

## SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY OPERATIONAL PHASE 7 (OP7)

# REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES



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**ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

ADB	African Development Bank
CBA	Community - Based Adaptation
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	Community Based Organisations
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
COMESA	Common Market for East and Southern Africa
COP	Conferences on the Parties
CPD	Country Programme Development
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
CPMT	Central Programme Management Team
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EBA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EPI	Environment Performance Index
EVI	Environmental Vulnerability Index
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
EU	European Union
ICCAs	Indigenous Community Conserved
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NAPA	National adaptation programmes of action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy & Action
NC	National Coordinator
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NSC	National Steering Committee

OP	Operational Phase
PV	Photovoltaic
SADC	South African Developing Countries
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SSDS	Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Projects Services

**Table 1: OP7 Financial Resources - SGP Country Programme (estimated US\$)<sup>1</sup>**

Total SGP Grants to date since 2010	<b>USD 2,599,010</b>
OP7 GEF Core Funds:	USD \$500,000 (tbc)
OP7 GEF STAR Funds:	USD 480,000 (+20'000 ~ UNDP fees)
Other funds (secured) as project co-financing	<b>USD 40'000 (UNDP Climate Promise) &amp; USD 168'333 (GEF UNDP Ridge to Reef )</b>
Other funds (expected/to be mobilized)	<b>USD 300'000 (Indian High Commission &amp; other project co-financing sources), OP6 Balance USD 35'000, UNDP Support ~ 10'000, Ministry of Environment support USD 50'000, Ministry of Agriculture USD 15000</b>
Total funds for OP7	<b>Est@ 1'598'333.00</b>

## 1. BACKGROUND

As a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) aligns its Operational Phase strategies with those of the GEF and co-financing partners, and provides a global portfolio of *innovative, inclusive, and impactful* projects that address global environmental and sustainable development issues.

Action at the local level by civil society and community-based organizations, including women groups, indigenous peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities is recognized essential to form multi-stakeholder alliances to deliver global environmental benefits and contribute to the GEF-7 Programming Directions, UNDP's Strategic Plan 2018-2021 and national priorities to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other international commitments.<sup>2</sup>

Building on its over 26 years of successful operations in total over 133 countries, the 7<sup>th</sup> Operational Phase of the SGP aims *"to promote and support innovative, inclusive and scalable initiatives, and foster multi stakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes."*

<sup>1</sup> The level of SGP OP7 resources is an estimated total of: (i) the GEF7 core grant allocation (to be reviewed annually by CPMT on the basis of performance, co-financing and strategic partnerships, demonstrated NSC commitment rates, and UNOPS delivery); (ii) approved STAR resources; as well as (iii) other sources of third party cost sharing & co-financing (country, regional and/or global levels). SGP countries with remaining OP6 balances that have not been pipelined will be expected to use these balances in line with the OP7 strategic approach in order to be coherent in terms of SGP programming and results expected.

<sup>2</sup> The initial SGP OP7 concept was incorporated into the strategic directions for the overall GEF-7 replenishment negotiations in 2017, and subsequently approved by the GEF Council paper "GEF Small Grants Programme: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-7" (GEF/C.54/05.rev) in June 2018.

## 2. SUMMARY: KEY RESULTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Now with ten years of overall implementation of the SGP in the Seychelles, following official launching in August 2010, the initial aim was to increase the number of community-based groups into environmental management to reinforce and continue the conservation of environment, through the different SGP thematic areas so as not to regress on progression made thus far. The country has now undergone three operational phases i.e. OP4, OP5 and OP6 and gathered sufficient experiences to carry the programme to greater heights and bring along established partnerships as well as building new ones to explore other opportunities and learn from the on-the-ground experiences that SGP grants and non-grants activities offer locally. *The National Steering Committee, which is responsible for overseeing the programme and projects implementation under the SGP consists of representatives from Government, the GEF Operational Focal Point as well as a UNDP official and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).*

As expected, Seychelles has a programme portfolio that is heavy in biodiversity conservation, but with years the portfolio was diversified into the other focus areas as well (as illustrated by table 2 and figure 1). It also supported climate change adaptation projects in partnership with the Australian AID Community -based adaptation initiatives, seeking to enhance the resiliency of communities to address climate change impacts whilst conserving and enhancing the natural resources and ecosystems upon which vulnerable local populations depend. As illustrated in table 2 and figure 1 below, 62 projects in total were funded under the SGP over the three operational phases, worth a total sum of US\$ 2,290,610. The number of projects funded under the SGP has increased from 10 in OP4, 29 in OP5 and 23 in OP6 but with interesting diversification in scope. The almost doubled number of projects under OP5 is due to the tripling in funding from US\$ 474,610 to US\$ 1,300,000 respectively. Under OP4 the projects were concentrated mainly within three thematic areas, however, under OP5 the number of thematic areas increased significantly (see table 2 and figure 1). A slight decrease in the number of projects from OP5 to OP6 (from 23 to 20 projects respectively), and this being reflected in the total funding committed, from US\$ 1, 300, 000 for OP5 down to US\$ 800, 000 for OP6. It is however interesting to note that there has been further diversification in the thematic areas covered.

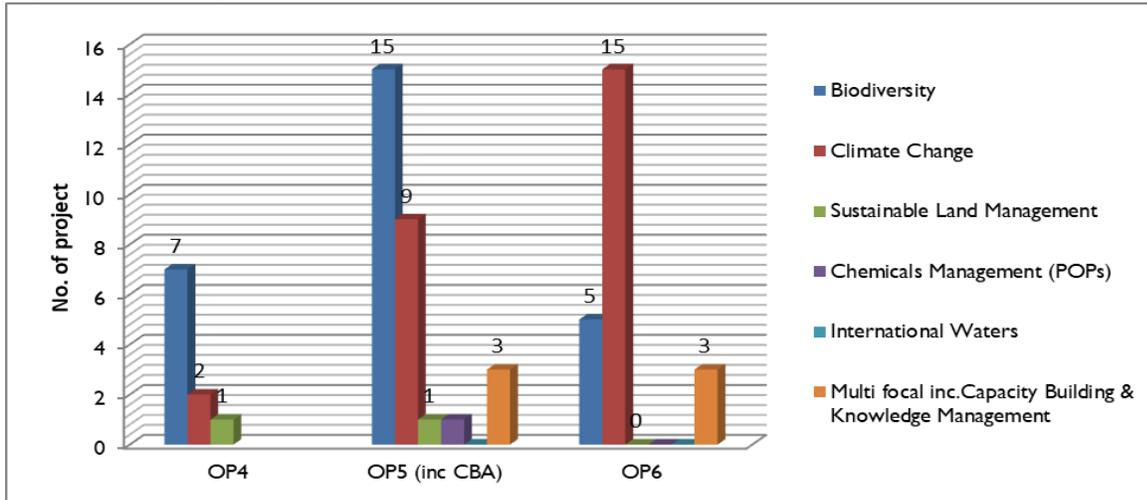
**Table 2: Projects funded under GEF-4, GEF-5 & GEF-6**

<b>Thematic Areas</b>	<b>OP4</b>	<b>OP5 (inc CBA)</b>	<b>OP6</b>
<b>Biodiversity</b>	7	15	5
<b>Climate Change</b>	2	9	15
<b>Sustainable Land Management</b>	1	1	0
<b>Chemicals Management (POPs)</b>		1	0
<b>International Waters</b>		0	0
<b>Multi focal inc.Capacity Building &amp; Knowledge Management</b>		3	3

Total Projects	10	29	23
<b>TOTAL funding committed (US\$)</b>	<b>474,610</b>	<b>1,324,400</b>	<b>800, 000</b>

*Source: GEF SGP Seychelles – inclusive of the AUS AID –SGP SIDS CBA projects*

**Figure 1: Projects funded under GEF-4, GEF-5 & GEF-6**



Ten projects were completed under OP4 and 29 in OP5. As for OP6, 23 projects have been funded, of which 65% are from the Climate change thematic area and most are still under implementation. Of the 23 projects in OP6, four are completed of which 2 are planning grants, others are ongoing. It is to be noted that throughout the three phases, 2 projects were terminated under OP4, 1 project under OP5, and 2 under OP6.

From September 2019, SGP received a second additional allocation of US\$ 200, 000 to call for further proposals this time focusing on the strategic initiative “Youth and Climate Change”. The NSC equally suggested adding to this allocation from two OP6 terminated project balance.

N.B: The “Youth and Climate Change” thematic area is accounted for in Table 2 and Figure 1 above.

Among the SGP projects, there have been nationally recognized ones, which have been implemented successfully and have had major positive impacts on the environment, species, habitat and the community, in general. Of the 23 OP6 projects we recorded 955’881 USD in co-financing.

Annex III can be referred for the list of projects under OP6 including grant allocation and status of progress.

### 3. COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

#### 3.1. Alignment with National Priorities

##### *Ratification of the relevant Rio Conventions and relevant national planning frameworks*

The National Development Framework of Seychelles is most recently governed by the National Vision 2033 that was launched in 2019, and the National Development Plan 2019-2023, with major focus on sustainable developments. Seychelles, being a Small Island Developing State, is playing an active role in biodiversity conservation and climate change by ratifying several conventions to date. So far the country has signed and ratified all three Rio global environmental conventions, which include the CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD. Nonetheless, Seychelles is not a party to the Nagoya Protocol. To demonstrate its commitment as an active member of the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work under the CBD, several of the recommendations and requirements of the said protocol and associated ones have been integrated in various pieces of legislations and are binding by law. It is to be noted that the new National Climate Change Strategy (2019), also primarily focuses on addressing climate change impacts in Seychelles, does include biodiversity, forestry, health, finance and other sectors. As for the UNFCCC, Seychelles has recently completed its third National Communication in 2019, while drafting its new National Climate Change Strategy. The main national framework for implementing the UNFCCC is entrenched in several national legislations and policies including the Energy Act 2011 and the Energy Policy 2010-2030. With regards to the UNCCD, it was not until the year 2000 that Seychelles was truly engaged in its implementation. Among the main national legislative framework for the implementation of the UNCCD include the Environment Protection Act (1994) and the Environmental Impact Assessment regulations.

**Table 3: List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes**

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
GEF-7 National Dialogues	March 2019
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	1992
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	1998, 2015
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	April 2012
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1992
UNFCCC National Communications (1st, 2nd, 3rd)	2000, 2013, 2020 drafting
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	2020 drafting

UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	June 1997
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	October 1994
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	2008
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	January 2015
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	June 2019
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies (IW) 3	
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer	1985
Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	1987
Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Kigali amendment)	2016
Kyoto Protocol	July 2002
Paris Agreement (UNFCCC)	2015
Minamata Convention on mercury	2017
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention)	March 2005
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES)	1977
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) 1973/1978. IMO	December 2019 (acceded)
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPS) Stockholm, 22/05/2001 EF: 17/05/2004	2002
Davos Convention (promoting the tourism industries reduction of the carbon footprint through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions)	2015
International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), Rome, 6/12/51, EF: 3/04/52	1996 Adherence

### 3.2. Gaps and Opportunities

Conservation areas such as Nature Reserves, Special Nature Reserves, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and National Parks cover about 51% of the total land area of the Seychelles. However, the country faces many challenges (from development e.g. coastal housing, agriculture and tourism development) when it comes to protecting the environment. Another 30% of the Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone has been dedicated to protection as part of the debt swap, but enforcement is yet to be seen.

<sup>3</sup> Please also identify existing IW regional projects and the regional SAPs adopted by countries sharing international waterbodies to align SGP local interventions. Please check this website to find some of the SAPs:

<http://iwlearn.net/publications/SAP>

Seychelles sustainable development priorities, which target mainly the environment, are laid down in the Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy (SSDS) 2012 – 2020, and in the short term, in the Seychelles National Development Strategy 2019-2023. These documents are the cornerstone of all sustainable development priorities of the country. These priorities are organised under thirteen thematic areas which is in line with the Mauritius Strategies for Implementation (MSI) thematic areas. The overarching goal of the SSDS is to conserve the environment of Seychelles through sustainable use of resources. Seychelles environmental priorities are also well captured under the SDG goals 6, 7, 13, 14 & 15. Community participation through the engagement of Civil Society Organisations based on their activities in the domain of marine and terrestrial species (landscape and seascape) conservation, biodiversity research, public education and awareness are some of the activities directly targeting community involvement. Some of the NGOs are also responsible for the management of islands and their ecosystems, as well as have been largely benefitted from GEF LSP in using NGO modalities to implement or manage protected areas.

It is interesting to note that most of the CSOs which have benefited from the GEF funding under the SGP are strongly community oriented in that their projects/activities either target specific groups in the community e.g. fishermen, farmers, or the wider community at large and with private sector participation. Annex III can be referred for further details of the different type of projects funded and their target groups. With the SSDS in place and its emphasis on community participation as one of the key factors in achieving its set objectives there are scope for greater synergy between the government and CSOs to collaborate their effort in achieving these goals, with the scope for sustaining, replicating and upscaling to national level. A good example of projects which started on a small scale and now is being implemented at national level with government support is in renewable energy (solar) using PV system, as well as the SIDS CBA projects now upscaled to national levels with further Government and COMESA funding.

Seychelles have already embraced the five SDGs that are directly related to environment protection as illustrated in table 3 below. Table 3 gives an evaluation of the country needs (as per the SSDS 2012-2020) in terms of capacity building to achieve the SDGs environmental targets. Given the sensitive nature of the physical and natural environment of Seychelles, there is enormous pressure placed on the ecosystems from increasing demands for natural resources (such as food, fish, construction materials, etc.), water and energy, growth in solid waste, and intense competition for land use, both residential and commercial. Furthermore, with a growing population, and the effect of climate change leading to the degradation of fishing grounds and impacts on coral reefs continue to be an issue in the coastal zone, coupled with the effects of global warming, this is expected to exacerbate the situation even more.

Another area of concern is mainstreaming climate change adaptation and risk and disaster management in key sectorial policies such as agriculture and fisheries. Seychelles is prone to risks and major natural disasters and with climate change, the intensity of those natural phenomena is increasing, and agriculture and fisheries are two of the sectors mostly affected. SDG goal 13 related directly to this issue

and the government of Seychelles is already implementing various strategies to mitigate the impact of climate change. Addressing the various challenges can help reduce the risk associated with climate change.

Between OP 4 and OP 5, Seychelles had its focus on biodiversity conservation. In OP6, we saw a shift into other thematic areas more dominantly in climate change mitigation / adaptation following funding support with two additional grant allocations. When the national priorities are examined closely, as evident by means of the number and strategic conventions / treaties ratified, Seychelles obviously still has a long way to go, in order to meaningfully promote, engage and empower further the local communities via Community-Based and Non-Governmental Organisations (CBOs / NGOs) to further implement the national priorities. The previously identified gaps of support and capacity building cannot be over sighted, and this is an ongoing endeavor for SGP Seychelles. The willingness of the local community to participate cannot be undermined, but insofar that they are sensitized and perceived at least short-term benefits, which may encapsulate into medium- and longer-term benefits, we will be able to cross the bridge with further improved performance. Voluntarism is still in slow progress owing to full time jobs of both men and women who hardly make time for additional tasks within the community. With a small pool of expertise and capacity in the small island nation, SGP is progressively closing this gap as it empowers the people to valorize the country's environmental assets therefore contributing towards the sustainable conservation of nature and natural resources. Between 2014 to date, SGP helped increase the number of active CBOs from seven to twenty-two.

It is also clear from the list of conventions and treaties ratified; new learning would have taken place. Again, from these documents, the local communities need to understand where, when, how and why they should fit in. There is a strong need for the local communities to embrace opportunities presented and contribute to meeting the national needs and obligations. There is now a stronger need to take proactive steps towards environment conservation and bring on innovative concepts that will see impacts at all levels of implementation.

Along the same tangent, the initiative for "Knowledge Based Management, Youth and Climate Change, Sustainable Oceans or the Blue Economy concept through Community-based Solutions" are all areas to be further explored, tap into existing soft capital and promulgate best practices through eventual Centers of Excellence. These are indeed key areas for Seychelles to explore further. Again, capacity building, not just from a technical knowhow, but also from a project cycle management view, is especially important because of their implications for Seychelles communities, including sustainability of projects.

As such, it is expected that the portfolio of projects from Seychelles, especially with the resources from the STAR Allocation, would reflect more closely ***"what we ought to achieve nationally, while also contributing to the global targets"***.

In summary, there is a need to pull apart the elements of national strategies, the signed protocols and treaties, implementation of the SDGs to show grassroots operators what benefits they could obtain from them, what innovative projects could be derived from these, the impacts that will be made through the involvement or inclusion of all segments of the society. This will directly contribute to achieving the SGP vision for OP7 where the 3 ‘I’s are concerned; **Innovation, Impact, Inclusion**.

### 3.3. OP7 Strategic Priorities of the SGP Country Programme

#### Effective implementation of SGP initiatives in OP7

The success of the previous operational phases remains the building block for further achievement for subsequent phases. The benefits and experiences accrued are huge given the diversity of projects, the network that’s been established with other NGOs, government and private sector, involvement with the community and schools, linkages with other GEF large size projects like the Ridge to Reef project which SGP is expected to oversee or coordinate the community component with UNDP. Furthermore, it is interested to note that more Resorts in Seychelles are linking to conservation NGO and are a good source of co-financing. These help to sustain SGP’s solid foundation for the successful implementation of OP7. SGP is now equally involved with academic institutions like the University of Seychelles and The Guy Morel Institute. The invaluable support, from the government through the Ministry of Environment, Energy and CC, the Seychelles Fishing Authority, Seychelles Agricultural Agency, Ministry responsible for Community Development, and the UNDP is remarkable. Private sector is getting more involved and interested in environment conservation initiatives and the dialogues effected with SGP / UNDP indicates interests in participating with NGOs or CBOs to realise environment goals and targets. Through these partnerships, knowledge sharing is being extended and the local NGOs are also benefitting from international expertise, which is an invaluable ingredient for improvement, and scaling up, hence contributing more towards the global environment conservation.

**Table 4: SGP Country Programme’s alignment with SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives and Country Priorities/Projects/ Programmes**

1	2	3
<b>SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives – Global</b>	<b>SGP Country Programme’s OP7 Priorities</b> (choose priorities among the SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives on the left column. Some are mandatory and already included.)	<b>SGP Country Programme’s complementarity with GEF, UNDP, and other projects and programmes</b> (identify related projects/ programmes for cooperation)
<b>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species</b>	<i>i. Reduce coastal erosion through shared governance with private sector and government</i>	-The SGP is partnering with the GEF 6-UNDP LSP Ridge to Reef to implement / coordinate the community component of

<p>Key objectives/focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Improve management effectiveness of protected areas through ICCAs and shared governance with private sector and government.</li> <li>2) Improve community-led biodiversity friendly practices and approaches, including promoting blue economy (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, infrastructure, etc.)</li> <li>3) Enhance community led actions for protection of threatened species</li> </ol>	<p><i>ii. Establish work programmes with the local communities to protect the endangered species</i></p>	<p>the project</p> <p>The GEF 7 LSP in development also used a participatory approach and the SGP is an on-going partner in its development</p> <p>SEYCATT is another new initiative that sprung from the Seychelles debt swap programme and looking at funding projects that target coastal and marine activities. The SGP is a member of the SEYCATT 's Blue Grants Committee which is chaired by the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change</p>
<p><b>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of overall food production and value chain, including in vulnerable ecosystems (mountains, SIDS, etc).</li> <li>2) Increase diversification and livelihood improvement</li> <li>3) Remove deforestation from supply chain and expanded restoration of degraded lands.</li> </ol>	<p><i>i. Promote climate resilience and land degradation neutrality agricultural practices to improve harvest and outputs</i></p> <p><i>ii. Develop &amp; implement a coastal fish management plan to protect the reef fishes from over-exploitation and extinction</i></p>	<p>Seychelles Agricultural Agency (SAA) and the Seychelles Fishing Authority (SFA) are fundamental partners in SGP's work and support any initiatives we bring forth from NGO / CBO implementation through SGP. The latter equally network on national initiatives such as the FAO Agro-forestry project and relevant GEF LSP with UNDP and the Ministry for Environment...</p>
<p><b>Low-carbon energy access co-benefits</b></p> <p>Support implementation of Paris Agreement and the NDCs</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies providing socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods.</li> <li>2) Promote off-grid energy service needs in rural and urban areas.</li> </ol>	<p><i>i. Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies providing socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods.</i></p>	<p>UNDP – CPD Output 1.3 Inclusive and sustainable solutions adopted to achieve increased energy efficiency (especially off-grid sources of renewable energy)</p> <p>Seychelles Energy Commission (SEC) complementing the SGP Energy efficiency project in the Prison, assisting two new SGP projects under the Youth &amp; CC in conducting energy audits... and partner with SGP on all CC-related projects...</p>

<p><b>Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Reduce and promote alternative to mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining</li> <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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>i. Promote plastics/solid waste management and circular economy</i></li> <li><i>ii. Enhance local capacity to manage chemical wastes and mercury that affect both the land and marine ecosystems and resources</i></li> </ol>	<p>MEECC, New waste management plan...</p> <p>Working with SAA, SFA and Department of Health to reduce persistent organic pollutants / chemical wastes</p>
<p><b>Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Improved capacities to promote community-driven, socially inclusive and integrated solutions to address low-emission and resilient urban development</li> <li>2) Demonstrated 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>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>i. Implement public-private partnership approach for low carbon energy access for marginalized urban communities</i></li> <li><i>ii. Education and building awareness on community-driven, socially inclusive and integrated solutions to address low emission and resilient urban development</i></li> </ol>	<p>Government is already putting incentive schemes in place for low emission and environment-friendly technological solutions in all its buildings / offices.</p> <p>SGP will continue to work with NGOs, CBOs and Private entities to bring sustainable solutions and resilience to urban communities</p>
<p><b>Community-based Adaptation</b> (with AusAID or other funding – not eligible with GEF funding)</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 CCA</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>i. Provide clear policy lessons and mainstream CBA within national processes.</i></li> <li><i>ii. Reduce vulnerability and improve the adaptive capacity of communities</i></li> </ol>	<p>If a new phase is to be established, we have the support of the Ministry responsible for Community Development and Ministry of Environment Energy &amp; CC</p> <p>UNDP – CPD Output 1.4; Effective institutional legislative and policy frameworks in place to enhance the</p>

<p>3) Provide clear policy lessons and mainstream CBA within national processes.</p>		<p>implementation of disaster and climate risk management measures at national levels</p> <p>UNDP CPD Output 1.5; Climate change adaptation and mitigation actions are scaled up across sectors.</p>
<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><i>i. Create platform for dialogue on issues related to local environment and sustainable development</i></p>	<p><i>SGP, through most of its projects has established national platforms for dialogues with relevant counterparts such as the Ministry responsible for Agriculture, Ministry responsible for Environment, Energy and Climate Change, Ministry of Education, Private entities, local Government, DRDM...etc and will continue to involve them and others in related project development, implementation and dialogues.</i></p>
<p><b>Enhancing social inclusion (mandatory)</b></p> <p>i) Promote targeted initiatives</p> <p>ii) 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>iii) Promote targeted initiatives</p> <p>iv) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects</p>	<p>UNDP CPD Output 1.6; Measures in place and implemented across sectors to increase women’s access to alternative livelihood opportunities in flood prone communities.</p> <p>Looking to provide access to PWD in DRR programme in partnership with the Government’s Department of Risk &amp; Disaster Management.</p> <p>Increased involvement of youth and PWD in our programmes and projects</p>
<p><b>Knowledge Management (mandatory)</b></p> <p>1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities</p> <p>2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs</p> <p>3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices</p>	<p><b>Knowledge Management</b></p> <p>i) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities</p> <p>ii) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs</p> <p>iii) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices</p>	<p>Organise and participate with grantees, Citizens Engagement Platform or partners in national knowledge fairs, annual theme days and national day to promote donor funded mechanisms and NGO member recruitment / national NGO fairs...</p> <p>Potential regional exchange of grantees or NCs when in the region...</p>

<p><b>Results Management, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation (mandatory)</b></p> <p>1) <i>Administer new M&amp;E strategy in country programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms</i></p>	<p><b>Results Management, Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b></p> <p>i) <i>Administer new M&amp;E strategy in country programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms</i></p> <p>ii) <i>Plan for monthly project site visits and monitoring</i></p>	<p>New SGP M&amp;E strategy will be used for capturing results and learning NSC members and relevant partners will be trained in using the strategy for more effective evaluations</p> <p>Other innovative ways will be used for monitoring progress and achievements</p>
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In OP7, the SGP initiative will continue to place great emphasis on building synergies with other projects being funded and/or implemented by UNDP/GEF. This will not only guarantee continuity of the projects, but scope for piloting, replicating, upscaling and mainstreaming to national/global level and possibility for further support in terms of co-financing and capacity building. As communities are important implementers of such projects, the SGP will assist in supporting access to funding as a delivery mechanism, either through the UNDP low value grant or simply coordinating the community component as part of our grant maker+ initiatives, via a letter of exchange.

Table A1 & A2 in the Appendix of SGP OP6 Report and Annex III of this report references the SGP Seychelles past and on-going projects proving that there is a solid foundation on the ground for continued effective implementation of SGP initiatives in OP7.

The SGP will continue to work with potential grantees or groups with interests in the SGP in following through their areas of interest and aligning them with the OP7 strategic initiatives.

Seychelles has no OP5 projects in implementation. The NC is prioritizing implementing projects timeframe by tracking the MOA key milestones and advising early request for MOA Amendment, noting the issues occurred previously with retro-active cases with UNOPS.

#### 4. OP7 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

##### 4.1 Grantmaking Within the Priority Landscape/Seascapes<sup>4</sup>

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

In preparation for the CPS review, The National Steering Committee and the Ministry of Environment organised a half day stakeholder consultation workshop on October 24, 2019 to find out the priority issues affecting the Seychelles environment which can be supported by SGP in OP7 through our landscape/seascape approaches as well as outside the Landscape seascape approaches. Issues identified in the workshop and comments made by stakeholders were recorded and form part of this CPS. The following were listed and analysed as the priority list of issues, with consequences on the environment and socio-economic impacts (see table 5 below). Issues' rated from a score of 60 and above are considered priority.

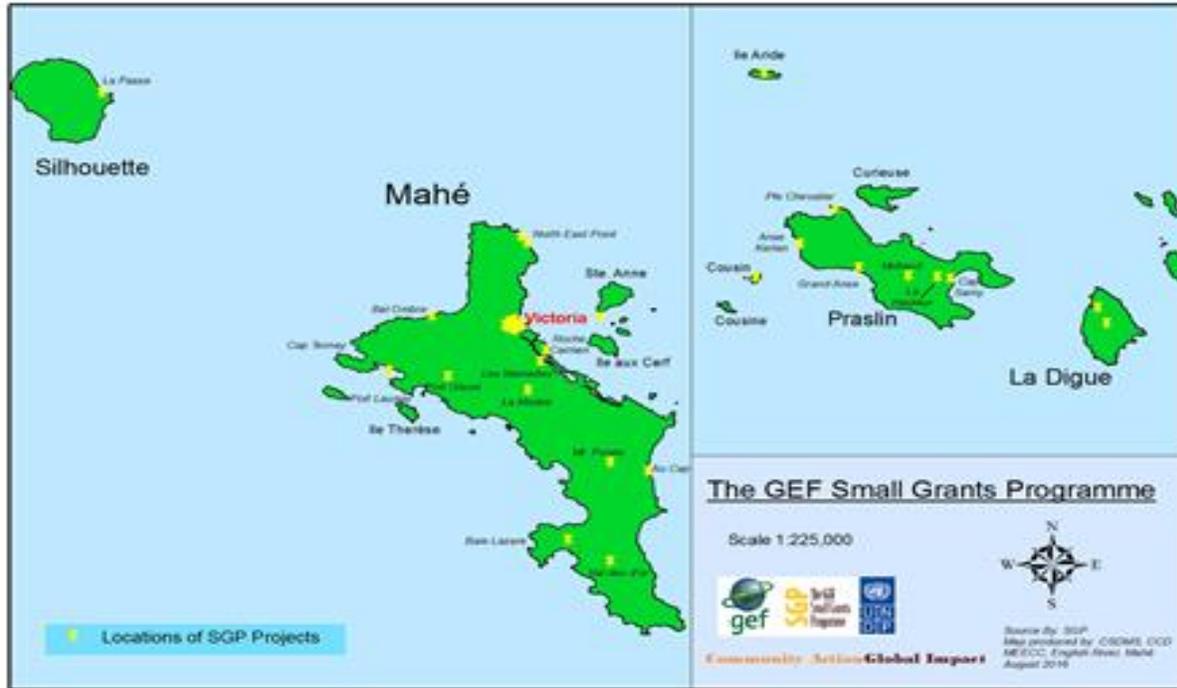
**Table 5: Priority issues in Seychelles**

Issues identified	Environment Severity	Environment Consequence	Socio-economic consequence	Relevance to SGP	Total score
Coastal Flooding	5	5	5	1	125
Habitat alteration & degradation	5	5	5	1	125
Overfishing	5	5	3	1	75
Poor agricultural practices	4	4	4	1	64
Coral Reef degradation	5	3	4	1	60
Waste management & pollution	5	4	3	1	60
Coastal erosion	5	4	3	1	60
Alien Invasive species	5	4	3	1	60
Lack of engagement & enforcement	4	5	3	1	60
Wildlife poaching	4	4	3	1	48
Poverty	2	3	5	1	30
Use of illicit drugs	1	2	5	0	10
Noise pollution	1	1	2	0	10

<sup>4</sup> Refer to the various guidance documents on landscape/seascape selection and assessments.

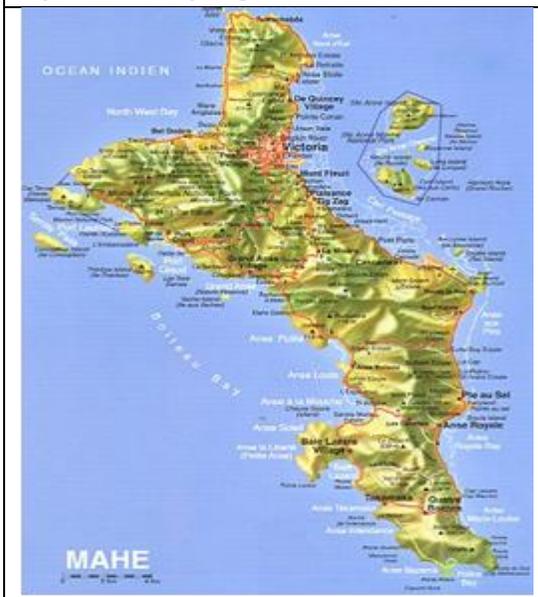
**b) Selected Landscapes/Seascapes for OP7**

**Figure 2: Map of Seychelles inner islands SGP’s focus project sites for OP4, OP5, OP6 and OP7**



As a small island developing state, most projects implemented have geographical spill-over, if not national impacts and benefits. As a result, it is not always necessary or required to take a landscape/seascape approach, nor is it healthy to apply intervention in isolation. As such, the entire country will continue to be considered for the landscape/seascape approach. The SGP country programme strategy for Seychelles continues to cover much of the country’s inhabited territory consisting of the main inner islands, including but not limited to Mahe, Praslin, La Digue and Silhouette as illustrated in the map in figure 2. Additional conservation islands may be considered based on relevant NGOs’ capacity to implement relevant projects on the sites or in complementarity with other GEF LSP.

**Figure 3: Map of Mahé, the main island in the Seychelles archipelago**



As in any small island setting, a ridge to reef approach is always the way forward noting that everything that happens at the top of the mountain may have negative (or positive) impacts at the coast, therefore a combination of a landscape / seascape running from the mountain side, the watersheds, down to marshlands and coastal mangrove areas, seagrass beds and coral ecosystems, as an inter-connected ecosystems and communities. The process for prioritisation of strategic initiatives in which most of OP6 grant making was focused involved consultation across a wide range of stakeholder groups. For OP7 priorities, several one on one and other informal consultative meetings, one stakeholder workshop and a few focus group consultations were held with various potential grantees, national partners and stakeholders to engage them on the SGP interventions and gain feedback on the local,

national and environmental priorities for the country. The first stakeholder workshop report is attached and highlights key issues and potential project ideas. Additionally, NSC feedbacks during meetings discussed the CPS as a priority instrument for the next phase implementation.

The Seychelles is an archipelago located in the Western Indian Ocean, with 115 islands, out of which 42 are of granitic origins. A total of 73 coralline islands consisting of sand cays and raised coral atolls, are scattered across several banks in the South and South West of the archipelago (ASCLME, 2012). The country has only 455 km<sup>2</sup> of land mass but an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 1.4 million Km<sup>2</sup>. The economy is mostly dependent on tourism, fisheries and financial services. The climate is humid and tropical with an average rainfall of 2,362mm/year in the granitic islands. The Seychelles has 93,000 inhabitants. There is no indigenous population and the people are of mixed origin. Seychelles forms part of the Indian Ocean Biodiversity Hotspot and the level of endemism is relatively high, especially among plants and land birds. 51% of the country's land mass is officially protected under the law and 15% of the EEZ are now designated as No-take zones and an additional 15% under active management or sustainable use, as part of the Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning initiative. Mahé Island (Fig. 2) is the main island, where most of SGP activities are focused. It is the largest inhabited island, where the capital Victoria and most of the important infrastructure is based. The island has grown over the years, from 148 km<sup>2</sup> to 155 km<sup>2</sup>, through a series of land reclamation project along the east coast. Reclamation of these areas was a strategic decision by the government to create more flat land for development while reducing construction and its associated impacts in the middle of the island which is dominated by tropical forest. A mountainous ridge runs along the entire length of the island in an almost North-South orientation. Morne Seychellois, peaks at 905 m and is the highest mountain along this ridge. The Morne Seychellois National Park covers about 20% of the land area of Mahé Island.

About 80% of Seychelles population lives on Mahé Island. The natural coastline of Mahé Island is interspersed by sandy beaches or rocky shoreline. It has been calculated that there is 17 km<sup>2</sup> of fringing reef around the island. Along the east coast of Mahé most of the reefs are extensively fished by small-scale artisanal fishermen, mainly using traditional heart-shaped bamboo traps. Four kilometers East of Mahé Island is the Ste Anne Marine National Park, an area of about 14.4 km<sup>2</sup> which offers tourists a glimpse of the marine world without having to travel too far. On the West of the island there are two smaller Marine National Parks at Port Launay and Baie Ternay. Other land and marine protected areas are found within other granitic and coralline islands of the archipelago, the largest being the Aldabra atoll, one of the two UNESCO World Heritage sites and a designated RAMSAR site. Geographical distribution of projects on the different islands will henceforth depend on interest groups availability and capacity to implement strategic initiatives within the landscape or seascape locations.

### **c) OP7 Strategic Initiatives in the landscapes/seascapes**

#### **Strategic Initiatives (SI) for the Seychelles islands**

Given an appreciation of national priorities together with feedback from stakeholders, the SGP has attempted to prioritise the strategic initiatives for Seychelles. The prioritisation of Strategic Initiatives will be subject to availability of GEF funding and potential co-funding and funds leveraging from other initiatives; they are equally dependent on absorption capacity of NGOs / CBOs in the country.

#### **SI 1 – Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species**

The types of projects that will be the focus of this priority include those related to biodiversity, land use, rehabilitation, addressing loss of species and habitats, sustainable fisheries, coastal zone management and/or co-management, marine protected areas and species. Sustainable livelihoods development will also be an important component in this priority.

#### **SI 2 – Low Carbon Energy Access benefits**

For this strategic initiative, the focus will be on projects in the area of alternative energy, recycling and waste valorisation, sustainable energy use and even disaster risk reduction. The OP6 focus on Youth and climate change making way for innovative green jobs will be maintained as well as initiatives targeting climate -smart agro-ecology; the latter project ideas include implementation of sustainable farming practices and promotion of livelihoods in sustainable agriculture. Research, capacity development, knowledge management, organic farming and water-smart practices will also remain a focus under this priority

### SI 3 – Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management

The focus here is on projects which promote education and awareness of the effects of POPs, ODS and other hazardous chemicals and the reduction in their use. These also include using less or no dangerous pesticides in agriculture, support to initiatives promoting mercury-free energy saving light bulbs... Sustainable waste and chemicals management remains a priority for Seychelles, given that the Ministry of Environment is making a new Waste Management Plan and discussed possibilities of working with the SGP in community initiatives on the subject and as part of the STAR allocation.

### SI 4 - Community-based Adaptation

Should there be another phase of external funding for Community-based Adaptation initiatives, SGP Seychelles would very much be interested in participating in order to continue assisting vulnerable communities in reducing and adapting to their different types and levels of risks. This will also help in addressing gaps from previous phase implementation and improve on the learning experience on the ground. Other island could also be involved in other initiatives that will build capacity and awareness in the sustainable use and conservation of natural resources...

While this prioritisation will provide a guide to the SGP, it is also necessary to allow for some level of flexibility given shifting national priorities and changing circumstances which may not have been foreseen during planning. It is expected that the SGP will put out at least two CFP in a year in order to maximise on grant making and grant maker+ processes and ensure timely disbursement of the different allocations during the entire OP7. It is also worth noting that although certain SI has not been selected here, there may be one or two circumstances that combine or might target elements of the SI that will be exceptionally considered for funding.

Although projects generally relate to a specific strategic initiative, the symbiotic relationship between most environmental concerns means that there will be overlapping areas and some projects may adopt a multifocal approach. SGP will work with grantees to identify and understand these overlapping areas and ensure that where a project under one strategic initiative is connected to another initiative, this link is identified and explored for internal networking, partnership and synergy building for greater visibility and impact.

## 4.2 Grantmaking Outside the Priority Landscapes/Seascapes

As in other phases, there are provisions for allocation of projects outside of specific landscape/seascape areas of focus up to 30% of the SGP grant allocations (Core and STAR) as will be described in the “Call for Proposals.” However, again in the stakeholder meeting and consultations during CPS development, we could not anticipate potential project ideas outside the landscape/seascape. The Health sector participants advanced that we need to make clearer linkages between climate change and health -

related impacts and pointed out some thin lines in clarifying POPs related issues vis-à-vis cancer concerns. Youth representatives voiced that they should be given the opportunity to raise their voice and be a force for positive changes that will sustain their future. They request to be more involved in national decisions as they are the ones most likely to be impacted by the decisions or eventually be implementing or living with the decisions made for them, not with or by them. Youths that are not part of a CSO network feel they too are to be considered, informed or involved in projects or programmes affecting them. NSC representatives re-iterated the need to implement joint community initiatives, internal networking and synergizing efforts while building on lessons from previous trials such as multiple impacts in different landscape or multiple capacity development from a single proposal. For the past two CFP in OP6, the NSC has used the appraisal meeting as a channel to identify synergies and see where new applicants can also already include networking opportunities or exchange project activities among themselves while they can still edit their proposals. This is a practice that is deemed to continue in OP7 implementation.

**Project writing and knowledge sessions** need to be organised following calls for interests to ensure proposals are in line with the programme's CPS and that applications submitted are completed and of quality, and that will have greater impact. It will also help potential grantees understand deeply the SGP modalities and thematic areas. **Civil Society and other Grantees' Capacity Building** continue to be critical among both potential and existing grantees. There are still concerns that the writing templates are complex and can be made simpler for grass roots community-based organisations. The template is also in need of revision. **Review meetings need to** continue for existing grantees. CSOs need to be clear on what **policy they intend to be influencing** and contributing to its development and who or where they plan to find the technical knowledge and expertise required, thus be more involved in **national or local decision-making** processes. They also required knowledge relating to conventions and national planning frameworks, to enable CSOs to be more engaged in contributing to the development of national environmental policy and planning.

**In this phase, it is essential to push for innovative business marketing of the agriculture or fisheries products from SGP projects** in order to make sense of the funds that have contributed for many years to finding local solutions for increased production. This will not only promote their work but also give visibility to the SGP programmes on a local (community), national or regional level.

The initiatives outside of the priority landscapes and seascapes may include the Grantmaker's Plus related projects/initiatives which are; CSO-Government-Private Sector Planning and Dialogue Platforms; Social Inclusion initiatives/projects and Knowledge Management initiatives. Other relevant initiatives may also be explored. In OP7, the Grantmaker's Plus initiatives are expected to be supported under regular grantmaking with GEF or other co-financing sources in partnership with relevant CSOs/CBOs.

#### ***(a) CSO-Government-Private Sector Planning & Dialogue Platform***

The Seychelles' country programme has in the past phase opened doors to several CSO-Government-Private Sector Planning & Dialogue Platforms and we intend to sustain and increase opportunities for

more of the Platforms. The dialogues do help promote role of CSOs, create a “bridge” to link the grassroots to national/local policy-makers for policy/program influence, facilitate the uptake of good practices, and enhance communications (i.e. possible thematic examples may include joint CSO-Government preparations for environmental convention COPs (e.g. youth implementing the climate accountability advocate project accompany the Government delegation to COPs); UN SDGs country accelerations labs; local to global chemical coalitions; networks of agro-ecology farmer leaders and producer organizations and, dialogues for key national policy changes on key global environmental issues.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) are well developed with 58 civil society organisations, with many operating under the representative umbrella organisation of CEPS, the Citizens Engagement Platform, nine of which are environmental NGOs. The last two decades has seen CEPS consolidate its role as the national focal point for civil society in Seychelles, establishing collaborative partnerships with international organisations like the IMF, ADB, World Bank, EU of world repute. CEPS and its predecessor LUNGOS have played a key role in voicing the needs and concerns of the country’s civil society and in advocating greater civil society involvement in national development and decision-making. It dedicates itself to facilitating the role and capacity of Civil Society to effectively contribute in policy processes and national development initiatives and this is achieved by its presence on several National boards and Committees.

In June 2008, the CSOs under the umbrella of LUNGOS set the cornerstone for a more participatory civil society through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Seychelles Government. The SGP has slowly engaged with CEPS over the years and this will be further formalised by having a CEPS’ representative as NSC member in OP7. Most of the national NGOs have well developed administrative and management systems and are highly skilled in environmental management. They currently manage large donor funded projects e.g. IUCN, GEF, UNDP, American AID amongst others. Community-based Organisations (CBOs) on the other hand are not that well developed and have been largely left out of the participation and active involvement in national decision - making processes. Many have been formed under the auspices of the SGP or resulting SGP projects. One of the aims of SGP Seychelles will be to further address capacity building issues by encouraging a more inclusive approach to communities and addressing the lack of a support structure for NGOs and CBOs and the need for a thriving network to help make more groups viable and sustainable in the long term, within the local Government structure. Following the formation of a CBO network supported by the Sustainability For Seychelles-SGP strategic project, we expect to keep the group active through diverse networking or exchange activities within the communities where they operate and at national level. We have encouraged their enrollment as CEPS members and Praslin groups have taken the lead on this so far. SGP will continue to use and share lessons learnt, and best practices from on the ground actions with relevant government departments and agencies and contribute meaningful experiences to national consultation processes that will guide decision –making and feed into policy revisions. Where necessary, SGP will use its network of NGOs/ CBOs, NSC members (including the OFF) and partners to participate actively in any community or

national level consultations and decisions. As all projects submitted need to identify links with national strategies like the Sustainable Development Strategy, Climate Change Strategy, the feedback received following implementation will influence the way people see the policy as it is on paper and concrete on the ground implementation.

***(b) Promoting Social Inclusion, including gender equality and women's empowerment***

**Women and men** in Seychelles enjoy full economic, political and civil rights. Seychelles is among the top countries in the SADC region to have met targets for women representation at all decision - making levels. Currently there are 20 per cent women in the National Assembly, 45 per cent at ministerial level and 38.5 per cent at chief executive levels. However, the low capacity of institutions with responsibility for gender mainstreaming continues to hamper efforts aimed at achieving gender parity. Until now civil society in Seychelles is actively involved in gender and related issues, through direct engagement of a wide variety of non-governmental organisations at both national and community levels, several programmes/activities are organised in support of women. Some of those NGOs to name, but a few are: Les Li Viv a Church-based NGO supporting young mothers, WASO for economic empowerment, Alliance of Solidarity for the Family (ASFF) for reproductive rights, Entreprenre au Féminin Océan Indien Seychelles chapter (EFOIS) for women craft workers and artisans, Seychelles Association of Women Professionals (SAWOP) assisting in personal development of their members, Women Trust Fund, and SOROPTIMISTS Seychelles which help to fund charitable activities and groups<sup>5</sup>. Information obtain from CEPS, indicates that women are in general very active in NGOs through their participation in various activities and programmes organised and their membership. In terms of members women appear to be over-represented compared to men. OP7 actions will continue to empower the Seychelles women while also requiring special attention to the incorporation of gender awareness into policies and programs through gender sensitive indicators for monitoring and evaluation. Equal opportunity and access to grant and other SGP resources will be closely followed and reports / results will essentially show disaggregated figures. The **SGP gender guidance** will be strictly adhered to and will form the basis of the appraisal and monitoring criteria. Concerning **youth engagement**, SGP involvement with schools and responsible Ministry will be sustained. The engagement of schools in global environment protection is expected to be strengthened through both the programme and relevant projects. The global awareness for the protection of the environment and of climate change related issues is gathering momentum among the school children. There are also more active youth groups and youth targeted NGO initiatives now starting to benefit from SGP grants such as the Seychelles chapter of the SIDS Youth AIMS Hub (SYAH), UN Youth, Global Shapers Victoria Hub, the Ocean Project, Parley Seychelles, Wise Oceans, Wildlife Clubs ... Although the Government Ministries are not direct beneficiaries, they are encouraged and interested in networking with non-government initiatives and youth groups, partnering and actively involved in restoration actions, promoting climate change education, sustainable waste management, capacity development for youth leadership, and sustainable living in the country. SGP is also committed

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<sup>5</sup> MDG Report 2013

to assist projects and programmes that touch the lives of **less able individuals (PWD)** by building a rapport with the National Council for the Disable and working with the schools for the exceptional child.

*Enhancing women's participation and role in natural resources decision-making processes, with women as agents of change at all levels*

Under the provisions of the constitution of the Republic of Seychelles there is no distinction on the ground of gender. Both man and women enjoy the same legal status. Apart from the right to primary health care and education, women are allowed to own properties and business without legal consent of their male partners. Women enjoy the same right to work and participate in election as their male counterpart. Seychelles is one of the few countries where women are well represented in political affairs of the country in the parliament and at senior government level. In addition, the adoption of the National Gender Policy 2012 is another step by the government to uphold its commitment to achieve gender equality and equity as prescribed in the Constitution of the Republic and the various treaties that Seychelles are signatories to.

As women are well represented at decision-making level, it is already a milestone achievement where women have and are being empowered to take leadership role at both community and national level. The fact that there are already 5 women ministers and several at senior position level in government i.e. principal secretaries and chief executive officers, there is no doubt that such powerful representation will not influence decision-making at all levels.

Furthermore, as there are no barriers to women participation in all aspect of the country socio-economic activities, political parties and the freedom to organise themselves in unions or NGOs facilitate the disbursement of funds under various projects that impact directly on women development and the community as a whole. These are further proof that women empowerment is being achieved at all levels, but there is scope for improvement.

SGP has an important role to play here. By supporting projects, which target those NGOs and unions with a solid women-base and leadership roles and empower them to have a more powerful voice at both community and national levels.

*Supporting women's improved access, use, and control of resources, including land, water, forest, and fisheries*

As stated above it is a constitutional right in Seychelles for women to own properties and business without legal consent of their male partners. This has paved the way for women to own and control resources and actively participate in the development and sustainable use of those resources.

As part of the process to promote the public-private partnership, the Government has made considerable efforts to boost the informal sector in an attempt to formalise it. At the same time the Government also encouraged the development of small and medium-sized enterprises. To achieve this, the Government came up with a comprehensive package to help the small enterprise kick off.

In spite of the government effort to formalise the informal sector, there are still a number of women engage in these activities as a means to earn their living. One of the major challenges to support women, especially those in the informal sector and small-sized enterprises is access to credit and managing their financial accounts.

Access to finance in terms of small loans provided by Government micro-financing institutions like the Small Business Financing Agency (SBFA) are equitably distributed among both sexes. However, there is discrepancy when it involves bigger loans (usually provided by commercial financial institutions) with higher interest rate and collateral. In the latter case males are still dominated maybe because of the high risk involve.

SGP has an important role to play here. Those women entrepreneur lack basic knowledge on how to properly manage their business so that it can be sustainable and at the same time provide employment for other women. SGP plans to build partnership with the SENPA, Small Entrepreneurship Programme Agency to contribute towards women empowerment to move from mere small scale implementation to active and sustainable entrepreneurs.

### **(c) Knowledge Management**

The objective of SGP's Knowledge Management efforts is to replicate good practices by building on lessons learned from both successful and unsuccessful projects. Intended beneficiaries include project teams, CPS partners, governments, donors and international NGOs

Knowledge Management (KM) will be used to Capture knowledge, leverage local expertise and give voice to civil society, identify new approaches and ways of learning. Improve effectiveness and capacities of staff and grantees, promote and encourage innovation, address operational and programmatic challenges effectively and to influence policy and scale up good practices. An important element in the award procedure of the SGP is for the recipients to work in close collaboration with Government. This is important because the proposed projects have to be in line with the country's environment priorities as set by the Government in its policies and strategies. Furthermore, partnership with other NGOs or private sector is also wildly encouraged as this will generate greater synergy hence impacting on a wider spectrum of the community and guarantee sustainability of the project and scope for co-financing. Other means are also used to communicate this information to other NGOs/CBOs including the annual meeting and during training session organised by the SGP office.

*The Seychelles CPS will systematically carry out knowledge management from two levels:*

**At Programme level** various means and channels can be used to raise and maintain the SGP profile and visibility in country. These include but not limited to; having a communication plan in the CPS, maintaining a functioning grantee network and encouraging exchanges, organizing and participation in Knowledge fairs, maximizing beneficiaries of capacity development Grants, NSCs Knowledge Network through fruitful retreats and outreach, site visits, linking to Government, to academia and other

research or training institutions. *Information from Project reports are used to identify lessons learnt, challenges, best practices and other key findings and are disseminated at global level.*

**At Project Level**, it is mandatory for applicants to include and budget for KM in their proposal, best practices can be exchanged via demonstration centres and provide training opportunities within grants. More emphasis will be put on documenting project works through videos, photo-stories, articles, media coverage, fact sheets, brochures, case studies, producing publications like how-to-manuals or handbooks, participation in knowledge fairs, exhibitions, campaigns, outreach activities, workshop presentations, and where relevant perhaps publish scientific / peer-reviewed papers. With these the SGP NC can further share their works at national levels and globally through the intranet and database, all in a bid to promote achievement and increase visibility for the project and the programme.

All KM efforts will form the basis of SGP M & E at both local and global levels. Annual completed project seminars will also be organised in this phase, so stakeholders are more aware of the results or challenges and to facilitate knowledge sharing to promote better project implementation as new proponents learn off existing projects. By then SGP Seychelles would establish a forum for the continued exchange of good practice in environmental management in the Seychelles.

## 5. COMMUNICATION PLAN

In OP7 SGP Seychelles will review its communication plan that aims at giving visibility, raising awareness and promoting advocacy to the programme and to UNDP works on the ground as well as promoting participation, building relationships and fostering partnerships, in articulating the contribution of the SGP to national priorities, GEF programming and UNDP strategies. The plan will also contribute to resource mobilisation and identification of relevant audiences for implementation of targeted activities. Grantees are specifically required to use their grant opportunities to promote the works of the SGP through articles, news items, social media and other possible networks.

The approach to communication and engagement with stakeholders are in three main areas:

### **Direct Communication with Specific Stakeholder Groups**

The SGP recognises that for specific stakeholder groups there is a need for more targeted, direct engagement and communication to establish and sustain partnerships. The private sector, public offices and organisations, are groups that need one on one meetings and personal communication to promote engagement. The SGP National Coordinator, together with NSC members will continue to engage these stakeholders in one-on-one meetings throughout the operational phase.

### **Electronic Communication including Social Media**

Communication using social and other electronic media is a necessity to engage specific groups, particularly youth. SGP will use and encourage grantees to use key social media including Facebook, or other electronic communications to engage with a wide cross-section of stakeholders on a continuous basis for both the provision of information related to the SGP and for awareness building and knowledge sharing on specific thematic issues. The SGP-UNDP data base is also a good channel for sharing activities happening at country or regional levels, hence requires more frequent updates of information, data and activities.

### **Public Events and Consultations**

SGP will identify opportunities to participate in key public events and consultations being hosted or facilitated by various stakeholders in the SGP network including project beneficiaries, public and private sector. This will allow for engagement with broader audiences on the SGP and its contribution to achieving national priorities.

## **6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN**

### **6.1 Secured and planned cash and in-kind co-financing**

Resource mobilisation is a key operational strategy of the SGP programming which is closely linked to the long-term sustainability of the Programme in the country. It allows SGP to increase the number, size and impacts of its projects, while continuing to pursue GEF objectives. The country resource mobilisation strategy aims at;

- Assisting with some administrative and operational costs of the country Programme
- Providing financial support for components of projects which are not eligible for or short of funding by GEF SGP
- Encouraging community investment in projects and so empower communities to ensure the success of the project, thus inspiring ownership
- Empowering communities by building capacity to bring in partners to projects, thereby accessing alternative funding which will ensure long term sustainability of projects beyond the SGP funding period.

Co-financing can be done 'In kind' comprising of technical expertise, equipment, use of facilities or resources and time... and 'in cash' through direct payment to grantees or indirectly paying for certain activities or events.

SGP Seychelles recognises the potential of its partners, local and international, as potential investors in the development of the Small Grants Programme in the Seychelles. Resource mobilisation can be done at two levels:

#### **1 Programme level**

The SGP recognises the Government as an important influential partner that can ensure the success of SGP Seychelles. The relationship between the two is excellent; with the Government having three representatives on the SGP National Steering Committee instead of just one. For Operational Phase 7, the Government of Seychelles approved the allocation of \$480,000 from the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) to the SGP. This therefore allows SGP Seychelles to fulfil the SGP Global requirement to the 1:1 co-financing ratio as promised to the GEF Council. In this new phase, the Government can assist the SGP in sourcing out other funding possibilities that can match or leverage funding for fulfilment of SGP objectives. One latest example is the Government pledged contribution to the SIDS CBA -SGP coastal erosion project on Praslin Island, noting “The Environment Trust Fund Board acknowledges the gravity of this national problem and in line with its strategy for 2020, it will invest in coastal projects to protect homes and public infrastructure”. The concerned Ministry also provided and will continue to provide technical expertise, advice and support to the CBA project from the on-set. The Ministry also has specific plans to further reduce coastal erosion on Praslin Island, thus up scaling the SIDS-CBA efforts on the selected sites.

SGP aims to make full use of its partnership with Government and assist in it in its role as facilitator for the Programme as well as for projects. For example, Technical Advisory Groups are formed to support potential projects requiring specific technical advice only available from Government arms, like the Planning Authority, the Seychelles Agricultural Agency, the Seychelles Fishing Authority, the Coastal Adaptation Management Section, the Seychelles Energy Commission. The SGP National Steering Committee will assist with facilitation between the parties.

Seychelles has excellent links to many countries through bilateral agreements. According to a Report entitled ‘Development Aid at a Glance’ by OECD in 2017 Seychelles received some USD 19 million in development aid<sup>6</sup>. In recent years, the biggest contributors of development aid to the local economy are the United Arab Emirates and China. At least 23 other countries contributed amounts between €8,000 and €328,000 in various fields such as health, social, tourism, education and military.

Other contributions come from multilateral partners including GEF/UNDP, African Development Bank, FAO and UNFPA, of which a significant amount goes to the environment sector, which is not reflected in the bilateral agreements’ donations

It is in the interests of the SGP and UNDP strategy to involve the bilateral parties more in the role SGP plays in the conservation of the environment while addressing community and poverty issues. SGP aims to demonstrate the link between environment and social issues and so engage bilateral parties who are keen investors in social affairs. That way additional funding can be leveraged for the programme and for individual projects too. The SGP has started building partnership with the Indian High Commission through their ‘High Impact Grants’ to leverage funding to one project within the Youth and Climate Change portfolio. We are also working in close partnership with the Seychelles Climate Change

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-data/Africa-Development-Aid-at-a-Glance-2019.pdf>

Adaptation Trust (SeyCCAT), a recent initiative that sprung from the Seychelles debt swap programme and looking at funding projects that target coastal and marine activities. The SGP is a member of the SEYCCAT Grants Committee which is chaired by the Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change.

Apart from the Government, UNDP and other international donors, SGP Seychelles will continue to maximize the use of multilateral partners in the development of the country programme. SGP will seek to obtain co-financing from the various funds UNDP has access to. SGP will also seek to build synergies with other projects being funded and/or implemented by the UNDP, which can assist by acting as the facilitator between projects operating within the same areas as SGP Projects or involve SGP in regional projects as a grant maker or delivery mechanism and even in M&E sessions. One example is the GEF 6 Ridge to Reef project starting implementation in February 2020. That way site visits can be scheduled together, and costs shared between programmes, for national events, advertising and visibility. Impact assessment carried out can consider other programme impacts too.

SGP is looking to request authorisation to have local Environment students on work attachment so they can gain both office and field experience and, in the process, empower the youth to take interest in the field and lead toward the achievement of the relevant SDGs.

The SGP National Steering Committee contributed significantly and will continue to do so for the quarterly meetings by organizing their own transport and at times hosting meetings or events for the programme.

### Project level

For co-financing at project level SGP will maintain the distinction between NGOs and CBOs:

All projects from NGOs will be expected to raise at least 20% in cash co-financing in the first year of the Programme. This will increase to 25% in Year 2 and 30% in Year 3 of the CPS.

All projects submitted by CBOs will be expected to raise at least 10% co-financing in Year 1 of the Programme and this will increase to 15% in Year 2 and again increased to 20% in Year 3.

The rationale is that while most Non-Governmental Organisations in the Seychelles are well established, Community-based Organisations are nascent. The overarching goal of the Seychelles SGP is to encourage the formation of CBOs, build their capacity so they can participate fully in programmes to address environmental concerns. Given this will take time, it is thus logical that co-financing ratios for CBOs are lower than that of NGOs until the final year when everything will level out with both needing to meet the same ratios, at least 50% and if able they can match the 1:1 ratio at any point of implementation, but this together with the in-kind co-financing.

The country programme may seek to assist potential grantees in seeking partnerships with local businesses, philanthropists and individual experts that may serve as co-financiers of projects within their locale.

## 6.2 Co-financing Opportunities

### Grantmaker Plus & Partnership Opportunities

The SGP team including the NSC and Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs) can be leveraged to assist communities and CSOs develop proposals to access other donors and funding facilities. While the funds may not go directly to SGP, this activity can be considered part of resource mobilization as there is increased flow of resources to SGP stakeholders through its support.

The SGP team will seek to work with key partners, stakeholders and donors/financiers to maximize the impact of the limited resources and ensure that we do not address similar issues in silos. Other bodies who are potential partners include NGOs through the CEPS platform, USAIDS, UNFPA, AFDB, SEYCCAT, EU and World Bank.

## 7. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

*Table 6: Description of risks identified for OP7*

Describe identified risk	Degree of risk (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Risk mitigation measure foreseen
New NSC members take long to adapt to the programme and frequent absences may impact on the SGP works	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	In Seychelles there is always risks of turnover on committees, this shall be address by asking NSC members to propose alternates from their organisations after one year on the committee, so that there will be replacement if they must be absent for a meeting. This year we shall also produce an NSC handbook with the TORs and clear SGP guidelines for members
Lack of co-financier leading to financial risks or project failures or suspension	Medium	Low	The strategy is to ensure that co-financier is firmly established prior to any project commitment and launch through the provision of a letter of

			commitment / support. NGOs & CBOs are advised to register for CSR eligibility for a partner backup.
Approved and fully funded SGP projects not completed successfully	Low	Medium	The project monitoring and evaluation will be firmly rooted in the SGP processes and will be an integral part of the project implementation. Monitoring forms are sent to grantees at the onset of implementation and they must strictly adhere to MOA articles & key milestones with proof of implementation before receiving grant installment. The M & E form will be submitted with Annex C in requesting for payment
Noting the additional grant allocation and grant maker+ activities at local level, the work - load of the NC may be too overwhelming and affect progress of the programme and project	Medium	Medium	SGP NC is expected to be assisted by a PA from 2020 to share the workload in a most effective and efficient manner so there is at most a work-life balance for both staff

## 8. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

### 8.1 Monitoring Approaches at Project and Country Levels

Monitoring and Evaluation are different but overlapping processes that allow for the maintenance of project activities, financial accountability, sustainability, allow for replicability, and provide opportunities for eliciting and communicating lessons learnt during implementation.

GEF SGP firmly believes in participative monitoring and evaluation and sees it as a process which enables capacity building, understanding and applying lessons learnt. M&E is done at three levels which feed into one another: project level into Programme level and then into the global level.

#### 1 - Project level:

Monitoring allows participants to monitor and keep track of project activities during the life of the project. The periodic collection and analysis of this data, by means of site visits, interviews ... etc., serves the purpose of ensuring each project is achieving its objectives and gives early warning if changes are required to improve efficiency of the project.

The Seychelles CPS will seek to have each approved project contain an agreed Monitoring and Evaluation plan which will be useful so that from the outset all participants in the project are aware of their responsibility for monitoring and thus increase community ownership of the project. A good M&E Plan requires indicators based on sound baselines. The Seychelles CPS recognises that obtaining good baseline information may be problematic for some community groups. As such the CPS will consider proposals with this as a preliminary project activity or may be part of the planning grant activities, as allowed for by GEF SGP. The Monitoring Plan will be linked directly with the reporting requirements of the GEF SGP which means there will be an intermediate and a final report, also linked to disbursement of funds.

## 2- Programme level

Given that Seychelles is relatively small in size, and that most projects are expected to be on the four main residential islands of Mahe, Praslin La Digue and Silhouette, the National Coordinator, accompanied by NSC members and grantee shall visit each project before each disbursement of funds to ensure project funds are being used as planned, verifying that projects are indeed achieving expected results. Synergies will be developed with other donors running programmes in areas and site visits taken at the same time, as much as possible, to reduce M&E costs at programme level, and act as capacity building for the NC at the same time building networking alliances. Project and/or site visit reports will feed into the SGP database, oneUNOPS payment systems, financial reports and Annual Performance and Review Assessment; all of which are used by CPMT to monitor and assess the country programme's financial accountability, the portfolio of projects, procedures and mechanisms.

Evaluation will be carried out at the end of the project and programme cycle at both project and programme level both in consultation with the project participants, project partners. This approach is favoured by the Seychelles CPS as it allows the participants themselves to assess and voice their perception of the impact of the project on the community itself, the immediate environment and also allow discussions which broaden the impact to show the connection to global environment concerns in the GEF thematic areas. The Seychelles CPS will seek project proposals containing at least one outreach material produced at the end of the project demonstrating the expected impact of the project. Dissemination will be encouraged within the project itself and to the wider community. This will then be collated and at programme evaluation it will be disseminated at national level via a national seminar. It is also a requirement of the Seychelles grantee community and stakeholders for the CPMT to review at least the Final reporting template to reflect elements requested for in global reporting such as in AMR.

### M&E of individual SGP grantee partners

As it relates to M&E of individual SGP grantee partners, all grantees are exposed to an initiation session prior to disbursement of funds, which explains the approach to M&E at all levels and reinforces the importance for effective M&E throughout the projects. Project baseline data will be collected prior to project execution against which achievements can be measured.

The NSC plays an active role in the M&E component and will be leaning on partners, including technical experts, to support the M&E process. Site visits are conducted prior to the start of the project and these will include the SGP team, NSC and relevant experts identified. Additional ad hoc site visits are conducted throughout the project execution phase and especially where there are concerns identified with a particular project or grantee organisation or even informal visits during project activity or events on site.

Reporting is required from the grantee before the disbursement of additional tranches of funds and a final project report and financial report must be submitted at the end of the project. Based on the capacity of the grantee, up to 10% of the total project budget will be required to be used for project evaluation and the production of a lessons learnt report in addition to the final reporting requirements. This is covered in the project’s management costs.

As regards to possible partnerships with other grant-makers, foundations and academic institutions, the University of Seychelles (UniSey) could be a well-suited candidate. UniSey is currently offering a degree programme in environmental science since 2012. This programme has been running for almost five years now and already at least two cohorts of graduates have been produced and most of them are now working in the field of environment. UniSey is currently working in close collaboration with some environmental NGOs in Seychelles, in particular the Island Conservation Society (ICS) in developing their research capability. ICS led by Dr. Gerard Rocamora had good track record and extensive experience in environmental research. Furthermore, some students from UniSey are being sent for work attachment with certain NGOs (like the Seychelles Islands Foundation) as part of their curriculum to get hands-on experience. UniSey is a solid potential partner for some CSOs to collaborate with both as an academic platform and a grant-maker in the area of research and consultancy.

**Table 7: M&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	SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to update OP7 CPS.	At start of OP7
As part of NSC meetings, ongoing review of	Assess effectiveness of projects, country portfolio;	NC, NSC, UNDP Country Office. Final deliberations	Staff time, Country Operating Budget	At least annual review <sup>7</sup> to ensure OP7 CPS is on track to achieve its results and make timely and evidence-based

<sup>7</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).

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
project results and analysis. This includes Annual CPS Review.	learning; adaptive management.	shared/ analyzed with CPMT colleagues.		modifications to CPS as may be needed <sup>8</sup> .
Annual Monitoring Report Survey <sup>9</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 change as well as broader adoption. The goal is to support reporting to stakeholders, learning, and support to strategic development/ implementation of CPS.	NC, NSC	SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to undertake previous operational cycles impact review and utilize lessons for both OP7 CPS development and its implementation.  Global technical M&E support can be expected.	Once per operational phase
SGP Database	Ensure recording of all Project and Country Programme inputs in SGP	NCs, PAs,	Staff time	Throughout the operational phase. Ensure quality assurance and completion of data prior to annual monitoring cycle (May- June

<sup>8</sup> Please note OP7 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. This CPS update process should be part of the Annual CPS Review.

<sup>9</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
	database.			of every year).
Audit	Ensure compliance with project implementation/ management standards and norms.	UNOPS / External Contractor. NC/ PA to provide requisite support.	Global Operating Budget	Annually for selected countries on risk-assessment basis

In terms of project monitoring, the following GEF-7 core indicators (identify and report on which of these indicators is the project aligned with and can report on at completion) must be taken into consideration. **All project needs to be aligned with at least one or at most 3 of these indicators.**

**Table 8. Global Indicators**

Core Global Environmental Indicators
Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness (8 hectares)
Area of degraded agricultural lands restored (6 hectares)
Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (12 hectares)
Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (6 hectares)
Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (4 hectares; excluding protected areas)
Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and POPs containing materials and products removed or disposed (8 tons; indicator 9.6 which is contextual)
Number of direct beneficiaries as co-benefit of SGP intervention – estimated 5,000

The above target indicators are expected to be achieved in collaboration with other local initiatives and programmes

It is absolutely crucial to capture the following benefits. Again, this needs to be reported at project completion.

**Table 9. Project conclusion Impacts**

Overall Impact	<p>Guidance tip: Please describe the results of one to two projects that were completed during the reporting period. For results, please reflect on (i) ‘what’ and ‘how’ it was achieved; (ii) ‘who’ was it achieved for and with; and (iii) ‘where’ was it achieved? Kindly include SGP database project numbers.</p> <p>A good example of projects which started on a small scale and now is being implemented at national level with government support is in renewable energy (solar) using PV system. Another project with similar characteristics is the rainwater harvesting. Today with the support of the government all homes and businesses are encouraged from planning approval stage, to have</p>
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	<p>such facility in place to collect rainwater. To substantiate these initiatives Government is putting aside special grants to facilitate the purchase of PV system, on the other hand special barrels and fibreglass tanks are being sold at subsidised price or given for free to SGP-funded NGO Sustainability For Seychelles, to sell to farmers and to the public</p>
<p><b>Environmental Impact</b></p>	<p>Guidance Tip: What measurable impact has the project had in terms of environmental protection since the beginning of the project?</p> <p>The renewable PV system has contributed to the reduction use and consumption of fossil fuel, and hence, CO2 emissions. The rainwater harvesting project has, on the other hand, boost fresh and potable water conservation, and subsequently, reduction in desalination and again, the carbon emissions.</p>
<p><b>Socio-Economic Impact</b></p>	<p>Guidance Tip: What measurable change has there been in local incomes and job opportunities? (Please reflect on the sub-categories as per M&amp;E strategy description on indicator on livelihoods and wellbeing). Have there been secondary benefits (Investments in infrastructure, poverty reduction, higher awareness, etc.)? Please reflect on the three key drivers of SGP results in the SGP results model of change.</p> <p>The socio-economic benefits include a reduction in cost of fossil fuel at national level and a cost-saving for institutions, businesses, households and individuals in terms of energy and water costs. Other benefits include a cleaner environment with less carbon emission and water collection that will have, otherwise, gone to waste including erosions and flooding</p>
<p><b>Social Inclusion Impact (Gender, Indigenous Peoples, Youth and Persons with Disability)</b></p>	<p>Guidance Tip: Was there any special participation by socially inclusive groups (e.g. as beneficiaries, agents of change and champions). If yes, how vital was their participation in the project's success? Please elaborate on the nature of the socially inclusive group's active participation in this project. Were Social Inclusion's social status improved as a result of the project activities? Please explain how. Please also elaborate on the strategic partner used to strengthen Social Inclusion in the project.</p> <p>The renewable energy and the water collection have been an accessible and inclusive programme that have benefited all segments of the population including institutions and businesses. The schemes provided by government and requirement by law to have water collection facilities for all new construction and buildings apply to all and no exceptions. The rainwater collection model advert made by the SGP project way back in 2012 is still being shown on national TV every week to keep encouraging the public to make an investment in the practice.</p>

### Stakeholder Consultation processes for CPS Review

A first stakeholder workshop was held in October 2019 to review national issues of concern for the Seychelles environment and appreciating the OP6 achievements and challenges, while also being introduced to information that will drive the OP7 implementation. This workshop provided an overview of what is expected from SGP – UNDP at local and global levels, partnership building and to agree on geographic and thematic focus for the CPS development.

A CPS review meeting was held in January 23, following submission of the first draft of the CPS to discuss the content of the draft. It was unfortunately not to the full satisfaction of the reviewers who were mostly NSC members (x 7) and some TAG members (x 4) we have worked with in OP6.

Representations to the consultation meeting at CEPS conference room were as follows:

Citizens Engagement Platform (CEPS)  
Apostleship of the Sea (NSC)  
Seychelles Islands Foundation (NSC)  
Round Table of Seychelles (NSC)  
Fiends of Africa (NSC)  
Marine Conservation Society, Seychelles  
Women Trust Fund  
Fiends of Prisons  
Anba Lao  
Local Food Producers' Association  
Wildlife Clubs of Seychelles  
Plant Conservation Action Society  
Anse Boileau Farmers' Association  
Lasosiasyon Peser La Digue  
Beekeepers Association  
Sustainability For Seychelles  
Youth (Govt SNYC, GSVH, SYAH, UN Youth)  
Friends of Prisons

**Government departments**

Ministry of Environment, Energy & Climate Change; PECO (NSC), CAMS, SNPA (Forestry & MPA)  
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries; SFA & SAA  
Ministry of Health  
Seychelles Energy Commission  
Ministry resp for Youth

**Others:**

UNDP  
 PCU  
 UNISEY (Academia)  
 TGMI (Academia)

## 8.2 The CPS Results Framework

*Table 10: Results Framework of SGP OP7 Country Programme Strategy*

<p><b>Alignment with SDGs:</b> Among the seventeen SDGs, five are directly related to environment protection. The Seychelles environmental priorities are also well captured under the same SDG goals;</p> <p><b>6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</b></p> <p><b>7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all</b></p> <p><b>13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</b></p> <p><b>14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</b></p> <p><b>15 - Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</b></p>		
<p><b>Synergy with UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD):</b></p>		
<p><b>OP7 SGP Programme Goal:</b> Promote and support innovative, inclusive and impactful initiatives, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes.</p>		
1 OP7 SGP CPS Strategic Initiatives	2 OP7 CPS Indicators and Targets (Identify relevant targets)	3 Means of verification
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 1:</u></p> <p>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species</p>	<p>1000 hectares of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (GEF core indicator 4.1)</p> <p>1000 hectares of Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness (GEF core indicator 2.2)</p> <p>40 hectares of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity; excluding</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)</p> <p>Baseline assessment comparison variables (use of conceptual models and partner data as appropriate)</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report</p>

	<p>protected areas (GEF core indicator 5)</p> <p>5 community-based protected area/ conserved area designations and/or networks strengthened</p> <p><i>Additional country specific indicators and targets based on landscape/seascape baseline assessment (TBD)</i></p>	<p>(AMR), SGP global database GEF LSP online platform</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p>
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 2:</u></p> <p>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</p>	<p>40 hectares of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (GEF core indicator 4.3)</p> <p>40 hectares of degraded agricultural lands restored (hectares) (GEF core indicator 3.1)</p> <p>6 linkages and partnerships for sustainable food production practices (such as diversification and sustainable intensification) and supply chain management (esp. SMEs)</p> <p>60 small-holder farmers supported towards the achievement of national Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets</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><i>Additional KW of installed renewable energy capacity from local technologies (e.g on types of renewable energy technology biomass, small hydro, solar):</i></p> <p>The National 2018 figures from Seychelles Energy Commission shows the following: data for solar / PV; 0.8% or 3.5 GWh</p> <p>Data for wind energy: 1.7% or 7.4 GWh</p> <p>Total alternative energy for Seychelles is 2.5% in total production</p> <p>SGP hopes to contribute to improvement in this data set and to add approximately an extra 50 KW of alternative energy solutions to the national data</p> <p>3 types community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication</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 Partnership-based initiatives</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review (NSC inputs)</p> <p>Partnership Based initiative with the Seychelles Energy Commission</p>

	<p>5 households achieving energy access, with co-benefits estimated and valued</p> <p>1000 hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks initiated.</p>	
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 4:</u></p> <p>Local to global coalitions for chemicals and <b>waste management</b></p>	<p><i>0.5 tons of Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), POPs and mercury containing materials and products removed or disposed (GEF core indicator 9.6)</i></p> <p>25 communities working on increasing awareness and outreach for sound chemicals, <b>waste and mercury management.</b></p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)</p> <p>Partnership Based initiative with the Ministry of Environment on Waste Management</p> <p>Strategic partnership with IPEN and Mercury GOLD country partners 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>3 community-based urban solutions/ approaches (including chemical and waste management, energy, transport, watershed protection, ecosystem services and biodiversity) deployed.</p> <p><i>1 or 2 communities with improved capacities to promote community-driven integrated solutions for low-emission and resilient urban development.</i></p> <p>Additional country specific indicators and targets based on landscape/seascape baseline assessment (TBD)</p>	<p>Partnership initiatives with the Government and UNDP – Adaptation Fund LSP</p> <p>In consultation with the Seychelles Energy Commission and the Local Government</p>
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 6:</u></p> <p>CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms</p>	<p>5 CSO-government-private sector dialogues convened to support community voice and representation in national/ sub-national policy development.</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database</p>

	<p>3 of representatives from social inclusion group (indigenous people, women, youth, persons with disability, farmers, other marginalized groups) supported with meaningful participation in dialogue platforms.</p> <p>2 Public-Private Partnerships on key global environmental issues promoted</p>	<p>Country Programme Review</p>
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 7:</u>  Enhancing social inclusion</p>	<p>5'000 direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (GEF core indicator 11)</p> <p>6 SGP projects led by women and/or mainstream concrete mechanisms for increased participation of women.</p> <p><i>XX number of SGP projects that have targeted support for Indigenous Peoples in terms of country level programming and management (NA)</i></p> <p>10 SGP projects that demonstrate appropriate models of engaging youth</p> <p>1 SGP project that demonstrate models of engaging persons with disability.</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p>
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 8:</u>  Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management</p>	<p>20 projects administering results management modalities in programme design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms.</p> <p><b>Quarterly</b> updating of SGP database for effective data collection, management and analysis supporting gains in programme performance and learning</p> <p>At least <b>one</b> south- south exchange at global and / or regional levels to transfer knowledge, replicate technology, tools and approaches on global environmental issues.</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p> <p>Also depends on CPMT</p>

**Extract from UNDP Country programme document (CPD) for Seychelles (2017-2020) – Presently In revision process**

- Sustainable economic development in Seychelles continues to be affected by environmental challenges. These range from coastal erosion and flooding; a high incidence of invasive species; and the effects of El Niño, which intensify issues of climate change and threaten livelihoods, biodiversity, and food security. This exposes the inherent vulnerabilities of small island developing States, especially for poor and female-headed households, which are dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, have limited capacity to cope, and are apt to fall deeper into poverty.
- Strategic upstream policy interventions in the area of environment and sustainable development continue to form the basis of UNDP-led support towards the realization of development plans such as the blue economy strategy and others.
- As stated in the intended nationally determined contributions the Government considers adaptation and mitigation to climate change a top priority to reduce the vulnerability of Seychelles.
- Other significant challenges are linked to meeting international obligations. As a signatory to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Seychelles has embarked on the development of a marine spatial plan that will support obligations under the Convention by 2020: 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas under conservation. Seychelles has been able to restructure nearly \$30 million of its Paris Club debt through an innovative debt-for-climate adaptation swap.
- UNDP will collaborate with other United Nations organizations and development partners to expand its work promoting gender equality, human rights, and the empowerment of women, with a sharper focus on external communications.
- Ecosystems and biodiversity: UNDP will continue to support conservation of the natural environment and resources that are the foundation of the economy, focusing on conserving ecosystems by expanding and strengthening protected areas and making them more financially sustainable.
- In the same vein, UNDP will develop access-and benefit sharing, and bio-prospecting initiatives, in support of the Nagoya Protocol aimed at engaging communities and the private sector in the valorisation of natural capital elements.

- UNDP will ensure that project monitoring and evaluation frameworks are in place and aligned with programme priorities, including strengthening the capacities of implementing partners in data collection and usage. UNDP will establish and manage a cost-shared project monitoring and evaluation function supporting the baseline, project and impact evaluations. The emphasis will be on data disaggregation to allow better monitoring and targeting. Partners will be involved in joint monitoring visits and mid-year reviews, as well as assurance activities to promote understanding of the relevance of monitoring and evaluation activities and to improve results-based management.

THE ABOVE STATEMENTS FROM THE UNDP COUNTRY PROGRAMME DOCUMENT ARE ALIGNED WITH THE PRESENT SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY, WITH THE SGP GLOBAL STRATEGY AND WITH RELEVANT NATIONAL STRATEGIES. SGP SEYCHELLES INTENDS TO ENSURE RELEVANCE WITH ALL THE MENTIONED STRATEGIES THROUGH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS PROJECTS AND THE NATIONAL PROGRAMME.

**9. NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT**

NSC members involved in OP7 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
Dr. Frauke Dogley - Chairperson	<i>Frauke Dogley</i>
Mr. Wills Agricole - GFP	<i>Wills Agricole</i>
Mr. Roland Alcindor - UNDP	<i>Roland Alcindor</i>
Mr. Darius Olijaji -	<i>Darius Olijaji</i>
Mrs. Patricia Baquero	<i>Patricia Baquero</i>
Ms. Jeanette Lorue	<i>Jeanette Lorue</i>
Mr. Albert Napier	<i>Albert Napier</i>
Ms. Lyndy Bastienne - NC	<i>Lyndy Bastienne</i>

## ANNEXES

### Annex 1:

Selection of landscape / seascape – check list; Seychelles however is maintaining the entire island ecosystems as the OP7 landscape / seascape

## SELECTION OF TARGET LANDSCAPES/ SEASCAPES

**Please check mark all that apply**

### Global Environmental Characteristics

- Presence of important ecosystems that are recognized globally and/or nationally
- Presence of globally and/or nationally threatened species
- Areas of increased threats to ecosystem integrity
- Presence of degraded land areas that are prioritized globally and/or nationally
- Areas with low access to grid electricity
- Areas facing climate change vulnerability
- Areas covered by International Waters Strategic Action Plans (SAPs) – Large Marine Ecosystems and Water Basins
- Areas recognized as important/priority through international and national processes and institutions (example, UNESCO World Heritage Site, Key Biodiversity Areas, Land degradation (LD) hotspots, deforestation hotspots (SFM), aligned with NBSAP, NAPA, and other national strategies in relation to MEAs)

### Socio-economic characteristics

- Areas of the country with high poverty/low human development index
- Presence of strong traditional systems of governance (such as ICCAs)
- Presence of important cultural heritage (including sacred sites, archaeological features, traditional knowledge, etc)
- Presence of Indigenous peoples/ ethnic minority groups

### Stakeholder Capacities

- Availability of organizations (NGOs, CSOs and CBOs)

- Availability of partner institutions (local governments, civil society groups, universities, others)

**Additional considerations: long term potential for SGP role**

- Build on gains and networks of previous operational phases
- Provides opportunities for deeper impact and broader adoption (scaling up, replication, policy influence)
- Presence or potential to collaborate with other large-scale efforts for cofinancing and joint initiatives (e.g. GEF and UNDP Projects, multilateral/bilateral donors, private sector, foundation)
- Logistical considerations (example, geographic accessibility, security concerns, infrastructure)

**Annex 2 : Ridge to Reef; GEF LSP Community Component**

GEF Component / Atlas Activity	Atlas Budgetary Account Code	ATLAS Budget Description	Activities- Budget Notes	Output	Total USD
<b>Component 2:</b> Strengthened management of upland KBAs and adjacent areas to enhance the flow of ecosystem services through the R2R approach	72100	Contractual Services - Companies	Local Food Producer's Association (LFPA) will receive funds to develop promotional materials / advertising for agrotourism (10,000)	2.2.1	10000
			LFPA & Anse Boileau Farmers' Association will jointly receive funds to support farmers interested in participating in organic certification system (10,000);	2.2.1	10000
			Bee Keeper's Association (BKA) will receive funding to provide technical guidance on beekeeping (10,000)	2.2.2	10000
			Seychelles Farmers Association (SEYFA) and LFPA will jointly receive funds to provide strategy, develop promotional materials, and guide farmers in developing agrotourism (20,000)	2.2.2	20000
			Seychelles Farmers Association (SEYFA) and LFPA develop materials and provide training on soil fertility management (15,000)	2.2.2	15000
			Baie Ste Anne Farmers (BSAFA) will receive funds to develop a manual on handling of pesticides and fertilisers and to carry out stakeholder consultations / workshops to validate and disseminate the manual (15,000)	2.2.2	15000
			BSAFA and the Val d'Endor Farmers Association (VDD) will jointly receive funds to develop a Standard Operating Procedure for responding to impacts from pesticides / fertilizers on water/soil quality and non-target organisms, and to carry out stakeholder consultations / workshops to validate and disseminate the SOP (20,000)	2.2.2	20000
			SEYFA and LFPA will receive funds to develop agroforestry training material and to carry out workshops and on-site demonstration activities for farmers (40,000);	2.2.3	40000
			LFPA will receive funds to carry out an assessment of sites for agroforestry (5,000)	2.2.3	5000

			LFPAs and VDDs will jointly receive funds to provide guidance on land preparation, make recommendations on species to be introduced, and oversee planting and maintenance of agroforestry trees / crops (23,333)	2.2.3	23333
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**Annex 3 – OP6 Project list**

**Projects List**

**Year 1 & 2– First Call for proposals; USD 125'000**

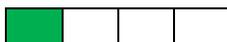
Grantee	Project Name	Thematic area	Status
34. A&A Legal and Consulting	. Developing a new SGP OP6 CPS through consultation – \$25'000	Capacity Building / CPS Development	
35. Anse Forban Community Conservation Programme	Climate Smart Wetlands rehabilitation and Agro-ecology - \$25,000	Climate Change Mitigation; Climate – Smart Agroecology	 Canceled at 50% implementation
36. Baie Ste Anne Farmers Association	Strengthening the sustainable co-management of coastal resources in Praslin and La Digue islands through a “Participatory Three-Dimensional Modelling” process - \$50,000 (inc. planning grant)	Biodiversity Conservation	 Canceled at 50%
37. Women in Action & Solidarity Organisation	Reversing the Feminisation of poverty through waste recycling; Eco Lab project - \$25,000	Capacity Building	 <b>Terminated</b>

**Year 3 & 4; 2nd Call for Proposal launched in August 2017 – USD 275'000**

Grantee	Project Name	Thematic Area	Status
38. Marine Conservation Society, Seychelles	Community based rehabilitation of coral reef; 49998	Biodiversity Conservation	
39. Wise Oceans Seychelles	Seychelles school marine education programme; 42402	Capacity building/ Biodiversity Conservation	
40. The Ocean Project, Seychelles	Turning the Tide on Marine Debris; 27000	Biodiversity conservation	
41. Sustainability for Seychelles	Water Smart Farms; 40000	Climate Change mitigation	

42. Seychelles Arts Projects Foundation	UP! 50000	Biodiversity conservation	
43. SIDS Youth Aims Hub - Seychelles	Climate accountability advocates – 20'600	Climate change mitigation	
44. Green Team Seychelles	<i>Protecting against Marine Species invasion - 0</i>	<i>Biodiversity conservation</i>	 <i>Canceled, not started</i>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>230'000</b>

**OP6 Year 4; 3rd CFP, launched in June 2018 from an Additional Allocation of USD 200'000.**

Grantee	Project Name	Thematic Area	Status
45. Futuro Sports Seychelles;	Engaging Youth through sports for Climate Change Mitigation in Seychelles. 40,000	Climate change mitigation	
46. Bee Keepers Association of Seychelles;	Seychelles Bee Conservation and Promotion Project 40,000	Climate change mitigation	
47. Local Food Producers Association;	Nurturing a Climate Smart Agricultural system on a hill-side farmland to increase affordable local food production on Mahe Island. 46,000 (inc. planning grant)	Climate change mitigation	
48. Wildlife Clubs of Seychelles;	Mangrove Restoration & Management Project 30,000	Climate change mitigation	
49. Seychelles Farmers Association, Praslin Island;	Round the clock food production; implementing sustainable Agro-ecological Farming for Climate Change mitigation and imports reduction on Praslin Island. 44,000 (inc planning grant)	Climate change mitigation	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>200'000.00</b>

**OP6 Y5;** From September 2019, SGP received another additional allocation of USD 200'000.00 for the Strategic initiative 'Youth & Climate Change' and knowledge management project is also funded under this portfolio from OP6 Y4 balance. The funding procedure is currently in process

Grantee	Project name	Thematic Area	Status
50. Global Shapers Victoria Hub (GSVH)	The Global Shapers Environmental Youth Leadership Programme – 49'488.30	Climate Change Mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
51. The Guy Morel Institute (TGMI)	Towards a greener TGMI & Youth & Climate Change Knowledge Management project; 100'000.00	Climate Change Mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
52. University of Seychelles (UNISEY)	Exploring innovative opportunities for promoting synergies between climate change adaptation and mitigation in Seychelles; 45'511.70	Climate Change Mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
53. Grand Anse Farmers Association	A collaborative effort between agriculture students & farmers to increase farm resilience against water deficit during dry season – 50'000 (inc. planning grant)	Climate Change Mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
		<b>Total</b>	<b>249'000</b>