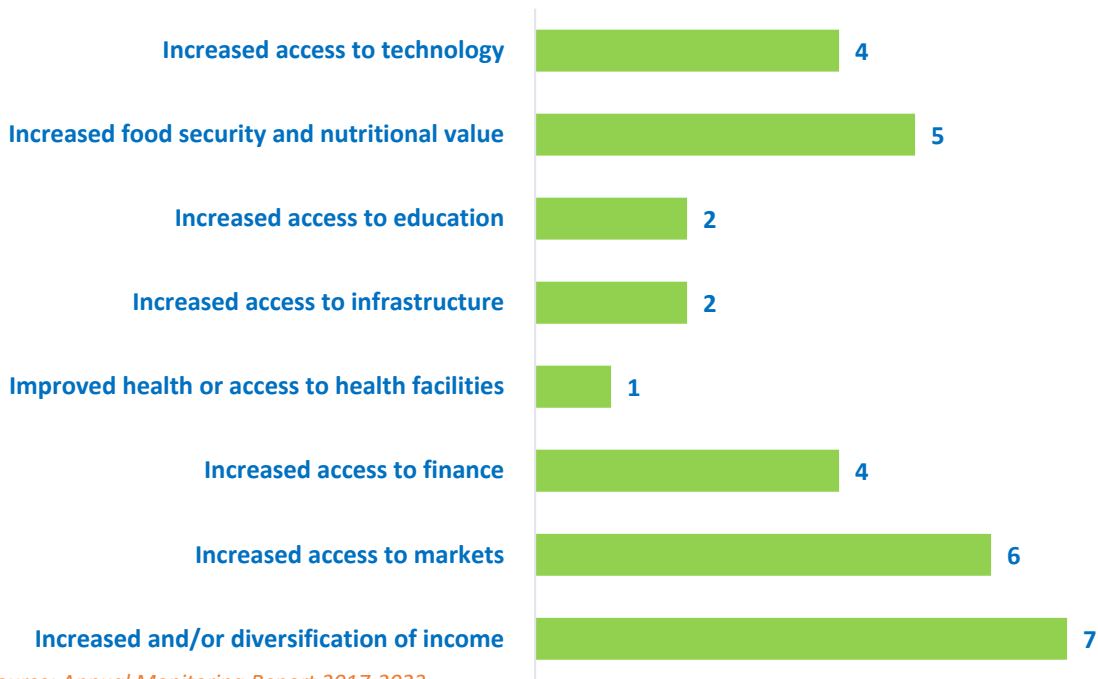
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



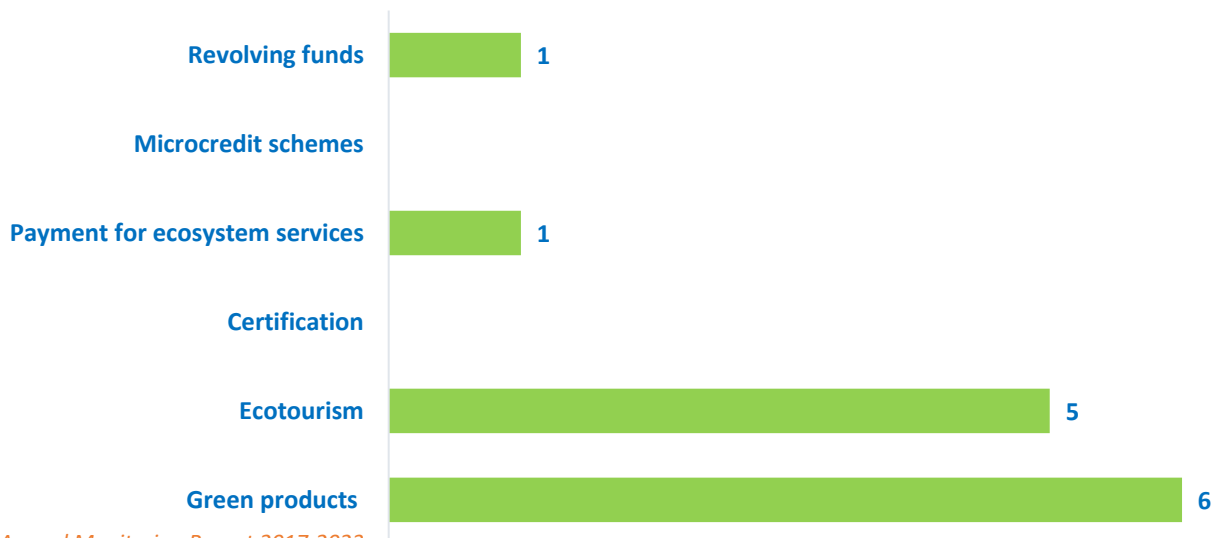
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

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



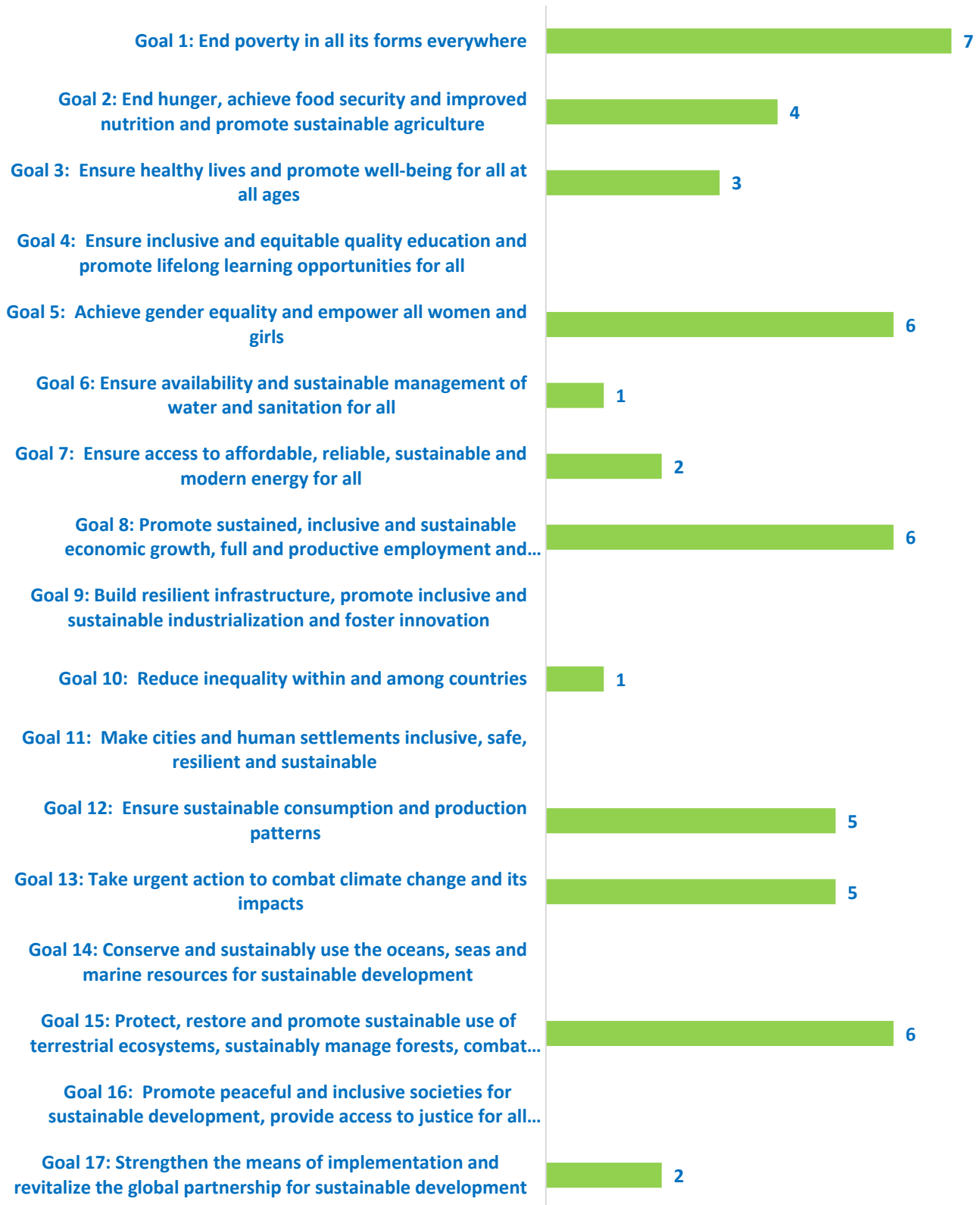
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**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

EVALUATIVE EVIDENCE

UNDP [Independent Country Programme Evaluation: Ecuador, 2021](#)

- An additional biodiversity conservation approach implemented by UNDP covers the environmentally friendly management of landscapes. This requires a complementary approach, considering that globally important species exist outside of protected areas. Thus, promoting landscape management of bio-corridors that connect strategic conservation areas across productive zones is expected to generate global benefits for conservation, while reducing carbon emissions and promoting the sustainable management of productive systems for poverty reduction. Documents reviewed and interviewees highlighted that the implementation of this approach is helping Ecuador to reach its local and global environmental objectives. This approach, fully aligned with the MAAE 'Connectivity for Conservation Strategy', was implemented by UNDP during the current programme cycle through various projects, including the 'PROAmazonia' programme, PPVS and the Small Grants Programme (SGP) phases 6 and 7.

UNDP [UNDP-Supported Environment Initiatives Financed through the Global Environment Facility, 2021](#)

- The Ecuador Small Grants Programme used social media to build awareness and provide a digital sales platform for innovative quality products produced by indigenous communities. GreenCrowds, a unique social-environmental crowdfunding platform, strengthened the visibility and sustainability of sustainable community land management initiatives.

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

In **Ecuador**, SGP supported grantee *Centro Latino Americano para el Desarrollo Rural (RIMISP)* to identify, recognize and promote conservation activities that give value to products from biodiversity. In particular, the project used a contest mechanism to select several community initiatives that value the food heritage, improve the quality of life and give opportunity for the development of local inclusive economies from family agriculture.

130 initiatives working in the food chain with quality criteria, environmental sustainability, social impact, and territorial identity were identified. Marketing initiatives and alternative markets contributed to the strengthening of communities and family agriculture. The contest winners exhibited their products in a fair widely disseminated and supported by institutions as the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Tourism, Local Government of Quito, Universities, and the private sector. 4 out of 15 winners were communitarian initiatives supported by SGP Ecuador. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

CSO-Government Dialogue

In Belarus, Belize, Brazil, Lesotho, **Ecuador**, Mozambique, Panama and Venezuela relied on landscape approach as an entry point to initiate the dialogues at the regional level. In *Panama*, the dialogues resulted in strengthened landscape governance and stronger collaboration between the civil society and the Government. In **Ecuador**, the actors of the landscape, communities, local governments, universities, CSOs, organized dialogues to discuss action plans defining development priorities of the territory and financing sources. In *Belarus*, the CSO Government dialogue helped CSOs and CBOs of the designated SGP landscape strengthen collaboration, raise co-financing and connect with policy makers. Additionally, a *Regional Council* was established to support local initiatives in Sustainable Development. The members include representatives of regional and local governments, CSOs, and experts. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

South-South Exchange

SGP **Ecuador** and Bolivia supported knowledge transfer communities and an international workshop that took place in Cochabamba, Bolivia in November 2017. The workshop was organized by SGP Bolivia, and the objective was to create a space for farmers and producers to share their good practices. In the workshop, grantees from SGP Ecuador that have a wealth of experience in how to produce and promote products with Territorial Identity, traveled to Bolivia to explain their approach. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

Partnership

In **Ecuador**, an ICCA-GSI project aimed to address the severe threats to the country's biodiversity caused by deforestation, agricultural expansion, petroleum exploration, and other factors. These threats were negatively impacting indigenous peoples and local communities in the form of land grabs and environmental degradation, while their rights to Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) were often violated. The project collaborated with several indigenous communities living in eight ICCAs across the country, covering over 1.1 million hectares and home to more than 162,000 indigenous peoples from 278 communities. The project employed the ICCA-GSI methodology known as the Self-Strengthening Process, which enabled indigenous communities to identify their challenges and priorities. The primary challenge identified was the lack of recognition of their ICCAs by state actors and the private sector, which had adverse effects on their culture, traditional knowledge, and lands. In response, the project partnered with the *Asociación Latinoamericana para el Desarrollo Alternativo (ALDEA)* to create a national ICCA network, expanding the beneficiary population to over 163,000 indigenous peoples from 285 communities.

The project conducted more than 32 workshops focusing on strengthening indigenous organizational capacities, registration processes for global ICCA registries, and strategic communications for advocacy. As a result, the indigenous communities enhanced their governance systems, promoted sustainable livelihood programs using agroecological approaches, and engaged in strategic communication to advocate for their rights and the protection of ancestral territories. Notably, indigenous peoples from five ICCAs voluntarily registered with the global ICCA Registry and/or the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA), contributing to the global count for protected areas and aligning with the objectives of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). **(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.