

# Alignment of the national Small Grants Programme Cameroon (SGP) with the strategic initiatives of the Global Environment Facility (GEF 7)



## « Local Action, Global Impact »



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| SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives  | CPS OP7 Indicators and Objectives  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>Community conservation of ecosystems and species threatened</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve community-led biodiversity conservation practices and approaches, including promotion of the blue economy (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, infrastructure, etc.)</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least 100 hectares of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity with at least 5 species with enhanced conservation status;</li> <li>- At least 5 hectares of marine habitat under improved practices for biodiversity, excluding protected areas (GEF core indicator 5);</li> <li><b>NB:</b> there is not yet a marine protected area in the coastal part of the landscape due to the nature of the area, although land and marine activities do meet and interact (GEF core indicator 2.2);</li> <li>- 2 community area networks reinforced.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Local and global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote plastic and solid waste management and circular economy</li> <li>- Reduce/eliminate the use of chemicals in agriculture</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 tonnes of solid persistent organic pollutants (POPs) removed or discarded;</li> <li>- 5 communities (including at least 500 people) working to increase awareness of sound chemical and waste management;</li> <li>- 5 communities (including at least 500 people) using green manures in agriculture (for the production of organic products with added value);</li> <li>- A local network/coalition created and/or strengthened (in collaboration with IPEN regional office and Zero Mercury Working Group);</li> <li>- At least 5 projects to increase awareness and sound management of chemicals, waste and mercury.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Strategic Initiative 7: Strengthen social inclusion and promoting equity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote initiatives/projects in favour of Indigenous Peoples, and people with disabilities</li> <li>- Mainstream youth and other marginalised people in all projects</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At least 10 000 direct beneficiaries (including at least 4 000 women and 2 000 youth);</li> <li>- At least 20 000 indirect beneficiaries (including at least 8 000 women and 4 000 youth);</li> <li>- At least 10 SGP projects led by women and 1 concrete mainstreaming mechanism project to increase the participation of women;</li> <li>- 3 projects helping to close gender gaps in access to and control of natural resources;</li> <li>- At least 5 projects enhancing the participation of women and decision-making in natural resource governance;</li> <li>- 5 projects targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women;</li> <li>- 10 SGP projects that focused on supporting indigenous peoples in terms of programming and management;</li> <li>- 3 SGP projects showcasing the commitment of people with disabilities.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Strategic Initiative 8: Monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Document knowledge and lessons learned from projects</li> <li>- Strengthen the capacity of CSOs/CBOs in project reporting, monitoring &amp; evaluation</li> <li>- Apply the new M&amp;E strategy in the design, implementation and overall decision making of the national programme and projects using participatory mechanisms.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 20 projects applying results management modalities in project design and implementation using participatory mechanisms;</li> <li>- At least 2 national impact reviews organised to identify/document evidence of SGP impact and lessons learned;</li> <li>- Monthly database update for effective data collection, management and analysis to support improved programme delivery and learning;</li> <li>- 1 Knowledge Fair organised;</li> <li>- 1 South-South exchange at regional level to transfer knowledge, replicate technologies, tools and approaches on global environmental issues;</li> <li>- At least 2 projects reporting adoption of improved practices or approaches as a result of South-South exchanges between communities, CSOs and other partners across countries.</li> </ul>   |
| <p><b>Management, M&amp;E of results</b></p> <p>Administer the new M&amp;E strategy in the design, implementation and overall decision making of country programmes and projects using participatory mechanisms.</p>   | <p>Apply the new M&amp;E strategy in the design, implementation and overall decision making of the national programme and projects using participatory mechanisms.</p>   |



## The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is an independent entity that unites **182** member governments – in partnership with international institutions non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector – to address global environmental issues while supporting national sustainable development initiatives. The GEF serves as the designated financial mechanism for the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

## The Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP)

Established in **1992**, the **Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP)** embodies the very essence of sustainable development. The **GEF Small Grants Programme** is a corporate programme implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on behalf of the GEF partnership and executed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). With presence in **128 countries** and more than **12 000** grants awarded worldwide, SGP supports projects of non-governmental and community-based organizations in developing countries demonstrating that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives. GEF SGP provides funding up to **US\$ 50 000** per grant directly to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community-Based

## GEF Small Grants Programme in Cameroon



The main landmarks of GEF Small Grants Programme in Cameroon are:

- **1993:** Kick off of GEF SGP in Cameroon with an initial subvention to the tune of **\$US 200 000**;
- **1993 – 1996:** An allocation of **\$US 388 000** to support eleven (11) projects;
- In **March 2007**, about 10 years after its closing, the **GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP)** was launch during the last year of the **3<sup>rd</sup> operational phase**. A grants allocation of **\$US 150 000** has supported six (06) community projects;
- **The 4<sup>th</sup> operational phase of GEF SGP (that spans from July 2007 to June 2010)** made it possible to give a national base and recognition of the action of the country program by development partners as well as the Civil Organizations of the Company (CSOs).

In particular through securing the funds of the Resources Allocation Framework from the government of Cameroon, the establishment of partnership for the co-financing of community projects with UNESCO, international NGOs (**Huairou Commission, Barefoot College – India**) and local and regional authorities (among which 3 urban councils: **Douala IV, Douala V and Kribi I**). The thematic diversification of the portfolio of projects supported during this phase and the relevance of the results produced by the 30 projects that were financed helped the extension or the replication of some community projects funded by GEF SGP Cameroon.

- **For the 5<sup>th</sup> Operational Phase (OP5) 2011-2014**, an overall envelope of **\$US 2 260 000** (of which **\$US 900 000** core resources from the SGP and **\$US 1 360 000** STAR funds received from the government of Cameroon).

- Africa Adaptation Programme (Climate Change): **\$US 287 000**
- The Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS): **\$US280 000**

- **For the 6<sup>th</sup> Operational Phase (OP6) 2015-2018**, with an overall envelope of **\$US 700 000** in core resources, more than 34 projects were funded

- **Innovation Programme on People with Disabilities \$US 100 000**

- **Innovation programme on SGP/SOS-Sahel \$US 100 000**

- **Innovation programme on access to energy for indigenous peoples \$US 150 000**

- **For the 7<sup>th</sup> Operational Phase (OP7) 2020-2024:** CORE Fund **\$US 500 000**

Grant allocation for the Global Initiative to Support APAC (COVID-19 response) funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment (BMU) **\$US 250 000**.

## Thematic focal areas

As a GEF corporate programme, for helping achieve global environmental benefits, the SGP's starting point is to ensure that each project proposal fits the GEF criteria, and that each proposal clearly articulates how project objectives and activities would have a positive effect in the relevant GEF focal areas.

For the **GEF 7<sup>th</sup> Operational Phase (2020 – 2024)**, **SGP Cameroon** will support project of non-governmental and community-based organizations demonstrating that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives in these GEF focal areas:

- Biodiversity;**
- Climate Change; ;**
- Land degradation;**
- Sustainable Land and Forest Management ;**
- Chemicals and Waste Management;**
- International Waters.**

Gender, capacity development and empowerment must be taken into consideration in all NGOs and CBOs projects.

Main Strategic Initiative: Community conservation of threatened ecosystems and species; Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, as well as food security; Co-benefits of access to low-carbon energy sources; From local to global coalition for chemicals management and Catalysing sustainable urban solutions.

The **GEF Small Grants Programme** is guided by the National Programme Strategy, which sets out national environmental priorities in relation to agro-ecological zones.

Accordingly, for **2020-2024**, in order to have a global impact while ensuring local benefits over the next four years, **SGP Cameroon** will focus its action in the Cameroon estuary landscape, specifically in the following priority areas: the **Douala National Park - Edea**, **Edea I City Council**, **Edea II City Council**, **Lokoundje City Council**, **Kribi I City Council**, **Kribi II City Council** and **Campo Ma'an National Park**.



**Cameroon Estuary Landscape with priority areas for intervention**

## How to access SGP grants

**SGP country programme** prepares and issues a call for proposals that provides project preparation guidelines setting forth the eligibility criteria. These guidelines clearly state that the SGP makes grants to eligible Civil Society Organisations, with priority for supporting poor and vulnerable communities in the GEF focal areas, with a maximum grant amount for a project of **\$US 50 000**. Once the NSC has approved a project for SGP funding support, a bank account must be opened to solely host this specific project financial resource. All GEF SGP funded projects should take into account the 5 gender criteria:

1. Men and women have actively participated in the design of the project, which meets the needs of both,
2. The impact of the project on women and men has been analysed (kindly consider the division of labour, workload and access to resources and services),
3. The project explained what the project outcomes are for men and women and is designed to benefit both men and women,
4. The project provides sex-disaggregated data on active participants and beneficiaries,
5. Men and women are included in the project management structure on a balanced basis (i.e. the project management team should be composed of both men and women and, if possible, have equal representation to ensure that they have a say in decision-making).

All **GEF SGP funded projects** should have three (3) types of impacts: environmental, livelihoods improvement and empowerment. It is through this set of impacts that **SGP Cameroon** contributes to the achievement of MDGs (Millennium Development Goals).



## GEF SGP National Steering Committee (NSC)

The **SGP National Steering Committee (NSC)** is the main decision-making body of the SGP at the country level and provides overall supervision, guidance and direction to the country programme. Appointed for a three-year term, renewable once, the 12 members of the NSC have the following key roles:

- (i) Provide overall guidance and strategic direction to the country programme, including the development, implementation and periodic review and revision of the **SGP Country Programme Strategy (CPS)**.
- (ii) Review and approve projects in accordance with the CPS following participatory, democratic, impartial and transparent procedures in accordance with the SGP Operational Guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures.
- (iii) Providing technical support to the supervision and implementation of the project at country level in accordance with the SGP project document for the operational phase, including project monitoring and evaluation (e.g. field visits).
- (iv) Linking SGP operations to relevant global, regional and national policies and strategies of the GEF and other third party co-funders.
- (v) Supporting partnership development and resource mobilisation efforts for the SGP at project and country levels.
- (vi) Support the scaling up of efforts to integrate the lessons learned and successes of the SGP into national development planning and policy making.

