

SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme

25
YEARS



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

A woman in a yellow shirt and apron is harvesting tea leaves in a lush green plantation. She has a large woven basket on her back. The sky is blue with white clouds.

**THE GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME
RESULTS REPORT 2016-2017**

The Small Grants Programme (SGP)

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT, JULY 2016-JUNE 2017

INTRODUCTION

The GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), implemented by UNDP, mobilizes bottom up actions by supporting community-led initiatives which address global environmental issues. SGP empowers local civil society and community-based organizations, including women, indigenous peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities. This is done through a decentralized delivery mechanism at the country level, with dedicated GEF resources and leveraging of co-financing from communities, governments, and other donors.

A **joint evaluation** of the SGP by the GEF's Independent Evaluation Office and UNDP's Independent Evaluation Office from 2013-2015 concluded that the Programme continues to play a key role in promoting the GEF's objectives. It specifically noted that SGP continues to support projects that are relevant, effective and efficient in achieving global environmental benefits, while addressing issues of livelihoods, poverty, gender equality and women's empowerment. The evaluation also reported evidence of strong replication, scaling-up, sustainability, and mainstreaming of the Programme activities.

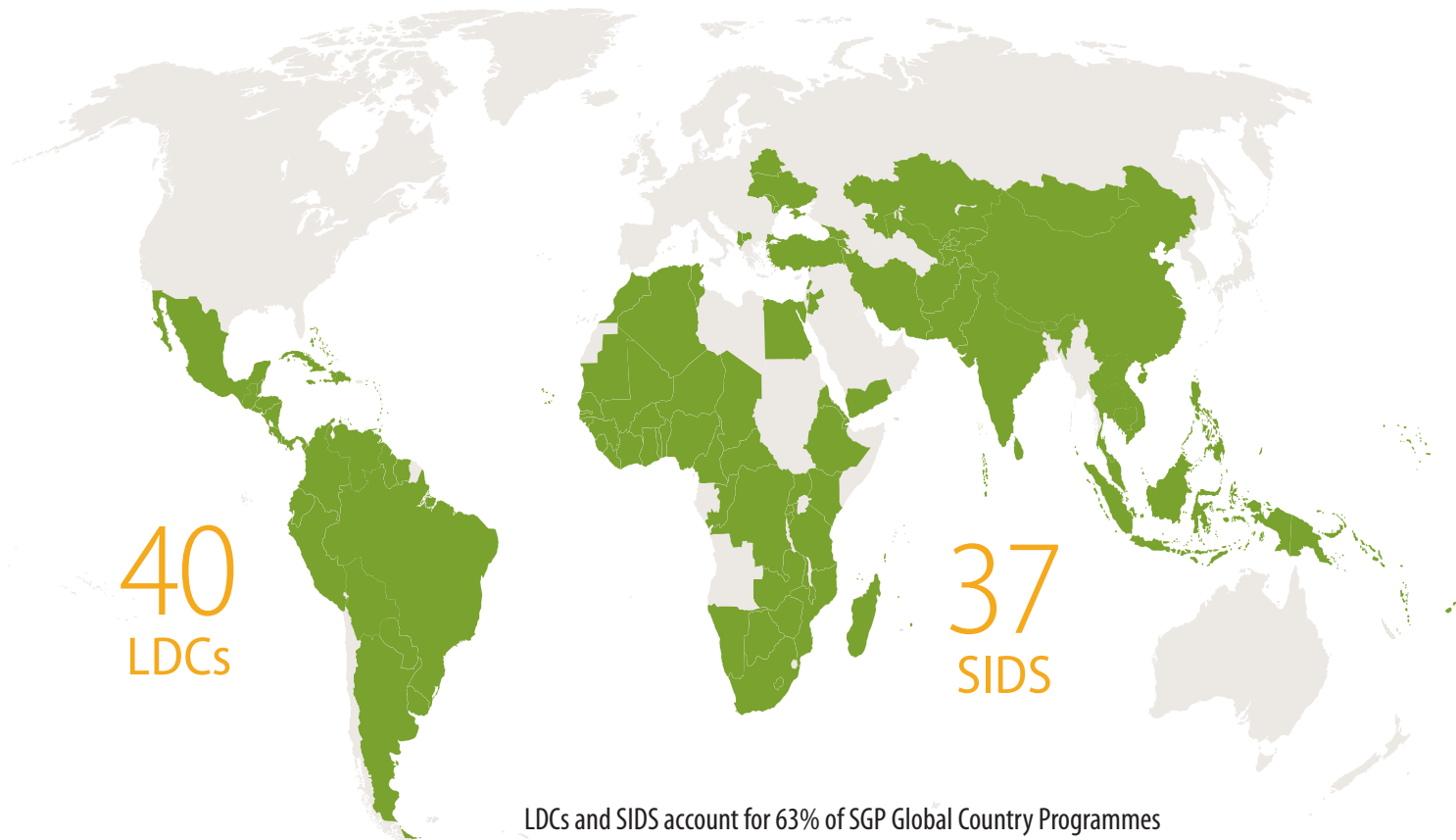
Comprehensive version of SGP's Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017 elaborates several community led innovations that have resulted in broader adoption, through scaling up, replication, policy influence, and improving community livelihoods and sustainability.

METHODOLOGY

Results are presented for reporting year, July 1, 2016- June 30, 2017, based on reporting by **111 SGP Country Programmes**. A conservative methodological approach is used for results calculations using only GEF funded projects that were completed during the reporting year. **758 GEF funded projects** were completed and results for these are presented in this info-graphic document.

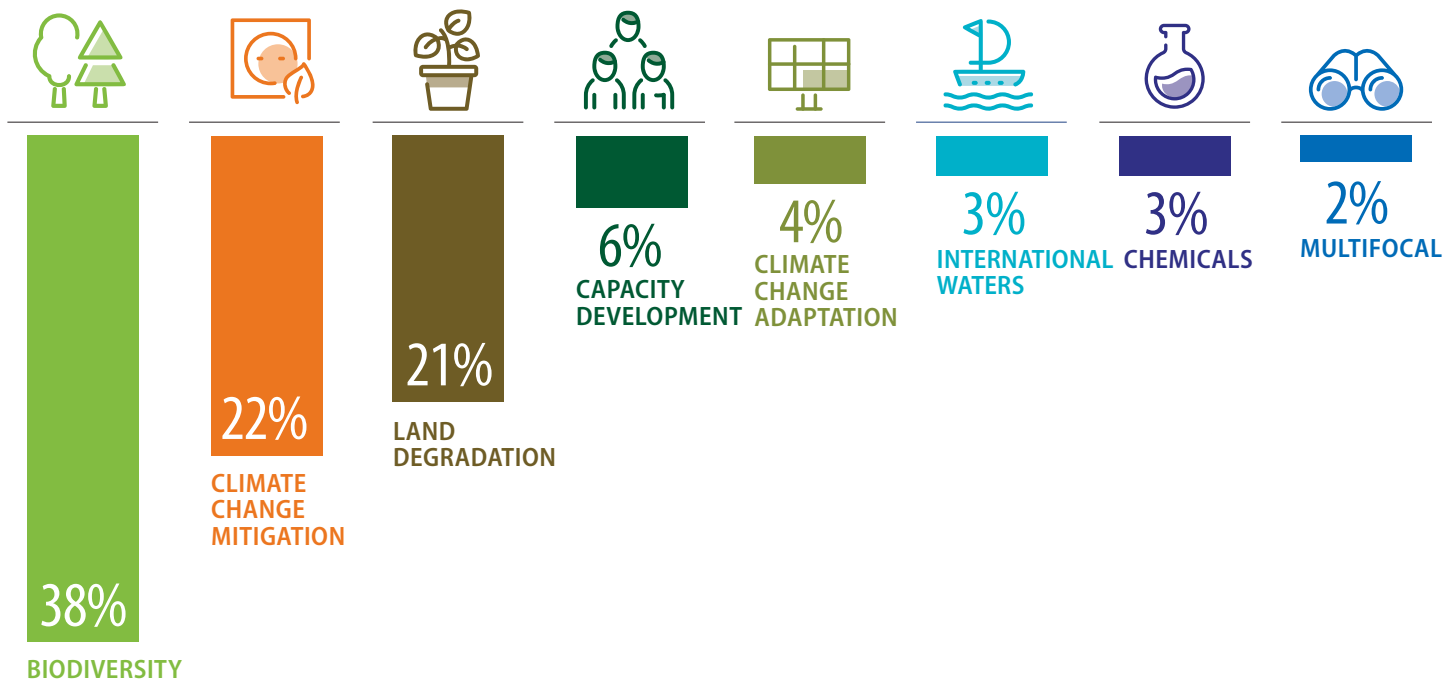


COVERAGE **125** ACTIVE COUNTRIES **110** COUNTRIES IN THE SGP GLOBAL PROGRAMME **15** UPGRADED COUNTRIES



LDCs and SIDS account for 63% of SGP Global Country Programmes

FOCAL AREA DISTRIBUTION



Progress Towards Focal Area Objectives



BIODIVERSITY

SGP's Biodiversity portfolio continued to support the sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes and seascapes, in and around protected areas (PAs) and indigenous and community conservation areas and territories (ICCAs), as well as through appropriate protection and transmission of traditional knowledge and genetic resources by culturally appropriate means.

RESULTS

255
PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

359
SUSTAINABLY PRODUCED
BIODIVERSITY PRODUCTS

126
NUMBER
OF PAs

7.5
MILLION HECTARES
OF PAs

112
NUMBER
OF ICCAs

613
THOUSAND HECTARES
OF ICCAs

443
SIGNIFICANT SPECIES
WITH IMPROVED
CONSERVATION STATUS

139
LANDSCAPES AND SEASCAPES
UNDER SUSTAINABLE USE

3.7
MILLION HECTARES OF LANDSCAPES
AND SEASCAPES UNDER
SUSTAINABLE USE



SPOTLIGHT ON GHANA

SGP supported a project to promote biodiversity conservation, organic agriculture and livelihood enterprise development within the Fian and Tabease Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA). Two new CREMAs were created, and community members were trained in sustainable land use practices for forest regeneration.

Two hundred farmers and their families were involved in the identification and conservation of threatened native species within the Fian and Tabease CREMAs, covering 250 hectares. Over one million seedlings of valuable, widely used in the global cosmetics industry, were raised and planted on the degraded savannah.

Two bio-enterprises were established in organic honey production around the Gbele reserve, including equipment used for honey processing and bottling.

The project contributed to the conservation of the habitats of several species including: Pygmy hippopotamus (*Choeropsis liberiensis*); Senegal bushbaby (*Galago senegalensis*); numerous species of monkeys, including the Diana monkey (*Cercopithecus diana rolloway*), red colobus (*Colobus badius*), black and white colobus (*Colobus polykomos*), and olive colobus (*Colobus verus*); Chimpanzee (*Pan Troglodytes*); and the white-breasted guinea fowl (*Agelastes meleagrides*).



SGP Ghana.



SGP Ghana.



CLIMATE CHANGE

SGP's climate change portfolio continued to support decarbonization and low-carbon energy transformation at the community level through the introduction of technologies that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. These technologies included micro-hydro, wind, solar and biomass energy options.

RESULTS

201
PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

23
THOUSAND HOUSEHOLDS
WITH ENERGY ACCESS
CO-BENEFITS

13
THOUSAND HECTARES
OF FOREST AND NON-FOREST
LAND RESTORED OR WITH
ENHANCED CARBON STOCKS

86
TYPOLOGIES
OF ENERGY
SOLUTIONS

239
COMMUNITIES
ACHIEVING ENERGY
ACCESS

SPOTLIGHT ON BARBADOS

SGP supported a project to promote renewable energy production in farming communities. The aim being the initiation of a systemic transition to low carbon technologies in small scale farming through promotion of locally appropriate energy solutions for farming at the country level. In collaboration with the CARIBSAVE Partnership, SGP grantee Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC) facilitated the installation of 6 kW solar

panels and a solar-powered rainwater harvesting system to address the high costs associated with the farm's water needs. Guttering was installed along the edge of roof to capture rainwater, circulating water around the farm using a 0.5 hp solar circulation pump. The guttering was also connected to the pre-existing 3,000-gallon concrete reservoir. Using a 3 cubic-meter biogas digester, biomass energy was generated from plant and animal waste. The design is an improvement on an earlier design by Appropriate Rural Technology Institute (ARTI) and reduces the leakage of the harmful greenhouse gas methane from the external chamber. A new system is designed that is portable and will capture 95% of the methane gas generated.

As a result, the demonstration farm is saving US\$100-\$150 in electricity, and US\$100-\$125 in water, even in the context of below average rain fall. Based on the example of the demonstration farm, a national roundtable was organized and farmers were trained in good business practices, low carbon technologies and building and installation of renewable energy systems such as biogas, solar dryer and photovoltaic. Since the demonstration project resulted in savings for small farmers, it is also being considered for country-wide replication.



SGP Barbados.

LAND DEGRADATION

SGP's land degradation portfolio continued to support reversal and prevention of desertification and land degradation, and mitigating the effects of drought.



RESULTS

185

PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

144

THOUSAND COMMUNITY
MEMBERS WITH IMPROVED
ACTIONS AND PRACTICES

147

THOUSAND COMMUNITY
MEMBERS DEMONSTRATING
SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

86

THOUSAND HECTARES OF LAND
BROUGHT UNDER IMPROVED
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

4,380

FARMER LEADERS DEMONSTRATING
AGROECOLOGY PRACTICES

1,009

FARMER NETWORKS DISSEMINATING
IMPROVED AGROECOLOGY PRACTICES

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIA

SGP supported a project that introduced sustainable land management measures, such as organic farming and community managed enterprises on non-timber forest products (NTFP), to promote sustainable, income generating activities among tribal families that live below the poverty line. With SGP support, more than 500 farmers were trained on organic horticulture, cultivation, nursery raising and organic certification. Farmers stopped using chemical pesticides and fertilizers and gradually shifted to chemical free farming on 500 hectares. Through the project, about 10,00 trees were planted in collaboration with the National Forest Department. Additionally, 100 hectares of land have been brought under organic farming and 50 hectares of land were restored.

The project trained the NTFP gatherers in good collection practices, quality assurance, and sustainable forest management practices, including improved bio fuel generation and replanting on the degraded forest lands to improve forest cover and production of traded forest species. Fifteen tribal women's self-help groups were formed and strengthened as a contribution of the project. The women's self-help groups and farmers were trained to diversify and improve income. These efforts contributed to an increase in purchasing power of beneficiaries by 25% of their annual income through creation of additional livelihood sources.



SGP India.



SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

SGP's sustainable forest management portfolio continued to support reduction in pressures on forest resources. SGP efforts focused on sustainable land use, land-use change, and forestry management interventions for forest and non-forest land-use types, to ensure connectivity between ecosystems and restorative activities.

RESULTS

7
PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

42

THOUSAND HECTARES OF FOREST AND NON FOREST LANDS
RESTORED OR WITH ENHANCED CARBON STOCKS



SPOTLIGHT ON CAMEROON

SGP supported a project for the rehabilitation and the conservation of natural resources in the village of Tayap. The forest in Tayap is among the most important lowland evergreen forest areas in Cameroon. However, due to timber exploitation and the intensive practice of shifting cultivation over the past 15 years, roughly 120 hectares of Tayap forests are lost each year. Primary forests now represent less than 30% of the total area. Agricultural land is also increasingly scarce due to an emergence of new pests and diseases, resulting in unreliable harvests for Tayap farmers.

Through an integrated and participatory approach, the project established an ecotourism complex dedicated to the promotion of biodiversity, land and forest rehabilitation and the conservation of natural resources. The project established nurseries for threatened tree species and fruit orchards to restore fallow land, to improve beneficiary community livelihoods. The results of the project include the reduction in the use of unsustainable practices in the Tayap forest by 60%, and the management of a Women Sustainable Development Fund that supports sustainable income generating activities through a legalized cooperative. Over 20 agroforestry products from the eco-orchards have been introduced to the local market, including mango and other trees.



SGP Cameroon.

INTERNATIONAL WATERS

SGP's international waters portfolio continued to develop and demonstrate effective and climate resilient community based actions and practices supporting implementation of the regional GEF financed Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs).



RESULTS

31
PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

40
NUMBER OF SEASCAPES
AND INLAND FRESHWATER
LANDSCAPES SUPPORTED

280
TONS OF
LAND-BASED
POLLUTION REDUCED

27
THOUSAND HECTARES OF
MARINE AND COASTAL
AREAS UNDER SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT

24
THOUSAND HECTARES
OF SEASCAPES
UNDER SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT

SPOTLIGHT ON MAURITIUS

A drastic decline of octopus stock due to intensive fishing led the Government of Mauritius to pass a regulation for the temporary closure of octopus fisheries from August to October 2016, allow time for the replenishment octopus stocks.

To support these efforts and raise awareness among fishers, community members, and the public on the rationale behind the closure, SGP supported a National Awareness Programme. Fourteen rallies were conducted in coastal areas by the Ministry of Ocean Economy, SGP and FAO Smart Fish and Indian Ocean Commission. The grantee partner conducted awareness exercises involving over 950 primary school students of the south-east region. A Sea Bus, "Bis lamer," raised the awareness of 1,621 coastal community members, and 25 villages.

During the closure, fishers were supported through focus group meetings, counselling, and advice. A strategic communication campaign was also launched at the national level through "Back-of-bus" posters, and TV and radio programs. SGP and FAO Smart Fish and Indian Ocean Commission issued a joint letter to the Association of Hotels and Restaurants inviting them to ban locally fished octopus from menus during



SGP Mauritius.

closure. A joint committee of enforcement authorities including the National Coast Guards, the Fisheries Protection Service, and the Environment Police met regularly to take stock of poaching activities and plan follow-up actions.

SGP acted as facilitator and broker between NGOs, fishers, and government authorities. As a result, at the end of the period, octopus catch increased by 28% from 2015.



CHEMICALS AND WASTE

SGP efforts focused on the sound management of chemicals and waste, including POPs and mercury, in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the global environment.

RESULTS

29
PROJECTS COMPLETED
THIS YEAR

23
NATIONAL
COALITIONS
STRENGTHENED

22
THOUSAND
KILOGRAMS
OF PESTICIDES
AVOIDED

346
THOUSAND
KILOGRAMS
OF SOLID
WASTE REDUCED

298
THOUSAND
KILOGRAMS
OF E-WASTE
COLLECTED OR
RECYCLED



SPOTLIGHT ON KAZAKHSTAN

SGP supported a project to decrease the use of synthetic chemicals in agriculture, by introducing organic farming methods. The project provided technical assistance to farmers to introduce organic fertilizers as an alternative to chemical synthetic fertilizers in eight farms with a total area of 14,050 hectares of lands. This saves 2,180 tons of synthetic fertilizer and 14 tons of pesticides used every year. With organic fertilizers, flax crop yields on these farms increased by 22.8 percent, sunflower yields by 11.5 percent, wheat by 11.2 percent and lentil crops by 21.6 percent.



Work has been carried out to increase the level of awareness about organic production. The project raised public awareness among 10,000 people on organic alternatives. The project's strategy of conducting field visits and demonstrating project results has contributed to increasing the adoption of organic agriculture. To replicate the project's results, representatives from 50 farms in five provinces have received consultations and practical advice on organic farming and how to reduce the use of chemicals through organic agriculture.

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

SGP's Capacity Development portfolio continued to enhance and strengthen the capacity of communities and civil society organizations in environmental management across all focal areas, using specific capacity development grants for stakeholder workshops, knowledge fairs, knowledge management, and monitoring and evaluation.



RESULTS



SPOTLIGHT ON MOLDOVA

SGP worked with the NGO AO Oikumena to develop a public portal for environmental data, spdm.oikumena.md, that uses web-based, geographic information system (GIS) technology for the collection and dissemination of data. It can be used by NGOs and other community based organizations to collect environmental data following both international and regional (INSPIRE) standards.

In 2016, training sessions were conducted introducing and presenting the theoretical concepts of GIS, the relevance of the portal to environmental NGOs, and how to use it, to improve GIS capabilities at the community level. AO Oikumena is connected with other NGOs to expand the user base and support future users of the portal. This system improves NGOs and CBOs' capabilities to collect, process, and distribute environmental data they gather during the implementation of their environmental protection initiatives.

The data collected is checked and validated by a portal administrator, and is free and accessible to all stakeholders. Results have been significant for local communities and their ability to participate in decision-making at the policy level.



SGP Moldova.



Grantmaker plus

Grantmaker plus strategies were employed by SGP to enhance overall effectiveness of its portfolio. This was done by promoting interventions that create an enabling environment and build systemic capacity for civil society and community action to address global environmental challenges.

KEY ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMMES INCLUDE:



100%
PROMOTED PEER-TO-PEER
EXCHANGES



82%
STRENGTHENED GRANTEE
NETWORK



77%
CONNECTED GRANTEES WITH
GOVERNMENT SERVICES



77%
ORGANIZED TRAINING



74%
CONNECTED GRANTEES
WITH NGOS



50%
CONNECTED GRANTEES WITH
PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES



48
SOUTH-SOUTH EXCHANGES
EXCHANGES ACROSS
COUNTRIES



170
DIALOGUE PLATFORMS
INITIATED



28%
ENGAGED IN SOUTH-SOUTH
EXCHANGES



40%
CONDUCTED CSO-GOVERNMENT
DIALOGUES



Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals





Social inclusion

SGP continued to undertake targeted efforts to support greater social inclusion of marginalized groups, including women, indigenous peoples, youth and persons with disabilities.



93% PROJECTS COMPLETED WERE GENDER RESPONSIVE



89% COUNTRIES HAVE A GENDER FOCAL POINT IN NSC



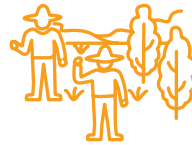
29% PROJECTS WERE LED BY WOMEN



19% PROJECTS COMPLETED WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



38% COUNTRIES HAVE AN IP FOCAL POINT IN NSC



1,059 INDIGENOUS LEADERS WITH IMPROVED CAPACITIES



25 DISABLED PERSONS ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTED TO SUSTAINABLE STRATEGIES



38% PROJECTS COMPLETED WITH YOUTH PARTICIPATION



Livelihoods and sustainability

Improving livelihoods is a core strategy of SGP, 598 completed projects improved the livelihoods of communities. Below are the strategies used by SGP country programmes to improve livelihoods.



76% INCREASED/DIVERSIFIED INCOME



61% INCREASED FOOD SECURITY



57% INCREASED ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY



50% INCREASED ACCESS TO INFRASTRUCTURE



41% INCREASED ACCESS TO MARKETS



Broader adoption of SGP

SCALING UP, REPLICATION, AND POLICY INFLUENCE

SGP continues to encourage replication and scaling up of good results and impactful measures, including through influencing policies towards greater sustainability.

113

PROJECTS REPLICATED
AND SCALED UP

89

PROJECTS INFLUENCED
POLICY

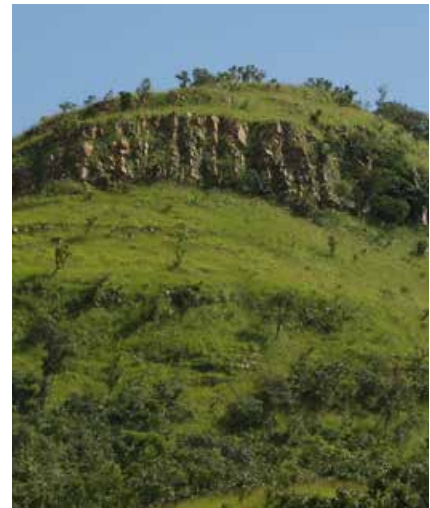
Below are some examples of scaling up or policy influence achieved by SGP projects completed during the past reporting year.

In **Togo**, an SGP project focused on promoting fungi-based bio-insecticides as an alternative to chemical pesticides and fertilizers. The intensive use of agricultural chemicals led to the local destruction of microflora, and food poisoning for the consumers of the affected crops. By demonstrating that compost and fungi provide crops with better resistance to pests and disease, and providing training to the community, the project cultivated 14,000 hectares with bio-insecticides, reduced costs by 50%, and increased crop yields up to 100%.

The Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources, and the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Water Resources have up scaled this project through three different government-supported projects namely Integrated Disaster and Land Management Project, Agricultural Sector Support Project, and the Adaptation Project for Agricultural Production in Togo.

In **Sri Lanka**, an SGP project introduced biogas technology using waste water from rubber production. Two biogas plants were built as models, which generate biogas from effluents discharged in the processing of rubber sheets, and household waste. Mushroom cultivation was introduced as an alternative livelihood when income from rubber is low. A market chain was also established with the support of a private company and funding from Sampath Bank.

SGP project expects that communities will remain in the rubber industry with an increase in income due to the value addition, and the grantee expects to upscale the project to the national level. The project was also awarded as first runner up at the International Society of Tropical Foresters Conference of the Yale Chapter.



SGP Togo.



SGP Sri Lanka.

KNOWLEDGE AND COMMUNICATIONS



1,941 MENTIONS IN PRINT, AND DIGITAL MEDIA



980 FACTSHEETS, CASE STUDIES, PUBLICATIONS, VIDEOS AND HOW-TO- TOOLKITS DEVELOPED



1,308 TRAINING SESSIONS



558 PEER-TO-PEER EXCHANGES



58 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

PARTNERSHIPS

DURING FY 2016-2017 SGP CONTINUED TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES WITH THE SUPPORT OF VARIOUS PARTNERS AND DONORS INCLUDING:

Australian Aid 



Supported by:



Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

based on a decision of the German Bundestag



NORWEGIAN MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT



SATOYAMA INITIATIVE



JAPAN Official Development Assistance

MONITORING AND EVALUATION



1,648 PROJECTS VISITED



3 GLOBAL EVALUATIONS CONDUCTED FOR PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES



SGP Cameroon.



The Small Grants Programme (SGP) is a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) since 1992. SGP grantmaking in over 125 countries promotes community-based innovation, capacity development, and empowerment through sustainable development projects of local civil society organizations with special consideration for indigenous peoples, women, and youth. SGP has supported over 20,000 community-based projects in biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, prevention of land degradation, protection of international waters, and reduction of the impact of chemicals, while generating sustainable livelihoods.



The Global Environment Facility (GEF), established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, is a catalyst for action on the environment — and much more. Through its strategic investments, the GEF works with partners to tackle the planet's biggest environmental issues. Our funding also helps reduce poverty, strengthen governance and achieve greater equality between women and men. As such, we occupy a unique space in the global partnership for a more sustainable planet.



UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone. On the ground in 177 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations.
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*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*



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