



THE GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

# ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2018-2019



# THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (SGP)

## RESULTS REPORT 2018-2019

### INTRODUCTION

The Small Grants Programme (SGP), funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), supports community-led initiatives that address global environmental issues. SGP empowers local civil society and community-based organizations, including women, indigenous peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities, through a decentralized delivery mechanism at the country level.

As a GEF Corporate Programme, with dedicated GEF resources and co-financing from communities, governments, and other donors, SGP plays an important role in meeting the objectives of the multilateral environment agreements that the GEF serves. SGP also contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030, by ensuring social inclusion and local stakeholder involvement in initiatives that promote multi-sectoral and integrated solutions to environmental challenges.

Since its inception in 1992, SGP has implemented 23,991 projects in 133 countries, providing grants totalling US\$652.7 million. Currently, the SGP is active in 125 countries.

### METHODOLOGY

This report presents the results of SGP for the period from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, based on information from 117 SGP Country Programmes. A conservative methodological approach is used for results calculations using only GEF-funded projects that have been completed during the reporting year. A total of 1,019 GEF funded projects were completed in 2019.

Results of these completed projects are presented in this infographic summary document. A full report is also accessible on the SGP website at [www.sgp.undp.org](http://www.sgp.undp.org).



### PORTFOLIO

1 JULY 2018 – 30 JUNE 2019

1,253  
NEW  
PROJECTS

1,019  
COMPLETED  
PROJECTS

3,182  
ONGOING  
PROJECTS



### FUNDING

ACTIVE PORTFOLIO OF GRANT  
PROJECTS FUNDED BY GEF

US\$108  
MILLIONS IN  
PROJECTS FUNDING

US\$100  
MILLIONS IN PROJECT  
LEVEL CO-FINANCING

# COVERAGE



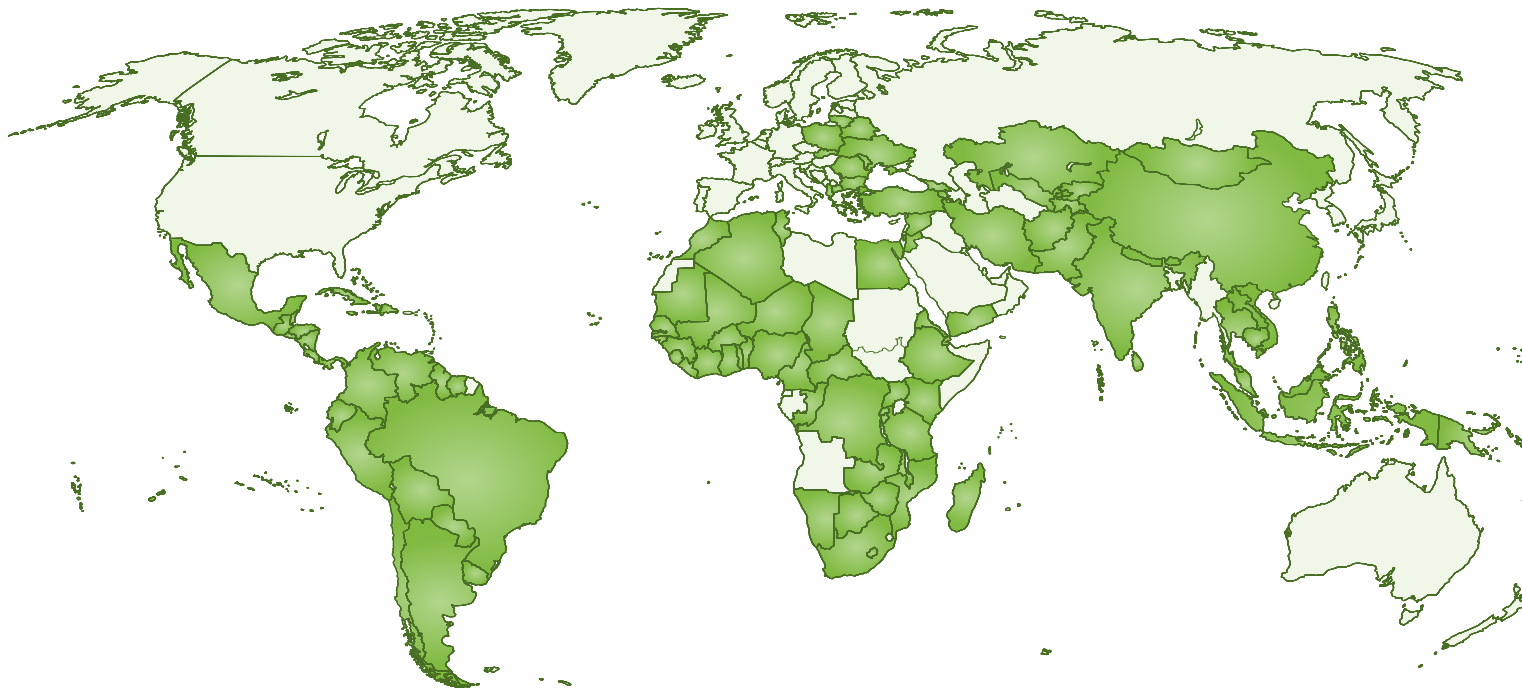
**125**  
COUNTRIES



**37**  
SIDS



**40**  
LDCS



SGP is active in **125 countries**, with **110 countries** being supported by the SGP Global Programme, and **15 SGP upgraded country programs**. Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) currently account for **63% of SGP Global country programs**.

## FOCAL AREA DISTRIBUTION\*



**BIODIVERSITY**



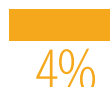
**CLIMATE CHANGE**



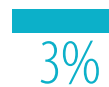
**LAND DEGRADATION**



**CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**



**CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**



**INTERNATIONAL WATERS**



**CHEMICALS AND WASTE**

\* While most SGP projects benefit multi-focal area results, for reporting purposes we have reported based on the primary focal area of each project.

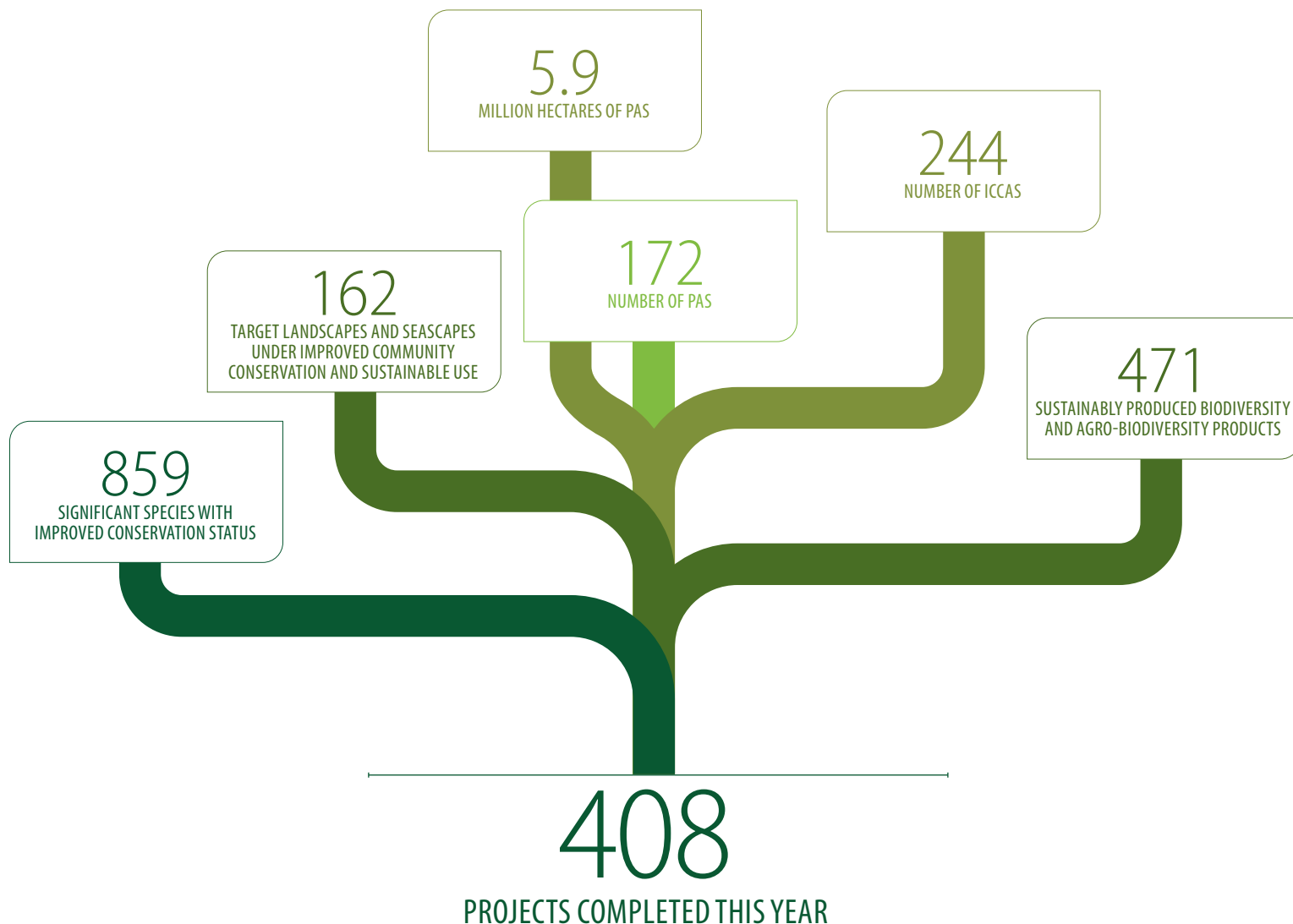
# PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES

While most SGP projects benefit multi-focal area results, for reporting purposes we have reported based on the primary focal area of each project.



## BIODIVERSITY

SGP's biodiversity focal area projects support improvements in management effectiveness of protected area systems and mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and seascapes, and related sectors. Support towards creation and management of Indigenous Peoples and Communities Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) are also a key part of the SGP's biodiversity portfolio.



# SPOTLIGHT ON CAMEROON

In **Cameroon**, the *Association Camerounaise de Biologie Marine* (Cameroonian Association of Marine Biology) with support from SGP worked on the conservation of important marine ecosystems through a community-based seascape approach. The SGP project in the coastal region of Cameroon assessed the population of small cetaceans, protected several habitats, and characterized anthropogenic threats to improve marine species conservation.

A team of researchers, civil society volunteers, university students, and representatives from local populations worked together to prepare inventories of dolphins and whales. With reference to previous baseline data, findings from the inventory revealed an increase in the number of whales observed along the Cameroon coastline. As a result, efforts have been made to create a new marine protected area around priority sites. The coastal zone between the town of Kribi and the border with Equatorial Guinea has also been shortlisted as 'Whale Heritage Site' by the World Cetacean Alliance.







## CLIMATE CHANGE

SGP's climate change projects supports low-carbon energy transformation at the community level through the introduction of low-greenhouse gas (GHG) technologies and low-carbon transport initiatives with livelihood co-benefits. These technologies include micro hydro, wind, solar, and biomass energy production.

### RESULTS

239

PROJECTS COMPLETED  
THIS YEAR

36,199

HOUSEHOLDS BENEFITED  
FROM ENERGY ACCESS

86

TYPES OF LOW-CARBON  
ENERGY SOLUTIONS

39

COUNTRY PROGRAMMES WITH  
DEPLOYMENT OF LOW-GHG  
TECHNOLOGIES

## SPOTLIGHT ON PERU

In **Peru**, the indigenous peoples living in the mountains of Ocuvi district in the southern region of Puno face harsh conditions at 4,000 metres above sea level with temperatures dropping to -10 degrees

Celsius in winter. While trying to preserve the unique landscape surrounding the nearby Chullpia lagoon, the communities rely on alpaca farming and fishing for their livelihood and are among 2 million Peruvians in rural areas without access to electricity.

The *Asociación Pesquera Real Chullpia* (Real Fishing Association of Chullpia), with support from SGP, worked with 30 small producers to develop a floating device equipped with 34 solar panels that generates energy for the electric water pump to irrigate 30 hectares of pastures surrounding 11 reservoirs, which led to the improvement of nutrition and productivity of alpacas and other animals during the dry season. This innovative use of technology based on ancestral knowledge for natural resource management improved the productivity of alpacas.

In addition, the community members received training in animal husbandry and other agriculture techniques combining modern technology and traditional knowledge. This combination of training and energy access allowed the families to improve their livelihoods and gain access to essential services by adopting low-carbon energy sources. Building on this success, the community members are now pursuing other productive energy uses including fish cultivation and electric sharing.





## LAND DEGRADATION

The land degradation focal area projects support prevention and restoration of land degradation and promote sustainable land and forest management. Activities support mainly targeted rural communities that are highly dependent on agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems for their livelihoods.

### RESULTS

215  
PROJECTS COMPLETED  
THIS YEAR

9,881  
FARMER LEADERS  
DEMONSTRATING  
AGRO-ECOLOGICAL  
PRACTICES

523  
FARMER NETWORKS  
DISSEMINATING IMPROVED  
AGRO-ECOLOGY PRACTICES

180,469  
HECTARES OF LAND BROUGHT  
UNDER IMPROVED MANAGEMENT  
PRACTICES

121,516  
NUMBER OF COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS DEMONSTRATING  
SUSTAINABLE LAND  
MANAGEMENT

## SPOTLIGHT ON GAMBIA

In **Gambia**, the *Yakarr Groups Association* with support of the SGP enhanced the capacity of civil society groups to address environmental degradation in Lower Badibou District, in the centre of the country's North Bank Division. The region is adversely affected by deforestation and land degradation, which results in declining agricultural productivity and food security, and urban migration of youth. The specific objectives of the project included: building the capacity of five communities on environmental management for environmental restoration and livelihood enhancement; promoting technologies that contribute to reversing environmental degradation such as energy saving stoves, tree planting in degraded landscapes; and building capacities in agroforestry especially on alley farming to address the issue of livestock feed and the fuel wood crisis in the district.

As a result, a tree nursery was established where 5,532 seedlings consisting of 2,980 cashew seedlings, 2,230 acasia saemil seedlings and 322 mango seedlings were raised for distribution to the communities engaged in project execution. The coverage included five villages, where these seedlings were subsequently planted in more than 1,500 hectares of degraded farmlands. In addition, four woodlots of one hectare each were established, and tools including fencing materials, watering cans and spades were also provided for improved

efficiency. A capacity-building training was conducted with representation from all communities with a focus on techniques to propagate the trees in the nursery and on how to care for the young seedlings once they are planted in the farms. The trained community members now serve as propagators of the new knowledge and capacities to the wider community, with multiplier results.





## SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

SGP's sustainable forest management portfolio supports sustainable land use, land-use change, and forestry management interventions for both forest and non-forest landuse types, to ensure that restoration activities are connected with and well suited to the ecosystems they are targeting.

### RESULTS

29  
PROJECTS COMPLETED  
THIS YEAR

285,707  
HECTARES OF FOREST AND NON-FOREST  
LANDS RESTORED OR WITH ENHANCED  
CARBON STOCKS

## SPOTLIGHT ON NIGERIA



In **Nigeria**, unsustainable agriculture practices have resulted in deforestation and loss of biodiversity, posing a major challenge to the environment and the livelihoods of communities in the south-western state of Osun. Meanwhile, plastic nylon is being increasingly used to wrap food, replacing the traditional use of *Thaumatococcus daniellii* leaves. The Environmental Management and Development Trust, with support from the SGP, worked to implement a project to reduce the use of plastic nylon and address the challenge of forest degradation by promoting planting of *Thaumatococcus daniellii*, which has multiple benefits for livelihoods and forest restoration beyond the use of its leaves as a food wrap. Integrated planning and management of agricultural practices were applied for ecosystem restoration and biodiversity conservation, while raising awareness of the harmful impact of using plastics and promoting alternatives.

The project engaged cocoa farmers in 35 villages to promote the planting of *Thaumatococcus daniellii*, with multiple benefits in terms of forest restoration and rural economy improvement. Moreover, the project organized women traders and supported a radio campaign against the use of plastic nylon for packaging hot food and promoted traditional method of using leaves instead. The project supported the engagement of 3,500 women to market alternative to plastic nylon, which led to women's empowerment and improved economic status.





## INTERNATIONAL WATERS

The international waters focal area portfolio supported the sustainable management of transboundary water bodies through community-based activities. SGP continued to develop and demonstrate effective community-based actions and practices in support of the Strategic Action Plans (SAPs) that were developed among the regional countries for the transboundary water bodies including river basins, large marine ecosystems, and others.

### RESULTS

25

PROJECTS COMPLETED  
THIS YEAR

9,720

HECTARES OF SEASCAPES  
UNDER SUSTAINABLE  
MANAGEMENT

5,805

TONS OF LAND-BASED  
POLLUTION REDUCED

5,225

HECTARES OF MARINE AND  
COASTAL AREAS UNDER  
SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

29

EASCAPES/INLAND FRESH  
WATER LANDSCAPES  
SUPPORTED

## SPOTLIGHT ON MAURITIUS

In **Mauritius**, the *Mauritian Scuba Diving Association*, with support from the SGP, worked to support the ban on octopus fishing during the reproduction period. The ban was led by the Ministry of Ocean Economy, and supported by the SGP and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). The aim was to build on the success of the first national ban on octopus fishing during an earlier breeding season. More than 137 field visits were held before, during and after the closure by three non-governmental organizations (NGOs), targeting 311 men and 154 women and 525 youth fishers. Education and awareness tools already developed in the first closure were used to deliver sensitization sessions for fishers, buyers and coastal communities at large on the benefits of octopus's fisheries closure during the said period. Local community representatives (village presidents, fishers, and other community members) were specifically trained to actively participate in the co-management of octopus fisheries.

As a result, the percentage of female octopus increased to 55 percent after the ban. Furthermore, the increased frequency of boat patrols by Fisheries Protection Officers during this period reduced illegal activities in the lagoon of Mauritius. The local community was sensitized on marine conservation and the project also promoted coral reef conservation.





## CHEMICALS AND WASTE

The SGP's chemicals and waste management focal area portfolio support control and reduction of the use of harmful chemicals. The SGP's efforts focused on the sound management of chemicals and waste, including persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and mercury, to minimize adverse effects on human health and the global environment.

### RESULTS

35

PROJECTS COMPLETED  
THIS YEAR

164,797

KILOGRAMS OF HARMFUL  
CHEMICALS AVOIDED FROM  
UTILIZATION OR RELEASE

140,945

KILOGRAMS OF PESTICIDES  
AVOIDED, REDUCED OR PREVENTED

33

NATIONAL COALITIONS AND  
NETWORKS ON CHEMICALS  
AND WASTE MANAGEMENT  
ESTABLISHED OR STRENGTHENED

## SPOTLIGHT ON NEPAL

In **Nepal**, the *Robotics Association of Nepal* with support from SGP worked to use recycled plastics for 3D printing. The project concept involved use of applied research to test the use of recycled plastics in the 3D printing process, and produce different prototypes of product for commercial, social and educational purposes. Use of 3D printing technology is rapidly increasing all around the world. 3D printer uses plastic filaments as raw material to produce physical object

as guided by computer software and computer aided design (CAD). In Nepal, although it is at a nascent stage, 3D printer is increasingly being used among younger generation and business organizations. Nearly 500 kg of plastic filament is consumed annually in Nepal. The new technology promoted by the project uses recycled plastics as raw material to produce different prototypes with the 3D printer. It also consumes less energy and is an ideal solution to produce broken parts thereby increasing the lifespan of the product. The *Just-in-time production* i.e. print when required or after receiving an order, also helps in reducing waste and also reduces cost for storage. The use of 3D printing technology is rapidly increasing all around the world for various commercial, social and education purposes, especially for the production of prototypes. The technology is relatively new in Nepal, but is increasingly used among the younger generation and by business organizations, and consumes nearly 500 kg of plastic filament annually. Using recycled plastics to make the filament consumes less energy and is a good use of plastic waste. 3D printing also allows for just-in-time production, which reduces waste and storage costs.

As a result of the project, a total of 114 plastic parts were produced using recycled 3D filament, including parts for amateur radio satellites, a tomato-picking robot, drones, 3D Braille characters for voting machines, and prostheses.







## CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

SGP's capacity development portfolio enhances and strengthens the capacity of communities and civil society organizations to address global environmental challenges.

### RESULTS

68

PROJECTS COMPLETED  
THIS YEAR

18,530

PEOPLE WHOSE  
CAPACITIES WERE IMPROVED

1,016

CSOs WHOSE CAPACITIES  
WERE DEVELOPED OR IMPROVED

822

CBOs WHOSE CAPACITIES WERE  
DEVELOPED OR IMPROVED

## SPOTLIGHT ON GUATEMALA

In **Guatemala**, a strategic SGP project led by the *Cooperativa Integral de Ahorro y Crédito* (Integral Savings and Credit Cooperative) "El Recuerdo" R.L. provided technical assistance to 10 organizations by providing a diverse range of monitoring workshops, establishing Farmer Community Field Schools and other trainings. As a result, the 10 organizations improved their abilities to clearly define projects results, indicators, activities and budgets. The project also provided technical assistance in more than 35 capacity-building workshops, including on: agro-ecological good practices; sustainable land and forest management practices; water management resources; and agroforestry systems.

The organization provided monitoring support and conflict management throughout the project cycle. Furthermore, the project also supported knowledge-sharing activities among the 10 organizations to amplify their impact. By the end of the project, the organizations had formed a network to continue with the learning process. In line with the SGP's aim of social inclusion, the project also supported the 10 organizations to promote women's rights and empowerment. A manual on agro-ecological practices was also developed to cross-pollinate results and learning.





# CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS







## SOCIAL INCLUSION

The SGP undertakes targeted efforts to support greater social inclusion of marginalized groups, including women, indigenous peoples, youth and persons with disabilities.

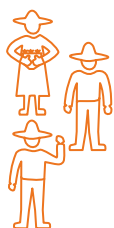


93% PROJECTS COMPLETED WERE GENDER RESPONSIVE



1,363

INDIGENOUS LEADERS WITH IMPROVED CAPACITIES



87% COUNTRIES HAVE A GENDER FOCAL POINT IN NSC



35% COUNTRIES HAVE AN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FOCAL POINT IN NSC



35% PROJECTS WERE LED BY WOMEN



28% PROJECTS COMPLETED WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



29 DISABLED PERSONS ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTED TO SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES



422 YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTING TO SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES





## LIVELIHOODS AND SUSTAINABILITY

Improving livelihoods is a core strategy of the SGP in addressing global environmental issues with 748 completed projects improving livelihoods of communities. Below are the strategies used by SGP country programmes to improve livelihoods.

78% INCREASED DIVERSIFICATION OF INCOME

68% INCREASED FOOD SECURITY

59% INCREASED ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

46% INCREASED ACCESS TO EDUCATION

41% INCREASED ACCESS TO FINANCE

38% IMPROVED HEALTH OR ACCESS TO HEALTH FACILITIES

32% INCREASED ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURE







## BROADER ADOPTION OF SGP

### SCALING UP, REPLICATION AND POLICY INFLUENCE

The SGP continues to encourage replication and scaling up of good results and measures that have a strong impact, including through influencing relevant policies at the national, regional, and global levels.



71% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH GOVERNMENT SERVICES



68% ORGANIZED TRAINING FOR SGP GRANTEEES ON DIFFERENT SUBJECTS TO IMPROVE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION



71% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH THE ACADEMIA OR RESEARCH CENTERS



67% PROMOTED PEER-TO-PEER EXCHANGES



67% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH NGOs/INGOs



208 DIALOGUE PLATFORMS INITIATED



49% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES



52 SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION EXCHANGES SUPPORTED



46% CONNECTED GRANTEEES WITH DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES/PRACTITIONERS



110  
PROJECTS  
REPLICATED/SCALED UP

83  
PROJECTS  
INFLUENCED POLICY

Below are some examples of scaling up or policy influence achieved by SGP projects completed during the past reporting year.

In **Morocco**, effective community-based approaches and tools for marine protected areas that have been successfully demonstrated under the SGP project have been scaled up and replicated under multiple projects and initiatives. The SGP project took place in the Al Hoceima National Marine Park (AHNP), one of the most representative Mediterranean biotopes due to its high level of biodiversity. It is home to rare and threatened species featured on the IUCN Red List, including a reserve of red coral, as well as to the largest population of ospreys in the Mediterranean. The project aimed to promote responsible fishing in the marine protected area of AHNP, eradicated dynamite and copper sulphate fishing, and reduced the disturbance of osprey nests.

The approach has now been scaled up under a project titled *Operation of a Network of Integrated Observatory Systems in the Mediterranean Sea (ODYSSEA)* funded by the European Union. ODYSSEA is a large-scale project with EU funding of \$9,360,000 and a target beneficiary group of 3,500 fishers. The project aims to provide the fishers with oceanographic, biological and climatological data, allowing them to anticipate the risks of bad weather, reduce fishing efforts for better catches and increase the sustainability of their fishing activity. Further, the approach tested in the AHNP was replicated in the Souss-Massa National Park (SMNP) with the support of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF). This new project is led by another grantee of the SGP project, AGIR. SMNP supports conservation actions involving the local fishing communities in key biodiversity areas for the conservation and restoration of the Souss-Massa National Park.





In the **Seychelles**, the SGP supported a project titled *Plant a Forest* that contributed to the rehabilitation of the La Hauteur Watershed, with the aim of bringing long-term benefits to downstream communities. The project was tested through extensive trials across the production chain (e.g. seedling, nursery, irrigation) and engaged more than 20 volunteer organizations and 1,300 community members. Based on this success, the initiative has now been scaled up under the GEF-6 Ridge to Reef Project that aims to foster forest rehabilitation on the island of Praslin.

The SGP grantee, *Terrestrial Restoration Action Society of Seychelles* (TRASS), acquired increased capacity through the support from SGP including the advanced nursery facility, which is the only one on the island. TRASS is now serving as the key stakeholder of the GEF-6 project. TRASS is committed to scaling up and supporting rehabilitation programmes as well as training and awareness-raising activities for communities.

In **Bhutan**, the SGP supported a youth-led cooperative called Khengrig Namsum Cooperative (KNC) in Zhemgang District, on the southern border of the centre of the country. KNC is comprised of 15-youth leaders (53% female) and 26 collaborative farmers. KNC rehabilitated total of 93 ha hectares of leased land that was left fallow for a few decades through sustainable agroforestry, producing fruits and vegetables by fencing off the areas with solar electric fencing spanning 12 kilometres. In 2018, KNC generated a total income of USD \$17,276 by producing 28.1 tonnes of watermelons and 52.8 tonnes of bananas.

Today the farm is the largest banana farm in the country, and the district government has decided to scale up and replicate the approach. The administration has leased 2.02 ha of land to the group with the purpose of establishing a manufacturing and processing facility, and planting watermelons and passion fruits. KNC farm is also popular for field visits by many farmers' groups as well as government officials and donors. The project is an excellent CSO-government partnership model and has the potential for continued replication and scaling up.







## KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNICATIONS



1,494 IN THE MEDIA



1,107 FACT SHEETS, CASE STUDIES, PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEOS DEVELOPED



1,103 NUMBER OF TRAININGS CONDUCTED



79 HOW-TO FACT SHEETS, CASE STUDIES, PUBLICATIONS AND VIDEOS DEVELOPED



36 NUMBER OF AWARD-WINNING PROJECTS

## PARTNERSHIPS

During FY2019, SGP entered into new partnerships and continued existing ones to implement strategic programmes with the support from various partners and donors at the global, regional, and country levels. Global partners, in addition to GEF and UNDP include:



Japan Biodiversity Fund



UN-REDD PROGRAMME



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Supported by:



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE Aid Programme

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION



1,980 PROJECTS WERE VISITED TO TRACK PROGRESS COVERING 58% OF THE ACTIVE PORTFOLIO



ANNUAL MONITORING REPORTS WERE PRODUCED



The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Established in 1992, SGP's grantmaking in over 125 countries promotes community-based innovation, capacity development, and empowerment through sustainable development projects of local civil society organizations with special consideration for indigenous peoples, women, and youth. SGP has supported over 24,000 community-based projects on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable land management, conservation of international waters, and chemicals and waste management, while generating sustainable livelihoods.



The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, is a catalyst for action on the environment — and much more. Through its strategic investments, the GEF works with partners to tackle the planet's biggest environmental issues. Our funding also helps reduce poverty, strengthen governance and achieve greater equality between women and men. As such, we occupy a unique space in the global partnership for a more sustainable planet.



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations. [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)



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