



THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

**COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY
FOR THE GEF- SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME**

2011 – 2014 (GEF OP 5)

SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	SUMMARY BACKGROUND ON THE SGP	
1.1	Origin and objectives of the SGP	6
1.2	The SGP operations in The Gambia	7
2.	SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME NICHE	
2.1	Situation Analysis	8
2.2	Biodiversity conservation	9
2.3	Climate change	10
2.4	International waters	11
2.5	Land degradation	11
2.6	Persistent Organic Pollutants	13
2.7	Sustainable Forest Management	13
2.8	Cross-cutting capacity development	14
3.	CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT, POVERTY REDUCTION AND GENDER RESULTS	
3.1	Long term vision for the SGP in The Gambia	15
3.2	Capacity building.....	15
3.3	Long term objectives & key result areas	16
3.4	Gender considerations	16
4.	OP 5 COUNTRY OUTCOMES, INDICATORS AND ACTIVITIES	
4.1	OP 5 targets, national priorities vs. SGP niche	17
4.2	Results framework	19
5.	MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN	
5.1	Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy	27
5.1.1	Programme level monitoring	27
5.1.2	Project level monitoring	27

6.	KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT PLAN.....	30
7.	RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN	31

TABLES

Table 1:	List of relevant conventions & national/regional plans or programmes	8
Table 2:	OP 5 project objectives, national priorities & SGP niche	17
Table 3:	SGP OP 5 Results Framework	19
Table 4:	M&E Plan at the Programme Level	26
Table 5:	M & E Plan at the Project Level	28

ANNEXES

Annex 1:	GEF SGP OP5 project level indicators	30
Annex 2:	Project proposal review sheet	33
Annex 3:	Sample call for proposals	36
Annex 4:	Terms of reference for the SGP National Steering Committee	37
Annex 5:	Terms of reference for the SGP National Coordinator	38

ACRONYMS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
AfDB	African Development Bank
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community-Based Organisation
CILSS	Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species
CITES	Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species of wild flora and fauna
CPMT	Central project Management Team
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
DoF	Department of Forestry
DPWM	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management
DLG&L	Department of Local Government & Lands
DWR	Department of Water Resources
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIS	Environmental Information Systems
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
GEAP	The Gambia Environmental Action Plan
GTZ	German Technical Agency
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
ICAM	Integrated Coastal Area Management
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
GEF	Global Environment Facility
LDC	Least Developed Country
LEAP	Local Environmental Action Plan
LME	Large Marine Ecosystem
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NAPA	National Adaptation Plan of Action
NAP	National Action Programme
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NC	National Coordinator
NCSA	National Capacity Self Assessment
NEA	National Environment Agency
NEMA	National Environment Management Act
NEMC	National Environment Management Council
NGO	Non Governmental Organisation
NSC	National Steering Committee
OMVG	Organisation pour Mise en Valeur la fleuve Gambie

POP	Persistent Organic Pollutant
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PURA	Public Utilities Regulatory Agency
RAMSAR	Convention on wetlands of international importance
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SWMU	Soil and Water Management Unit
TANGO	The Association of Non Governmental Organisations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organisation
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
US \$	United States Dollar
WB	World Bank

Section 1

SUMMARY BACKGROUND ON THE SGP

1.1 Origin and objectives of the SGP

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was created in 1991 as a funding mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Framework Convention on Climate Change. At a later stage on, GEF mandate was broadened in scope to include financing the activities for International Waters and for Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The GEF also funds activities under the UN Convention to Combat Desertification as they relate to the GEF focal areas. The GEF has 3 Implementing Agencies: The World Bank (WB), The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Executing Agencies for the GEF are: The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO), The African Development Bank (AfDB), The Asian Development Bank (ADB), The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD).

In 1992, The Small Grants Programme (SGP) was established under the GEF to provide a funding window to NGOs and CBOs engaged in the execution of community-based environmental initiatives. The SGP is mostly administered by the UNDP in most of the participating countries and is currently operating in over 125 countries worldwide. While it is an integral part of the GEF Corporate Business Plan and the UNDP-GEF unit, its implementation is decentralized and country-driven. The SGP plays a crucial role in development by complementing the regular and medium-sized GEF projects in the country. The SGP is rooted in the belief that global environmental problems can only be addressed adequately if local people are involved and that with small amounts of funding, they can undertake activities which can make a significant difference in their lives and environment.

The principal objectives of the SGP are to:

- (a). Demonstrate community-level strategies and technologies that could reduce threats to the global environment if they are replicated over time;
- (b). Draw lessons from community-level experiences and support the spread of successful community-level strategies and innovations among CBOs and NGOs, host governments, development aid agencies, the GEF, and others working on a larger scale and;

- (c). Build partnerships and networks of local stakeholders to support and strengthen community, CBO, and NGO capacity to address environmental problems and promote sustainable development.

The focal areas to which the SGP provides funding are: Biodiversity conservation, Climate Change adaptation/mitigation, protection of International Waters, prevention of Land Degradation, phasing out Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) and Cross-cutting Capacity Development. Grants are made directly to local community organisations with the maximum amount being US\$50,000 but with the average around US\$20, 000 per grant. One important criterion for selection of SGP-funded projects is that the benefits must go directly to communities rather than to individuals.

1.2 SGP operations in The Gambia



Location map of The Gambia.

The Gambia joined the SGP in the latter part of 2007 and this was followed by the creation of a multi-stakeholder National Steering Committee (NSC) in January 2008. The NSC is an independent voluntary entity spearheading the elaboration of the Country Programme Strategy (CPS), setting the agenda, screening projects, providing technical support and overseeing overall programme management and assisting in the mobilisation of resources. The membership of the NSC is drawn from relevant NGO sector, government technical departments, UNDP, the Private sector and academia. The specific duties of the NSC are outlined in Annex 1.

The specific objectives of the CPS are to:

- (a). Adapt the SGP strategic framework to the Gambian context.
- (b). Outline the mission and long term strategic goals of the SGP in The Gambia.
- (c). Provide a framework for resource allocation.
- (d). Provide a basis for evaluating the effectiveness and impacts of the SGP in the country.

Finally, the CPS will serve as a functional link between the SGP and the full and medium-sized GEF projects in the country.

Section 2

SGP Country Programme niche

2.1 Situation Analysis

The SGP in The Gambia is aimed at strengthening and further consolidating the gains registered by past environmental management projects and programmes and specifically targets the poor and vulnerable segments of the society. The history of environmental interventions in The Gambia can be summarised by Table 1 which indicates the conventions, action plans and programmes that are relevant to the SGP.

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)	June 1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	1999
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	10 th June 1994
Kyoto Protocol	1 st June 2001
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	2003, 2011
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) (UNFCCC National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA))	- (Dec. 2007)
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	1996
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	2000
Stockholm Convention (SC)	2002
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	2005
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP II)	2007 - 2011
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	2003 - 2005
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	2011
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	1984

The major environmental issues in The Gambia have been identified as the following:

- Loss of biodiversity

- Climate change
- Land degradation/desertification
- Waste management
- Coastal degradation and loss of wetlands
- Environmental sanitation
- Misuse of agrochemicals including POPs.

Past and present interventions in the environment sector have specifically targeted the above-mentioned issues and although many successes have been registered, challenges still remain.

2.1.1 Biodiversity conservation

The objective of biodiversity conservation focal area under the 5th Operational Phase of the GEF is the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the maintenance of ecosystem goods and services. This goal will be achieved through 5 objectives namely:

1. *To improve the sustainability of protected area systems;*
2. *Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors;*
3. *Build capacity to implement the Cartagena protocol on Biosafety;*
4. *Build capacity on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing and;*
5. *Integrate CBD obligations into national planning processes through enabling activities.*

Biodiversity is an important natural resource in The Gambia playing a significant role in the livelihoods of the local population. Despite this role, biodiversity is under threat from a number of constraints which can be identified as the following:

- Population growth.
- Loss of habitat.
- Loss of species.
- Over exploitation of resources.
- Low levels of awareness.
- Poor agricultural practices.
- Lack of incentives for biodiversity conservation.
- Low capacities among stakeholders for biodiversity conservation.

In response to these threats, The Government of the Gambia prepared the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 1999 and the strategy is currently under implementation. The NBSAP provides both the legislative and institutional framework for managing the country's biodiversity on a sustainable basis. The NBSAP highlights the important role local communities, CBOs, NGOs and the private sector are expected to play in biodiversity conservation and management in the country.

The capacity needs assessment for biodiversity conservation was completed in 2007. This exercise identified the capacity needs for biodiversity management as well as the strategies to address them.

The focus of past biodiversity conservation efforts has been on the Protected Areas. Government has set aside 7 protected areas totaling about 4.1 % of the country's land area. Outside the Protected Areas, biodiversity loss is well widespread thereby posing major challenges to conservation efforts in the country.

Under GEF 4, the SGP had supported projects aimed at protecting the well being and functioning of protected areas by financing activities aimed at reducing human pressures on protected areas. These support strategies for biodiversity conservation will be strengthened under GEF 5.

2.1.2 Climate Change

The goal of the climate change focal area under the 5th operational Phase of the GEF is to support developing countries and those with economies in transition towards a low-carbon development path. This goal will be achieved through the following objectives:

- 1. Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low GHG technologies at the community level;*
- 2. Promote and support energy efficiency, low-GHG transport at the community level and;*
- 3. Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate change proofing of land use, land use change and forestry.*

The Gambia has been identified to be among the most vulnerable countries to climate change. As a low-lying country, the phenomenon of climate change poses major development challenges for the country as the productive sectors such as agriculture, forestry, wildlife, tourism etc would be adversely affected.

It was estimated that more than 80% of the country's domestic energy source comes from biomass in the form of fuelwood. The combustion of biomass releases large quantities of Carbon Dioxide into the atmosphere. Carbon Dioxide levels can however be reduced by adopting energy efficient technologies such as improved cooking stoves and renewable energy technologies such as wind and solar. Improved cooking stoves have been promoted among the Gambian population in the past as a way of conserving energy and reducing the loss of the forest cover. Of recent, the country has witnessed the introduction of biogas technology as a substitute for fuelwood in some rural communities.

A number of NGOs are active in the area of promoting the use of energy efficient technologies and the SGP could make a significant contribution in this area. Government is also promoting energy efficiency in buildings through new building norms and standards.

Initiatives under climate change by government, NGOs, CBOs and the private sector are aimed among other things at protecting critical coastal ecosystems, reducing or avoiding GHG emissions through alternative means of waste disposal. The Gambia's NAPA recently prepared and adopted by government identifies the country's most vulnerable sectors to climate change and proposes corresponding adaptation strategies.

SGP stands in a unique position to work with vulnerable communities and groups in addressing issues of climate change and its resulting impacts.

2.1.3 International waters

The goal of the international waters focal area under the 5th Operational Phase is the promotion of collective management for transboundary water systems and subsequent implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and management of ecosystems services. This goal will be achieved through 4 objectives:

- 1. Catalyze multi-state cooperation to balance conflicting water uses in transboundary surface and groundwater basins while considering climatic variability and change;*
- 2. Catalyze multi-state cooperation to rebuild marine fisheries and reduce pollution of coasts and Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) while considering climatic variability and change;*
- 3. Support functional capacity building, portfolio learning and targeted research needs for joint, ecosystem-based management of trans-boundary water systems and;*

4. *Promote effective management of Marine Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (MABNJ).*

The River Gambia is a dominant physical feature which divides the entire country into two halves- the North and South banks respectively. The river is a trans-boundary river which has its source in The Republic of Guinea and its basin is shared by four countries: Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Republic of Guinea and The Gambia. The river is an important source of livelihood for the populations of this group of countries catering for irrigation, transport, fishing and other services.

The River Gambia is under threat from a number of factors. Uncontrolled and uncoordinated developments within the river basin among the four countries have seriously affected the quality and status of the river and its tributaries. Over extraction of water, indiscriminate use of pesticides and other agrochemicals within the river basin have all contributed negatively to the health and status of the river. Irrigation activities have led to the saline front within The Gambia moving upstream rendering many once fertile areas unfit for crop production.

There are many national and regional initiatives underway aimed at addressing some of the issues identified as contributing to lowering the potentials of The River Gambia. One such regional initiative is the GEF-funded project called 'Protection of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (LME)' which aims to conserve biodiversity, protect critical marine habitats and promote regional co-operation among countries in the management of the transboundary resources.

Within The Gambia itself, invasive weed species have emerged as a threatening issue to the water quality of the river, its tributaries and inland deltas. The SGP would work with communities involved in attempts to put in place inter-state cooperation mechanisms for addressing issues affecting The River Gambia's resources.

2.1.4 Land degradation

The goal of the land degradation focal area under the 5th Operation Phase is to contribute towards arresting and reversing current global trends in land degradation specifically desertification and deforestation. This programme goal will be achieved through 4 objectives:

1. *To maintain or improve the flow of agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems services to sustain livelihoods of local communities;*

2. *To generate sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services in drylands, including sustaining livelihoods of forest dependent people;*
3. *Reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses in the wider landscape and;*
4. *Increase capacity to apply adaptive management tools in Sustainable Land Management by GEF and UNCCD.*

The Gambia is predominantly an agricultural country with over 75% of its population engaged directly in farming. During the last four decades, the country has experienced high rates of deforestation due to agricultural expansion, fuel wood harvesting and wild fires. This situation has resulted in severe forms of land degradation being witnessed all over the country. Soil erosion, mainly by wind and water, is the major environmental cause of land degradation.

National priorities in land degradation include the introduction of watershed management practices into the farming systems, consolidation and expansion of community forest management models, capacity building in soil and water conservation.

Under GEF 4, the largest portion of The Gambia SGP portfolio projects was land degradation interventions aimed at either to halting or reversing the process land degradation. This scenario is expected to continue or even increase given the magnitude of the problem associated with land degradation and its direct consequences on food security and rural incomes in particular.

2.1.5 Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

The objective of the Chemicals programme under the 5th Operational Phase of the GEF is to promote the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle in ways that lead to maximization of significant adverse effects on human health and the global environment. This goal will be achieved through 4 programme objectives:

1. *Phase out POPs and reduce POPs release;*
2. *Phase out ODS and reduce ODS releases;*
3. *Pilot sound chemicals management and mercury reduction and;*
4. *POPs enabling activities.*

Persistent Organic Pollutants are a growing environmental issue in The Gambia. The indiscriminate use of pesticides and other agrochemicals and poor waste management practices pose serious health problems to the population. Integrated pest management is being highly promoted throughout the country as a viable alternative to the heavy use of pesticides in agriculture and in other uses. Capacity building for sound chemicals management is a priority area for the government of The Gambia in the management of POPs in the country. Both the NEA and NARI are working with local communities and organisations in promoting alternatives to the use of agro-chemicals containing POPs and the SGP is expected to play a leading role in the future in this critical area of human health and environment.

2.1.6 Sustainable Forest Management

The goal of the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) focal area is to achieve multiple benefits from management of all types of forests. This goal will be pursued so as to ensure the effective provision of forest ecosystem services and to strengthen livelihoods of people dependent on the use of forests. The goal of this programme will be achieved through two objectives:

- 1. Reduce pressures on forest resources and generate sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services and;*
- 2. Strengthen the enabling environment to reduce GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and enhance carbon sinks from LULUCF.*

The forest cover of The Gambia stands at about 43% of the total land area composed of woodlands, savannah woodlands, shrub savannah, mangroves and plantations. The plantations are composed on 66 designated forest parks that are under central government control and management. Although the forest cover occupies a significant percentage of the total land area of the country, it is however subjected to extremely high pressure from the population in terms of meeting its needs. Government policies targets increasing protection of forest lands through community involvement targeting about 34, 000 hectares. An additional 43, 000 hectares is also for joint forest management between government and local communities. Community-based initiatives such as the introduction of community forest management programmes, reforestation, capacity building etc would be supported under the fifth operational phase to attain these targets.

2.1.7 Cross-cutting capacity development

Capacity can be defined as the ability of individuals, institutions and groups to perform duties/functions in an efficient and transparent manner. Capacity building is considered a pre-requisite for the successful implementation of SGP initiatives. The SGP recognises the capacity constraints among local NGOs and CBOs and has devoted resources towards improving the situation. This approach will be stepped up in the 5th operational phase of the GEF.

The goal of the cross-cutting capacity development focal area is to address the capacity needs of SGP stakeholders in order to enhance their abilities to meet their obligations under the MEAs and to further mainstream the MEAs into policy, institutional and legal frameworks. The goal will be pursued through 5 specific objectives namely:

1. *Enhance the capacity of stakeholders for engagement through the consultative process;*
2. *Generate access and use of information and knowledge;*
3. *Strengthen capacities for policy and legislative development for achieving global benefits;*
4. *Strengthen capacities for management and implementation on convention guidelines and;*
5. *Enhance capacities for monitoring and evaluation of environmental impacts and trends.*

Government priorities in capacity building are aimed at improving service delivery and outputs of individual, institutions and providing an enabling environment in order to achieve long term sustainable development. Through its decentralization programme, there is a great deal of emphasis placed on capacity development at the local level including the grassroots.

The Gambia's Poverty Reduction and Strategy Paper (PRSP II 2002 -2006) provides a comprehensive framework for addressing poverty issues in the country. The PRSP is now a cornerstone of government policy and the SGP CPS of The Gambia will be mutually supportive of the latter as poverty issues are environment related.

Section 3

Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results

3.1.1 Long term vision for the SGP in The Gambia

The primary objective of the SGP is to achieve global environmental benefits in the GEF 5 focal areas of biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation/adaptation, protection of international waters, elimination of POPs, prevention of land degradation/sustainable forest management and cross-cutting capacity development initiatives through community-based environmental initiatives and actions.

The long term strategic vision for SGP in The Gambia as spelt out in both the previous and current CPS is as follows:

“To enhance the capacity of NGOs, CBOs and local communities in order to effectively contribute towards the protection of the global environment while improving their livelihoods through community-based initiatives”.

Both NGOs and CBOs have a long history of working with rural communities throughout The Gambia. From the beginning, NGOs were mainly international NGOs with external sources of funding and operating in wide ranging fields. Over the years, local NGOs and CBOs emerged on the development scene and have steadily grown in number registering quite a number of successes. Given their comparative advantage and their ability to leverage additional funding, NGOs and CBOs are expected to play a leading role in SGP implementation.

3.1.2 Capacity building

Although the level of understanding about the SGP and its focal areas among potential grantees has improved significantly since 2007, capacity building would nonetheless be further strengthened under GEF 5. For grantees to be able to access SGP resources, they should be able to design project proposals that meet the programme’s eligibility criteria particularly in being able to address the focal area concerns. There is a general lack of capacity among grantees writing sound technical proposals and this limits their chances of securing SGP funding. The capacity building programmes would be expanded to include such topics as problem identification, project identification and formulation including monitoring and general project proposal writing.

Further recognising the capacity limitations of the CBOs and local communities in writing project proposals, working relationships have been established with other development partners such as the US Peace Corps to assist local communities in this area.

3.1.3 Long term objectives and key result areas

To achieve the long term vision, the SGP in The Gambia would continue to focus on the two specific objectives:

Objective 1: To build the capacities of NGOs and CBOs in all aspects of project management and the GEF operations and focal area interventions with particular emphasis on proposal development along SGP guidelines.

Objective 2: On a pilot basis, implement a number of environmental projects having sustainable livelihood components at the community levels aimed at providing both local and global environmental benefits. These projects would serve as models to be replicated or up-scaled in GEF 5.

At the end of the GEF 5 operational phase the following results are expected:

- A greater understanding and awareness among the NGO and CBO community on the links between local environment, the global environment, the SGP focal areas and their livelihoods.
- The capacity of the NGOs and CBOs in designing and implementing projects in the SGP focal areas and the national environmental priorities would be greatly enhanced.
- Enhanced collaboration and partnerships between the SGP and other development projects and donor agencies.
- A general public that is well sensitized on the SGP and engages in policy dialogue on The Gambian environment and cross-cutting matters such as Capacity Development and gender.

3.1.4 Gender considerations

With more than 50% of the population of The Gambia composed of women, gender considerations are a critical consideration in all development endeavors of the country. Considered as a vulnerable group with very limited access to productive resources, SGP projects will ensure that gender dimensions are taken into account in all SGP-funded projects. Strategies in that regard will include advocating for some of the CBO leaders to be women, encouraging women groups to apply for SGP funding and targeting women groups in disseminating information about the SGP.

Section 4

OP 5 country outcomes, indicators and activities

4.1 **OP 5 targets, national priorities vs. SGP niche**

The table below outlines the targets of the OP5 global project objectives, the national priorities and their linkages with SGP country niches. The aim of the SGP country niche is to contribute in an effective manner towards the attainment of the SGP OP 5 immediate objectives in each focal area and equally towards the attainment of The Gambia's national priorities.

Table 2: OP 5 project objectives, national priorities and SGP niche.

OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1:</u> Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions	Co-management of Protected Areas (government-local communities partnerships)	Indigenous and Community Conservation Areas (ICCAS).
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions.	Biodiversity mainstreaming in Central and Local government policies.	Community-based biodiversity conservation projects.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	Promotion of low carbon technologies at all levels.	Community-based low carbon technologies and projects.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	Promotion and support of low-carbon transport at all levels.	Community-based low carbon transports.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5:</u> Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	Promotion of community forest management throughout The Gambia. Expand and consolidate existing community forests.	Community-based management of community forests. Community-based management of forests.

	Execution of regular re-afforestation programmes.	
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	Promotion of land husbandry practices.	Community-based soil and water conservation. Community-based capacity building on land degradation.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	Institutionalization of land use policy. Promotion of alternative livelihoods at all levels.	Community-based sustainable livelihoods as a central component of all SGP projects.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8:</u> Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives	Promotion of collaborative management of trans-boundary water resources through establishment of high level commissions.	Community-based co-management of shared water bodies.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	Promotion of alternatives to POPs Capacity building and public sensitization on the dangers of POPs. Instituted regulations on use of POPs.	Promotion of community-based alternatives to POPs creation, use and disposal.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10:</u> 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	Continuously engage stakeholders in addressing environmental challenges through dialogue and information sharing by creating the National GEF Committee and SGP- NSC.	Establishment of SGP – NSC facilitating the timely, efficient and transparent of community-based projects implementation. Learning platforms and networks for knowledge sharing.
<u>Cross-Cutting Results:</u> Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender	Mainstream poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender in all government and NGO programmes and policies.	Community-based project focusing on poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender.

The indicators for OP 5 are outlined in Annex 1.

Results Framework

Table 3: SGP OP 5 Results Framework.

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1:</u> Improve sustainability of protected areas and Indigenous and Community Conservation Areas (ICCAs) through community-based actions.			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
1.1 Improved community-level actions & practices, & reduced negative impacts on biodiversity resources in and around protected areas.	Number & hectares of ICCAs & other PAs positively influenced through SGP support	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits. SGP case studies. SGP grantee data from innovative monitoring approaches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participatory forest management. ▪ Reafforestation. ▪ Training/capacity building. ▪ Co-management of PA initiatives/ICCAs. ▪ Community-based Biodiversity conservation initiatives. ▪ Community-based land conservation initiatives.
1.2 Benefits generated at the community level from conservation in & around PAs & ICCAs.	Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status.	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable livelihoods initiatives (built into SGP projects). ▪ Protection of significant species.
1.3 Increased recognition & integration of ICCAs in national PA systems.	Number & hectares of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status.	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-based ecosystem protection/restoration. ▪ Knowledge sharing/networking.
1.4 Increased understanding & awareness at the community level of the importance & value of biodiversity.	Number of communities with Increased understanding & awareness of the importance & value of biodiversity.	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conservation/rehabilitation initiatives. ▪ Training/capacity building in schools, communities. ▪ Sensitization/public awareness campaigns. ▪ Curriculum development
<u>SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation & sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes & sectors through community initiatives and actions.			
2.1 Improved community-level sustainable use of biodiversity in	Hectares of production landscapes/seascapes under improved	GEF SGP database, project reports &	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable NRM practices. ▪ Recognition/certification of environmental standards. ▪ Benefit sharing practices.

production. landscapes/seascapes through community based initiatives, frameworks and market mechanisms, including recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations.	sustainable use practices, leading, where possible, to certification through recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations (supported by SGP	monitoring visits.	
2.2 Increased understanding & awareness of sustainable use of biodiversity	Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status. Number & hectares of significant ecosystems with maintained or improved conservation status.	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Species conservation/rehabilitation initiatives i.e. Mangrove regeneration. ▪ Sensitization/public awareness campaigns.
SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development & transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level			
3.1 Innovative low-GHG technologies deployed & successfully demonstrated at the community level.	Number of countries with demonstrations addressing community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring reports. Case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-based Solar technology demonstration initiatives. ▪ Promotional campaigns. ▪ Case studies.
3.2 GHG emissions avoided	Number of national or international partners or agencies that are aware of SGP practices & lessons.	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits. Case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Knowledge dissemination ▪ Networking ▪ Publications on good practices
SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 4: promote & support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level			
4.1 Low-GHG transport demonstrated at the	Number of countries where community-level transport	GEF SGP database, project	

community level.	options have been demonstrated.	reports & monitoring reports.	
4.2 Increased investment in community-level energy efficient, low GHG transport systems.	Number of governments having been influenced by SGP demonstration practices.	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low GHG transport demonstration initiatives.
4.3 GHG emissions avoided.		GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Innovative waste management practices ▪ Improved fertilizer & pesticide management practices. ▪ Training/capacity building initiatives. ▪ Biogas technology promotion.
<p><u>SGP OP 5 Immediate objective 5:</u> Support the conservation & enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management & climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry.</p>			
5.1 Sustainable land use, land use change & climate proofing practices adopted at the community level for forestry & non-forest land-use types	Hectares under improved sustainable land management & climate proofing practices	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tree planting initiatives. ▪ Land management initiatives. ▪ Improved farming/soil conservation practices.
5.2 Restoration & enhancement of carbon stocks in forests & non-forest lands, including peatland.	Hectares of forests & non-forest lands with restoration & enhancement initiated	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest restoration/protection. ▪ Tree planting. ▪ Improved farming practices.
5.3 GHG emissions avoided			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Waste management. ▪ Promotion of alternative domestic fuel sources.
<p><u>SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> maintain or improve the flow of agro-ecosystem & forest ecosystem services to sustain local communities</p>			
6.1 Improved community-level actions & practices, & reduced negative impacts on agro-& forest ecosystem services demonstrated to sustain ecosystem functionality.	Hectares under improved agricultural, land & water management practices (by management practice)	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-based soil & water conservation. ▪ Agro-forestry practices ▪ Training/capacity building on improved farming techniques. ▪ Integrated farming practices.

<p>6.2 Community-based models of sustainable forestry management developed, & tested, linked to carbon sequestration for possible upscaling where appropriate, to reduce GHG emissions from deforestation & enhance carbon sinks from land use, land use change, & forest activities</p>	<p>Number of national & international agencies or partners that are aware of successful SGP demonstrations & innovative approaches.</p> <p>Number of national/local governments or international policy making processes with SGP influence.</p>	<p>GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of land use policies. ▪ Community forestry initiatives. ▪ Tree planting exercises. ▪ Community-based Eco-tourism.
<p><u>SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 7</u>: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)</p>			
<p>7.1 Improved community-level actions & practices, & reduced negative impacts in land use frontiers of agro-ecosystems & forest ecosystems (rural/urban, agriculture/forest)</p>	<p>Number of community members with improved actions & practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses.</p>	<p>GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adoption of improved land use practices. ▪ Innovative approaches to land use.
<p><u>SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 8</u>: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives.</p>			
<p>8.1 Effective & resilient community-based actions & practices supporting implementation of SAP regional priority actions demonstrated</p>	<p>Number of SAPs to which SGP is providing implementation support.</p> <p>Number of regional or transboundary water management processes to which SGP is contributing good practices & lessons.</p>	<p>GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-based management of transboundary water bodies. ▪ Community-based control of invasive species in water bodies. ▪ Training/capacity building on water management. ▪ Control of pesticides and agro-chemicals in water bodies.
<p>8.2 Synergistic partnerships developed between SGP stakeholders & transboundary water</p>		<p>GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaboration/partnership between SGP and relevant institutions/bodies in joint management of shared water bodies.

management institutions & structures supporting implementation of SAP regional priority actions.		visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training/capacity building initiatives in water management. ▪ Networking/information sharing.
SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote & support phase out of POPs & chemicals of global concern at the community level			
9.1 Improved community-level initiatives & actions to prevent, reduce & phase out POPs, harmful chemicals & other pollutants, manage contaminated sites in an environmentally sound manner, & mitigate environmental contamination	<p>Tons of POPs waste avoided by burning.</p> <p>Tons of obsolete pesticides disposed off appropriately.</p> <p>Number of countries where SGP is contributing to the implementation of national plans & policies to address POPs, chemicals 7 other pollutants.</p>	GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-based Innovative ways of POPs waste disposal initiatives. ▪ Promotion to alternatives to POPs usage. ▪ Training/capacity building activities. ▪ Safe methods of obsolete pesticides disposal.
SGP OP 5 Immediate Objective 10: Enhance & strengthen the capacities of CSOs			
10.1 Active participation of NSCs & NFGs in GEF focal area at the national level to the overall achievement of Global Environmental Benefits through sustainable development. Generally, SGP seeks to improve livelihoods through increasing local benefits generated from environmental resources, & considerations in community-based environmental initiatives.	<p>Number of SGP representatives participating in national GEF coordination.</p> <p>Percentage of projects with appropriate gender balance of participants & target beneficiaries.</p> <p>Percentage of projects that include socioeconomic analysis.</p> <p>Number of community members with sustained livelihood</p>	SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Include relevant CSOs in GEF Coordination bodies. ▪ Selection of projects with gendered based elements. ▪ Training/capacity building on GEF-SGP requirements. ▪ Information dissemination through NGO networks on the GEF-SGP. ▪ Inclusion of sustainable livelihood components in SGP-funded projects. ▪ Ensuring community participation in all aspects of SGP-funded projects.

	improvement resulting from SGP support.		
10.2 Improved information flows to/from CBOs & CSOs in SGP countries regarding good practices & lessons learned, & application of such practices.	Quantity & quality of SGP knowledge base, & use of knowledge base; Quantity & quality of contributions to knowledge fairs, conferences, publications & research.	SGP case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publications promoting the work of the GEF/SGP. ▪ Participation in knowledge fairs, conferences and other for a to showcase the work of GEF-SGP.
10.3 Increased public awareness & education at the community-level regarding global environmental benefits.	Quantity & quality of SGP knowledge base, & use of knowledge base; Quantity & quality of contributions to knowledge fairs, conferences, publications & research.	SGP case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publications promoting the work of the GEF/SGP. ▪ Participation in knowledge fairs, conferences and other for a to showcase the work of GEF-SGP.
10.4 Capacity of CBOs & CSOs strengthened to support implementation of global environmental issues.	Number of demonstrations & piloted examples of community-based environmental monitoring systems used in SGP projects.	SGP case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of pilot projects that yield global environmental projects. ▪ Upscaling of successful pilot projects. ▪ Training/capacity building in community-based environmental monitoring
10.5 Increased application of community-based environmental monitoring.	Number of demonstrations & piloted examples of community-based environmental monitoring systems used in SGP projects.	SGP case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of pilot projects that yield global environmental projects. ▪ Upscaling of successful pilot projects. ▪ Training/capacity building in community-based environmental monitoring
10.6 Evaluation of SGP projects & programmes against expected results strengthened, including increased capacity of CBOs & CSOs to apply relevant evaluation methodologies.	<p>Quantity & quality of documentation of expected project results, & expected effects.</p> <p>Number of CBOs & CSOs demonstrating understanding of the role of evaluation through application of relevant evaluation methodologies.</p>	SGP case studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community-based evaluation of SGP projects. ▪ Training/capacity building on community-based evaluation methodologies. ▪ Dissemination of good practices in community-based evaluation techniques.

<p>Cross-Cutting Results: Livelihoods & Gender</p>	<p>SGP results framework for OP 5, as approved by the SGP Steering Committee, does not include specific objectives on livelihoods & gender. Nonetheless, SGP does produce positive results in these areas, which contribute to the overall achievement of Global Environmental Benefits through sustainable development. Generally, SGP seeks to improve livelihoods through increasing local benefits generated from environmental resources, & mainstream gender considerations in community-based environmental initiatives.</p>	<p>GEF SGP database, project reports & monitoring visits.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender-based/gender balanced initiatives. ▪ Socio-economic analysis activities. ▪ Projects aimed at improving livelihoods. ▪ Projects targeting vulnerable groups.
--	---	---	---

Section 5

Monitoring and Evaluation plan

5.1 Programme Monitoring and Evaluation Strategy

Monitoring and Evaluation are essential aspects of any successful project or programme. The GEF 5 operational guidelines place a great deal of emphasis on M&E and the role of the GEF Operational Focal Point in terms of M&E has been further strengthened. An M&E strategy has already been developed for the SGP along the lines of the SGP framework as an integral part of programme management. Project proposals would be required to include a monitoring plan which would be used to monitor progress during implementation.

Programme monitoring of the SGP would be at two levels: programme level and project level.

5.1.1 Programme level monitoring

At the programme level, there would be 3 activities of monitoring as outlined in Table ... below

Table 4: 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

The country programme strategy review would be carried out at the start of OP 5 and would entail the review and endorsement of the CPS by the NSC and the wider GEF country constituent and CPMT.

5.1.2 Project level monitoring

The SGP grantee, The National Coordinator and The National Steering Committee all have responsibility for M&E at the project level.

The elements for M&E at the project level would include the following:

- (a). Baseline data: Each project will be required to provide the necessary baseline data at the start of project implementation. This information should capture the status quo of the situation before intervention but focusing on the problem(s) being targeted.
- (b). Indicators: Indicators for use in M&E should be selected during the formulation stage of projects at the time of establishing the project objectives. During the development of the indicators, the following factors should be considered:
- The project's objectives
 - The target group
 - Changes anticipated as a result of the project
 - The criteria for judging success.

Consideration would also be taken into account with regards to the essential qualities of indicators i.e. indicators should be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant & Time bound).

- (c). Work plans: Work plans form the basis for monitoring the progress of project implementation. Each SGP project would be required to include a detailed work plan which should indicate the critical milestones, activities, responsible actors, time frame and indicators.
- (d). Site visits: These will be undertaken by the National Coordinator and the National Steering Committee once project implementation has commenced in the field. Site visits allow the National Coordinator and the National Steering Committee the opportunity to not only confirm the information contained in the project progress reports but to observe actual implementation and meet with the beneficiaries. At the end of each site visit, the NC and a designated NSC member shall prepare a monitoring report indicating the objective of the visit, observations, recommendations and actions to be taken and the next steps. This report should be made available to the project recipient whose interventions were visited.
- (e). Progress reports: During project implementation a recipient NGO/CBO would be required to submit progress reports on a quarterly basis to the NC. The reports will be reviewed by both the NC and the NSC.
- (f). Final reports: Upon completion of a project, a recipient NGO/CBO is required to submit a final report to the NC. The final report should focus on the relevant and performance of the project, the success and shortcomings and the lessons learned.

Upon receiving the final review, the NC shall proceed to review the report and prepare an evaluation report on the project focusing on the implementation issues, lessons

learned and potential for replication. This report will be provided to all relevant stakeholders. Details of the M&E plan at the project level are summarised in the table below.

Table 5: 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 ¹	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage.
Two or Three Project Progress and Financial Reports (<i>depending on agreed disbursement schedule</i>)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request
Project Workplans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project.
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i> ²)	NC	Before project approval, as appropriate.
NC Project Monitoring Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i>)	NC	On average once per year, as appropriate.
NC Project Evaluation Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i>)	NC	At end of project, as appropriate.
Project Final Report	Grantees	Following completion of project activities.
Project Evaluation Report (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i>)	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.
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 ³	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year.
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly.

Section 6

Knowledge management plan

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) are essential functions designed to ensure a project is on course and objectives are achieved at the end of execution. The focus of monitoring is to use the knowledge gained to correct and adjust project implementation in order to achieve project results. Monitoring allows project stakeholders to keep track of project objectives, activities and expected results and to make whatever changes are necessary to improve project performance. On the other hand, evaluation focuses on the periodic assessment of progress towards stated programme/project goals and objectives. M&E would be an important element of SGP implementation designed to assess the impacts of its interventions on the global environmental and on sustainable livelihoods.

The steps which would be followed in capturing, sharing and disseminating the lessons learned and good practices identified through the country portfolio of projects are outlined as follows:

1. Selection of good projects that meet the SGP focal area requirements and have the potential to contribute towards the protection of the global environment.\
2. Identification of suitable and appropriate indicators.
3. Rigorous participatory monitoring and evaluation to ensure that the project is on the right track and the targets are met. Monitoring will be executed during the entire span of the project and the results will constantly be made available to the NSC whose decisions and recommendations will be used by the grantee to ensure that project objectives are met.
4. Documentation of good practices and success stories. Using the media and various NGO networks, success stories, important lessons learnt and good practices will be disseminated widely to the general public and the wider public.

The Performance Indicators that will be developed for the annual assessment of the country programme performance will include the following:

- (a). Implementation of the country strategy.
- (b). Portfolio compliance with GEF focal areas and operational programmes.
- (c). Demonstrating global benefits.
- (d). Documentation, information management and dissemination mechanisms.
- (e). Capacity building.
- (f). Visibility.

Section 7

Resource mobilisation plan

To ensure programme sustainability, resource mobilization has to be a central strategy of SGP operations. In GEF 5, resource mobilization would become an important consideration with both the SGP and the grantee required to come up with some co-financing. Attempts will be made to mainstream the SGP into other existing national programmes and policies at both the local and national levels. Partnerships would be forged with potential donor agencies, projects and organisations to secure co-funding in order to reduce SGP management costs to the minimum.

Participation, democracy, flexibility and transparency are central tenets of the SGP. The programme would encourage the active participation of NGOs, CBOs, local communities and other stakeholders. Over the years SGP has established a reputation worldwide as a cost-effective, fast, efficient and transparent delivery mechanism. This aspect would form the basis for marketing the SGP in The Gambia in soliciting for co-funding from partners in the fifth operational of the programme.

With limited funding under OP5, SGP will explore other innovative ways of securing additional funding for programme implementation. As part of its resource mobilization strategy, the following tasks will be undertaken:

- (1). Formulation of the Country programme Strategy to clearly spell out the direction of the programme, the priorities and overall programme management. This strategic document besides being a blueprint for SGP in the country, would in itself serve to generate interest for potential co-funding partners.
- (2). Integrating SGP activities into the larger scale initiatives/programmes of The Gambia. This will ensure the continuation of initiatives after the SGP phases out.
- (3). Promote and highlight the success stories and good practices of SGP using the, the existing NGO and CBO networks and the media.
- (5) Mobilise additional monetary resources outside the programme to reduce operational expenses of the SGP.
- (6). Through its good practices and success stories, influence government environmental policies and programmes in order to promote ownership.

Annex 1: GEF SGP OP 5 PROJECT LEVEL INDICATORS

The following represent the core set of project level indicators for OP5:

SGP OP5 results indicators	
BD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced ○ Hectares of protected areas influenced ○ Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status
BD2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of production landscapes / seascapes applying sustainable use practices ○ Total value of biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced (US dollar equivalent)
CCM3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low carbon transport practices (please specify) ○ Total value of transport services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided through improved land use and climate proofing practices
LD6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices ○ Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated
LD7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices
IW8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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
POPS9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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
CD10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks ○ 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 and etc. (to be specified according to type of training)

SGP OP5 results indicators

Cross-cutting	<p>Livelihoods & Sustainable Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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). <p>Empowerment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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: Project Proposal Review Sheet

The following issues represent major points of inquiry for the NSC in considering each project proposal (provided as a guide to the talking points for the discussion, NSC may include other points not presented here).

Evaluation Area	Score: <i>3=Highly, 2=Moderately, 1=Partially and 0=Not At All</i>	General Remarks
a. Applicant (.....Points)		
1. Does the organization meet the basic eligibility requirement for GEF SGP OP5 support?		
2. Has the organization demonstrated adequate capacity and experience to successfully implement the project?		
b. Project Objectives (.....Points)		
3. Does the proposed project meet the basic eligibility criteria as set forth in the GEF SGP OP 5 Country Programme Strategy (CPS)?		
4. Does the proposed project address one of the priority concerns identified in either the GEF SGP Global Strategy or the CPS?		
5. Does the proposed project have a particular focus on the empowerment of women, Indigenous peoples and or vulnerable grass-roots communities?		
6. Are the objectives of the project clear and compelling? Do they represent a well-conceived integration of GEF-related environmental protection and sustainable livelihoods strategies?		
7. Are the project's expected results appropriate and relevant to the stated objectives? If accomplished, do they represent a substantial beneficial impact in addressing environmental and sustainable livelihood challenges? (Are they sufficiently ambitious but doable? Are they unrealistically ambitious?)		
c. Project Plan and Approach (.....Points)		
8. Does the project presents a sound strategy or approach to achieving the stated objectives and expected results? Are proposed activities properly sequenced?		
9. Does the project plan incorporate realistic approaches and activities which will ensure the sustainability of the project's impacts, activities, or both?		
10. Are the time estimates for project implementation sound and realistic?		
11. Are the assumptions underlying the project's design accurate and complete? Have all substantial risk factors, based		

on internal and external conditions, been taken into account?		
d. Participation (.....Points)		
12. Has the organization involved and consulted all appropriate stakeholders, including particular members of affected communities, in the design and development of the project?		
13. Have representative groupings in stakeholder communities endorsed or expressed support for the project?		
14. Does the project design incorporate effective and appropriate means of assuring the participation and support of community members and other stakeholders throughout the period of project implementation?		
15. Has the organization made appropriate plans to include affected communities in the monitoring, assessment, and evaluation of the project, both during and after implementation?		
e. Other Considerations (.....Points)		
16. Would the proposed project complement, reinforce, or balance other projects in the GEF SGP portfolio?		
17. Is the geographic location of the proposed strategy supportive of the overall GEF SGP Country Strategy, either by concentrating inputs for maximum impact and synergy, or by providing GEF SGP outreach to new or under- represented areas?		
18. Would the proposed project generate constructive linkages with larger GEF projects in the country or region?		
19. Would the proposed project generate new and innovative models which could be replicated locally, nationally or internationally?		
20. Would the proposed project help develop the capacity of communities and organizations (including the proposer) to address environmental and sustainable livelihood concerns in an effective and integrated manner? And how will this capacity developed be retained?		
21. Are there exceptional circumstances which" would make it important to fund this project in spite of other contrary reasons?		
22. Does the project bring significant co-financing from other partners? What is the ratio of GEF support to co-financing?		
23. Does the project demonstrate strategic partnerships?		
Total points Scored		

Annex 3: Sample of Call for Proposals



UN House, 5, Kofi Annan Street, Cape Point, Bakau, P.O. Box 553, Banjul, The Gambia

The Global Environmental Facility – UNDP Small Grants Programme (SGP) invites project proposals from **locally registered** Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) including NGOs, CBOs, wishing to implement community-based environmental initiatives within the SGP focal areas as outlined below.

Each applicant will be entitled to only 2 successful funding rounds during this operational phase.

Criteria for funding

1. The CSO must be a registered entity in The Gambia and engaged in development work particularly at the community level.
2. The proposal must address one or more of the GEF focal areas namely: ***biodiversity conservation, climate change, international waters, Persistent Organic Pollutants, land degradation, Sustainable Forest Management and Cross-Cutting Capacity Development.***
3. The proposal must be technically sound, replicable and have the potential to make great impacts.
4. The proposal must demonstrate synergism with the other focal areas and the environmental priorities of The Gambia.
5. Must demonstrate financial sustainability and cost-effectiveness.
6. Must show evidence of target community participation in project design and management.
7. The proposal must be developed along the format stipulated.

Format for developing project proposals

The project proposal/concept should not be more than 6 to 8 pages and should include the following elements:

1. Name of the organization (mailing address, e-mail, contact person, Tel/Fax nos.)
2. Target population/beneficiaries
3. Project title
4. Main stakeholders involved in the implementation
5. Broad and specific objectives of the project
6. Main activities
7. Planned Outputs
8. Major achievements of the organization concerned so far
9. Other financing agencies involved in financing the project
10. Project implementation schedule
11. Work plan
12. Budget (Overhead cost should not be more than 7% of total grant)
13. Mechanism for assessing performance
14. Financial feasibility study (if project is aimed at increasing incomes)
15. CO-financing and resource mobilisation strategy and any other relevant information.

Applications must be submitted (preferably via e-mail) to:

The UNDP Resident Representative
 UN House
 5, Kofi Annan Street
 PMB 48, Banjul,
 The Gambia
 Tel: 4494 760
 E-mail: registry.gm@undp.org

or:

The National Coordinator
 GEF – UNDP Small Grants Programme,
 UN House,
 5 Kofi Annan Street
 Cape Point, Bakau
The Gambia
 Tel: 4460 758/984 2145
 E-mail: kebba.bojang@undp.org

The deadline for submission of proposals is
 Those whose proposals are accepted for funding will be required to further develop them using the SGP project template which will be provided later.

Annex 4: **Terms of Reference for the SGP National Steering Committee**

The National Steering Committee (NSC) is a central element of the SGP providing substantive leadership and oversight to the programme and works closely with the National Coordinator. Under the UNDP SGP mandate and operational structure, the NSC is the main country-level body responsible for providing strategic directions to the programme and is also responsible for project proposal reviews and selection in accordance with the GEF and SGP criteria and country programme strategy and priorities.

The NSC is composed of voluntary members from NGO's, academic and scientific institutions, civil society organizations, UNDP Country Office, and relevant government institutions. The technical capacity of the NSC is an important criterion in determining the composition of its membership and includes expertise in the GEF-SGP focal areas.

The specific responsibilities of the NSC are outlined as follows:

- (1). Working closely with the National Coordinator, the NSC would be responsible for the development of the Country Programme Strategy in accordance with the GEF Global Strategic framework and the national environmental priorities and oversee its implementation.
- (2). Be responsible for the review, selection and approval of project proposals and ensure their technical and substantive quality.
- (3). Participate in pre-selection site visits and provide advice on proposal formulation or re-design if possible.
- (4). Be involved in project monitoring and evaluation in order to keep track of progress and provide needed and timely guidance as may be required.
- (5). Approve the annual work plans and budgets presented by the NC.
- (6). Conduct bi-annual assessments of the programme with a view to identifying success stories and lessons learnt for wider dissemination.
- (7). Engage in policy dialogues on global environmental issues in order to promote SGP activities within government and the wider civil society.
- (8). As individuals, each NSC member is encouraged to disseminate information on the SGP through their own networks so as to enhance programme visibility in the country.

- (9). Assist in mobilizing additional resources for OP 5 programme operations.
- (10). Each NSC member shall serve for a period of two years.

Annex 5: **Terms of Reference for the SGP National Coordinator**

The National Coordinator for the SGP is responsible for the day to day operations of the programme in the country.

The specific duties of the National Coordinator are as follows:

- (1). As a member of the NSC, serve as secretary to this body and prepare the agenda for its meetings.
- (2). Prepare the work plans and budgets for the SGP and present them for review and approval by the NSC.
- (3). Supervise and ensure a conducive working atmosphere for the support staff of the SGP programme.
- (4). Promote the programme's objectives, procedures and achievements among NGOs, CBOs and other key stakeholders
- (5). Develop and/or revise the Country Programme Strategy in collaboration with the NSC and other stakeholders.
- (6). Receive project proposals from NGOs and CBOs and present for review to the NSC and transmit the comments/inputs to the proponent.
- (7). Review and process applications for SGP grants and work with applicants to improve project proposals before submission to NSC for consideration.
- (8). Conduct regular monitoring of project implementation in the field and provide technical advice and guidance as may be required.
- (9). Conduct regular workshops and sensitization programmes on the SGP focal areas and operational programmes among NGOs and CBOs in order to enhance their understanding of the programme.
- (10). Organise and conduct periodic field visits to project sites for members of the NSC
- (11). Explore co-funding sources in-country among other development programmes, agencies and partners to raise co-financing for programme management.
- (12). Prepare regular reports on the activities and progress of the programme for UNDP-Banjul, the NSC and the Global Coordinator of the SGP in New York.