

GEF'S SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME (SGP)

Country Programme Strategy (CPS)
for the utilization of OP5 grant funds

Country: GUYANA

Resources to be invested: US\$750,000

Prepared by: Ian Kissoon, National Coordinator

Adopted by National Steering Committee on *March 08, 2013*

Approved by Central Project Management Team on *March XX, 2013*

SGP Guyana
UNDP Building,
42 Brickdam & United Nations Place,
Stabroek, Georgetown.
Tel: +592-226-4040 Fax: +592-22-2942
Email: sgpguyana@gmail.com
Websites: <http://sgp.undp.org/> and www.facebook.com/SGPGuyana



ABBREVIATIONS

CBO	Community Based Organization
CPMT	Central Project Management Team
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
CSO	Civil Society Organization
GEF	Global Environment Facility
NC	National Coordinator
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSC	National Steering Committee
OP5	Operational Phase 5
SGP	Small Grants Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services

CONTENTS

0. Introduction	3
0.1 Overview of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)	3
0.2 Purpose of the Country Programme Strategy (CPS)	3
1. SGP country programme - summary background	4
1.1 Length of time the SGP country programme has been active.....	4
1.2 Key baseline considerations for the SGP Country Programme Strategy	4
2. SGP country programme niche	6
2.1 List of the relevant Rio Conventions and relevant national planning frameworks	6
2.2 How the country programme will use OP5 resources	7
2.3 SGP niche for grant-making	7
3. Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results for SGP	12
4. OP5 country outcomes, indicators and activities	13
5. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan	16
5.1 Monitoring & Evaluation Plan for the portfolio of individual SGP projects	16
5.2 How local stakeholders will participate in setting project objectives & outputs .	16
5.3 Strategy for how the results of SGP individual projects will be aggregated.....	17
6. Knowledge Management Plan	19
6.1. Plans for capturing, sharing, and disseminating the lessons learned	19
6.2 How this knowledge will be used to inform and influence policy.....	19
6.3 How this knowledge will be used to replicate and up-scale good SGP projects..	19
7. Resource Mobilization Plan	20
7.1. Plan to enhance the sustainability of the SGP country programme	20
7.2. Possibilities to develop strategic partnerships	20
Annex 1: (A) Map of Guyana showing the Natural Regions.....	21
Annex 1: (B) Map of Guyana showing the Administrative Regions.....	22
Annex 2: Stakeholder Consultation Report for the development of the CPS.....	23

0. Introduction

0.1 *Overview of the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)*

The SGP was established in 1992 in recognition that community action can maintain the fine balance between human needs and environmental imperatives. The programme provides grants of up to US\$50,000 directly to registered Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), including Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for projects that will improve the livelihoods of communities and at the same time, address the SGP focal areas of biodiversity conservation, climate change, land degradation and sustainable forest management, elimination of persistent organic pollutants, and international waters. Since then, SGP has supported more than 15,000 community projects in over 120 countries.

Oversight to SGP's global operations and country programmes is provided by the SGP's Central Project Management Team (CPMT) based in New York, USA. At the country level, SGP operates in a decentralized and country-driven manner through country programme teams composed of a National Coordinator (NC), often a Programme Assistant (PA), and a National Steering Committee (NSC). The NSC serves on a voluntary basis and comprises a majority of civil society organizations, as well as representatives of the government, UNDP, the academia, and indigenous peoples' organizations. The NSC helps develop the Country Programme Strategy, considers whether proposals for grants are feasible and meet SGP criteria, and what kind of technical support is needed for implementation. It is also responsible for the final approval of grants, undertaking monitoring and evaluation visits to the projects, providing advice, ensuring proper monitoring and evaluation, helping extract, share and replicate successful SGP projects and practice, and promoting SGP at the national and international level.

The SGP is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and executed by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

0.2 *Purpose of the Country Programme Strategy (CPS)*

Each participating country develops a Country Programme Strategy, which adapts the SGP global strategic framework to specific country conditions. SGP country strategies take into account existing national environmental strategies and plans, as well as those relating to national development and poverty eradication.

Through the CPS, the country is able to put emphasis on certain thematic and geographic areas to ensure synergy and impact, as well as to facilitate programme administration.

1. SGP country programme - summary background

1.1 Length of time the SGP country programme has been active within the global SGP

The SGP is new to Guyana. The programme was established in 2012 following an application by the Government of Guyana, with endorsement from UNDP Guyana, for participation in the programme. The application was approved by the GEF Council for Operational Phase 5 (2011-2014). Subsequently, a Start-Up Mission was conducted by the SGP Central Project Management Team (CPMT) in 2011 in which the CPMT met with in-country stakeholders including government, civil society, indigenous people, and development partners to present the SGP, identify lessons learned, opportunities, challenges, possible partners, past and existing initiatives as well as getting feedback from the key stakeholders. The Mission concluded that there is overall consensus amongst stakeholders that SGP can make a difference successfully serving poor and vulnerable communities in Guyana and recommended starting up of SGP in Guyana.

1.2 Key baseline considerations for the SGP Country Programme Strategy

The Cooperative Republic of Guyana is located on the north-eastern coast of South America and is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean to the north, Suriname to the east, Brazil to the south and Venezuela to the west. The country occupies a land mass of 214,970 square kilometers and is crisscrossed with numerous waterways including the three major rivers: Essequibo, Demerara and Berbice. There are four distinctive geographic regions (refer to Map A in Annex): the Low Coastal Plain, which is one meter below sea-level at high-tide; the Hilly Sand and Clay Belt Region; the Highland Region, which occupies 63% of the country's landmass and comprise primarily of vast tropical rainforest; and the Savannah Region. The country sits in the Guiana Shield, one of the world's oldest geological formations, and is also part of the Amazon basin.

Guyana boasts high abundance of biodiversity and is home to many endemic and endangered species. To date, 800 species of birds have been recorded, 225 species of mammals, 130 species of amphibians, 180 species of reptiles, 800 species of fish, and over 7,000 plant species. Of these, 10 animal species and 173 plant species are endemic to Guyana.

The population of the country was estimated at 751,223 at the 2002 census with Guyanese of East Indian ancestry accounting for 43% of the population, African ancestry with 30%, Mixed Races with 17%, Amerindian ancestry at 9%, and other races making up the last 1% (Guyana Bureau of Statistics). For the purpose of administration, the country is divided into ten regions (refer to Map B in Annex) and each region is managed by a Regional Democratic Council *via* the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development.

Guyana's main economic activities include agriculture (rice and sugar), fisheries (shrimp), mining (gold and bauxite) and commercial logging. Together, these activities represent 60% of the country's GDP. The economy has been seeing positive growth over the last two decades prior to which the economy was in decline resulting in the country being labelled as one of the poorest in the Western Hemisphere. For 2011, the country achieved a growth of 5.4% despite the continued global recession while GDP per capita was US\$2,869 (Guyana Bureau of Statistics). Poverty is unevenly distributed throughout the country. Extreme poverty rate is highest in rural interior at 54% whereas extreme poverty rate in urban coastal and rural coastal is 7.3% and 17.1% respectively. The proportion of the population living in extreme poverty has declined from 28.7% in 1993 to 18.6% in 2006 (MDG Guyana Progress Report 2011). The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper cites poor economic policies, poor governance, non-growth complementing infrastructure, and the deterioration of social services as the causes of poverty.

The environmental issues in Guyana are related to the country's main economic and livelihood activities. Habitat destruction and degradation has been attributed to clearance for small and large scale agriculture, the use of agrochemicals, illegal logging, mining activities, mangrove harvesting, bush fires, and the expansion of human settlements and infrastructure. The resulting impacts of habitat destruction are erosion, flooding and salt water intrusion. Overharvesting and hunting of targeted species, pollution (dust and mercury), and the lack/limited capacity of communities to manage their natural resources have also been flagged as environmental concerns. Solid waste management, however, has been identified by SGP's targeted beneficiaries as the major environmental issue facing the country.

In response to the environmental issues, the government, international donors and local NGOs have been implementing initiatives to bring about positive changes. At the policy level, the government has signed on to a number of international conventions, approved thematic action plans, created the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment, and is transitioning the economy to a green one through the Low-Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS). Under the LCDS, the government established the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF) with Norway in which Guyana will receive US\$250 million from Norway in performance-based payments for the period up until 2015. This income will be utilized to fund several development and climate change adaptation projects including Amerindian Land Titling, Amerindian Development Fund, low carbon Micro and Small Enterprise Development, Amaila Falls Hydropower, and rehabilitation of the Cunha Canal to better manage water resources in the East Demerara Water Conservancy. Government agencies such as the Guyana Forestry Commission, Guyana Energy Agency and the Office of the Prime Minister have also been working with local communities to improve logging practices and access export markets, as well as access to renewable energy particularly for remote and vulnerable hinterland communities.

In terms of major donor support, the European Union is funding the Guyana Mangrove Restoration Project, the Inter-American Development Bank is financing a solid waste management project (Haags-Bosch landfill project), and the German government through KfW (German Development Bank) has been supporting the establishment and

management of the national protected areas system. NGOs, such as Conservation International have also been supporting livelihood and natural resource management interventions at the community level.

Recognizing the context of the country, its environmental challenges, planned and on-going initiatives, and the needs of SGP's primary beneficiaries, SGP Guyana will implement projects across all ten administrative regions that build on and complement national efforts within the parameters of the SGP focal areas. SGP will build partnerships and seek co-financing opportunities for joint initiatives with the government agencies, international donors, development partners, and NGOs.

2. SGP country programme niche

2.1 List of the relevant Rio Conventions and relevant national planning frameworks:

Table 1. List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	August 29, 1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	August, 2008
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	August 29, 1994
Kyoto Protocol to UNFCCC	December 11, 1997/August 05, 2003
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st)	April, 2002
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	June 26, 1997
UNCCD National Reports (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	April 2000, April 2002, May 2006
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	April 2006
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants	May 22, 2001
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	2002
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	January, 2007
National Forestry Plan	1998
National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) I, II	1999, 2007
Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan	2000
National Mangrove Management Action Plan	2001
National Forestry Action Plan	2001
Guyana Climate Change Action Plan	June 2001
Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS)	May 2010

2.2 How the country programme will use OP5 resources to support implementation of national priorities in relation to GEF-5 Strategic Priorities. How civil society and community-based projects will be facilitated and coordinated to help the country achieve its priorities and achieve the objectives of the global conventions.

Empowered communities and NGOs/CBOs representing poor and marginalized populations developing and implementing innovative and sustainable development interventions that serve as a model for civil society development is the vision for the SGP in Guyana. This vision will be achieved through capacity needs assessment and building, institutional strengthening, knowledge management, provision of technical support, and facilitation of projects.

Emphasis will be placed on building the capacity of NGOs and CBOs in the areas of project management, natural resources management, environmental policy making and negotiation, global convention awareness (e.g. UNCBD and UNFCCC), and livelihood (low-carbon) skills training. SGP will also seek to build the capacity of the SGP office and NSC to achieve the vision.

Effort will be made to document and disseminate local best practices through publications, information sharing sessions, media and social networking sites. In terms of project facilitation, SGP will work closely with the NGOs and CBOs to identify appropriate interventions and explore innovative concepts, provide access to technical assistance, and finance projects that meet the stipulated SGP criteria.

SGP will actively seek and engage NGOs and CBOs directly and indirectly through synergies created with umbrella organizations, government offices and the network of the NSC membership. These will take the form of community meetings, visits by the SGP team, and the distribution of SGP awareness materials.

2.3 SGP niche for grant-making in relation to the national priorities and the OP5 project objectives for the relevant focal areas.

The SGP niche was identified by the NSC during a working group session following consultations *via* a questionnaire survey (done electronically with a 72% response rate) and interviews with SGP’s targeted beneficiaries and the relevant governmental agencies. (Refer to Annex 2 for the consultation report).

Table 2. Consistency with national priorities

OP5 Project Objectives	National Priorities	SGP Niche
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment and management of a national protected area system (inclusive of community-owned conservation areas) Alternative livelihood projects for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development and management of community owned

OP5 Project Objectives	National Priorities	SGP Niche
<p>community conservation areas through community-based actions</p>	<p>communities associated with protected areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement with local communities for protected area management and awareness • Development of urban parks (Three Park Initiatives) 	<p>conservation areas through institutional strengthening, training, capacity building, community environmental / biodiversity assessments and monitoring, provision of monitoring tools, and PA education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for livelihood projects that benefit protected/conserved areas • Support community participation in the development of green spaces
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fulfilling obligations under the various conventions for conservation programmes (including revision of NBAP II), ABS, wildlife trade regulations, Biosafety, and BCH. GEF proposal for mainstreaming biodiversity into forestry and mining sector • In situ and ex situ conservation of biodiversity • Research and training for biodiversity management • Improvement of the availability, accessibility and exchange of information • Finalization of draft legislation to address biodiversity issues • Synchronization of existing pieces of legislation • Translation of knowledge and awareness of biodiversity into responsible actions at the individual and collective levels • Development of Methods, Criteria and Indicators for sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources (including energy) • Sustainable livelihood alternatives • Developing measures to promote sustainable use of Guyana’s biodiversity • Identification, monitoring and evaluation of biodiversity • Financial and technical resources for biodiversity conservation and management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to community-based livelihood initiatives such as ecotourism, NTFP and agro products, reforestation, environmentally friendly agriculture, recycling, etc. • Support for conservation awareness and in-situ conservation initiatives • Support for user-friendly interpretation of conventions and local NRM laws • Support for integration of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) into biodiversity conservation and management.

OP5 Project Objectives	National Priorities	SGP Niche
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated ecosystems, plant conservation and protected areas management Integrated fresh water management. 	
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide access to renewable energy for communities in unserved areas; demonstration projects include solar panels, solar cookers, and efficient wood stoves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support appropriate and innovative low carbon technologies, including retrofitting Scale-up and replicate successful demonstration projects across communities Support training and capacity building in low carbon technology
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot hybrid, energy efficient and flex-fuel vehicles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support integrated actions towards fuel efficiency and scaling-up of successful projects
<p><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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low carbon economy and maintenance of standing forest/low deforestation rate Inventory of GHGs: preparation and update Adaptation Sector Plans: Coastal Zone Strategies and Plans and activities Mitigation Sector Plans: energy and other sectors Systematic Monitoring and Research Planned response to the impacts of climate change effects Education, training and public awareness Access to information Mitigation activities Environmentally sound technologies Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for afforestation, agroforestry, community MRV, and climate change resilience and mitigation projects
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Integrated ecosystems, plant conservation and protected areas management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for integrated agricultural practices and conservation Support for research and demonstration projects that improve flow of ecosystem services Support for projects that improve flow of ecosystem services

OP5 Project Objectives	National Priorities	SGP Niche
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) • Elaboration of a National Land Use Plan • Implementation of the National Action Programme (NAP); • Approval of the draft Land Use Policy • Capacity building and institutional strengthening • Development of a financing strategy for implementation of the NAP • Education and awareness • Comprehensive study and assessment of current land uses and practices and factors contributing to land degradation • Information gathering and development of a national clearing house for information regarding land uses, UNCCD and land degradation • Development of early and forecasting warning systems for droughts and floods • Harmonization of legislation and institutional framework for sustainable land management and land use planning • Improved institutional cooperation and collaboration for sustainable land management • Better linkage between the National Focal Point, Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for sustainable agriculture (including crop diversification and rotation, management of agricultural wastes, water harvesting, fire management, small scale irrigation and improved tillage practices), and forest rehabilitation (including raising seedlings and tree planting), and soil and water conservation • Support for community land use plans and effective land management
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8:</u> Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated coastal zone management • Sustainable fisheries management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for sustainable management of coastal/marine species and habitat • Support projects that reduce or avoid land based pollution of marine/coastal habitats
<p><u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness, control, safe use and management of pesticides and toxic chemicals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for innovative demonstration projects that prevent, reduce and eliminate POPs at the community level, including mercury from mining activities • Support for projects that reduce and eliminate the use of pesticides and agrochemicals • Support for projects that reduce and recycle waste (including PET)

OP5 Project Objectives	National Priorities	SGP Niche
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for scaling-up and replicating successful demonstration projects • Support for POPs awareness and proper disposal
<p><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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve capacity of communities to access funding and implement development projects • Improve capacity of communities to govern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for research on the capacities of NGOs • Support training and capacity building for community members in proposal writing, project reporting and knowledge management • Support training in governance, policy and negotiations, environmental monitoring and NRM
<p><u>Cross-Cutting Results:</u> Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of employment opportunities, sustaining food security, income generation, wealth creation, economic diversification and secure livelihoods • Human resources • Inter-agency collaboration and coordination • Information gathering, management, storage, and exchange • National and international funding • Land use and planning • Community-based natural resource management • Monitoring • Training and education • Research • Public awareness and participation • Development and enforcement of policy and laws • Poverty reduction • Sub-regional and regional international cooperation • Traditional knowledge • Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support smart climate change resistant agriculture and integrated pest management • Facilitate the participation of youth and women in leadership roles • Support for gender mainstreaming projects • Support for projects that increase access to improved drinking water and sanitation

3. Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results for SGP

SGP will produce positive results for capacity development, poverty reduction and gender by ensuring that capacity building programmes are relevant and that livelihood improvement and gender development are central to all project proposals.

For capacity development programmes, a capacity needs assessment should be first conducted and then the programme should be appropriately designed in response to the capacity needs identified. Further, all project proposals will be requested to contain a capacity building component where skills for the maintenance of the project beyond SGP funding is developed and retained by locals from the community/(ies) implementing and benefitting from the project.

SGP's targeted beneficiaries have identified poverty as a major livelihood issue. Livelihood options and income-generating activities that are appropriate and environmentally sustainable will be encouraged. In addition, the building of capacity of locals will also address poverty by creating/and or improving access to employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.

Women and youth development would be targeted by requesting proposals to indicate the number, gender and age profile of potential beneficiaries. It will also be requested that the project implementing team comprise women and youth performing substantial roles. SGP will also actively encourage and collaborate with women and youth groups to develop and submit project concepts and proposals.

4. OP5 country outcomes, indicators and activities

Table 3. Results Framework

SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas (ICCAs) through community-based actions			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities establish conservation zones on their lands and community conservation areas are better managed The integrity of protected areas is maintained without compromising the livelihoods of local communities Parks with People 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of indigenous and community conservation areas (ICCAs) influenced Hectares of protected areas influenced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Surveys Declarations by communities Site visits Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 2 projects relating to improved management of community conservation areas and national protected areas
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities are engaged in sustainable alternative livelihoods Threatened/endangered species are identified and conserved in their natural habitats Local communities are educated about conservation, conventions and local NRM laws, and the capacity to manage biodiversity is built 	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Training reports Surveys Site visits Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 1 <i>in-situ</i> conservation project and 3 community-based livelihood projects that have little or no negative impact on biodiversity
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Communities utilizing and mainstreaming green energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Site visits Surveys Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 4 renewable energy projects
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Communities are exposed to low carbon and energy efficient	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Site visits 	At least 1 demonstration

technology for transportation systems	carbon transport practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-media reports and documentaries 	project
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5: Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forest cover maintained or improved 	<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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Site visits Surveys Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 2 projects
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Ecosystem services maintained or enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Site visits Multi-media reports and documentaries Surveys 	At least 2 integrated agriculture projects and 1 restoration project
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communities employing sustainable land management practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Surveys Site visits Community land use plans developed and implemented Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 2 projects
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coastal/marine species and habitat sustainably managed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares of river/lake basins applying sustainable management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project reports Site visits Surveys 	At least 1 project

	<p>practices and contributing to implementation of SAPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably • Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-media reports and documentaries 	
<p>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level</p>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solid waste management improved • Management of POPs and harmful chemicals improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tons of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal • Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • Surveys • Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 2 projects
<p>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10: Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends</p>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Improved capacity of NGOs and CBOs to apply for funding, implement projects, participate in environmental policy-making, and manage natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of people trained on project development, monitoring, evaluation etc • Number of new technologies developed /applied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • Training reports • Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 4 projects
<p>Cross-Cutting Results: Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender</p>			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Poverty reduced and youth/women empowered in participating communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) • Total value of investments (e.g. infrastructure, equipment, supplies) in US Dollars • Number of indigenous peoples directly supported • Number of women-led projects supported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project reports • Site visits • Surveys • Multi-media reports and documentaries 	At least 4 projects

5. Monitoring & Evaluation Plan

5.1 *Monitoring & Evaluation Plan for the portfolio of individual SGP projects*

M&E is key to tracking and measuring the performance of a project in relation to its intended objectives and goal. The monitoring system will comprise the following components: collection of information; processing and analysis of information; information storage; production and distribution of reports; decision-making based on information collected; and actions to be taken. Monitoring instruments will include internal reviews *via* face-to-face communication for identifying and solving problems, progress reports, and financial reports. Monitoring will be an on-going exercise and the scale of the project and budget availability will determine the number of visits. However, there will be at least one monitoring visit per project.

The evaluation system will consist of ex-ante, on-going and ex-post evaluations. Ex-ante evaluation will be done at the project concept and proposal review stages for every project where the soundness of the submission will be reviewed in relation to the stipulated SGP criteria. This evaluation will determine the outcome of a project submission by an NGO/CBO for SGP funding. On-going evaluation will look at the implementation process to ensure that the project objectives and methodologies are still valid, and that the process is efficient. Ex-post evaluation would be performed at the end of each project to measure the impact of the intervention in relation to the desired outcomes. The ex-post evaluation will also produce results and pertinent lessons for future or on-going activities, and these should provide feedback for the system and become useful indicators for the ex-ante evaluation.

5.2 *How local stakeholders will participate in setting project objectives and outputs; how they will participate in monitoring with what kind of method and periodicity; and how progress will be documented and reported.*

The setting of project objectives and outputs will be done by the requesting NGO/CBO and supported by the SGP team. Monitoring would be participatory process involving the SGP team and implementing NGO/CBO at minimum. Other stakeholders such as the district administrative office and partnering agencies would also be included in the monitoring process. Stakeholders' role in the process will include data collection, identifying success, challenges and shortcomings, and providing recommendations/solutions to address challenges and shortcomings.

Two reporting templates would be developed to document the monitoring information. There would be a financial reporting template to ensure the funds are spent as stipulated and properly accounted for, and a technical reporting template to ensure that the activities and outputs are in keeping with the objectives of the project. The templates would be done in simplified manner so they can clearly be understood and easy to use by all members of the monitoring team, while at the same time capture the essential monitoring information.

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	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>	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

5.3 Strategy for how the results of SGP individual projects will be aggregated at the country programme portfolio level

Each project proposal will be designed to contribute to the country programme and as such, each project would be linked to at least one of the SGP OP5 project level indicator.

Table 5. Summary of the focal areas, outcomes and target indicator

Focal Area	Outcomes	Target Indicator
Biodiversity	Biodiversity is conserved through community actions and at the same time used sustainably by communities to support livelihoods	Hectares of land conserved and number of significant species influenced
Climate Change	Communities embrace and mainstream renewable energy and low carbon technology; carbon stock is maintained	Number of community members employing green technology/solutions; percent change in forest cover; CO2 emissions avoided
Land Degradation & Sustainable Forest Management	Land degradation is reduced as communities adopt sustainable forest management and integrated agricultural practices	Number of integrated land use plans, and percent change in forest cover
Elimination of POPs	Awareness on POPs is generated,	Quantity of POPs reduced and

	its generation reduced and incidence of its proper disposal is increased	disposed of properly
International Waters	Marine/coastal ecosystems sustainably managed	Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided
Capacity Development	NGOs and CBOs have improved capacity to apply for funding, implement projects, participate in environmental policy-making, and manage natural resources	Number of persons and NGOs/CBOs that benefitted from training
Cross-cutting	Poverty reduced and youth/women empowered in participating communities	Percent change of income for participating community members, and number of persons (disaggregated by gender and age group) that received training

Table 6. M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	After first year of implementation
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	NSC, NC	End of 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 ¹	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

¹ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.

6. Knowledge Management Plan

6.1. Plans for capturing, sharing, and disseminating the lessons learned and good practices identified through the country portfolio of SGP projects with civil society, government, and other relevant stakeholders

The SGP team will take the lead role in capturing, analyzing and disseminating results and impacts of the SGP intervention. Information will be gathered primarily from the project reports and surveys. The lessons learned and good practices will be shared in a user-friendly manner with all stakeholders through media releases and online publication via popular social networking sites. For the latter, a Facebook page has been created for SGP Guyana and this will be updated at least once a month with project progress updates and milestones. SGP will also engage the University of Guyana and other local research institutions to compile case studies, particularly as final year projects for degree students in the environment and natural sciences faculties.

6.2 How the SGP country programme will use this knowledge to inform and influence policy at the local, regional and national levels

Sharing the lessons learned and good practices with all stakeholders will equip them with knowledge that can then be shared and discussed at fora organized for policy planning be it at the community, regional or national level. At the community level, SGP project participants can use this knowledge to inform the formulation of community development plans and communal by-laws for improved natural resources management and practices. The SGP communities would further be encouraged to participate in government led regional and national consultations on development issues where their knowledge can be articulated. The SGP Team will seek strategic engagements with the government to solicit political support, mobilize co-financing and scale-up successful projects.

The NSC members also serve on CSOs and constitutional bodies and can therefore use this knowledge to influence national policy and inform decision-makers. The Indigenous People's Commission, Women & Gender Equality Commission, and the LCDS Multi-stakeholder Steering Committee are some of the constitutional bodies on which NSC members serve.

6.3 How the SGP country programme will use this knowledge to replicate and up-scale good practices and lessons learned from SGP projects.

Demonstration projects will be done in collaboration with the relevant government agencies and the outcome of such projects will be automatically fed to government officials who can then influence the replication and scaling-up of successful projects. Partnering agencies and NGOs with extensive geographic reach can also transmit this knowledge and influence other communities to replicate successful projects.

7. Resource Mobilization Plan

7.1. *The resource mobilization plan to enhance the sustainability of the SGP country programme with reference to: (i) the diversification of funding sources to achieve greater impact (i.e. non-GEF resources that help address sustainable development concerns); and (ii) the cost recovery policy to co-finance a share of the SGP country programme management costs.*

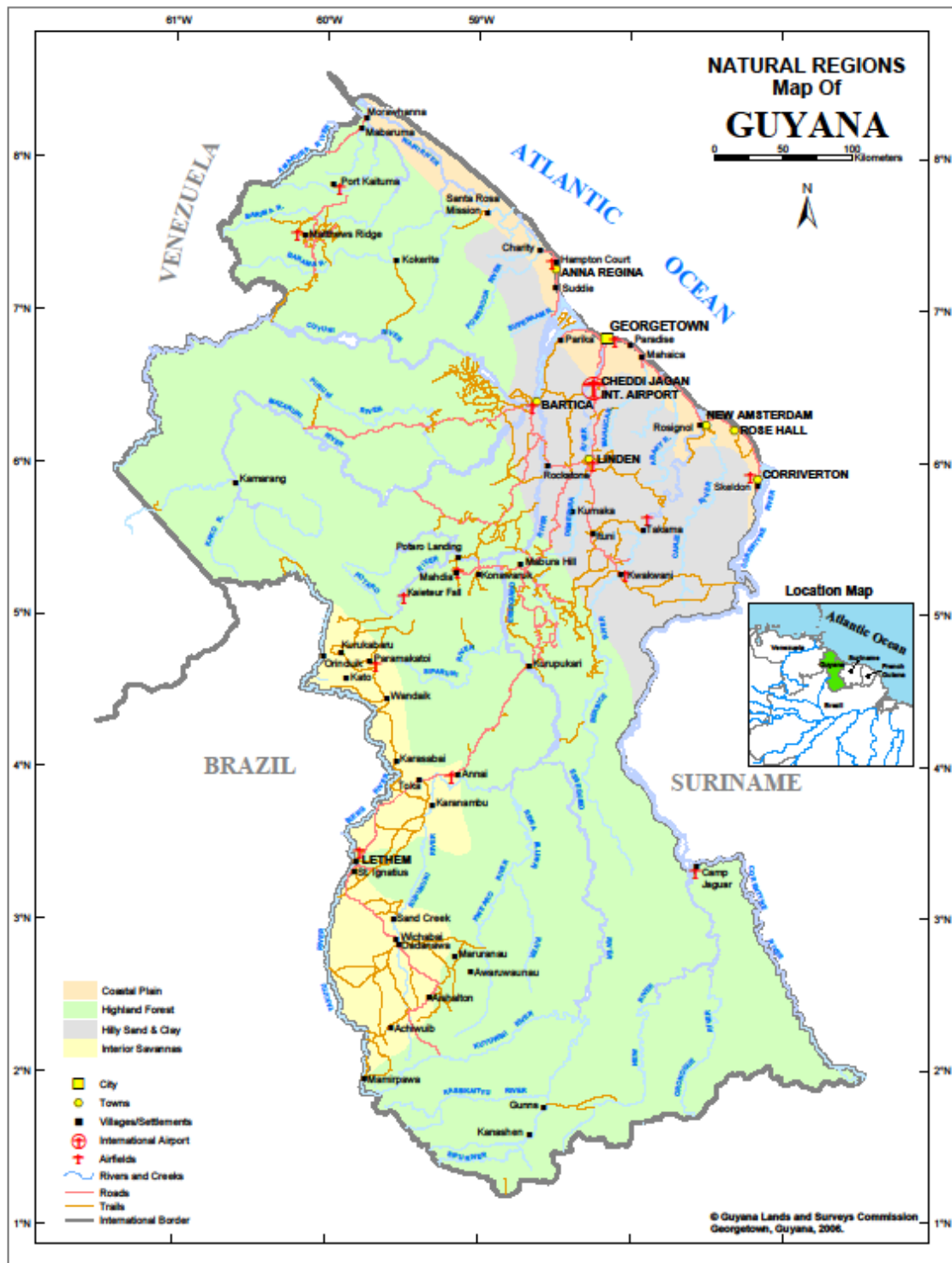
The NSC through their interaction with development partners and agencies will seek out opportunities for additional financing and technical support for the SGP.

One of the major financial costs of SGP will be transportation to hinterland communities to conduct outreach and monitoring visits. As such, the presence of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development on the NSC will play a crucial role in helping to reduce this cost by having its regional office assist with monitoring of projects on the ground.

7.2. *Possibilities to develop strategic partnerships (identifying their objectives and possible synergies with SGP) with the following potential partners: (i) national government agencies; (ii) multilateral agencies or financial institutions (such as the World Bank, regional development banks, and/or other international organizations); (iii) bilateral agencies; (iv) non-governmental organizations and foundations; and (v) private sector.*

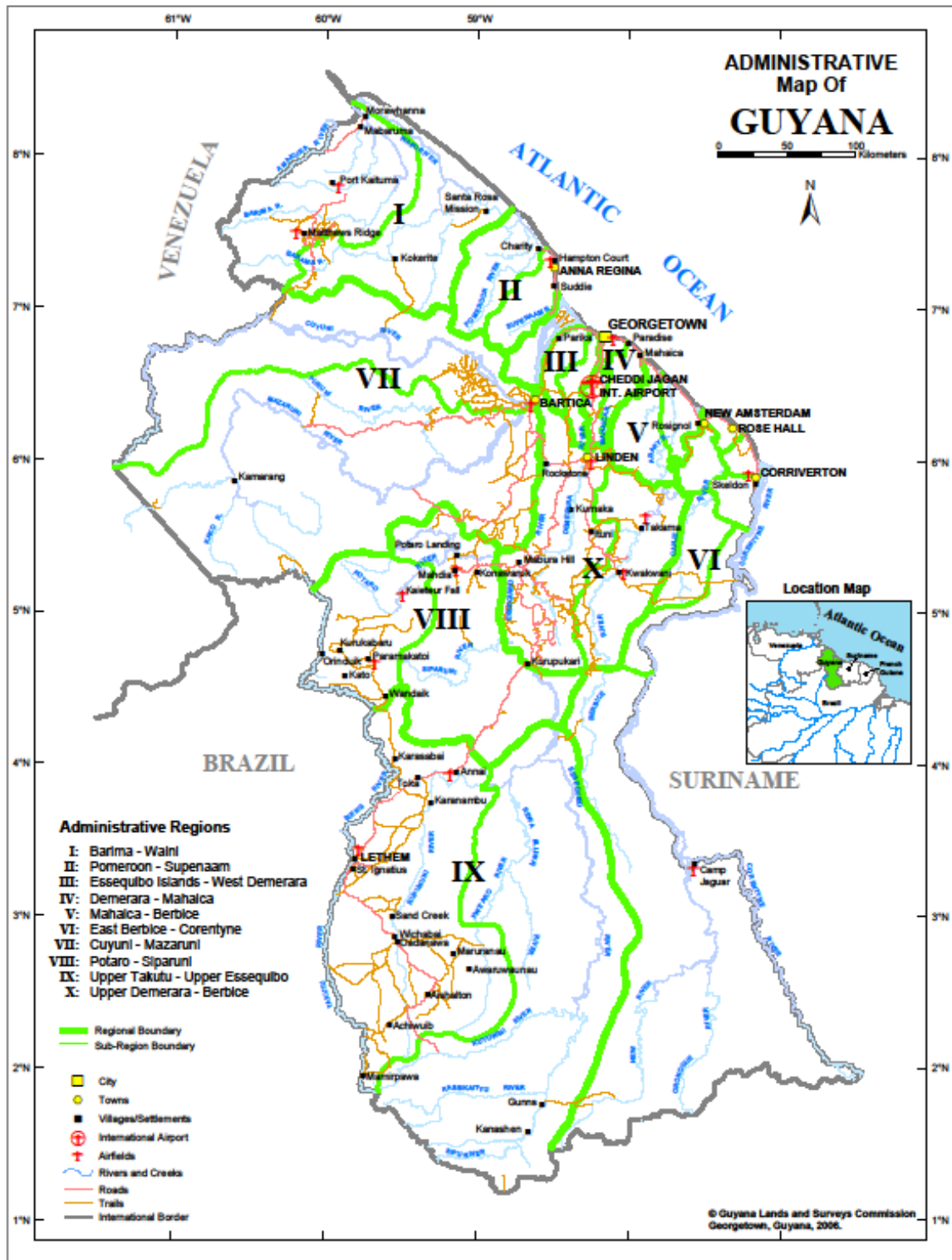
There is potential to collaborate with the Guyana Energy Agency and Office of the Prime Minister on renewable energy projects, and the Guyana Forestry Commission for implementing sustainable forestry practices at the community level. The German Development Bank, KfW is providing technical and financial support to the development of the national protected areas system, including a Small Grants Component, and an interface for the sharing of good practices/lessons learned will be explored. Further, organizations such as the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) has offered access to their cadre of national and international experts to provide technical assistance where needed. Opportunities to collaborate with large NGOs like Conservation International – Guyana which have experience working with local communities and can assist those communities with project proposal preparation will be pursued. Private sector partnerships for co-financing will be pursued especially in communities where the companies have vested interest and extract resources from.

Annex 1: (A) Map of Guyana showing the Natural Regions



Source: Guyana Lands & Survey Commission

Annex 1: (B) Map of Guyana showing the Administrative Regions



Annex 2:

Stakeholder Consultation Report

for the development of SGP Guyana Country Programme Strategy (CPS)

Summary

In establishing the SGP in Guyana, a National Steering Committee (NSC) comprising majority NGO members was appointed. The first task of the NSC is the development of a Country Programme Strategy (CPS) that will guide the implementation of the programme in Guyana. As part of the brainstorming process for the development of the CPS, key stakeholders comprising targeted beneficiaries and the government were consulted to ascertain their interests and priorities in relation to the SGP focal areas of intervention. This report summarizes the feedback from these stakeholders.

The SGP intervention in Guyana would have greater impact if the CPS is aligned with the interests and priorities of the targeted beneficiaries, notwithstanding the priorities of the government as well. The consultation suggests that the targeted beneficiaries' interests and priorities lie within the SGP focal areas of Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation, Land Degradation, and the Elimination of POPs with CSOs indicating that they would like SGP to support the following projects:

- Biodiversity – community conservation programmes, biodiversity surveys, resource mapping, management planning, NRM training and awareness
- Climate change – awareness programmes, low-carbon livelihood projects, community MRV programmes
- Land degradation – flooding and erosion prevention projects
- POPs – Solid waste management and anti-littering programmes
- Capacity building – governance, project management, policy and negotiation
- Cross-cutting/multi-focal – small-scale agriculture and livestock projects, agro-processing, ecotourism, environmental education and awareness, administrative support

The consultation also provided an opportunity for the SGP to be introduced to key stakeholders and as such generated awareness of the SGP and potential for CSOs to access grant funding in the near future.

1.0 Background

The Global Environment Facility's (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) aims to deliver global environmental benefits in the GEF Focal Areas of Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation, Protection of International Waters, Prevention of Land Degradation (primarily desertification and deforestation), and the Elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) through community-based approaches. The programme operates on the premise that people will be empowered to protect their environment when they are organised to take action, have a measure of control over access to the natural resource base, have the necessary information and knowledge, and believe that their social and economic well-being is dependent on sound long-term resource management.

SGP grants are made directly to registered Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) including Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in recognition of the key role they play as a resource and constituency for environment and development concerns. The maximum grant amount per project is US\$50,000.00

In establishing the SGP in Guyana, a National Steering Committee (NSC) comprising majority NGO members was appointed. The first task of the NSC is the development of a Country Programme Strategy (CPS) that will guide the implementation of the programme in Guyana. As part of the brainstorming process for the development of the CPS, key stakeholders comprising targeted beneficiaries and the government were consulted to ascertain their interests and priorities in relation to the SGP focal areas of intervention. This report presents the feedback from these stakeholders.

2.0 Consultation Process

Recognizing the need for stakeholders' input in the CPS, desk-based research was conducted to identify all CSOs relating to environment, gender, youth, and indigenous peoples in the country, and government agencies that have responsibility or work within the parameters of the GEF focal areas. The list of identified CSOs was circulated to the NSC membership for additional input and comments. At the same time, a questionnaire was prepared to garner information from CSOs on their priorities and interest in relation to environmental and livelihood projects. This questionnaire (See Annex 1) was also circulated to the NSC membership for comments.

The questionnaire survey was used given the extensive geographic scope of the CSOs, the high costs of convening a central workshop to gather the same information which is further compounded by budgetary limitations and logistical planning, and the dynamics of having large number of stakeholders of varying capacity participating equally in discussions.

Following feedback from the NSC, the questionnaire was distributed *via* email to all the CSOs. Follow-up calls were made to all the CSOs to ensure that the questionnaire was

received and to encourage the CSO to complete and return the questionnaire. For CSOs without email access, the questionnaire was completed over the phone. The list of CSOs engaged and the outcome is presented in Annex 2.

While the CSOs were consulted *via* questionnaire survey, government stakeholders were consulted *via* face-to-face interviews. This method was feasible given that these agencies were centrally located in Georgetown. A list of government agencies interviewed is presented in Annex 3.

3.0 Results

3.1 Profile and Issues identified by the CSOs

Questionnaires were sent to a total of 50 CSOs of which 36 (72%) completed and returned the questionnaire following repeated follow-up calls and emails. The CSOs that responded to the survey were fairly distributed across all ten administrative regions and represented evenly the different types of CSOs (see Figure 1 and Figure 2).

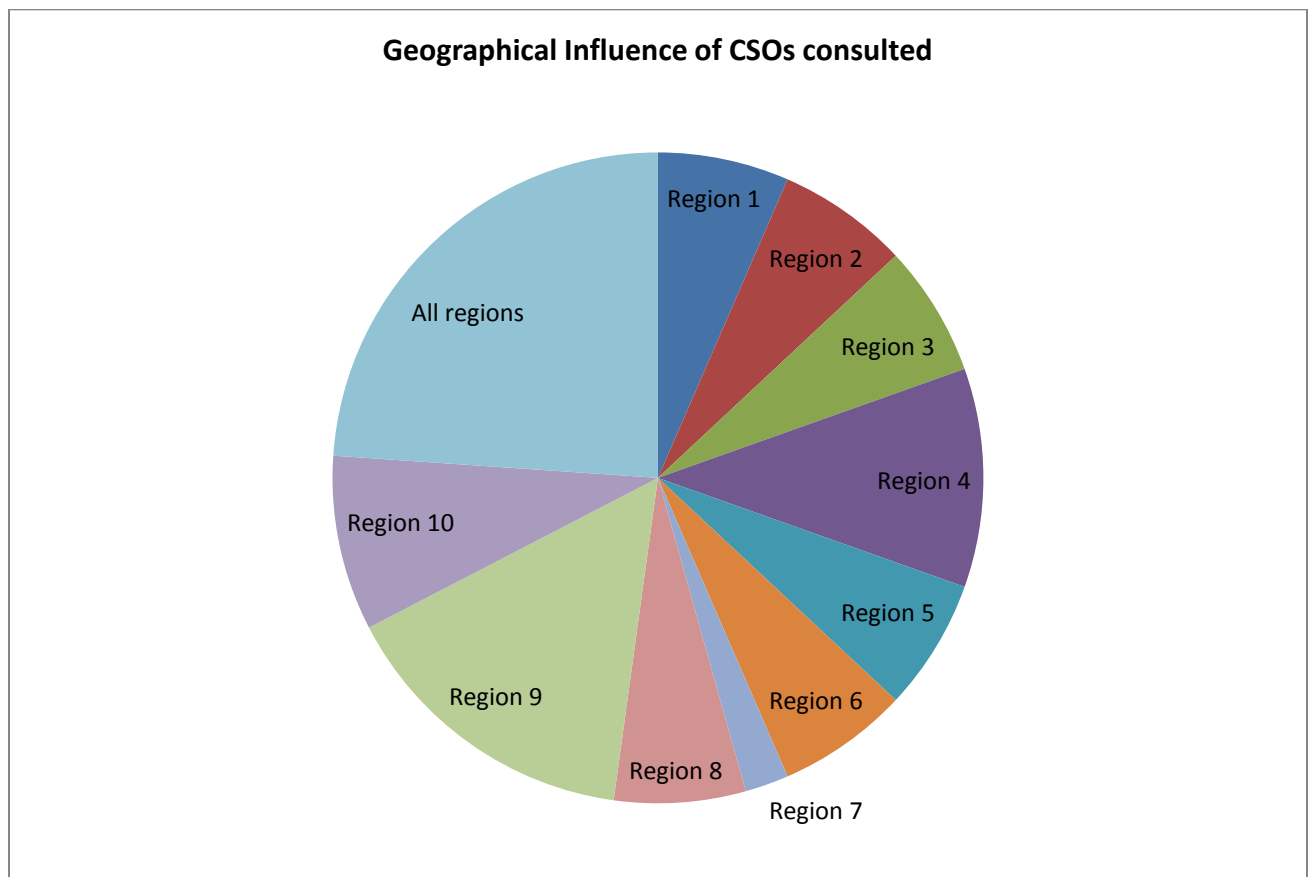


Figure 1. Geographic influence of the CSOs that participated in the consultation

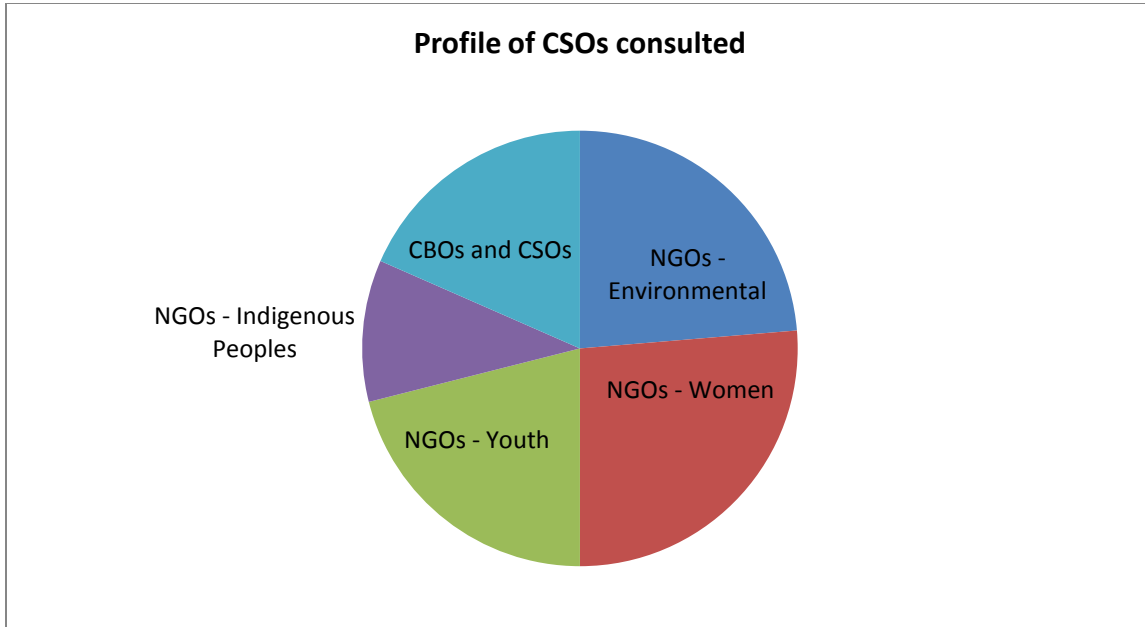


Figure 2. Profile of the CSOs that participated in the consultation

In response to the issues being faced by the communities/regions, solid waste management, habitat destruction and negative impacts of activities such as mining were identified as the major environmental issues while lack of income-generating activities/unemployment, poverty, and unsustainable development/practices were identified as the major livelihood issues (see Figure 3 and Figure 4)

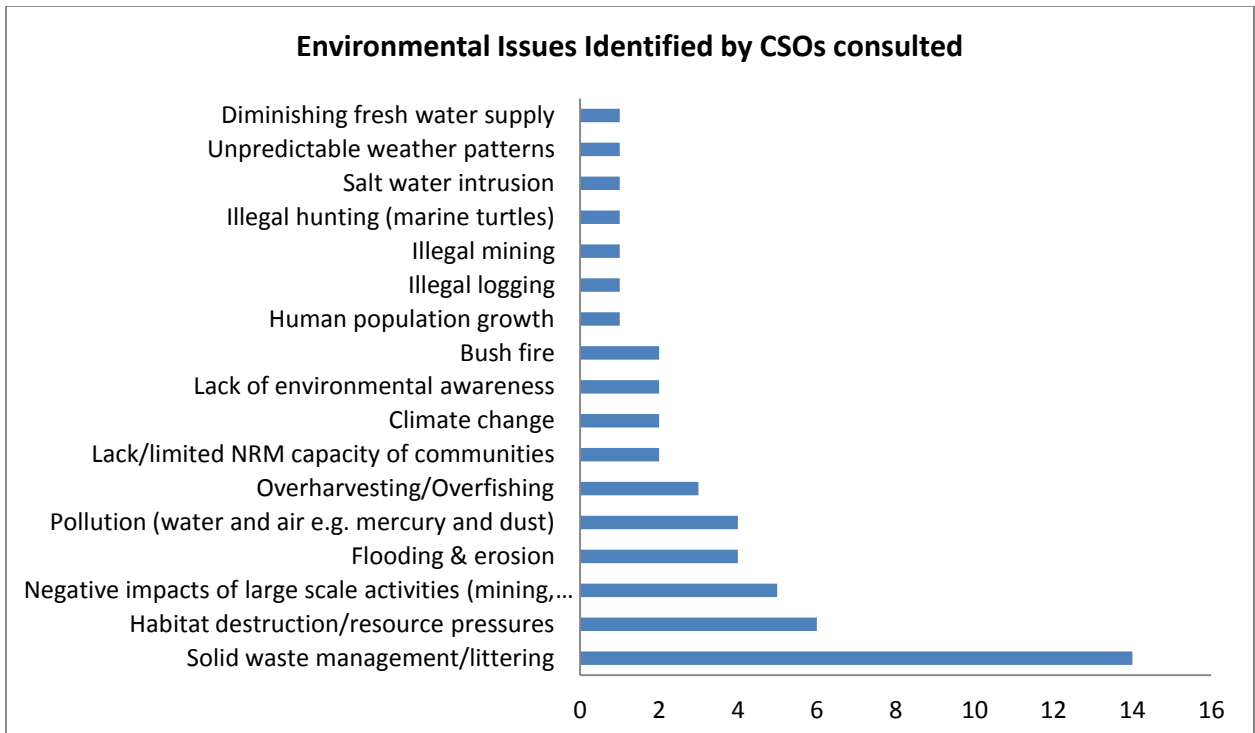


Figure 3. Environmental issues identified by CSOs that participated in the consultation

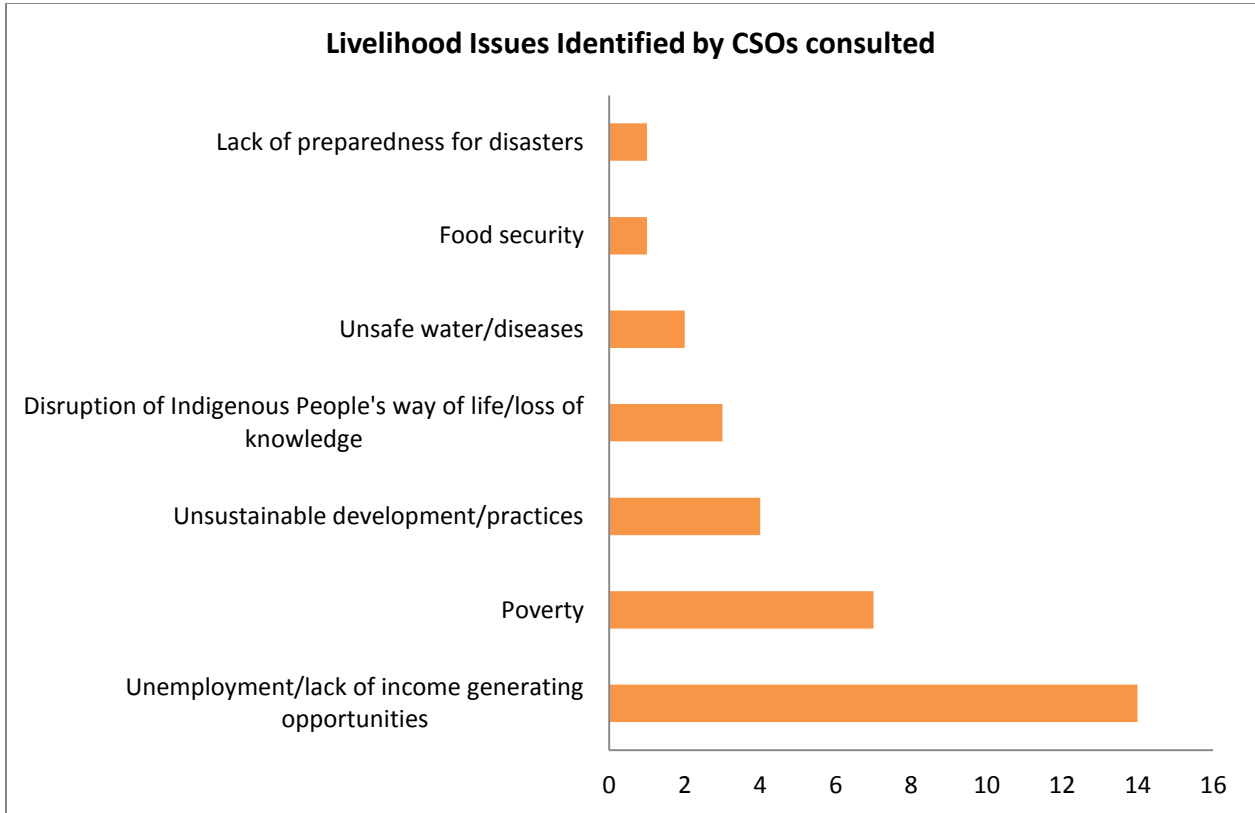


Figure 4. Livelihood issues identified by CSOs that participated in the consultation

3.2 CSOs' Interests and Priorities

CSOs expressed that they would like SGP to support the following projects:

- Biodiversity – community conservation programmes, biodiversity surveys, resource mapping, management planning, NRM training and awareness
- Climate change – awareness programmes, low-carbon livelihood projects, community MRV programmes
- Land degradation – flooding and erosion prevention projects
- POPs – Solid waste management and anti-littering programmes
- Capacity building – governance, project management, policy and negotiation
- Cross-cutting/multi-focal – small-scale agriculture and livestock projects, agro-processing, ecotourism, environmental education and awareness, administrative support

Details of their project interest and priority for SGP funding is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. CSOs' Project Interests and Priorities for SGP Funding

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
NGOs - Env							
Guyana Amazon Tropical Bird Society	Bird education and awareness in school curriculum						
Environmental Community Health Organization (ECHO)		Green education and awareness programmes in primary schools		Solid waste management, esp in relation to PEP bottles; production of organic fertilizer			
Seeds For Sustainability							organic farming and aquaponics
Iwokrama	Community conservation and resource management; support for wildlife clubs and Bina Hill Youth Learning Centre; and park ranger training	Support for community MRV implementation				Measuring impact of programmes to build local capacity	

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
Evergreen Nature Study Club				Littering education and awareness			
WWF Guyana Office	Support for community development plan preparation, biodiversity assessment, wetland assessment, marine turtle conservation, and fisheries management					Capacity building	Infrastructural development
Conservation International - Guyana	Support for CBNRM, biodiversity planning, protected area management	Low Carbon Economic livelihood projects in the Rupununi		Community-based solid waste management		Support for improved community capacity for effective governance	

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
South Rupununi Conservation Society (SRCS)	Equipment and training in biological surveying techniques						
Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society (GMTCS)						Capacity building in Almond Beach Community	Poultry (alternative protein) project
NGOs - Women							
Mangrove Reserve Producers Coop Society				Littering education and awareness			Facility, equipment, packaging and marketing of honey, jams, candles, etc.
Guyana Women Miners Organization			Address erosion caused by floods in communities	Proper garbage disposal			Environmental education and awareness
Moco Moco Women's Group							Irrigation and equipment for gardening project, and sewing equipment

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
Airy Hall Development Group							Fruit processing
Varqa Foundation							Administrative support for outreach programmes
Blue Flame Women's Group							Equipment and training for fruit processing
Guyanese Women in Development (GUYWID) Reg 6				Proper garbage disposal			
GUYFUSE				Proper garbage disposal			Kitchen garden for poor households
The Social Educators						Livelihood training and empowerment sessions	
Pomona Women and Youth Reaching Out				Cleaning tools			Poultry (revolving) project; mosquito nets

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
NGOs - Youth							
Youth Challenge Guyana	Sustainable tourism in Reg 8						
Global Youth Movement Guyana				Education campaign on proper waste disposal			
Volunteer Youth Corps				Management of plastic waste			
Rights of the Child Commission							Develop partnerships
Berbice High School Env Club/Lions Club of New Amsterdam				Littering education and awareness; proper waste disposal			
Parika Salem Secondary School Env Club				Littering education and awareness; proper waste disposal			

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
McKenzie High School Env Club				Littering education and awareness; proper waste disposal			
Mathews Ridge Primary School			Plant nursery for land reclamation in Lower Region One area				
Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)							
North Rupununi District Development Board (NRDDB)	Support for mapping North Rupununi wetlands, review and update wetland management plan, wetland education & awareness at community level, and wetland monitoring					Technical assistance to develop and negotiate policy for COCA	

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
South Central People's Development Association (SCPDA)	Update resource use maps; support NRM through training and improved practices; and improve agricultural practices					Establish NRM learning centre, and train local rangers and researchers	
Guyana Gold & Diamond Miners Association	Education and awareness programme (tailings management and rain water harvesting)						
Linden Care Foundation	Safe water initiatives					Technical assistance/capacity building	
Demerara Lions Lioness Club				Environmental poster competition			Tree planting and gardening
Moco Moco Village/CRG							Multi-purpose building

	SGP Focal Areas						
	<i>Biodiversity Conservation</i>	<i>Climate Change</i>	<i>Land Degradation</i>	<i>Persistent Organic Pollutants</i>	<i>International Waters</i>	<i>Capacity Development</i>	<i>Cross-cutting / Multi focal</i>
Moraikobai Village/NTC	Desilting rivers to improve fishing grounds; reforestation of harvested tree species						
NGOs - Indigenous people							
Amerindian Peoples Association	Low-impact mining, community-based tourism, and conservation programmes					Capacity building/training in leadership, governance, report writing, proposal writing and basic accounting	Livelihood projects, e.g. and cottage industries
National Amerindian Development Foundation (NADF)							Water supply and distribution project for Paramakatoi
Indigenous People's Commission							Environment and livelihood improvement projects
National Toshias Council							Agriculture and tourism projects

Cross-cutting/multi focal projects dominated the interests of CSOs, followed by Elimination of POPs and Biodiversity Conservation (see Figure 5). No interest was expressed in projects related to International Waters.

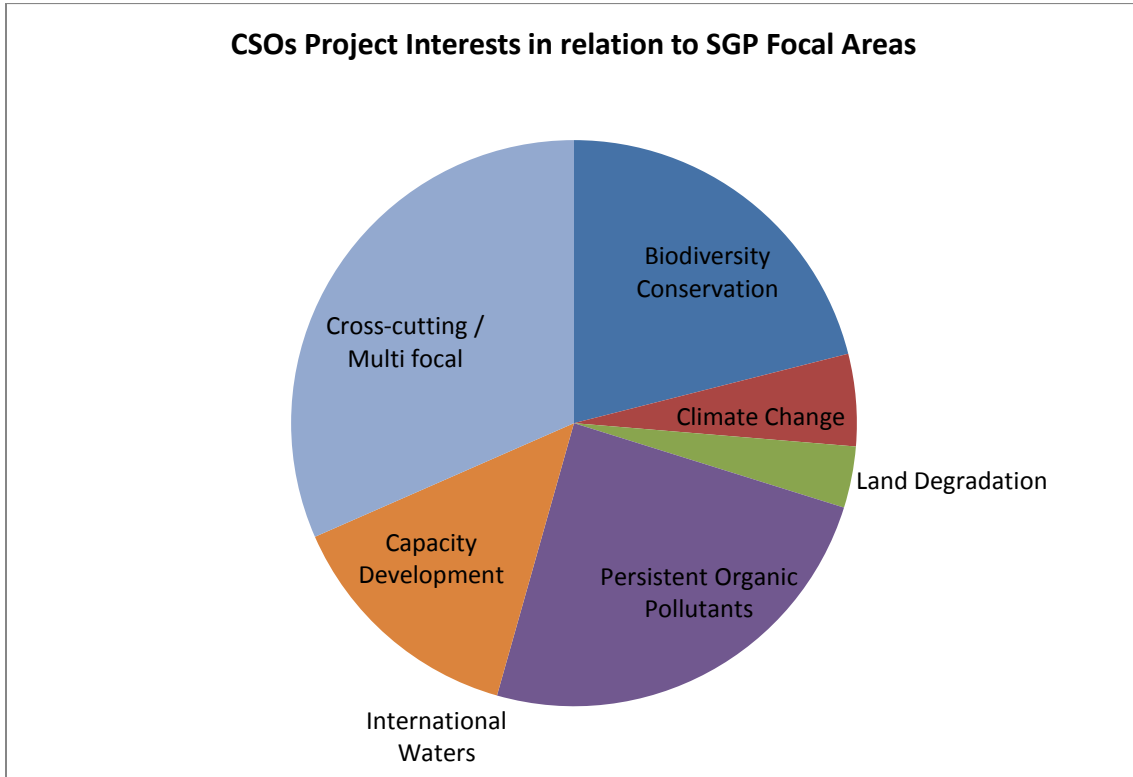


Figure 5. CSOs Project Interests in relation to SGP Focal Areas

3.3 Government's Interests and Priorities

The interest and priority of the government in relation to the SGP Focal Areas is presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Interests and priorities of the government in relation to the SGP Focal Areas

Government Agency	SGP Focal Areas				
	Biodiversity Conservation	Climate Change	Land Degradation	Persistent Organic Pollutants	International Waters
Guyana Lands and Survey Commission			Minimize land clearing, especially for agricultural projects; Land reclamation		

Government Agency	SGP Focal Areas				
	Biodiversity Conservation	Climate Change	Land Degradation	Persistent Organic Pollutants	International Waters
Office of Climate Change/Project Management Office, Office of the President	Community development projects such as agro-processing and eco-tourism (ADF); Alternative livelihood low carbon projects for individuals and entrepreneurs (MSE)				
Hinterland Electrification Unit, Office of the Prime Minister	Replication of efficient wood stove project in communities	Extension of electrification projects to non-Amerindian and riverain communities			
Guyana Energy Agency	Replication of successful demonstration projects such as efficient wood stoves; Biomass gastrification in farming communities; Biodigesters	Replication of successful demonstration projects such as solar cooking stoves; Low carbon transport demonstration project: Solar electrification			
Protected Areas Commission	Three Park Initiatives; Alternative livelihood projects for communities associated with protected areas; Protected area management and community engagement				

Government Agency	SGP Focal Areas				
	Biodiversity Conservation	Climate Change	Land Degradation	Persistent Organic Pollutants	International Waters
Guyana Forestry Commission		Community MRV	Community Forestry Programme to build capacity and establish community groups, improve forestry practices at the community level, and assist communities in achieving international standards and access to export markets.		
Environmental Protection Agency	Fulfilling obligations under the various conventions for conservation programmes (including revision of NBAP II), ABS, wildlife trade regulations, Biosafety, and BCH. GEF proposal for mainstreaming biodiversity into forestry and mining sector				
Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board				Awareness, control, safe use and management of pesticides and toxic chemicals	

ered live:
st nation:

4.0 Discussion

Biodiversity Conservation

The interests expressed by NGOs are aligned with several of the government's initiatives to address biodiversity conservation. As part of *in-situ* conservation efforts, the government enacted legislation to create and manage a national protected areas system, which will include community-owned conservation areas as well. As such, there are initiatives like the KfW Small Grants Programme, which provide the associated communities with alternative livelihood projects. Other initiatives, though not directly related to the protected areas system, include the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs' National Secure Livelihoods Programme and the Presidential Grants. However, these grants benefit primarily Amerindian communities. This presents SGP an opportunity to work with other communities pursuing conservation of their lands.

Climate Change

The interests expressed by NGOs were primarily for projects that generate climate change awareness. While the government is pursuing a low-carbon development economy, NGOs opined that local communities do not fully comprehend climate changes issues and there are little/no climate change awareness programmes that reach the community level. This presents a gap that SGP can possibly support.

While NGOs did not specifically identify climate change livelihoods projects, there are a number of national initiatives ongoing. These include the Hinterland Electrification Programme which provides targeted communities with solar panels, and the GEA's demonstration projects involving solar cook stoves and efficient wood stoves. Should the initiatives prove successful, there is a lack of funding to replicate these projects in other communities. This presents SGP a collaborative opportunity with state agencies to work with other communities in expanding and replicating such projects.

A further initiative that falls under the Guyana REDD+ Investment Fund (GRIF) provides grants to Amerindian communities for livelihood development projects (Amerindian Development Fund, ADF) and individuals/entrepreneurs for low-carbon projects (MSE Grants). However, the grants do not serve non-Amerindian and coastal communities. This presents SGP the opportunity to fill this gap and contribute to the national climate change initiative.

Land Degradation

Both the Guyana Lands & Survey Commission (govt) and the Guyana Women Miners Organization (NGO) indicated that while land degradation occurs, it was not a significant environmental threat as it occurs on a relatively small scale. The GWMO opined that littering in Regions 7 and 8 were more of an environmental concern.

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

Guyana is in the process of preparing a National Implementation Plan (NIP) which will outline the situation in the country as it relates to Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

Following completion of NIP, funding will be sought from GEF to facilitate a project that will identify ways to handle and dispose of POPs. In the meanwhile, ECHO has indicated that they have completed studies on the disposal of discarded batteries and PEP bottles.

Among NGOs interviewed, littering was overwhelmingly identified as the biggest environmental problem in Guyana and as such, most of their proposed projects will look to generate awareness on littering and promote proper disposal of waste. CPMT has indicated that solid waste management falls under the Elimination of POPs focal area and projects must be tailored to address the removal of harmful chemicals rather than garbage per se.

The government is addressing solid waste management through the implementation of the Haags Bosch Landfill Project, the only active landfill site in the country. While there are social components of the project, a widespread littering and waste disposal awareness is lacking. SGP can intervene and help address one of Guyana's major environmental problems by supporting waste disposal education and awareness projects.

International Waters

There was no expression of interests for projects in this focal area.

5.0 Conclusion

The SGP intervention in Guyana would have greater impact if the CPS is aligned with the interests and priorities of the targeted beneficiaries, notwithstanding the priorities of the government as well. The consultation suggests that the targeted beneficiaries' interests and priorities lie within the SGP focal areas of Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation, Land Degradation, and the Elimination of POPs with CSOs indicating that they would like SGP to support the following projects:

- Biodiversity – community conservation programmes, biodiversity surveys, resource mapping, management planning, NRM training and awareness
- Climate change – awareness programmes, low-carbon livelihood projects, community MRV programmes
- Land degradation – flooding and erosion prevention projects
- POPs – Solid waste management and anti-littering programmes
- Capacity building – governance, project management, policy and negotiation
- Cross-cutting/multi-focal – small-scale agriculture and livestock projects, agro-processing, ecotourism, environmental education and awareness, administrative support

The consultation also provided an opportunity for the SGP to be introduced to key stakeholders and as such generated awareness of the SGP and potential for CSOs to access grant funding in the near future.

Annex 1. Questionnaire

GEF Small Grants Programme

Questionnaire for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

Name of Organization: _____

Type of Organization: NGO CBO Other (please specify) _____

Is your organization a registered body? Yes No If yes, with whom _____

Organization's Address: _____

Organization's email and telephone number: _____

Name and designation of contact person: _____

1. Which communities and/or regions does your organization work in?

2. What are the environmental and livelihood issues being faced in those communities and/or regions?

3. What initiatives are being undertaken and/or planned to be undertaken by your organization to address those environmental and livelihood issues?

4. What challenges does your organization face in addressing those environmental and livelihood issues?

5. Where would your organization like SGP to intervene? What assistance would you like to be had from SGP to overcome your challenges and address the environmental and livelihood issues?

End of Questionnaire. Thank you.

Annex 2. List of CSOs consulted *via* questionnaires and interviews

	CSOs consulted	Response
	Conservation/Environmental NGOs	
1	Iwokrama	Completed and returned questionnaire
2	Conservation International – Guyana	Completed and returned questionnaire
3	WWF Guiana	Completed and returned questionnaire
4	Guyana Amazon Tropical Bird Society	Interviewed Mr. Andy Narine, President
5	Guyana Marine Turtle Conservation Society	Completed and returned questionnaire
6	Environmental Community Health Organization (ECHO)	Interviewed Mr. Royston King, Executive Director
7	Seeds for Sustainability	Completed and returned questionnaire
8	South Rupununi Conservation Society	Completed and returned questionnaire
9	Evergreen Nature Study Club	Completed and returned questionnaire
	Indigenous NGOs	
10	The Amerindian Action Movement of Guyana	No response
11	Amerindian Peoples Association	Interviewed (telephone) Ms. Jean La Rose
12	Guyana Organization of Indigenous Peoples	No response
13	National Amerindian Development Foundation	Completed and returned questionnaire
14	Indigenous People’s Commission	Completed and returned questionnaire
15	National Toshias’ Council	Interviewed Mr. Derrick John, Chairman
	Community Based Organizations	
16	North Rupununi District Development Board	Completed and returned questionnaire
17	South Central People’s Development Association	Completed and returned questionnaire
18	Community Development Organization, Region Five	Tel contact info no longer valid; no response
19	St. Francis Community Developers	Repeated follow-up calls; no response
20	Moco Moco Women’s Group	Completed and returned questionnaire
	Women NGOs	
21	Blue Flame Women’s Group	Interviewed Ms. Christina James, Chair
22	Airy Hall Development Group	Completed and returned questionnaire
23	Pomona Women and Youth Reaching Out	Completed and returned questionnaire
24	Vilvoorden Women’s Group	Follow-up calls made; no response
25	Sunshine Women And Youth Group	Tel contact info no longer valid; no response
26	25. The Social Educators	Completed and returned questionnaire

27	Parika Women's Institute	Tel contact info no longer valid; no response
28	Mangrove Reserve Producers Coop Society	Interviewed Ms. Carolta De Jesus, Chair
29	Sunflower Striving Women's Organization	Tel contact info no longer valid; no response
30	Guyanese Women in Development	Completed and returned questionnaire
31	Guyana Women Miners Organization	Interviewed Ms. Simona Broomes, President
32	Red Thread	Spoke with Ms. Wintres White; no response
33	Rural Women's Network	Spoke with Shoma; no response
34	Varqa Foundation	Completed and returned questionnaire
35	34. Women Across Differences (227-3974)	Follow-up calls made; no response
36	35. Gender and Women's Equality Commission	Follow-up calls made; no response
	Youth NGOs	
37	Youth Challenge Guyana	Interviewed Mr. Dmitri Nicholson, Executive Director
38	Volunteer Youth Corps	Completed and returned questionnaire
39	Groenveldt Youth Group	Follow-up calls made; no response
40	Parika Salem Secondary School Environmental Club	Interviewed Ms. Hardai Mohabir, Club Coordinator
41	Berbice High School Environmental Club	Interviewed Ms. Sabrina Grant, Club Coordinator
42	Linden Care Foundation	Completed and returned questionnaire
43	McKenzie High School Environmental Club	Interviewed Ms. Yonette Walton, Club Coordinator
44	Rights of the Child Commission	Completed and returned questionnaire
45	Rights of the Child	Spoke with Ashley; no response
46	Global Youth Movement	Completed and returned questionnaire
	Others	
47	Guyana Gold & Diamond Miners Association	Completed and returned questionnaire
48	Guyana Volunteer Consultancy	Follow-up calls made; no response
49	Demerara Lions Lionesss Club	Completed and returned questionnaire
50	Guyana Red Cross Society	Interviewed Mr. Sheldon Corlette, Solid Waste Management Coordinator

Annex 3. List of government agencies consulted *via* interviews

Name of Government Agency	Name and Designation of person(s) interviewed
Office of Climate Change/Project Management Office, Office of the President	Mr. Kapil Mohabir, Head, Project Management Office Mr. Nicholas Oudkerk, Project Manager Mr. Navindra Persaud, Finance Officer
Hinterland Electrification Unit, Office of the Prime Minister	Mr. Horace Williams, Chief Executive Officer
Guyana Lands and Survey Commission	Mr. Doorga Persaud, Commissioner Ms. Andrea Mahammad, Senior Land Use Planner/ Project Associate
Guyana Energy Agency	Dr. Mahender Sharma, Chief Executive Officer Ms. Kiran Mattai, Legal Officer Mr. Leon DeSouza, Engineer Ms. Shevon Wood, Economist Mr. Winston Setal
Environmental Protection Agency	Ms. Juliana Persaud, Senior Environmental Officer Mr. Germaine Clarke, Senior Environmental Officer
Protected Areas Commission	Mr. Damian Fernandes, Commissioner
Guyana Forestry Commission	Ms. Pradeepa Bholenath, Head, Planning & Development Division Ms. Simone Benn, Community Development Officer Ms. Anna Mohase Mr. Kenny David
Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board	Ms. Tricia David, Registrar