

GEF Small Grants Programme, Nigeria *The Flagship of GEF Projects.*

Programme Fact Sheet, October 2019

OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES & NATIONAL IMPACTS

- **Start-up Year: 2009**
- **Total Number of Projects: 167**
- **National Coverage: 25 states**
- **Grant Amount: \$5,057,431**
- **Total Co-financing: \$3,898,700**

Background

GEF-SGP Nigeria implemented by UNDP, provides grant, technical and coordination support to **poor and vulnerable communities** through national NGOs/CBOs to implement **environmental initiatives** that also **enhance livelihood** while achieving global environmental benefits in the five focal areas of operation, viz: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation, International Waters and Persistent Organic Pollutants. Many of the projects are pilot in nature to demonstrate feasibility of environmental initiatives with emphasis on livelihood enhancement.

SGP Country Level Impact:

- SGP complements all “top-bottom” Policy Programmes of UNDP through “bottom-up” Community Initiatives influencing local and national Laws.
- Contribution to all relevant multilateral Environmental Agreements such as CBD, UNFCCC, CITES, UNCCD etc.
- **800,000** poor rural dwellers, (**65%** women and **35%** men) have benefitted directly from the projects
- **60%** of communities have either never experienced or benefitted from any development support or participated in such a way as allowed by SGP.
- Built capacity of over **120** Civil Society Organisations



Partnership & Project Replication: Demonstrates collaborative effort between NGO, Community and Private Sector to address environmental challenges. Many of SGP projects have been up-scaled/replicated.



Focal Area Impact

Biodiversity:

- Over **500** indigenous plant species are currently being conserved
- Supported establishment of over **20 Community Forest Management Committees**; capacity building for forest protection and enhancement of **indigenous knowledge** of biodiversity and revive interest in traditional medicinal values of plants species.
- *in-situ* conservation of the critically endangered Scatter's Guenon monkey (*Cercopithecus sclateri*), endemic to southern Nigeria and internationally rated No. 4 in the 2006 IUCN global Red Data list of endangered species of fauna.

- Protection and restoration of over **1,000,000** and **2,000** hectares of land respectively.

Climate Change:

- SGP Nigeria has supported over **50** climate change mitigation projects addressing awareness creation and teaching simple techniques such as:
- **Rain water harvesting** to reduce stress of water and impact of drought;
 - **Pitcher Irrigation** technology to reduce stress of irrigation of farmlands.
 - **Tree planting** to regenerate forests, which act as sink for CO₂.
 - **Fuel efficient stoves** to reduce consumption of **fuelwood**.



Land Degradation:

SGP has supported projects in several states to address: **Erosion**; loss of **farmlands** to boost **food production** Capacity for **modern farming techniques**; **Tree planting**; Establishment of **Skills Acquisition Centre** to train beneficiaries especially women, widows and youth on **Alternative livelihood activities** in order to discourage unsustainable land exploitation.



Capacity Building:

- Over **85%** of beneficiaries NGOs/CBOs now have the capacity for **Proposal Development, Project Implementation, Report Writing, Knowledge Sharing, Advocacy, Mentoring, Community Engagement** etc.
- Supported capacity building for people with disabilities, vulnerable, marginalised and community leaders for livelihood enhancement.
- **SGP ensures active participation** of communities from project design to sustainability plan and management.
- Over **4,000** school children have benefitted from SGP projects.

Socio-Economic Impact:

All SGP Projects have supported alternative livelihood activities that helped to reduce pressure on the environment and also enhance the quality of lives of the target communities including widows and aged.

Policy Impact: Some of the projects have established bye-laws that help to protect the environment and enforcement of environmental conservation principles through traditional arrangements. Lagos State has adopted the results of the Saw Dust project leading to the establishment of a comprehensive environmental management system for saw mills in Lagos. Following project results, some grantees have carried out advocacy activities writing letters, press releases and direct meeting with politicians to seek further support for environmental management.

Gender Mainstreaming: All SGP projects have emphasized and supported gender sensitivity and mainstreaming. Only one project did not record substantial improvement in women participation in environmental management.

Replication and Up-scaling: Many of the projects have been replicated through further support from GEF-SGP and other donors such as the Swiss Embassy in Nigeria.

Awards

1. **2019 UNDP Equator award** by EMADET NGO and **Two Equator Award Finalists** to BDCP and Lifebuilders in Osun, Akwa Ibom and Oyo States respectively for SGP supported projects.
2. **SGP National Coordinator's Award** for Excellence by 2Feet Africa, an online magazine that promotes the resilience, innovation and potentials of Africans and celebrating their histories, cultures and heritage.
3. **SGP national Coordinator's Award** as Rallying Point for Conservation in Nigeria by the Society for Conservation Biology (Nigeria Chapter)
4. **UNEP International SEED Award:** Sawdust **Entrepreneurial Initiative** among Oko-baba Communities in Lagos: An SGP Grantee and a Sawmillers' association introduced the **recycling** of waste sawdust into briquettes as a cheap and clean alternative fuel for stoves.
5. **Birdlife International Alice Bhukoli Award** awarded to Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) for a project supported by SGP and Shell Petroleum Development Company.
6. **Community Peace Building Award** by the Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, Federal Government of Nigeria and the United Nations Development Programme awarded to Women Environmental Programme.
7. **Three Ashoka Fellowships** won by our grantees for implementing SGP projects.
8. **River Prize Finalist Award** to SGP Grantee, River Ethiopie Trust Foundation.
9. **Kekeli Award** for promoting Renewable Energy in communities won by Environmental Rights Action/Friends of the Earth Nigeria.
10. **Conservation Merit award** to Dr. Edem Eniang of Biodiversity Preservation Centre
11. Environmental Friendly-Peace Ambassador Award
12. Parachute for the planet Award in Washington DC by Students of Technical School, Garki Abuja

