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SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR UTILIZATION OF OP5 GRANT FUNDS – NAMIBIA



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Acronyms

BCC	Benguela Current Commission
BD	Biodiversity
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
CD	Capacity Development
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CC	Climate Change
CBA	Community Based Adaptation
CBD	UN Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community-Based Organization
CRNRM	Community Based Natural Resources Management
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
DEA	Department of Environmental Affairs
EEG	Environment and Energy Unit
IW	International Waters
LD	Land Degradation
NAP	UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)
NBSAP Plan	CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action
NC	National Coordinator
NCSA	GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)
NSC	National Steering Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OP	Operational Phase
RAF	Resource Allocation Framework
RPRAP	Poverty Reduction Action Programme
PA	Programme Assistant
PRA	Performance and Results Assessment
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SPA	Special Priority Adaptation
SMMEs	Small Medium and Micro Enterprises
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	UN Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Service

pollutants through community based approaches .The GEF SGP Namibia joined SGP in 2002 and was officially launch in March 2003. Since then GEF SGP Namibia provided financial and other support to more than 100 projects inclusive of those supported via the Community Based Adaptation (CBA) to Climate Change initiative, a UNDP supported project via the Special Priority Adaptation (SPA) effort.

GEF SGP Namibia contributed to environmental benefits with emphasis on the local community level livelihoods support but with projects that generates global benefits through environmental conservation, mitigation of climate change impacts, promotion of sustainable livelihoods interventions, and empowerment of local communities through their champion- Community-based Organizations (CBOs). The above was and is being achieved with the support and collaboration of numerous CBOs, NGOs and even some government agencies that have mandates and interests in the environment and in the development of rural communities. In Namibia, GEF SGP provided grants to the tune of US\$ 2,920,000.00 since its launch and most funds were directly availed to communities, through their CBOs. Co-financing raised during this period amounts to about US\$ 2,660,000 in-cash and about US\$ 1,600,000 in-kind. GEF SGP Namibia received US\$ 500,000 from the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF) under the Biodiversity GEF thematic area for the Operational Phase 4 which ended in June 2010. Only about US\$42,000 remained to be granted before the OP5 grant making cycles commences. See below the OP4 allocation versus the commitment as well as OP4 thematic focus.

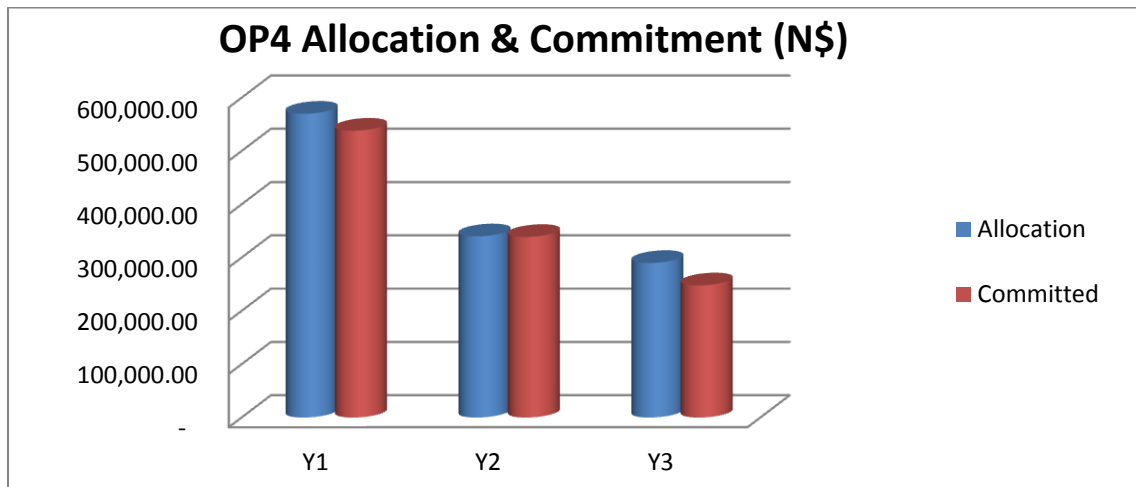


Fig2. OP 4 allocation versus commitment

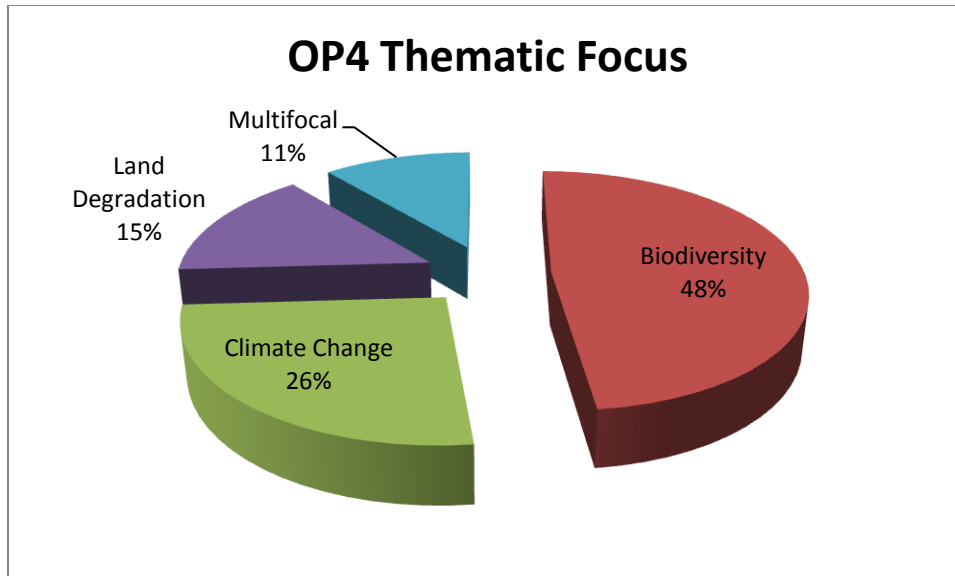


Fig.3 OP4 Thematic focus

The RAF funds were primarily invested into increasing community conserved areas in Namibia, enhancing the sustainable use of biodiversity. Institutional support was provided and a significant additional number of our local communities have been empowered through the initial seed funding to protect, and sustainably manage their environment and resources through environmentally sound management styles and decision-making processes. The remaining funding under RAF will be allocated shortly, as applications are currently coming in triggered by a recent call for proposals.

Generally, GEF SGP projects supported since inception has contributed immensely to the betterment of community livelihoods. Many projects ensured sustainable food security whilst others supported communities to be resilience to climate change. Human animal wildlife conflict management was improved and many communities are now at ease with living in harmony with wildlife such as elephant and crocodiles. Fuel efficiency and dependency on wood products came to be understood by many community members as many are now engage in energy efficiency appropriate technology development. Our degraded soils are improved not in all but greatly as people are now able to generate more yield per hectare than before GEF SGP intervention. GEF SGP Namibia supported communities that are truly in need within the rural areas and specifically communities that are marginalized due to their geographic location or social standing as by the legacies of colonial and apartheid regimes. GEF SGP went and supported where others couldn't or were and are not able to. SGP supported either directly or via community based organizations thus building on the relevant capacities as well. Results and impacts are being monitored through the Namibian GEF SGP project unit.

Namibia's economy relies primarily on natural resource-based products and the economy is driven by export of these primary commodities whilst a large portion of the population is directly reliant on subsistence agriculture and other natural resources for their daily needs and is earning per capita income that is estimated to be lower than US\$85. These poverty stricken communities rely on the natural environment for their needs for energy,

construction, fencing, and furniture, tools, and medicine and food production. This situation exerts tremendous pressures on the already fragile environment. Some of the known pressures include degradation of the biomass, degradation of rangelands, unsustainable fishing in the perennial rivers and destruction of vegetation by slash and burn agriculture.

This Country Programme Strategy (CPS) is rooted on SGP principle that through the grant support Namibian communities can achieve sustainable livelihoods as well environmental benefits. The CPS prioritizes the community and partner’s capacity building, awareness creation, gender empowerment as critical elements of the environmental conservation and livelihoods program. The key partners of GEF-SGP remains the civil society organizations including those closely associated with local communities, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), more specifically, the Environment and Energy Unit (EEG), Ministry of Environment and Tourism through its Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and a number of other environmental programmes such as the Country Pilot Partnership programme, the Africa Adaptation Programme, the National Planning Commission, academic institutions and other government entities and programmes, donors as well as academic institutions. GEF-SGP does rely on both GEF SGP Core funding as well as the GEF STAR funds, with co-financing received mostly through project partnerships. The Environmental Investment Fund of Namibia already indicated its support towards our local communities by calling for proposals and entertaining the first round of small grants delivery. It is based on the SGP operational modality and envisage to spend a little above N\$ 1, 2 million every year.

SGP Namibia priorities and focal areas are determined through a consultative process involving the National Steering Committee during scheduled sessions (but also outside these sessions), and NGO/CBO partner organizations. In the project selection process the main criteria taken into consideration are: a) activities that are better fit with the GEF focal areas; b) activities that address national concerns as stipulated in the guiding national documents and other related environmental policy documents of the Ministry of Environment and other agencies; and c) capacities of NGOs/CBOs (and communities themselves) to implement the projects. That is technical competence, provision of co-financing and their rapport in working with communities.

2.1 SGP country programme niche

Namibia has ratified numerous international treaties. Most of them have been translated into national policy guidance or implementation instruments, which are under implementation.

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)	12.06.1992
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	Completion of NBSAP I 01/06/2001 NBSAP II is being prepared now.

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	12.06.1992
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th)	1 st submitted in 2000, 2 nd 2002, 3 rd 2005 and fourth being prepared currently
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	24.10.1994
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	CPP being operationalised in 2007
Poverty Reduction Action Programme (RPRAP)	Completed on 02.12.2002
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	24.06.2005
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	Completed in 2006
National Climate Change Policy	31 10 .2011
Strategic Action Plan on Renewable Energy	16.05.2006
Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety to the Convention on Biological Diversity	29.01.2000

2.2 Namibia has a reasonably good strength of NGOs and rapidly increasingly community-based organizations (CBOs) for a country with very low population density and, perhaps more significantly, for a country with a pre-independence history of authoritarian colonial society and government which stifled civil society activism. There are now approximately 200 or little less national and international NGOs currently working in Namibia, of which around 20 are still concentrating on the environment. Although, some of these NGOs are well established, ‘environmental NGOs’ in Namibia are still a small minority compared to the run-of-the-mill social NGOs. As a result, the distribution of their activities in all 13 regions is slightly unbalanced. There are about 50 CBOs working mainly in the sector of natural resource management and tourism. A few selected ones are well known to the SGP and have been implementing some of the SGP projects nationally.

The enabling environment for CBOs and NGOs has improved rapidly due to enabling policies passed mostly since 1990 such as the Community Based Natural Resources Management CBNRM and community-based tourism policies, as well as an increasing focus on government partnerships with NGOs, CBOs and civil society. The most recent (2011) cabinet approved Climate Change policy created more enabling platforms for the environment sector to be serviced even better. Creation of enabling environment for NGO/CBO activities is clearly reflected as an important principle in the National Development Plans (NDP) 2&3 and now in NDP and is being increasingly recognized in the outsourcing strategies being developed by the Office of the Prime Minister on behalf of the civil service.

Conservation of Globally Significant Biodiversity Through Community-based Initiatives and Actions:

As guided by many national instruments GEF-SGP in Namibia will promote the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in order to contribute to economic growth and poverty alleviation. Also and as has been the practice, GEF SGP will not necessarily focus SGP support on few selected themes but rather on the broader GEF focal areas. These will include Biodiversity Conservation, Land Degradation, International Waters and Climate Change resilience building amongst others. Some particular emphasis will however be placed on delivering to the community conserved areas by rural communities and these' capacities will be enhanced and job creation supported towards poverty alleviation i.e. through clearing and sustainable use of invasive (alien) species. Many peri urban communities will also be supported to look at alternative income generation activities whilst taking care of the environment. Some coastal peri-urban communities, more specifically the youth, will be supported towards enhancing environmental awareness and entrepreneurship development via alternative means.

Reverse and Prevent Desertification/Land Degradation and Mitigate the Effects of Drought in Affected Areas Through Community-based Initiatives and Actions:

The GEF SGP programme interventions support the following GEF 5 objectives: to maintain or improve the flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services; to sustain community livelihoods; as well as to reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses at the community level. These interventions will contribute to the development of an integrated natural resources management platform; and promote poverty alleviation approaches which include prevention of soil erosion, restoration of degraded ecosystems and preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity resources by communities. Conservation tillage initiatives via the conservation agricultural practices will be encouraged and supported via community organisations. Degraded soils will be improved and water resources use economised via micro drip irrigational practices that will be promoted and prioritized in OP5. Some projects will specifically look at resettled communities that are faced with bush encroachment, land and water scarcity. These land areas will be restored for the benefit of both the environment and the communities. These projects will also target unwanted and invader trees/bushes that can be used for fuelwood or building material. Thus markets will be created by the communities who will receive programmes support towards income generation within these processes. Hence, communities living in the little forest Namibians have in selected geographic areas will be supported towards sustainable forest management. This is not in isolation as past experiences have shown that forest management goes hand in hand with restoring degraded lands as well as contributing to climate change mitigation. Namibia forest being a carbon sink also can serve as an attraction for carbon trading whilst the studies on unwanted bushes did prove to have immense income generating opportunities.

Sustainable Management of Transboundary Water Bodies at the Community-level:

The GEF SGP Namibia will support the Benquella Current Commission (BCC) in its mission to organise the marine resources integration between Namibia with Angola and South African communities as beneficiaries. It will contribute to transboundary

conservation and management of natural resources. The projects will support the GEF 5 objective of supporting transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives, including community-level linkages for implementation of the BCC Strategic Action Plans, in partnership with other larger GEF and Worldbank initiatives.

Reduce and Eliminate the Release of Harmful Chemicals into the Environment Through Community-based Initiatives and Actions:

At least one initiative that will speak to the GEF objectives aimed at eliminating the accumulation and spreading of harmful chemicals at the community level will be addressed as these have damaging effects at the national and global levels. Periurban and rural communities will be supported to address waste management practices that look at minimising the POP linkages to some unwanted but necessary toxins. The toxins are usually generated via the need for many local farmers to enhance the soil productivity. Thus, while fertilising the soils farmers can leave a trail of chemical waste. Many of the chemicals have made way into communities via the agricultural production from within cattle farming as well as crop farming.

Enhance and Strengthen Capacity of Communities and Civil Society to Address Global Environmental Challenges:

This is a cross-cutting objective that will be a priority in all SGP Namibia delivery of projects. As in line and consistent with the GEF long-standing programmatic support for capacity development, and as outlined in the GEF-5 programming document, CBO, NGOs and other civil society organisations will be supported to enhance their capacities for the better. The CSOs strengthened will subsequently be able to better deliver the SGP grants to the communities. And not only the SGP grants will be supported but generally the CSOs and communities will be better equipped to identify and address environmental concerns with relevant and appropriate interventions.

Focus areas

In line with the country's priorities, and current delivery trend, SGP Namibia will be focused across the whole country, but the GEF Small Grants Programme will be prioritizing the areas occupied by indigenous communities enhancing, again, on their capacities towards climate change mitigation and resilience programming. Namibia proved via many avenues that it can create systems through which indigenous communities can better address the climate change based challenges. During OP 4 and before, significant awareness was raised between marginalized groups of our nationals regarding the SGP modality and that SGP is friendly towards those that are not necessarily have to be supported via an NGO or a CBO. The SGP grants making toolkit was simplified in so much for these communities were and are able to approach the SGP on their own and request for support after having identified their needs or rather environmental challenges and how they want to address those. The SPA CBA process will be encouraged to be modeled for a successful delivery of the SGP grants in all

different thematic areas. Our government is finalizing its National Development Plan 4 wants to move beyond the comfort zone and SGP should follow suit.

Table 2. *Consistency with national priorities*

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	The NBSAP addresses the conservation and management terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity to ensure sustainable and equitable benefits to the people. The national programmes focus on conservation of biodiversity hotspots, World Heritage Sites, RAMSAR sites as well as national parks including contractual parks agreements with civil society. The NBSAP II is under preparation now and consultations took place towards its finalization.	Raise capacities of local communities for the protection and sustainable use of the fragile ecosystems for the benefit of both the inhabitants and biological resources and the ecosystem services in the areas. Communities will enhance livelihood strategies/practices based on sustainable use of biodiversity. As the trend was set in communal conservancies approach, SGP support will enhance benefit sharing principles as one of the outcomes for conservation.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions	Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) encourages the protection and sustainable use of natural resources. Hence the aim to promote conservation and sustainable use of natural resources to contribute to economic growth and poverty alleviation.	Projects will follow suit and priorities sustainable management and utilization of resources that are close to the livelihoods of Namibian communities. Agro forestry will be promoted and alien species invasion will receive particular attention. Communities will be supported towards unwanted species removal and simultaneous use of these for energy generation or other income generating initiatives whilst indigenous species will be promoted.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	The National Climate Change Policy (2011) supports the promotion of sustainable energy and exploration of low carbon development	Projects will support renewable forms of energy (wind, solar, biogas etc.) at all levels particularly at community level.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	NA???	NA???
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5:</u> Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon	Namibia is in a process of confirming ‘Green Economy’ in collaboration with Climate Change initiatives from different angles.	Agroforestry will be promoted and a specific emphasis will be placed on creating job opportunities for young Namibians

stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	Youth are engaged as an example in ‘youthinkgreen’ initiatives as part of Namibia’s overall initiatives towards green economy. Young people at schools and universities will be actively engaged towards paving way for green economy.	towards reforestation and use of fuel wood or other forest resources for different purposes specifically energy generation.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	Both the NBSAP and the CBNRM initiatives and strategies re-emphasize the importance of integrated resources management and use in support of poverty alleviation.	Projects will restore degraded lands whilst capacities will be enhanced/developed to demonstrate and scale-up good practices for crop and perhaps livestock production through community-based agricultural management, to enhance agro-ecosystem service
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	Sustainable land use management is encouraged throughout national documents particularly within the National Development Plans. The latest plan directs all service providers to economic development with a particular focus on rural communities and succinct land use practice practices.	The projects will look at alternative land use and or livelihood strategies by the local communities.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8:</u> Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives	Namibia has always been involved with its sister countries via different initiatives towards joint conservation and management of the transboundary water bodies.	Projects will support transboundary collaboration and management of selected water bodies. A strategic initiative with sister SGP countries will be sought for support during this period.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and chemicals of global concern at community level	The country’s environmental resources are to be maintained and safeguarded from negative impacts of persistent pollutants towards a healthy nation. This is as by the Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill	Projects will focus on the waste management at local level but also within peri-urban communities towards reduction of the POPs and other chemicals.
<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.	Almost all national instruments encourage capacity building within the CSOs for a better delivery and sustainability of the natural resource.	Being the primary focus of the SGP Namibia, relevant CBO’s and NGOs will be mobilized to engage in activities that influence policy, practical research and building civil society capacity in the field of climate change and biodiversity as well as land degradation. Lessons learned will be shared across the local communities as well as in the appropriate government organs for greater impact.

Cross-Cutting Results: Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender	Employment creation, gender empowerment and poverty eradication is of paramount importance for the Namibian government. Also here NDP4 taking the lead from NDP3 reemphasize employment creation as one of its priorities. Studies have shown that Namibia has almost a 46% unemployment rate.	Rural young woman and men as well as peri-urban communities including other disadvantaged groups will receive priority toward environmental conservation and livelihoods betterment.
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2. Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results for SGP

Namibia is the driest country in Sub Saharan Africa and is therefore always challenge with water availability and scarce forest resources. There is a National Biodiversity Action Programme in place and therefore the emphasized on the need for the country to look at ways of conserving biodiversity and fighting land degradation whilst ensuring environmental sustainability. SGP will play an important role in developing the capacity of civil society. This will primarily be the capacity of the NGOs and CBOs that represents the relevant communities. Also, SGP grants will focus on these CBO and NGO that are now emerging as true representatives of the communities. Primary focus will be on “small NGOs and CBOs”.

A flexible, innovative but firm approach will be maintained in the SGP to reach the most vulnerable of all in the Namibian communities. Indigenous knowledge will be tapped via SGP supported initiatives, as these will have positive impact on the national environment.

The programme will target all the marginalized, disadvantaged and subsequently vulnerable groups. The expected result will be the improvement of their livelihoods and betterment of national natural resource base.

For the human rights, the Namibian constitution does follow the tune of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The strong presence of the civil society organizations ensures that adherence of all to the principles of Human Rights in Namibia. Women, men and young people have different roles within the environment sector. Many times these roles are shaped mostly by cultural, social and economic conditions in their communities. Women constitute more than 60% of the country's population and they play an important role in the conservation and management of environmental resources. Rural women have total responsibility for water and fuel wood collection. The availability or non-availability of these resources within a reasonable walking distance is of particular interest to them. Thus, depletion or total degradation of natural resources has adverse effects on women's status. Ecological disturbances, degradation of rangelands, soil erosion and diminution or drying-up of fresh water supplies and other related environmental degradation expose women, particularly the rural poor women, to poverty and destitution. This situation has been observed in different parts of the country during different periods of time. Poverty among men and women is manifested in different ways. Women have limited access to land ownership and even credit facilities whilst they are the primary tillers and make us of most of the essential resources for production.

The Government and the people of Namibia have taken positive initiatives to encourage and ensure equal participation of men and women in the economic, social and political activities of the country. SGP will follow suit and join the ranks contributing to facilitate the participation of women in the protection, conservation and development of environmental resources.

SGP Namibia has long standing links with vulnerable groups in Namibia and these links will be improved with generous support from the absolutely superb NGO and CBO networks in Namibia. As indicated earlier, SGP Namibia already initiated the process for facilitating indigenous groups to have easy access to SGP. The Grantee Kit is developed in such a way that all local and rural communities can easily relate to SGP. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister has initiated a programme through which some indigenous groups and marginalized communities will be given a special treat in development. SGP will tap into these strategies support of the government in rural development. Thus, it will be supplementing and not substituting existing efforts from the government of Namibia.

3. OP5 country outcomes, indicators and activities

Goal of the OP5: Global environmental benefits secured in the GEF focal areas through Community-based initiatives and actions

Table 3. Results Framework

Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions			
Outcomes	Targets/Indicators	Means of verification	Outputs (approximations)
<i>See OP5 project document</i>	<i>An updated list of OP5 indicators is attached in Annex 1.</i>	<i>See section 5 below</i>	<i>Approx # projects²</i>
Outcome 1: Improved sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions	50,000 hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced, some with improved conservation status Amount of land available for conservation resulting from communal land use Total value of biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced Local community conserve fisheries and generate livelihoods	Project reports, monitoring and evaluation reports Existence of community conserved areas Improvement in community livelihood	More than 3 community and civil-society based projects supporting biodiversity conservation in indigenous and community conservation areas tourism related projects
Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions			
Outcome 2: Mainstreamed biodiversity	About 5 biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced Communities derive sustainable	Projects reports Quality of life of the poor changes	More than 5 community and civil-society based projects funded

conservation and sustainable use in production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions	livelihoods from their own biodiversity activities About 3 local community projects developing into tourism based Small Medium and Micro Enterprises (SMME's) in partnership with other funders and local government structures	and the environment improves Sales receipts from biodiversity products sales	supporting biodiversity conservation through mainstreaming including demonstration projects that will grow into strong SMME's through utilization of biodiversity.
Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low-GHG technologies at the community level			
Outcome 3: Demonstration, development and transfer of low-GHG technologies at the community level	About 100,000 tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies renewable energy such as solar and biogas digester and energy efficiency measures Number of community members and institution demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies	Project reports and monitoring and evaluation reports Increased enquiries by CBO's/NGO's on energy saving and renewable energy	More than 5 community and civil-society based projects supporting the transfer of low-carbon technologies including renewable energy and energy efficiency project
Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low-GHG transport at the community level			
Outcome 4: Increased energy efficient, low-GHG transport at the community level	Total value of energy, technology and transport services provided Percentage usage of low carbon transport Number of new low carbon transport technologies introduced	Project reports and monitoring & evaluation reports	About 2 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting low-GHG transport such as community renting of bicycles
Objective 5: : Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry			
Outcome 5: Conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	50,000 ha of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices Number of plants species introduced 50,000 of CO ₂ avoided through improved land use and climate proofing practices	Project reports and monitoring & evaluation reports Forest regeneration.	More than 5 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks e.g. greening activities
Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agroecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local community			
Outcome 6: Maintenance or improvement in flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	About 5 variety of agroecosystem and forest based activities taking place 20 groups of communities involved in sustainable land use activities.	Project reports, monitoring & evaluation reports Improved agro-ecosystems	More than 5 community and civil-society based projects supporting maintenance or improvement of flow of ecosystem services e.g. agro-forestry projects

Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscape)			
Outcome 7: Reduction of pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	10,000 hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices 10,000 hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated 10 groups of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	Project reports , monitoring & evaluation reports Improved land use practices	More than 5 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting reduction of pressures from competing land uses e.g. management of livestock grazing
Objective 8: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives			
Outcome 8: Sustainable transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives	3000 hectares of river/lake basins applying sustainable management practices and contributing to implementation of SAPs 100,000 hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably 50,00 tones of land-based pollution avoided	Project reports and monitoring & evaluation reports Reduced pollution on water bodies	At least 2 community and civil-society based projects sustainable transboundary water body management particularly river basins
Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at the community level			
Phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	500,000 tones of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal and business activities through recycling 900 kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release 5,000 tones of agricultural; produce free of agro-chemicals	Project reports and monitoring & evaluation reports Reduction in usage of pesticides Operation of Recycling based SMME's Organic certificates	At least 3 community based projects focusing on eliminating the causes of land based pollution and reduction of industrial waste and agricultural run-off of agrochemicals, as well as promotion of recycling
Objective 10: Enhance and strengthen capacities of community-based and non-governmental organizations to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, and implement convention guidelines			
Outcome 10: Enhanced and strengthened capacities of community-based and non-governmental organizations to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, and implement convention guidelines	25 partner grantees participating and national policy processes 5 national policies influenced by CSO's 100 additional enquiries by CBO's/NGO's intending to be involved biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and prevention of land degradation projects aimed at improving the socio-economic circumstances of the local and indigenous communities Number of MOU signed between SGP and other development partners	Programme reports Increased participation and national policy processes by grantee partners as well as the National Steering Committee Operational partnerships between SGP and other development role-players Visibility of the SGP nationally Also the recorded enquiries by CBOs and NGOs.	Enhanced capacity of over 20 civil society organisations especially CBO's involved in national policy consultative processes Strengthened NSC actively engaged with GEF national consultative processes and partnerships development for SGP Knowledge platform established to share lessons learned among CBOs and NGOs i.e. through exchange visits, national workshops.
Objective 11: Enhance capacities of CBOs and NGOs to monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and			

trends			
<p>Outcome II: Enhance capacities of CBOs and NGOs to monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends</p>	<p>About 25 NGO's and CBO's with improved capacity building 10 project documents compiled mainly by communities/NGO/CBO's based on their indigenous knowledge & projects experiences on saving the environment</p>	<p>Projects reports from the grantees Efficient and effective project management processes by CSO'S Monitoring and evaluation reports. Compiled documents with indigenous knowledge and experiences of local communities</p>	<p>More than 25 NGOs and CBOs as SGP partners with strengthened capacities to implement environmental conservation and livelihoods project. Learning & knowledge management platform established to share lessons learned among CBOs and NGOs</p>

4. Monitoring & Evaluation plan

At each level, **monitoring** activities and reports help ensure that projects and programmes reach their objectives by allowing relevant personnel (SGP project coordinators and participants, the National Coordinator (NC) and the CPMT) to identify and respond to problems and obstacles during project and programme implementation. **Evaluation** activities capture project and programme impacts, maintain **accountability** for resource use, and facilitate the capture and sharing of **lessons learned**. Ideally, these **lessons learned** are used to replicate project successes in other areas and to improve project design and implementation, ensuring that activities begun through SGP grants can carry on after the grant period is over. Together, an M&E activity helps SGP projects and programmes achieve **sustainability**.

Within the SGP context, monitoring and evaluation activities are above all a **participatory** process. Only participatory M&E activities enable capacity-building, allowing projects to become learning processes that yield lessons that can be described and applied by project participants themselves. As such, while ensuring technical and financial **accountability**, SGP M&E activities are not intended to be and should not be regarded as judgmental or punitive measures.

Table 4. M&E Plan at the Project Level

SGP Individual Project Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Participatory Project Monitoring	Grantees	Duration of project
Baseline Data Collection ³	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage
About 4 Project Progress and Financial Reports (<i>depending on agreed disbursement schedule</i>)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request, usually quarterly
Project Workplans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i> ⁴)	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

³ Capacity-development workshops and M&E trainings may be organized in relation to innovative techniques for community monitoring, including new technologies (i.e. GPS-enabled cameras, aerial photos, participatory GIS, etc.); as well as in response to guidelines for “climate proofing” of GEF focal area interventions; REDD+ standards; and/or other specific donor/co-financing requirements.

⁴ 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.

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

Table 5. M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	Start of OP5
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	NSC, NC	Once during OP5
NSC Meetings	NSC, NC, UNDP CO	Minimum twice per year
Performance and Results Assessment (PRA) of NC Performance	NC, NSC, UNDP CO, CPMT, UNOPS	Once per year
Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ⁵	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

5.2 As is the practice now, through the National Steering Committee, national and local stakeholders from UN, government, academic and civil society and private sector will be engaged to provide guidance on SGP Namibia priorities in environmental conservation and poverty alleviation initiatives. The SGP secretariat will provide progress report of the programme and projects to the key local stakeholders at least once a year. During the planning of projects and preparations of the project proposals, the potential grantee communities and NGO's will involve the local stakeholders to make input towards projects implementation work plan, which sets out the objectives, activities, timeframes, responsible persons and the outputs of the project. SGP Namibia developed an M&E strategy as guided by the CPMT. This still is to be presented to the CPMT for approval with this document. Having adopted a logical framework approach in the design of projects funded thus far, the framework will also be used to monitor and evaluate projects against set targets. For us, M&E is a participatory approach involving beneficiaries, programme staff, NSC members and sometimes independent evaluators has been and will be encouraged as far as practicable to be involved. **Annex 3** contain forms and formats that will be

used to generate relevant information for short term purposes and the annexed M&E strategy does provide a detailed layout on SGP Namibia's M&E strategy.

6 Knowledge Management Plan

6.1. As a matter of course, the implementation of SGP funded projects will be carefully documented with the view of drawing out key lessons learned. A communication strategy will detail the process of publicity and replication. Projects considered to be successful based on this process, will be publicized extensively so that they serve as encouragement to other rural communities to take up the challenges posed by global environmental degradation. Efforts will also be made to replicate such projects in other regions/communities as far as practically possible.

Knowledge fairs will be hosted at the least once every other OP5 year to portray the SGP projects more specifically the best projects. Projects with similar components or relation for community development will be engaged in peer to peer exchanges. The SGP programme will continuously seek to expand its impact as widely as possible. It must however be taken into account that the degree to which such expansion will successfully be achieved is contingent upon the SGP's ever increasing strength and cultivation thereof for the benefit of our local communities.

6.2 These GEF-SGP supported projects at community or local level will continue to be part of the policy formulation processes nationally and thus can significantly contribute to policy process as they show the practical implications of these initiatives at local level. Many of the SGP successes might influence regional and perhaps even international policy regimes and as such SGP will actively seek and contribute on the relevant for a its also relevant cases. It became known that SGP supported projects are carefully selected and will I most cases contribute to one or another policy change or development. Communities and proponents will be encouraged to advocate their best practices to those levels where it should have necessary impact.

6.3 Mainstreaming the SGP programme within UN, government, NGO and major donor programmes within the natural resources management and environmental sector will be a primary strategic objective of the programme. Opportunities for mainstreaming the SGP exist with:

- UNDP Country Cooperation Framework (UNDAF), UNCT activities and within the specific years CPAP's.
- Relevant ongoing or envisaged government programmes especially CBRNM, community forestry, community-based tourism, and sustainable development.
- Other donor programmes such as the AAP, Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) small grants, EIF Small Grants mechanism and other small grants funds being run by a number of Embassies and High Commissions.

7 Resource Mobilization Plan

7.1. Limited resources of the SGP programme will have to be employed strategically to add value to ongoing activities or to create the capacity for self-sustenance. Creation of dependency on SGP funds will therefore be avoided at all cost. This calls for in-built mechanisms that will require of the applicants for SGP funds to demonstrate how the projects will be sustained beyond/after SGP funding. Such mechanisms should not only serve as screening mechanisms but must also include elements of making proper provision for building community capacity towards sustainability.

Another aspect of sustainability is related to mobilization of additional resources. This aspect is of cardinal importance for two reasons. Firstly, SGP funds are limited and will not be enough for all the needs in Namibia. It is pertinent to point out in this connection that the SGP is indeed will be required by the GEF Council to raise match funding (both at global and country levels) of which half could be in cash and other half in kind. Secondly, it is anticipated that the SGP will encounter requests to finance certain needs that are critical to community livelihoods but that would not meet GEF criteria in a clear-cut manner (not GEF-able). Co-financing arrangements with other partners will be pursued, where possible to, support such needs. As a matter of course, therefore, the NC, supported by CPMT, UNDP CO and the NSC, will develop and implement a proper resource mobilization strategy for leveraging additional funds, co-financing and accessing private sector funding with the view of augmenting SGP funding.

SGP Namibia NSC modality has been used lately by many institutions to deliver grants to the communities. These institutions included Africa Adaptation Programme, a Japanese funded initiative targeting Climate Change resilience building. Also the GEF funded Country Pilot Partnership Programme used the same to deliver its programme in Namibia. These two and many more co financed and or complimented SGP support to communities and many times also supported the operations of the programme. Thus SGP will continue recovering cost whenever SGP officials are involved in managing other funds or SGP is acting as delivery mechanisms for other programmes/projects in the country. At project level, the SGP office will facilitate and encourage civil society to mobilize additional, in cash and in kind from relevant stakeholders. ***SGP Namibia is also in negotiations with the recently established Environmental Investment Fund (EIF) to be hosted in their chambers and this with very obvious benefits. But above all, the importance of SGP looking at sustainability in the long run even after the GEF support.***

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	
Biodiversity (BD)	
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 ○ 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	<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
Land degradation (LD) & Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)	
LD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices ○ Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated
LD3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices
International Waters (IW)	
IW	<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
Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	
POPS	<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
Community Based Adaptation (CBA)	
CBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of households, businesses engaged in vulnerability reduction or adaptive capacity

SGP OP5 results indicators	
	<p>development activities, as a proportion of households in the community or region targeted by the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Percent change in stakeholders’ behaviors utilizing adjusted practices or resources for managing climate change risks. ○ Number of beneficiaries of project receiving training in implementation of specific adaptation measures or decision-support tools ○ Number of CBA “lessons learned” from the project
Capacity Development, Policy and Innovation (all focal areas)	
CD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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)
Livelihoods, Sustainable Development, and Empowerment	
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

** Benefits are defined as any increase in material and spiritual wealth, food security, clean energy sources, health, education, and other conditions of well-being received by the community.*

