SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2022)

SOUTH AFRICA

COUNTRY REPORT CARD
FY 2017 - 2022

Country Programme Name	South Africa		
Year Started	2003		
Portfolio Profile	**GEF**	**Non-GEF**	**Total**
Number of projects	138	1	**139**
Grant amount committed	5,677,022	50,000	**5,727,022**
Project level co-financing in cash	7,346,910	47,000	**7,393,910**
Project level co-financing in kind	2,213,982	-	**2,213,982**
Total co-financing *			**9,657,891**

Source: SGP database as of July 2022
*** Total co-financing = Total project level co-financing (in cash and in kind) + Non-GEF grant amount committed**

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)							
Biodiversity	**2**	**2**	**4**	**1**	**2**	**2**	**13**
Climate Change	**-**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2**
Land Degradation	**1**	**1**	**-**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**6**
Capacity Development	**1**	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**1**	**3**
Chemicals and Waste	**-**	**1**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1**
Total Projects Completed	**4**	**6**	**5**	**2**	**3**	**5**	**25**

Source: Reporting by Country Programme as part of Annual Monitoring Process (2016-2022)

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
** Kindly note figures in column "Total Value 2016-2022" have undergone comprehensive quality assurance that supports aggregation of results over time. This includes removal of duplicative data over time and/or inclusion of more results based on verification by SGP country teams.							
PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES							
Biodiversity							
Number of biodiversity projects completed	2	2	4	1	2	2	13
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	-	2	-	4	1	7
Hectares of PAs	-	-	40,000	3,000	99,000	100,000	242,000
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	1	2	-	-	-	-	2
Hectares of ICCAs	12,000	12,200	-	-	-	-	12,000
Number of biodiversity based products sustainably produced	8	4	6	-	-	26	44
Number of significant species conserved	1	2	1	34	1	2	41
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	2	-	1	2	5	10
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	-	509	-	300,000	100,000	387,893	788,402
Climate Change							
Number of climate change projects completed	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	Yes	No	No	No	No	1

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Number of communities achieving energy access with locally adapted community solutions, with co-benefits estimated and valued	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	-	30	-	-	-	-	30
Breakdown of projects							
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Land Degradation							
Number of land degradation projects completed	1	1	-	1	1	2	6
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	409	23	336	9	61	36	874
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	409	23	336	9	61	36	874
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	109	-	27	183	1	320
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	659	9	336	9	3	11	1,027
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	6	2	19	2	1	4	34
Chemicals and Waste							
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	1	-	-	-	-	1

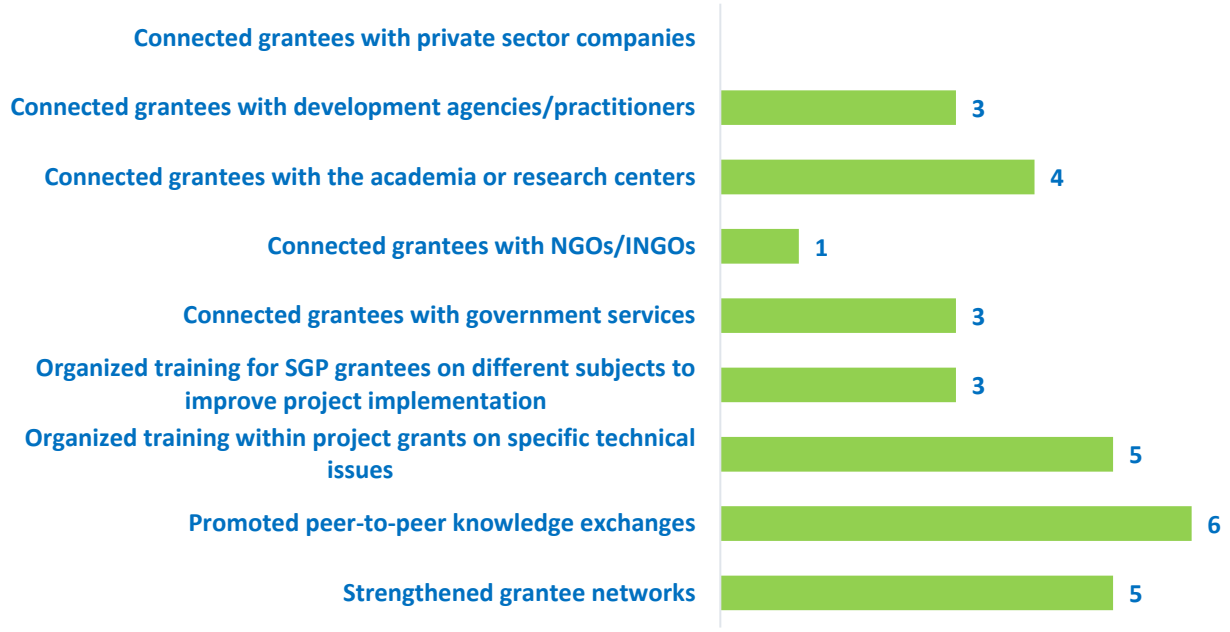
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	9,000	-	-	-	-	9,000
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio							
Sustainable pesticide management	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	1
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	1
Capacity Development							
Number of capacity development projects completed	1	-	1	-	-	1	3
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	-	-	6	-	-	-	6
Number of community based organizations with strengthened capacities	10	-	6	-	-	-	16
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	34	-	25	-	-	-	59
GRANTMAKER PLUS							
CSO-Government Dialogue							
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	3	1	-	-	-	4
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	31	25	-	-	-	56
South-South Exchange							
Number of South-South exchanges supported	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Gender							
Number of gender responsive completed projects	3	6	5	2	1	4	21
Number of completed projects led by women	1	2	4	1	1	3	12
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	5

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
Indigenous Peoples							
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Youth							
Number of completed projects that included youth	1	5	2	1	2	2	13
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Persons with Disability							
Number of disabled persons organizations	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)							
Projects replicated or scaled up	1	3	2	1	1	2	10
Projects with policy influence	-	2	1	-	-	1	4
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	3	5	4	2	3	4	21
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS							
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	3	1	2	1	o	1	8
Community-level trainings conducted	3	2	5	1	12	1	24
Number of project monitoring visits	10	8	6	5	2	15	46
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT							
National Steering Committee							
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	2	-	2	2	3	3	12
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	10	-	10	11	7	7	8
Average time in days needed to replace NSC member	120	-	-	5	30	90	41

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

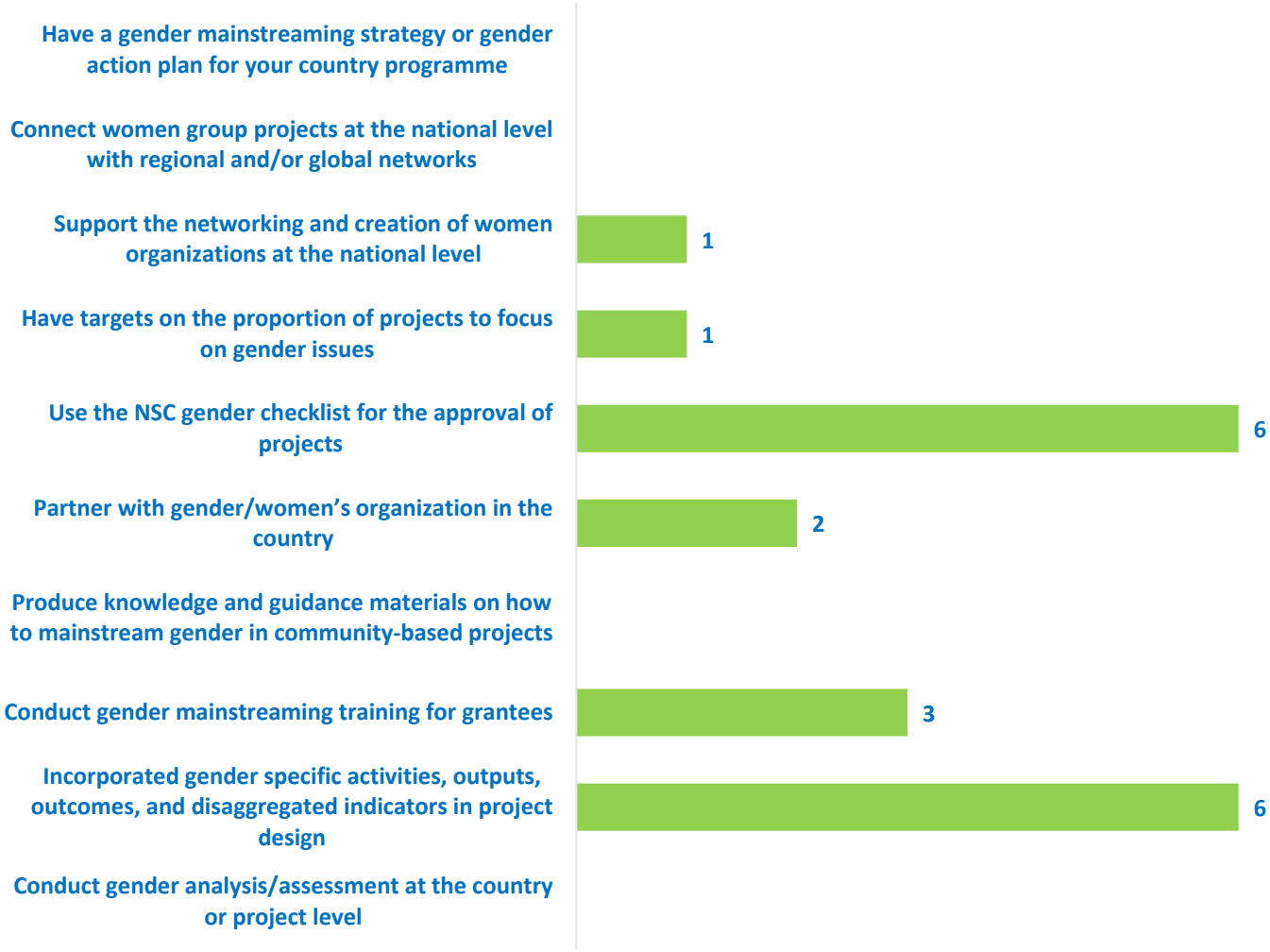
Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall aggregated SGP portfolio.

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Capacity Development Strategies
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



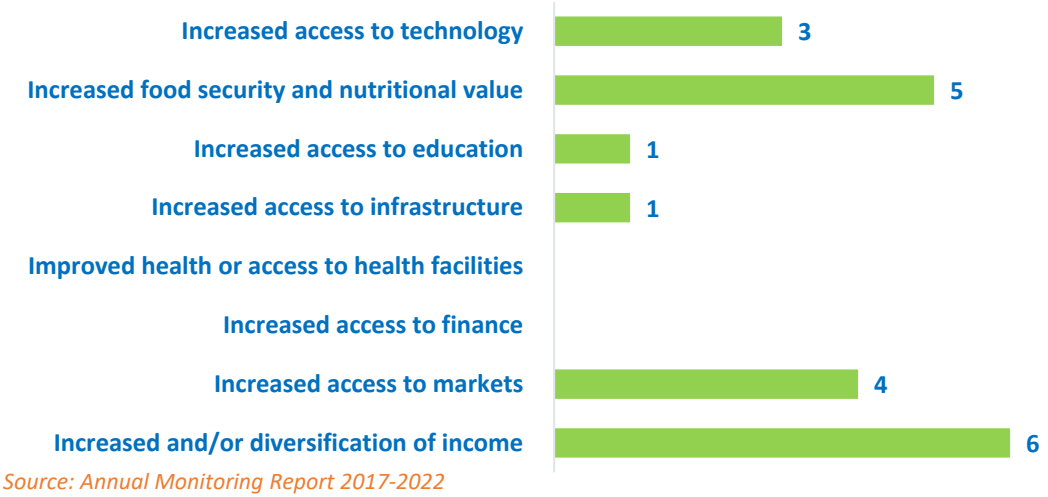
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



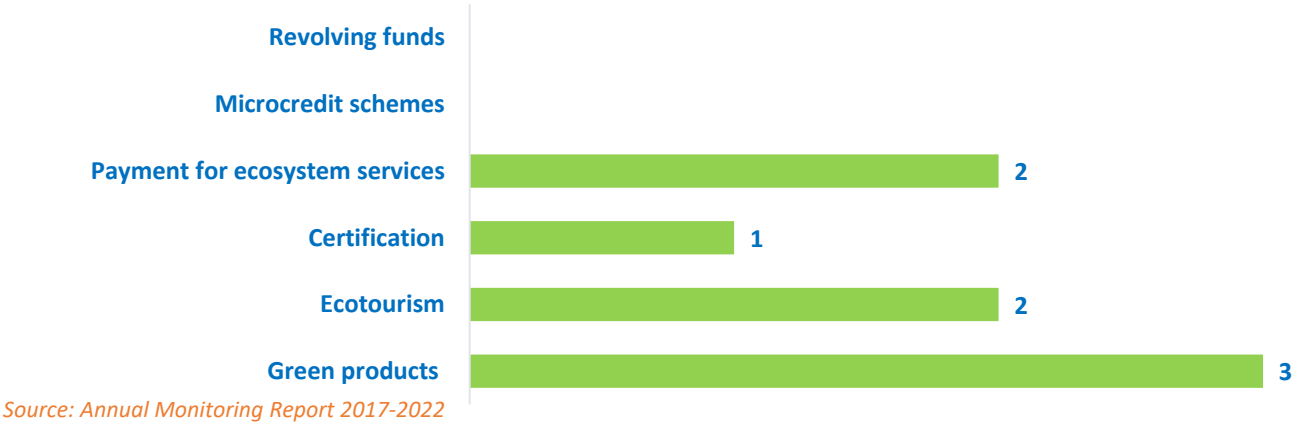
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Strategies to Improve Community Livelihoods and Quality of Life
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



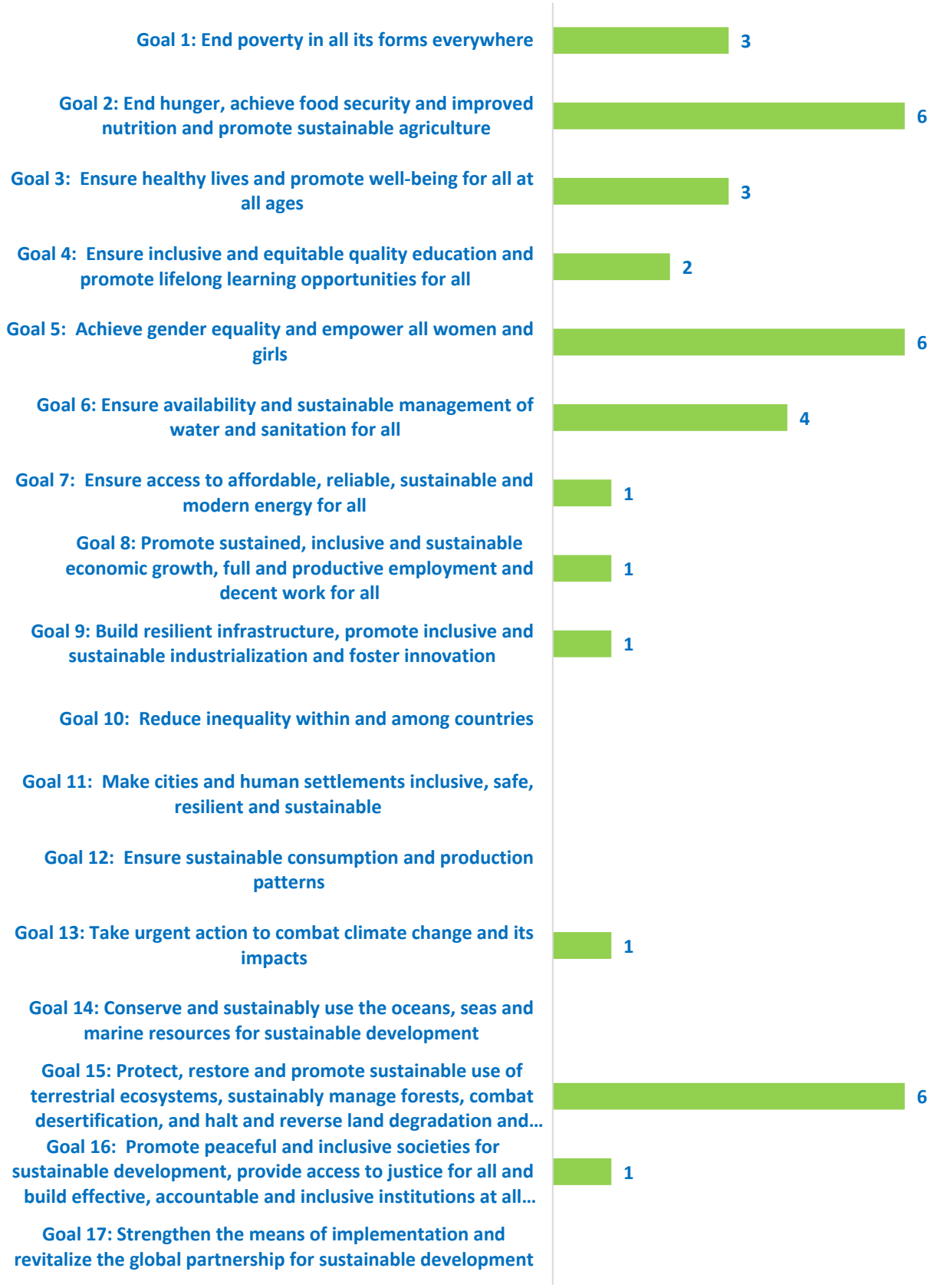
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

Number of Years Country Programme Addressed Sustainable Development Goals
(Over 6-year reporting period from 2017-2022)



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

In **South Africa**, SGP supported grantee, Dzomo la Mupo (Voice of Mother Earth), to integrate indigenous knowledge systems in biodiversity conservation. The CBO works to strengthen local communities in ecological governance by reviving indigenous seeds, facilitating and encouraging intergenerational learning, and rebuilding confidence in the value of indigenous knowledge systems in 12 villages. Through the SGP support, the CBO advocated for the protection status of 49 sacred natural sites, currently under tremendous threat from development, especially tourism development, mining and commercial plantations, to be recognized and protected by the provincial government through the Limpopo Heritage Resources Agency. The project aimed to scale-up successful results of the former SGP supported project in 2015-16, when the organization won a court ruling against private developers to protect sacred Phiphidi waterfall in the area as well as Lake Fundudzi and Thathe Vondo sites. Women have been at the forefront as custodians of these sacred natural forests. They are working together with 11 clans and 12 communities as well as 12 schools in the area to map these sacred sites, integrating indigenous knowledge systems into school curriculum to educate young students on ecological calendar mapping and sharing information on progression of land-use over time, facilitating knowledge preservation across generations. The project has also supported rehabilitation of sacred natural sites by replanting over 920 indigenous trees and selling over 3,000 tree seedlings. The project results and advocacy efforts have been featured widely in the media generating dialogue amongst key local stakeholders on the protection status of natural sacred sites and addressing threats from commercial development. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020).***

In **South Africa**, as part of the SGP Innovation Programme on Big Cats Conservation, SGP supported the *Landmark Foundation* to mitigate human-leopard conflict in the *Western* and *Eastern Cape* through genetic and habitat linkage between current populations, proactive range expansion, and rewilding efforts to secure leopard populations and persistence. The project established the commencement of methods that reduced persecution through Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC) compensation schemes, evaluated the efficacy and functionality of currently available connectivity habitat corridors, and provided an assessment of active management methods to prevent leopard killings. Camera surveys were conducted to estimate the leopards' habitats. In order to evaluate population linkage and gene flow, genetic polymorphism analysis was conducted on the current leopard population. To monitor their activities and assess their habitats, 48 leopards were fitted with GPS collars. An HWC manual was produced, including 100 printed copies and an online open-source web version. As a result of the assessment, the project proposed leopard management plans to the government that no translocation, hunting, or removal of females from populations. A compensation plan for livestock owners was developed with 24 claims relating to collared leopards, which prevented the killing of 12 leopards in 2021. The project also helped develop a voluntary wildlife-friendly produce brand (*Fair Game*) among farmers as the payment for ecosystem services scheme and conservation tool. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

South- South Exchange

South Africa and Zimbabwe**:** In ***South Africa***, SGP supported an exchange with the *African Centre for Holistic Management (ACHM)* in *Zimbabwe*, wherin a group of trainers from ACHM visited the *Thlolego Centre in Rustenburg*, South Africa to share their knowledge on sustainable land practices. The methodology was based on managing livestock grazing to protect the local ecosystem, while maintaining and improving ecosystem productivity. The project's target areas were in the Northwest and Limpopo provinces which have been severely affected by land degradation due to overgrazing and agricultural mismanagement. The approach used livestock as a tool of land restoration by combining cattle, sheep and goats into large herds to harness the power of their hooves to break up hard ground so air and water can penetrate, and to trample down old grass such that soil is less prone to the drying effects of sun and wind. Their waste fertilizes the hoof-prepared soil, and grazing (which is timed to prevent overgrazing) keeps perennial grasses healthy, greatly minimizing the need to burn them and expose soil. This system intended to mimic how grazers in the wild behave when part of a natural predator/prey dynamic- a pattern Grasslands Ecosystem is adapted to.

Over a week, trainers instructed local livestock owners, Government representatives, grantee staff, community members, and traditional leaders on integrated resource management, and how to implement sustainable grazing systems. Over 40 people participated in these sessions and the *Thlolego Centre* put aside a piece of land to demonstrate the applicability of these practices in arresting desertification and land degradation, and to establish a learning center in the near future. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017).***

Through joint funding from UNDP Lesotho TRAC funds and UNESCO World Heritage Centre and in collaboration with the Maloti Drakensberg Park World Heritage Site (MDPWHS) Management, Lesotho and **South Africa** exchanged knowledge to create COMPACT Site Strategies -- one for Lesotho and one for South Africa -- for co-managing the site. This consultative process culminated at the transboundary level where stakeholders from both countries converged for the validation and clearance of the three strategies for submission to UNESCO for review and approval to pave way for full scale COMPACT implementation in the MDPWHS. The journey which brought together civil society organizations, local authorities and community conservation forums, government representatives at provincial, district, national and transboundary levels strengthened the cooperation between Lesotho and South Africa for conservation in the MDP; and has strengthened community involvement in the management of the WHS. The two sides met three times at Midmar in South Africa for review and alignment of baseline assessment reports for the two countries; for validation of country COMPACT site strategies; and for validation of the Joint Results framework and MDP COMPACT Site Strategy in readiness for submission to UNESCO for their review and approval for implementation. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018).***

Social Inclusion – Gender

In **South Africa**, SGP developed a project to support small-scale farmers in KwaZulu Natal province, one of the provinces hardest hit by droughts in 2016, to become more resilient to climate change and water scarcity, as well as provide more food nutritional security to women, through enhanced seed and food diversity, and the application of local knowledge systems. Gender sensitive training support focused on food plot design, seed plots, swales to harvest water, building soil fertility and using the “biodiversity wheel” - a participatory methodology which focusses on documenting the seed varieties grown and saved in a community, intercropping, crop-rotation, and eco-calendar mapping. The project worked with 250 farmers, of whom 93% were women, in the 5 villages of northern KwaZulu Natal Province. The farmers were supported in (i) establishing household seed banks; (ii) deepening their agro-ecological practice; (iii) knowledge & seed exchanges; and (iv) undertook farmer-to-farmer learning, seed fairs and rituals. The project also supported the initiation of a monitoring system for the agro-ecology farmers and 48 farmers pledged and were awarded certificates for complying with 8 criteria they set forth which included: saving at least 14 traditional seed varieties, no use of synthetic fertilizers, avoiding the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), and grey water harvesting. partnership with researchers from the Universities of KwaZulu Natal and Cape Town, further engaged policy makers to advocate for policy change in the Plant Breeder’s Rights Bill with evidence from their fields, with some women attending Parliamentary hearing and providing their inputs. As a result of the SGP project, the agro-ecological demonstration sites are continuing to thrive and produce seeds and organic vegetables in areas previously declared by the provincial government as ‘non-agricultural’ sites, generating income from the sale of their organic vegetables to local retailers and strengthening the role of women in the communities. The women are now able to supplement their social grants and send their children to school with the income generated. With financial support from the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) and Oxfam Australia, the project is now being scaled up by the grantee to Mpumalanga Province. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017).***

In **South Africa,** Elephants Alive worked in partnership with 22 all-female Black Mambas anti-poaching units (mainly single mothers) to empower local communities through alternative income-generating initiatives. The SGP project was also committed to harnessing the cultural integrity of Ndlopfu Gogos (Elephant Grandmothers) who reside nearby the Kruger National Park to disseminate the word about conservation as respected storytellers who preserve the oral history of their people. The majority of these old women had never visited any of the reserves, much less seen an elephant, despite having families that worked in the Protected Areas and even having the surname "Ndlopfu" which means "elephant" in the local dialect. They served as the heads of their families, much like the elephant matriarchs, and frequently went unnoticed in their communities as pillars of strength. The project provides opportunities for Gogos (grandmothers) to interact with elephants in order to enhance their stories and serve as a reminder to future generations that coexisting with elephants is an achievable goal. It

brought back the grandmothers' pride in themselves as leaders and reintroduced them to the tradition of coexisting with nature. Elephants Alive organized a field day tracking elephants for the grandmothers and a three-day camp trip. The Black Mambas and all-female anti-poaching units were trained to employ ecosystem services to augment their income during the food shortage due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, these women developed into role models in their communities. The partnership also promoted beekeeping and adopted regenerative permaculture practices. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

Social Inclusion – Youth

In **South Africa**, SGP supported a climate change awareness project driven by a youth group, *Future Leaders of Change (FLC*) based in Durban. The supported initiative included hosting a climate change summit with 300 youth in attendance and showcasing their work on climate change and greening initiatives; over 1,000 indigenous trees that were planted in 17 schools; supported communities and schools in organizing coastal area clean-up campaigns which assisted in removal of 1,020 illegal dumping sites; and 7 eco-warriors were identified in each school to drive environmental awareness initiatives in their communities. The youth group was also instrumental in mobilizing financial and non-financial resources, including use of government equipment. SGP also supported six small-scale conservation agriculture cooperatives and youth training on agriculture as part of this project. - the cumulative results have contributed to policy debates in the province on environmental conservation. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017).***

In South Africa, a project was implemented by the Conservation Unit of Tshwane University of Technology (TUT). One of the key objectives of the project was to educate 25 TUT registered nature conservation students in research, environmental education, knowledge transfer to communities, as well as reserve management for a year and expose them to relevant careers. The bulk of the project was various indoor and outdoor educational activities involving 20 schools and 3 communities, implemented by university students, including: taking children for educational game trips in the protected areas; teaching communities on alternative cooking methods to shorten hours of wood burning; organising waste management and recycling initiatives, art competitions, clean-up campaigns, rhino anti-poaching educational sessions, tree-planting events; establishing vegetable gardens; and supporting the istallation of water harvest tanks due to the drought that hit the area in 2016-2018. The 25 students also assisted the authority of the Ndumo Game Reserve in reserve management, law enforcement and patrolling. Two students with Bachelor of Technology degrees were full-time project team members and conducted their research on traditional beliefs and the water crisis in the area. The students were also trained in game counts (count all or sample of the animals in a given area), soil erosion control, snare removal, vegetation monitoring, bird counts and culling. Two students are currently pursuing their diploma courses in Nature Conservation, and four students have completed their bachelor's degrees in Nature Conservation and were employed respectively by Ezemvelo and South African National Parks. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)***

METHODOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

All results are aggregated reflecting projects completed and are consistent with SGP results generated in past years.

With SGP's rolling modality, results reflect all ongoing operational phases during the indicated period. Please refer to the total projects completed on the first page for information in this regard.

The source of reported results is the annual monitoring process, which is part of the annual monitoring requirements for each country programme. Additionally, evaluative evidence sources have also been leveraged, if available for the country programme.

This results report benefits from extensive quality assurance. All information across all countries in the portfolio is harmonized, verified, and evidenced before being reported. Several layers of this quality assurance have been implemented in the generation of this report, and there are no result duplications across years. This point is important not only for the specific unit of measurement (i.e., indicator selected) but also for results aggregation across years in a given operational phase. Results reported across all countries have been treated uniformly to ensure overall standardization and methodological soundness.

Reported results include both direct and indirect global-environmental and socio-economic benefits. This is due to SGP's work in two key areas:

- **SGP works towards behavioral change at individual, organizational, and community levels.** Social determinants that shape human interaction with the environment play an important role, especially at the community level, as sustainability and the continuation of environmental gains often depend on them. These factors include positive shifts in knowledge, attitudes, practices, social and cultural norms, and conventions. Such interventions shape not only demand but also communication between community leaders and other influencers in promoting the adoption of environmentally friendly behaviors and practices. Often, SGP projects have ripple effects that go well beyond the direct scope of the project, emphasizing the importance of measuring indirect impact.
- **Encouraging Community Action for Environmental Change.** For many years, SGP has focused on promoting and supporting local community groups to bring about broader and sustainable environmental change. This approach is a key aspect of SGP's work and recognizes the power of motivated community groups to create significant impact and drive positive transformation. Community group action refers to informal gatherings of individuals and organizations in the community who share a common belief and purpose. It involves taking practical steps over time to address environmental and socioeconomic challenges and creating positive change. This grassroots-level approach relies on the active involvement and empowerment of the community, with the initial efforts acting as a catalyst for further mobilization. By encouraging self-governance and involving those most affected by the issues, community action can extend its influence to more people in the community, underscoring the importance of measuring indirect impact.