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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABS Area of Biological Significance
AusAID Australian International Aid Agency
BSAP Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
CCA Community Conservation Area
CBO Community Based Organization
COM College of Micronesia

CPMT Central Programme Management Team

CPS Country Program Strategy
EDF European Development Fund
EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone
EPA Environmental Protection Agency

EU European Union
FANGO FSM Alliance of NGOs
FSM Federated States of Micronesia
GDP Gross Domestic Product
GEF Global Environment Facility

GHG Greenhouse Gases

IWRM Integrate Water Resource Management

IW International Waters

MCT Micronesia Conservation Trust
MDGs Millennium Development Goals
MIC Micronesians in Island Conservation

MPA Marine Protected Area NAP National Action Plan

NAPA National Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change

NBSAP National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan

NC National Coordinator NEP National Energy Policy

NGO Non-governmental Organization

NOAA National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration

NSC National Steering Committee

NZAID New Zealand International Aid Agency

OP5 Operational Phase Five
PAN Protected Area Network
PEF Pacific Environment Fund
POPs Persistent Organic Pollutants
RMC Resource Management Committee
SDP FSM National Strategic Development Plan

SGP Small Grants Program

SIDS Small Island Developing States SLM Sustainable Land Management

SOPAC South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (now part of SPC)

SPC Secretariat of the Pacific Community

SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program UNCBD United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

UNDP United Nations Development Program

UNESCO United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation UNFCCC United nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNOPS United Nations Office for Project Services
USDA United States Department of Agriculture
USDOI United States Department of Interior
USFS United States Forest Service





Country: FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA US\$2,289,6001 Resources to be invested:

SGP Country Programme 1.

1.1 **Summary Background**

The Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) joined GEF Small Grants Programme during the third Operational Phase (OP3) in 2005. The FSM Small Grants Programme² (FSM SGP) was officially launched in 2006. Currently, during OP5, the country programme is found under Category 1 [Least Developed Countries, and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)].

With additional co-financing provided by the NZAID Pacific Environment Fund (PEF) from 2006-2010, the FSM SGP has in total supported 29 projects in the country since its inception. It has built considerable capacity for local communities to undertake the planning, development, implementation and effective management of local projects and initiatives. Much of this has come through the direct technical assistance that the personnel of the FSM SGP continue to provide for Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to undertake grass-roots initiatives addressing environmental concerns within the GEF focal areas.

Out of the 29 projects, 13 of them have been implemented by NGOs 15 projects implemented by CBOs, along with one (1) municipal government granted project. These projects have a

duration of between one to two years. Currently, the FSM SGP has supported projects in three thematic areas of the GEF (out of the five areas) for a total grant amount of \$615,862: Biodiversity (7 projects at \$151,150), Land Degradation (6 projects at \$123,058), and International Waters (12 projects at \$273,214). Furthermore, there were 4 Multi-Focal projects at \$67,900. To date, no projects have been funded under the thematic areas of Climate Change, and Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), though under the OP5, climate change



will be of greater focus as those issues and impacts continue to mount.

Within the FSM the SGP has four pillars in which it achieves community-based results: (i) Environmental Conservation, (ii) Community Empowerment, (iii) Poverty Reduction, and (iv) Sustainable Development. These pillars are directly linked to the provisions of the Millennium

¹ The level of SGP OP5 resources is an estimated total of the GEF core grant allocation, anticipated STAR resources (\$1,289,600), as well as other sources of third party co-financing.

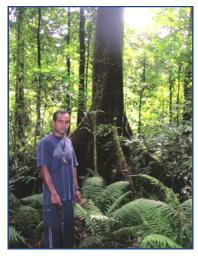
² Both the Republics of Palau and Marshall Islands joined at the same time and are part of the operational programme in the Micronesian sub-region with FSM; this report will focus only on the FSM, termed the FSM SGP.



Development Goals (MDGs), FSM National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the respective State Biodiversity Strategy Action Plans (BSAPs), the FSM National Strategic Development Plan (SDP), the FSM National Action Plan on Sustainable Land Management (SLM NAP), the National Energy Policy (NEP) and State Energy Action Plans, the Nationwide Climate Change Policy, State Waste Management and Land Use Plans, and the Micronesia Challenge.

The FSM SGP also supports CBO and NGO efforts within the buffer zones of the 130 Areas of Biodiversity Significance (ABS) identified in the nation, as these are areas which produce high-value ecosystem services for sustainable, human social, environmental and economic needs over time. Since 2002, more than five upland forests have been placed under protection, more than 15 new marine protected areas have been established, and the designation of two UNESCO Biosphere Reserves has occurred, all with NGOs and communities central to the process.

1.2 Key Baseline Considerations



The FSM is divided into the four states of Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap. 65 of these islands are inhabited, with a population of approximately 108,000 people. Each of the FSM States has considerable autonomy over its land and marine resources. The FSM recognizes that reefs and forests are not only essential to communal and rural survival – more than 80% of the FSM population lives in rural areas – they are also the linchpin of economic development. The importance of the subsistence sector in the FSM and a conscious realization of the value of ecosystem services cannot be overstated, as a majority (over 70%) of people trade and work within this sector on a recurring basis³.

Communities are essentially the central focus of nearly all of the FSM development priorities yet, those same communities often lack the basic necessities of home life, the needed opportunities for advancement out of hardship and poverty, and access to the tools and

educational and training programs they require for an improved quality of life. This often leads to land degradation and deforestation as families turn to natural resources – in this case, the land and soil and the estuaries and reefs – to cultivate and harvest staples and grow the commercial crops (e.g. Sakau) needed for sustenance and cash income; this in addition to land-filling and mangrove 'reclamation' for the purpose of building homes and livestock pens, which exacerbate already diminished returns on valuable ecosystem services that these communities depend on in the first place.

Recognizing the myriad community livelihood and associated environmental threats, the FSM has implemented a broad approach through government-NGO-CBO collaboration to address the challenges. In 2002 the Micronesia Conservation Trust was established and is an all-important

³ Hay, J.E., Takesy, A., September 2005. Federated States of Micronesia Country Environmental Analysis: Mainstreaming Environmental Considerations in Economic and Development Planning Processes. Asian Development Bank Technical Assistance #6204-REG. Federated States of Micronesia.





funding mechanism that enables the continued implementation of the NBSAP and other relevant biodiversity work within the nation. The institution is currently working towards building a \$20 million endowment to provide long-term support for biodiversity conservation efforts in the region, largely through the Micronesia Challenge⁴. At the local level, Resource Management Committees (RMCs) are a nearly ubiquitous presence in villages throughout the FSM, working closely with state agencies and NGOs. In short, more effort is being aimed toward communities directly, and in community empowerment through a variety of methods and opportunities. More is still required however to really start to build a solid grass-roots movement – especially in communities that are underserved – that will achieve lasting effects, with direct and innovative approaches that will lead toward progressive and sustainable development opportunities over time.

Domestic funding is largely through annual US Compact funds, which are funneled to the six sectors, with the Environment sector being the sixth and smallest at about \$1.5 million per year. These US Department of Interior approved environment sector grants primarily go toward funding of operational expenses of state government agencies. Foreign governments such as Japan, the European Union (EU), Germany, Italy, Australia, New Zealand, and Turkey have provided international funding to the FSM in the environment sector. The EU – through the 10th EDF – provides \$14.5 million for renewable energy applications.

Finally, regional agencies such as SOPAC, SPREP, and SPC are vital providers of technical assistance, not only to governments, but also to NGOs and the growing CBO sector, which has seen both better organization and rapid growth in the FSM and the Micronesian sub-region as regional and international donors focus their efforts more towards the grass-roots for small-scale, sustainable development. With the recent proliferation of legitimate and viable CBOs, the FSM is also focusing more technical and financial effort directly within communities, for community-led initiatives. The FSM Alliance of NGOs and CBOs (FANGO), has now nearly 120 registered members and affiliates.

2. SGP Country Programme Niche

The FSM programme niche outlined here is indicative and not exhaustive. It provides a general framework and direction that will shape the implementation of the OP5. The FSM niche will seek to support projects in those areas where donors don't traditionally go and/or support those communities that have been under-represented in the past. In this way, the FSM SGP will fill those gaps with

innovative, yet purposeful and sustainable (as much as possible) projects that are not currently being met by the other international, federal, regional and state donor programs and funding and training mechanisms already established. In short, the FSM SGP will look to pioneer and pilot realistic ideas/projects that can potentially pave the way for the conventional FSM donors to follow.

In addition, several specific areas will also be of focus, particularly in how they relate to resiliency of communities to effectively adapt to and withstand the effects of climate change. For example, any renewable



⁴ The Micronesia Challenge is a commitment to preserve marine and terrestrial environments by effectively conserving at least 30% of the near-shore marine resources and 20% of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by 2020.





energy technologies that are employed – besides being innovative, simple and effective – will not only achieve emission reductions and a lowering of the carbon footprint of communities and the FSM as a whole, but should also have other added community benefits or secondary outcomes. Biogas systems and production, as one example, will not only reduce the burning of fossil fuels, it will also capture the waste that now mostly flows into streams, rivers, estuaries and lagoons. This containment will yield positive environmental benefits, as well as human health benefits from a cleaner environment. Moreover, another ancillary outcome would of course be the ability of families to use the biogas for cooking, heating and lighting, thereby freeing up disposable income for other family needs.

One other area of focus that should be noted, due to both the increasing incidence of degradation, as well as the fact that it is a finite and essential resource, will be for support of community-led projects that rehabilitate and/or focus on the ongoing protection of rivers and other fresh water resources. As well, capacity building for communities, CBOs and NGOs, as well as municipal governments, will be a key cross-cutting outcome for the entirety of the programme of work related to the OP5. Additionally, the FSM SGP will also seek – where feasible – to support sustainable financing initiatives in communities, and potentially other community micro-financing schemes to directly assist livelihoods and eco-friendly small business/micro enterprise development.

NGOs, CBOs and local and state governments will be part of a total collaborative process in implementing projects under OP5. GEF SGP encourages the CBOs to be in the forefront for their own development to make sure that the activities will be done according to the communities' own plan under the leadership of their elected representatives. The planning of their own development with the help of NGOs and local government helps to ensures participation, transparency and responsibility.

The FSM SGP will also work in coherence with the national priorities



identified in the FSM SDP to empower non-government and community-based organizations to promote sustainable livelihoods and alternative, innovative income generating opportunities. Model projects which address key environmental challenges/issues and offer unique and innovative "local" solutions will be prioritized for support. Knowledge management — widespread sharing and dissemination of lessons learned — will be encouraged and supported between communities and also between communities and State and National government policy-makers.

The following areas are prioritized as main intervention areas where grantee community and local NGOs, in partnership with governments, can participate with FSM SGP financial and technical support:

In the area of **Biodiversity**, activities would be in line with the NBSAP and the major objective will be to secure biodiversity protection at high priority sites through the development of State protected area networks and eventually a Nation-wide Protected Areas Network. In addition, emphasis will be





placed on addressing and alleviating critical threats to biodiversity within these high priority sites. Projects that employ strategies that preserve and mainstream traditional knowledge and traditional management approaches will be prioritized for support.

In Climate Change, the SGP will focus on long-term mitigation measures by removing barriers to the adoption of efficient renewable technologies and energy efficiency at the village level. With the support of other donors, such as AusAID, adaptation focused on developing and implementing strategies to assure a sufficient supply of fresh and clean water in outer islands as well as developing alternative agricultural strategies on isolated outer islands and vulnerable coastal areas to assure coastal stability and food security into the foreseeable future. Energy efficiency and reduction of emissions in the area of transport will be addressed.

In International Waters, the SGP will support community-based land-use and coastal area planning, promote the reduction and proper disposal of solid wastes, and improve the management of surface catchments and aquifers to meet projected water supply demands, including educational programs for landowners and other key stakeholders. Linkage to the "Strategic Action Programme for International Waters of Pacific Islands" will be fully explored.

In the Persistent Organic Pollutants focal area, the issues of dioxins and furans and sustainable agriculture will be addressed. Partnerships with government on activities to dispose of and reduce imports of POPs would be pursued. Awareness raising and education on POPs will be a primary aspect of activities under this focal area.

For the Land Degradation focal area, FSM will focus on sustainable agriculture, rehabilitation and restoration of relatively large areas that have been degraded due to natural or anthropogenic processes. This area would be pursued in connection with the other GEF focal areas given the limited land resources of the FSM.

The GEF SGP approach in the FSM is based on the belief that local solutions to global environmental problems are feasible. This will be realized through focusing on projects consistent with GEF criteria, increased capacity building at the village level, and technical assistance, monitoring and evaluation, and effective public outreach. The FSM programme will respond to community interests and needs and support activities that promote sustainable livelihoods in innovative ways, while benefiting the local, national, and the global environment.



2.1 List of Relevant Conventions and Frameworks

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)	1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	2002



UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1993
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	1 st - 1997, 2 nd & 3 rd - NA
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	NA
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	1996
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	2011
Stockholm Convention (SC)	NA
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	NA
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	NA
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	2010
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	2011
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	2011

2.2 OP5 Resource Utilization Modality and Coordination

The FSM SGP will continue to provide an essential and leading role in the development and strengthening of the civil society and community sectors of the nation. Working with the financial and technical assistance of national and regional NGOs and local and state governments, the SGP Country Programme will continue to support NGOs and CBOs at the grass-roots level through the provision of strategic and conservation action plan training, project cycle management support (proposal preparation and revision, project implementation and reporting and financial management), and the facilitation of other development partner technical and financial support. This effort will be geared toward actual resource users and owners taking part in national and state development goals at a sustainable level of activity, in line with national commitments to the major international conventions on Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation.

Through its broad networks, the FSM SGP will assist grantees to work closely with various national committees (e.g. FSM Food Security Committee, Climate Change Country Team, the President's Sustainable Development Council) and at the state level in coordination with local Resource Management Committees (RMCs, which liaise with the State Environmental Protection Agencies and leading state conservation NGOs), with local associations and cooperatives, Women's and Youth







Councils and Associations, and with established Traditional Leaders Councils.

In addition, FSM SGP will also continue to coordinate and communicate with respective grantees in relation to ongoing national meetings throughout each of the States of the FSM that are related to actions and programs of the major Conventions, especially within the environmental and community-based arenas. In this way NGOs and CBOs can continue to be in the loop on latest developments, assist in the decision-making process, and actively assist in implementation of key projects. The FSM SGP will continue to facilitate partnerships between government, NGOs, CBOs, and where feasible, the private sector, in order to create lasting benefits to communities, and for outright sustainability of actions over time.

Beyond this, continuous support and promotion of the FSM SGP projects - both in planning and implementation – by the Country Programme Office will be ongoing as a means to both achieving the national priorities, and continuing to bolster and build capacity within the communities that are the backbone of the FSM.

2.3 OP5 Global Project Objectives, National Priorities and Country Programme Niche.

National priorities listed in **Table 2** below are taken from the NBSAP and State BSAPs, the FSM Energy Policy and State Action Plans, the FSM Strategic Development Plan, the Nationwide Climate Change Policy, the FSM Programme for Sustainable Land Management, and the FSM Millennium Development Goals report. The SGP Niche column is not meant to indicate an exhaustive list of priorities, but rather a general outline of key actions to be undertaken.

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.	 Integrate all management plans and protected area programs with community/resource owner participation activities, including enforcement. Incorporate large conservation areas to include more than one ecosystem (e.g. mangroves, seagrass beds, lagoon systems and barrier reefs). Continue to develop and refine the Ecoregional Conservation Planning process for the nation and implement recommendations. To identify and conserve critical watershed areas. Develop and implement programs for the restoration of degraded aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, prioritizing those of endemic, endangered and threatened species. Enhance capacities to decrease land 	 Support CBOs and NGOs with community conservation enforcement programs. Support pilot projects that provide alternative income generation within CCAs. Support community conservation efforts in critical watershed areas in all states. Support community-oriented projects targeting certain economically valuable marine species such as giant clams, sponges, corals. Support sustainable micro-financing schemes/revolving-fund initiatives within communities. Assist sustainable financing initiatives and mechanisms for communities and rural families.





OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
	degradation	
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions.	- Incorporate and develop the concepts of biodiversity conservation into all future National, State and Municipal social and economic policies and development strategies. - Incorporate a population policy providing information pertaining to environmental and resource carrying capacities and poverty alleviation. - Provide advice and technical information pertaining to the development of policies that fall within the NBSAP framework. - Promote reforestation and sustainable home-gardening practices.	- Support community-based management plans for conservation areas. - Promote innovative agro-forestry methodologies. - Support ecosystem-based restoration of degraded areas. - Support community-based climate change mitigation and adaptation measures. - Promote increased production in the varieties of local endemic plants, animals and fish for consumption and income generation. - Support micro-financing for green business development, especially in and around protected landscapes under management.
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	 Promote and support environmentally sound development of natural energy sources at all levels of the nation and including National and State strategies for energy safety and efficiency. Promote renewable energy resources and provide incentives for their use. Promote and provide technical information to develop alternative energy sources using solar, wind, water and hydrogen cells for power generation. Promote technology that contributes to energy conservation. Develop management plans to allow sustainable use of the nation's forests for energy sources, especially mangrove forests. Reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions. 	 Provision of simple, small-scale, sustainable water harvesting pilot projects. FSM SGP will seek to pursue pilot projects focusing on unproven alternative energy sources within communities, with potential for replication. Promote energy efficient projects and energy conservation and capture. Provide capacity building and training in management planning, development and implementation. Provide assistance to projects that either directly reduce GHGs, or help in the sequestration of carbon (e.g. protection of seagrass meadows, native forests, swamps, coral reefs, etc.)
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	Integrate environmental concerns and regulations into all related energy-related plans and projects, including transportation, power supply, and building codes. Encourage implementation and markets for environmentally clean	Support for innovative projects that include or promote traditional, sustainable, clean methods of transportation: Bicycle programs Canoe/sailing programs Public transportation systems





OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
	technologies and alternative fuels for transportation by using non-fossil fuels in both new and existing vehicles and other modes of transport.	Car pooling Other innovative projects
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.	 Integrate ecosystem valuation as an integral component of all land use and coastal use planning. Sustainable Use of Ecosystems: to develop and implement effective management programs that promotes income-generating activities and use of biodiversity resources sustainably within all FSM's ecosystems. 	Community-based sustainable forest management Sustainable agricultural production Community-based marine area protection and restoration:
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro- ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities.	- Develop and implement training programs to enhance and strengthen public and community knowledge of the understanding, awareness and commitment to sustainable agricultural practices. - To develop and ensure the effective implementation of appropriate conservation measures for the sustainable use of agrobiodiversity and-agro-ecosystems. - Enhance and develop the individual, institutional, and systemic capacity for Sustainable Land Management.	- Support protected area management Support environmentally friendly/ sustainable use of resources for income generation and local livelihoods Focus on small-scale home-gardening and agriculture, aforestation and tree planting Support composting schemes and other methods of producing local, organic fertilizers.
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes).	- Further develop and implement management plans for the existing marine and terrestrial conservation areas within the nation. - Identify, develop, design and implement management plans for new aquatic and terrestrial conservation areas within the nation, especially in areas that are currently poorly represented, contain unique habitats, or have high levels of threats. - Mainstream SLM considerations into national development strategies and policies. - Develop National Action Plan for SLM.	- Provide ridge-to-reef management planning, development and implementation. - Support alternative methods of mitigating and decreasing pollution in communities in the broader landscape. - Support community action addressing environmentally destructive infrastructure projects in communities. - Communities. - Community awareness on negative impacts of land filling/reclamation. - Support development of short and medium-term community action/management plans for integrated resource use.
SGP OP5 Immediate	- Identify and conserve critical	- Support for community-led projects





OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
Objective 8: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives.	watershed areas. - Ensure secure access to safe and clean drinking water and that the use of freshwater resources is planned in a manner that maximises the benefits of this scarce and fragile resource.	that include ongoing protection of rivers. - Support pilot project(s) that help restore riparian ecosystem health. - Support management of pollution and runoff into rivers. - Support establishment of river and ground water buffer zones in communities. - Support outer-island projects that protect fresh water resources. - Consideration for any water-related projects that secure and protect water drinking sources, especially for rural areas and outer-islands.
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level.	 Develop and implement waste collection, storage and disposal programs for residential and commercial premises throughout the nation. Develop and implement programs for the importation, handling, use and safe disposal of hazardous wastes (including lead batteries, pesticides, fertilizers, and chlorine) both within and outside the country. Develop and implement monitoring legislation and enforcement programs to prevent unauthorized use and misuse of hazardous chemicals including incorrect storage and disposal. 	 Support safe collection and disposal systems. Awareness programs and projects on harmful effects of POPs. Promote the use of safer alternatives. Composting and recycling programs.
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	- Develop and strengthen the capacity of resources owners, traditional leaders, communities, technical staff and policy makers in the coordination and implementation of conserving, preserving and sustainably utilizing and developing the biodiversity of the FSM. - Develop and implement local capacity building and strengthening programs on correct waste management usage and disposal, including removal of hazardous waste products (e.g. machinery and toxic products) and recycling. - Develop and implement local capacity building and strengthening	- Institutional strengthening and capacity building for NGOs and CBOs, as well as local governments Youth-to-Youth environmental awareness program in schools, in collaboration with ongoing NGO programs Support to Micronesians in Island Conservation (MIC) network Support to the Micronesia Challenge Young Champions Intern program Implementation of recycling projects in all four FSM States - Energy conservation, low energy and renewable energy projects, especially if they are a quality demonstration-





OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
	programs on alternative ecologically friendly industries and energy conservation and management.	type project that can be replicated. - Capacity-building initiatives; learning exchanges between communities. - State-to-state learning exchanges on SLM best practices and projects for replication. - Climate change adaptation and mitigation programs and projects.
Cross-Cutting Results: Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender	 Eradicate hardship and poverty. Promote gender equality and empower women. Develop government-community partnership for development. 	- Support to low-income communities Support for alternative income generating projects Support to Women's and Youth groups and associations Capacity-building initiatives; learning exchanges between communities - Short term trainings in ecosustainable business development (nature-based enterprises), integrated environmental protection and sciences, marketing and business skills improvement, community health and livelihoods, NGO-CBO development and management and empowerment, etc Support of projects proposed to be implemented by marginalized or vulnerable community groups Assist sustainable financing initiatives and mechanisms for communities and rural families Support micro-financing for green business development, especially in and around protected landscapes under management.

3. Capacity Development, Poverty Reduction and Gender Results for SGP

3.1. Ways of Addressing Capacity Development, Livelihood and Gender





In addressing capacity development in general, the country programme encourages participatory planning, implementation, reporting on, and monitoring and evaluation of projects. All of these elements will also be integrated into projects. In addition, trainings, individual meetings and workshops will be conducted in order to enhance the technical capacity on environment-related issues. FSM SGP will also seek to have grantees and the NGO/CBO network within the FSM participate in various donor-training programs from the major development partners based within the FSM (e.g. China, U.S., Japan, Australia, European Union, etc.). In addition, short-term trainings (1-2 wks trainings) in the fields of environmental sciences, marine biology, computer technologies (e.g. GIS) and others will also be promoted and supported. Such trainings can be financed in part by SGP grants, as part of an overall project, but



SGP will advocate that proponents also utilize existing programs and funding mechanisms to co-finance these actions.

During project Concept Note/Proposal preparation, the country programme provides preinformation on the overall aspect and modality of FSM SGP to potential proponents. This encourages CBOs/NGOs to submit proposals having the necessary information about FSM SGP. Prior

to proposal development, FSM SGP will provide a Tool Kit which the Country Programme office has already developed to assist these organizations in building capacity. Constructive comments will be given to the proponents by the NSC after reviewing their initial proposals.

In terms of improving livelihood and local benefits, FSM SGP will encourage grantees to follow diversification of activities, promote equitable benefit sharing from protected areas/benefit sharing from access to land, materials and knowledge, encourage and support nature-based enterprises, facilitate access to finance for community members and provide trainings related to livelihood improvement. Sustainability of livelihood benefits like income generation, marketing and business skills improvement, are expected to go beyond life of the project.

In view of addressing gender, FSM SGP will continue to give priority to those projects proposed to be implemented by marginalized or vulnerable groups, as well as projects which seek to adopt a gender sensitive approach to the target outcomes. The FSM SGP encourages the submission of projects from marginalized communities, as well as the engagement of both women and men in the problem analysis of a project, its implementation, and in reporting, monitoring and evaluation.

The fact that NGOs and CBOs implement projects will ensure better continuity of community-initiated activities because it is based on their felt needs and inputs into the overall projects. Project results will be retained in the community since many of the activities will be linked with income generating activities. Government's active participation and involvement in project implementation is also another important element to sustain the projects and build capacity in the process.

Comment [01]: Not sure if I can agree with this Would agree to projects that focus on the marginalized or vulnerable groups by empowering such groups.



4. OP5 Country Outcomes, Indicators and Activities

Table 3. Results Framework

Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities	
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1</u> : Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas (ICCAs) through community-based actions.				
SGP BD Outcome 1.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts on biodiversity resources in and around protected areas, and indigenous and community conservation areas.	- At least one (1) community conservation area in each of the FSM States will have improved actions in and around a protected area (e.g. more effective enforcement and community outreach in Utwe BR; effective reporting on spill-over benefits of Kaday Reserve in Yap; better Watershed Forest Reserve protection in Nett, Pohnpei; Improved livelihoods surrounding UFO Protected Area in Fefan, Chuuk.	- Project reports - Monitoring and site visits - Assessment and progress reports - Community meetings and capacity building	5 projects - Development of community-based management plans and action plans. - Promotion of sustainable resource use and practices. - Establishment of protected areas. - Protection of key species (turtles, forest pigeons, etc.) - Awareness raising - Training and workshops	
SGP BD Outcome 1.2: Benefits generated at the community level from conservation of biodiversity in and around protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas.	- At least 10 new conservation jobs created in and around protected areas (e.g. enforcement, administration, tour-guiding, recreational activities, etc.) - At least 5% increase in ecotourism related income into communities.	 Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building 	5 projects - Piloting alternative income generation vs. destructive methods. - Lessons learned and peer-to-peer learning networks supported - Awareness raising - Training and workshops	
SGP BD Outcome 1.4: Increased understanding and awareness at the Community level of the importance and value of biodiversity. SGP OP5 Immediate Objective	Number of community participants at community workshops and meetings. Number of awareness raising exercises and initiatives undertaken. 2: Mainstream biodiversity conse	Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building	5 projects - Awareness raising (learning by doing approach) - Experience sharing - Training - Community dialogue	
	- Communities will apply sustainable land use practices in at least five different landscapes throughout the FSM.		5 projects - Watershed Management - Organic gardening and farming - Riparian ecosystem protection and sustainable use	





Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
market mechanisms, including recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations.		capacity building	- Business opportunities: (water bottling, river tours, etc.) - Agricultural diversification - Marine protection and management for sustainable use - Reestablish Traditional fishing methods (weirs, etc) - Establishment of Farmers/Fishers - Associations
SGP BD Outcome 2.2: Increased understanding and awareness of sustainable use of biodiversity.	- Communities will apply sustainable land use practices in at least five different landscapes throughout the FSM (linked to outcome 2.1).	 Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building 	5 projects - Dissemination of awareness raising materials. - Learning by doing (school farms, school recycling programs, etc.) - Peer learning - Support for environmental clubs and programs (women, youth and schools).
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective the community level.	: 3: Promote the demonstration, deve	elopment and transfer of	low carbon technologies at
SGP CC Outcome 3.1: Innovative low-GHG technologies deployed and successfully demonstrated at the community level.	- Community application of sustainable land use practices in at least four different landscapes throughout the FSM.	 Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building 	10 projects - Support renewable energy including household and minigrid PV system, small and micro-hydro power, bio-gas, wind and other solar energy technologies. - Energy saving technologies (bio-char, briquette, improved charcoal making, promotion
SGP CC Outcome 3.2: GHG emissions avoided.	- Community application of sustainable land use practices.	 Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and 	- Support for: • Recycling programs • Others • Energy Efficiency (fluorescent bulbs, etc.)





Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities	
		capacity building		
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective	4: Promote and support energy efficient	cient, low carbon transpo	ort at the community level	
SGP CC Outcome 4.1: Low-GHG transport options demonstrated at the community level.	 At least one terrestrial sustainable transport option (i.e. electric hybrid vehicle, bicycle system etc.) put into use as pilot project. At least one marine sustainable transport option (i.e. electric outboard motor, improved sail etc.) put into use as pilot project. At least one new mass-transit or public transportation system implemented, using alternative fuel/power source. 	- Project reports - Monitoring and site visits - Assessment and progress reports - Community meetings and capacity building	5 projects - Conduct appropriate research into technologies and options - Island-wide public transport - Support utilization of electric-powered land and sea transport - Low tech options - bicycling, sailing canoes, etc.	
	5: Support the conservation and enling of land use, land use change and		cks through sustainable	
SGP CC Outcome 5.1: Sustainable land use, land use change, and forestry management and climate proofing practices adopted at the community level for forest and non-forest land-use types.	- At least three community projects will apply sustainable forest, agricultural and/or water management practices At least two community projects will apply sustainable use practices within near shore marine areas (e.g. mangroves, seagrass meadows) for community livelihood improvement.	Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building	5 projects - Improved agricultural and land use practice: composting, multicropping, water technologies) - Organic farming - Afforestation - Composting - Encourage settlement away from low-lying areas - Mangrove, reef and seagrass protection measures - Marine breeding and restocking programs - Public awareness - Policy integration	
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities.				
SGP LD Outcome 6.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts on agro and native forest ecosystems and ecosystem	 At least two (2) new protected landscapes established. At least three (3) projects supported in existing Pas/MPAs that enhance community livelihoods, 	 Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports 	5 projectsSupport ridge-to-reef conservation initiatives.Support sustainable	





Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities	
services demonstrated to sustain ecosystem functionality.	enhance ecological function, improve water flow and/or use, or improve health through consumption of locally grown staples and vegetables.	- Community meetings and capacity building	agricultural practices and projects. - Establishment of new protected areas or enlargement of existing ones. - Flexible farming and crop diversification	
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective landscapes).	e 7: Reduce pressures at community	level from competing lar	nd uses (in the wider	
SGP LD Outcome 7.1: Improved community level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts in land use frontiers of agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems (rural/urban, agriculture/forest)	- At least two (2) urban agriculture or tree-planting projects are supported Establishment of at least one (1) new park or botanical garden within urban area that focuses on cultural/environmental benefits to community.	Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building	3-5 projects - Capacity building and training - Support sustainable agricultural practices and projects. - Reforestation and ecosystem rejuvenation - Control invasive species - Alternative livelihoods - Changes in land use policy - Public awareness	
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective	e 8: Support transboundary water boo	dy management with con	nmunity-based initiatives	
SGP IW Outcome 8.1: Effective and climate resilient community-based actions and practices supporting implementation of SAP regional priority actions demonstrated	At least one (1) fresh water swamp put under protective management Establishment of at least one (1) forest protected landscape that includes a primary watershed	Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building	3-5 projects - Capacity building and training - Alternative livelihoods - Water catchment management - Soil conservation measures - Rainwater collection and desalinization - Water conservation programs, including demand management and leakage control	
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level				
SGP CH Outcome 9.1: Improved community-level	- One (1) awareness program implemented regarding POPs	Project reports Monitoring and site	3 projects - Public awareness	



Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
apply knowledge management	and/or hazardous chemicals within the community. 10: Enhance and strengthen capacito ensure adequate information flow		
and evaluate environmental im SGP CD Outcome 10.2: Improved information flows to/from CBOs and NGOs in SGP countries regarding good practices and lessons learned, and application of such practices.	- Inclusion of CBOs/NGOs in MIC learning network and learning exchanges. - At least three (3) learning exchanges conducted between FSM SGP grantees.	Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and capacity building	3 projects - Capacity building and training - Learning exchanges - Meetings - Workshops
SGP CD Outcome 10.4: Capacity of CBOs and CSOs strengthened to support implementation of global conventions.	Inclusion of CBOs/NGOs in MIC learning network and learning exchanges. At least three (3) learning exchanges conducted between FSM SGP grantees.	Project reports Monitoring and site visits Assessment and progress reports Community meetings and	3 projects - Capacity building and training - Learning exchanges - Meetings - Workshops

5. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

5.1. Monitoring & Evaluation plan for the portfolio of individual SGP projects

Monitoring and evaluation is an essential component of the FSM SGP. In order to both maintain effective oversight and build capacity, conventional and participatory approaches will be attempted at all levels of various projects. This framework will provide the basis for the assessment of impacts and constraints of the GEF-SGP projects on a regular basis. It will address the changes the programme has brought at the level of programme activities (community level) and impact at the national level.

The systematic identification of effects of the intervention on the environment and community

members involved in the project is very important. This by and large is necessary in order to clarify whether the costs for a project are justified, estimate the achievement of key outputs and expected results of the program, enable



capacity building



the project leaders at different levels to draw lessons for improving the design, as well as be a key element for any replication and/or sharing of results. Emphasis will continue to be given to participation of all relevant stakeholders including government staff members as an integral aspect of monitoring and evaluation.

The program implementation should be properly monitored at all levels by taking the following important points into account:

- Establishment of baseline data at project level (as relevant);
- Detailed project level M & E plan with simplified activity indicators;
- Physical and financial performance of projects against their set targets;



- Reasons for outstanding success or failure in performance;
- Problems encountered, their sources, actions taken and recommendations on future actions to be taken:
- Level and type of community participation;
- Lessons learnt/identification of promising or viable approaches to environmental issues that can be scaled up or replicated;
- Allocating resources for M&E activities at the project level during the project design phase.

The general components of monitoring for the project implementation include:

 Field visits by NC/NSC: Each project will ideally be visited and monitored four times during the project period. Initial visit will be made before and during project start-up. The second visit will be made following the reporting on the first tranche transfer, and the remaining third and

fourth visits will also follow in the same manner.

- Activity reports by project proponents;
- Evaluation of work by project proponents, NC and NSC members and/or other partners;
- · Project mid-term, annual and biannual reviews.

All concerned government and relevant stakeholders should collaborate in monitoring and evaluating project performance and provide feedback to the programme office. SGP FSM will be accountable to follow up on the different reports expected from project proponents. To facilitate this, the following reports are expected from grantee NGOs and CBOs:

Project level reporting

- Progress and financial reports as per agreed timelines, reflecting work accomplished, challenges faced, results achieved, short and long term benefits in the preceding quarter and outline of the plan for the next quarter;
- Final Project Report



Programme / Country level reporting

- Progress report at the country level; the NSC, NC and other relevant stakeholders would assess the SGPs progress and impact;
- Annual report, assessment of the Country Programme performance;
- In all periodic project progress reports the following points shall be given due focus:
- Project results and achievements,
- Amount of funds disbursed to grantees;
- Identification of viable new approaches (as determined by the NSC and technical advisors, as available);
- Linkages established with partners at different levels;
- Co-financing availed, etc.

On the completion of each operational phase, an assessment on the overall projects'

implementation/performance will be carried out with the objective of finding "good practices and innovations", draw lessons and provide options for future environment-related development interventions at the national and regional levels, identifying areas where improvement may be necessary to enhance impact.



5.2. Participation of Local Stakeholders

Local stakeholders including local government are part and parcel of the project planned through their full support and involvement. This will be done through the provision of technical assistance, co-financing (in-cash and/or in-kind), community meetings and workshops, and the like. Involvement of the local stakeholders will be from planning phase through implementation phase, through a multi-stakeholder process.

Progress will be documented in each agreed timeline of the projects through monitoring reports by the local stakeholders.

Table 4. Monitoring and Evaluation 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 ⁵	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 Workplans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (as necessary / cost effective ⁶)	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

5.3. Aggregating of Individual Projects

The standardized and a comparable list of OP5 indicators for projects envisaged for implementation are listed in Annex 1. Achievements on these targets will be updated during grantees' progress reports which will enable the country programme to have an aggregated data as and when needed.

Target indicators for focal and multi-focal area outcomes are explained in Section 4.

Table 5. Monitoring and Evaluation 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

⁶ To 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.



Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ⁷	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

6 Knowledge Management Plan

6.1. Capturing, Sharing, and Disseminating Plans

As part of capturing information on projects' implementation process, each project is required to provide reports through which they will have the means to capture and share progress of their projects and best practices.

Moreover, documenting of good practices and sharing of lessons learned from SGP projects is and will continue to be done through established networks such as the Micronesians in Island Conservation, the FSM Protected Area Network, and other such national and regional peer-to-peer learning initiatives. Other information can be disseminated through various outreaches from the program office, such as brochures, flyers, annual reports, press releases, and so forth.

Finally, where feasible, the provision of digital and video cameras, and other such means to grantees will be done to enable them to document progress, best practices and lessons learned and share them. Leveraged financial resources will be sought to achieve this aim.

6.2. Policy Influencing at Local, Regional and National Level

Successful implementation and various country program progress and annual reports will be shared with policy makers at all levels – municipal, national and regional. Ongoing program activities and opportunities will be communicated at appropriate times and opportunities.

In addition to this, the country programme shares best practices from grantees at various national forums and meetings, such as the FSM Environment Conference and other environment-related workshops and meetings that present themselves.



6.3. Replicating and Up-Scaling Plans

⁷ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.



The country programme will leverage lessons learned from successful projects and disseminate them for replication and up scaling through tailoring of information and knowledge dissemination based on "fit-for-purpose" principle focusing on target group profiles. This includes keeping the information as relevant and concise as possible to enable the recipients apply the processes, methodologies and circumstances as per their specific context.

Organization of experience sharing and field visits can be made among different grantees to enable them to interact and visualize achievements on the ground.

7 Resource Mobilization Plan

7.1. Diversification of funding sources and co-financing of management costs

GEF/SGP interventions can catalyze the mobilization of local resources that further strengthen the ownership of interventions and contribute to sustainability of achieved results. These resources may come from individuals, formal or non-formal community associations, NGOs, government and other partners.

In light of enhancing sustainability of the country programme, SGP FSM plans to leverage funding from different sources that help address sustainable development concerns to achieve greater impact. The country programme will make an effort to mobilize resources during OP5 from bilateral and multilateral donors, international foundations, local and international NGOs, government, communities and the private sector.

A combination of methods and approaches will be applied. These can include:

- Establishing direct formal and informal communications with bilateral and multilateral donors, NGOs (e.g. MCT) and other potential sources for additional support;
- Creating and disseminating promotional materials (brochures, leaflets, booklets, newsletters, posters, videos etc.)
- Acting as a mediator between communities and potential sources for resources.

In the process of soliciting co-financing from donors, it is a standard practice to allocate a certain percentage of the co-financing obtained for SGP's management and non-grant technical costs (including a percentage of the cost of staff salaries, field monitoring, premises, equipment and transportation). Hence, the country programme will negotiate for a reasonable amount to cover its management costs.



7.2. Possibilities to Develop Strategic Partnerships



Local communities are at the core of the resource mobilization strategy. For communities themselves, their capacity to attract and mobilize resources is one key empowering factor that will also have a crucial impact on sustainability. Therefore, communities will be supported to mobilize financial and non-financial resources from the local level. The GEF/SGP country programme and UNDP FSM Country Office can also play an important role in linking communities directly with potential sources of additional support. Currently, the capacity and awareness of communities to mobilize resources is very limited, and thus will require supporting interventions. SGP FSM can also support communities in this respect by linking them with local or international NGOs and other donors that have the capacity to improve communities' resource mobilization potential.

Of course, in-kind contributions will be an essential resource to be mobilized. The target communities will be able to contribute in-kind contributions, which could also be a requirement for project approval. In-kind contributions will also enhance participation, empowerment, ownership and sustainability of interventions. The national and state governments can explore a resource for co-financing GEF-SGP either in-cash or in-kind. In addition, small scale business enterprises established by grantees will be highly encouraged to take up environment-related activities. Technical support from partners is also an important part of in-kind contributions that will be highly encouraged by SGP.



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	o Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices
Internati	ional 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





	SGP OP5 results indicators
Persister	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)
Liveliho	ls, Sustainable Development, and Empowerment (all focal areas)
Cross- cutting	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 Number of households who get access to clean drinking water Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US dollar equivalent) 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 Number of quality standards/labels achieved or innovative financial mechanisms put in place



Annex 2: TABLES

Table 1: List of Relevant Conventions and Frameworks

Table 2: Consistency with National Priorities

Table 3: Results Framework

Table 4: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan at the Project Level

Table 5: Monitoring and Evaluation Plan at the Programme Level



Annex 3: SOURCES

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