

The Global Environment Facility – Small Grants Programme.

(GEF SGP)



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Available at <<http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/country/trinidadandtobago.html>> [Accessed 24th August 2011]

Country Program Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago (2011-2014)



Lall, R., 2011. [Photograph]



Lall, R., 2011. [Photograph]

The Trinidad and Tobago Country Program Strategy was produced with input from various stakeholders inclusive of Non Governmental Organizations and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago through the Ministry of Housing and the Environment.

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List of Acronyms

CBO	Community-based Organization
CPS	Country Program Strategy
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GEF SGP	Global Environmental Facility Small Grants Programme
EMA	The Environmental Management Authority
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NC	National Coordinator
NSC	National Steering Committee
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NGO	Non Governmental Organisations
MHE	Ministry of Housing and the Environment
MEEI	Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries
OP5	Operational Phase 5
SGP	Small Grants Programme
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
T&T	Trinidad and Tobago
UWI	University of the West Indies
UTT	University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT)

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Executive Summary

The Global Environmental Facility (GEF) provides funding to the Small Grants Programme (SGP) worldwide. The Country Program Strategy (CPS) is a strategic document which helps countries outline the expected development results to be achieved through the implementation of the SGP program. The primary purpose of the CPS is to identify the national priority areas within the context of the strategic priorities set for the GEF 5 replenishment period and the five main focal areas. This is done using the results based management approach where project objectives are linked to expected outcomes and indicators of success. The CPS also serves to identify the monitoring and evaluation activities that are required at the local and global levels. The methods used to share lessons learnt and disseminate best practices are also described in the CPS.

The GEF SGP program has been in operation in Trinidad and Tobago since 1995 and provides small grants to Non Governmental and Community Based Organisations (NGOs and CBOs). Since 1995, 75 community based projects have been implemented in five focal areas namely, Biodiversity conservation, protection of International waters, prevention of Land degradation, Climate change and reduction of Persistent Organic Pollutants. There are also two cross cutting issues every project seeks to encapsulate which are Sustainable Livelihoods and Gender considerations.

The CPS for the period 2011-2014 was prepared using a participatory approach whereby information and opinions were garnered using both formal and informal stakeholder consultations. This feedback provided the basis on which the project objectives and outcomes were defined. Trinidad and Tobago is signatory to a number of conventions. In support of these conventions there a number of policies which support implementation of these requirements under the conventions. The main national policies that the GEF SGP program will be contributing to are as follows:

- National Environmental Policy (1995)
- Protected Areas Policy (February 2011)
- Climate change policy (Draft) (November 2009)
- National Forest Policy ((February 2011)

The SGP program seeks to complement the activities of the national government to meet the requirements under the conventions by supporting implementation of national policies at the community level. One of the main priority areas for the SGP program in OP5 will be increased geographic coverage to Central and South areas of Trinidad. In addition to the priority on the five focal areas, increased emphasis will be given to:

1. Education and increased advocacy on environmental issues was seen necessary for all focal areas.
2. Capacity building and institutional strengthening of CBO's and NGO's in Trinidad and Tobago.
3. Increased linkages between the project activities of community based organizations to that done by national level policy makers.
4. Increased monitoring and evaluation of all projects to capture and share lessons learnt from the implementation of community based projects.

Country: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Resources to be invested: US\$2 050 000¹

1. SGP country programme - summary background (2 pages max)

1.1 Please describe the length of time the SGP country programme has been active within the global SGP and results achieved (i.e. GEF-5 status as a Category 1, 2a, 2b or 2c country programme).

The SGP was formally launched in Trinidad and Tobago on 24 May 1995 as a category I country. In general, the GEF SGP Trinidad and Tobago has traditionally focused on species conservation and habitat restoration activities and has funded 75 projects to date. In recent years, the focus has also shifted to include sustainable organic agricultural projects, waste management and climate change initiatives (mainly renewable energy projects) with micro-enterprise components included as much as possible. Currently there are 20 active projects in Trinidad and Tobago (being implemented by 11 community-based organizations and 9 NGOs respectively).

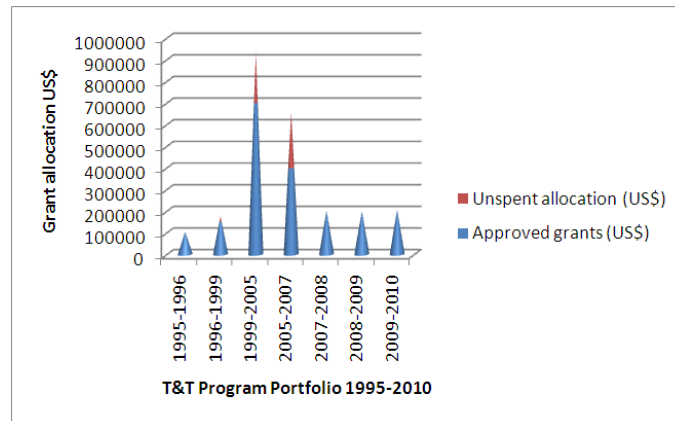
The total grant allocation since 1995 can be seen in Figure 1. To date 60% of the projects funded have been in the area of Biodiversity. The remaining of the portfolio included Multifocal (18%), International waters (11%), Land Degradation (5%) and Persistent Organic Pollutants (3%). One of our biodiversity projects, Blanchisseuse Environmental Art Trust (BEAT) was recognized and featured in the publication on Communities contributing to Biodiversity in Latin America and the Caribbean. Through this project a community made primarily made up of women educates and promotes the sustainable production of seamoss. The SGP programme remains the most successful modality in Trinidad and Tobago that funds community based projects in the area of the environment.

Some of the past lessons learnt over Operational phases 3 and 4 include the importance of:

- Capacity building at organizational and project levels are critical to project success and sustainability;
- Addressing monitoring and evaluation in proposal formulation;
- Greater ownership by the grantee organizations' members to successful project implementation and benefits;
- Identification of sustainable livelihood opportunities in proposal formulation;
- Networking grantee organizations to other grantee organizations, NGOs, private sector, donor programmes and Government agencies; and
- Effective recording and communicating project results in a timely and effective manner.

¹ Core Resources is US\$ 1.2 million and STAR Allocation is US\$850 000
 SGP Country Programme Strategy – OP5 grant funds

Figure 1: Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) Program Portfolio (1995-2010)



1.2 Please update key baseline considerations for the SGP country programme Strategy, major partnerships, and existing sources of co-financing (including from government, bilateral and other sources).

1.2.1 Economic, political and environmental situation

Trinidad and Tobago is the most industrialized economy in the English speaking Caribbean with an area of 5,128 km² and a population estimated at 1.3 million. With a GDP per capita of US\$10,440 in 2005, it is considered to be a middle income country with strong institutional and political stability (Artana et. al). The country is ranked 'high' on the UNDP Human Development Index (HDI), being placed 59 out of 177 countries. The energy sector accounts for more than 40% of GDP and 80% of exports with only 5% attributed to employment. This sector also makes the availability of funds possible to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It has not published an MDG report to date documenting MDGs achievements.

In 2010 National and Local Government elections were held unexpectedly which resulted in a new People's Partnership coalition government taking power. The document Prosperity for All: The People's Manifesto outlines seven pillars for the development of the country. Other guidance on national development strategies consist of a number of policy statements and documents which are currently being developed. As a small island developing state Trinidad and Tobago is highly vulnerable to the impacts of natural disasters resulting from increased impacts of climate change. These impacts include flooding and sea-level rise. The country continues to experience many environmental challenges such as widespread flooding, deforestation, hillside erosion, illegal dumping, coastal and marine pollution and fisheries depletion.

1.2.2 Partnerships and sources of co-financing

The SGP Country Programme continues to develop synergies with other organizations in an attempt to strengthen the impact in SGP Focal Areas. The Programme has explored and developed partnerships and opportunities for co-financing with private and public

sector organizations as well as other agencies. Key partnerships that have been considered and will be further explored in OP5 include:

GOVERNMENT & PARASTATAL

- Ministry of Community Development and Gender Affairs – Community Development Fund (CDF)
- Ministry of People and Social Development – Poverty Reduction Programme
- Ministry of Housing and the Environment – Green Fund
- Tobago House of Assembly
- Environmental Management Authority
- University of the West Indies

PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Chambers of Commerce and Other Business Associations, Corporate Organizations
- Professional Associations including Association of Professional Engineers, Professional Accountants etc.

BILATERAL/MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Embassies and High Commissions such as the German and Australian embassies. UN Organizations such as United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Inter-American Development Bank – Multilateral Investment Fund

2. SGP country programme niche (6 pages max)

2.1 Please list the dates of the country ratification of the relevant Rio Conventions and relevant national planning frameworks:

Table 1. List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	August 1 st 1996
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	May 2001
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	January 28 th 1999
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	2001
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	June 11 th 1994
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	June 8 th 2000
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	August 6 th 2000
Stockholm Convention (SC)	December 13 th 2002

SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	To be completed in 2011-2013
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	Not conducted to date
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	August 16 th 2011
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	Not completed to date
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	Not applicable to date

2.2 Please describe how the SGP country programme will use OP5 resources to support implementation of national priorities in relation to GEF-5 Strategic Priorities. How will civil society and community-based projects be facilitated and coordinated to help the country achieve its priorities and achieve the objectives of the global conventions?

The government of Trinidad and Tobago has signed up to a number of international conventions as shown in Table 1. In addition to these there are numerous policy frameworks that address the full spectrum of environmental issues. To ensure that OP5 resources will be used to help achieve the objectives of the global conventions, the applicable policies will be used and consultation with relevant stakeholders² will be carried out. This will be done on an on-going basis to ensure firstly that there is (1) effective communication on how the GEF SGP program has assisted with fulfilling the requirements under the conventions and (2) to facilitate updates from the implementing institutions and partners on changes to national priorities.

One identified method that the programme will pursue is the scaling up on GEF SGP projects. The scaling up of GEF SGP projects can cover both the expansion and sustainability of GEF SGP projects through the strengthening of communities and target groups and the creation of a larger environmental impact implemented at a national level. Currently there are a number of GEF-SGP projects³ that can benefit from upscaling projects within the national GEF portfolio that can benefit from the above. In addition synergies exist with the following national GEF projects --

- Capacity Building and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management In Trinidad & Tobago
- Initial Assistance to Enable Trinidad and Tobago to Fulfil its Obligations under the Stockholm Convention on POPs

² Environmental Management Authority (EMA), The Ministry Housing and the Environment (MHE), Institute of Marine Affairs (IMA), Tobago House of Assembly (THA), civil society, GEF NGO Focal points, Green Fund.

³ Grantees include Guardian Wildlife Fund, Speyside Marine Park Rangers and United Nations Association of Trinidad and Tobago.

- Elaboration of a Strategy for the Reduction of Carbon Emissions in Trinidad and Tobago
- Capacity development for disaster risk management

In OP5 there will be a country wide focus on the following issues across all focal areas.

These include:

1. Education and increased advocacy on environmental issues was seen necessary for all focal areas.
2. Capacity building and institutional strengthening of CBO's and NGO's in Trinidad and Tobago.
3. Projects that seek to link the work of community based organisations to that done by national level policy makers.
4. Increased monitoring and evaluation of all projects to capture and share lessons learnt from the implementation of community based projects.

To date 43 of the 75 projects funded have been in the focal area of biodiversity. In OP5 there will be a focus on the other focal areas namely climate change, international waters, persistent organic pollutants and land degradation. The Climate Change Policy for Trinidad and Tobago indicates that focus should be on enhancing carbon sinks and increasing the use of cleaner technology. The GEF SGP program provides one of the main mechanisms through which this can be done.

2.2.1 Institutional and governance context

Environmental Management Authority

The Environmental Management Act 2000 developed with the support of UNDP and UNEP provides Trinidad and Tobago with a comprehensive legislative framework for promoting sound environmental management policies and practices. The Environmental Management Authority (EMA) was established under the Act to coordinate efficient government action on the environment and to work with the public and private sectors. The EMA's mandate provides for the strengthening of institutional coordination through a Memorandum of Understanding with over 28 technical and specialised Government agencies that have legal responsibilities in environmentally-related areas. The EMA has been mandated to coordinate the development and implementation of national environmental management programmes and strategies, to establish an effective regulatory mechanism to protect, conserve and enhance the environment, and to promote awareness among the public of the special importance of the country's unique and diverse environment. An important measure towards the integration of policy implementation at the national level has been initiated by the EMA through signed MOUs with technical and specialised Government agencies that have legal responsibilities in environmentally-related areas, inclusive of the GEF focal areas. The

EMA formulated a National Environmental Policy which was laid in Parliament and became effective on September 2, 1998, and a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), approved in May, 2001, with technical and financial support from UNDP.

Green Fund

Cabinet recently approved amendments to the legislation governing the Green Fund (national environmental fund) to allow NGOs incorporated under the Companies Act as 'Non-profit Companies' to be eligible for accessing the Green Fund. This is a huge step which will finally allow all NGOs in Trinidad and Tobago to be eligible to apply for the fund. We should see, by early next year, a lot more projects being funded by the Green Fund and under execution. Projects are quite large in scale and can encompass whole ecosystems. Greater linkages between UNDP GEF projects and the Green Fund projects have been made and will be fostered to ensure greater national buy in to potential GEF "able" project proposals.

Government ministries

Issues connected to the climate change agenda such as energy, environment and disaster management in Trinidad and Tobago are covered by three Ministries. These are the Ministry of Housing and the Environment (MHE), Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) and the Ministry of National Security.

Within the MHE and the MEEI there are executing bodies with responsibility for relevant areas. The Environmental Management Authority (EMA) falls under the MHE and has overall regulatory responsibility for environmental issues in Trinidad and Tobago. The Environmental Policy and Planning Division also falls within the MHE and has as its mandate to facilitate sound environmental management through developing, monitoring and coordinating the implementation of national policies, programmes and obligations under the multilateral environmental agreements. Within the Ministry of National Security the Office of Disaster Preparedness is responsible for disaster management in Trinidad. The Tobago Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) has this responsibility for Tobago.

Private sector, civil society and academia

The private sector has also partnered on environmental issues including corporate social responsibility schemes and pilot initiatives for renewable energy. This funding has mainly come from companies within the energy sector.

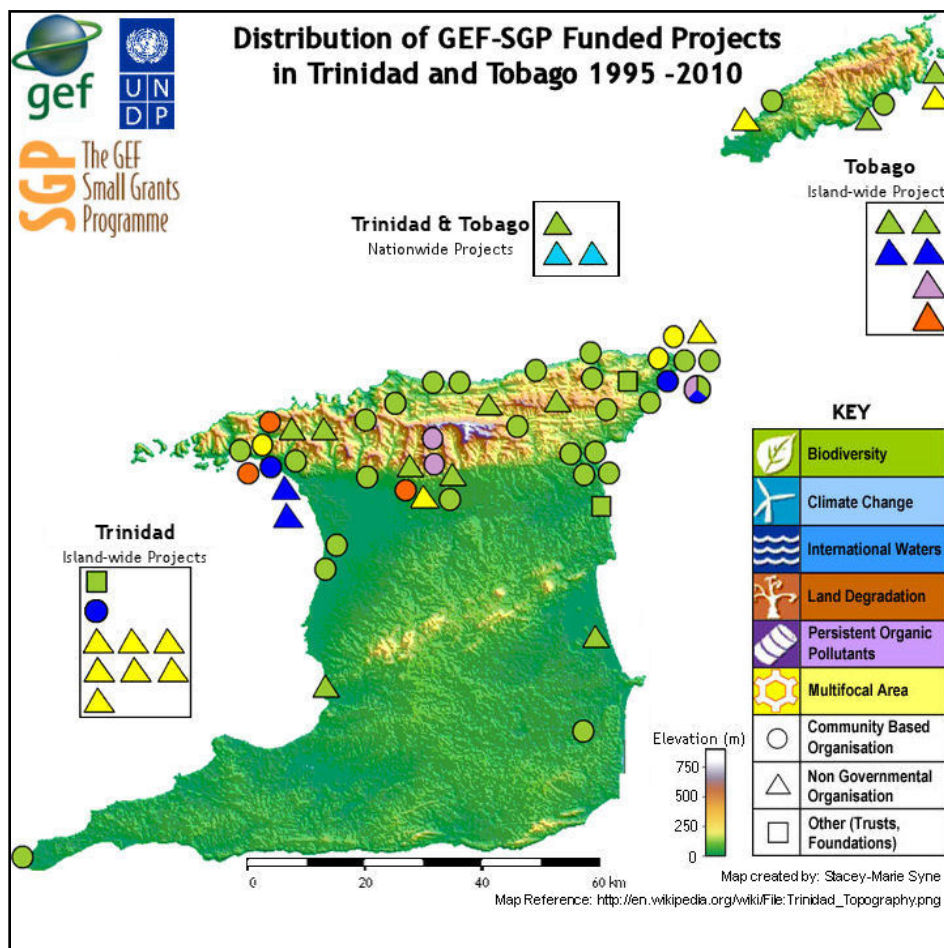
There is a significant civil society network through which community based and non-governmental initiatives have been implemented. For example The Cropper Foundation and the Buccoo Reef Trust have implemented national scale environmental projects including an assessment of the Northern Range Ecosystem in Trinidad and an integrated coastal zone management project in Tobago.

Academia has played an important role in supporting research and development within the environmental sector. This includes the University of the West Indies (UWI) and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT).

2.3 Geographic focus

In order to have a wider and stronger national impact, emphasis will be placed on focusing GEF/SGP grant support in the Central and South areas of Trinidad and on the island of Tobago. As seen in Figure 2, a significant number of CBO's and NGO's from the northern side of the island successfully applied for grants during the 16 years GEF-SGP has been in operation in Trinidad and Tobago. Thus, an imbalance was unintentionally created as funds mainly went towards sustainable development and environmental conservation efforts in this specific region. To ensure that such efforts are distributed in an as even as possible manner throughout the nation, particular emphasis would now be given to the use of both CORE and STAR funds in the south and central portions of Trinidad and throughout Tobago.

Figure 2: Map of Trinidad showing the distribution of projects from 1995 - 2010.



2.4 Please fill in the table below detailing the target OP5 global project objectives described in the GEF CEO endorsement documents. SGP country programmes are invited to establish the SGP niche for grant-making in relation to the national priorities as applicable, outlined above, and the OP5 project objectives for the focal areas, as relevant.

Table 2. Consistency with national priorities

OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1:</u> Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions</p>	<p><u>Protected Areas Policy, February 2010. The first two objectives are:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To conserve the country’s natural heritage, genetic, species, ecosystem diversity and functionality, evolutionary and ecosystem processes and biogeochemical cycles; 2. To conserve the country’s cultural, spiritual/religious and historical heritage; and 	<p>Support restoration of habitat for flora and fauna species with specific emphasis on unsustainable activities (e.g. quarrying and unplanned developments) in Central and Northern ranges.</p> <p>Support co-management of protected areas (e.g. turtle nesting sites and nature centres) protected by civil society groups.</p> <p>Increased awareness and education on the dangers of unsustainable practices in protected areas.</p>
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions</p>	<p><u>Protected Areas Policy, February 2010. The third and final objective is:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. To optimise the contribution of PAs to sustainable livelihoods and human well-being, including opportunities for resource mobilization, education and recreation . 	<p>Support the implementation of demonstration ‘payment for ecosystem services’ that can be replicated.</p> <p>Support the development of eco tourism sites that can support communities and ensure protection of protected areas</p>
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level</p>	<p><u>Draft Climate Change Policy, November 2009.</u></p> <p>Objective 3: Conserving and building resilience of human and natural systems to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, including through capacity building and the application of cleaner and energy efficient technologies</p>	<p>Strengthen capacity building activities to increase awareness and education programs on the impacts of climate change and the rationale for utilizing low carbon technologies.</p> <p>Support the implementation of low</p>

		carbon technologies at the community level.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	<u>Draft Climate Change Policy, November 2009.</u> Objective 1: Reduce or avoid greenhouse gas emissions from all emitting sectors.	Support awareness programs on the negative implications of increases in motorized vehicles per capita and the use of unleaded fuels.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5:</u> Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	<u>Draft Climate Change Policy, November 2009.</u> Objective 2: Enhancing carbon sinks.	Facilitate strengthening of programs to increase awareness on the link between protection of forest resources and mitigation of climate change. Support programs that contribute to climate change mitigation through land use change.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	<u>National Forest Policy, February 2011.</u> 1. To optimise the contribution of forest resources to livelihoods; cultural and spiritual/religious use, while ensuring sustainable use of forests, including extraction of timber and wildlife 2. To protect native genetic, species and ecosystem diversity 3. To maintain and enhance the natural productivity of forest ecosystems and ecological processes (watershed functions, etc.) to provide important ecosystem services	Support programs to rehabilitate crops (e.g. cocoa and coffee) using sustainable farming methods.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	<u>National Environment Policy 2005 (page 10).</u> Strategies and plans must also be introduced to reserve the most fertile soils for agriculture and to utilize existing agricultural land optimally.	Support implementation of activities that protect land from illegal dumping and building, slash and burn agriculture and quarrying.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8:</u> Support transboundary water body	<u>National Environment Policy 2005 (page 17).</u>	Support co-management of coastal areas with emphasis on sensitive

management with community-based initiatives	Encourage stakeholder participation in solving problems related to multi-user conflicts in coastal areas in keeping with sound integrated coastal zone management principles and philosophies.	marine ecosystems (e.g. coral and mangroves) in Tobago. Facilitate implementation of programs which focus both on prevention and clean up activities to reduce coastal pollution.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	<u>National Environment Policy 2005 (page 28).</u> Design and implement programmes to reduce and eliminate the release of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), including dioxins and furans, into the environment, followed by an eventual elimination in use;	Provide support to reduce use of POP's. Support implementation of programs to increase awareness of harmful effects of POP's
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10:</u> Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends	Not applicable	Support NGO's and CBO's to prepare project proposals and project implementation. Facilitate networking and sharing of information to CBO's and NGO's with lower capacity.
<u>Cross-Cutting Results:</u> Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender	Not applicable	Support the development of projects which contribute to poverty reduction, sustainable livelihoods and gender issues.

3. Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results for SGP (1 page max)

3.1 Please describe how the SGP country programme in the preparation and review of projects, and later in their implementation, will produce positive results in the development of capacity of civil society organizations (i.e. national NGOs, CBOs, or indigenous peoples organizations); improving livelihoods and local benefits; as well as addressing gender and indigenous peoples' considerations so as to achieve global environmental benefits.⁴Please also provide details how the capacity developed will be retained within different organizations and communities.

3.1 Capacity development of NGO's and CBO's

Currently there are approximately 840⁵ CBO's and NGO's operating in Trinidad. Capacity development is achieved through technical assistance from the Community Development Fund, Ministry of Community Development, Ministry of People and Social Development and funding Agencies who offer capacity building activities to work with the SGP in a programme for developing grantee groups. There are also a number of Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) which focus on environmental protection including the Toco Foundation in Toco, Nature Seekers Inc. in Matura, South East Eco Tours Ltd. in Ortoire-Mayaro, Grande Riviere Tourism Development Organisation (GRTDO) in Grande Riviere, Fishing Pond Environment and Community Group in Fishing Pond, and Environment Tobago in Tobago.

The experiences of the 3rd and 4th Operational phase has revealed that there is an urgent need for capacity building in all the grantee groups, so that they can more effectively achieve positive results in the implementation of their projects. For some groups the proposal preparation and project implementation phases provided minor challenges. However, for most groups, the major challenges include the lack of institutional capacity, the lack of appreciation of the strategic linkage between their objectives and protection of the environment. The GEF/SGP has contributed to capacity-building of the majority of its grantee organizations, particularly in the area of proposal preparation and project monitoring and reporting. However, further effort is required to promote the GEF/SGP among stakeholders, particularly NGOs/CBOs. In OP5 GEF SGP will partner with professional organizations, NGOs, university, private sector and other organizations to assist in providing the knowledge and skills required to build capacity in these groups. Specific activities will be used to facilitate this as follows:

1. Participation in activities of the GEF NGO network focal point.
2. Collaboration with institutions that also assist NGO's and CBO's with capacity building such as the Community Development Fund, Green Fund and the Environmental Management Authority.
3. Specific workshops to increase awareness of thematic issues, proposal writing and project management.

⁴ During OP5, the SGP capacity development outcome is cross-cutting and relates to interventions corresponding with each of the relevant GEF focal areas.

⁵ Statistics compiled using NGO Directory compiled by The Ministry of the People and Social Development.

4. Collaboration with institutions such as the University of the West Indies (U.W.I) to work on a mentorship program.

3.2 Poverty Reduction

The beneficial impact in the GEF focal areas comes about through the use of sustainable livelihood strategies. Thus an essential part of SGP projects will aim to include include an income-generation component linked to one of the GEF focal areas. Through the GEF SGP project communities will be given guidance on activities that provide viable alternatives to economic and cultural practices that may endanger biodiversity, contribute to climate change, or degrade international freshwater or marine systems. Some examples of these alternatives will include , substituting the use of a plentiful, renewable resource for reliance on harvesting an endangered species, or creating alternative livelihood or income-generation possibilities that relieve the pressure on fragile or diminishing habitats and ecosystems, or providing access to more efficient energy sources.

1. OP5 country outcomes, indicators and activities (3 pages max)

Table 3. Results Framework

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas (ICCAs) through community-based actions</u>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP BD Outcome 1.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts on biodiversity resources in and around protected areas, and indigenous and community conservation areas	Number and hectares of ICCAs and other PAs positively influenced through SGP support Number of community members with improved livelihoods related to benefits from protected areas	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>
SGP BD Outcome 1.2: Benefits generated at the community level from conservation of biodiversity in and around protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas	Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status.		
SGP BD Outcome 1.4:			

Increased understanding and awareness at the community-level of the importance and value of biodiversity			
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<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions</u>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<p>SGP BD Outcome 2.1: Improved community-level sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes / seascapes through community-based initiatives, frameworks and market mechanisms, including recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations</p> <p>SGP BD Outcome 2.2: Increased understanding and awareness of sustainable use of biodiversity</p>	Number and hectares of significant ecosystems with maintained or improved conservation status	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>3 project developed</i>

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level</u>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CC Outcome 3.1: Innovative low-GHG technologies deployed and successfully demonstrated at the community level	Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies.	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level</u>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CC Outcome 4.1: Low-GHG transport options demonstrated at the community level	Number of projects supporting low carbon transport and energy efficiency.	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5: Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry</u>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CC Outcome 5.1: Sustainable land use, land use change, and forestry management and climate proofing practices adopted at the community level for forest and non-forest land-use types Restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests and non-forest lands.	Hectares of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices.	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities</u>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP LD Outcome 6.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts on agro-, and forest ecosystems and ecosystem services demonstrated to sustain ecosystem functionality	Hectares under improved agricultural, land and water management practices (by management practice)	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>

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SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)

Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP LD Outcome 7.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts in land use frontiers of agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems (rural/urban, agriculture/forest)	Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>

SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives

Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<i>Improved management of coastal ecosystems and waterways thereby positively impacting on transboundary water management.</i> ⁶	Hectares of coastal areas impacted. ⁷	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>2 projects developed</i>

SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level

Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CH Outcome 9.1: Improved community-level initiatives and actions to prevent, reduce and phase out POPs, harmful chemicals and other pollutants, manage contaminated sites in an	Tons of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal. Kilograms of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately.	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>6 projects developed</i>

⁶ An outcome applicable to Trinidad and Tobago has been defined since there are no SAP's.

⁷ Indicators defined based on outcome that was tailored for Trinidad and Tobago.

environmentally sound manner, and mitigate environmental contamination	Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release.		
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SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10: Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CD Outcome 10.1: Active participation of NSCs and NFGs in GEF focal areas at the national level			
SGP CD Outcome 10.2: Improved information flows to/from CBOs and CSOs in SGP countries regarding good practices and lessons learned, and application of such practices	Number of SGP representatives participating in national GEF coordination meetings. Quantity and quality of SGP knowledge base, and use of knowledge base; Quantity and quality of contributions to knowledge fairs, conferences, publications and research.	<i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i>	<i>3 projects developed</i>
SGP CD Outcome 10.3: Increased public awareness and education at the community-level regarding global environmental issues			
SGP CD Outcome 10.4: Capacity of CBOs and CSOs strengthened to support implementation of global conventions			

Cross-Cutting Results: Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender

Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<p>Generally, SGP seeks to improve livelihoods through increasing local benefits generated from environmental resources, and mainstream gender considerations in community-based environmental initiatives</p>	<p>Percentage of projects that include gender analysis or incorporate gender relevant elements in a positive manner</p> <p>Percentage of projects with appropriate gender balance of participants and target beneficiaries.</p> <p>Number of community members with sustained livelihood improvement resulting from SGP support</p>	<p><i>Progress reports, M&E site visit reports and SGP database</i></p>	<p><i>2 projects developed</i></p>

2. Monitoring & Evaluation plan (3 pages max)

5.1 Please describe the Monitoring & Evaluation plan for the portfolio of individual SGP projects working with civil society organizations (i.e. national NGOs, CBOs, or indigenous peoples' organizations). Details on the frequency of monitoring visits and evaluations of projects should be provided.

Project level

As shown in Table 4 at the project level monitoring and evaluation will take place from the start of the project to the final evaluation. At the start of the project baseline data will be collected to measure the expected project impacts which will be uploaded onto the project database. Indicators will also be defined for each project and be used to identify and measure expected results. At the concept note and/or proposal preparation phase a site visit will be carried out to ascertain the potential project outcomes and impacts. Once the project has started, site visits will be conducted at least twice per year. The site visits will serve to verify the progress documented in the technical? (progress and progress) and financial reports and assist grantees with challenges that may arise during the course of the project. The NC, programme assistant and NSC members will assist with site visits. At the end of the project a financial report must be submitted along with a project evaluation report where lessons learnt will be documented. Based on the capacity of the grantee, they will be asked to dedicate up to 10% of the total project budget to an end of project evaluation and will produce a lessons learnt report which is independent of the end of project report. The lessons learnt report will be disseminated using concept notes and case studies once resources permit.

Programme level

An annual programme report will be submitted to CPMT each year which will provide information on the project activities, outcomes, partnerships and knowledge management activities. It will also provide information on the indicators defined at the SGP level and those linked to global development e.g. Millennium Development Goals. Quarterly financial reports will also submitted to UNOPS and CPMT which will provide information on all expenditures inclusive of administrative and disbursements.

In addition to the reports produced for CPMT and UNOPS, the programme will provide a summary report on the contribution to the SGP program to the activities met under the global conventions and the contribution to the national environmental policy. These summary reports will be provided to the Ministry of Housing and the Environment and the Environmental Management Authority of Trinidad and Tobago.

5.2 Please describe how local stakeholders will participate in setting project objectives and outputs; how they will participate in monitoring with what kind of method and periodicity; and how progress will be documented and reported.

The preparation of the project concept form and project proposal allows stakeholders to define and participate in the project objectives and outputs. During the preparation of the project proposal the group will be able to discuss and consult with the National Coordinator on the objectives and expected outcomes of the project. Outreach workshops will also be conducted to guide grantees and stakeholders on proposal preparation. A consultation was carried out to inform the development of the national priority areas for the Country Program Strategy (CPS).

Table 4. M&E Plan at the Project Level

SGP Individual Project Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Participatory Project Monitoring	Grantees	Duration of project
Baseline Data Collection ⁸	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage
Two or Three Project Progress and Financial Reports(<i>depending on agreed disbursement schedule</i>)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request
Project Workplans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (<i>as necessary/cost effective</i> ⁹)	NC	Before project approval, as appropriate
NC Project Monitoring Site Visit (<i>as necessary/cost effective</i>)	NC	On average once per year, as appropriate
NC Project Evaluation Site Visit (<i>as necessary/cost effective</i>)	NC	At end of project, as appropriate
Project Final Report	Grantees	Following completion of project activities
Project Evaluation Report (<i>as necessary/cost effective</i>)	NC, NSC, External party	Following completion of project activities
Prepare project description to be incorporated into global project database	PA, NC	At start of project, and ongoing as appropriate

⁸ Capacity-development workshops and M&E trainings may be organized in relation to innovative techniques for community monitoring, including new technologies (i.e. GPS-enabled cameras, aerial photos, participatory GIS, etc.); as well as in response to guidelines for “climate proofing” of GEF focal area interventions; REDD+ standards; and/or other specific donor/co-financing requirements.

⁹To ensure cost-effectiveness, project level M&E activities, including project site visits, will be conducted on a discretionary basis, based on internally assessed criteria including (but not limited to) project size and complexity, potential and realized risks, and security parameters.

5.3 Please describe the strategy for how the results of SGP individual projects will be aggregated at the country programme portfolio level. Please describe the target indicators for focal area and multi-focal area outcomes.

The results of the SGP individual reports will be aggregated during preparation of the Annual Report which will be submitted to CPMT. In addition the summary reports mentioned above to the MHE and EMA will also contain the contribution of the SGP program. The SGP Database will also be used to collate the impact in terms of the indicators. Finally an evaluation of the SGP program will be carried out which covers the portfolio from 1995 to 2012.

The target indicators for each focal areas are outlined in Table 3.

Table 5. M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	Start of OP5 and annually.
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	NSC, NC	Once during OP5
NSC Meetings	NSC, NC, UNDP CO	Minimum twice per year
Performance and Results Assessment (PRA) of NCPerformance	NC, NSC, UNDP CO, CPMT, UNOPS	Once per year
Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ¹⁰	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

¹⁰ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.
SGP Country Programme Strategy – OP5 grant funds

6 Knowledge Management Plan (1 page max)

6.1. Please describe your plans for capturing, sharing, and disseminating the lessons learned and good practices identified through the country portfolio of SGP projects with civil society, government, and other relevant stakeholders (i.e. process for generating knowledge; type of knowledge products; knowledge fairs; peer to peer exchanges; use of demonstration sites; knowledge centers etc.).

In OP5 significant focus will be placed on Monitoring and Evaluation exercises in the field which can help us to not only assess the grantee's progress, but experience and document first hand, the challenges experienced, lessons learnt and best practices implemented during the course of the project. Field visits prove to be the most efficient and effective way of knowledge capture particularly as contact is made with all project participants; the group's executive, stakeholders, and the community at large. This will ensure that experiences from various standpoints would be solicited to gain a holistic outlook on the project, its beneficiaries and goals achieved. Such a direct method of capturing knowledge is deemed essential as in the past, there have been cases where the CBO/NGO executive withholds information from the community and submitted progress reports do not adequately reflect actual on goings in the field.

Alongside firsthand accounts, telephone conversations and meeting with grantees prove to be a valuable source of information. Indigenous knowledge is also important and tested methodologies would be adopted by GEF-SGP to capture such information contributing to project success from communities, particularly in rural areas. Grantees are also encouraged to provide photographs and videos of work in the field, in accordance to helpful guidelines from an evaluation of the UNDP Small Grants Programme in Trinidad and Tobago conducted by Dr. Burriss¹¹. Such audio-visual material would be used to build and fortify an existing GEF-SGP photo library which would be publicized on the UNDP website in the future.

Case studies, two of which have been written, for the Caura Valley Farmers Association and Buccoo Reef Trust would also be placed on the website. Continuation of such documentation in the form of shorter policy briefs is also proposed with the assistance of an intern. Also to be published by print and electronic form would be a brochure detailing steps in acquiring GEF-SGP grants in an effort to promote this little known programme and guide CBO's and NGO's towards successful application.

Promoting networking on various levels is also of significant importance whereby we would link stakeholders, donors, rural communities, as well as past, present and potential grantee organizations through the format of knowledge fair. In so doing, knowledge can be exchanged both horizontally and vertically creating various fora on each of GEF's focal area, for sharing best practices and lessons learnt. Exchange of information on cross cutting themes such as project management and procurement will also be encouraged.

¹¹ Please see <http://www.undp.org.tt/UNDP-SGP/index.html>
SGP Country Programme Strategy – OP5 grant funds

6.2 Please describe how the SGP country programme will use this knowledge to inform and influence policy at the local, regional and national levels (i.e. identify key policy processes and relevant networks).

Through networking with academia and building relationships with government ministries, this knowledge would be used to help influence and shape policy at various levels. Presenting GEF-SGP's work in conferences and academic fora also has vast potential to elicit support and change. In June 2011 at a conference hosted by the University of the West Indies, a paper was presented by S.M. Syne which highlighted efforts of 2 GEF-SGP projects in Speyside which lobbied for the legal "protected" status of the Speyside Reefs¹². Replication of such initiatives has a 3-fold advantage of increasing GEF-SGP visibility, facilitating knowledge sharing and promoting policy change.

However this cannot be properly facilitated without close relationships with relevant government ministries. Ongoing is continued partnership building with the Ministry of Community Development, the Ministry of Housing and the Environment and the Ministry of the People and Social Development to provide a support base and to help strengthen the creation and advocacy of environmental policies and regulations.

Perhaps it would be good to also mention/highlight the role of NSC in bringing SGP lessons learned to policy level

6.3 Please describe how the SGP country programme will use this knowledge to replicate and up-scale good practices and lessons learned from SGP projects.

Challenges that arise from GEF-SGP projects can provide a more contextualized understanding of local socio-economic and political factors that negatively impacted on project activities; and solutions created by grantees in response to such inherent obstacles outline successful approaches to achieve project objectives This information would be documented as a measure of preparation for the execution of similar projects on varying scales and locations. This would include, but are not limited to processes and procedures such as environmental monitoring, community participation, finance and capacity building.

Some of the ways that would be used to facilitate discussions on upscaling would be to have discussions with government ministries, donors and communities on the ground. This will be done in one on one meetings and roundtable discussions.

There have been some good signs with regard to this, as already the government of Trinidad and Tobago has expressed interest in replicating and up scaling a GEF-SGP project on solar energy in schools¹³.

¹² Please see (<http://www.undp.org.tt/News/pics/PovRed/SD%20SGP%20report%20PDF.pdf>)

¹³ Please see

http://sgp.undp.org/web/projects/14548/mainstreaming_renewable_energy_resources_in_secondary_school_laboratories_and_raising_youth_awarenes.html .

7 Resource Mobilization Plan (1 page max)

7.1. Please describe the resource mobilization plan to enhance the sustainability of the SGP country programme with reference to: (i) the diversification of funding sources to achieve greater impact (i.e. non-GEF resources that help address sustainable development concerns); and (ii) the cost recovery policy to co-finance a share of the SGP country programme management costs.

(i) The proposed approach to resource mobilization to enhance sustainability of the SGP country programme with reference to the diversification of funding sources to achieve greater impact will be as follows:

1. Re-engage with existing partners (Refer Section 1.2 above) to explore opportunities to co-finance SGP projects;
2. Identify and engage with new stakeholders (both individually and collectively through consultations) to explore additional opportunities for co-financing on SGP projects;
3. Explore (through stakeholders networks), sources of non-financial support to enhance sustainability of projects, e.g. developing partnerships with the Association of Professional Engineers of Trinidad and Tobago to provide relevant technical expertise and support for projects funded.

(ii) In reference to the cost recovery policy to co-finance a share of the SGP country programme management costs, the proposed approach will be similar except the targeted stakeholders will vary slightly with a stronger focus on Government and parastatal as well as bilateral and multilateral sources

7.2. Please outline possibilities to develop strategic partnerships (identifying their *objectives and possible synergies with SGP*) with the following potential partners: (i) national government agencies; (ii) multilateral agencies or financial institutions (such as the World Bank, regional development banks, and/or other international organizations); (iii) bilateral agencies; (iv) non-governmental organizations and foundations; and (v) private sector.

There is a relatively strong potential for the development of strategic associations with potential partners. There is however the need for continuous engagement and networking with these potential partners. More specifically:

(i) National Government Agencies

There are many National Government Agencies whose objectives align with the environmental and social development focus of the SGP Programme and opportunities for the development of strategic partnerships will be explored. Continuous efforts will be made to establish partnerships agreements with these agencies by participating in one on one meetings, rountables and national consultation exercises.

(ii) Multilateral Agencies or Financial Institutions

There are a number of these agencies present in the country. For example further efforts will be made with The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the European Union.

The During 2009 and 2010 there were efforts between the Small Grants Programmes of GEF/SGP and the EU, The Dutch Embassy, the German Embassy, the Canadian High Commission, the UK High Commission and the Australian High Commission to meet regularly and coordinate as it was found that in many cases the same NGOs were being funded. More work will be done on regular coordination meetings in order to share information.

(iii) Bilateral Agencies

See the section on multi-lateral agencies or financial institutions. Recently in July 2011 the Embassy of the United States of America expressed an interest to partner with the GEF/SGP on the issue of citizen security particularly to work through the UNDP with Vision on Mission. The GEF/SGP therefore will engage into talks with the Embassy for potential partnerships.

(iv) Non-Government Organizations and Foundations

Throughout the years of the SGP's Operations in Trinidad and Tobago, the programme has developed associations with a number of NGO's and Foundations both locally, regionally and internationally, whose objectives focus on the areas of both environmental and social development. There continue to be opportunities for the development of strategies partnerships many of these organizations, some of which are noted:

Caribbean Natural Resource Institute (CANARI), a non-profit organization which seeks to promote equitable participation and effective collaboration in managing the natural resources critical to development.

Environment Tobago (ET), a registered non-government organization that seeks to conserve Tobago's natural and living resources and advance the knowledge and understanding of such resources, their wise and sustainable use, and their essential relationship to human health and the quality of life.

(v) Private Sector

The SGP has established a solid relationship with the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce (TTCIC), the largest private sector membership association in Trinidad and Tobago. The Chamber has representation on the National Steering Committee through a member of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) committee. Continued efforts will be made with this committee to engage the private sector to be active partners with the GEF SGP program.

(vi) Academia

The SGP will continue to build its relationship with academic institutions such as the University of the West Indies and the University of Trinidad and Tobago. This is an important mechanism to distill lessons learnt and share practices of the SGP program.

ANNEX 1: GEF SGP OP 5 PROJECT LEVEL INDICATORS

SGP OP5 results indicators	
Biodiversity (BD)	
BD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced ○ Hectares of protected areas influenced ○ Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status
BD2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of production landscapes / seascapes applying sustainable use practices ○ Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status ○ Total value of biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced (US dollar equivalent)
Climate Change (CC)	
CCM1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable energy measures (please specify) ▪ Energy efficiency measures (please specify) ▪ Other (please specify) ○ Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies ○ Total value of energy or technology services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low carbon transport practices (please specify) ○ Total value of transport services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided through improved land use and climate proofing practices
Land degradation (LD) & Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)	
LD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices ○ Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated
LD3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices
International Waters (IW)	
IW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of river/lake basins applying sustainable management practices and contributing to implementation of SAPs ○ Hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably ○ Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided
Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	
POPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tons of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal ○ Kilograms of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately ○ Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release
Capacity Development, Policy and Innovation (all focal areas)	
CD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks (please specify) ○ Number of community-based monitoring systems demonstrated (please specify) ○ Number of new technologies developed /applied (please specify) ○ Number of local or regional policies influenced (level of influence 0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5) ○ Number of national policies influenced (level of influence 0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5)

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SGP OP5 results indicators	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of people trained on: project development, monitoring, evaluation etc. (to be specified according to type of training)
Livelihoods, Sustainable Development, and Empowerment (all focal areas)	
Cross-cutting	<p>Livelihoods & Sustainable Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) (Note: mandatory for all projects) ○ Number of days of food shortage reduced ○ Number of increased student days participating in schools ○ Number of households who get access to clean drinking water ○ Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US dollar equivalent) ○ Total value of investments (e.g. infrastructure, equipment, supplies) in US Dollars (Note: estimated economic impact of investments to be determined by multiplying infrastructure investments by 5, all others by 3). <p>Empowerment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of NGOs/CBOs formed or registered ○ Number of indigenous peoples directly supported ○ Number of women-led projects supported ○ Number of quality standards/labels achieved or innovative financial mechanisms put in place

ANNEX 2: Summary report on Stakeholder’s Consultation Workshop (2011-2014)



**Summary Report on the Stakeholder’s Consultation Workshop:
Identification of Priority Areas for the Trinidad and Tobago
Country Program Strategy (CPS)**

UN House
3A Chancery Lane, Port-of-Spain
Third Floor Conference Room
Thursday 28th July, 9 a.m. – 12 noon.

Introduction: The overall purpose of the workshop was to discuss the priority areas of action for the Country Program Strategy (CPS) in Trinidad and Tobago for the period 2011 to 2014. Mr. Edo Stork formally welcomed participants to the stakeholder’s workshop and expressed his appreciation for their contributions and time. Participants were asked to introduce themselves and the organisations they were affiliated with.

Ms. Grace Talma provided an introduction to the GEF-SGP program. She presented a number of projects and highlighted some of the success stories that the GEF-SGP program had achieved over fifteen years. She explained the role of the National Steering Committee (NSC) Committee and the process of grant application and approval. Ms. Talma also highlighted the need for continued strengthening of the Non Governmental (NGO) and Community Based Organisations (CBO) sectors in Trinidad and Tobago.

Goal: The overall goal of the workshop was to receive feedback from wide range stakeholders on the formulation of the CPS for the period 2011 to 2014.

Methodology: Neshia Beharry-Borg delivered a presentation which served to provide the background information which informed the group discussion on priority areas for funding. The presentation covered the following areas:

1. Background to GEF SGP.
2. Country Program Strategy.
3. Objectives and expected outputs of the workshop
4. Group discussion on priority areas (i.e. project objectives and geographic) for funding.

1. Background to the GEF-SGP

The overall purpose of the GEF-SGP program in Trinidad and Tobago was outlined. It was explained that the program was part of a global network with the overall objective of addressing global environmental issues at the community level. She explained that it was a bottom-up development intervention as opposed to an expert reliant top-down development intervention. The five focal areas were also outlined with examples of projects in each area. It was also highlighted that the formulation of the CPS needed to cover both CORE and STAR resources until 2014 and the funding amounts were defined for all stakeholders. It was noted by Dr. Beharry-Borg that STAR resources were focussed on three of the five focal areas which were Biodiversity, Land degradation and Climate Change.

2. What is the Country Program Strategy?

It was explained that the CPS was a strategic work plan whose main purpose is to identify the expected program results until 2014. The objective behind this identification was to maximise the performance of the country in the area of sustainable development. It was highlighted that the formulation of the CPS was based on a Results Based Management process where project objectives have to be linked to expected outcomes and indicators to measure impact. It was highlighted that one of the purposes of the consultation is to establish the SGP niche for grant making in relation to the specific national priorities. The overall process to finalise the CPS and commence grant making was described. It was noted that this process comprises of (1) Feedback from the consultation (2) Desktop reviews and (3) Technical input from members of the NSC and Secretariat.

3. Objectives and expected outputs.

The specific objectives of the workshop were outlined as follows:

- (1) Outline GEF-SGP's project objectives for Operational Phase 5 (OP5) from 2011-2014.
- (2) Identify and agree on the priority objectives and/or geographic areas for funding projects that contributes to the sustainable development of Trinidad over the next three years.
- (3) To agree on the follow up steps that need to be taken to finalise the CPS by August 19th.

4. Group discussion on priority objectives:

To initiate the discussion two types of information was provided to the participants. The first is an explanation of the GEF Target project objectives for each focal area (Please see pages 4 to 7). The second was an initial list of current environmental issues in Trinidad and Tobago. Relevant national draft bills and policies such as the Protected Areas Bill and Climate Change Policy within each focal area were also highlighted.

Common to all focal areas, several important areas for action were raised and agreed by all stakeholders. These included the following:

1. Projects that seek to link the work of community based organisations to that done by national level policy makers. It was strongly felt that the NGO community should be more involved in the national level policy making process from its' inception.
2. Education and increased advocacy on environmental issues was seen necessary for all focal areas.
3. Capacity building and institutional strengthening of CBO's and NGO's in Trinidad and Tobago.

The tables on the following pages provide a summary of the priority issues identified by stakeholders. Each table consists of the GEF focal area linked to the target project objectives and the identified priority areas and/or geographic focus. The focus areas are in the following order:

1. Biodiversity and Land Degradation
2. Climate Change
3. International Waters
4. Persistent Organic Pollutants

GEF-SGP Area: Biodiversity and Land Degradation

GEF Focal Area	GEF Target project objectives	National issues/Geographic focus/Policies.
Biodiversity	<p>Improve sustainability of protected areas.</p> <p>Mainstream biodiversity conservation into production landscapes, seascapes using environmental standards and other market mechanisms.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unplanned building and quarrying in the Northern mountain ranges leading to habitat fragmentation loss of fauna. 2. Seismic surveys for oil and gas exploration in the Central mountain ranges leading to loss of sensitive species e.g. PAWI. 3. Lack of knowledge and information on the dangers of unsustainable practices. 4. Informing policy makers and population on 'paying for ecosystem services' which can contribute to sustaining livelihoods of farmers. 5. Rehabilitation of cocoa and coffee plantations using organic farming methods (Northern and Central areas) 6. Use of permaculture and aquaponics methods for sustainable methods of food production. 7. Species recovery plan for sensitive terrestrial and marine species. 8. Illegal dumping of toxic wastes. 9. Illegal extraction of marine life.
Land Degradation	<p>Maintain/Improve agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities.</p>	

Relevant policy documents:

- Draft Protected Areas Bill.
- Forest Policy.
- PADL – Planning and Development Land Act

GEF-SGP Area: Climate change

GEF Focal Area	GEF Target project objectives	National issues/Geographic focus/Policies.
Climate change	<p>Promote low carbon technologies at the community level. (.e. the demonstration, development and transfer of)</p> <p>Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level.</p> <p>Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable land use change and forestry.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poor level of awareness on the link between protection of forest resources and mitigation of climate change. 2. Improved education on the day to day impact of climate change on user groups such as households and farmers. 3. Conduct energy audits of government facilities, households and community facilities. 4. Lack of access to energy efficient technologies and equipment. 5. Lack of interest in renewable or alternative energy technologies and equipment due to access to cost-effective hydrocarbon-based energy sources (oil; natural gas). 6. High and increasing number of motorized vehicles per capita. 7. Availability of diesel and leaded fuels at preferential rates compared to unleaded fuel

Relevant policy documents:

Climate Change Policy

GEF-SGP Area: International waters

GEF Focal Area	GEF Target project objectives	National issues/Geographic focus/Policies.
International waters	Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus on implementing measures to prevent coastal pollution in addition to clean up activities. 2. Protection of sensitive marine and coastal ecosystems e.g. coral reefs and mangroves in Tobago. 3. Inadequate participation of fishing/coastal communities in management and conservation of freshwater and marine species and habitats. 4. Land and marine-based sources of pollution. 5. Inadequate reuse and recycling of land based waste.

GEF-SGP Area: Persistent Organic Pollutants (POP's)

GEF Focal Area	GEF Target project objectives	National issues/Geographic focus/Policies.
Persistent Organic Pollutants	Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Widespread use of pesticides and commercial/industrial chemicals containing POPs. 2. Contaminated sites with hazardous waste. Improper solid waste disposal of hazardous waste.

List of Participants:

Name	Organisation	Email contact
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