

Global Environment Facility

Small Grants Programme

GEF SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR OPERATIONAL PHASE 6

2015 - 2018

Lao PDR

Vientiane, September 2016

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABP	Agro-Biodiversity Project
ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
ACR	Annual Country Report
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AFD	French Development Agency
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
BCC	Biodiversity Conservation Corridors
BCH	Biosafety Clearing House
CADC	Clean Agriculture Development Centre
CAWA	Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community Based Organizations
CDE	Centre for Development and Environment
CDD	Community Driven Development
CEDAW	Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEFP	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund
CEGGA	Citizen Engagement for Good Governance, Accountability
CITES	Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CiiPAD	Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
CPMT	Combined Pre Medical Test
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DAFO	District Agriculture and Forestry Office
DALAM	Department of Agricultural Land Development
DEQP	Department of Environmental Quality Promotion
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
DFRM	Department of Forest Resource Management
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DoF	Department of Forestry
DoFI	Department of Forest Inspection
DOFI	District Office of Forestry Inspection
DoNRE	District Office of Natural Resources and Environment
FALUPAM	Forest and Land Use Planning, Allocation and Management
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (United Nations)
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FIP	Forest Investment Programme
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
FS	Forestry Strategy
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GGP	Grant Assistance for Grassroots and Human Security Projects
GHG	Greenhouse-Gas
GHS	Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GMO	Genetically Modified Organisms
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IPEN	International Plant Exchange Network
IRDP	Integrated Rural Development Programme
ITM	Institute of Traditional Medicine
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature

IWMI	International Water Management Institute
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
IWRMP	Integrated Water Resources Management Plans
JCM	Joint Crediting Mechanism
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (German Development Bank)
LCN	Lao Civil Society Network
LDC	Least Developed Country
Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
LEAF	Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests
LECS	Lao Expenditure and Consumption Survey
LEnS	Lao Environment and Social
LFNC	Lao Front for National Construction
LMDP	Land Management and Decentralised Planning
LNFC	Lao National Front for Construction
LURAS	Lao Upland Rural Advisor Service
LWU	Lao Women's Union
MAF	Ministry Agriculture and Forestry
MARCC	Mekong Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MICT	Ministry of Information, Culture and Tourism
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports
MoH	Ministry of Health
MoNRE	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
MoIC	Ministry of Industry and Commerce
MoST	Ministry of Science and Technology
MPI	Ministry of Planning and Investment
MRC	Mekong River Commission
NA	National Assembly
NABP	National Agricultural Biodiversity Programme
NAFRI	National Agriculture and Forestry Research Institute
NAP	National Action Programme
NAP	National Adaptation Plans
NAMA	National Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA)
NAPA	National Adaptation Plan for Action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NBCA	National Biodiversity Conservation Areas
NC	National Coordinator
NCAW	National Commission for the Advancement of Women
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NEPL	Nam Et-Phou Louey
NIP	National Implementation Plan
NGPAR	National Governance and Public Administration Reform
NPA	National Protected Area
NPA	Non Profit Association
NPFE	National Portfolio Formulation Exercise
NRIES	National Research Institute for Educational Science
NRE	Natural Resources and Environment
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NSEDP	National Socio-Economic Development Plan
NSC	National Steering Committee
NSCCC	National Steering Committee on Climate Change
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
NUoL	National University of Laos

ODA	Official Development Assistance
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substances
OP	Operational Phase
PAs	Protected Areas
PAFO	Provincial Agriculture and Forestry Office
PAREDD	Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation
PBSAP	Provincial Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan
PCB	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PCM	Project Cycle Management
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
PFAN-Asia	Private Financing Advisory Network-Asia
PLUP	Participatory Land Use Planning
POFI	Provincial Office of Forestry Inspection
PoNRE	Province Office of Natural Resources and Environment
POP	Persistent Organic Pollutants
ProCEED	Promotion of Climate-related Environmental Education
PROFLEGT	Promotion of Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRF	Poverty Reduction Fund
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RTM	Round Table Meeting
RTP	Round Table for Parliamentarians
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SDC	Swiss Development Cooperation Agency
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEA	Strategic Environment Assessment
SEPL	Socio-Ecological Resilience Indicators for Production Landscapes
SE4ALL	Sustainable Energy for All
SGP	Small Grant Programme
SME	Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SSC	South-South Community
SUFORD	Sustainable Forestry and Rural Development
SWG	Sector Working Group
TABI	The Agro-biodiversity Initiative
TNC	Third National Communications on Climate Change
UNCCD	United Nations Convention on Combat Desertification
UNDP CO	United Nations Development Program Country Office
UNDAF	United Nations Direct Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UN-REDD	United Nations Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VFMP	Village Forest Management Plan
VPA	Voluntary Partnership Agreement
WB	World Bank
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WHC	World Heritage Convention
WTO	World Trade Organization
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

COUNTRY [Lao PDR]

OP6 resources (estimated US\$)¹

- a. Core funds: 2,462,165
- b. OP5 remaining balance: 1,480,000
- c. STAR funds: [TBD]
- d. Other Funds to be mobilized: 248,498

BACKGROUND

As a GEF corporate programme, SGP aligns its operational phase strategies (CPS OP6) to that of the GEF, and provides a series of demonstration projects for further scaling up, replication and mainstreaming. Actions at the local level by civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities is deemed to be a vital component of the GEF 20/20 Strategy in that it convenes multi-stakeholder alliances that will deliver global environmental benefits and contribute to UNDP's Strategic Plan's focus on sustainable development.² At the global level, the SGP OP6 programme goals are to "effectively support the creation of global environmental benefits and to safeguard the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level actions."

In July 2008, the Central Programme Management Team conducted an appraisal for the start-up of GEF-SGP in the Lao PDR³ SGP. The Lao PDR officially launched the programme for its OP4 in late 2009 with the nomination of a National Coordinator and a Steering Committee, and the development of the Country Programme Strategy adapting the SGP global strategic framework to the context of Lao PDR's national environmental priorities. The grant making has been in process since then, beginning with OP4 (2008-2010) and OP5 (2011-2014). This paper is the basis for the strategic plan for the operational phase 6 (2015-2018).

1. SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME - SUMMARY BACKGROUND

SGP Lao PDR was launched in 2009, and has since has developed into a fully operational programme that is now in its fifth operational phase. Between 2009 and 2015, the SGP Lao country programme funded 70 projects, amounting to US\$ 2,542,156 USD (Table 1). Contributions from local stakeholders, including governments, NGOs/CBOs and communities, has been a very strategic source of funding as it has significantly promoted the local ownership, involvement and participation which are necessary for project success, sustainability and replication/scaling-up of SGP projects. The projects are recognized especially as important benchmarks for community-based initiatives to deal with global environmental concerns in the context of Lao PDR. Most of them have been directed towards biodiversity conservation, while also aiming to bring comparable benefits in other GEF focal areas. Of the total projects funded in the credit frame of OP5, 22 (31 percent) have been in Vientiane Capital. Therefore, the activities of OP6 should expand more of its activities to focus on the provinces outside Vientiane Capital.

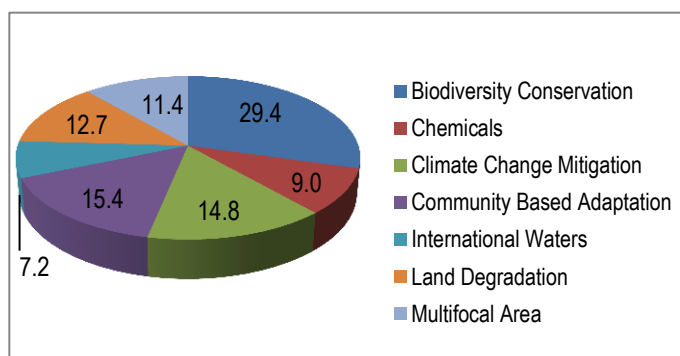
¹ The level of SGP OP6 resources is an estimated total of: (i) the GEF6 core grant allocation (to be reviewed annually by CPMT on the basis of performance, co-financing and strategic partnerships, demonstrated NSC commitment rates, and UNOPS delivery); (ii) approved STAR resources; as well as (iii) other sources of third party cost sharing & co-financing (country, regional and/or global levels). Note that countries with remaining OP5 balances that have not been pipelined, will be expected to use these balances in line with the OP6 strategic approach in order to be coherent in terms of SGP programming and results expected.

² The initial SGP OP6 concept was incorporated into the strategic directions for the overall GEF-6 replenishment, and subsequently approved by the GEF Council in the paper "GEF Small Grants Programme: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-6" (GEF/C.46/13) in May 2014.

³ Country Programme Strategy Lao PDR OP5 2011-2015

During 2009-2015, the SGP supported seven thematic sectors: biodiversity conservation (29.4 percent); community based adaptation (15.4 percent); climate change mitigation (14.8 percent); land degradation (12.7 percent); multifocal area (11.4 percent); chemicals (9 percent); and international waters (7.2 percent).

Chart 1: Percent of budget spent in each thematic sector during 2009-2015



Name of province	Number of project	Budget	Percent
Phongsaly	1	30,000	1.3
LuangNamtha	2	91,677	3.7
Oudomxay	4	153,733	6.0
Luangphabang	3	100,000	3.9
Borkeo	2	59,000	2.6
Houaphanh	3	95,575	3.6
Xayabouli	3	137,595	5.7
Xiengkhouang	1	35,000	1.2
Vientiane	5	162,000	6.4
Vientiane Cap.	22	815,401	31.0
Bolikhamxai	2	80,000	3.3
Khammouane	4	153,000	6.1
Savannakhet	8	229,075	9.3
Salavan	1	35,000	1.2
Sekong	3	120,000	5.0
Champasak	3	139,100	5.4
Attapeu	3	106,000	4.2
Total	70	2,542,156	100

In the focal area of biodiversity, the SGP Lao PDR contributed to the protection and conservation of 172,963 hectares of significant indigenous peoples and community conserved territories and areas and PAs. More than 500 indigenous plants and at least 50 endangered species benefited. In terms of sustainable land management, the SGP Lao PDR contributed to the protection of 10,000 hectares through improved sustainable land management and climate proofing practices. In the international water component, the SGP Lao PDR has contributed to knowledge of at least 500 local and national government members through SGP demonstrations of innovative approaches to the protection of the Mekong River basin⁴. The SGP Lao PDR impacted local and global environments, livelihoods and empowerment⁵. Environmental impacts covered the four GEF focal areas as indicated by OP5 programme document:

- 1) biodiversity,
- 2) climate change,
- 3) land degradation, and
- 4) persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

Livelihood impacts are those linked to meeting basic needs, such as improving socio-economic conditions, health, information sharing that contributes to reducing poverty and increasing resilience of rural livelihoods.

Empowerment impacts are greater participation in decision making, better organization, improved capacities for representation and advocacy, enhanced legal and political environments for vulnerable and marginalized groups. These impacts can be achieved both through individual projects and through the synergy between projects that form the Country Programme portfolio. The impacts of the SGP Lao PDR definitely contributed to the global SGP's impacts and achievements in its entirety. Communities were able to reduce their risk of poverty by strengthening the social safety nets provided by healthy well-managed natural ecosystems.

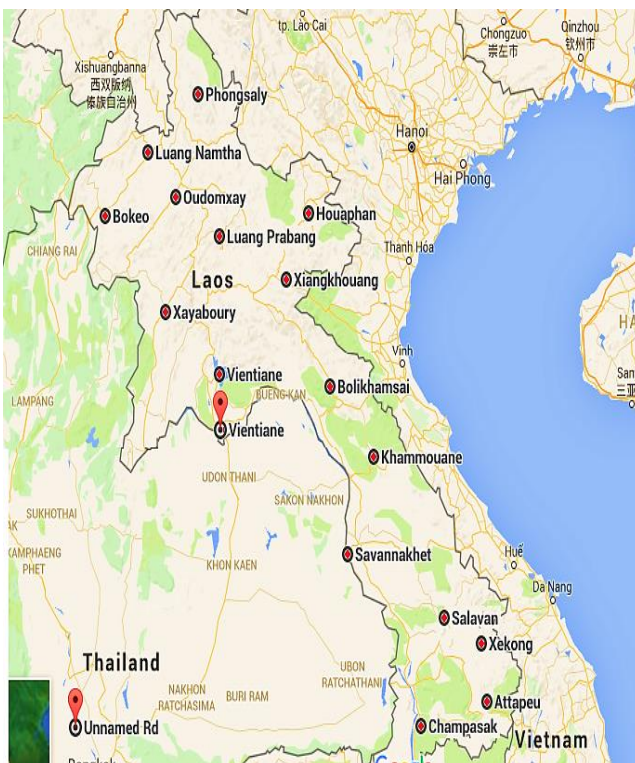
⁴ https://sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_sgpprojects&view=allprojects&Itemid=278

⁵ Interviewed with villagers and Country Programme Strategy Lao PDR OP5 2011-2015

Targeted beneficiaries experienced reduced financial poverty as a result of increased levels of income from the sustainable use of biodiversity, improved agriculture, sustainable forestry and fisheries management, and ecotourism through community-based conservation, innovative approaches, and efficient market mechanisms.

Chart 2: Map of previous SGP projects in Lao PDR

SGP Lao PDR has worked with projects that have at least parallel co-financing for greater effectiveness and sustainability. The Government of Lao PDR through its line agencies has experience in many fields – technically (as an in-kind contribution) the Department of Forest Resource Conservation is responsible for protected areas and biodiversity, the Department of Forestry for timber resources, and the Department of Agriculture for agricultural resources. Some of these departments have received GEF funding for enabling activities, as well as medium and large-size projects. Natural Resource Management, WWF, IUCN and WCS have on-the-ground projects for community-based natural resource management and protected area strengthening. They work closely with the Lao Government to implement best practices for National Biodiversity Conservation Areas (NBCA) and Provincial Protected Area management. This includes planning, monitoring wildlife, aquatic and Non Timber Forest Products, patrolling and enforcement, constituency building and outreach and administrative accountability. Some of these projects receive GEF medium size project support.



The Poverty Environment Initiative is the joint UNDP/UNEP initiative that supports national and local authorities in mainstreaming environment issues into planning and financing processes. In wetland management, UNDP currently supports the Lao PDR Water and Wetland Policy Project in Southern Lao PDR, working in close cooperation with WWF and others who provide broader and longer-term support to the development of community based wetland and fisheries management.

In short, SGP of the Operational Phase 5 had great achievements in mobilizing contributions/co-financing both at project level (in kind and in cash) and country programme management costs. At the project level, SGP Lao PDR had a joint (in cash) project with WCS, SNV, and grantee organizations. Therefore, similar efforts will be invested and continued in the Operational Phase 6.

2. SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME NICHE

2.1. NATIONAL CONTEXT

Poverty context

Overall poverty rates in the Lao PDR have decreased, dropping from 46.0 percent in 1993 to 23.2 percent in 2013, and are estimated to be at 24.5 percent in 2015⁶. However, poverty remains substantially higher in rural areas, at 28.6 percent as compared to 10.0 percent in urban areas. In 2013 (LECS5, 2014), about 36 percent of the poor lived in the Central region, 17 percent in the Southern region and 34 percent in the Northern region. Poverty is also higher among minority (Non-Lao Tai) ethnic groups, with the exception of the Chine-Tibet ethnic group. The poverty rates are highest among the Mon-Khmer and Hmong-Mien headed households with poverty rates of 42.3 percent and 39.8 percent respectively⁷.

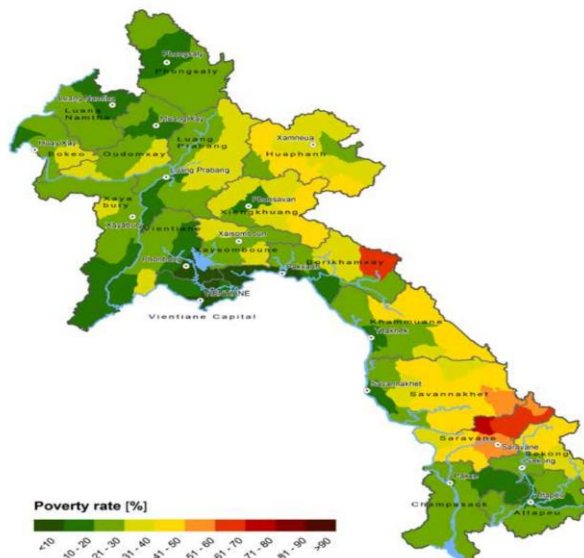
Biodiversity context

In the Lao PDR, deforestation and forest degradation remain significant environmental problems. Deforestation is caused by many factors but the primary drivers are illegal logging, agricultural expansion⁸, industrial tree plantation development, hydropower development, mining and other infrastructure development. The first two drivers, illegal logging and agricultural expansion, have probably had the most significant impact and are likely to continue to result in high rates of deforestation. Deforestation rates in certain districts have been more than 20 percent over the period 1993-2013. The total average deforestation rate is 0.71 percent per year, with rates above this average at times, even exceeding “1 percent provincial forest decline per year”. Lao forest area was about 46.7 percent in 2015⁹. In addition to shifting cultivation, unregulated or under-regulated logging concessions have resulted in the conversion of large tracts of healthy forest into more degraded land. Over-harvesting and the trading of wildlife from hunting activities in Lao PDR are primarily carried out by the local communities in the uplands and remote areas. Dam construction for hydropower development leads to large tracts of land being flooded and inundated which displaces wildlife from their natural habitats.

Changes in the climate have led to an increase in irregular weather events such as extreme drought and severe floods, storms, cyclones and heat waves, which have had significant impacts on agricultural production, the environment, economic growth and society as a whole. The increased severity and frequency of floods and droughts in Lao PDR have had a significant impact on agriculture¹⁰. Extreme drought in the dry season and severe floods in the rainy season have become common, with negative effects on agricultural production and food sufficiency. Lao farmers who live in the rural areas are especially hard hit because they are poor and are losing their food security.

According to several reports, an estimated 90 percent of the shifting cultivation activities in the NBCA are conducted by villages living in or near the area. Cultivated crops and non-timber forest products are harvested from the NBCA. It is estimated that 70 percent of the sale of NTFPs is by residents inside the NBCAs and 30 percent by people from outside

Chart 3: Poverty Map of Lao PDR in 2015



Source: Lao Statistics Bureau, Poverty Mapping, 2016

⁶ According to the latest Lao Population Census 2015, poverty rate is increased.

⁷ Poverty in Lao PDR, SODA 2015

⁸ National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan to 2020; Fifth National Report to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

⁹ Japan's Programme Grant Aid for Environment and Climate Change FPP-TA6 and USAID Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests (USAID LEAF) Drivers of Deforestation in the Greater Mekong Subregion, Lao PDR Country Report, 2015.

¹⁰ Ibid

the NBCA. Of the NTFPs harvested for food, it is estimated that 80 percent are used by villages in the NBCA and 20 percent by people from outside of the area.

Gender issues

Lao women are poorer than Lao men in terms of sleep time, poverty and work burden. Women sleep slightly less than men: 8.6 hours for women and 8.8 hours for men. The rest of the time is spent primarily on non-household work: 3.9 hours per day for men and 4.7 hours per day for women. The time burden for rural women's domestic unpaid work, and the lack of substitutability of male labour for female labour in household work, serves to limit women's opportunities with regard to accessing paid employment.

Male heads of households own more tractors, mobile phones, and motor bikes than female heads of households. The adult literacy rate for women (76 percent) remains substantially lower than for men (90.7 percent) in the Lao PDR overall, reflecting a legacy of gender bias in access to education. There were only 145 female village chiefs from the total of 8,651 villages (2 percent), while deputy female village chiefs were 1,200 out of 16,786 post holders amounting to only 7.0 percent. The LECS 5 2012/2013 survey shows that the share of women suffering from long term illness is slightly more: 2.3 percent of women as compared to 1.9 percent of men. Further, in 2007-08, 58 percent and in 2012-2013, 61 percent of all male headed agricultural households had access to improved drinking water sources; compared to 48 percent and 51 percent of all female headed households in 2007-08 and 2012-13 respectively. Male headed households also had more access to electricity from generators and batteries (6.3 percent and 3.4 percent) compared to female headed households (4.4 percent and 1.7 percent), while female headed households have more access to electricity through the public networks.

In the natural resource sector, the main energy source used by both male and female headed agricultural households was wood: 81 percent and 75 percent of male headed agricultural households use wood as the source of energy for cooking compared to 69 percent and 62 percent of female headed households in 2007-08 and 2012-13 respectively¹¹. Further, 16 percent and 20 percent of male headed, and 25 percent and 33 percent of female headed households used charcoal as a source of energy for cooking during the same two survey periods. The gender inequality between male and female headed households in the agricultural sector was evidenced by the agricultural land they used, both by the size of the land plots and the number of plots. At the national level, the average amount of agricultural land utilized by female-headed farm households was slightly less than the land utilized by male-headed farm households. Female-headed farm households operated, on average, 700 square meters less agricultural land than male-headed households, a difference of 3.5 percent. For irrigated lands, female-headed farm households utilized, on average, 400 square meters less than male-headed farm households, a difference of 5 percent. This would seem to indicate that female headed households have less diversified cropping patterns than male headed households. National level data shows that female headed households were less able to engage in livestock production as a source of livelihood as compared to male headed households. Furthermore, female headed households received lower prices when selling livestock, regardless of the type of livestock. Also, substantially fewer female headed households were able to market and sell grains in comparison to male headed households. In addition, female headed households were less engaged in fishery and forestry as income sources. Another relevant and important finding was that female headed households had less access to loans, especially formal loans to invest in businesses.

A gender-sensitive approach is one of key obligations for SGP partners/grantees. Ensuring gender-sensitivity through identifying women needs and incorporating their concerns into the project design is a priority. Making gender sensitivity a key crosscutting issue in all projects from the earliest stages of the project cycle will make it possible for women to have access to necessary resources, opportunities for technical training and represent households' income generation gears, and finally voicing their concerns in livelihood improvement.

¹¹ SODA poverty report 2015

2.2. ALIGNMENTS WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

The Lao PDR has increased its participation in international conventions to improve its legal and regulatory framework, and to support national implementation of biodiversity and conservation objectives. To date the Lao PDR has ratified 10 Multilateral Environmental Agreements, notably in 1996 the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD); in 2004 the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the CBD and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Fauna and Flora (CITES); and in 2010 the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance. The UN-REDD mechanism is also being piloted in several protected areas.

The SGP is consistent with the Lao PDR Vision 2030, Medium Term National Development Strategy 2025, and 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016-2020, and is aligned to the National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020. The following table is the list of the key international conventions, national policies, and legislations those have been ratified and endorsed by Lao PDR.

Table 2: List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programme	
Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	2014
Minamata Convention on Mercury	Ratified on 25 July 2014
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	Entered into force on 12 October 2014
	Accession on: 26 Sep 2012
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	1 st – March 2003; 2 nd – December 2008
	3 rd – March 2014
Strategic Action Programme (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	2010
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF)	Joined in 2007
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs),	2006
UNCCD National Action Programme (NAP)	May 2006
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	April 2005
GEF-6 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	n/a
The ASEAN Center for Biodiversity	2005
Cartagena Protocol on Bio-safety to the CBD	2004
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Signed on 23 May 2001; Ratified on 27 May 2004
Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC,	2003
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Ratified on 6 March 2002
	Entered into force on 6 June 2002
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	November 2004
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and Montreal	1998
Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Ratified in 1996
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Ratified in 1995
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	Ratified on 5 January 1995
World Heritage Convention (WHC),	Ratified by the Government in 1987
ASEAN Agreement on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (1985)	Ratified in 1985
Ramsar Convention	Ratified in 1982
Lao PDR plans to establish a National Committee for Chemicals to implement directives, strategic plans, policies and regulations relating to	2016 plan and will be established in 2017?

Lao PDR Vision 2030 and Medium Term National Development Strategy	2016
Draft Law on Chemicals	July 2016 and will be approved by NA in December 2016
8 th National Socio-Economic Development Plans 2016-2020	2016
National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Action Plan 2010 (NBSAP)	Endorsed in 2004/ and second NBSAP is under reviewing in 2016
The National Strategy for Traditional Medicine	2012-2015
Decree for Protected Areas	2015
NAMA for the Renewable Energy Sector of Lao PDR	2015
Biotechnology Safety Law	2014
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	March 2010 ; January 2014
National Disaster Management Plan 2012-2015	2011
Master Plan on Land Use and Management,	Endorsed in 2011
7 th National Socio-Economic Development Plans 2011-2015	2010
NSCC was approved by the Government of Lao PDR	March 2010
National Climate Change Strategy 2010 and NAPA 2009	2009, 2010
Renewable Energy Strategy to 2025	Endorsed in 2010
Action Plan 2010 Strategy on Climate Change of Lao PDR and National Adaptation Programme of Action 2009	Endorsed in 2009
National Steering Committee on Climate Change (NSCCC) and the Technical Working Groups (TWG)	Established in 2008
Forest law	24 December 2007
Aquatic Animal and Wildlife Law of 2007	Endorsed in 2007
National Environmental Strategy to 2020 and	Endorsed in 2006
Environment Action Plan 2006-2010.	
Forestry Strategy to 2020	2005
Ecotourism Strategy and Action Plan 2005-2010	Endorsed in 2005
Long-Term Strategy of Socio-Economic Development to the year 2020	Endorsed in 2005
National Strategic Plan for Disaster Risk Management 2003	2003
Land law	Amended in 2003
Environmental Protection Law	26 April 1999
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	Acceded in 1996
Law on water and water resources	Endorsed in 1996
National Biodiversity Conservation System (NCBAs)	Established in 1989

2.3. OPPORTUNITY FOR INVOLVEMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

Subsequent to the adoption of the Decree on Associations in late 2009, as of October 2015, 149 NPAs have been registered nationwide. The legislative and regulatory frameworks are evolving, with a combination of liberalizing and repressive developments. The role of CSOs in poverty reduction and in disaster relief is recognized by authorities. However, there is significant variation in the opportunities for CSO engagement between sectors and in different localities. Personal and institutional contacts are also of high importance. The organizational capacities of the CSOs (especially those focusing on disadvantaged groups and environment issues) to implement small projects will be continuously improved through project cycle of SGP Lao PDR.

Participation of local people is very important in managing natural resources. The targeted audience ownership of and commitments to projects will be ensured throughout the project cycle management which maintains their leaderships in project planning, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation. Building on these principles, SGP Lao PDR will

select the capacity building for local community members and community-based organizations which focus on easier accessibility to necessary resources complemented by demonstration of environmentally sound technologies and practices and in combination with indigenous knowledge. In cases of alternative livelihoods such as sustainable utilization of non-timber forest products (NTFPs), secondary professions will be emphasized in order to alleviate their high dependency on rapidly depleting natural resources.

The GEF-SGP Lao PDR will fund projects that adopt a community-centered approach and are based upon environmental priorities, designed to support improvement to sustainability of livelihoods for the poor, and which have strong links to GEF's focal areas. The projects will need to provide the measurements to prove appropriate participation and consultations with beneficiaries and affected groups. At the project level, grantees must ensure that their projects are monitored and evaluated on a regular basis. Working closely with local communities, SGP Lao PDR has the important ability to reach the poorest and most distant communities and develop capacity for sustainable natural resources management. The result will be better positioning to effectively translate national environmental strategies and priorities into community-level initiatives.

Partnerships, which include both public-private partnerships and partnerships with INGOs, CSOs, NPAs, local authorities, and research institutions, will be promoted with the aim of increasing the long-term sustainability of each SGP intervention. The effective delivery of technical assistance will be evaluated by the SGP committee to ensure that adequate information, knowledge, and skills are transferred.

2.4. SGP CONTRIBUTION TO NATIONAL PRIORITIES

The SGP will support implementation of priorities identified in the Lao Vision 2030 and 8th NSEDP 2016-2020 resulting in the following:

Vision 2030: Effective environmental protection and sustainable natural resources management;

Outcome 3 of the 8th NSEDP 2016-2020: Effective protection and utilization of resources according to green and sustainable directions, with readiness and resilience to cope with natural disasters and climate change effectively. This outcome will have three outputs:

Output 1: Environmental protection and sustainable natural resources management;

Output 2: Preparedness for natural disasters and risk mitigation; and

Output 3: Reducing the instability of agricultural production.

The SGP will support implementation of the Lao PDR National Agro-Biodiversity Programme and Action Plan II (2015-2025) with the following three outcomes:

Outcome 1: An enabling policy environment and legal framework for the sustainable use and conservation of agro-biodiversity;

Outcome 2: Developing and strengthening organizational and technical capacity for the management and conservation of all types of agro-biodiversity in government, the private sector and farmers; and

Outcome 3: Effectively managed, utilized and conserved floral, faunal and fungal elements of agro-biodiversity in all ecosystems.

The SGP will support implementation of priorities identified in the current UNDAF under the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: By 2016, the Government promotes more equitable and sustainable growth for poor people in the Lao PDR;

Outcome 5: By 2016, vulnerable people are more food secure and have better nutrition;

Outcome 7: By 2016, the Government ensures sustainable natural resource management through improved governance and community participation; and

Outcome 8: By 2016, the Government and communities better adapt to and mitigate climate change and reduce natural disaster vulnerabilities in priority sectors.

In addition, the SGP will support implementation of priorities identified in the new UNDAF 2017-2021 under the following outcomes:

Outcome 1: By 2021, all women and men have increased opportunities for decent livelihoods and jobs;

Outcome 3: By 2021, Forests and other ecosystems are protected and enhanced, and people are less vulnerable to climate-related events and disasters;

Outcome 5: People enjoy improved access to quality health services, and water, sanitation and hygiene; and

Outcome 6: By 2021, the most vulnerable people benefit from improved food security and nutrition.

Table 3: SGP contribution to national priorities / GEF 6 corporate results

1 SGP OP6 strategic initiatives	2 GEF-6 corporate results by focal area	3 Briefly describe the SGP Country Programme niche ¹² relevant to national priorities/other agencies ¹³	4 Briefly describe the complementation between the SGP Country Programme and UNDP CO strategic programming
Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SGP Country Programme in Lao PDR has a greater emphasis on 23 biodiversity small projects contributing to full and medium-sized GEF funded programmes¹⁴ in conservation of endangered species that are locally and globally significant, and increase hectares of indigenous and community conserved/protected areas. The SGP Country Programme in Lao PDR has strengthened the community based and civil society organizations-led actions in conservation of PAs, including Nam Et - Phou Louey PA as one of the identified national models, resulting in 4,500 hectares of significant Indigenous peoples' and community conserved territories and areas and PAs protected and conserved. More than 500 indigenous plants and at least 50 endangered species benefited. The National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Action Plan to 2010 National Environmental Strategy to 2020 Environmental Protection Law NSEDP 2016-2020 Land Law 2003. Forest Investment Programme Tree Planting Initiatives of the Lao Government SUFORD Scaling-up project The Environment Protection Fund of the World Bank. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN agencies and other development partners in the Lao PDR. Significant complementation has been made in a number of national and sub-national conservation projects by UNDP, World Bank and GEF, including Wildlife and Protected Areas Conservation. Developing and demonstrating replicable Protected Area Management Models at Nam Et - Phou Louey National Protected Area; and Integrated Ecosystem and Wildlife Management Project in Bolikhamxay Province. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in the Lao PDR's Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans and Programmes. Outcome 7 and 8 of the UNDAF 2012-2015. Outcome 3 and 6 of the UNDAF 2017-2021.
Innovative climate-smart agro-ecology; Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promotion of sustainable land management through tree planting, alternative cash crops, and improvement of farm productivity and soil quality. SGP Lao has contributed to the protection of 10,000 hectares under improved sustainable land management and climate proofing practices, contributing to the initiation of restoration and enhancement of 500 hectares of forests and non-forest lands. Lao National Land Policy Village Land Use Planning and Land Allocation Programme 1990 Law on Property, 2004 Law on Protection and Development of Women 2004 World Bank Forest Carbon Partnership Facility Lao-German Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation Lao PDR National Agro-Biodiversity Programme and Action Plan II (2015-2025) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master Plan on Land Use and Management, the 7th Five-Year National Socio-Economic Action Plan (2011-2015) The UNDP project on Sustainable Forest and Land Management in the Dry Dipterocarp Forest Ecosystems of Southern Lao PDR. Integrated Disaster and Climate Risk Management Project. Effective Governance for Small-scale Rural Infrastructure and Disaster Preparedness in a Changing Climate. Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector to Climate Change Impacts Outcome 7 and 8 of the UNDAF 2012-2015 Outcome 3 and 6 of the UNDAF 2017-2021

¹² "Niche" refers to the role or contribution that the Country Programme is best fitted to perform and for which the other stakeholders agree.

Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Promotion of collective management of trans-boundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water resources are limited and becoming more and more polluted, rendering them unfit for human consumption (particularly for those are living surrounding the wetland) and also unfit to sustain the ecosystem. Taking this into account, SGP Lao PDR will focus interventions on community important wetlands management and rehabilitation, and the principal tributaries of the Mekong River, in order to balance overuse and conflicting uses of water resources. SGP Lao PDR has contributed through SGP demonstrations and innovative Mekong River Basin approaches from which at least 500 local and national government members have learned. • Law on Water and Water Resources • Integrated Water Resources Management-Based Basin Development Strategy for the Lower Mekong Basin (IWRM Strategy) • Technical Assistance for Capacity Development in Hydropower and Mining Sector Project (2010–2014) of the World Bank • The IWRM project of the Mekong funded by the World Bank • National Indicative Plan of the MRC 2011-2015 and 2016-2020 • MRC Strategic Plan 2016-2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The FAO project on Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas (CAWA). • The UNDP project on Meeting the Primary Obligations of the Rio Conventions through Strengthening Capacity to Implement Natural Resources Legislation.
Energy access co-benefits	<i>Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewable Energy Strategy to 2025 • Renewable Energy Policy and Strategy prepared in 2011 • Promotion of renewable energy particularly in locations outside the national grid system. • Promotion of energy efficient technologies particularly in urban areas and areas of dense population, and promote private partnership investment on such technologies. SGP Lao PDR has contributed to at least 300 poor households at community level using means of transportation with low-GHG. • SNV Cook stove programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UNIDO National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Project • The UNIDO project on Reducing Green House Gas Emissions in the Industrial Sector through Pelletization Technology • The Asian Development Bank's (ADB) country partnership strategy (CPS) 2012–2016 includes the energy sector. • The World Bank engagement in technical assistance and financing of energy projects

¹³ Describe only for those OP6 strategic initiatives which will be programmed by the SGP country programme.

Local to global chemicals coalitions	<i>Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern</i>	<p>Reduced use of chemicals especially through organic farming and natural dying. SGP Lao PDR has contributed through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 500 farmers receiving training on the production of bio-fertilizer and sustainable agriculture and more than 10,000 people receiving information on the negative impact of POPs. • At least 1,000 tons of bio-fertilizer produced due to projects • At least 100 hectares adapted for integrated farming and agro-forestry. • Draft Chemical Law 2016: MoIC has finished drafting a chemicals law that is scheduled to be heard by Parliament in December. It has also begun planning secondary legislation, including the implementation of GHS. It is the first time the Lao PDR has drafted comprehensive regulations on chemicals management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biosafety framework of Lao PDR. • The UNIDO project on Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)
CSO-Government dialogue platforms	<i>Enhance capacity of civil society to contribute to implementation of MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and national and sub-national policy, planning and legal frameworks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on empowering exist and new emerging CSOs by supporting them to play a role in finding local solutions to environmental issues through providing a critical source of financing, as an opportunity to strengthen the CSOs' capacity. • Provide inputs to policy makers to improve legal and policy frameworks based on successful pilots and approaches developed with CSO and CBOs. • Small CSO funding support from AFD, SDC, and DFAT • SDC CSO consortium project • EU CSO support projects/EU Non-State Actor call annually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP NGPAR programme • UNDP CSO support project for promotion of people's participation and civil society development • UNDP NA support project

Social inclusion (gender, youth, indigenous peoples)	<i>GEF Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Gender Equality Action Plan and GEF Principles for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote social inclusion including gender mainstreaming, youth involvement and indigenous peoples' fellowships • Gender-sensitive approach is one of key obligations for SGP partners/grantees. • Ensure gender-sensitivity as a priority (identifying women's needs, incorporating their concerns into project designs) • Promote and make it possible for women to have access to necessary resources and opportunities for technical training, to represent households' income generation gears, and finally voicing their concerns about livelihood improvement. • Encourage the involvement of female-headed CSOs in applying for grants and implementation projects. • Provide grants to CSOs that are sensitively considering a gender issue in terms of the position of women within the community and their needs in relation to the depletion of natural resources and degradation of environmental quality; this will be a vehicle for promoting gender equality at community levels • 2004 Law on Protection and Development of Women. • Violence Against Women Law 2014 • NCAW Strategic Plan 2011-2016 • 8th NSEDP 2016-2020 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender policies and action plans of UNDP, ADB, World Bank and its consortiums. • UN Women's projects • UNICEF gender policy • UNFPA gender policy framework • World Bank safeguard policy • Indigenous Action Plan of the World Bank projects • Indigenous Action Plan of the ADB Bank projects
Contribution to global knowledge management platforms	<i>Contribute to GEF KM efforts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SGP has made a renewed commitment to build partners/grantees capacities to effectively manage the projects. For this purpose, the SGP has organized biannual progress review meetings and established the SGP electronic exchange (six monthly meetings of projects implementation teams, through which teams working on similar focal areas in different parts of the country have the opportunity to meet at one or more meeting and directly exchange experiences and accumulated knowledge). Although such meetings are organized by the National Coordinator, the exchange of knowledge occurs directly from one project team to another, and can be considered as direct horizontal knowledge exchange. These processes will in addition encourage partners/grantees to avail of relevant opportunities. Moreover, this can also promote the visibility of the project results/learning as part of the communications strategy, partners/grantees can profit from the experience and advice of seasoned project managers, and more intensive mutual exchange is made possible. • Lao NPA Network • 8th NSEDP 2016-2020 and its monitoring framework • INGO Lao Network • Land Issue Working Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP, UNFCCC, GEF past and on-going knowledge systems. • Other donors KM platforms - Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems to Improve Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in Lao PDR, FAO. • UNDP CSO programme • RTM meeting and working groups • MPI and UN Vientiane Declaration meeting • UN-MPI SDG 2030 localization platform • UNDP NA Programme

3. OPERATIONAL PHASE 6 STRATEGIES

3.1. CROSS-CUTTING OP6 GRANT-MAKING STRATEGIES

The following are cross cutting issues, which should be considered in the OP6 grant-making strategies:

NPA/CSO-government policy and planning dialogue platforms

The SGP will support the role of Lao CSOs in the policy debate and planning platform.

The first priority is to support the Lao NPA network at Learning House. The main elements of technical assistance include training on advocacy skills, facilitation of working partnerships between Lao government agencies and Lao NPAs, enhancing self-governance of the Lao CSOs networking between national level CSOs and local level CSOs.

Secondly, the working partnership between the INGO platform and the Lao NPAs should be strengthened. SGP will facilitate and encourage more Lao NPAs to participate in the national roundtable meeting process, working groups, and sub-sector working groups. A provincial and district level CSO platform should be established with a clear operational mandate to create opportunities for policy and practice consultations at the grassroots level which complement and link with the national CSOs.

Promoting social inclusion

SGP will build the gender mainstreaming capacity of the grantees. All project proposals should include gender and social inclusion elements as cross cutting themes as important criteria for selection. During the planning and implementation phases, the recipients should ensure that they integrate gender and ethnic equality systematically throughout the project cycle management including analysis of context, goals and objectives, design and planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Global reach for citizen practice-based knowledge programme

SGP will support capacity development of the Lao NPA network to be a knowledge hub in green sector. They will act as a focal point for all information flows. The network should be trained in knowledge management and coordination skills in order to ensure that it can provide and disseminate information, knowledge products, and skills to all stakeholders.

Monitoring and coaching programmes will be organized at the provincial level to build the capacity of grass root CSOs in project cycle management and how to implement projects effectively. Stakeholder and capacity development workshops will be organized at least two times per year. The first workshop will be for project proposal review. The second workshop will be for annual grantee's reports and sharing of results.

The SGP will support the project concept with an aim to build working partnerships between Lao CSOs, Government and private sector. Key target groups will be private investors in hydropower, mining, agriculture and forestry. Gender sensitive impact evaluation will be one basis to assess the achievements, key challenges, and lesson learnt. More impact assessments and technical inputs are clearly needed. The results of impact assessments will be used as reference for improvement of future programming and for policy debate.

3.2. LANDSCAPE/SEASCAPE-BASED OP6 GRANT-MAKING STRATEGIES¹⁵

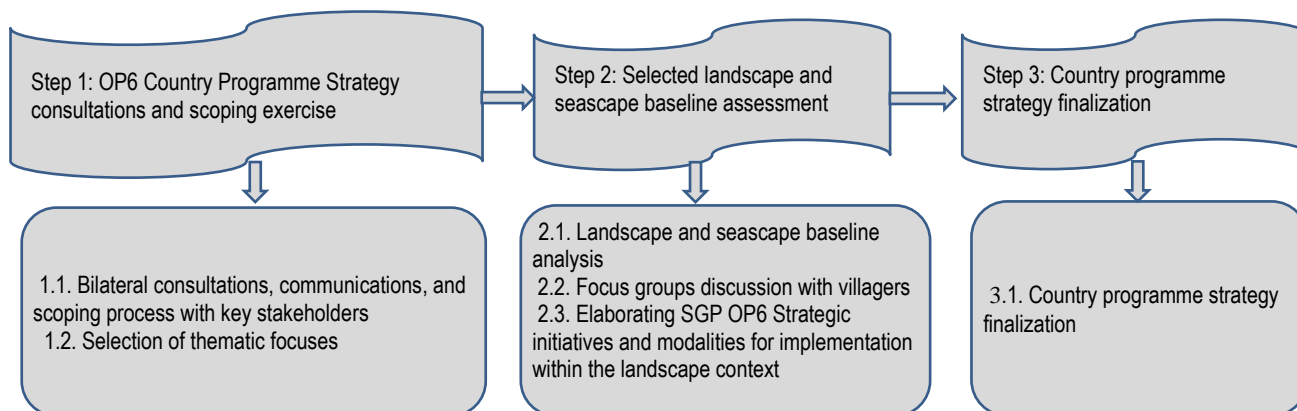
The process of Country Programme Strategy development was implemented in 3 (three) phases:

Step 1: OP6 Country Programme Strategy Consultations and Scoping Exercise

Step 2: Selected Landscape and Seascape Baseline Assessment

Step 3: Country Programme Strategy Finalization

Chart 4: Development Process of the Country Programme Strategy



The assessment team interviewed 35 organizations and consulted with 120 villagers. The main consultation areas were their past cooperation with SGP, key achievements, challenges, lesson learns and future needs. According to the GEF SGP strategic document, there are seven focal areas, including: 1) Biodiversity, 2) Climate Change, 3) Capacity building, 4) Land Degradation, 5) International waters, 6) Chemicals, and 7) Multifocal area. However, based on our review of the relevant conventions, national plans/programmes, multi-stakeholder consultations and interviewed with villagers, only 4 (four) main thematic focuses are the most important priorities for the operational phase 6 as follows:

- 1) Community landscape/seascape conservation,
- 2) Climate smart innovative agro-ecology,
- 3) Low carbon energy access co-benefits, and
- 4) Local to global chemical management coalitions

These four thematic focuses will be the framework for grant-making in OP6 and project design with locally based activities to be implemented. Below are justifications, strategic directions, and geographical areas of four landscapes.

Component 1: Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation

Promotion of high value areas conservation: Lao PDR has 24 national biodiversity conservation areas, which are under pressure from both environmental change and human activities. They are homes to many endemic species of flora and fauna. This diversity is important for maintaining both global biodiversity and ensuring the longevity of local livelihood practices. Certainly, strengthened environmental safeguards and improved planning methods are required for granting land concessions for these areas.

¹⁵ Refer to the various guidance documents on landscape/seascape selection and assessments

The SGP should promote community management of protected areas, improve biodiversity-friendly land use planning mechanisms and associated plans. The proposed projects should focus on areas of major biodiversity significance, such as Xe Pian NBCA, Nakai Nam Theun, Phou Dene Dinh, Phou Khao Khoay, Dong Ampham, Hin Namnor, Nam Chuan, Dong Hua Sao, Nam Et, Nam, Nam Kading, Nam Phoun, Phou Hin Poun, Phou Loeyum, Phou Phanang, Phou Xiang He, Phou Xiang Thong, Xe Bang Nouan, Xe Piane, and Xe Sap. There is a need to raise public, business investors (FDI) and CSO's participation in the sustainable management of protected areas and environmental concerns in the NBCAs.

Geographical areas: Nationwide

SGP OP6 Component 2: Climate Smart Innovative Agro-Ecology

Agro-biodiversity Conservation: The people of Lao PDR make use of agro-biodiversity on a daily basis. It is particularly important for rural families because it is a source of food, medicine, nutrition and income. Agro-biodiversity plays a central role in poverty reduction, enhancing the quality of rural life and sustaining ethnic cultures. The SGP should promote the conservation and sustainable utilization of threatened local plant genetic resources important to food and agriculture; support seeds and planting material of local varieties available to farmers; and promote the raising of local animals for food and agriculture, and conserve their genetic diversity. Conservation and sustainable production of local rice varieties is needed, as well as the conservation and sustainable use of medicinal plants.

Climate Smart Innovative Agro-Ecology: Climate change is a driving force for the agriculture sector. Changes in the climate have had a significant impact on agricultural production and damaged the livelihood systems. In response to these climate changes, projects and actions will be initiated that will promote climate resilience in farming systems, support the livelihoods of farmers affected by disasters from climate change, improve the capacity of small scale farmers to respond to climate change, drought and soil degradation and, finally, establish farmer's adaptation learning groups in communities. The Projects should target vulnerable farming populations with support for their access to productive resources. The purposes would be not only to help them cope in the event of climate change-triggered disasters but also to improve their socio-economic situation, particularly through diversified livelihoods schemes.

Capacity development: Climate change is a relatively new concept to the majority of citizens in the Lao PDR and the detailed understanding of scientific, political, ecological and economic consequences for mitigation and adaptation is limited to a few institutions and individuals. Therefore, the key activities will be awareness-raising for Lao citizens about the impacts of climate changes, agriculture resilience training, and increased resources to enable farmers to cope with climate changes.

For the Component 1 and 2, the SGP can work with many partners in the same geographical areas who have the same fields of interests. The possible working partners can be GIZ and the World Bank. For the target provinces and key areas of cooperation, please see the Column 7 of the list of projects and development partners.

Geographical areas: 24 national biodiversity conservation areas

SGP OP6 Component 3: Low carbon energy access co-benefits.

The Lao government's target for 2025 is to focus on the development and harnessing of renewable energy resources including: biofuels, small-scale power plants, solar, biomass, biogas, wind, and other alternative fuels for transportation. The government aims to increase the share of renewable energies up to 30 percent of the total energy consumption in 2025. Numerous ethnic groups who live in remote areas have very limited access to electricity and other sources of energy. The main energy source of rural people for fuel is wood, major use of wood as fuel is for cooking, and small-scale industrial activities. More than 80 percent of the Lao population still rely on biomass energy, especially for cooking; biomass is also used for small-scale rural industrial production. Therefore, access to renewable energy is very important for rural villages.

The project should focus on renewable energy generation and energy saving which include electrification based on renewable energies (solar, biomass); cooking or water heating solutions for household or commercial use; improved cooking ovens/stoves; energy valorization through biogas and other renewable energy types; agricultural products and by-products (wood-energy); and production of the second generation liquid biofuels from waste.

For the Component 3, the SGP can work with various local partners and private sectors. For example, the possible working partner can be SNV, which has some in Cookstove activities.

Geographical areas: Nationwide

SGP OP6 Component 4: Local to global chemical management coalitions

Agro-chemicals, particularly insecticides, are being used more frequently in Lao agricultural production. For example, banana plantations in Northern Lao PDR heavily apply some types of dangerous pesticides. Pesticide use is also threatening agro-biodiversity in the aquaculture component of these systems. Since the introduction of contract farming and scientific agriculture, farmers have used chemical substances on products grown, with inadequate awareness and information about the dangers to the growers, consumers and the environment from these chemicals. These new forms of agricultural production have called for the usage of toxic materials in crop protection without taking into account the other problems they will generate and their effects.

The SGP will support chemical risk mitigation in farming systems and promote organic farming. Lao farmers are facing serious risks from the application of chemicals in their farming practices, so that it is a high priority to build the capacity of key stakeholders and support local authorities and communities in the development of chemical management profiles. These will enable farmers to reduce the health risk from the use of pesticide in agriculture. It is important to raise awareness about the dangers of chemical use in agriculture production. Another related priority is to promote organic farming activities and development of SMEs for organic farm products.

Capacity development: The community needs to be sensitized about the dangers associated with conventional farming and the availability of alternatives to conventional farming. Interested farmers will be assisted to form common interest groups and training necessary for succeeding in alternative farming. The approach used in the training involves introductory lessons on organic farming. After this familiarization with the basic concepts, the trainees will be provided with participatory demonstrations to aid in acquiring the relevant practical skills.

For the Component 4, the SGP can work with various local partners. The possible working partner can be Lao Upland Rural Advisory Service (LURAS) project, which has been operating under the technical assistance from Helvetas. LURAS also supports the farmer's organization and promotes the organic farming and chemical free agriculture practices.

Geographical areas: Nationwide and priority will be given to the Northern provinces.

3.3. GRANT-MAKER+ STRATEGIES

3.3.1. CSO-Government Dialogue Platform

The GEF SGP will support the role of Lao CSOs in policy dialogues. The National Round Table Process is the main mechanism for implementing the Vientiane Declaration. It helps all stakeholders involved in development in the Lao PDR to work together better, for greater results toward achieving the National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSED). The Ministry of Planning and Investment leads the process, bringing government and national development agencies, United Nations' bodies, civil society organizations and the private sector together to help maximize the development impacts across the country from committed funds, time and knowledge. The Sector Working Group on Natural Resources Management (SWG-NRM) is one of the 10 thematic SWGs under the RTP. The SGP will facilitate and coordinate with this RTM to include more Lao CSOs, especially NPAs, to register as participants in the working group meetings.

In the Lao PDR, the seven NBSAP/NR Working Groups have identified activities and contributions toward the Aichi Targets. The Department of Forest and Resource Management, together with governmental institutions and international organizations, as well as national non-profits, established these working groups as follows:

- 1) Education and Research Group,

- 2) Agriculture and Forestry Group,
- 3) Social and Environmental Group,
- 4) Science and Technology Group,
- 5) Energy and Mining Group,
- 6) Culture and Tourism Group, and
- 7) Development Partners Group.

In addition to contributions from these working groups, key input was provided by several organizations engaged in environmental, biodiversity and conservation work in the Lao PDR that extend far beyond the organizations involved in the working groups.

The REDD+ taskforce is established at the national level with members from national institutions, but there are no formal mechanisms to use local experiences from pilot projects to inform the national REDD+ policy process. The SGP will help Lao CSOs to establish the local networks for policy discussions. SGP will facilitate and enhance working relationships with the government agencies. An annual public event on state and CSO working relationships will be promoted.

3.2.2. Policy influence

The GEF SGP will help Lao CSOs to develop their advocacy skills and strategic approach in order to effectively influence policy debates. Firstly, the programme has to assist Lao civil society in developing self-governance standards and mechanisms for policy engagement. The SGP will help to identify the existing capacity of self-mechanisms and network concerning their ability to plan, coordinate and advocacy skills. Then training and coaching on governance, leadership and advocacy skills will be provided to the CSO members and leaders of the network. Currently, about 157 Lao CSOs have increased their technical and organizational capacities¹⁶ thereby enabling them to develop more needs-based programmes. Some CSOs have engaged in policy and human rights dialogue, at national, regional and international levels. The GEF SGP will take leverage this opportunity to support more CSO engagements in policy dialogues.

Co-business between INGO and Lao CSOs in policy dialogue should be promoted. Currently, the INGO Network has 75 members¹⁷ and maintains a comprehensive online directory of INGO members and their projects. The INGO Network promotes the interests of, coordinates and provides services to its members in order to enhance their contribution to the development of Lao PDR and effective engagement in policy discussions. The GEF SGP will enhance working relationships between these two CSOs networks and improve advocacy skills so that they can effectively engage the Lao Government in informed discussions regarding policy changes.

3.2.3. Promoting social inclusion

SGP will develop its charter of social inclusion in order to ensure equitable access and benefits from all SGP projects for women and men, in particular the poor and those belonging to ethnic minorities. A program tool will provide a series of key questions for grantee's staff and its project partners to assess its projects with the intention to integrate gender and ethnicity equality systematically throughout the project/programme cycles, involving analysis of project context, goals and objectives, design and planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Knowledge products such as operational guidelines and policy briefs based on analyses will highlight gender issues where relevant and their relationships to conservation outcomes and lessons learned. For both women and men, climate change will require strengthened capacity to adapt, including insight about the necessity of additional activities to

¹⁶ Directory of Lao CSOs 2014, LDA: <http://www.lao4dev.org/index.php/en/downloadter/category/1-lao-csos-2014>

¹⁷ About 15 organizations are engaged in natural resources and environment sector.

counteract further environmental degradation. Gender aspects will be integrated, with their different needs, knowledge, experiences, opportunities, and development being taken into consideration.

The SGP will promote a policy dialogue partnership among policy makers faced with climate change issues and women's organizations in charge of mainstreaming gender. Developing the capacity of key stakeholders to mainstream gender into the natural resources sector will be a key priority. Replication and scaling up of gender-responsive climate change and environmental projects will be promoted.

The project will support, at least 30 percent of those involved in project activities will be women. SGP will also support gender sensitisation and awareness-raising for relevant staff, beneficiaries and local leaders. Such training will:

- (i) increase gender awareness,
- (ii) strengthen community leadership and participation skills with special emphasis on women, and
- (iii) improve decision making and empowerment skills for women beneficiaries.

The SGP will take several measures to reduce language and cultural barriers resulting from consultations only with household head and village authorities, who are mostly men. The participatory and gender sensitive approach will require ensuring the engagement of caregivers, women and young people, incentivizing village health volunteers and empowering various groups and networks such as the Lao Women's Union, farmer groups and village extension workers with knowledge and support.

The SGP will promote social inclusion, which complement to the 8th NSEDP 2016-2020, National Gender Equality Development Plan, the National Law on Preventing and Combatting Violence against Women and Children, the National Action Plan on Eliminating Violence Women and Children, and other national priorities on gender equality, including CEDAW implementation and recommendations. Ministries, institutions and organizations will need to mainstream gender into policies and programme in relevant sectors.

The SGP will promote the Community Driven Development (CDD) approach, which operates on the principles of transparency, participation, local empowerment, demand-responsiveness, greater downward accountability, and enhanced local capacity. The grant projects should collaborate with the Poverty Reduction Fund. Planning tools for community participation are available.

3.2.4. Knowledge management plan

GEF SGP Lao team should support the Lao CSOs to establish a national community of practice to support documentation, sharing and dissemination of knowledge and experiences from the action as well as networking among CSOs. The national community of practice will complement the current/existing platform of INGOs and the Lao Civil Society Network (LCN). In order to promote learning sharing and dissemination, face to face meeting and networking will be developed. In addition, email groups, Facebook, WeChat, or other social media tools should be established to connect with stakeholders. SGP should engage with CSOs through events (i.e. annual reviews and planning workshops) and publications distributed to support local and national public wider.

The Lao Civil Society/NPA-Network (LCN) is an informal network of Non-Profit Associations (NPAs) involved in development work, which coordinates with more than 100 NPAs in the Lao PDR that have been legally registered by the Ministry of Home Affairs. The LCN was set up in March 2009, with the objective of sharing information and promoting effective and efficient work practices. The LCN maintains a website and an office in Vientiane Capital. The SGP team will also coordinate with the Land Issues Working Group, which is a working group of more than 10 INGOs operating in the natural resource sector.

3.2.5. Communications Strategy

The SGP Lao team will coordinate with all stakeholders to publish the operational and financial mechanisms. A national meeting will be organized with diverse participants from non-governmental organizations, community groups, government agencies, and educational institutions. A grants support workshop will be held to help guide the participants with clear objectives and the key criteria for funding approval. In addition, due to the low capacity of CSOs at the local levels, provincial training in grant writing, and applications for funding, project design, monitoring and reporting and project management of funded projects should be organized.

The SGP Lao team should produce a grant brochure that would provide important information on the lessons learnt from the many projects undertaken by the GEF SGP. In collaboration with the SGP management team, the Lao NPA Network can assist in disseminating information about the SGP grant profile. This information is critical for capacity development and strengthening of the GEF SGP as well as the development of the work of our stakeholders and other agencies involved in capacity building for Lao civil society groups.

4.EXPECTED RESULTS FRAMEWORK

Table 4: Consistency with SGP OP6 global programme components (shaded in Gray)

1 OP6 project components	2 CPS targets	3 Activities	4 Indicators	5 Means of verification
<p>SGP OP6 Component 1: Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation:</p> <p>1.1 SGP country programmes improve conservation and sustainable use, and management of important terrestrial and coastal/marine ecosystems through implementation of community based landscape/seascape approaches in approximately 50 countries</p>	<p>Outline of proposed landscape and seascape areas of focus at the country level</p> <p>Number and typology¹⁸ of landscapes/seascapes: 1 to 3 target areas for approx. 70 percent of OP6 grant-making resources</p>	<p>Approx. # and typology of projects¹⁹</p>	<p>Target # of hectares</p> <p>Landscape/seascape baseline assessment indicators (TBD)</p> <p>See Annex 1 and 2</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>Baseline assessment comparison variables (use of conceptual models and partner data as appropriate)</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review (NSC inputs)</p>
<p>1.1.Community landscape conservation</p> <p>Outcome 1.1: Community level sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes enhanced.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the community management of protected areas 2. Biodiversity-friendly land use planning mechanisms and associated plans 3. Raise public and CSO's participation in the sustainable management of protected area. 	<p>3 pilot community based protected area projects</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 100 ha of protected area were maintained by villagers. 2. At least 10 villages have a land use plan 3. 500 villagers participated in 5 public raising awareness (40 percent females)activities 4. Two local NPAs mandated to manage 2 pilot communities protected areas. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District registration book 2. Village reports of signs/ sightings recorded in log book
<p>1.2.Promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management</p> <p>Outcome 1.2: Strengthened CSO institutional arrangements and capacity for IWRM and increase in Community Engagement in Water management</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Awareness raising on water and water resource Management. 2. Managing wetlands protect for climate change resilience. 3. Conserve and develop a watershed 4. Promote water quality and water waste management. 	<p>2 projects</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 1,200 villagers participated in 3 public raising awareness (40 percent females) 2. Proportion of population using an improved water sources. 3. A number of watersheds registered. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Report on public events. 2. The field survey reports 3. A reregister book of the local authorities

¹⁸ Typology here means the kind of landscape (mountain, low-lying plain, valley, riverine, etc.) and seascape (wetland/mangrove, river basins, bays, seagrass to corals, etc.). There could also be a combination of a landscape with a seascape (i.e. from upper watersheds to coastal mangrove, seagrass and coral ecosystems) which is actually preferred as it covers the continuum of related ecosystems and communities. For the other initiatives, typology means the practice/technology utilized such as solar, mini-hydro, wind, biogas, clean efficient stoves, etc. for energy access and co-benefits and organic farming. Silvi pasture, agroforestry, etc. for climate smart innovative agroecology.

¹⁹ The estimated number of OP6 projects should distinguish between the utilization of OP6 core grants (which can apply across GEF focal areas) and non-core GEF STAR resources (which need to be directly linked to the relevant GEF focal areas). In accordance with the GEF Steering Committee decision (March 2010), up to 20% of non-core GEF resources mobilized may be used for secondary focal areas.

1.3. Community forestry management <i>Outcome 1.3: Local people are effectively and equitably engaged in the sustainable management of forested landscapes</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish community forestry groups 2. Strengthen capacity of village forestry volunteers in forest planting, caring and management techniques 3. Awareness raising and capacity building of local communities and local authorities on sustainable forest management. 4. Promote the sustainable management of NTFPs to improve rural livelihoods. 	2 projects (one for community forestry projects and one for sustainable management of NTFP)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of CFs in the target provinces 2. Number of people participating in CF in target provinces 3. Number of hectares of forest under community-based protection and management. 4. Change in number or percent of people harvesting biodiversity resources. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management records, 2. Market surveys 3. Livelihood survey reports 4. PRA reports
1.4. Biodiversity conservation <i>Outcome 1.4: Floral, faunal, fungal and other elements of agro-biodiversity in all ecosystems in Lao PDR are effectively managed and conserved</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the conservation of species diversity 2. Support to capacity building of community based organization for biodiversity conservation. 3. Increased awareness of and education in biodiversity & ecosystem services incl. awareness of and education. 	2 projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change in presence, location, area, numbers of invasive plant or animal species 2. At least 2 strategy for species based conservation programme in place 3. 300 villagers participate in awareness raising on biodiversity conservation activities 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Survey, transect or results, patrol reports, 2. Community activity reports 3. Event reports
SGP OP6 Component 2: Climate Smart Innovative Agro-ecology: 2.1. Agro-ecology practices incorporating measures to reduce CO2 emissions and enhancing resilience to climate change tried and tested in protected area buffer zones and forest corridors and disseminated widely in at least 30 priority countries	Outline of proposed agro-ecology practices, climate resilience, including integration into priority production landscapes and seascapes	Approx. # projects	Target # of hectares Landscape/seascape baseline assessment indicators (TBD) See Annex 1 and 2	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Socio-ecological resilience indicators for production landscapes (SEPLs) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) Country Programme Strategy Review (NSC inputs)

<p>2.1.Agriculture and Climate change</p> <p><i>Outcome 2.1: Sustainable agriculture systems which improve livelihoods of upland women and men farmers and enhance and conserve biodiversity are practiced by women and men farmers</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote climate resilience in farming systems 2. Support livelihood of farmers affected by disasters influenced by climate change 3. Improve capacity of small scale farmers to respond to climate change, drought and soil degradation. 4. Establish the farmer's adaptation learning group in community 	4 projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number and percentage of poor women and men with increased income from agriculture practice. 2. Number and percentage of poor women and men with increased resilience to deal with climate changes 3. At least 100 hectares of farm land managed under climate resilient practices. 4. 150 farmers engaging in alternative livelihood activities 5. 100 farmers reflect the correct understanding of climatic change related risks to livelihoods, natural resources 6. At least 5 farmer's groups established. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District authority reports, 2. Committee Monitoring reports, and 3. Project quarterly and annual implementation reports
<p>2.2. Agro-biodiversity conservation</p> <p><i>Outcome 2.2: Traditional crop varieties, livestock breeds, agroforestry and medicinal plant species maintained and made available to farmers.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote the conservation and sustainable utilization of threatened local plant genetic resources important to food and agriculture 2. Support seed and planting material of local varieties available to farmers. 3. Raising local animals for food and agriculture and conserve their genetic diversity. 	3 projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 100 farmers grow their local plat genetic resources for foods. 2. At least 10 local seed varieties preserved by famers (40 percent female famers) 3. At least 10 local varieties animal raised by farmers (40 percent female famers) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project reports, 2. Farmer Groups' reports 3. Field survey reports
<p>SGP OP6 Component 3: Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits:</p> <p>3.1 Low carbon community energy access solutions successfully deployed in 50 countries with alignment and integration of these approaches within larger frameworks such as SE4ALL initiated in at least 12 countries</p>	<p>At least one innovative typology of locally adapted solutions demonstrated and documented</p> <p>At least (insert appropriate country target number) households achieving energy access</p> <p>Co-benefits such as resilience, ecosystem effects, income, health and others rigorously estimated²⁰</p>	Approx. # of projects	<p>Number of typologies of community-oriented, locally adapted energy access solutions with successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication</p> <p>Number of households achieving energy access with locally adapted community solutions, with co-benefits estimated and valued²¹</p>	<p>AMR, country reports</p> <p>AMR, global database, country reports</p> <p>Special country studies²²</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review (NSC inputs)</p>

²⁰ Only applies to lead countries in this strategic initiative

²¹ Only applies to lead countries in this strategic initiative

²² Only applies to lead countries in this strategic initiative

<p>3.1. Renewable energy generation and energy saving</p> <p><i>Outcome 3.1: Poor women and men are using reliable and efficient renewable energy that reduces women's time burdens and releases them to engage in other economic activities.</i></p>	<p><i>The action will support gender mainstreaming in the following energy generation and energy saving:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Electrification based on renewable energies (solar, biomass); 2. Cooking or water heating solutions for household or commercial use Improved cooking oven/stoves; 3. Energy valorization through biogas and other renewable energy types; 4. Agricultural products and by-products (wood-energy) waste; and 5. Production of first generation liquid biofuels. 	<p>3 projects (one for poor female families or female headed households and one for local business network)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 20 households used electrification based on renewable energies (solar, wind power, biomass) 2. 100 vulnerable women involved in the process of production and selling of improved stoves 3. 100 Households trained to make the improved charcoal stoves 4. Percentage of population using solid fuels for cooking 5. Vegetable oil produced from seeds or fruits of oilseeds 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Detailed household and industry energy consumption surveys 2. Project impact analysis reports 3. Producer organisation activity and training reports 4. Feedback from project partners 5. Project reports and impact analysis
<p>SGP OP6 Component 4: Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions:</p> <p>4.1 Innovative community-based tools and approaches demonstrated, deployed and transferred, with support from newly organized or existing coalitions in at least 20 countries for managing harmful chemicals and waste in a sound manner</p>	<p>Outline of innovative tools and approaches to: pesticide management solid waste management (plastics, e-waste, medical waste and so on), heavy metals management, and local to global chemical management coalitions</p>	<p>Approx. # projects</p>	<p>Target # beneficiaries (gender, youth, indigenous peoples, and disability disaggregated)</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>Strategic partnership with IPEN country partners</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p>

4.1. Chemical risk mitigation in farming system <i>Outcome 4.1: Increased use of safe pesticide among farmworkers.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support local authorities and communities to develop the chemical management profiles 2. Support to prevent health risk from the use of pesticide in agriculture. 3. Raising awareness about the dangers of chemical use in agriculture production. 4. Develop simple guideline on safe pesticide application. 	2 projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least 15 villages developed the chemical management profile 2. At least 150 farmers in banana and other crop farming trained in effective use of chemical application in their farms 3. 500 farmers participated in awareness campaign events on risk of chemical use. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project reports 2. Office statistic agriculture records 3. Business registration list 4. Event reports
4.2. Promotion of organic farming <i>Outcome 4.2: Changed attitudes and awareness of organic farming existence.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support organic farming activities 2. Support development of SME for organic farm products. 	3 projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 50 farmers practiced organic farming activities 2. At least 15 SMEs involved in organic farm products 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Field survey reports 2. Trade registration list and statistics
SGP OP6 Component 5: CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms (Grant-makers+): 5.1 SGP supports establishment of “CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms”, leveraging existing and potential partnerships, in at least 50 countries	Outline of CPS focus for “CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms” as part of expanded OP6 Grant-makers+ role	Global level OP6 priority Cross-cutting priority for the CPS at the national level	Target # “CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms*” initiated * CPS to specify thematic and/or geographic focus for platforms CSO networks strengthened if one of 25 lead countries	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams SGP Global Database Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) Country Programme Strategy Review
5.1. Building the capacity of CSOs’ advocacy role for policy debate <i>Outcome 5.1: Capacity of CBOs strengthened to support implementation of international conventions and NSED 2016-2020.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support CSO participation in existing policy debate platform 2. Develop and establish the local networks of CSOs. 3. Provide strategic support to build the institutional capacity. 4. Train a variety of types of CSOs to strengthen organisational and programmatic capacity to deliver quality services in a gender sensitive and inclusive manner to their target populations. 	1 project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 30 new joint CSO stakeholders’ events and initiatives launched. 2. 3 new networks and membership platform established 3. 3 CSOs and the public make a significant contribution to key multi-stakeholder meetings 4. At least 10 participating CSOs have improved organizational and/or programmatic capacity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agendas or minutes of round table meetings and working groups. 2. Mapping study, update of mapping study. CSOs with coordination roles in networks and working groups. 3. Official documents of partnership and cooperation agreements; 4. Coaching reports, 5. Study visit reports; and 6. Training reports

<p>SGP OP6 Component 6: Promoting Social Inclusion (Grant-makers+):</p> <p>6.1 Gender mainstreaming considerations applied by all SGP country programmes; Gender training utilized by SGP staff, grantees, NSC members, partners</p>	<p>Outline of CPS approach to social inclusion, including assumptions with regards to national content for supporting vulnerable and marginalized populations</p>	<p>Global level OP6 priority</p> <p>Cross-cutting priority for the CPS at the national level</p>	<p>Target # beneficiaries (gender, youth, indigenous peoples, and disability disaggregated)</p> <p>Target # indigenous fellows (individuals)</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>SGP Global Database</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p>
<p>6.1. Promotion of social inclusion in natural resources management</p> <p><i>Outcome 6.1: Reduced vulnerability of poor ethnic women to climate change impacts, and strengthened capacity to manage these changes.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support gender mainstreaming in NRM sector 2. Support gender mainstreaming in project cycle management 3. Organization of gender trainings for grantees 4. Promote female leadership in conservation projects 5. Support capacity building of female organizations in NRM sector 6. Preserve traditional knowledge, biodiversity and local wisdom. 7. Development of ethnic development plan in conservation projects 8. Youth media programme for environmental protection 9. Create youth environmental clubs 10. Environmental education for young children 11. Natural resources conservation youth leadership development initiative 	<p>1 project</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of community-based adaptation activities that strengthen women's access to resources for sustainable food production, renewable energy, and clean water sources. 2. NRM sector are gender sensitive with clear gender indicators 3. At least 90 percent of projects are gender sensitive. 4. At least 30 CSOs staff trained in gender sensitive planning. 5. At least 20 female leaders have leadership skills 6. At least 5 female organizations have strong advocacy capacity for NRM. 7. At least 5 Local wisdom in the production of food products preserved by different ethnic groups 8. 70 percent of conservation projects have ethnic development plan. 9. Three media programmes produced by youth broadcast or function regularly 10. Two youth environment clubs created 11. 500 young children participated in environmental raising awareness events 12. 20 youth leaders have solid leadership skills and be able to lead the conservation interventions. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NRM sector policy paper, 2. Project reports, 3. Training or workshop reports, 4. Project workplans, 5. Ethic development plans, 6. Media programme documents, and 7. Event reports

<p>SGP OP6 Component 7: Global Reach for Citizen Practice-Based Knowledge programme (Grant-makers+):</p> <p>7.1 Digital library of community innovations is established and provides access to information to communities in at least 50 countries</p>	<p>Connections between CPS and global priorities for the digital library and SSC Innovation Exchange Platform</p> <p>(i.e. examples of tested technologies, comparative advantage and experience of SGP country programme)</p>	<p>Global level OP6 priority</p> <p>SGP country teams (NC and PA) global database inputs</p>	<p>Target # of country innovations to be shared and disseminated at the global level*</p> <p>* Examples may be drawn from OP6 period, as well as earlier SGP Operational Phases (including Upgrading country programmes)</p>	<p>SGP Global Database</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p>
<p><i>7.1 Global reach for citizen practice based knowledge programme</i></p> <p><i>Outcome 7.1: Increased engagement of civil society organizations in the national development process based on an improved environment and increased operational capacities.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support the existing CSO network at national and provincial level to disseminate information, knowledge and skills in line with good environment practices. 2. Stakeholders and capacity development workshops. 3. Support for new CSOs to develop the projects and provide technical assistance during the application process for the new OP6 4. Support more co-finance projects by private sector for the environmental aspects and their motivation to take actions in environment protection. 5. Documentation of the lesson learnt and experiences of the past GEF SGP for the future multiplication effects and sustainability of the actions. 	<p><i>1 project for networking enhancement</i></p> <p><i>1 project for partnership with private sectors</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Two contracts with the existing CSO network to disseminate information and exchange on best and worst practices in environmental issue 2. 10 projects using mentoring and coaching approach 3. One workshop for proposal development review at central level 4. One workshop for annual grantee's reporting and/or sharing workshops at central level 5. 30 coaching and mentoring sessions held 6. 200 participants attended the workshops 7. 15 private companies involved in projects 8. 20percent business contribution and co-financing 9. 10 good practices and ten worst practices 10. 30 published materials 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Documentation of lesson learnt report 2. Individual project reporting by SGP country teams 3. SGP Global Database 4. National and local network reports 5. Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 6. Country Programme Strategy Review

5. MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN

A Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) plan will be developed at the beginning of the phase. The Logframe will be the main tool for M&E activities. Result-based management is adopted in SGP M&E activities. M&E plans are developed to keep track of progress and results, in order to make decisions and revisions in a timely manner. As far as possible, objectively verifiable indicators for the programme outcomes have been designed using results from the previous phase and the Government counterpart data. Monitoring data will be updated continually, and an internal note summarising progress against key indicators will be circulated at least every six months.

The programme will be strategically directed by a National Steering Committee (NSC). The NSC will oversee the overall implementation of the SGP. Using the existing structure, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment will act as secretariat. This will involve coordination with grantees and relevant ministries and cooperation with international stakeholders to access finance and capacity building for the implementation of the SGP. The NSC will meet every six months to validate resource allocation decisions. The Steering Committee provides a mechanism to assess progress towards programme goals on a semi-annual basis. An annual review meeting will be undertaken to make sure that the programme implementation is on track. An annual country report will be sent to the global team once a year. A final strategic country portfolio review will be undertaken after the end of programme implementation.

At the project level, the Project M&E plan is required for SGP approved project proposals with detailed activities, outputs, outcomes, timeframe and SMART indicators for assessment. Gender and social inclusion have to be important elements of the M&E system in all projects. Data collection, analysis and reporting will be gender-disaggregated.

Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation approaches must be adopted by the grant recipients. This will mean that full participation of local communities and disadvantaged groups including ethnic female and youth have to be ensured. Their voices and concerns need to be heard and taken into consideration for project management and policy debate. Regular project site visits are scheduled on a quarterly basis throughout the project timeframe.

An individual grantee will submit two progress reports describing completed activities, encountered problems and difficulties, assessments of project achievements based on indicators and expended resources. The National Coordinator and members of the NSC will conduct a monitoring visit for each site. Regular follow up through different communication media (via e-mail, phone calls, skype, or other media) is critically important for project monitoring. A joint field visit with co-financers will be promoted to monitor the project activities at the field level.

Project evaluation towards the end of the project implementation should focus on assessment of project performance and results in light of stated project objectives, what has been learnt from the project, how the CSO/NPAs are doing and how performance can be improved. The second progress report should highlight predicted final project effects, and any adjustments that are required to the project design. The grantee has to submit the final evaluation report which will include final results and lessons learnt that could be applied to enhance future projects effectiveness, and improve the functioning of the organization; assessments of the potential sustainability of gains made through the programme; involvements of women and men in the project design, implementation and evaluation, and other project activities.

There is a need for M&E training for independent evaluation teams and experts to ensure a good understanding of GEF and SGP strategic priorities and approaches. M&E and result-based management are among the key agenda items of SGP trainings on project management. M&E will have sufficient funding in project budgets to ensure the effective M&E.

Project technical guidelines, a key project product, will be developed based on the results of the project demonstrations/pilots, which will require a thorough and comprehensive monitoring of the technical aspects of the project. Project midterm and final reports will be shared with key stakeholders, especially with the local communities in order to promote ownership.

There is a need to carry out the programme impact evaluation after the completion of the GEF SGP. Key information

and data sources should be drawn from all project reports. The project results should be collected, analyzed and systemized by themes. Together with the impact evaluation findings from the field, the synthesized report of the entire programme should be produced and submitted to the Global programme.

Table 5: M&E Plan at the Country Programme Level				
M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible parties	Budget source	Timing
Country Programme Strategy elaboration	Framework for identification of community projects	NC, NSC, country stakeholders, grantee	Covered under preparatory grant	At start of operational phase
Annual Country Programme Strategy Review	Learning; adaptive management	NC, NSC, CPMT	Covered under country programme operating costs	Reviews will be conducted on annual basis to ensure CPS is on track in achieving its outcomes and targets, and to take decisions on any revisions or adaptive management needs.
NSC Meetings for ongoing review of project results and analysis	Assess effectiveness of projects, portfolios, approaches; learning; adaptive management.	NC, NSC, UNDP	Covered under country programme operating costs	Minimum twice per year, one dedicated to M&E and adaptive management at the end of grant year.
Annual Country Report (ACR) 23	Enable efficient reporting to NSC	NC presenting to NSC	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per year in June
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 24 Survey (based on ACR)	Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF; presentation of results to donor	NC submission to CPMT	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per year in July
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	Learning; adaptive management for strategic development of Country Programme	NSC	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per operational phase

²³ The country programme should be reviewed in consultation with the NSC members, national Rio Convention focal points, and the associated reporting requirements. The Annual Country Report should be presented at a dedicated NSC meeting in June each year to review progress and results and take decisions on key adaptive measures and targets for the following year.

²⁴ The AMR Survey will essentially draw upon information presented by the country in the Annual Country Report (ACR) with few additional questions. It will enable aggregation of country inputs by CPMT for global reporting.

6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN

In 2015 the Lao PDR attracted USD 3.7 billion in ODA flows. ODA flows financed 892 projects that spanned across 10 sectors, including agriculture and rural development; infrastructure; health; education; natural resources and environment; governance, trade and private sector, UXO, economics; and illicit drug control. The most attractive sectors were agriculture and rural development, infrastructure, health and education. Coordinated lobbying of other donors to increase the funding to support natural resource conservations should be a priority. Resources will be mobilized to implement initiatives that promote coherence and efficiency of UN operations such as strengthening of programme management, coordination and accountability mechanisms.

The UNDP and Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) have updated their donor directory which will include relevant addresses of organisations, instruments and thematic heads under which these institutions fund programmes and projects, and their areas of interest for funding. SGP Lao PDR will seek the opportunity to build partnership with these international organizations and bilateral agencies. The National Coordinator and project partners will interact with on-going projects and determine possibilities of project implementations where SGP can act as a co-financing partner in order to achieve maximum impact on the environment, community and CSO development.

SGP Lao PDR will strengthen working partnerships and networking with its strategic partners at national and local levels, for effective programme and project implementation. Within similar target areas and activities, SGP will cooperate with national environmental NGOs to mobilize funding from donors to support NGOs/CBOs environmental work at the local levels, promoting replication and upscaling of successful models. SGP Lao PDR will maintain close contact with key donors. SGP Lao PDR will strengthen partnerships with national environmental NGOs to mobilize their human resources for assistance to limited CBOs in project management.

SGP Lao PDR will provide financial support and technical assistance to strengthen networks among the grantees and local NGOs, focusing on local initiatives' and CSOs' inclusion in the round table meeting, sector and sub-sector working groups, INGOs Platform, and Lao NPA network. These networks will served as good forums for CSOs to share information and lessons learnt, to raise the voice of community concerns on relevant policies, and to advocate CSOs' work in natural resources and environmental areas. By doing this, SGP Lao PDR will enhance CSOs' contributions to policy advocacy and mobilize more resources for project implementations at the ground level.

SGP Lao PDR will focus on partnership and co-funding opportunities from both traditional and non-traditional sources. The SGP Lao PDR should do an assessment of interests and priorities of international donors and development agencies and identify opportunities for partnership and co-financing with other projects.

Alternatively, the grantees should coordinate with other partners in order expand co-financing by mainstreaming their SGP projects with different national strategies related to GEF areas. Grantee should also explore opportunities for complementarity and cost sharing with state-funded projects and initiatives at the local level.

The SGP Lao team can also coordinate with private sector for co-financing as part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR). These natural resource base projects from private investors are mainly from mining and hydropower projects.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

7.1 Identified risks, estimate the degree and probability of risk, and describe risk mitigation measures

Table 6: Description of risks identified in OP6			
Describe identified risk	Degree of risk (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Risk mitigation measure foreseen
Low local capacity limits quality livelihoods options development	Low	Medium	PO6 has added a capacity building element to improve local actors' ability to participate in livelihoods development.
Local officials fail to support and follow developed plans	Medium	Medium	Involvement of local officials from the beginning of the project in order to encourage their ownership over the process and increase their ability and commitment to support the resulting plans
Lack of consultation with various local stakeholders	Medium	Medium	Local consultations with project partners are compulsory during the proposal development.
FDI and other investments overpower land access/concession and land grabbing	Medium	Medium	Building strong local participation and practical understanding of plans and their link to improved livelihoods increases resistance to more destructive land allocation.
Even a solid and normally-convincing evidence base fails to gain attention and appreciation from policy makers because of competing interests	Low	Medium	Project will target various decision-makers in different ministries, working with receptive key individuals and leveraging this work, partially by working in coalitions, to impact more decision-makers.
Low capacity of CSO/NPAs to delivery project activities	Low	Low	Additional technical capacity building supports in project planning and management should be prepared and coordinated
Weak governance and no transparency	Low	Low	Carry out organizational capacity assessments in all grantees; risk mitigation should be prepared.
Low participation from disadvantaged groups	Medium	Low	Promote gender sensitive approaches and provide technical support to grantees including guidelines and other working tools
Decline in Government support for project objectives if it perceives sensitive themes as a threat.	Medium	Low	Engaging constructively with a wide range of Government stakeholders, providing flexible and responsive support.

The risk assessment and risk mitigation plan will be introduced as compulsory in project proposals for grant decision making. The NSC will evaluate the potential risk and quality of the risk management plan and will instruct grantees based on the findings. High risk project proposals will not be considered unless the applicants can clearly identify possible and concrete mitigation plans.

8.NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

Note: The signature of endorsement at this point is for the complete and final CPS duly reviewed by the NSC and agreed upon as the guide for the implementation of OP6 by the SGP Country Programme.

NSC members involved in OP6 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
(Add more rows as necessary)	

ANNEX 1: LIST OF PROJECTS AND DONORS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Name of Organizations	Name of Projects	Target group	Budget (USD)	Duration	Partnership opportunities for complementarity and synergy within the landscape area
1	The Government of Germany	Hin Nam No II http://www.hinnamno.org/about-hin-nam-no/background.html	Khammuane	8,601,712	01/12/2013 - 30/11/2016	Landscape management and conservation plan
2	The Government of Germany	Promotion of Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (PROFLEGT) https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/27520.html	National level	7,664,860	01/09/2013 - 28/02/2018	FLEGT and REDD+ processes (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation).
3	The Government of Germany (through KFW)	Integrated Conservation of Biodiversity and Forests (Integrated Conversation of Biodiversity and Forests) http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pagelId=2~activityId=9313~language=en	Khammuane, Bokeo Luangnamtha	370,223	19/02/2014 - 28/02/2021	Effective management of selected target landscapes (comprising NPAs and corridors) sustaining biodiversity in forest ecosystems, while supporting livelihoods of forest-dependent communities.
4	The Government of Germany	Promotion of Climate-related Environmental Education (ProCEED-II) https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/17458.html	National level	5,046,045	01/10/2014 - 30/09/2017	Capacity development in areas of environmental education and communication.
5	The Government of Germany	Climate Protection through Avoided Deforestation (CLiPAD-II) https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/17463.html	Huaphanh Xayaboury	4,541,440	01/10/2014 - 30/09/2018	Forest conservation and REDD+ measures
6	The Government of Germany	Land Management and Decentralised Planning in Lao PDR (LMDP) https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/31066.html	Central Administration Northern region Southern region	8,481,764	01/01/2015 - 31/12/2017	Capacity development of land management
7	The Government of Germany/GIZ	(GIZ)-Integrated Rural Development Programmeme in the Poverty Regions of Lao PDR-(NU-IRDP II) http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pagelId=2~activityId=11214~language=en	Vientiane capital and Northern region of Lao PDR	6,120,588	01/07/2013 - 31/10/2015	Coordination of the various national forest policy initiatives, in particular the FLEGT and REDD+ processes.
8	The Government of the United States	871981102334 USAID ENVIRONMENT LEAF Lowering Emissions in Asia's Forests	National level	2,000,000	20/01/2011 - 01/01/2016	Forest and land management practices and reduce carbon emissions for land use;

		http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageld=2~activityId=11094~language=en				regional knowledge sharing on innovative experiences.
9	The Government of the United States	871981102333 USAID ENVIRONMENT ARREST Asia's Regional Response to Endangered Species Trafficking http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageld=2~activityId=11119~language=en	National level	700,000	01/04/2011 - 01/03/2016	To combat illegal wildlife trade by strengthening law enforcement capacity, reducing consumer demand, and promoting regional cooperation.
10	The Government of the United States	871981102337 USAID ENVIRONMENT Mekong-ARCC: Mekong Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change http://www.mekongarcc.net/	National level	2,300,000	26/09/2011 - 01/02/2016	Biodiversity conservation and forestry, climate change, and clean energy.
11	The Government of the United States	871981102338 USAID ENVIRONMENT Asia Pacific Climate Change Adaptation Project Preparation Facility - ADAPT http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageld=2~activityId=11096~language=en	National level	500,000	27/09/2011 - 01/09/2016	Sector working groups and networking in natural resource management
12	The Government of the United States	Senior Leadership Programme - USAID - Creating an enabling environment that helps to strengthen/support efforts toward sustainability and inclusion. http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageld=2~activityId=11083~language=en	National level	200,000	30/09/2011 - 30/09/2016	Focus on disability and rehabilitation issues, mainly creating an enabling environment that helps to strengthen efforts towards sustainability and inclusion.
13	The Government of the United States	871981998268 USAID ENVIRONMENT Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageld=2~activityId=9775~language=en	National level	500,000	01/10/2013 - 30/09/2016	Capacity development to mitigate adverse environmental and social impacts of development projects.
14	The Government of the United States	871981998264 USAID ENVIRONMENT Private Financing Advisory Network-Asia PFAN-Asia http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageld=2~activityId=11098~language=en	National level	266,200	02/06/2014 - 30/09/2018	Technical assistance and training activities for local developers of small- and medium-sized clean energy projects.
15	The Government of Switzerland	Rights-LINK Lao Project (Rights-Land, Information, Networking, and Knowledge), Phase 2 http://rightslinklao.org/?lang=en	Vientiane Capital	2,322,118	01/06/2012 - 31/05/2016	Forest governance and legal information.
16	The Government of Switzerland	The Agro-biodiversity Initiative (TABI), Phase 2 http://www.tabi.la/	Northern provinces		1.07.2012 – 30.06.2016	Agro-biodiversity conservation and livelihoods improvement
17	The Government of	RECOFTC-Center for People and Forest: Enhancing	National level	904,108	06/12/2013 -	Securing community forestry; enhancing

	Switzerland	Community Access to Land and Forest Resources http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageId=2~activityId=11467~language=en			30/09/2018	livelihoods and markets; people, forests and climate change; and transforming forest conflicts.
18	The Government of Switzerland	Mekong Region Land Governance http://mrlg.org/about-us/Lao PDR/	National level	11,173,504	23/03/2014 - 31/03/2018	Communal land registration and titling; Collecting of information related to communal land registration and titling in Mekong countries.
19	The Government of Switzerland and EU	CEGGA (Citizen Engagement for Good Governance, Accountability and Rule of Law)	National level	15,000,000	01.06.2016 - 31.05.2020	Capacity development of CSO in Lao PDR
20	The Government of Australia	Australian support for improving Mekong Water Resource Management http://dfat.gov.au/aid/topics/investment-priorities/agriculture-fisheries-water/water-resource-management/Pages/water-resource-management.aspx	National level	15,068,991	08/06/2009 - 30/06/2018	Integrated Water Resources Management and River basin organizations. Strengthen social and environmental standards associated with development activities in the river basin; build civil society's capacity for involvement in water planning and management.
21	Government of Finland (SUFORD-AF)	Scaling-up Participatory Sustainable Forest Management Project SUPSFM/TA http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageId=2~activityId=9820~language=en	National level	4,355,138	14/10/2013 - 15/12/2018	Forest governance, mitigation of climate change and protection of biodiversity
22	World Bank	Nam Theun 2 Social and Environment Project http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/loans-credits/2005/03/31/lao-pdr-nam-theun-2-social-and-environment-project	Borikhamxay , Xiengkhuang	20,000,000	10/06/2005 - 31/12/2017	Resettlement of affected communities and restoration of their livelihoods; wildlife management on the plateau and building the government's environmental management capacity
23	World Bank	Forest Investment Programme (FIP)	National level	20 - 30 millions	2012 onward	Protecting Forests for Ecosystem Services and Scaling-up Participatory Sustainable Forest Management
24	World Bank	Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF)	12 provinces	65 millions	2016-2022	Inclusive community development approach in small infrastructure project including water resource activities.
25	World Bank	Lao PDR Social and Environment Project 2 (merged with Protected Area and Wildlife Project; P128393) http://www.worldbank.org/projects/P128393/strengthening-protection-management-effectiveness-wildlife-protected-areas?lang=en	Khammuane, Savannakhet, Xiengkhuang, Huaphanh, Luangnamtha	18,200,000	14/05/2014 - 30/06/2021	Communities and stakeholders' capacity development to conserve NPAs and protect wildlife.
26	Asian Development Bank	Small Town Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project http://www.adb.org/projects/36339-022/main#project-pds	National level	23.00 million	06/03/2009 - 31/12/2017	Water supply and sanitation

27	Asian Development Bank	Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project http://www.adb.org/projects/45301-002/main#project-pds	National level	35.00 million	11/10/2013 – 31/03/2022	Water supply and sanitation.
28	Asian Development Bank	L3041-LAO: Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Project http://www.adb.org/projects/45301-002/main#project-pds	Bokeo; Huaphanh Luangnamtha Xayaboury	32,288,000	07/11/2013 - 31/03/2022	Improved nonrevenue water management and water supply development.
29	Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA - Capacity Development Project for Improvement of Management Ability of Water Supply Authorities http://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/Lao_PDR/012/index.html	National level	3,480,082	01/08/2012 - 01/08/2017	Water supply access and management
30	Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA - Project for Improving Secondary School Environment in Southern Province http://www.jica.go.jp/Lao_PDR/english/index.html	Champasak Savannakhet Sekong	10,459,370	01/05/2014 - 31/08/2016	Environmental education and human resource training
31	Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA - Participatory Land and Forest Management Project for Reducing Deforestation (PAREDD) http://www.jica.go.jp/project/english/Lao_PDR/006/	Luangprabang	6,84,240	24/08/2014 - 24/08/2015	Forest and land management
32	Japan International Cooperation Agency	JICA-Project for Urban Water Environment Improvement in Vientiane Capital http://www.jica.go.jp/Lao_PDR/english/index.html	Vientiane Capital	1,874,994	01/10/2014 - 01/09/2017	Environmental education and human resource training
33	The Government of Japan	Embassy of Japan - GGP, The Project for Construction of Water Supply Systems in Sankeo Village, Xiengkhouang District http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pageId=2~activityId=11387~language=en	Xiengkhuang	35,730	19/11/2015 - 18/11/2016	Water and Sanitation
34	Japan International Volunteer Center	Natural Agriculture in Development http://www.directoryofngos.org/ingo2/ngo&id=36	(Atsaphone and Phine) in Savannakhet Province (30 villages)	100,000	In Lao PDR Since:1989	Community based natural resource management and Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) at the village level.
35	Korea International Cooperation Agency	Empowerment and Capacity Building Project of Souphanouvong University, Lao PDR http://www.koica.go.kr/english/aid/sector_education/index.html	Luangprabang	3,000,000	30/12/2014 - 31/12/2017	Gender mainstreaming in various fields.

36	UNDP	Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector to Climate Change Impacts	Sayaboury Province: Phiang and Paklai Districts Savannakhet Province: Outhumphone and Champhone Districts	12,163,998	May 2012 - October 2015	Climate Change Training and Agriculture Adaptation Modules and Adaptive agricultural practices such as frog raising, duck raising, native chicken raising, pig raising, onion growing etc.
37	UNDP	Poverty Environment Initiative: Phase II	Vientiane Capital, Oudomxay, Phongsaly, Huaphan, Saravan, Savannakhet and Vientiane	4,349,851	October 2012 - December 2016	Increased CSO involvement with the Social Impact Assessments and Initial Environmental Examination impacting the approval process for hydropower, agriculture plantation and mineral sectors.
38	UNDP	Integrated Disaster and Climate Risk Management	Xayaboury and Xiengkhouang	860,000	May 2013 - December 2016	Drafting Lao PDR's gender-sensitive Disaster and Climate Change Law, the UNDP has partnered with the Red Cross Federation.
39	UNDP	Effective Governance for Small-scale Rural Infrastructure and Disaster Preparedness in a Changing Climate Project	Saravan and Sekong	4,980,000	May 2013 - Dec 2016	District Development Fund guidelines to integrate climate resilience into the planning process of climate change preparedness and disaster risk reduction projects.
40	The European Union	Clean Water and Sanitation for life http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pagelid=2~activityid=9822~language=en	Sekong, Thateng district	303,630	01/10/2013 - 30/09/2015	Water and Sanitation
41	The European Union	Participation of Remote Ethnic Groups for Good Forest Governance http://amp.mpi.gov.la/aim/viewActivityPreview.do~public=true~pagelid=2~activityid=11010~language=en	Khammuane, Luangnamtha Oudomxay, Phongsaly Champasack, Sekong	412,314	01/04/2014 - 30/09/2016	Forest governance and NTFP
42	Committee De Cooperation Avec Le Lao PDR	SDC: Watershed Conservation and Community Development Project in Nam Phaak upper watershed.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Market access for forest products and maintaining a rich natural environment and contributing to public health.
43	WILDLIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY (WCS)	Nam Et Phou Louey National Protected Area Management and Tiger Conservation Project http://programmes.wcs.org/Lao/PDR/About-Us/Staff/ProjectId/682.aspx	Bolikhamxay, Nam Theun NPA Nam Et-Phou Louey NPA , Savannakhet	N/A	In Lao PDR since the early 1990's	Conservation awareness raising and supports the livelihoods of villagers.
44	Global Environmental Fund	PCB Management and Disposal at the Energy Sector in Lao PDR	National level	6,000,000	10/07/2014 - 31/07/2018	Laboratory facility and capacity; improper management of the used and obsolete transformers and dielectric capacitors;

ANNEX 2: KEY TARGETS FOR 8TH NSEDP 2016-2020

- 1) The poverty rate decreases to 15 percent by 2020: The number of poor families is no more than 7 percent by 2020. The number of poor villages is less than 10 percent of the total number of villages. The number of remaining poor districts is lower than 15 percent of the total number of districts.
- 2) Development of the national master plan on land use and complete the comprehensive land allocation in 18 provinces, 92 districts and 3,455 villages.
- 3) Produce village plans of land allocation for 50 percent of the remaining villages in rural areas.
- 4) Issue 500,000 land titles in the provincial municipal districts within in five years and register 1.4 million of land plots.
- 5) Achieve 70 percent forest coverage of the total country by 2020, or complete the forest classification, identification and reforestation to achieve forest cover 70percent of total country area by restoring natural forests in 1.5 million hectares and planting trees in 35,000 hectares of protected and conservation forests.
- 6) Develop forest management, protection and restoration plans for seven protected areas.
- 7) Conduct land surveys and allocation; establish mechanisms and databases on mineral resources to determine the domestic and export potential of raw materials.
- 8) Manage water resources based on integrated water resources management principles in ten priority river basins for development.
- 9) Complete scoping research on hydrological, physical and chemical properties, classification of water types, the use of surface water, underground water, reservoirs and river mapping to ensure inclusive and sustainable water allocation in order to protect the ecosystem.
- 10) Pilot the establishment of two model national natural parks (Nam Att - Phou Leuy and Nakai Nam Theun).
- 11) Establish mechanisms to manage and monitor the national environmental quality by setting up one national level and three regional level water research laboratories; establish three regional stations to monitor air quality.
- 12) Complete a concept note and mechanisms for establishment of green and clean cities, and pilot it in the cities of provincial municipalities and in important districts along Route No.13 and the Mekong.
- 13) Develop green and sustainable rural areas by building management systems, reducing waste and toxic chemicals, and installing integrated wastewater treatment systems in provincial municipalities and the capital.
- 14) Increase the proportion of private land users with informed consent of the people.
- 15) Complete land mapping to assess land prices in 100 districts nationwide
- 16) Establish and improve the station networks and warning systems of the six priority river basins.
- 17) Establish and improve forecast stations for all international and domestic airports in the country.
- 18) Establish a management and prevention plan against natural disasters (systems for early warning, response, assistance, emergency evacuation, and assets and recovery systems).
- 19) Establish a system to prevent and manage the safety of people across the country against disasters in a timely manner.
- 20) Improve two earthquake-warning stations and establish five new stations in the northern region.
- 21) Establish mechanisms and strengthen capacity for climate change adaptation; reduce the impact of disasters; provide comprehensive emergency response assistance to natural disasters; reduce GHG emissions resulting from changes in land use and forestry, agriculture sector, energy sector, industrial and environment sector; and integrate work on climate change adaptation into priority sectors (health, agriculture, forestry, water and public health).
- 22) Establish a national fund for prevention and a national fund for climate change research as key financial mechanisms in response to climate change impacts and to conduct a study in vulnerable areas to disasters (sensitive areas to the climate change) and promote research and innovation in the sector.
- 23) Complete medium and long-term National Adaptation Plans on Climate Change (NAP) and provincial plans in three provinces and 15 districts.

- 24) Mainstream adaptation to climate change adaptation in at least three sectors: water resources, agriculture and public health.
- 25) Publish the Third National Communications on Climate Change (TNC) and develop the GHG Emission Reduction Plan for specific sectors (land use and forestry, agriculture, energy, industry and waste management).
- 26) Establish guidelines to incorporate relevant processes on projects for reducing GHG in light of NAMA, JCM, REDD+.
- 27) Prepare Lao PDR to access funds on international climate change.
- 28) Produce a disaster risk reduction plan for eight provinces, 45 cities and 160 villages, as well as one national and at least two local level readiness and response plans.
- 29) Establish and develop a National Emergency Coordination and Command Center and ICT System for statistical data on disasters and climate change.
- 30) Ensure the proportion of women leadership and decision-making level positions in the party, Government and mass organizations is 20 percent or above.
- 31) Increase the number of female members of the National Assembly by 30 percent.
- 32) Increase the number of women in leadership positions in the Party-Government organizations and mass organizations by at least 30 percent.
- 33) Fertility rate of young women between 15-19 years reduced to 90 percent.
- 34) Increase the proportion of villages that apply gender equality policy and are violence free at the household level, particularly violence against women and children, to 80 percent.
- 35) Increase the number of female farmers who receive vocational and technical trainings and training on new technologies to 45 percent of all trainees.
- 36) Achieve gender equality in services such as education, health and social welfare, with at least 40 percent of the total number of service providers being women.
- 37) Ensure gender equality in opportunities for business for their livelihood including land, capital, technical upgrading on new technology and infrastructure (electricity, roads and markets).
- 38) Reduce discrimination and violence against women.
- 39) Ensure women participation in decision making at family and community.
- 40) Increase the proportion of women who receive political training to 80 percent.
- 41) Increase the proportion of LWU members who are educated in political theory, constitutions, laws, treaties, international agreements relating to the development and protection of women, gender equality, and national traditions and culture to 80 percent;
- 42) Increase LWU membership to 70 percent of women of 15 years old and older.
- 43) Establish LWU committee in 20 percent of the total business units – private sector.
- 44) Promote women to management level positions .at village (10 percent), district (15 percent), provincial (15-20 percent) and central Government department (30 percent) levels.
- 45) In sectors where women account for more than half, promote women position to account for 40 percent or more in the leadership - management level;
- 46) Increase the proportion of female students graduating from secondary school to 85 percent.
- 47) Encourage poor women to access health services to reduce maternal and child mortality rates.
- 48) Increase the proportion of poor women with vocational education, skills and stable employment to generate income.
- 49) Establish LWU Fund in 25 percent of total LWUs at each level to improve the livelihood of women and families.
- 50) Ensure all Lao PDR youth in the armed forces and government officials are educated on political thinking.
- 51) Produce the Lao Youth members, juveniles and general young students by 80 percent
- 52) Produce members of Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, juvenile and other youth at grassroots level by 60 percent.
- 53) Improve and expand the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union, establish and strengthen the unions and associations to be able to lead, educate and consolidate youths, juveniles and Lao youth of ethnicities.

ANNEX 3: NATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS PER AICHI TARGETS²⁵.

Aichi Target 1. Awareness

- The Dongdok Nature Society, under the NUoL Faculty of Forestry, has undertaken awareness campaigns in nature conservation (From Research & Education Group)
- Awareness raising activities have been conducted in schools within the Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area (Project Anoulak)
- Training has been conducted on the importance of biodiversity and forest ecosystem services as part of all Project activities (BCC Project – ADB)
- Videos have been shown on National TV highlighting subprojects and promoting ABD in the rural development process (TABI-MAF)
- An Agro-Biodiversity Calendar has been produced and distributed, promoting the value of ABD to livelihoods and environment (TABI)
- In collaboration with LWU and LFNC, 70 villages in Houaphan Province (Houameuang district and Xam Neua district) participated in an FPIC process related to climate change and the role of forests in mitigating climate change (GIZ CliPAD)
- Ministry of Education has developed curriculum that focus on environment. Students have studied this subject from primary school until university. (From Research & Education Group)
- Provincial officers have been provided with training on the importance of plant biodiversity. (From MoST)
- A botanical, biodiversity, and conservation curriculum is offered to students at the Faculty of Science, NUoL (Education group)
- Local curriculum has been developed and used based around ABD and biodiversity (TAB-DoE Xieng Khouang)
- Capacity building in the area of environmental education and awareness has been implemented for DEQP/MoNRE, for semi-state actors (Mobile Conservation Unit, Faculty of Forestry, National University of Lao PDR) and non-state actors (Civil Society Organisation, Volunteers) (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- The Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) has developed curriculum with an environmental focus Targeted at students from primary school level until university (From Research & Education Group)
- Specific teaching modules on environmental issues have been adapted from Indonesia and are currently being tested in pilot schools (MoNRE/DEQP, NRIES/MoES, Hans Seidel Foundation)
- Capacity Building for LWU and LFNC at national, provincial, and district level has been implemented to enable them to act as facilitators regarding climate change and forestry topics at the village level as part of an FPIC process (GIZ CliPAD)
- REDD related awareness/ training materials and a first training for provincial/ district staff was conducted and outreach activities in 14 villages near NEPL NPA were conducted (CliPAD- FC, DFRM /MoNRE)
- MICT, together with other relevant sectors have undertaken awareness activities regarding the positive and negative impacts of tourism, to provincial and district levels (From MICT)
- A herbicide awareness raising and management programme has been implemented in 3 Provinces: Xieng Khouang, Houaphanh and Luang Prabang. (TABI-PAFO-MAF/DoA)
- Comprehensive environmental education and awareness tours covering topics of forest protection, biodiversity conservation, wildlife conservation and co-management of National Protected Areas have been regularly conducted in villages in the provinces of Khammouane, Houaphan, and Sayaboury. Methods used include theatre, puppetry, games, learning and discussion groups, as well as village cinema (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- Environmental Education and Awareness tours covering the topics of Forest Protection, Biodiversity Conservation, Wildlife Conservation and Co-Management of National Protected Areas are being regularly conducted to sensitize governmental authorities on how to promote environmental

²⁵ Fifth National Report to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

conservation and protection – particularly in the provinces of Khammouane, Houaphan, and Sayaboury (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)

- Environmental education and awareness raising events have been conducted in Vientiane Capital during national festivities – That Luang Festival and Boat Racing Festival (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- Environmental and biodiversity photo competitions and exhibitions are frequently organized by several partners, including ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP
- Flyers, brochures and posters on topics such as Forest Protection, Biodiversity Conservation, Wildlife Conservation and Co-Management of National Protected Areas have been disseminated (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- An inventory and e-repository of environmental education and awareness activities has been established (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- A biannual DEQP Environmental Newsletter and a ProCEEEd newsletter has been written to inform relevant government authorities about environmental and environmental education and awareness activities of DEQP/MoNRE (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- World Environment Day and Tree Planting Day are annually celebrated by DEQP/MoNRE and its local line agencies
- MAF distributed 18 sets (total 640) of environmental awareness posters related to agriculture, fisheries and forestry to government agencies within two provinces (ABP project)
- International Biodiversity Day (2015) was celebrated by holding a press conference with speeches from heads of
- MoNRE (DRFM), UNDP, FAO, and IUCN (ABP project)
- Awareness and training related to village forestry, alternative livelihoods, agriculture/ livestock were provided to district authorities in 70 target villages (training for district staff and awareness to target villages provided related to livestock, low carbon and marketing of NTFP provided in no. 70 of 70 villages. 2 study tours related to livestock for district staff/ farmers conducted) (CliPAD- FC, DFRM /MoNRE)
- In 2015, the National Strategy on Environmental Education and Awareness of Lao PDR and the corresponding Action Plan have been revised and updated. (Promotion of Climate related Environmental Education – ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- DEQP/MoNRE acts as the focal point for Environmental Education and, together with the Ministry of Education and Sports. represented Lao PDR in the ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education yearly meetings
- The Lao PDR hosted the ASEAN Working Group on Environmental Education meeting in 2013
- Training on environmental journalism has been conducted for print, radio and TV journalists (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- Lao National TV, Lao National Radio, and Khammouane Provincial Radio have been supported in the production of environmental magazines to encourage more frequent, accurate, and effective reporting of biodiversity issues (ProCEEEd. MoNRE/DEQP)
- National newspapers are provided with information and articles on topics like Forest Protection, Biodiversity Conservation, Wildlife Conservation, and Co-Management of National Protected Areas (ProCEEEd, MoNRE/DEQP)
- One month long training workshops on production methods for documentaries on environmental and biodiversity issues have been conducted for young filmmakers (ProCEEEd. MoNRE/DEQP)

Aichi Target 2. Mainstreaming

- Improved relevance sector strategy, policy and legislation mainly national land policy, land law, forest law, water resource law, national land use master plan, decree on land survey, decree on land allocation and use, and law on disaster and climate change and an update of the decree on compensation and resettlement;
- Environmental conservation law, and Land law have been developed (MoNRE group)
- “Tourism Law” has been revised to promote, develop and extend cultural, historical, and nature-based tourism in sustainable ways (From MICT)
- Fishery Law has been developed (NRE Working Group -Sector Report for 2015)

- A national strategy on environmental and climate change education and awareness 2016-2030 has been revised (From MoNRE group)
- Review of the division of labour between central and local level on natural resource and environment management, focusing on human resource and budget allocation in accordance with the government policy on Sam Sang – building the province as a strategic unit, the district as a competent management unit and the village as the development focal area (NRE Working Group - Sector Report for 2015);
- Legislations, technical guidelines and checklists related to environment impact assessment process has been developed and improved, and the
- Government has applied the process for environmental and social impact assessment to all investment projects (NRE Working Group -Sector Report for 2015)
- The decree on strategic environment assessment (SEA) has been launched (NRE Working Group - Sector Report for 2015)
- Environmental monitoring and management units have been completed in 17 districts
- Environmental Compliance Certificates have been established which approve Environment Impact Assessment reports to ensure that project owners fully and adequately comply with environmental and social obligations (NRE Working Group -Sector Report for 2015)
- Sustainable environmental city criteria has been developed and promoted, mainly in Vientiane capital, Huaphan province, and Luangprabang province (NRE Working Group -Sector Report for 2015);
- National Land-Use planning has been developed (from MoNRE) and 7 provinces have prepared Integrated Spatial Planning, based on the developed guidelines (NRE Working Group -Sector Report for 2015)
- The development and implementation of National Master Land Use Plan and Integrated Land Allocation have been completed in 18 provinces and 91 districts, including 3,492 villages across the country with the participation of districts and villages (NRE Working Group -Sector Report for 2015);
- Provincial regulations on biodiversity conservation corridors in Attapeu, Champasak, and Sekong have been issued (BCC Project – ADB)
- Participatory and ABD friendly “Forest and Land Use Planning, Allocation and Management (FALUPAM)” have been developed and used in 9 Provinces (TABI).
- Agro-Biodiversity has been integrated into the Uplands Development Strategy (TABI-NUDP, MAF)
- Agro-Biodiversity has been integrated into Strategies and 5 year plans of PAFOS, and DAFOs in Luang Prabang, Xieng Khouang, and Houaphanh provinces (TABI-PAFOs)
- Agro-biodiversity Programme II (2015-25) (status, threats, opportunities and plans) has been prepared by NAFRI and reported to media (NAFRI/FAO and ABP project);
- Biodiversity and environment monitoring has been supported and a draft concept for an environmental safeguard approach, including bio-monitoring, has been submitted. (CliPAD – FC, DFRM/MoNRE)

Aichi Target 3. Incentives

- Decree no96/PM on Commercial Plantation and Environmental conservation is under revision and it is expected that this decree will be presented during the Government meeting in March 2016 (MAF)
- Agreement no 0116/DF; regulation on Village forest conservation no 0535/DF; and agreement on timber measurement and quality for internal and export are under revision which it is expected to be finished in 2016 (MAF)
- Payment for Environmental Services (PES) programmes are being implemented (WCS)
- 110 trained village rangers have been compensated for participating in regular biodiversity monitoring and the collection of data on wildlife and threats in Hin Nam No NPA by PoNRE Khammouane Province and HNN
- Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in developing countries, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (REDD+) has been introduced in Lao PDR and Institutions have been established at national and (some) sub-national level
- Lao PDR has been accepted into the World Bank’s FCPF Carbon Fund (six provinces in northern Lao

- PDR, namely Houaphan, Luang Prabang, Oudomxay, Sayabouri, Bokeo, and Luang Namtha)
- REDD+ Action Plans in line with PSEDP are being developed and planned to be complete within the next 2 years (GIZ CliPAD, JICA and others, DFRM, DoF)
- Village Forest Management Planning (VFMP) guidelines have been officially endorsed in Houaphan province and recognized at the national level (GIZ CliPAD, PAFO, PONRE, DAFO, DONRE)
- 3 (out of 70) villages signed a Village Forest Management Agreement to sustainably manage their village forests linked to financial incentives to implement village forest management activities (GIZ CliPAD, PAFO, PONRE, DAFO, DONRE)
- REDD+ has been integrated into the provincial forest strategy and action plan in Houaphan province (GIZ CliPAD, PAFO, PONRE)
- 35 village tourism service providers have earned an additional income by offering eco-tourism services in the Hin Nam No NPA, supported by PoNRE Khammouane and HNN
- Co-management agreements for guardian villages to manage the Hin Nam No NPA have been officially endorsed by the District Governor in Bualapha District and benefit sharing arrangements are part of the co-management agreements which are supported by PoNRE Khammouane and HNN
- A park entrance fee system is being piloted in Hin Nam No NPA in which benefits are shared between the PA authorities, the guardian villages, and other stakeholders involved
- Specific Action Plans and targets have been included in BPSAPs for Xieng Khouang and Attapeu provinces to improve Urban Biodiversity (Xieng Khouang Province and ABP project)
- Forestry and Tree Crop Plantation Development/ afforestation has taken place in the Nam Ton watershed (involving repayment to villagers) (SUMALOM Project, MoNRE)
- A carbon commercialization strategy has been formulated for Houaphan province (CliPAD FC-, DFRM, MoNRE)
- A project fund based REDD benefit distribution mechanism has been designed and established (CliPAD FC-, DFRM, MoNRE)
- Incentives have been implemented for local inspection teams in Phou Inthin Protected Area, SUMALOM Project, MoNRE

Aichi Target 4. Use of Natural Resources

- National organics standards have been developed (DoA, MAF) and a national organic label has been developed
- An application manual has been created to advise producers and entrepreneurs interested in applying for certification of organic agriculture
- The Lao Certification Body has been established, as well as organic farmer's markets (Promotion of Organic)
- Farming and Marketing in Lao PDR – PROFIL-HELVETAS)
- The government of Lao and the European Union have worked together on Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) under forest law enforcement, government and trade in June 2015 and established National Steering Committee for forest law enforcement, government and trade processes in August 2015;
- Mining legislation and mining licensing systems have been improved by the establishment of regulations, checklist and guidelines focusing on sustainable mining
- Systems of villager generated Quotas for NTFP extraction have been developed and used in two provinces (TABI- PAFO/DAFO)
- Detailed assessments of aquifer recharge (along with other aquifer properties) is being carried out in the Nam Ngum basin and in less detail at the national scale (IWMI)

Aichi Target 5. Habitat Loss

- Village forestry working groups have been established under the Forest Sub-Sector Working Group and work has taken place on regulations for village forest management
- Consultation meetings to exchange experiences on village forest management have been organized,

- and awareness campaigns on village forest management have been promoted
- Manuals and guideline books for training and field monitoring on forest planning management and village forest conservation have been created (MAF).
 - 15 out of 24 National Protected Areas have management plans and seven villages have forest management and planning measures at the village level.
 - The three forest management categories have been reviewed and re-delineation (ie, state forest land) has commenced, with a pilot in Luang Prabang, and the method for re-delineation is being developed.
 - MAF has provided training to provincial, district, and community levels regarding village forest planning and management.
 - The Lao Government had designated the country's first two wetlands of national significance- the Xe Champhone and Beung Kiat Ngong Wetlands in 2010 (IUCN).
 - Decree no96/PM on Commercial Plantation and Environmental conservation has been being revised and is expected to be presented in the Government meeting in March 2016(MAF).
 - Agreement no 0116/DF; regulation on Village forest conservation no 0535/DF; and agreement on timber measurement and quality for internal and export have been edited and expected to be complete by the end of the 1st quarter of 2016 (MAF).
 - Prime minister Decree on Conservation Forest was approved and issued in May 2015.
 - The national forestry strategy has been implemented, focusing on forest allocation and propose for adoption: 49 protection forest areas and 24 conservation forest areas.
 - A Plants and Wildlife survey in Lao PDR has been written, comprising of 25 chapters which have been published in the international journeys (Education group).
 - A study on surface water – groundwater interactions is underway in the Beung Khiat Ngong wetland area which may be useful for improved wetland management (IWMI-NUOL-FE).
 - Forest management committees have been established in 67 villages in Attapeu, Champasak, and Sekong provinces (BCC Project – ADB).
 - Forest management plans have been prepared and implemented for 67 villages (BCC Project – ADB).
 - The information has been collected for the village forest planning and management for 30 villages in 2 provinces for testing the forest management system (MAF).
 - Community-based patrolling of community forests has been organised in 67 villages (BCC Project – ADB).
 - An improved “participatory Forest and Land Use Planning, Allocation and Planning Process” has been developed and implemented which stabilises upland land use, prevents habitat loss, rejuvenates lost habitat and Agro- biodiversity (TABI-DALAM).
 - Community forestry programmes have been promoted which target forest fire control, management of NTFP extraction, FALUPAM, conservation forest management, and NTFP processing and marketing (TABI- PAFO/DAFO).
 - Community forests have been recognized through land use title (BCC Project – ADB).
 - Government Office approved start of negotiations between Lao Government and EU on Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) under FLEGT (Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade) in June 2015 and established National Steering Committee for FLEGT process in August 2015 (ProFLEGT project-DOFI-MAF).
 - The development of Timber Legality Definitions and Timber Legality Assurance Systems have advanced under.
 - FLEGT VPA negotiations (ProFLEGT project-DOFI-MAF).
 - The Lao Government has issued total export bans for logs and sawn timber since August 2015.
 - Village Forestry has been introduced in Houaphan province, including VFMP Guidelines (GIZ CliPAD, PAFO, PONRE, DAFO, DONRE) and is on-going in 2 districts in Houaphan provinces (70 villages).
 - Participatory Land Use Planning has been conducted in 58 out of 70 villages in Houameuang and Xam Neua districts in Houaphan province (CliPAD FC, DoF, DALAM).
 - A Provincial Law Enforcement Action Plan has been officially endorsed (CliPAD FC, WCS, DOFI, POFI)
 - Districts have agreed to an afforestation target of 100 ha for each of the districts, in total 200 ha to be

achieved the villages where Participatory Water Land Use Planning was carried out (SUMALOM-NamTon Project – KfW).

Aichi Target 6. Sustainable Fisheries

- An Aquatic Resources Law has been published (MoNRE group).
- Research projects on fish species in the Mekong, in cooperation with NAGAO Japan, are on-going (From education group).
- Research has been conducted which has informed management and legislation related to fisheries management: Merging biology with hydrology to prevent fisheries declines in the Lower Mekong Region (From education group).
- Surveys have been undertaken and designs have been developed to build fish passages across irrigation weirs and the ADB has been lobbied to include fish passages for all future irrigation weir designs (TABI, PAFOs).
- Conducting of fish surveys has been supported (TABI).
- Research has been conducted into the creation of wetlands on reservoir drawdown areas to provide fish refuges and breeding habitat and thereby promote reservoir fisheries (IWMI-International Center for Environmental Management-NUOL-NAFRI-THPC).
- Work with Department of Water Resources, MoNRE on Water Quality Monitoring in Nam Ton watershed – SUMALOM Project – KfW.
- Freshwater protected areas, known as Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs), have been established (IUCN, WWF, Oxfam, GIZ, and ABP).
- Fish Conservation Zones have been established an/or improved in 66 villages in Luang Prabang, 18 villages in Xieng Khouang, and 113 village in Houaphanh province (under survey) (TABI-PAFOs, LNFC).
- Lao Government/MAF Fishery stations have been supported to breed and distribute native fish species (in Houaphanh and Xieng Khouang provinces)
- Fourteen Fish Conservation Zone regulations, including the installation of signboards on-site, have been completed in 13 villages and were signed and stamped by the District head (SUMALOM Project – KfW)
- Farmers have been supported to use appropriate farming systems along the Nam Ton watershed (SUMALOM Project – KfW)
- Local authorities and villagers' ability to sustainably manage their freshwater resources has been strengthened

Aichi Target 7. Areas under Sustainable Management

- 51 of 51 Production Forest Areas now have detailed management plans;
- Forestry Strategy 2020 (FS 2020) is developed to provide the guidance on the sustainable management and development of the forest sector in line with national policies (MAF)
- Clean Agriculture Development Centre (CADC) has been established. (DOA, MAF)
- Integrated Pest Management has been carried out and farmer Field Schools in rice and vegetables in six provinces has been conducted with the view to optimize the use of local biodiversity including natural pest enemies, organic fertilizers, and bio-insecticides (several projects under FAO and ABP)
- About 100 students in each year have been provided the lecture on the forest categories and the important of forest (Education group).
- NAFRI and NUoL have worked and researched timber and NTFPs for making income and community sustainable development (Education group)
- Faculty of Forestry, NUoL, has studied/worked on the timber's value for the sustainable using (Education group)
- Approximately 400,000 hectares of land (or which about 240,000 is forest land) are now under active, sustainable management, via the FALUPAM programme, mainly in 3 Provinces of Luang Prabang, Houaphanh, and Xiang Khouang

Aichi Target 8. Pollution

- Integrated water resources management plans (IWRMP) in the 10 priority river basins (Nam Ngum, Nam Theun, Nam Kading, Xe Bang Fai, Xe Bang Hieng, Nam Ou, Sekong, Nam Ngiep, Nam Sam, XE Don, Nam Ma) and other potential sub-river basins have been developed and implemented.
- Completion of development and implementation of the scope for research on the hydrologic, physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water bodies and classification of water bodies, watersheds and aquifer recharge areas to ensure balanced and sustainable water allocations and protection of valuable ecosystems with completion of water quality assessment report on the general assessment of ground water condition in priority river basins and other potential sub-basins.
- Completion of development and implementation of a centralized pollution database covering solid waste, hazardous material, soil pollution, air and noise emission, and wastewater in the 6 targeted cities located along the Mekong river.
- A study on the risks and impacts of pesticide use associated with banana plantations in northern Lao PDR is being developed (NAFRI, IWMI, NUOL-FS).
- Completion of development and implementation of revision and approval of the Water Law and Decree on River Basin Committee to ensure the minimum negative socio-economic and environmental impact at local, national and regional levels.
- Awareness raising activities in the Nam Ton watershed on improved ownership and water quality have been conducted (MoNRE – KfW).

Aichi Target 9. Invasive Alien Species

- Improved regulations are enforced and capacities improved to protect crops and livestock in priority areas from alien species invasion
- The Biotechnology Safety Law was adopted and enforced in 2014 which provided an opportunity to train approximately 40 regulators from concerned government agencies such as MAF, MOH and MONRE
- The Biotechnology Safety Law has been developed and this law also addresses Biosafety and Genetic Modified
- Organisms (GMOs) (From MoST)
- Alien species are managed under the Department of Agriculture, MAF
- Alien invasive fish species (that have travelled upstream from Vietnam) were identified during fish surveys (TABI- PAFO)
- The National Agricultural Biodiversity Programme (NABP)II provides an update of plant and animal alien species
- and proposed control activities (NAFRI, ABP Project)

Aichi Target 10. Vulnerable Ecosystems (Coral Reefs) Considered as Non Applicable

Aichi Target 11. Protected Areas

- Training has been conducted to build knowledge and capacity for management and conservation the sustainable of forest. (NUoL together with WCS - From education group)
- NUoL, together with the University of Khon-Khaen and University of Sonh-kha-Na-Kra-Lin in Thailand, have worked together on groundwater surveys (From education group)
- Capacity building of co-management committees has taken place at village, village cluster, and district levels in Hin Nam No NPA by HNN.
- A technical working group on National Protected Areas and Conservation meets every two months.
- Law enforcement and priority sites zoning consultation planning meetings, as well as SMART system training for Nakai-Nam Theun National Protected Area has been conducted (Project Anoulak).
- Forest management committees have been established in 67 villages along the buffer zones of three

- protected areas (Dong Hua Sao, Xepian and Xexap) (BCC Project – ADB).
- Regulations of biodiversity conservation corridors have been issued for three provinces: Attapeu, Champasak and Sekong (BCC Project – ADB)
- Forest management plans have been prepared and implemented for 67 villages (BCC Project – ADB)
- Community-based patrolling of community forests in 67 villages have been organized (BCC Project – ADB)
- State forest lands (3 forest categories) are being reviewed and re-delineated to ensure that the gazetted Protected Areas are actually manageable, and thus able to be protected. Included in this review and remapping is ensuring that representative biodiversity and landscapes are included, (TABI, SUFORD, WB, with DFRM)
- Co-management agreements for 18 guardian villages to manage the Hin Nam No NPA have been officially endorsed by the District Governor in Bualapha District and benefit sharing arrangement are part of the co- management agreements which are supported by PoNRE Khammouane and HNN
- A strategic and operational co-management plan for Hin Nam No NPA Area 2016-2020 has been established with the support of HNN and endorsed by DFRM/MoNRE
- A SMART system has been implemented in Hin Nam No NPA.
- Annual management effectiveness assessments have been carried out in Hin Nam No NPA and the piloted co- management model supported by HNN has resulted in a substantial increase in management effectiveness over the past 2 years.
- HNN NPA has supported the drafting of the tentative listing document for the Hin Nam No NPA to become a Natural World Heritage Site and this document has been approved by MoNRE

Aichi Target 12. Preventing Extinctions

- Survey and on-going discovery of species have revealed that extinction at the global level and near extinction in
- Lao PDR for certain species, such as: *Glyptostrobus pisilis* (Education group)
- Together with Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), the plant species in the Southeast Asia Redlist have been evaluated (From Education group)• Together with the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), the plant species in the Southeast Asia redlist have been evaluated (From Education group)
- Wildlife species information relevant to the Lao PDR's IUCN redlist has been gathered (From Education group)
- Counter measures against timber and wildlife illegal trade are improving with enhanced capacity and better coordination between government agencies, attributable to the Wildlife Enforcement Network , and other projects, as well as the adoption of new technologies and approaches
- A National Ivory Action Plan for Lao PDR, 2015-2016 was adopted by the CITES secretariat (From MoST)
- MoST is the national scientific author of CITES and provides support for the CITES Management Authority- MONRE
- Ex-situ conservation of several botanical families are deposited at BEI nurseries (including Araceae, Begonia, Bryophytes, Dalbergia, Fabaceae, Ochidaceae and Zingiberaceae) and some of them have been collected as dry specimens (for example, there are 65 specimens of orchids and 138 specimens which have been received from Pha Tad Ke) (From MoST)
- Wildlife surveys and population status assessments for primates (red-shanked doucs, white-cheeked gibbons) and small carnivores (otters) focussing in Nakai-Nam Theun NPA have been conducted (Project Anoulak)
- Law enforcement strategies and priority site zoning for patrolling system have been improved and made more efficient in Nakai-Nam Theun NPA in collaboration with local authorities (Project Anoulak and Watershed Management and Protection Authority)
- PBSAPs for Xieng Khouang and Attapeau Provinces have included critical species for conservation/sustainable
- use, including *Dacydium elatum*, *Fokienia hodginsii*, *Tricholoma fulvocastaneum* (IUCN/ABP project)

Aichi Target 13. Genetic Diversity

- The Biotechnology Safety Law was approved in 2014 (From MoST)
- The National Policy on Rice Production for Food Security has been drafted
- The Ecology and Biotechnology Service Centre has been established as a place where research results can be delivered to the public.
- A study on Micro-organism Diversity has been implemented by the Faculty of Science, National University of Lao PDR. (From MoST)
- Ex-situ conservation (e.g. seed banks) has been strengthened, with more than 120 orchid species and 140 edible plants collected in the system at BEI, including 15 plant and 26 animal species identified in CITES and a total of 5,101 species stored within the herbarium of the institute for educational and preservation (From MoST)
- The 1st technical meeting on Agricultural Sciences, technology and development was organized on 9-10/12/2015 (From Education group)
- A research project on conservation of bananas, medicinal orchids and pine mushroom by using tissue culture techniques has implemented with support from the S&T fund between 2013 to 2015
- Some threatened species of Orchidaceae such as *Anoetochilus* (nha bai lai), *Paphiopedilum*, *Dendrobium*, *Rhynchostylis* and *Anoetochilus* have been included at BEI's ex-situ collection. (From MoST)
- Studies and surveys on medicinal plants have been conducted, with about 360 documented species (From MoST)
- By a combination of (a) baseline surveys of Agro-Biodiversity, by (b) forest and land use planning which promotes the value and role of ABD in multi-functional landscapes, and (c) by the implementation of activities (via sub-Projects) that develop and promote the role of sustainable ABD management and use in livelihoods, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants is pro-actively maintained (TABI), providing a strategy to safeguard these genetic resource. Species groups include bananas, citrus, tea, mushrooms, a wide range of vegetables and crops found in healthy upland fields and bush fallows, orchids and medicinal plants, fish conservation zones, etc. (TABI with PAFOS and DAFOs).
- A field study on plant and animal species collected by farmers during a 3-month period in their upland paddy rice eco-system showed a total of 95 species used for consumption and/or sales (3 villages in Xieng Khouang Province, ABP project)
- Ongoing surveys in Xieng Khouang Province on wild mushrooms resulted in some 1,000 dried samples including more than 50 species used for consumption or for medicinal purposes (MoST, MAF and ABP project)
- A fungarium at BEI (MoST) has been established (DARWIN INITIATIVE project)
- Baseline surveys in Kham (Laung Prabang) and Ngum (Xieng Khouang Province) rivers resulted in villagers listing a total of 185 fish species (ABP project)
- An inventory study of 223 ha upland forest area (Donglong-Dongsouth, Xieng Khouang Province) listed 241 medicinal species of which one (*Bistorta balaecceum*) is a new record for Lao PDR (ITM, ABP project)
- The NABP II document provides an updated overview of Lao Agro-biodiversity, including latest accessions to gene banks (ABP Project)
- A demonstration garden of medicinal plants has been established in Xieng Khouang Province (ITM, ABP project)
- Ethno-botanical plots have been established at Pha Tad Ke Botanical Garden in Luang Prabang (ABP project)

Aichi Target 14. Essential Ecosystem Services

- Approximately 400,000 hectares of land (or which about 240,000 is forest land) have gone through the FALUPAM programme, mainly in the three provinces of Luang Prabang, Houaphanh, and Xieng Khouang, which aims specifically to 'recognize' and manage ecosystems which are important for livelihoods.

- Herbicide awareness and management programmes, focussed on reducing the impact of agricultural chemicals on ecosystems has been implemented in Xiang Khouang, Houaphanh and Luang Prabang provinces (TABl)
- Aquatic ecosystems have been protected via the fish conservation zones programme in Xiang Khouang, Houaphanh and Luang Prabang provinces (TABl) (to be noted that Aquatic ecosystems protected, partly, by the “river weed collection and processing” – linking a livelihood activity to ecosystems health – but only partly successful, as hydropower dams are still built)

Aichi Target 15. Restoration & Resilience

- Efforts have been made to restore 444 ha of forests, with another 1,000 ha of forest to be restored by 2019 (BCC Project – ADB)
- The accepted Carbon Fund Emission Reduction Programme Idea Note for the six northern provinces (HP, LPB, OUD, BO, SAY, LNT) mentioned regeneration as one of the main REDD+ activities to be implemented (DFRM, DoF)

Aichi Target 16. Nagoya Protocol

- The Lao PDR ratified the Nagoya Protocol in September 2012 and the MoST plays the role as the National Focal Point of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and Nagoya Protocol on ABS (From MoST)
- Lao legislation has been enacted to harmonize with the international treaty of Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) from the use of genetic resources is in place and implementation is piloted in at least 3 selected areas
- An ABS Framework has been formulated
- Public awareness, information sharing, and collaboration at the national and regional levels has been promoted for the Nagoya Protocol and National ABS Framework (From MoST)
- Capacity among key stakeholders has been built to implement the provision of the Nagoya Protocol and national ABS framework
- Awareness raising materials such as local ABS “Simply Explained” Video have been published;
- Lessons learned of ABS framework formulation have been published (From MoST)
- The national ABS policy assessment report has been developed

Aichi Target 17. NBSAP Implementation

- A Stakeholder Mapping & Capacity Assessment on Reporting of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) & Implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) has been prepared in 2010;
- An Assessment of Lao PDR’s 1st National Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 and Action Plan to 2010 has been undertaken in 2012;
- The Lao PDR is in the process of finalizing a 2nd NBSAP;
- A series of Technical Groups has been established to monitor and report on the NBSAP related activities
- A National Steering Group responding of the CBD is in place
- Two Provincial Strategy and Action Plans have been prepared (IUCN/ABP project)
- A Sub-Sector Working Group on Agro-biodiversity has been developed with a multi-sectoral approach and with recommendations brought to the attention of top level government through the Lao Government-DP round table process (MAF & others)

Aichi Target 18. Traditional Knowledge

- The Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) issued an Intellectual Property Law in 2007 and amended the law in December 2011, while also implementing regulations on Geographical Indication – for promotion of local and traditional products - consistent with WTO procedures (From MoST)
- The FALUPAM (forest and land use planning process) incorporates traditional knowledge and

management of upland landscapes which have been accepted by partner districts and provinces, reflecting respect for local communities' customary use of natural resources (TABI-CDE)

- In one Province (Xieng Khouang) the Department of Education developed a curriculum based on local ABD and biodiversity knowledge and use, and this curriculum has been approved by the Ministry of Education (TABI-POE)
- SubProjects based on local management of ABD resources are appreciated by both local communities and also Lao Government institutions, in Xieng Khouang, Luang Prabang and Houaphanh provinces, demonstrating respect for the same (TABI-PAFOs/DAFOs)
- The MAF journal now contains regular articles on local community's sustainable use of biodiversity, while the MAF Vision and Strategy also contains the same (TABI-MAF)
- The Hin Nam No NPA has been divided into management blocks based on customary rights from 18 guardian villages and the villagers of these 18 villages have management responsibilities, and access and use rights which are captured in endorsed co-management agreements (co-management by-law)
- In Hin Nam No NPA, co-management committees have been established and endorsed on village, village cluster and district level and these committees allow for local people to be involved in participatory planning and reporting with regard to the Hin Nam No;
- Village and District Conservation Areas have been established for NTFPs, including wild tea, melientha and medicinal plants (ABP);
- The Medical and Traditional Medicine Institute has built 11 gardens in communities to promote plant conservation for sustainable use (Education group).

Aichi Target 19. Biodiversity Knowledge

- The Lao Information Sharing and Biosafety Clearing House (BCH) has been created (<http://la.biosafetyclearinghouse.net/>); with BEI as the main focal point (From MoST)
- Biodiversity assessments have been conducted in Attapeu, Champasak, and Sekong to prioritize protection and restoration interventions (BCC Project – ADB).
- Biodiversity monitoring via camera-trapping techniques have been established in Attapeu and Sekong provinces (BCC Project – ADB)
- Geographical Indications (GI) have been established for coffee and tea, as well as other crops (MAF)
- The capacity of national users from concerned agencies has been strengthened across the country on BCH (From MoST)
- Several awareness products on biosafety have been prepared to promote Biosafety Law, including brochures and newsletters, DVD and videos on RA/RM training, as well as training handbooks (from MoST)

Aichi Target 20. Resource Mobilization

- Schemes of various payment for forest environmental services have been included in the draft Forestry Law and;
- Prime Minister Decrees on Conservation Forest and Protection Forest;
- The Environment Protection Fund is emerging as an important financier for capacity building and field management of Protection and Conservation Forest complementing well the Forest and Forest Resource Development Fund;
- The World Bank has mobilized 60 million US\$ to (a) improve the financing capacity of the Environment Protection Fund, (b) support capacity building of national, provincial, and district institutions to implement the Lao legislation on environment and social impact, particularly the capacity to manage NPAs and protect wildlife against threats from infrastructure development and illegal use or trade of natural resources (c) strengthening the university environment and social curriculum, (d) broadening project support to forested upper- watersheds of rivers important to hydropower, agriculture irrigation, and flood prevention, (LENS2 Project)
- MONRE, Department of Planning and Cooperation has developed a list of priority projects to be financed;
- DEQP has successfully mobilized GEF resources for biodiversity conservation; i.a. the 2015 approved

Sustainable Forest and Land Management in the Dry Dipterocarp Forest Ecosystems of Southern Lao PDR.

- Ecotourism in Lao PDR has become a successful financing approach to protect nature, while at the same time generating revenue for local people (e.g. the Nam Nern Night Safari in Nam Et Phou Louey NPA)

ANNEX 4: GUIDANCE NOTE ON UNDP'S SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS

Introduction

Social and environmental sustainability are cornerstones of human development and poverty reduction. UNDP's Strategic Plan and policy framework articulate the organization's strategic commitment to promoting sustainable development in all of its development cooperation activities. UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES)²⁶ – effective 1 January 2015 – underpin UNDP's commitment to be accountable for the principles we stand for and mainstream social and environmental sustainability in all programs and projects. The SES require that all UNDP interventions enhance positive social and environmental opportunities and benefits as well as ensure that adverse social and environmental risks and impacts are avoided, minimized, mitigated and managed.

Initially key drivers for developing SES were external and included increasing requirements from donors and funding mechanisms, including GEF, which are moving beyond just looking at fiduciary standards to include social and environmental safeguards. Countries themselves are also increasingly required to have such standards in place for direct access to these funds (e.g. GCF). There was also a strong call from civil society and other stakeholders to ensure development institutions have the appropriate safeguards and accountability mechanisms in place. In the recent years internal drivers have strengthened as UNDP worked to improve performance, quality of programming and risk management. Now SES is recognized as mechanism for delivering key components of the Strategic Plan. One of the key objectives is to strengthen the capacities of both UNDP staff as well as our partners for managing social and environmental risks and tradeoffs. This is also about strengthening our accountability to stakeholders and project-affected people, ensuring that they are engaged throughout and that we have a response mechanism in place to receive and respond to complaints related to social and environmental issues from project-affected people. As a result, the SES aim to provide the tools and processes to enable UNDP to work in increasingly complex development contexts that often involve risks and tradeoffs rather than make our organization more risk averse.

The SES are UNDP policy and apply to all UNDP programs and projects – including global, regional, national or locally implemented, recognizing that applicable requirements vary with the level of the potential social and environmental risks. UNDP country-level programming is nationally owned and often executed by implementing partners (including government agencies, NGOs, and other international organizations). Regardless of the implementation modality, UNDP is accountable for the sound use of resources and must ensure the quality of its projects. UNDP ensures adherence to the SES for Project activities implemented using funds channeled through UNDP's accounts, regardless of Implementation Modality. Most UNDP programs and projects involve partners that contribute in-kind resources or parallel funding and apply their own policies and procedures to achieve common objectives. While UNDP does not ensure compliance with the SES beyond those activities funded through UNDP's accounts, UNDP reviews the entire program or project for consistency with the SES requirements. Key SES objectives are summarized as follows:

- Strengthen the social and environmental outcomes of UNDP projects
- Avoid adverse impacts to people and the environment affected by projects
- Minimize, mitigate, and manage adverse impacts where avoidance is not possible
- Strengthen UNDP and partner capacities for managing social and environmental risks
- Ensure full and effective stakeholder engagement, including through a mechanism to respond to complaints from project-affected people.

UNDP is one of the first UN agencies to develop a comprehensive set of Social and Environmental Standards and an associated Compliance Review and Stakeholder Response Mechanism. UNDP is drawing directly from the commitments and mandates as a UN agency and the international legal and normative framework.

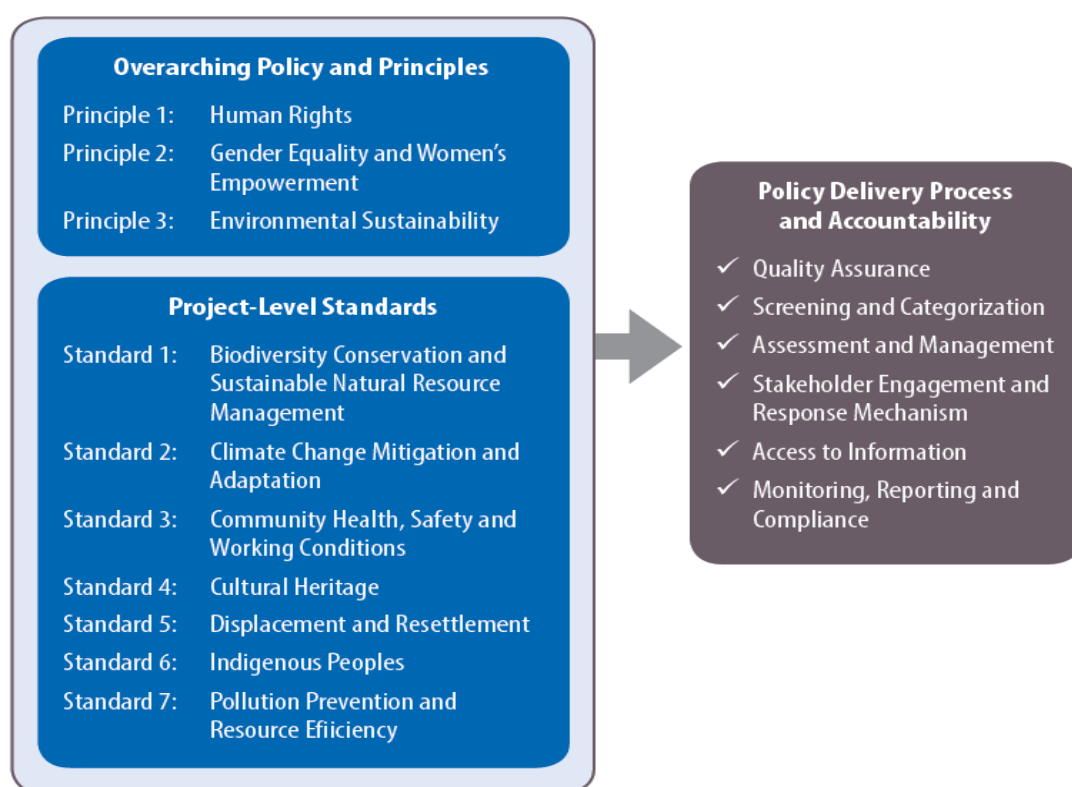
²⁶ UNDP SES available at <http://www.undp.org/ses>.

Key Elements and Scope of SES

In developing the standards, UNDP relied on existing policies, procedures, mandate and commitments, including the Strategic Plan and UNDP Strategies (e.g. gender, biodiversity, and youth). It was also ensured that the standards were reflecting and drawing on the best practices and highest standards from other development partners. Also key consultations were held with Indigenous Peoples and CSOs over the last several years.

UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards are comprised of several elements: the Overarching Policy and Principles, Project-Level Standards, and the Policy Delivery Process. An overview of key elements of the SES is presented below.

Figure 1: Key Elements of UNDP Social and Environmental Standards



Project Level Procedure - SESP

The SESP is an operational procedure/tool to ensure the SES are applied at the project level. It is required for proposed projects \$500,000 or more. All such projects are pre-screened at the design stage, screened at appraisal and compliance is ensured during implementation. Main objectives of SESP are summarized below:

- Integrate the SES Overarching Principles
- Identify potential S&E risks and their significance
- Determine overall risk category (Low, Moderate, High)
- Determine S&E assessment and management required to address potential risks

The following steps illustrate key elements of SESP throughout the project cycle:

Step 1– Gather information and conduct pre-screening to inform at design stage

- Iteratively pre-screen draft ProDoc using Screening Template, incorporate S/E risk management measures in project design
 - Discuss pre-screening results in pre-PAC
- Step 2 – Conduct mandatory final screening at appraisal
- Conduct screening of final draft ProDoc using Screening Template and attach screening report as an annex to the Prodoc for submittal to the PAC
- Step 3 – Ensure ongoing compliance with SES during implementation
- Ensure S/E risk management measures implemented and monitored. Risks logged and updated in Project Risk Log
 - Where S/E assessments conducted as part of Project implementation, rescreen/revise SESP per results and incorporate identified management measures. Review by Project Board or subsequent PAC
 - Rescreen/revise SESP if changes to Project or Project context significantly alters Project's risk profile. Review by Project Board or subsequent PAC

Implementation of SES by SGP

As safeguards policy is implemented by UNDP, it applies to SGP as well. Also, as a recipient of GEF funds, SGP has to implement such policy according to the GEF requirements. While each individual SGP project is smaller than the assessment requirement, the global project document encompasses all projects. If one project has adverse effects, all SGP activities will be affected. Implementation of safeguards will also help satisfy stakeholder requirements and avoid possible unintended harm in complex situations with potential for conflicts, such as, for example, REDD+ projects. Clear standards and procedures will also help address possible criticisms.

Generally, risk category for SGP projects is considered low. Therefore the overall screening will be undertaken at the Global Project Document level. The Annex include in the Project Document will detail the specifics of policy implementation. To ensure individual projects are in compliance, a simplified screening procedure will be conducted for each.

To achieve this at the country program level, SGP country teams are required to develop basic project checklist (or modify the checklist for those countries that already have it). A question on SES compliance should be added to the checklist. A sample checklist can be found in Annex 1 of this guidance. During the project review process, National Steering Committees (NSCs) are expected to respond to checklist questions. National Coordinators (NCs) guided by CPMT will develop guidance, presentations and other materials for NCSs to guide them as appropriate. These materials should help the NSCs to understand the nature of safeguards policy and enable them to respond to the checklist question on whether the project is in compliance with safeguards requirements. The NSC members should also be able to identify any problems/red flags in the project and request further review if necessary.

Additional Resources and Key Documents on the SES and SRM

- Public websites (to be able to share information with partners): <http://www.undp.org/ses>, <http://www.undp.org/secu-srm>
- Toolkit for UNDP staff (with links to all relevant policies, procedures, guidance and learning materials): https://intranet.undp.org/unit/bpps/DI/SES_Toolkit
- Teamworks (space for UNDP staff to exchange and share experiences, discussions, consultations): <https://undp.unteamworks.org/ses>

Annex 1. Sample Project Checklist

Name of Project			
Name of Organisation			
Type of Organisation			
	Yes	No	Comments
Overall Project Quality			
Clear statement of the objectives of the project in alignment with OP6 strategic initiatives			
Realistic planning of activities and deliverables			
Realistic definition of project budget in agreement with project objectives and activities			
Sensible assessment of risks and challenges associated with the project and design of appropriate solutions			
Potential adverse impacts to people and the environment have been avoided, managed and mitigated in line with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards?"			
Management Capacity			
Efficient use of management and organizational tools for effective implementation of the project			
Clear definition of responsibilities/tasks/activities			
Sensible design of a M&E plan including clear indicators to track progress			
Sensible design of a Knowledge & Management Plan for knowledge sharing			
Sensible design of a communication plan for dissemination and policy advocacy			
Sustainability			
Identification of possible co-funding sources			
Sustainability through rendering funds cooperative, micro-credits, others			
Recognition of project importance and relevance to the community			
Inclusiveness			
Active involvement of women in decision-making and overall activities			
Active involvement of indigenous people in decision-making and overall activities			
Active involvement of youth in decision-making and overall activities			

Gender Mainstreaming			
Men and women had an active participation in the project design and it responds to the needs of both			
The impact of the project on women and men has been analyzed (please look at division of labor, work load and access to resources and services)			
The project explained what the outcomes are for men and women and aims to benefit both men and women			
The project provides gender disaggregated data on active participants and beneficiaries			
Men and women are part of the project management structure in an balanced manner (i.e. the project management team should be composed by both men and women and if possible in equal representation to ensure they have a say in decision making)			

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