



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

MALAYSIA



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Malaysia		
Year Started	2001		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	233	22	255
Grant amount committed	9,119,526	686,500	9,806,026
Project level co-financing in cash	12,435,212	57,530	12,492,742
Project level co-financing in kind	5,905,618	396,824	6,302,442
Total co-financing *	19,481,683		
Source: SGP database as of 2023			
* 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	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)								
Biodiversity	5	4	1	9	3	3	19	44
Climate Change	-	2	-	-	1	1	5	9
Land Degradation	-	-	2	1	-	1	2	6
Capacity Development	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Chemicals and Waste	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
Total Projects Completed	5	6	3	12	4	7	27	64

Source: Reporting by Country Programme as part of Annual Monitoring Process (2016-2023)

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
** Kindly note the total values 2016-2023 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	5	4	1	9	3	3	19	44
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	3
Hectares of PAs	35,656	898,763	-	-	-	-	61,180	995,599
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	2	-	-	1	-	29	8	40
Hectares of ICCAs	227	-	-	3,844	-	-	86,102	90,173
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	5	5	2	5	3	-	384	404
Number of significant species conserved	1	3	-	-	1	1	55	61
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	4	1	-	-	2	1	8	16
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	105,562	898,763	-	-	-	2	2,433	1,006,760
Climate Change								
Number of climate change projects completed	-	2	-	-	1	1	5	9
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	5
Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with	-	1	-	-	2	-	3	6

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
successful demonstrations or scaling up and replication								
Number of households achieving energy access co-benefits (ecosystem effects, income, health and others)	-	55	-	-	30	52	50	187
Breakdown of projects								
Low carbon technology and renewable energy projects	-	1	-	-	1	1	1	4
Energy efficiency solutions projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Sustainable transport projects	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	-	-	2	1	-	1	2	6
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	-	-	800	-	-	681	177	1,658
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	-	-	800	-	-	10	97	907
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	-	-	4,404	-	-	-	21	4,425
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	-	-	6	-	-	-	80	86
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	-	-	6	-	-	-	1	7
Chemicals and Waste								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
Number of mercury management 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	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Pesticides properly disposed (kg)	-	-	-	-	-	-	66,695	66,695
Solid Waste avoided from open burning (kg)	-	-	-	78,052	-	-	112,391	190,443
E-waste collected or recycled (kg)	-	-	-	28,904	-	-	-	28,904
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio								
Organic farming	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Solid waste management (reduce, reuse, and recycle)	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	2
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	Yes	2
Capacity Development								
Number of capacity development projects completed	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Number of community-based organizations with strengthened capacities	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	42
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	-	-	-	142	-	-	-	142
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	11
South-South Exchange								
Number of South-South exchanges supported	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	-	6	3	12	4	7	27	59

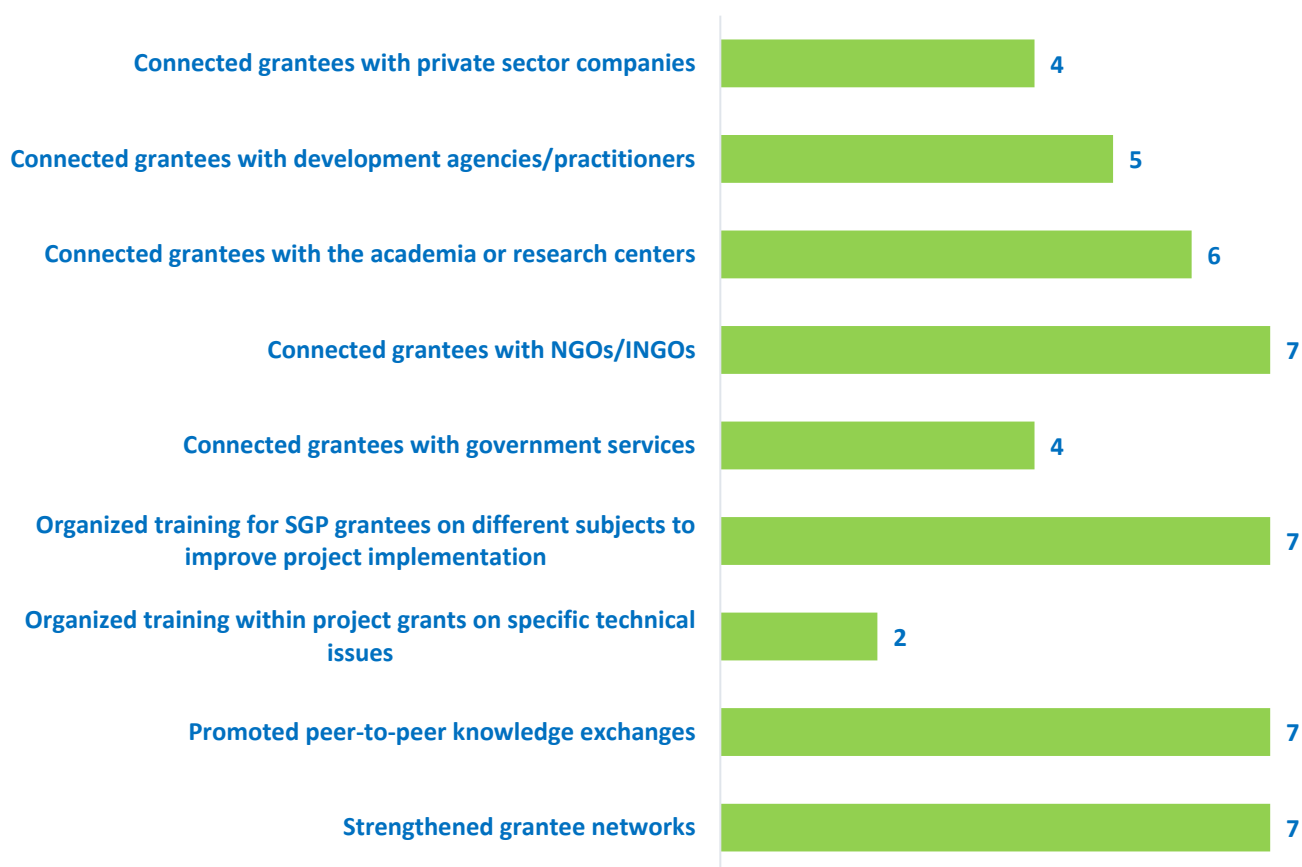
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Number of completed projects led by women	-	4	2	5	4	2	18	35
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Indigenous Peoples								
Number of completed projects that included indigenous peoples	2	4	2	9	3	5	16	41
Number of indigenous leaders with improved capacities	10	8	30	12	-	-	2	62
Programme Management: NSC IP focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	6
Ways to encourage IP projects								
Proposals accepted in local languages (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Involved indigenous peoples in NSC and/or TAG (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	6
Enhanced outreach and networking with indigenous people's groups (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	1	-	3	2	1	4	27	38
Number of youth organizations	3	-	-	-	1	4	-	8
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Persons with Disability								
Number of disabled persons organizations	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	-	3	-	3	1	-	2	9
Projects with policy influence	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	6

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	3	3	3	5	4	3	18	39
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	-	4	6	-	-	3	-	13
Community-level trainings conducted	-	5	10	-	2	3	1	21
Number of projects monitored through field visits	12	8	12	4	-	12	8	56
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	3	2	1	3	2	1	2	14
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	10	12	12	12	12	11	10	11

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 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)



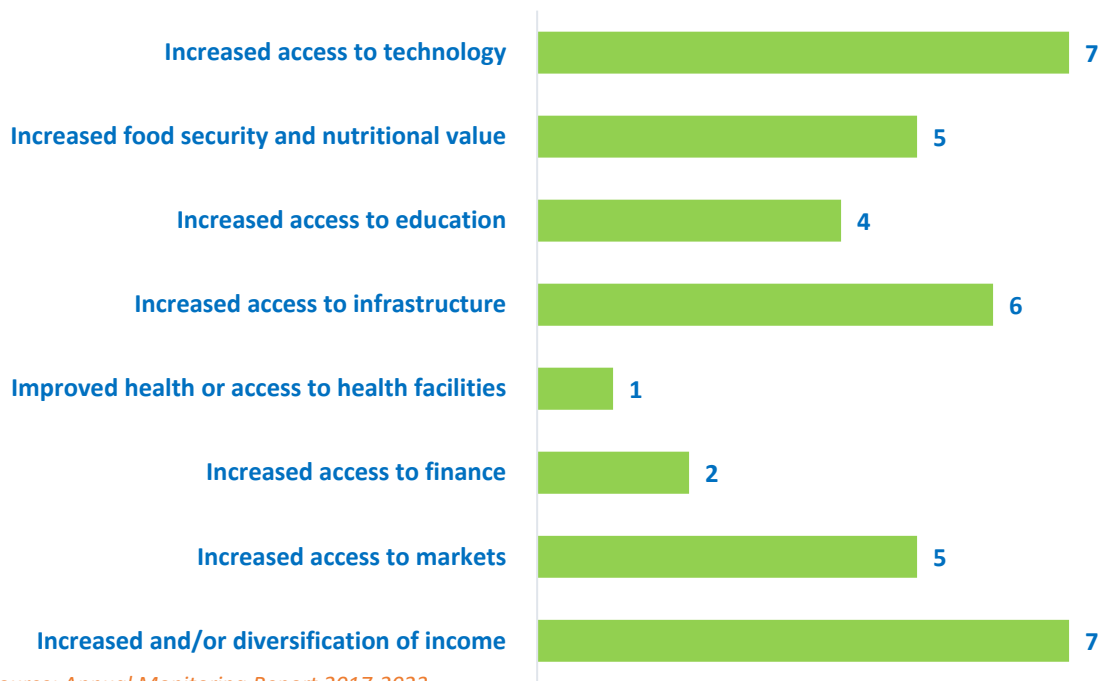
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



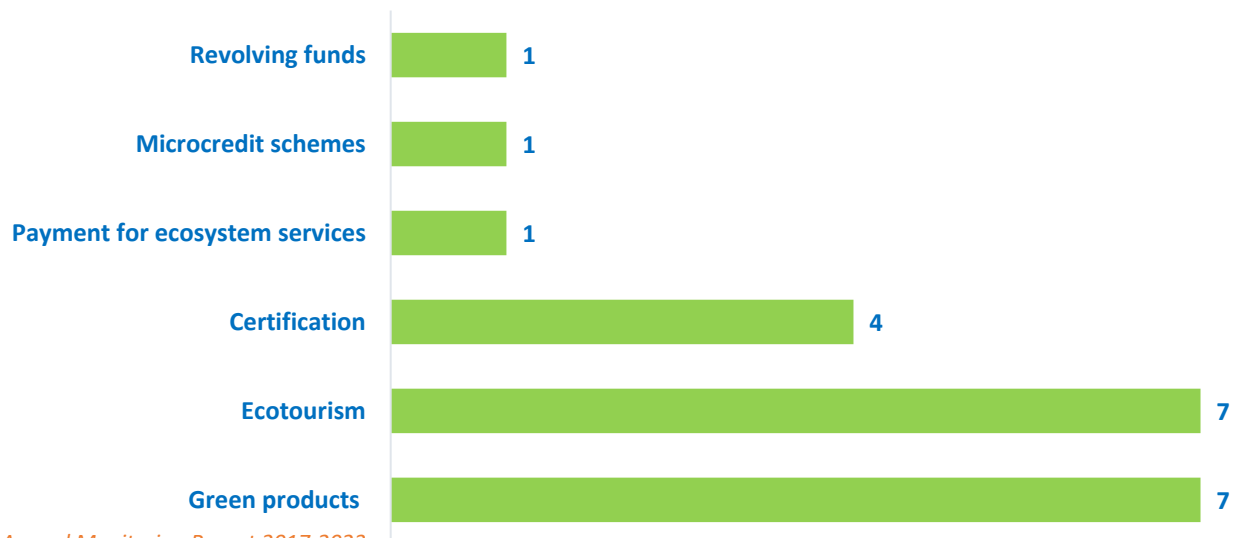
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Strategies to Improve Community Livelihoods and Quality of Life
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



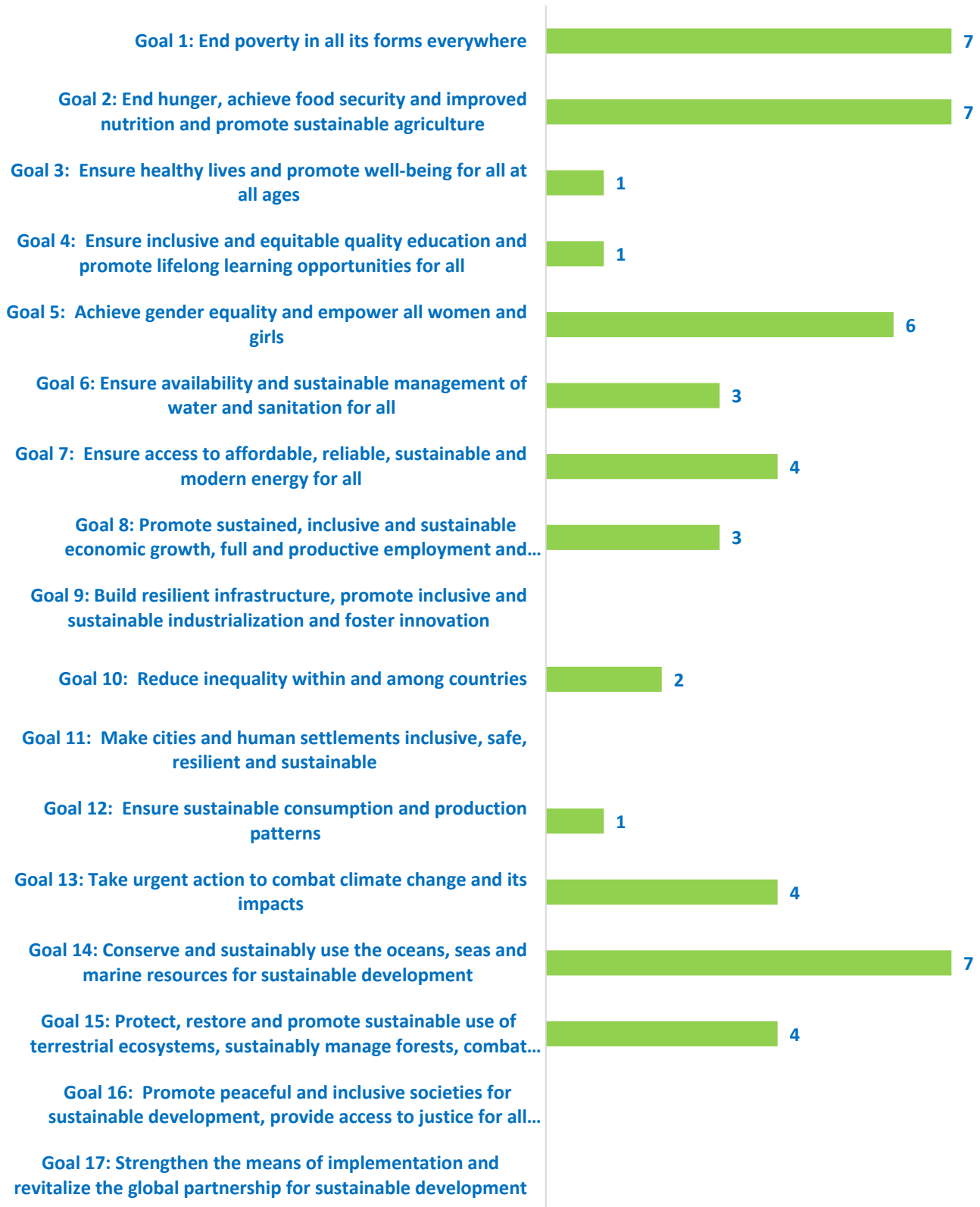
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Addressed Sustainable Development Goals
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

SGP project in **Malaysia** worked with Marine Research Foundation (MRF) to support the development and implementation of a long-term “National bycatch reduction programme” in partnership with the Malaysian Department of Fisheries. The SGP strategic project was designed as a component of an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries at the national level, ensuring continued fishery benefits, while also improving the conservation status of sea turtles and their habitats in Malaysia. A significant outcome from the joint SGP project is a change in requirements for Turtle Excluding Devices (TEDs) in shrimp trawl fisheries, which have become a legal requirement in Peninsular Malaysia (East coast) fisheries since 2017. It is expected that this will be followed by a full national adoption via legal licensing by 2022. The long-term involvement and vision of MRF, coupled with the interest and commitment by the government, have led to a profound reorientation of fisheries and turtle bycatch reduction in Malaysia. In partnership with the World Wildlife Fund Malaysia, another SGP project has supported the gazettement process for the Tun Mustapha Park (TMP), building communities’ capacity to be part of the gazettement and continuing co-management of TMP. The announcement of TMP was declared in May 2016 (under the Park Enactment of 1984), through publication in the Sabah State Government Gazette. The MPA covers a marine area of 898,762 hectares, making it the largest marine park in Malaysia. The gazettement of TMP was achieved through the buy-in and support of diverse stakeholders, as well as mobilization of communities, with project facilitation funded by SGP. The awareness raising efforts, capacity building (patrolling, enforcement, and co-management) and development of sustainable livelihood initiatives have enabled communities to have an ongoing role and voice in the shared governance of TMP. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018)**

In **Malaysia**, the *Friends of Langkawi Geopark Association* with support from SGP worked to build the capacity of local communities to participate in the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in the Langkawi UNESCO Global Geopark. Langkawi is an island on the north of Peninsular Malaysia where local community livelihood depends on tourism and fishery. More than 200 men, 120 women and over 50 youths were involved in the project. “Marine life rehabilitation devices” (artificial coral reefs) were deployed in 14 locations along a 5-kilometre stretch of river, involving researchers from the National University of Malaysia, the Lafarge cement company (which provided the building material) as well as the local community. Interviews with several local fishermen indicate that the artificial reefs have shown some promising preliminary results, including fish harvests and sport-fishing boat operator benefits in rough weather at sea (with increasing economic benefits as the reefs mature and fish populations increase). In addition, with the contribution of the local community, 1,500 mangrove saplings were planted across 8 hectares of degraded mangroves; beach clean-up exercises and a campaign for a plastic-free island were organized; a geotourism guide map was developed for the “Tuba Selat Dayang Bunting” area where tourism trails may be better organized through bike rentals, homestays and lodges. The project also engaged the Fisheries Department and State Government to gazette the river into three zones: green (free fishing zone), orange (restricted zone), and red (prohibited zone). It has also been suggested that no nets will be allowed to be deployed for fishing in the area, and that only fishing rod and lines be permitted. Another result of the project was the protection of the “Gua Pinang” cave ecosystem, originally the site of a quarry concession owned by the Lafarge cement company. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)**

Climate Change

In **Malaysia**, a project implemented by TONIBUNG successfully installed an 11.6 kW micro-hydro system as a sustainable energy source in Long Tanid, which provided 24-hour electricity to the whole village and supported a few businesses in the village. This has reduced the fuel cost by six times of more than 45 diesel generators in the village. The noise pollution caused by the generators has also disappeared. Prior to the project, the villager relied on a satellite provider named “Connect Me” with a device powered by a diesel generator. The internet usage cost RM 13 (USD 2.9) per GB. The village chief only turned on the generator to enable an internet connection for four hours each day in order to save money on fuel purchases. The Wi-Fi router is now always on due to power from the micro-hydro. With an average monthly benefit of RM 238 (USD 52.9), the project helped more than 50 households. This was made possible by an RM 175 (USD 38.9)

reduction in fuel expenses and an RM 63 (USD 14) gain in income. In addition, the project has increased community knowledge of watershed conservation. Since the electricity produced by the micro-hydro depended on the condition of the nearby forest (450 ha of ICCA), the community imposed a strict rule on tree-cutting and other development activities close to the watershed area. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)**

Sustainable Land Management

In **Malaysia**, the *Lun Bawang* indigenous community living in the *Long Semadoh Valley* in the *Maligan Highlands of Lawas, Sarawak*, faced various challenges, including the threat of losing their heirloom crops, land degradation, and biodiversity loss due to the lack of economic opportunities in the villages. *Langit Collective* completed a project aimed to address these issues by promoting sustainable farming practices, conserving the farmland and environment, preserving traditional knowledge and culture, and adding value to farmers' produce. To achieve these goals, the community worked towards organic certification and incorporated sustainable farming practices into their traditional knowledge.

The project achieved several significant milestones. A guidebook was produced, documenting the best farming practices developed by farmers over the past four years, which was made available in English and Bahasa Malaysia. The introduction of BD500, a natural soil enhancer, to 21 acres of paddy fields belonging to 12 farmers resulted in an estimated increase of about 10-15% in yield. A *MyOrganic* certification workshop was conducted, assisting 56 farmers in filling out the application forms, and further promoting organic practices. Additionally, *Langit Collective* led a cohort of villagers through the process of setting up their own agribusiness enterprise, utilizing excess produce to create ready-to-market products. The establishment of a community milling and packaging facility significantly reduced farmers' workload, with a winnowing machine capable of processing 300 kg of rice in a day, instead of two weeks. Furthermore, the installation of a 5kW solar system reduced diesel consumption and carbon emissions, providing financial savings of up to RM 300 (USD 66) per month and decreasing CO₂ emissions by 316 kg per month. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

Chemicals and Waste

In **Malaysia**, an SGP project completed by the Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) raised public awareness of mercury and the Minamata Convention on Mercury. 316 children from five Tamil primary schools, 166 teenagers from one secondary school, and 420 students from six universities have increased the knowledge as a result of the project's outreach. About 1,500 people participated in the physical and online programmes, with an estimate of 600 adult females and 200 adult males. A total of 10,351 copies of the book "Mercury: The Silvery Poison" were distributed to spread knowledge about the topic and to be placed in the libraries of educational institutions for reference, including 10,195 schools, 16 State/Federal Territories' Education Departments, and 140 District Education Offices. In addition, a brochure on mercury was printed in 9,000 copies for distributing as a programme package, and digital versions were made available for downloading from the CAP website. 52 healthcare personnel participated in the workshops conducted to discuss and advance mercury-free healthcare facilities. Six government hospitals, 29 clinics, 30 dental clinics, seven district health offices, four private hospitals, six university health centers, and the State Health Department of Penang used our toolkit to transition to mercury-free healthcare facilities. With the knowledge acquired, the beneficiaries were expected to take actions to reduce and eventually eliminate the use of products containing mercury. The immediate and long-term benefits would be limiting direct exposure to mercury and, thus, its negative impacts on health. Furthermore, consumers and workers would avoid mercury poisoning by practicing proper disposal of mercury-containing waste. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)**

Capacity Development

In **Malaysia**, SGP supported grantee, Association of Holistic Expectations, Research and Environmental ACTION (MELAPI), to address the specific gap in the capacities of community-based organizations (CBOs) and community groups to communicate effectively about their conservation work or activities. While these communities rely on natural resources and landscapes for livelihood and cultural maintenance and are increasingly involved in carrying out community-based conservation initiatives, yet the stories of ILC custodianship over natural resources, and land and seascapes, are rarely told from the point of view of the communities. Many “success stories” are told through the eyes of NGOs, government aid programmes, CSR initiatives, or journalists – all outsiders – who invariably focus on the impact of an external intervention in changing the behavior and attitudes of the recipient communities. The project started with indigenous peoples and local communities (ILCs) living in the marine, coastal, inland waters, interior lowland and highland environments of Sabah and was scaled up to more communities in Sabah and the Long Belok community in Sarawak. It employed the Suara’s filmmaking training, which focusses on a methodical approach that emphasizes on learning to practice unpacking complex thoughts, structure a narrative and employed a range of storytelling devices to achieve maximum impact upon delivery. The project produced an official Suara handbook for their community filmmakers (in English and Bahasa Malaysia languages) which gives an overview of the core Suara ethos and syllabus that can be replicated anywhere. Through the community filmmaking process, CBOs can engage effectively with their communities to find their voice and cast the spotlight on the good conservation work of ILCs across the nation. In addition, the project collaborated with indigenous filmmaking programme, Kanta Komuniti, under the MyDocs umbrella in Kuala Lumpur, which proved to be a great platform to exchange ideas and experiences between Peninsular Malaysia’s Orang Asli communities and Sabah’s indigenous filmmakers. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)**

Social Inclusion – Gender

In **Malaysia**, *Women for Equality and Shelter Home for Kuala Lumpur and Selangor* completed a project addressing the ecological challenges of modern intensive farming practices in two locations in Malaysia: *Sawah Sempadan, Selangor*, and *Wakaf Aik, Kelantan*. The project aimed to shift away from harmful agrochemicals and monoculturalism, which have negative impacts on biodiversity, environment, and health, towards a more sustainable and integrated natural farming approach. One of the main objectives was to empower women and encourage their active participation in agriculture, as traditional farming practices in West Malaysia were heavily dependent on heavy machinery, which often excluded women from primary roles in farming activities. To achieve this, the *Women’s Environmental Association* (WEA) organized a women-centered program that provided a supportive and non-male-dominated environment for women to participate actively in natural integrated farming (NIF). Through this program, the participants were given opportunities to voice their concerns, share their views, and actively contribute to decision-making processes. This initiative successfully empowered women by enhancing their decision-making abilities, self-confidence, and self-esteem. Training in marketing and promotion also helped participants develop entrepreneurial skills and generate income through the sale of farm products, making farming a more viable economic option for women.

The project identified and nurtured women leaders who displayed a keen interest in NIF. Six women from *Sawah Sempadan* and five women from *Wakaf Aik-Kota Bharu* were recognized and became trainers in WENIF (*Women’s Environmental Association Natural Integrated Farming*) programs, contributing to the advancement of the organization’s goals. The project had a positive impact on women’s participation in agriculture, transforming them from passive supporters to active decision-makers and entrepreneurs in the farming sector. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

Social Inclusion – Indigenous Peoples

In **Malaysia**, SGP project ‘Community-based conservation of biodiversity and rivers in *Kampung Skiat Baru, Bau*’ has brought together men, women, and indigenous youth to carry out environmental activities within their community conservation area (ICCA) and communal forest in Sarawak, Borneo, with the objective of promoting meaningful participation of the indigenous community in policy discussions pertaining to the management and governance of the protected area. With support from the SGP, delineation and survey works were carried out for the ICCA, estimated to be 70 hectares in partnership with the Sarawak Forestry Department. In recognition of the rights of the indigenous peoples in the proposed extension of the park boundaries, it was agreed that the limestone hills

ecosystem surrounding the protected area would be preserved by the community as an ICCA and recognized by the Sarawak State Government. In a related project, SGP Malaysia has worked to minimize deforestation caused by agricultural expansion within a community forest reserve and watershed in the state of Sabah. Through the SGP project, the community group (GOMPITO) was invited by the Sabah State government to participate in the Kinabalu National Park 'Ecological Linkages' (Ecolinc) project, targeting connectivity of biodiversity conservation at the state level. By the end of the project, the Sabah government agreed for an area of 487 hectares to be gazetted as a Native Reserve, limiting encroachment by individuals from outside the *Kiau* village community, and incentivizing long-term conservation planning across the landscape. By involving the indigenous institutions, the *Ecolinc* bio-corridor initiative has been strengthened through the recognition of different governance regimes, including the ICCA as an area of significant conservation value. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

In **Malaysia**, SGP supported grantee, Community-Led Environmental Awareness for Our River (CLEAR), in the promotion of conservation of River Moyog through sustainable agricultural practices. The rearing of pigs by the Kadazan indigenous people polluted the River Moyog and negatively affected the development of eco-tourism around Penampang and River Moyog. The project assisted the pig farmers in proper waste management system instead of depriving these indigenous people of Penampang their source of income. For the Kadazan indigenous people, pigs are an important part of their lives, be it wedding, death or any other events. They also use pigs to make peace and to give penalty, 'Sogit', to the wrong doers. During the course of the project, consultations were initiated with all community leaders in Penampang, the chairperson of the Village Development committee (JKKK) and Ketua Kampung, the heads of villages in Penampang. In addition, consultations were organized and conducted by the youth of the Kadazan indigenous community with the farmers practicing rearing of pigs. CLEAR also worked with the Penampang veterinary department for advice on proper waste management from rearing pigs. The project was successful in collaborating with nine pig farmers to adopt proper waste management practices, who have become the faces for the project's replication and scaling among other farmers practicing rearing of pigs. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2010)**

In **Malaysia**, SGP supported grantee *Persatuan Agroekologi Malaysia Untuk Intensifikasi Sumber Lestari (SRI- MAS)* in the conservation and promotion of agrobiodiversity through the adoption of the ecosystems-based approach of System of Rice Intensification (SRI) and Farmers Fields Schools (FFS) in rice cultivation. In the country, the 'Green Revolution' in farming systems had shifted farmers away from traditional knowledge systems based on natural resources management to the increasing use of expensive seeds and chemical inputs. This has led to loss of biodiversity, soil degradation, climate vulnerability and inappropriate rice cultivation. The project aimed to address the issue of unsustainable rice production systems by implementing SRI as well as promoting inclusive women participation and the application of indigenous knowledge. The project targeted seven indigenous communities within the Sabah villages around Kota Belud and Inaman and the Sarawak groups of Bidayuh, Iban and the Lun Bawang. 23 beneficiaries from the selected indigenous communities participated in stakeholder consultations, 17 people participated in a module for Training of Trainers (ToT) and 192 indigenous people undertook Training for farmers (ToF). These indigenous farmers contributed vitally to the production and conservation of biodiversity especially traditional rice varieties such as Somilin, Jonli, Sibor, Padan, Adan, Padi merah Wangi Keladi, Padi putih Wangi Keladi and Padi hitam Wangi Keladi, besides propagating traditional knowledge. Throughout the FFS programs, the indigenous communities were encouraged to share and use local names or terms to describe insects or plants that related to their farming practices. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2020-2021)**

In **Malaysia**, a project conducted by the *Friends of Nature Activist Association (Persatuan Aktivis Sahabat Alam)* sought to strengthen forest stewardship and environmental governance by empowering new environmental champions and selected communities in Northern Peninsular Malaysia. One of the major causes of the dramatic decrease in forest cover and biodiversity in Peninsular Malaysia is the unsustainable development projects and poor decision-making that are caused by poor governance in forest management, a lack of public consultation/participation, and poor environmental democracy. All the community empowerment initiatives under the project involved Indigenous Peoples. The project collaborated with indigenous communities facing environmental issues and environmental rights violations, and supported leadership development to effectively speak up about their issues related to the territories and come up with solutions. Workshops were conducted to inform participants on the definition of 'territory' among the forest-dependent communities and to support skills and knowledge development to create a community map for legal use. As a result, for example, the *Kerawat* indigenous communities were able to develop a map to

have their territory recognized by the authority. Additionally, they gained basic knowledge on GPS and how to create digital maps using GIS software. The Community Mapping and Documentation training was a great benefit to the communities, particularly among youth, as they lacked the knowledge or skills to produce a credible map that they could present to the authorities to have their territories recognized and secured. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2021-2022)**

Recovery from COVID-19

In **Malaysia**, SGP supported a project to maintain the supply chain of farm products which otherwise would be thrown away as food waste as the middlemen could not reach the village to collect the farm produce in the midst of COVID-19. The team then facilitated to sell the produce to retail shops. The remaining produce was transported to community affected by COVID-19 and with no access to food. In this way, the project has helped many communities to generate income during this difficult time and also provided food to communities with limited access. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2019-2020)**

In **Malaysia**, *Sinaran Ria* completed a project in seven villages within the *Penampang Sabah* district, particularly targeting the community learning centers in the villages, strengthening indigenous knowledge practices and community resilience. The project was initiated in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 lockdown, which threatened the loss of invaluable indigenous knowledge that had long sustained the *Kadazandusun* communities in the region and had economic repercussions, particularly for kindergarten teachers who were struggling to maintain their income. The project a COVID-19 pandemic response to assist the affected indigenous communities. It also collected and compiled indigenous knowledge and stories related to the sustainable use of forests and natural resources and transformed them into 16 learning materials in the local language. The learning materials were tailored for children and suitable for use in community learning centers, primary schools, and at home. Furthermore, the project encouraged local families to participate in the *One Million Trees Seedlings Campaign*. 10,577 tree seedlings of 71 species of indigenous trees were produced and sold by *Sinaran Ria* on their online community market, which generated RM 27,380 (USD 5,863). In addition, the project identified products that could be developed into an alternative source of income for three community learning centers and initiated the *Osuau Market*, an online platform promoting community and eco-friendly products, expanding income-generating opportunities for the communities. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2022-2023)**

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

The Malaysia SGP Country Programme will continue to support national priorities under OP7 and work in full partnership with all relevant government policies, plans, and programmes including but not limited to the following:

- **12th Malaysia Plan 2021-2025**; particularly with respect to the strategic thrust on pursuing green growth for sustainability and resilience.
- **National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan (NBSAP) under UNCBD 2016-2025**; aligned with the give overarching goals of the NBSAP, including stakeholder empowerment, reducing pressures on biodiversity, safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity, ensuring fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilisation of biodiversity, and building the capacity of stakeholders. Moreover, Goal 1 and Target 2 call for the contributions of indigenous peoples, local communities and civil society in conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity, this project is targeted to build the capacity for collective actions for local community and indigenous peoples to provide efforts in biodiversity conservation. The NBSAP also highlights the need to develop community conserved areas as an integral part of the country Protected Areas system.
- **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) under UNFCCC 2015**, which outlines how Malaysia intends to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions intensity of GDP by 45% by 2030, which consists of 35% on an unconditional basis and a further 10% conditional upon receipt of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity building from developed countries.
- **National REDD Plus Strategy**; closely aligned with the three parts of the strategy: (1) actions to build synergies and coherence between Federal and State governments in addressing climate change, biodiversity, and forest policies; (2) actions to reduce emissions and enhance sinks in forests and conservation of biological resources; and (3) develop a sustainable financing mechanism.
- **Heart of Borneo Initiative**; assuring adequate and timely resources are channelled into biodiversity conservation in Sabah and Sarawak.
- **National Action Plan on Peatlands (NAPP) 2011-2020**; regarding assessment, protection, rehabilitation, integrated management, fire protection and control of peatland resources.

UNDP-implemented Small Grants Programme is delivering integrated results at the country level supporting local level capacities aligned with multiple Multilateral Environmental Conventions. This includes support to work for CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) and National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA), UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP), and localization of Sustainable Development Goals, amongst many others.

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF COUNTRY REPORT

- Results aggregations over time are only for completed projects.
- 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 a specific unit of measurement (i.e., indicator selected) but also for results aggregation across years in a given operational phase. 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 behavioural 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 behaviours 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.