



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME RESULTS REPORT (FY 2017-2023)

MONGOLIA



COUNTRY REPORT CARD

FY 2017-2023

PORTFOLIO PROFILE SINCE INCEPTION			
Country Programme Name	Mongolia		
Year Started	2003		
	GEF	Non-GEF	Total
Number of projects	472	32	504
Grant amount committed	4,745,206	762,972	5,508,178
Project level co-financing in cash	1,736,129	149,926	1,886,055
Project level co-financing in kind	3,126,469	465,193	3,591,662
Total co-financing *	6,240,688		
Source: SGP database as of 2023			
* Total co-financing = Total project level co-financing (in cash and in kind) + Non-GEF grant amount committed			

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023
Focal Area Distribution (by completed projects)								
Biodiversity	3	4	3	-	-	6	1	17
Land Degradation	6	3	5	1	-	4	2	21
Capacity Development	3	3	1	-	2	2	3	14
Chemicals and Waste	-	2	-	5	2	1	-	10
Total Projects Completed	12	12	9	6	4	13	6	62

Source: Reporting by Country Programme as part of Annual Monitoring Process (2016-2023)

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
** Kindly note the total values 2016-2023 have undergone comprehensive quality assurance that supports aggregation of results over time. This includes removal of duplicative data over time and/or inclusion of more results based on verification by SGP country teams.								
PROGRESS TOWARDS FOCAL AREA OBJECTIVES								
Biodiversity								
Number of biodiversity projects completed	3	4	3	-	-	6	1	17
Number of Protected Areas (PAs) positively influenced	5	1	3	-	-	3	1	13
Hectares of PAs	3,009,865	293,168	400,000	-	-	290,000	888,455	4,881,488
Number of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced	43	4	3	-	-	2	10	62
Hectares of ICCAs	193,500	35,000	11,000	-	-	11,000	35,000	285,500
Number of biodiversity-based products sustainably produced	4	4	2	-	-	2	3	15
Number of significant species conserved	-	-	-	-	-	3	22	25
Number of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	5	3	5	-	-	2	10	25
Hectares of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use	170,000	800,000	600,000	-	-	28,000	35,000	1,633,000
Climate Change								
Did the country programme address community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies? (yes/no)	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	1
Land Degradation								
Number of land degradation projects completed	6	3	5	1	-	4	2	21

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	620	400	300	42	-	-	700	2,062
Number of community members demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices	124	123	300	42	-	84	500	1,173
Hectares of land brought under improved management practices	480	300	240	14	-	300	60	1,394
Number of farmer leaders involved in successful demonstrations of agro-ecological practices	14	14	11	4	-	3	11	57
Number of farmer organizations, groups or networks disseminating climate-smart agroecological practices	3	2	2	1	-	-	2	10
Chemicals and Waste								
Number of chemicals and waste projects completed	-	2	-	5	2	1	-	10
Number of mercury management projects completed	-	2	-	5	2	-	-	9
Pesticides properly disposed (kg)	-	-	-	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
Mercury avoided, reduced or sustainably managed (kg)	-	30	-	200	30	-	-	260
Number of national coalitions and networks on chemicals and waste management established or strengthened	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Community-Based Tools/Approaches Deployed as Part of the Portfolio								
Awareness raising and capacity development	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	1
Capacity Development								
Number of capacity development projects completed	3	3	1	-	2	2	3	14
Number of civil society organizations with strengthened capacities	8	3	2	-	1	17	2	33

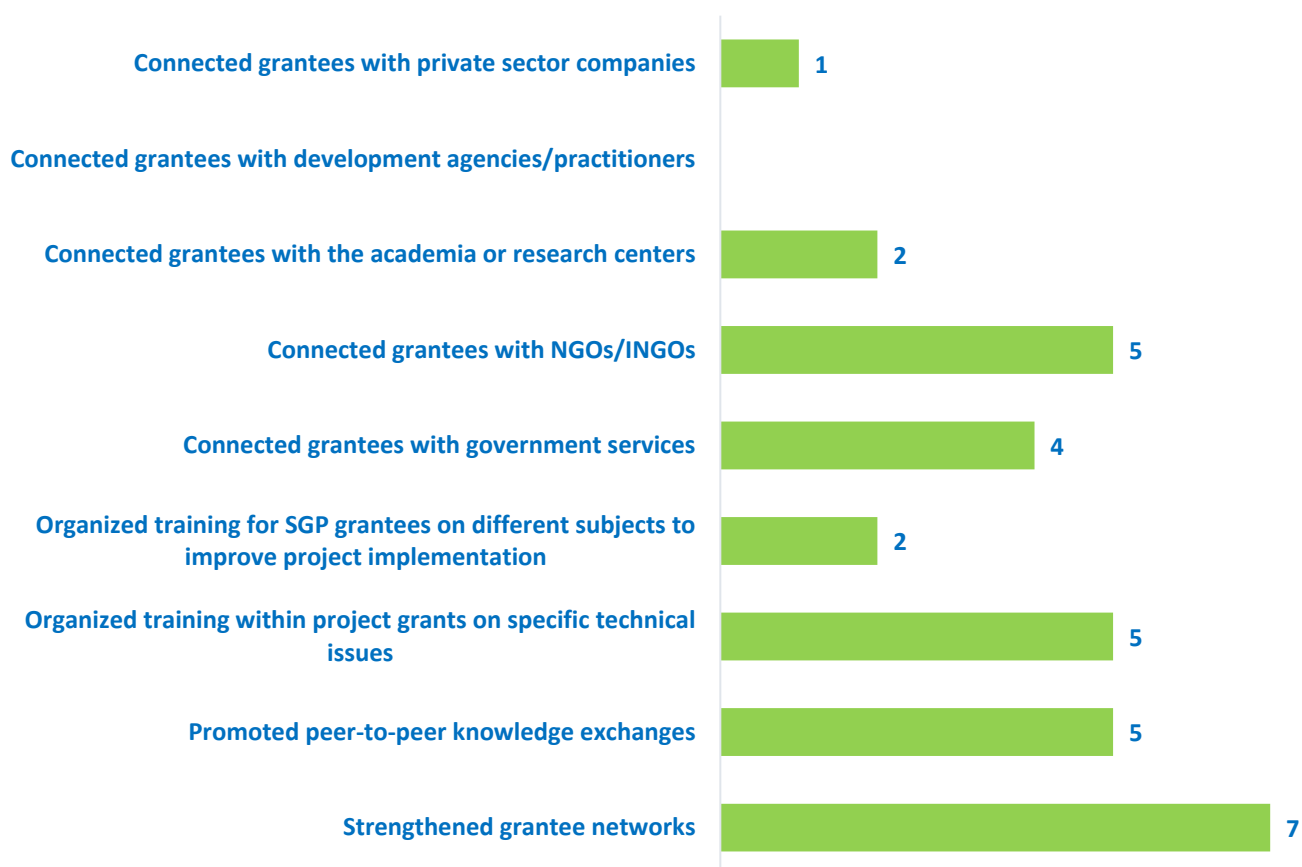
	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Number of community-based organizations with strengthened capacities	4	12	14	-	-	14	1	45
Number of people with improved capacities to address global environmental issues at the community level	72	500	2,400	-	-	-	250	3,222
GRANTMAKER PLUS								
CSO-Government Dialogue								
Number of CSO-government dialogues supported	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Number of CSO/CBO representatives involved in the dialogues	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Gender								
Number of gender responsive completed projects	12	12	9	6	3	5	6	53
Number of completed projects led by women	7	-	6	6	3	5	6	33
Programme Management: NSC gender focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Youth								
Number of completed projects that included youth	3	2	-	5	3	2	-	15
Number of youth organizations	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Programme Management: NSC youth focal point (yes/no)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	7
Persons with Disability								
Number of disabled persons organizations	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
BROADER ADOPTION (Scaling up, Replication, Policy Influence, Improving Livelihoods)								
Projects replicated or scaled up	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Projects with policy influence	2	2	-	5	-	1	-	10

	July 2016 - June 2017	July 2017 - June 2018	July 2018 - June 2019	July 2019 - June 2020	July 2020 - June 2021	July 2021 - June 2022	July 2022 - June 2023	Total Value 2016 - 2023 **
Projects improving livelihoods of communities	12	5	4	4	1	5	3	34
PROGRAMME EFFECTIVENESS								
Peer-to-peer exchanges conducted	1	5	1	-	-	2	-	9
Community-level trainings conducted	3	2	2	4	1	1	3	16
Number of projects monitored through field visits	33	22	37	35	12	16	23	178
PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT								
National Steering Committee								
Number of NSC meetings occurred during the reporting period	3	1	1	1	2	1	1	10
Average number of NSC members that participated in each NSC meeting	7	8	8	9	9	9	9	8

GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION OF KEY RESULTS

Interpreting the Green Bars in Graphs: The presence of green bars indicates the number of years that the country programme has achieved specific results. If a green bar is absent, it signifies that while the associated result is not observed in the country programme, it is still evident in the overall aggregated SGP portfolio.

Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Capacity Development Strategies (Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)



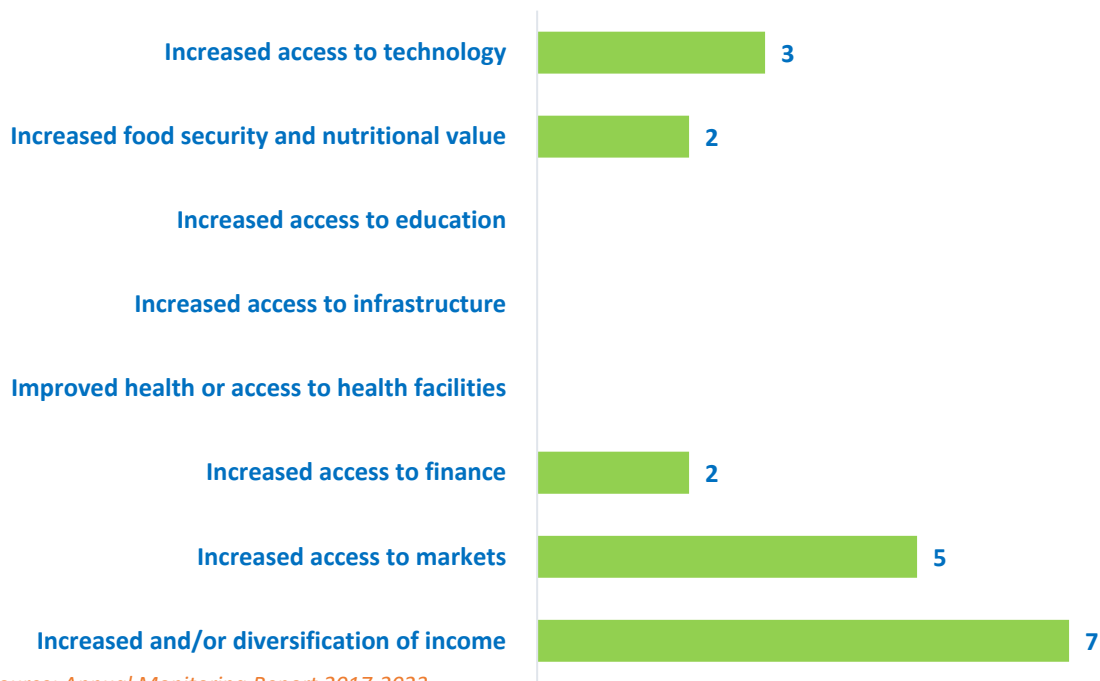
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Gender Mainsreaming Strategies
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



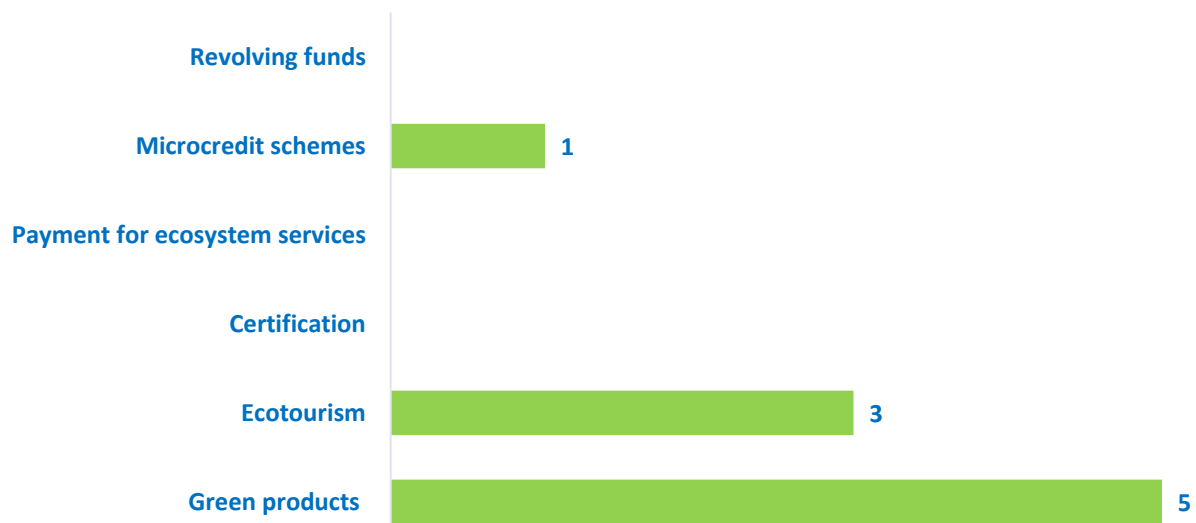
Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Strategies to Improve Community Livelihoods and Quality of Life
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Deployed Market-based and Financial Mechanisms to Improve Community Livelihoods
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

**Number of Years Country Programme Addressed Sustainable Development Goals
(Over 7-year reporting period from 2017-2023)**



Source: Annual Monitoring Report 2017-2023

EXAMPLES OF PROJECT RESULTS

Biodiversity

In **Mongolia**, three inter-linked SGP grants on biodiversity conservation were completed during the reporting cycle. These included: (i) ‘enhancing community livelihood capacities through establishing community seed banks’; (ii) ‘beekeeping for community forestry practitioners as an alternative livelihood enhancement option’; and (iii) ‘ecotourism-based sustainable development’. The selected OP6 CPS geographic focus builds upon and deepens previous efforts developed by the SGP COMDEKS partnership with the Government of Japan, Satoyama Initiative. The first SGP project worked with *Tod Kharaa community-based organization* to campaign on native seed collection amongst 17 community groups coming from across the OP6 target landscapes; and construction and establishment of a regional community training center in Bayangol soum, Selenge province. The training center consolidated and extended training activities previously being offered to communities from Selenge, Bulgan and Tuv provinces practicing community protected areas, and community forestry. In parallel, the campaign for native seed collection took place amongst 1,200 individual members, belonging to 17 community groups, leading to the successful collection of over 800 kg of seeds from different rare, medicinal, and useful plants from all over the country. The seeds collected have been maintained by the SGP grantee community as a seed bank reserve, including a system for the annual redistribution of seeds for in situ re-planting by member organizations, with the balance sold at trade fairs and local markets to earn cash income as cost recovery for the network of local seed collectors. The seed bank and community distribution mechanism has become recognized by its members as a good practice and will be consolidated and repeated in 2017. In another project involving Khurgalag bee-keeping community in Mandal soum/county within Selenge province, the project focused on an intensive training of new beekeepers; the importation of 160 new bee colonies from across the border in Russia; as well as follow up, technical advice and site visits. Organized with the Khurgalag community of nomadic herders, the field training brought together 41 community groups interested in bee-keeping techniques and related activities. Each of the community groups was given four bee colonies, imported from Russia by the grantee partner, to take back to their respective areas. At the national level, the network of beekeepers has been connected to a growing demand for Mongolian organic honey, in particular from the Japanese market. Building on the above efforts, a third SGP grant has supported ecotourism-based sustainable development activities, including the promotion of agro- biodiversity products, and rural homestays for domestic and international tourists visiting the country. According to the SGP Mongolia NSC, the initial experience in adopting the OP6 landscape approach has offered numerous advantages, including the ability for the SGP to bring together many community groups within a network-based approach at the landscape level, promoting a closer and more unified cooperation among communities, and fruitful exchange of knowledge and experience. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2016-2017)**

Sustainable Land Management

In **Mongolia**, there were three grants aimed at land degradation projects, working synergistically with each other. The projects implemented in this reporting period were “*Groves in Taragt*”, “*Protection of water springs and promotion of knowledge products*” and “*Increasing household firewood supply in Gobi with planting fast growing trees and fodders that replace saxaul*”. As drought occurs frequently and hits hard most of the country every year, the protection of, and support to, natural water bodies and springs is becoming an extremely important task. The first two grants were given to support the local ecosystems rehabilitation by establishing fencing and tree planting activities around a number of water bodies including several life-sustaining springs in *Uvurhangai* province. Over 200 herders and local residents have been involved in the grant implementation. Both grants have also resulted in planting trees around vegetable fields owned by communities to create wind shields as an initial activity or preparation for taking advanced agro-ecological measures in the coming years. The third grant was invested in the establishment of a tree nursery in a remote Gobi area -- *Bogd soum of Bayanhongor* province, where intensive desertification has taken place, destroying pasture and leaving livestock without grasses under worsening climate change impacts. The tree nursery in the Gobi was intended to raise fast growing tree seedlings including willow trees that can be used as fodder and fuel woods to replace saxaul. At the project site, about 0.8 ha area was fenced to be separated from the impact of livestock, and a well was drilled for irrigation and fresh water supply. A few of the fast-growing trees have been planted inside the fence and put under close observation- to support further replication of practices. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2017-2018).**

Capacity Development

SGP supported a project in **Mongolia** to share good agroecological practices including the use of home-made organic fertilizers, plant-based insecticides, mixed cultivation and intercropping. As agroecology is one of the most important topics and challenges in the country, the *Sustainable Development and Environment Fund* (SDEF) prepared display materials and information on different aspects of agroecology, including 10 principles of agroecology and agroecological practices on conservation tillage, mixing crops in a single plot such as intercropping and polyculture, crop rotation and fallowing, etc. The educational and informative materials were displayed in ten major soums (districts) of Selenge and Tuv provinces to raise the awareness of small-holder farmers and vegetable growers about agroecology and its significance. SDEF also prepared a report titled *Together for Development and Progress* consolidating SGP activities conducted over 2015-2016 and distributed to former grantees and other SGP stakeholders for information, awareness and educational purposes.

In addition to the stand-alone grants for capacity development as noted above, various capacity development strategies are used to develop capacities as a cross cutting theme across SGP's project grants portfolio. SGP country programmes conducted the following types of activities to increase the capacity of and empower communities, CBOs, NGOs, women and indigenous people's organizations, among others. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2018-2019)**

In **Mongolia**, *Khuduugiin Nогоон Khugjliin Khureelen* completed a project aimed to make the central settlement of *Uyanga* Soum (district) in *Uverkhanga*i Province a sustainable "green city" by involving citizens, women, children, and government officials in practical tasks that improve the environment and address issues related to green facilities and waste management. 15 people were trained as pioneers in horticulture and greenhouse farming, who, in turn, led and trained others in planting trees and gardening. Together, they organized multiple tree-planting events, planting more than 5,500 trees and shrubs of 14 different types. The events were supported with an irrigation system and two tree-hole diggers. Also, the pioneers have been directly participating in the implementation of activities related to the green soum development programme, garbage disposal, and green landscaping. In addition, the project focused on spreading knowledge about nature and ecology among elementary school students through participatory methods. The *Eco Club* students took the initiative to organize a trash can collection competition among school children to promote waste management and disposal of plastic waste. Additionally, a hall at *High School II* in *Uyanga* Soum was transformed into an Eco Club room, fully furnished with colorful chairs, tables, and a library, equipped with computers and wireless internet facilities. Peer trainers are now available at the club to further disseminate environmental awareness and knowledge among their peers and the broader community. Moreover, the project provided training to soum officials and community members on plastic waste collection and disposal. Plastic collection containers were installed in five locations at the soum center.

Through these efforts, the benefits of green development and a green soum were effectively communicated to the citizens. The project fostered a sense of cooperation and joint action towards green development. **(Source: Annual Monitoring Report, 2012-2013)**

ALIGNMENT OF OP7 COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY WITH NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Mongolia is a party to all the Rio Conventions. Hence the SGP country programme needs to assist the country in fulfilling its international obligations and national environmental priorities, in particular those priorities, obligations and commitments associated with rural communities and CSOs. Table 1 presents Rio conventions and national planning frameworks relevant to SGP for delivering the programme in cooperation with CBOs and other CSOs.

List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes:

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification /completion
GEF-7 National Dialogues	
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	1 June, 1993
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	10 July, 1996
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	20 December, 2012
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1 June, 1993
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	2001, 2010
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	January, 2010
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	being developed
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	Amended and renewed in 2019
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	22 August, 1996
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	4 June, 2003
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	17 May, 2002
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	2006
Minamata Convention on Mercury	28 September, 2015
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2016
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	2019
Tumen river SAP	1999
Others (list) as relevant	

UNDP-implemented Small Grants Programme is delivering integrated results at the country level supporting local level capacities aligned with multiple Multilateral Environmental Conventions. This includes support to work for CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) and National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA), UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP), and localization of Sustainable Development Goals, amongst many others.

METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF COUNTRY REPORT

- Results aggregations over time are only for completed projects.
- With SGP's rolling modality, results reflect all ongoing operational phases during the indicated period. Please refer to the total projects completed on the first page for information in this regard.
- The source of reported results is the annual monitoring process, which is part of the annual monitoring requirements for each country programme. Additionally, evaluative evidence sources have also been leveraged, if available for the country programme.
- This results report benefits from extensive quality assurance. All information across all countries in the portfolio is harmonized, verified, and evidenced before being reported. Several layers of this quality assurance have been implemented in the generation of this report and there are no result duplications across years. This point is important not only for a specific unit of measurement (i.e., indicator selected) but also for results aggregation across years in a given operational phase. Reported results include both direct and indirect global-environmental and socio-economic benefits. This is due to SGP's work in two key areas:
 - SGP works towards behavioural change at individual, organizational, and community levels. Social determinants that shape human interaction with the environment play an important role, especially at the community level, as sustainability and the continuation of environmental gains often depend on them. These factors include positive shifts in knowledge, attitudes, practices, social and cultural norms, and conventions. Such interventions shape not only demand but also communication between community leaders and other influencers in promoting the adoption of environmentally friendly behaviours and practices. Often, SGP projects have ripple effects that go well beyond the direct scope of the project, emphasizing the importance of measuring indirect impact.
 - Encouraging Community Action for Environmental Change. For many years, SGP has focused on promoting and supporting local community groups to bring about broader and sustainable environmental change. This approach is a key aspect of SGP's work and recognizes the power of motivated community groups to create significant impact and drive positive transformation. Community group action refers to informal gatherings of individuals and organizations in the community who share a common belief and purpose. It involves taking practical steps over time to address environmental and socioeconomic challenges and creating positive change. This grassroots-level approach relies on the active involvement and empowerment of the community, with the initial efforts acting as a catalyst for further mobilization. By encouraging self-governance and involving those most affected by the issues, community action can extend its influence to more people in the community, underscoring the importance of measuring indirect impact.