



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2022)

BENIN



COUNTRY REPORT CARD FY 2017 - 2022

Country Programme Name	Benin						
Year Started	2007						
Portfolio Profile	GEF	Non-GEF	Total				
Number of projects	91	18	109				
Grant amount committed	2,999,872	700,000	3,699,872				
Project level co-financing in cash	2,751,188	463,197	3,214,385				
Project level co-financing in kind	942,733	163,217	1,105,950				
Total co-financing *			5,020,334				
<p>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</p>							
	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	3	1	-	2	5	-	11
Climate Change	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Land Degradation	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Capacity Development	1	-	1	-	-	2	4
International Waters	1	1	-	1	3	-	6
Chemicals and Waste	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Total Projects Completed	6	3	1	5	8	3	26

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	3	1	-	2	5	-	11
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Hectares of PAs	-	-	-	-	51	-	51
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	3	16	-	4	7	-	30
Hectares of ICCAs	140	878	-	141	176	-	1,335
Number of biodiversity based products sustainably produced	23	16	-	7	11	-	57
Number of significant species conserved	8	7	-	15	15	-	45
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	5	3	3	5	3	-	19
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	194,914	31,515	51,507	208,000	9,749	-	495,685
Climate Change							
Number of climate change projects completed	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No	2
Hectares of forests and non-forest lands with restoration and	-	-	-	23	-	-	23

	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 **
enhancement of carbon stocks initiated through completed projects							
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication	2	1	2	2	-	-	7
Number of communities achieving energy access with locally adapted community solutions, with co-benefits estimated and valued	4	-	-	9	-	-	13
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	2,500	-	-	675	-	-	3,175
Breakdown of projects							
Energy efficiency solutions projects	1	-	-	1	-	-	2
Land Degradation							
Number of land degradation projects completed	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	-	-	340	-	120	460
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	-	-	-	-	120	120
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	-	-	165	-	1	166
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	-	-	-	210	-	20	230
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	-	-	-	4	-	-	4

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International Waters							
Number of international waters projects completed	1	1	-	1	3	-	6
Number of seascapes/inland freshwater landscapes	7	3	-	-	2	-	12
Land based pollution reduced (tons)	50	50	-	10	150	-	260
Hectares of marine/coastal areas of fishing grounds brought under sustainable management	3,000	-	-	-	114	-	3,114
Hectares of river and lake basins converted	-	1,661	-	-	950	-	2,611
Chemicals and Waste							
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Pesticides properly disposed (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	4,500	4,500
Harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release (kg)	-	316	-	-	-	-	316
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio							
Organic farming	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	1
Development of alternatives to chemicals	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	1
Awareness raising and capacity development	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	2
Capacity Development							
Number of capacity development projects completed	1	-	1	-	-	2	4
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	3	-	148	-	-	-	151

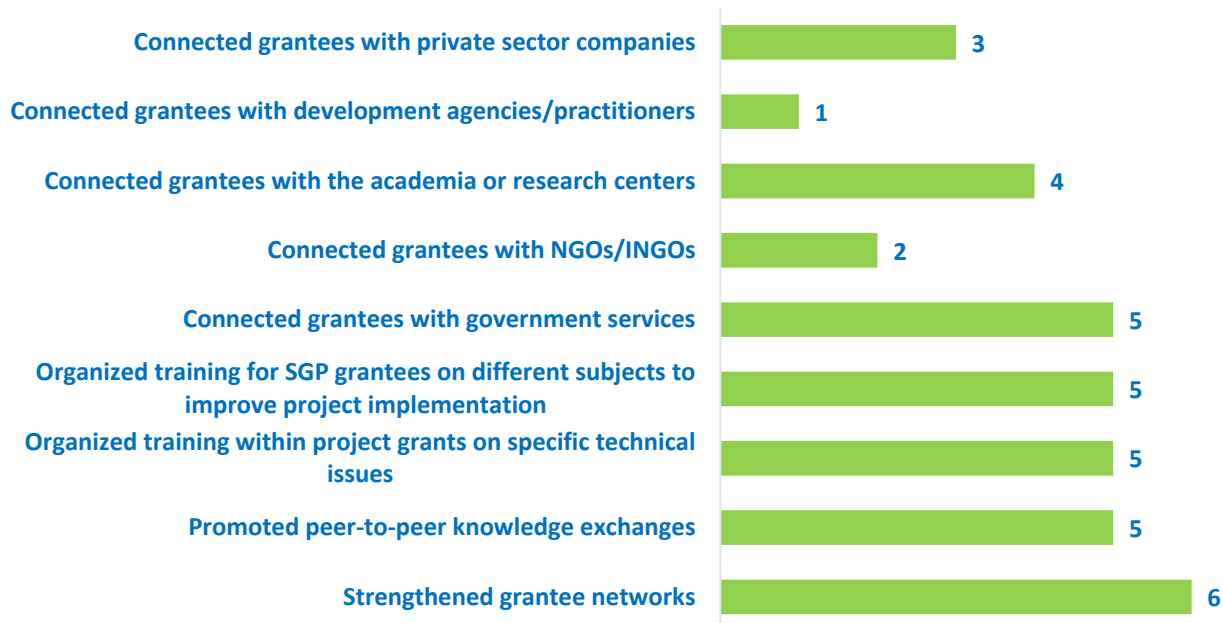
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	Total Value 2016 - 2022 **
Number of community based organizations with strengthened capacities	-	-	7	-	-	-	7
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	700	-	2,020	-	-	-	2,720
GRANTMAKER PLUS							
CSO-Government Dialogue							
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	3	1	1	1	1	-	7
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	57	411	60	27	34	-	589
South-South Exchange							
Number of South-South exchanges supported	2	2	1	1	1	-	7
Gender							
Number of gender responsive completed projects	5	3	1	5	9	2	25
Number of completed projects led by women	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Indigenous Peoples							
Number of completed projects that included indigenous peoples	-	-	-	1	3	-	4
Number of indigenous leaders with improved capacities	3	-	5	25	25	-	58
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	3
Ways to encourage IP projects							
Proposals accepted using participatory video (yes/no)	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	2

	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 **
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	4
Youth							
Number of completed projects that included youth	5	3	1	1	8	3	21
Number of youth organizations	3	-	10	-	13	-	26
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	5
Persons with Disability							
Number of disabled persons organizations	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)							
Projects replicated or scaled up	3	-	-	1	1	-	5
Projects with policy influence	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	5	1	1	1	8	3	19
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS							
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	2	1	4	3	-	-	10
Community-level trainings conducted	3	-	2	2	2	12	21
Number of project monitoring visits	16	11	25	15	6	3	76
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT							
National Steering Committee							
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	4	4	4	3	3	-	18
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	11	10	10	10	10	10	10
Average time in days needed to replace NSC member	22	21	21	21	25	60	28

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

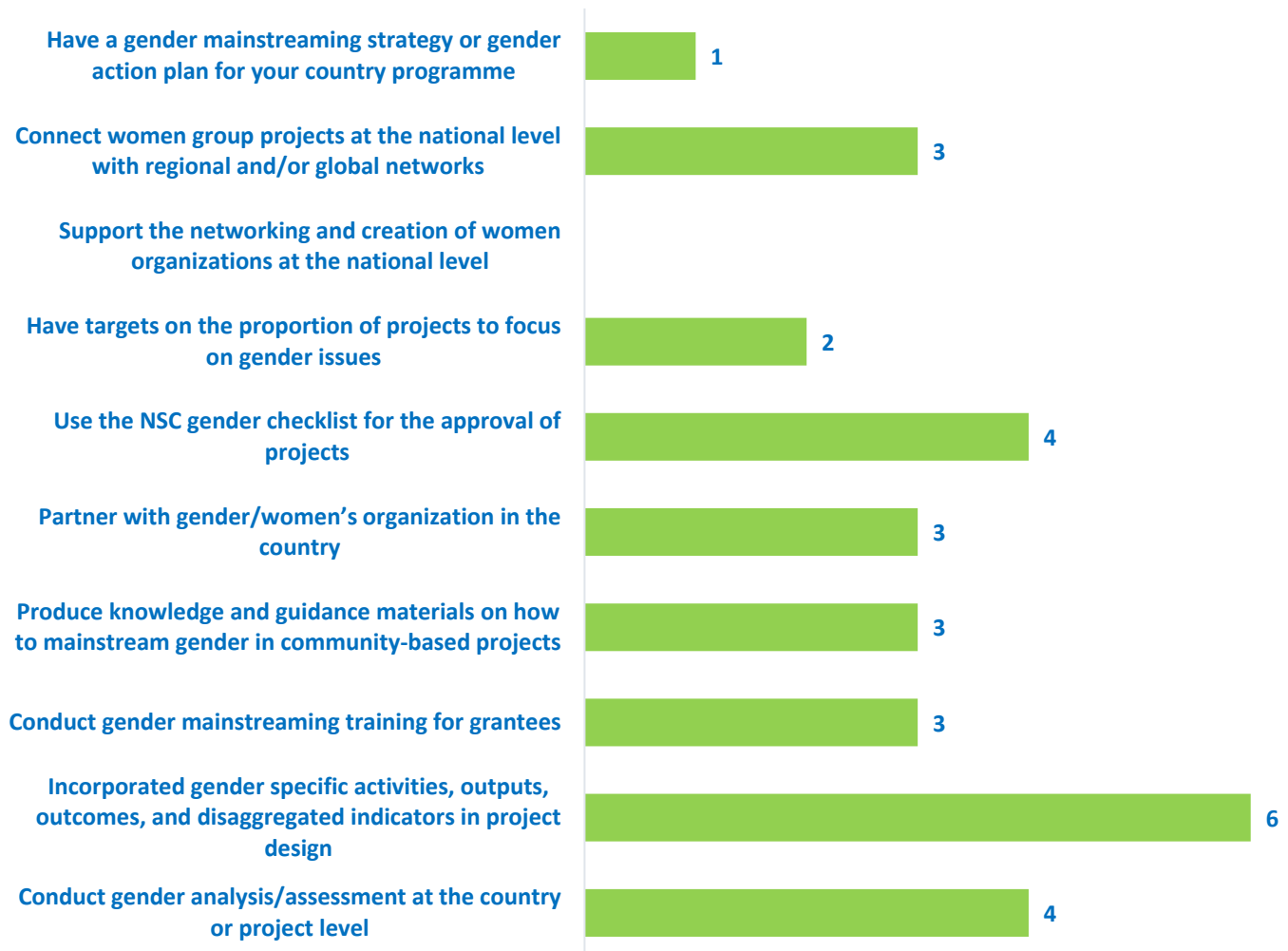
Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall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

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



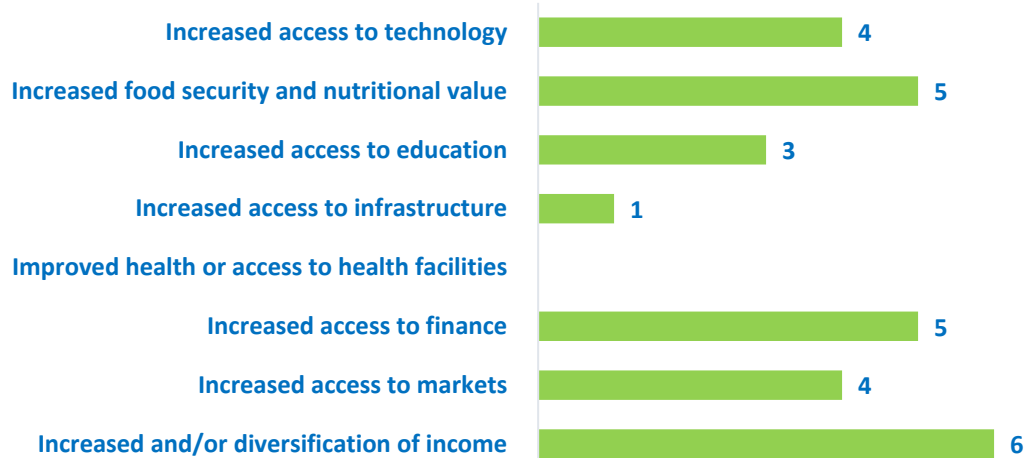
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

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



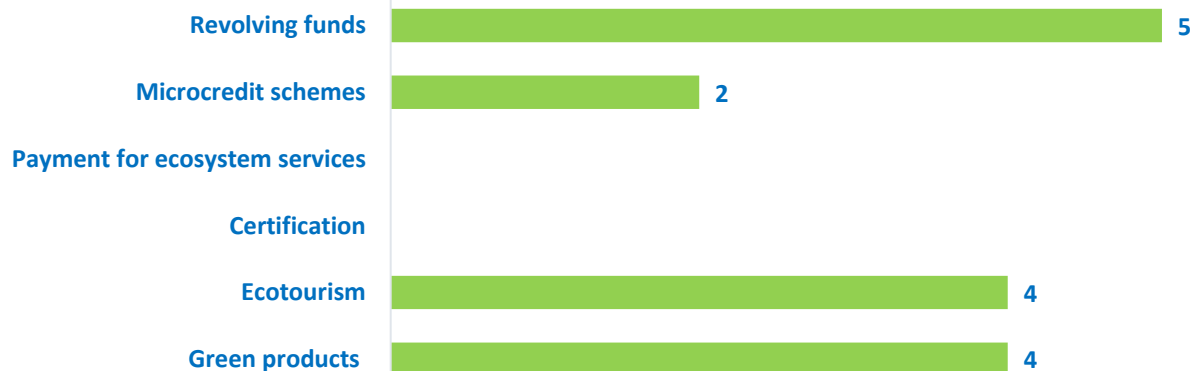
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2022

**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)**



EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

In **Benin**, SGP supported NGO 'Culture, Education and Research for Development in Benin' (CERD- Benin)', in the face of a growing degradation of the Shea agro-forestry systems in Benin (known locally as "*parcs agro-forestiers*"), to support the creation of improved Shea parks (PACPKA). The project worked to preserve the old Shea park in the commune of *Boukombé* through a technique of "assisted natural regeneration" (ANR). CERD also experimented with a short-cycle grafting technique for Shea butter from the fifth year onwards. With the participation of 160 farmers, the initiative identified approximately 17,000 trees, spread over 500 hectares, for assisted natural regeneration. A further 10 hectares in the borough of *Natta* in the commune of *Boukombé* tested out the grafted Shea nurseries. This resulted in production of 3 tonnes of butter by the association of students' mothers (*Association des Mères d'élèves*). The improved production was made possible, among other things, by the installation of a demonstration plot in the form of a nursery fed by a water tower. This demonstration site served as a training centre both for producers, as well as for agronomy students focusing on research on the new grafting techniques. Despite the technical requirements required for grafting, a favorable factor for the increased community participation was the shortening of the duration of production. In support of the overall SGP Benin country strategy, a second SGP project in the commune of *N'dali* pursued similar objectives adding the planting 30 hectares of *Acacia Auriculiformis* to meet the firewood needs of the local population, resulting in the production and marketing of 10 tonnes of Shea butter. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017).**

SGP-supported an agroecological project in **Benin** which worked on conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plant species in the *Djidja* Terroir. At least 10 species of rare or endangered medicinal plants were conserved and reintroduced on a 2-hectare demonstration site through replanting and protecting the existing seedlings. Members of the community-based association were trained in reproductive techniques of medicinal tree species including African Mahogany (*Khaya senegalensis*), pepper (*Xylopia aethiopicum*), African teak (*Milicia excelsa*), as well as leguminous tree species such as *Pterocarpus santalinoides*, which is typically grown in agroforestry systems acting as a windbreak and promotes soil conservation in water catchments. The planting of *Moringa oleifera* was also introduced to an area of 0.5 hectares to improve the food security and income of members of the association. The SGP field demonstration site was equipped with an automatic watering system using a water tower. Since the demonstration site did not have easy access to an available source of water, a borehole well was drilled for watering the seedlings and human consumption, and a storeroom was constructed with a drying area for the plants. Under the guidance of the management committee, the project was carried out with the involvement of the entire community. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018).**

International Waters

In **Benin**, with support from SGP, *Action Plus On* enhanced measures to safeguard mangrove ecosystems, increase the productivity of the coastal lagoon and promote agro economy in three districts of the commune of Ouidah, situated on the coast of the country.

20 village committees were set up to protect Lake Ahémé from prohibited fishing practices, secure more than 300 ha of mangrove resources and assured the conservation of wetlands in Ouidah. Furthermore, clean ups of the coastal lagoon and awareness campaigns were organised to educate the population on the laws related to fishing and aquaculture in the country. With regards to capacity building initiatives, the project supported the establishment of experimental agroecology sites by locality to normalize agricultural activities. To this end, two two-day trainings on production cycle, inputs used and land productivity were organised for 45 producers, followed up by a practical application of the notions learned.

As a result of the project activities, local people started to use other species of energy wood other than mangrove wood for cooking salt and the residents of the villages bordering the coastal lagoon started to apply sustainable finishing practices. Energy-efficient stoves and solar cookers were also promoted in all the organised groups. Leaders from each village were trained on how to build economic stoves for domestic uses and salt making activities. It was indeed reported

that a total of 100 smokehouses were built during the project implementation. This has particularly helped the fishmongers from six villages who were able to earn income from the construction of economical smoking. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021).**

Capacity Development

In **Benin**, an SGP project led by *Consortium ODAS ONG-GEA Benin* focused on sharing the results, knowledge, lessons learned and best practices of prior SGP projects in an aim to improve the effectiveness of future projects and to foster replication and scaling up of these practices. The information was collected through a participatory process focusing on milestones, activities, processes, outcomes, challenges and lessons shared at knowledge fairs in the South, Central and North of the country. In these fairs, the project also organized hands-on workshops on innovative processes and methodologies and a series of lectures by experts and practitioners on relevant topics. The knowledge exchange and networking led to partnerships and networking among NGOs, CSOs and donors, and allowed three NGOs to have co-financing from GIZ and Swiss Cooperation. A platform for environmental NGOs stimulated by SGP, will continue transferring knowledge to different networks. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019).**

CSO – Government Dialogue

In **Benin**, more than five years ago, SGP supported *Centre de Promotion des Projets Integres Orientes sur les Strategies Locales* in the establishment of a national dialogue platform for environmental NGO networks. Long after the end of the project support, the platform continues to serve as an important instrument for collaboration and discussion on environmental issues in the country. It currently hosts five networks whose memberships vary from 30 to 300 NGOs and/or CBOs. The platform actively supports the central government and partners in their efforts to improve environmental management, including active involvement in the implementation of international agreements and conventions ratified by Benin in coordination with relevant ministries. The platform is also working to constitute a representative framework for cooperation and synergy on environmental actions in the country. During the reporting period, a dialogue on banning the use of non-biodegradable plastic bags was organized through the platform. While the relevant law exists, its implementation could be challenging. The exchanges made it possible to identify the bottlenecks and clarify the roles that could be played by NGOs, private sector, municipalities and government in the implementation of the law. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019).**

South-South Exchange

From January 2021 to April 2022, a project of evaluation and sharing of innovative experiences was implemented in agroecology and green energies in 10 countries, eight of which were SGP countries including **Burkina Faso, Benin, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal, Guinea, Niger, and Togo**. The objective of the project was to address deforestation and climate change by consolidating and scaling up good practices in the context of exchanges of South-South experiences. At the end of the project, several animations were created. One was about an African cluster on green coal, another introduced a virtual initiative sharing platform including 31 climate initiatives. The modernization of a production unit was supported in Cameroon, and an association was formed in Guinea. Training on the production of Biochar was held in Cote d'Ivoire in July 2021, with the participation of 25 people from 10 countries. An award ceremony was organized for winners from 14 countries. In October 2021, an animation of an African cluster on agroecology was created through the dissemination of the good practices of "peasant seeds for better resilience to climate change". In addition, experiments on traditional improved granaries (GTA) were continued. Bi-fertilizers and bio-protective recipes were developed. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)**

Social Inclusion – Gender

In **Benin**, SGP supported a project for the sustainable development of sacred forests and promotion of the national consortium Aires Heritage and Native Community Territories (APAC), by strengthening their governance and implementation of the APAC national consortium. Although women are culturally excluded from the APACs activities, as gender component is integral to all projects of the SGP, the process of strengthening APAC was negotiated to include them in all

possible stages. The inclusion of gender began with the diagnosis and participatory planning and moved on to involving women in the development of niche markets for biodiversity and agro-biodiversity of APAC. The project also developed bio-cultural community protocol for each APAC that identified their knowledge and endogenous practices. Women, now support activities and work carried in APAC, in the same way as men. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020).**

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.