





GEF/SGP - CPS - EGYPT

SGP Country Programme Strategy for Utilization of Operational Phase 5 (OP5) Grant Funds

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Acronyms

BD	Biodiversity
СВО	Community Based Organization
CC	Climate Change
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
EEAA	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency
EU	European Union
FSP	Full Size Projects
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IW	International Waters
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LD	Land Degradation
MAP	Mediterranean Action Plan
MCSD	Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MWRI	Ministry of Water Resource & Irrigation
NAP	National Action Plan
NC	National Coordinator
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NGO	Non Governmental Organization
NSC	National Steering Committee
NWRP	National Water Resource Plan
OFP	Operational Focal Point
OP 5	Operational Phase 5
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
SGP	Small Grants Programme
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP CO	United Nations Development Programme Country Office
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

SGP Country Programme Strategy for Utilization of Operational Phase 5 (OP5) Grant Funds

Country: EGYPT

Resources to be invested: US\$2,671,500

INTRODUCTION

SGP- Egypt started the process of setting and finalizing the OP5 CPS by conducting an SGP National Steering Sub-committee meeting in the UNDP CO premises (June 2011), in which NSC members, experts, consultants in addition to the OFP and UNDP CO representatives significantly participated in drafting the SGP CPS OP5 framework. They discussed the CPS outlines, included their valuable contributions to the SGP niche within OP5 objectives and their consistency with previously set national priorities.

Thereafter, the SGP National Coordinator briefed the GEF National Steering Committee, during its meeting in June 2011, of all activities and outputs conducted via the SGP in Egypt, and also presented the preliminary draft of the CPS. The GEF National Steering Committee is strategically following up on the SGP process as SGP adopts its policies and projects.

Accordingly, fruitful discussions with GEF/ NSC distinguished members took place to identify synergies between small and large scale projects, as well as future plans to ensure the continuation of successful results of SGP at the national level.

In pursuit of the above, SGP NC has conducted several meetings with OFP representative to revise and coordinate finalization of expected CPS - OP5 activities and expected projects in OP5, that responds to all the needed inputs.

A final expanded consultation workshop was held on the 31st of July, 2011, in which all SGP stakeholders were present. SGP/ NSC members, representatives of SGP NGO network, in addition to active NGOs & CBOs from different Egyptian governorates, representatives of relevant Egyptian ministries, local authorities, universities, academic research centres, international agencies, business associations, representatives of UNDP CO, GEF unit/office of GEF operational focal point and relevant experts and consultants in all SGP thematic areas, positively participated and submitted their feedbacks and inputs to the development of the CPS in OP5.

During the above mentioned workshop, the NC briefed the participants comprehensively on SGP objectives, activities, results, lessons learned, successful stories from SGP previous phases, as well as presenting the framework of the CPS in OP5. This facilitated a, detailed discussion in which all participants' valuable comments, remarks and inputs were consequently included in the final draft.

1.1. BACKGROUND

Since the establishment of GEF/SGP in Egypt in 1992, it has succeeded in funding and providing technical support for more than 255 grantee projects throughout Egypt. The projects were within the main focal areas of the programme: climate change, biodiversity, international waters, land degradation and POPs, with total grants amount of about 5,500,000 USD.

The Global Environment Facility/Small Grants Programme (GEF/SGP) has been implemented through several phases as detailed below:

-	Pilot Phase:	1992 – 1996
-	Operational Phase 1:	1996 – 1998
-	Operational Phase 2:	1998 - 2002
-	Operational Phase 3:	2002 - 2006
_	Operational Phase 4:	2007 - 2010

During the previous country programme strategies in Egypt, the programme was set to be consistent with the national priorities on environmental and developmental issues, especially to address significant issues such as air pollution, energy saving and energy efficiency, sustainable transport, protecting biodiversity (Protected Areas) and protecting the River Nile from pollution.

Geographical and Thematic Focusing:

Previous CPC focused on some of the themes that followed a clear geographical distribution, which allowed the possibility of merging some of the themes as presented in the following table:

Upper Egypt: IW and CC
Nile Delta: CC and POPs
Red Sea & Sinai: BD and IW
The Mediterranean Sea Coast: BD and LD
Greater Cairo and other areas: CC and POPs

Projects that focused on more than one focal area were encouraged and supported to target and reach larger communities, and had greater impacts on the local and global levels. Institutional support and capacity-building were significant objectives of GEF/SGP in the previous phases. It also concentrated on providing simple solutions that can be replicated and up-scaled to increase positive impacts at the national and the global levels.

Lessons Learned from Previous Phases:

- Underscored the importance of effective partnerships with all stakeholders; private sector, local authorities, local communities, etc...
- The need to build the capacity and provide adequate institutional support to NGOs, which enable them to fulfill their role in serving their local communities and successfully implement SGP funded projects
- Confirming the existence of clear indicators, as well as effective follow-up and evaluation system to measure projects results and achievements.

- Continuing the exchange of experiences between the SGP National Steering Committee members; experts and consultants with NGOs implementing SGP funded projects.
- The importance of women's and men's participation and creating lasting job opportunities for young people through these projects.
- The need for continued monitoring and evaluation through field visits to all implemented projects to ensure the achievement of targeted results.
- The involvement and the active participation of targeted communities and beneficiaries of these projects. This ensured sustainability of the projects even after SGP grants are disbursed.

1.2. MAJOR PARTNERSHIPS & EXISTING SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING

Through bilateral and international cooperation, there are several foreign agencies working in the field of environment and shares a common niche with GEF Small Grants Program, in providing financial and technical support to NGOs. Examples of these type of organizations that implements community projects includes the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Bank, UNIDO, EU, Japan (JICA), Germany (GIZ), Italy, IUCN, Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP – MCSD) and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

This CPS provides continual dialogue and cooperation with international agencies interested in the environmental field in order to build effective partnerships. These partnerships aim at expanding services to local communities and provide communities with support needed to improve their quality of life and sustain natural resources around where they reside.

In OP3 and OP4, Egypt CPS aimed at mobilizing financial resources to provide cofinancing for the different implemented projects. SGP is planning to establish more partnerships to provide co-financing at the programme level to share costs of activities, workshops and consultations with other partners in the different agencies.

During OP4, the SGP succeeded in building partnerships with GEF Full size projects in the focal areas of climate change and biodiversity. In the former, a partnership with GEF/UNDP project on Energy Efficiency focusing on marketing of the energy saving bulbs by different NGOs in the governorates was realized. Moreover, the programme successfully built partnership with the Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs in the promotion of the green building concept, starting a process of engagement of NGOs in awareness and training activities. For the latter, SGP closely coordinated its activities in the support of protected areas with the Nature Conservation Sector in the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA). This aimed to ensure that the linkage of the programme with the national priorities specifically as outlined in the EEAA five years plans.

Other major partners to be brought on board in OP 5 due to their previous significant role in supporting SGP projects and providing technical support needed to help SGP successfully achieve its goals and objectives are: Ministry of Water Resources and Irrigation, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Social Solidarity, Governorates, Local Authorities, Business Associations, Universities, Academic Institutes such as the Desert Research Center and also the local Communities themselves.

At the projects level, SGP Egypt is planning to mobilize co-finance from strategic partners. The co-finance is basically needed to ensure the sustainability of implemented projects. Co-finance will come from the NGOs, CBOs, local communities, local authorities, the government, from the private sector or those interested international organizations and agencies.

2.1. SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME NICHE

Table 1. List of Relevant Conventions and National/Regional Plans or Programmes

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	2/6/1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	1/1998
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	5/121994
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	1999-1 st ,2010-2 nd
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	12/1/2005
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	7/7/1995
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	6/2005
Stockholm Convention (SC)	2/5/2003
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	2005
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	2000
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	2008
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	N/A
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	2000

2.2. Using OP5 Resources to Support Implementation of National Priorities in Relation to GEF-5 Strategic Priorities

The GEF National Steering Committee, during its process of reviewing the allocation of funds to SGP in operational phase 5, recommended that all the activities and projects funded by SGP in this phase, should be adopted and linked directly to GEF-5 planned FSP—as well as the ongoing FSP of GEF-4. The ongoing GEF 4 national projects cover all GEF focal areas. As for the GEF 5 planned FSP, it includes 6 projects covering Biodiversity, Climate Change, Land Degradation and POPs. Other focal areas will be identified during the course of work of the committee during OP 5. This would enable SGP to continue with the successful results coming out of FSP of the GEF at the local level, allow the implementation of national priorities at local levels, and also to build the capacity of NGOs to support the government. In addition, this help in fulfilling their responsibilities towards the protection of the environment and to further improve the livelihoods of their local communities.

For the ongoing GEF 4 projects, SGP will work towards developing the capacity of the NGO/CBOs to understand the innovative nature of the large scale national GEF projects. As an example, different activities will be conducted to NGOs to raise their awareness on the sustainable management of natural resources within the protected areas and expected provision of sustainable financial mechanisms for conservations within protected areas. Other examples may include that the SGP will support potential NGOs to link with local communities on the added value of the reuse of wastes – through biogas and gasification units – to provide clean source of energy in rural areas. Throughout the preparation of the GEF 5 national projects, SGP – through partnership with the government - will involve NGOs in the planning process of GEF projects to ensure their early learning of the global environmental issue and its link to the national environmental challenge. This will assist in identifying their expected roles during project implementation.

NGOs & CBOs are considered the most viable channels to promote community empowerment, ownership and participation in development. They are effective tool to better understand the local community's needs and demands and must be given a full chance to fulfill their responsibilities towards those communities.

Egypt, after the revolution, is witnessing a great change. It is heading towards what is called "Egyptian Spring", a new era of democracy, transparency and freedom, in which civil society organizations should have a greater role. The CSO's should be encouraged and strengthened to be independent, to be more professional and to participate more actively in their communities. The change also should include the removal of all legal barriers regarding registration, licensing requirements, and excessive bureaucratic procedures concerning the acceptance of grants and financial resources.

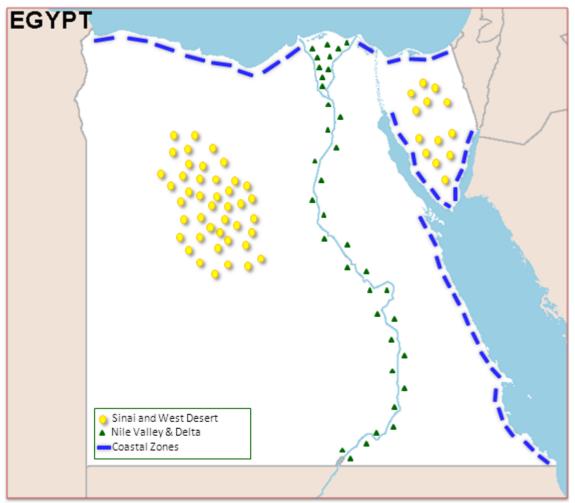
NGOs and CBOs in the future will have a significant role in achieving national set out priorities and the objectives of the relevant global conventions during this phase through:

- Strengthening the linkages between NGOs & CBOs and already existing networks working in the field of environment and sustainable development to facilitate exchange of experience, provide technical support and disseminate successful stories which should help to replicate or up-scale successful lessons in different areas.
- Establish new networks for NGOs implementing projects in the same focal area; climate change (energy efficiency projects, sustainable transport projects etc...), biodiversity, international waters, POPs etc., to strengthen the means of cooperation, coordination and networking in order to ensure experience and knowledge exchange.
- Organize regular meetings between NGO networks and the national focal points of the global conventions; UN Convention on Biodiversity, UN Convention to Combat Desertification, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Montreal Protocol on Ozone Convention and Stockholm Convention to raise NGOs awareness towards global environmental issues and the constructive role they can play in their local communities, and also to build strong, collaborative relationships with all other parties.

To achieve this, it is expected that the SGP will be working closely with the GEF National Steering Committee that includes convention focal points, line ministries and

implementing agencies. Moreover, the programme will be building partnerships with effective bilateral and regional international agencies to maximize the impact of SGP funded projects at the national level. The projects shall be located in the zones marked in figure 2.3 below.

2.3. A MAP INDICATING GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS



In Op5, The SGP will be working in Delta, Upper Egypt, along the Red sea and the Mediterranean coasts, Sinai and West Desert.

2.4. SGP EGYPT NICHE:

SGP country programme strategy will continue to support the National priorities and work in full partnership with all relevant programmes. The SGP niche in Egypt will focus on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Sustainable Transport, Green Buildings, and the Sustainable Management of the Protected Areas, Bioenergy and POPs safe disposal in Egypt. The SGP will support the activities that will deal with the policy mainstreaming, advocacy and the small scale demonstration projects which will lead to the capacity development of the grantees and the relevant stakeholders.

Table 2. Consistency with National Priorities

OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions	NEAP/ principles of BD in Egypt 1: Ensuring that each protectorate is managed properly to optimize income generation without prejudicing its natural values.	1.1.1Partenerships between NGOs, and government for conservation of biodiversity in selected PAs 1.1.2. Increase awareness of local communities for conservation of natural resources in selected PAs 1.1.3 Projects to promote innovative sustainable livelihoods activities.
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions	NEAP/ Agenda for action/ program areas ² : Protect the biodiversity in Egypt as a provider to different socioeconomic and health areas.	2.1. Strengthen the capacity of NGOs for Sustainable Land Management including protection of biodiversity and combating land degradation
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	CC NAP ³ : Mitigation action A/2: - Promote use of Efficient lightening Systems - Promoting new and renewable energy utilization to increase its share on the energy mix - Adopting suitable environmental protection measures in electricity generation, transmission, distribution and end use - NEAP / Agenda for action / supportive measures. The GOE along with local NGOs have to support the process of recycling agricultural wastes and promote the processes of waste recycling for biogas products	3.1.1. Strengthen the participation of NGOs for implementation of cost effective energy efficient buildings. 3.1.2. Partnership with relevant NGOs about energy efficiency regulation, standards, codes and incentives. 3.1.3. Promotion of energy efficiency regulation, standards, codes and incentives by NGOs 3.1.4. Enhance NGOs participation in the operations of safe disposal of damaged saving bulbs. 3.1.5 Innovative approaches for replication, up-scaling of renewable energy technologies for poverty

¹ Government of Egypt / National Environmental Action plan (2002-2017)
² BD National Action Plan
³ Egyptian environmental affairs Agency, climate change national action plan

		reduction and sustainable livelihoods 3.1.6 Development of small activities of localized biomass production in cooperation with private
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	CC NAP ⁴ : Energy / transportation : required measure to improve public transportation	4.1 Participation of NGOs in promotion and use of Non-motorized transport facilities (e.g. safe bicycle routes, better pedestrian facilities) through partnerships with private sector and municipalities and full size projects ⁵ 4.2 Promotion and dissemination of public transport innovative practices among national relevant stakeholders.
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5: Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	NA	NA
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agroecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	(LD – NAP) ⁶ - Preservation of wild plants of economic and medical importance; maximize the utilization of these species to sustain better livelihoods of local communities.	6.1.Strengthening the capacity of NGOs in improving of agro ecosystem activities
	- Ensure sustainable use of these species through the cultivation and breeding of these plants under conditions similar to their natural environment.	6.2. Promotion of agro ecosystem activities for better resilience of livelihoods
	- Combating over grazing and collection of vegetation threatening the livelihood of the local population	

⁴ Egyptian environmental affairs Agency, climate change national action plan

⁶ Desertification Action Plan

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SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	Apply landscape approach for the conservation and restoration of ecosystem goods and services towards sustainable use of natural resources	 7.1Partnership between NGOs and government for sustainable land management through community participation and innovative low cost initiatives. 7.2 Promotion of ground water desalination technologies, using low-cost new and renewable energy to reduce land degradation and improve sustainable livelihoods for local communities
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8: Support trans-boundary water body management with community-based initiatives	 (NWRP - MWRI)⁷ The National Water Resource Plan aims to achieve the national objectives by developing new water resources, improving the efficiency of the present use and to protect environment and health by preventing pollution and by treatment and control of polluted water. Assessment of potential measures for water demand management such as irrigation improvement, cost sharing, water quota, etc.; Development of integrated strategies for matching future water supply and demand, by water supply augmentation, water pollution control, water conservation and water demand management; 	8.1.Increased participation of local community for better management of water resources 8.2. Strengthen and disseminate waste water treatment practices to reduce the pollution of groundwater and the River Nile 8.3. Promote the use of treated waste water in wood forest planting and energy generating plants.
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	 Implementation of the Stockholm Convention Strengthen technical and management capacity for minimizing exposure to POPs Safe storage and disposal of obsolete pesticides Development of public sector management capacity for POPs; number of persons trained in the sustainable management of POPs. 	9.1. Promoting and advocating the use of the best and most appropriate available technologies to eliminate persistent organic pollutants 9.2. Strengthen the participation of NGOs in the processes of sustainable management of POPs, E-wastes and medical wastes

⁷ National Water Resource Plan (2017)

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SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10: Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends	Egypt's Progress Towards Achieving MDGs 20108 - Encourage & strengthen civil society participation in the consultation and networking process towards better knowledge management and the implementation of global environmental conventions.	10.1 Strengthen capacity of NGOs to understand the large scale national GEF projects for better local community participation in global environmental issues. 10.2 Networking between NGOs for better dissemination of local success & lessons learned for global conventions
Cross-Cutting Results: Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender	- Strategies and initiatives are set to integrate a unified plan to redirect the driving forces in the basic national policies designed to achieve justice and poverty reduction - Integrate a gender prospective for the environmental sector, with the goal of improving the quality of life.	 Create sustainable job opportunities for youth to share in solving unemployment problems. Encourage youth to have an active role in improving their environmental, social, economic and health conditions. Ensure equal gender opportunities to improve their livelihoods, especially that women in most rural areas are considered the family providers

⁸ Egypt's Progress Towards Achieving MDGs 2010 Yey Development Challenges: 2010

3 SGP CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, POVERTY REDUCTION & GENDER RESULTS

3.1. CIVIL SOCIETY ASSOCIATIONS IN EGYPT:

The number of NGOs has increased, and their experience to deal with the vision and objectives of the programme has also been developed. The ability of some NGOs to train other NGOs on project proposal writing and to work within the SGP objectives towards community development has improved. This can be illustrated through the following:

- The proven ability of NGOs to implement successful projects in rural or urban areas and in various geographical regions in Egypt.
- Monitoring, follow-up and evaluation of previous set indicators to ensure the effectiveness and the achievements of projects' objectives and sustainability.
- Some NGOs managed to up-scale small projects and replicate them in different governorates, such as the use of non motorized transport facilities
- Ability of the NGOs to provide and mobilize the required co-finance for their projects.

In OP5, the SGP will review and evaluate the submitted projects to ensure the following:

- The direct beneficiaries of the SGP/Egypt are all types of non-profit organizations, such as: NGOs working in the field of environment and sustainable development, community based organizations, associations, scientific societies, cooperatives.etc, that aim to spread environmental awareness among local communities, women, youth, local & executive authorities, as well as policy makers.
- SGP continues to mainstream its success into the different policies and action plans, also the SGP policy in Egypt will build the capacity of civil societies and raise their awareness regarding the most important global environmental issues and their linkage to the national priorities.
- SGP Egypt will support the ability of women in communities to effectively participate in the implementation of SGP funded projects. This requires continuous meetings targeting men and women to remove any misunderstanding occurring about income generation opportunities for women verses men.
- One of the most important criteria to evaluate SGP funded projects is the significant role and the impact of project activities on women and children especially in rural areas.
- In all organized meetings to further explain SGP goals, especially in rural areas, special attention will be given to women effective participation and empowerment.

SGP Develops the Capacity of NGOs & CBOs to Enhance their role in Serving their Communities by the following:

Skills: through organizing intensive trainings to ensure the successful implementation of SGP funded project, maximizing the use of the grant amount in the most appropriate way, as well as submitting acceptable technical & financial reports

Information & Knowledge: provide them with all the technical support needed to achieve SGP goals & objectives and also facilitate the exchange of updated information among all relevant partners through our website, regular organized events (focus group workshops, seminars, consultations) in which all partners are presented, as well as the exposure and organizing field visits to best practices, which facilities the process of communication and replication of successful projects in several Egyptian governorates to serve different communities.

Resources – natural, financial and intellectual

Technology: most of SGP funded projects focus on the importance of using modern technologies and a part of the grant is to provide hardware.

Linkages – Networking:

- SGP strengthens the linkages between NGOs & CBOs and already existing networks working in the field of environment and sustainable development, which helps to replicate or up-scale successful lessons in different geographical areas.
- Encourage the establishment of NGO networks to implement projects in the same focal area; climate change (energy efficiency projects, sustainable transport projects etc...), biodiversity, international waters, POPs etc., to strengthen means of cooperation, coordination and networking.

Developing the Capacity of CSOs to fulfill their role in the following activities:

- 1. Training of young people from the local community, which contributes to creating job opportunities to reduce poverty in the targeted communities.
- 2. Raise environmental awareness on global and local environmental problems through conducting capacity-developing programs for their communities through organizing workshops, awareness campaigns, trainings etc...
- 3. Consolidate the concepts of social participation through community involvement in the implementation of projects' activities and ensures the formation of community committees to ensure sustainability of implemented projects.
- 4. Preparation and dissemination of promotional information materials (readable, audio, visual) to simplify environmental concepts.
- 5. Implementation of pilot projects to promote environmental concepts, such as energy efficiency.
- 6. Establish strong partnerships to successfully implement SGP funded projects, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders; government, the private sector, international agencies and local communities.

SGP / EGYPT VISION

The Egypt Human Development Report of 2008 'Egypt's Social Contract: the Role of Civil Society' suggests that the battle is no longer between ideologies of the left or right but rather about which practical system can manage and deliver better social justice through basic services and earning opportunities, higher levels of transparency and accountability, and more freedom of expression.

The Report suggests that to create and to implement a system that delivers these social goods will require new roles and responsibilities for civil society as the 'third pillar' of the nation, complementing the state and the private sector. It indicates that the civil society sector has vast underutilized capacity and resources that could compensate for inadequate government or private sector capacity to fulfill social targets and programs.

Civil society and its organizations have a significant role to play in national development process—in partnership with the state and the private sector—as a result of their experience in welfare and social development programs, because they act as the home to important interested groups, and since they are able to be the voice of those many segments of society that have been marginalized.

After the revolution, Egypt is witnessing a great change and also facing a lot of challenges. SGP/Egypt intends to continue playing its role in strengthening civil society organizations, which are expected to have a greater role in society mobilization to achieve sustainable development and ensure poverty alleviation.

SGP will enhance its objective to develop the gender perspective in the environmental sector, with the goal of improving the quality of life of the population, in particular women empowerment and communities, through mitigation and adaptation to the sustainable use of natural resources.

It will also focus on Youth, as it is proven that they are the main tool of change, through their involvement in improving their local community's livelihood and create sustainable job opportunities for those young people to face unemployment.

During the last 19 years, SGP succeeded in building the capacity of NGOs and CBOs to become strong partners in implementing the SGP CPSs. NGOs and CBOs in Egypt have shown their ability to cope with the challenges of every CPS. From the SGP experience we learned that after the different consultations and the existing partnerships between some knowledgeable NGOs and other NGOs and CBOs, many of them get along with the strategy and submitted good projects for implementation.

4 OP5 COUNTRY OUTCOMES, INDICATORS AND ACTIVITIES

Table 3. Results Framework

Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities	
BIODIVERSITY Immediate objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions				
BD.1.1. Partnerships between NGOs, and government for conservation of biodiversity in selected Pas	 Area of PAs (in hectares) given support by NGOs (the average area for PAs in Egypt is 5000 km², with most of the PAs being < 500 km²) and/or No. of PAs given support by NGOs and/or No. of species given support by NGOs 	- Project records - Surveys	- 2 - 3 PAs management projects or - 2 - 3 species conservation projects	
BD.1.2. Increased awareness of local communities for conservation of natural resources in selected PAs	- No. of PAs whose communities are targeted with at least one awareness campaign per community	 Project records Awareness material developed Awareness events organized 	- 2 - 3 awareness projects	
BD.1.3. Projects to promote innovative sustainable livelihoods activities.	 Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas influenced Number of local communities involved and influenced in the conserved areas. 	- Project records - Minutes of meeting held	- 2 community project on sustainable livelihood including biodiversity conservation	
Immediate Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions				
BD 2.1Strengthen the capacity of NGOs for Sustainable Land Management including protection of biodiversity and combating desertification	Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land management	- Project records - Minutes of meetings held	- 2-3 community Based projects	

CLIMATE CHANGE

<u>Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level

the community level		-	
CC3.1. Strengthen the participation of NGOs for implementation of cost effective energy efficient buildings.	 Number of energy efficient building units supported (A building unit would include governmental individual houses, flats, small living quarters, etc) Average percentage decrease in electricity consumption as a result of energy efficiency measures implemented 	- Project records - Surveys	- 4 – 5 energy efficient projects
Partnership with relevant NGOs about energy efficiency regulation, standards, codes and incentives.	- The number of NGOs working in partnership with other entities regarding energy efficiency regulation, standards, codes and incentives	- Project records - No. of NGOs attending the capacity building program(s)	- 3 – 4 partnership projects for NGOs
CC.3.3 small scale activities of awareness raising, capacity building, advocacy of cost effective energy efficiency technologies CC 3.4. Enhance NGOs	 No. of industrial establishments with an increased capacity No of NGOs involved in the promotion of the energy saving bulbs in number of different governorates in Egypt 	 Project records Capacity building material developed No. of industrial establishments attending the capacity building program(s) 	- 3 – 4 capacity building projects for industrial establishments
participation in the operations of safe disposal of damaged saving bulbs.	(At least 4 NGOs working in the energy saving bulbs in three different governorates in Egypt)	 Project records No of energy savings bulbs promoted through the lifetime of the project I cooperation with NGOs 	- 4-5 projects promoting the use of energy saving bulbs
CC.3.5 Innovative approaches for replication, up- scaling of renewable energy technologies for poverty reduction and sustainable livelihoods.	No. of households in rural areas and/or slum areas using renewable energy At least 100-200 Households using low cost renewable energy technologies	- Project records - Surveys	- 5 renewable energy pilot projects

Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level			
CC.4.1 Participation of NGOs in promotion of non-motorized transport facilities (e.g. safe bicycle routes, better pedestrian facilities) through partnerships with private sector and municipalities	- No. of municipalities benefiting from the non-motorized transport facilities At least 2-3 governorates having partial use of the non-motorized transport facilities in the villages. - Average percentage increase in the no. of individuals using non-motorized transport facilities and/or - Percentage increase in distance run through non-motorized transport facilities	- Project records - Surveys	the use of non-motorized transport facilities
Promotion and dissemination of public transport innovative practices among national relevant stakeholders	 No. of innovative practices disseminated At least 2- 3models for use of public transport are disseminated in 2-3 governorates No. of users benefiting from the public transport 	- Project records - Dissemination events/campaig ns organized - Surveys ¹⁰	4 – 5 awareness projects
LAND DEGRADATION Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities			
L.D 6.1 Strengthen the capacity of NGOs for improving of agro ecosystem activities	Hectares of production landscape applying sustainable use practices	- Project records - Surveys	2-3 demonstration and or replicated projects
L.D 6.2 promotion of agro ecosystem activities for better resilience of livelihoods	Number of agro ecosystem practices disseminated	- Project records Dissemination events/campaigns	2-3 awareness campaigns and projects on agro ecosystem

^{1.1} These survey should be covering the number of beneficiaries / users before and after the promotion of the public transport model and non-motorized transport facilities

Immediate Objective landscapes)	7: Reduce pressures at community	level from competing land	l uses (in the wider
L.D 7.1 Partnership between NGOs, government and private sector for sustainable land management	- Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices	- Project records - Surveys	4-5 partnership projects
activities through community's participation in innovative low cost technologies	 Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated Number of communities 		
L.D 7.2 Promotion of ground water desalination technologies, using low-cost new and renewable energy to reduce land degradation and improve sustainable livelihoods for local communities	demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices		2-3 ground water desalination projects
INTERNATIONAL Immediate Objective	WATERS 8: Support trans-boundary water b	ody management with con	nmunity-based initiatives
IW. 8.1 Increase participation of local community for better management of water resources and	- Hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably	- Project records - Surveys	3-4 projects
IW. 8.2. Strengthen and disseminate waste water treatment practices to reduce the pollution of groundwater and the River Nile	- Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided	- Project records - Surveys	1 project
IW . 8.3. Promote the use of treated waste water in wood forest planting and energy generating plants.			2-3 projects

POPs			
	9: Promote and support phase out	of POPs and chemicals of	global concern at
CH 9.1 Promoting and advocating the use of the best and most appropriate available \technologies to eliminate persistent organic pollutants	- Number of awareness campaign conducted for safe release or avoidance of POPs	 Project records Awareness materials developed 	- 1-2 Awareness campaigns/projects
CH 9.2 Strengthen the participation of NGOs in the processes of sustainable management of POPs, E- wastes and medical wastes	- Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release.	- Project records - Surveys	- 1-2 projects on Medical waste/e- waste and other POPs implemented with the participation of NGOs and private sector
organizations and tho	10: Enhance and strengthen capacise of indigenous peoples) to engage adequate information flows, implal impacts and trends	e in consultative processes,	apply knowledge
10.1 Strengthen capacity of NGOs to understand GEF large scale national projects for better local community participation in global environmental issues.	Number of NGOs involved in GEF large scale national projects Number of communities participated in global environmental issues Number of national policies influenced	- Project records - Surveys	- 2-3 projects
Networking between NGOs for better dissemination of local success & lessons learnt for global conventions	 Number of community-based environmental monitoring systems demonstrated Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks 	- Project records - Surveys	- 3 – 4 projects

5 MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN

5.1 The follow up and evaluation process of SGP projects will be through the following:

- The SGP National Coordination Office.
- The National Steering Committee members from the SGP committee as well as the GEF national steering committee to ensure transparent flow of information.
- CBOs and NGOs from the grantees and others.
- Independent third parties.

Monitoring and Follow-up process to measure the Projects' Impacts:

A group of experts in the SGP National Steering Committee will develope some standards and guidelines to measure the impacts and achievements of the programme as follows:

- Building partnerships between projects in different geographical areas.
- NGOs should address at least one of the global environmental areas.
- Sustainability and the ability of up-scaling and replicating implemented projects.
- Co-financing with 50 % of the total budget of the project through the NGO itself or through the local community.
- Encourage partnerships with the private sector and government.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Programme M&E: The SGP in Egypt will reformulate the memberships of its NSC to include members of different and needed expertise to steer the uniqueness of OP5, National Focal Points of international conventions, as well as project managers of GEF large scale projects to ensure full harmonization between the large and small scale GEF Projects. The new formulated SGP / NSC on a quarterly basis will hold special sessions for following up on the results of approved projects, brainstorming of their relevance to the set upon outcomes in the SGP OP 5 strategies.
- *Project M&E*: Each member will be responsible for following up the implementation of set of projects and reporting back to the committee on challenges and constraints hindering the proper implementation of the project. This will include site visits of members of the sub-committee of the SGP / NSC to special projects that need regular follow up. Finally, reports will be submitted to the NSC for final decisions.
- Each project reviewed by the committee should have clear objectives that link it to the global environmental problems. Performance indicators for measuring the project progress should be part of the proposal submitted and the committee should verify that these indicators are measurable. These indicators should be built with emphasis on outcomes and impacts mentioned with the SGP strategy. A training workshop will be conducted by the SGP for different NGOs to ensure consistency between the outcome indicators stated in the SGP strategy and project performance indicators submitted from NGOs within project proposals

- Each project will submit Progress Reports to the SGP/NC stating any challenges occurring within the implementation of the project, as well as final project reports that focus on the outcomes and impacts of the project, not just whether the project undertook the activities outlined in the project documents or not. The SGP/NSC will review the final reports establishing linkages with global environmental benefits and how well the project will have achieved the SGP strategic priorities.
- The SGP National Coordinator will be reporting on semi annual basis to the GEF National Steering Committee that provides strategic guidance to the GEF portfolio at the national level. The GEF National Steering Committee will ensure the constituency between the SGP outcomes & indicators and the GEF national indicators.

5.2 Mechanisms of Local Stakeholders Participation in Setting Project Objectives, Outputs, Monitoring & Evaluation

The goal of participatory monitoring and evaluation is to assess progress in project implementation and achievement of results and at the same time promote community ownership of the GEF-SGP projects. Efforts will be made to assist NGOs and CBOs to develop clear and well-designed projects that fit the GEF criteria as a basis for the monitoring and evaluation process. All GEF-SGP projects will incorporate participatory monitoring and assessment into their design and implementation. The process at project level will be undertaken to:

- Facilitate identification of problems
- Enhance project performance and ensure matching with the GEF criteria
- Provide the basis for technical and financial accountability
- Build capacity to implement and manage project successfully, and promote the identification and dissemination of lessons learned by participants themselves.

The GEF-SGP grant recipients, the National Coordinator and the National Steering Committee will be responsible for project monitoring and evaluation. A monitoring and evaluation plan with appropriate measurable indicators will be a requirement for each approved GEF-SGP project. For each project there shall be a monitoring record which will be used to collect information that will be analyzed to produce periodic progress reports and final reports to be submitted to the GEF-SGP Country Program by the grantees. The periodic progress reports and site visits are basic sources of information for monitoring of projects by the National Coordinator. Each project will be concluded with: a final technical and financial evaluation and the final report will identify lessons learned/best practices.

- SGP plans to organize continuous capacity building workshops for interested and associated NGOs and CBOs, that are implementing SGP funded projects, as well as those seeking grants, to help them verify their local community's needs and link them to global environmental problems.
- Local stakeholders are considered the main actors able to assess the needs of their local communities.
- Ensure that all project proposals submitted to SGP are reviewed by NSC comply with specific objectives that are linked directly to project's activities and results in physical outcomes. It should also v.rify specific measurable indicators consistent with CPS set indicators.

- Regular quarterly progress reports, as well as a final report format are designed to highlight the progress of the project as an effective method of documentation.

Table 4. M&E Plan at the Project Level

SGP Individual Project Level			
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe	
Participatory Project Monitoring	Grantees	Duration of project	
Baseline Data Collection ¹¹	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage	
Two or Three Project Progress and Financial Reports(depending on agreed disbursement schedule)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request	
Project Work plans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project	
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (as necessary/cost effective 12)	NC	Before project approval, as appropriate	
NC Project Monitoring Site Visit (as necessary/cost effective)	NC	On average once per year, as appropriate	
NC Project Evaluation Site Visit (as necessary/cost effective)	NC	At end of project, as appropriate	
Project Final Report	Grantees	Following completion of project activities	
Project Evaluation Report (as necessary/cost effective)	NC, NSC, External party	Following completion of project activities	
Prepare project description to be incorporated into global project database	PA, NC	At start of project, and ongoing as appropriate	

As explained before OP 5 SGP individual project will be linked to the extent possible to the GEF FSP that will be assessed by the GEF National Steering Committee as an external party. Moreover, the SGP strategy will also be linked to the UNDAF that will support regular monitoring of its impact through the UNDAF indicators

¹¹ Capacity-development workshops and M&E trainings may be organized in relation to innovative techniques for community monitoring, including new technologies (i.e. GPS-enabled cameras, aerial photos, participatory GIS, etc.); as well as in response to guidelines for "climate proofing" of GEF focal area interventions; REDD+ standards; and/or other specific donor/co-financing requirements.

¹²To ensure cost-effectiveness, project level M&E activities, including project site visits, will be conducted on a discretionary basis, based on internally assessed criteria including (but not limited to) project size and complexity, potential and realized risks, and security parameters.

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Table 5. M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level			
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe	
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	Start of OP5	
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	NSC, NC	Once during OP5	
NSC Meetings	NSC, NC, UNDP CO	Minimum twice per year	
Performance and Results Assessment (PRA) of NC Performance	NC, NSC, UNDP CO, CPMT, UNOPS	Once per year	
Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ¹³	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year	
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly	

6. KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 6.1. SGP plans for capturing, sharing, and disseminating the lessons learned and good practices identified through the country portfolio of SGP projects with civil society, government, and other relevant stakeholders
 - a) Organizing training workshops for different NGOs on national priorities and clarifying GEF SGP outcome indicators
 - b) SGP/NSC special sessions for follow up on approved projects
 - c) Through our ongoing knowledge management project, SGP will continue to organize several workshops for NGOs & CBOs in different governorates to acknowledge them of the SGP, how to apply for SGP grants, its focal areas and explains how to write an acceptable project proposal according to local communities' needs and demands.
 - d) Use printed materials to compile the success stories, challenges faced by implemented projects and lessons learned.
 - e) Updating the website of the SGP in Egypt regularly to assist the NGOs, CBOs, government and all relevant stakeholders to learn more about SGP activities and also acts as an important mean of communication and sharing experiences of the different projects in all focal areas.
 - f) Prepare newsletters on all SGP events and circulate them widely to share the programme's success.
 - g) Prepare audio-visual materials on successful projects to screen them in all events, workshops and conferences.

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¹³ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.

6.2. Key Policy Process SGP Country Programme will Follow to Influence Policy at the Local, Regional and National Levels

- Reformulation of the SGP/ NSC to include further experts in all focal areas, as well as representatives of NGOs, international donors, government, local authorities as an effective way of influence policy makers.
- Organize meetings between SGP/NSC and policy makers to discuss ways of cooperation and continuous coordination. Also organize demonstration visits to all successful projects' sites.
- SGP works in coordination with local authorities and governorates. They are invited to all SGP events to share and facilitate the implementation of projects.
- Strengthen relationships with the media to highlight SGP achievements and disseminate local success stories that successfully generate global benefit

6.3. Plans of SGP country programme to use existing knowledge to replicate and up-scale good practices and lessons learned from SGP projects

According to recent national report on "Situation Analysis: Key Development Challenges Facing Egypt" issued 2010: Major Challenges facing scaling-up interventions include the following constraints:

- New innovative practices require innovative structure and system reforms so as to succeed
- Insufficient attention to scale up successful projects by providing technical assistance and necessary funding for local communities;
- Lack of adequate financial planning and resource mobilization.

Scaling up efforts require extending and strengthening partnerships to achieve wide coverage. New partnerships will require creating new management and operations systems to support scaling up while maintaining the core values and quality of pilot projects.

SGP plans to replicate and up-scale successful stories and good practices from other ongoing SGP and GEF FSP projects through the following:

- Mobilize other financial resources (international donors, private sector, local authorities and local communities, etc...), to co-finance with SGP to up-scale or replicate successful projects in different areas and governorates to increase number of beneficiaries and local communities.
- Strengthen NGO networks working in the same focal areas to enable them to implement joint large scale projects.
- Provide implementing civil society associations with adequate technical assistance needed through experts, universities, academic institutes, etc...

7 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN

7.1 Resource mobilization plans to enhance the sustainability of the SGP country programme

SGP Country Programme Strategy for Financing and co-Finance:

The CPS illustrates the importance of mobilizing and encouraging co-finance needed to increase the effectiveness of GEF/SGP in Egypt. There are successful models in the provision of effective participation by the NGO, local authorities and local communities. However, there is the tendency to make more efforts to encourage co-financing in parallel to the development of resources and contributions in the implementation of projects to ensure project sustainability.

There is also a plan of participation and support from UNDP to mobilize the private sector and to engage it as an active partner in order to fulfill its social responsibility.

The CPS for OP5 will emphasize again on the importance of continuation and building more partnerships with the stakeholders and actors, such as the "Environment Protection Fund" at the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), which provides contributions (in cash and in kind) to active NGOs. This would ensure mobilizing additional resources. That's in addition to the co-financing provided by the NGOs and local communities.

The new NSC will attract new representatives of interested agencies who could become future collaborators and partners in achieving the co-finance.

In addition to these strategic actions to increase the level of co-finance, SGP Egypt will implement some measures to ensure the co-finance and the transparent and effective ways of using the GEF SGP funding. The following are some of these measures:

- The contribution of the communities and grantee is to be 50% of the total cost, while at least half of this contribution must be paid as cash contribution.
- At least 70% of the grant must be spent by the grantee on direct costs of the project's implementation.
- Maximum 20% of the grant can be spent on raising awareness and the importance of community involvement in the adoption of the project and participation in the project.
- An average of 10% of the total grant could be spent on administrative expenses including salaries.

7.2 Possibilities to develop strategic partnerships with significant stakeholders

Stakeholders	Possibilities for Strategic Partnership	
National Government Agencies	Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs	GEF 5 - Planned Full Size Projects
		1- Overcoming the risk of intrusion of sea water caused by climate change in Al Arish 2- Desert ecosystem livelihood program in MENA region 3- Implementing landscape conservation approaches in critical oases (Siwa project) 4- Support to Sustainable Land Management and Livelihood Resilience in Pastoral Dry lands 5- Strengthen the financial sustainability of protected Areas 6- Bio energy for sustainable rural development 7- Sustainable transport 8- Sustainable management of POPS
	Ministry of Trade and Industry	1- Promotion of low-carbon technologies in cooling and heating applications 2- Distributed small scale solar power generation by household
	Ministry of Electricity & Energy	Energy Efficiency Project
	Ministry of Water Resources & Irrigation	Nile Delta Adaptation Project
Multilateral Agencies	European Union	Promotion of Environmental Rights through Civil Society Organizations
	World Bank	Enhance Water Resource Management Project / Sustainable Med Program
NGOs	 Examples of active NGOs Egyptian Association for Comprehensive Development Evangelical Association for Development in Taybba, Minia Governorate Friends of Nature Association Forum of Dialogue and 	
Private Sector	Partnership for Development Compu- me	E –waste project
1111410 00001	1 compa me	L waste project

ANNEX 1: GEF SGP OP 5 PROJECT LEVEL INDICATORS

	SGP OP5 results indicators
Biodiver	sity (BD)
BD1	 Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced Hectares of protected areas influenced Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status
BD2	 Hectares of production landscapes / seascapes applying sustainable use practices Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status Total value of biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced (US dollar equivalent)
Climate	Change (CC)
CCM1	 Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: Renewable energy measures (please specify) Energy efficiency measures (please specify) Other (please specify) Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies Total value of energy or technology services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM4	 Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: Low carbon transport practices (please specify) Total value of transport services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM5	 Hectares of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices Tonnes of CO2 avoided through improved land use and climate proofing practices
Land deg	gradation (LD) & Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)
LD1	 Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated
LD3	Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices
Internati	onal Waters (IW)
IW	 Hectares of river/lake basins applying sustainable management practices and contributing to implementation of SAPs Hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided
Persisten	t Organic Pollutants (POPs)
POPS	 Tons of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal Kilograms of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release
Capacity	Development, Policy and Innovation (all focal areas)
CD	 Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks (please specify) Number of community-based monitoring systems demonstrated (please specify) Number of new technologies developed /applied (please specify) Number of local or regional policies influenced (level of influence 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5) Number of national policies influenced (level of influence 0 - 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5) Number of people trained on: project development, monitoring, evaluation etc. (to be specified according to type of training)

SGP OP5 results indicators

Livelihoods, Sustainable Development, and Empowerment (all focal areas)

Livelihoods & Sustainable Development:

- Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) (Note: mandatory for all projects)
- Number of days of food shortage reduced
- Number of increased student days participating in schools
- o Number of households who get access to clean drinking water
- o Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US dollar equivalent)

Crosscutting

O Total value of investments (e.g. infrastructure, equipment, supplies) in US Dollars (Note: estimated economic impact of investments to be determined by multiplying infrastructure investments by 5, all others by 3).

Empowerment:

- Number of NGOs/CBOs formed or registered
- Number of indigenous peoples directly supported
- Number of women-led projects supported
- o Number of quality standards/labels achieved or innovative financial mechanisms put in place

List of References

BD National Action Plan for Egypt

Desertification Action Plan for Egypt

Egyptian environmental affairs Agency, climate change national action plan

Egypt's Progress towards Achieving MDGs 2010

GEF/SGP – Egypt Country Programme Strategy (RAF & CORE) OP4 (2007 – 2010)

Government of Egypt / National Environmental Action plan (2002-2017)

Egypt's Key Development Challenges: 2010