SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2022)

NORTH MACEDONIA

COUNTRY REPORT CARD
FY 2017 - 2022

Country Programme Name	North Macedonia		
Year Started	2006		
Portfolio Profile	**GEF**	**Non-GEF**	**Total**
Number of projects	153	-	**153**
Grant amount committed	2,888,147	-	**2,888,147**
Project level co-financing in cash	2,062,154	-	**2,062,154**
Project level co-financing in kind	1,149,198	-	**1,149,198**
Total co-financing *			**3,211,351**

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	**1**	**4**	**8**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**13**
Climate Change	**-**	**2**	**2**	**-**	**-**	**1**	**5**
Capacity Development	**-**	**1**	**1**	**1**	**-**	**1**	**4**
Chemicals and Waste	**-**	**2**	**2**	**8**	**-**	**2**	**14**
Total Projects Completed	**1**	**9**	**13**	**9**	**-**	**4**	**36**

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	1	4	8	-	-	-	13
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Hectares of PAs	-	-	200	-	-	-	200
Number of biodiversity based products sustainably produced	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Number of significant species conserved	-	3	5	-	-	-	8
Climate Change							
Number of climate change projects completed	-	2	2	-	-	1	5
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	No	No	No	No	Yes	1
Number of communities achieving energy access with locally adapted community solutions, with co-benefits estimated and valued	-	2	-	-	-	1	3
Breakdown of projects							
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	1	1	-	-	1	3
Chemicals and Waste							
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	2	2	8	-	2	14
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	43,658	-	9,170	-	8	52,836
E-waste collected or recycled (kg)	-	-	1,100	1,071	-	-	2,171

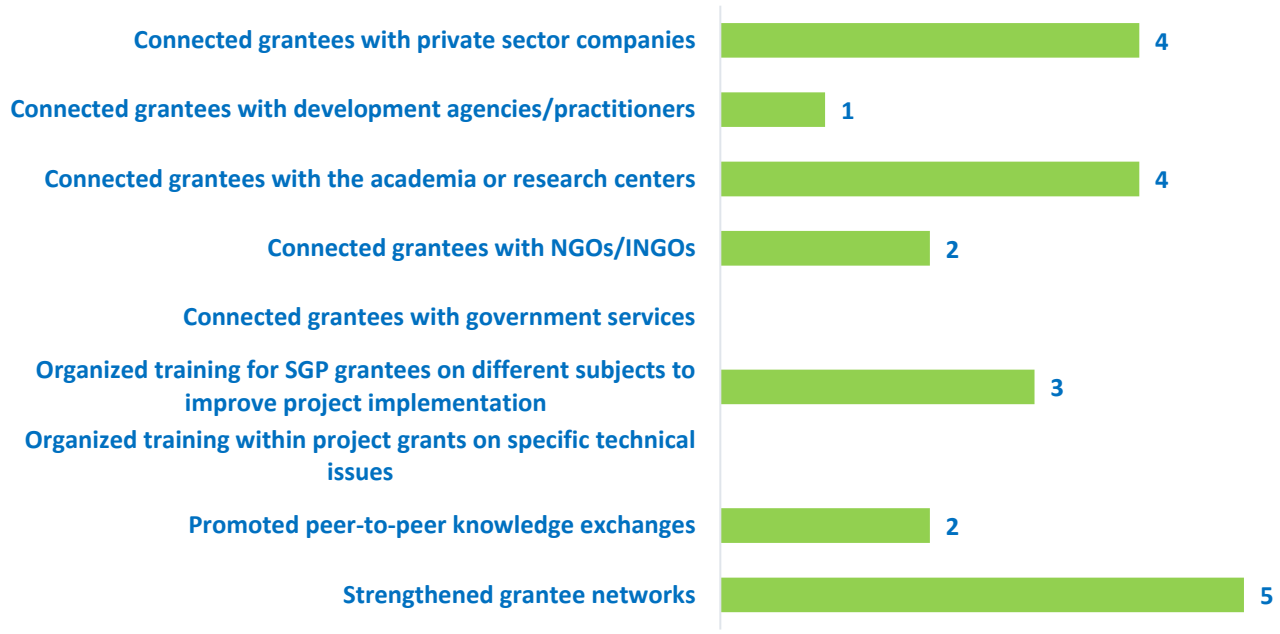
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio							
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	3
Awareness raising and capacity development	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	1
Capacity Development							
Number of capacity development projects completed	-	1	1	1	-	1	4
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	-	7	8	-	-	1	16
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	-	150	140	-	-	-	290
GRANTMAKER PLUS							
CSO-Government Dialogue							
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Gender							
Number of gender responsive completed projects	1	9	13	8	-	4	35
Number of completed projects led by women	-	4	4	7	-	3	18
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
Indigenous Peoples							
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	1
Youth							
Number of completed projects that included youth	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Number of youth organizations	-	-	-	-	-	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 **
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	6
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)							
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	5	4	5	-	1	15
Projects with policy influence	-	1	1	2	-	1	5
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	-	5	6	8	-	1	20
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS							
Community-level trainings conducted	1	-	-	-	-	2	3
Number of projects monitored through field visits	32	40	18	46	11	36	183
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT							
National Steering Committee							
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	1	2	1	1	1	1	7
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	7	6	6	11	10	10	8
Average time in days needed to replace NSC member	15	60	30	-	-	-	18

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

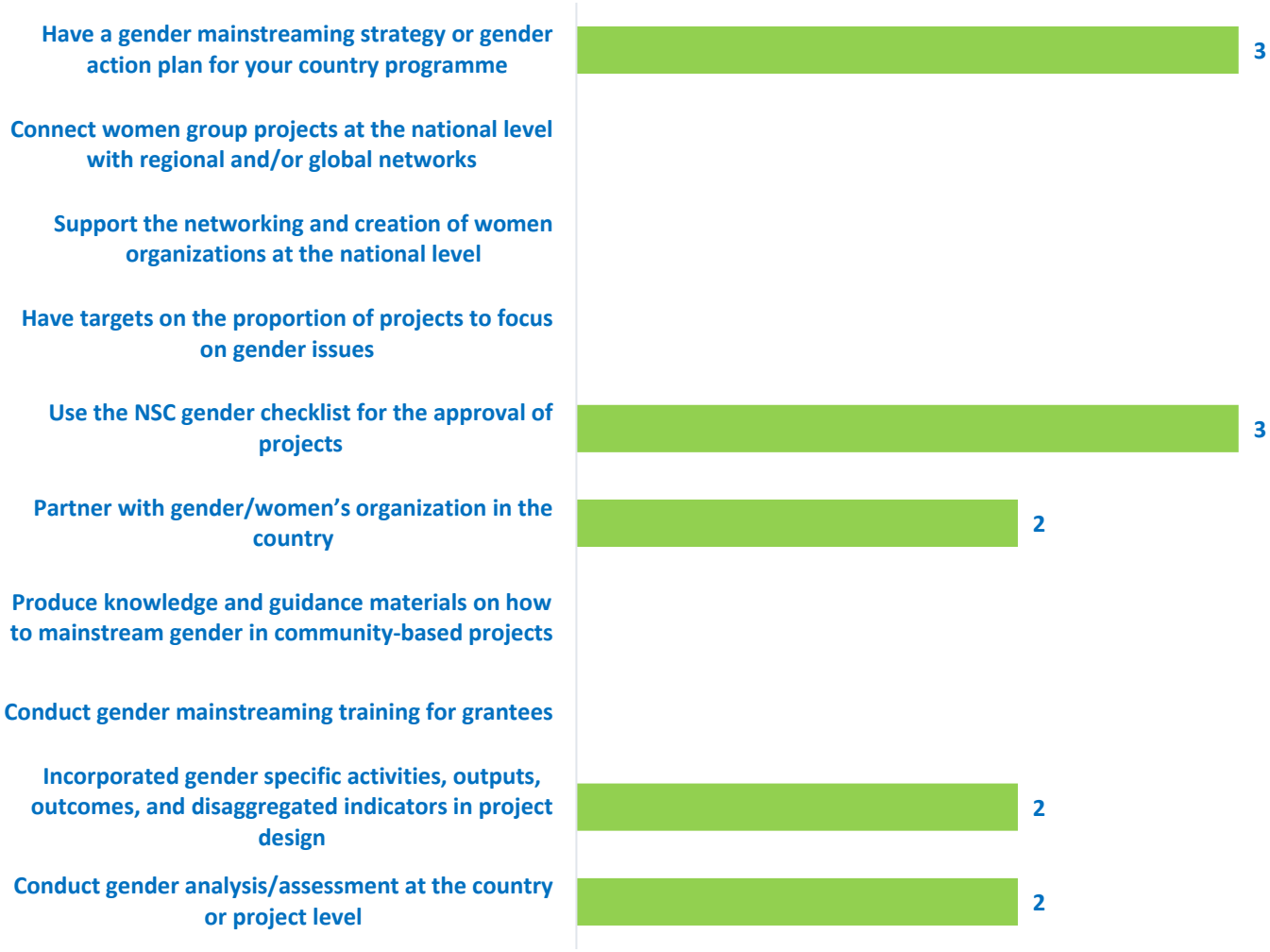
Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall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

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



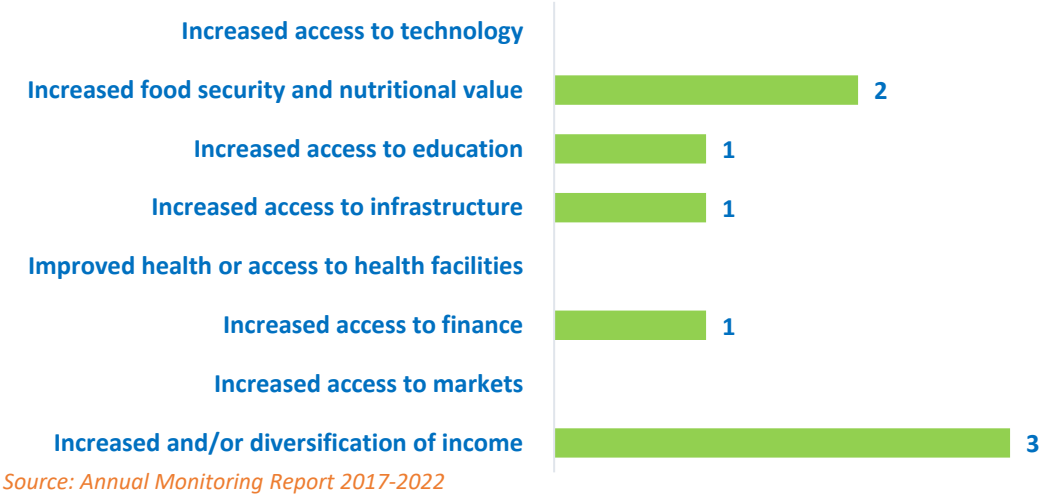
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

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



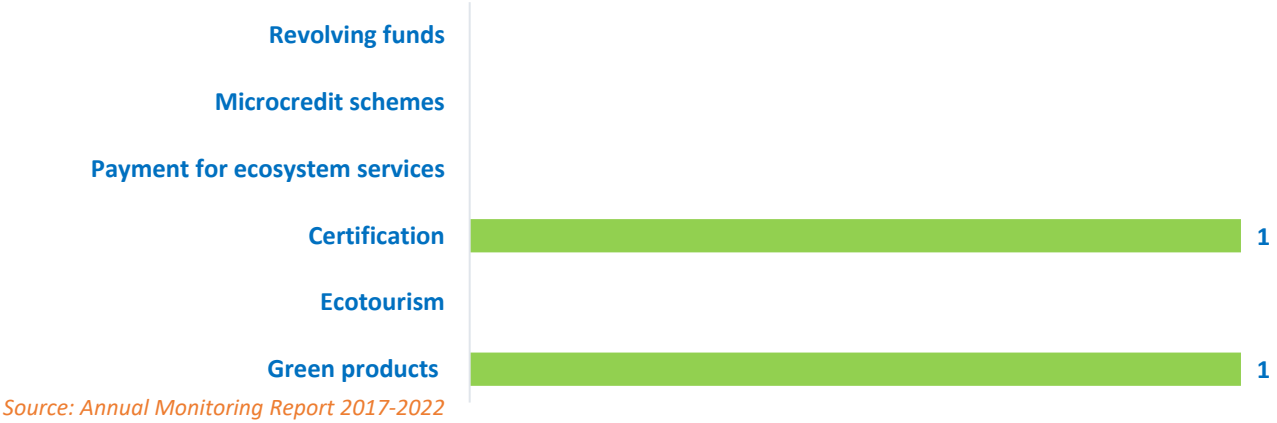
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

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 **North Macedonia**, a recently completed SGP project led by Ursus Speleos monitored the natural habitat of four caves in the Natural Monument of 'Slatinski Izvor', targeting two priority endangered species: the cave crab (alpioniscus slatinensis) and lesser horseshoe bat (rhinolophus hipposideros). As part of the applied action research, three additional species of bats were recorded in the cave ecosystems, including the greater horseshoe bat (rhinolophus ferrumequinum), mediterranean horseshoe bat (rhinolophus euryale), and common bent-wing bat (miniopterus schreibersii). Workshops with stakeholders from the region were conducted, involving 37 community members (24 men and 13 women) from 13 associations. Training in the monitoring of cave biodiversity was provided for 10 participants, including the purchase of equipment and instruments (i.e., bat detectors, cameras, helmets, lamps, and cave overalls). The SGP project assisted in placing five protective "bat doors" to the four caves, made according to the EUROBATS standard, limiting human and animal disturbance. An information board with data on cave fauna, and a 10-minute film for the promotion of Slatinski Izvor (http://www.ursusspeleos.com.mk) were also produced. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019).***

Chemical and Waste Management

In **North Macedonia**, SGP supported grantee, Novinari za Covekovi prava (JHR), in the implementation of policies and legislation in the field of chemicals, by building capacities of stakeholders such as ministries and inspectorates, civil society organizations, consumer organizations, the media, scientists and healthcare workers, who are key to successful implementation of EU directives on the use of chemicals in toys. With involvement from CSOs and other sector partners, the project aimed to complement and strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Economy, responsible for the regulations for safety of toys; the Ministry of Health to protect public health; and the Ministry of Environment to encourage testing and environmental labeling of products as a significant instrument that can reduce harmful impact on the environment and nature, caused by products and services throughout its entire life cycle, thus realizing substantial savings on water, chemicals and energy, and reducing waste.

The project established and organized at least 10 meetings of a coordination committee consisting of 11 representatives of the competent ministries, citizens' associations and media, and civil society for strengthening cooperation between relevant stakeholders. The advocacy efforts resulted in an informal group of concerned citizens and toy distributors, who have set up an alliance called Cooperative for Promotion of Safe Toys, for the promotion of safe toys in the Macedonian Market. They disseminated information on safe toys through seven workshops with over 100 participants. Other follow-ups include widely disseminated articles and leaflets for toy safety in Macedonian and Albanian languages, to raise public awareness and influence the people of Macedonia about the dangers of using untested toys, their impact on soil degradation and human health. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020).***

In **North Macedonia**, the Ino Teh Klub implemented a project producing pillows, quilts/duvets, and socks using textile waste from the textile industry and post-consumer textile waste. As one of the leading industries in the country, the textile industry produces about 700 tons of waste per year. Textile waste has a significant environmental impact, but it also holds great potential in the production of new materials. In the project, the textile waste from the industry was provided by the textile companies in the municipality of Stip which is home to the nation's most advanced textile industry, while the post-consumer textile waste was collected from three collection locations at Goce Delchev University. Professional machines were procured, including machines for cutting and decomposing textile waste, sewing machines, knitting machines, machines for connecting socks, and some other equipment and inventory (irons, cutting tables, dolls, etc.). New products were designed from textile waste, including 10 models of pillows, 5 models of quilts, and 15 models of socks. 120 pillows, 40 quilts, and 55 pairs of socks were produced. The products were presented at two fashion shows hosted by students of the Faculty of Technology and are available on the online store that was developed as part of the project. Through the project's promotion of social entrepreneurship, people from socially vulnerable groups were involved in

the labor market. The capacities of four women were strengthened. Also, by applying the "learning by doing" concept, 40 students from the Faculty of Technology become more capable. Furthermore, the project promoted institutionalized cross-sectoral partnerships between universities, NGOs, and businesses to solve local problems through a signed memorandum of cooperation. As a result, the textile waste in Stip was reduced by 6 tons per year. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

Capacity Development

In **North Macedonia**, a project implemented by *Centar za odrzliv razvoj na zaednicata Debar* aimed to strengthen good governance though knowledge exchange and dialogue between municipalities and NGOs in environment protection in the Southwest region of the country. The advocacy skills of NGOs from 4 municipalities were strengthened, and the communication and cooperation between 8 local environmental NGOs and 4 local municipalities were improved through the establishment of a coordination mechanism. The project also contributed to the participation of NGOs in the monitoring and analysis of local environmental policies where NGOs provided suggestions and ideas to municipalities in initiation and preparation of plans, strategies and projects in environment. This was the result of a public awareness campaign on environmental issues, which identified over 100 environmental problems in 4 municipalities and provided 50 recommendations for better coordination among municipalities, NGOs and citizens. Some of the issues addressed include the protection of the Fish Fund of Debar Lake, collection of municipal wastes in 12 villages in the municipality of Zupa, and protection of the river Vevcana. ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019).***

Social Inclusion -- Youth

In **North Macedonia**, a scout group Krste Jon completed a project using renewable energy sources for heating and water heating. There was a Green Center established in 1998 as a part of the scout group for environmental education and environmental awareness campaigns for young people, which played an important role in project activities. As results of the project, a fully functioning system for central heating was installed with renewable energy sources – biomass pellets and a solar energy water heating system in the Green Center. Consequently, CO2 emission was reduced by about 29 t/year (about 79%). Two five-day summer educational camps were organized on renewable energy sources involving 67 participants. An educational center was established for the promotion of the system with zero greenhouse gas emissions and the benefits of using renewable energy sources, equipped with an online training room. The educational center offered training to the members of the NGOs. In total, around 300 people (mostly young people up to 30 years old) from four regional NGOs and the Green Center directly benefited from project activities. Local communities benefited indirectly from the educational center by learning about the impact of climate change and the possibilities of using renewable energy sources (sun and biomass). ***(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)***

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.