

Investing in Our Planet

GEF Annual Report 2006-07





About the GEF

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) unites 178 countries in partnership with international institutions, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector to address global environmental issues while supporting national sustainable development initiatives.

Today the GEF is the largest funder of projects to improve the global environment. An independent financial organization, the GEF provides grants for projects related to biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, the ozone layer, and persistent organic pollutants.

Since 1991, the GEF has achieved a strong track record with developing countries and countries with economies in transition, providing \$7.4 billion in grants and leveraging \$28.0 billion in cofinancing for more than 1,900 projects in over 160 countries.

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Time for Change

Message from Monique Barbut, GEF Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson



MONIQUE BARBUT

Over the past two years, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has been working to plan and implement changes to our mission, our institutional culture, and our operating methods so as to provide an even better, more responsive service to recipient countries, especially the poorest and most vulnerable among them.

I believe that these reforms were indispensable in order to meet our goal of driving global environmental benefits. And they were timely: public awareness of growing environmental challenges, from climate change to habitat loss, has been growing steadily. So have the challenges we are facing.

To meet these challenges, we have shifted gears in the GEF and put into place a five-point sustainability compact that is raising the impact of GEF investments to a new level of results and making the GEF a leading force for sustainable development.

The key elements of the sustainability compact are strategy, innovation, equity, accessibility, and focus.

Strategically, we are moving away

from a project-driven approach to a more tightly defined programmatic approach targeted to fit well into revised strategies for each focal area. We are also building synergies for cross-cutting issues such as sustainable forestry and chemicals management.

Innovation is a characteristic that an institution such as the GEF clearly must foster by using its resources as “seed money” to finance imaginative entrepreneurial efforts and technologies that do not yet have a market base. Thus we are making the GEF an increasingly powerful leverage for capital on sustainable development.

The GEF has also sought to be more equitable by leveling the playing field, so that the countries most endangered by the shifting impact of the changing environment can keep up with the rest of the world. Thus we seek results that are positive for these countries, both for the environment we share and for their development.

To be accessible, the GEF needs to be understood, and we are establishing a direct dialogue and support to countries and their repre-

sentatives, or focal points, so that they can comprehend and benefit faster and more easily from the support of the GEF. We have also been listening closely to these countries’ concerns and priorities so as to be more accountable in this respect.

To enhance our focus we are drawing more carefully on each partner country’s comparative advantage, thus solidifying the GEF corporate family with a strong, unified presence and a simplified first-class project portfolio that is in line with the countries’ priorities.

Procedurally, in order to ensure quality at entry of all project proposals, we have created a simplified Project Identification Form whereby the Secretariat provides comment and clearance before fully developing a project. The project cycle has been redesigned to ensure that a full-size project will take no more than a maximum of 22 months to progress from identification to start of implementation.

In addition, we have put into place a results-based management framework, a new monitoring system that will help demonstrate

measurable results and true global environmental benefits. A fundamental change has also taken place in the way we disseminate GEF funds aimed at improving predictability and therefore helping countries better program their activities. The Resource Allocation Framework, in the climate change and biodiversity focal areas, allocates specific resources, making it easier for countries to plan ahead and prioritize GEF resources.

These and other reforms noted in this report and in other GEF communications are quite evolutionary, even revolutionary, from the GEF's point of view. And, just as definitively, they build upon a very solid foundation: since 1992, the GEF—together with its partners—has invested close to \$38 billion in more than 2,000 hand-selected projects in over 165 countries. That makes the GEF, proudly, the largest funder of environmental projects in the developing world.

Of significant note, for every dollar we have invested, on an average, an additional \$4 has been contributed by a broad range of donor countries and institutions, ensuring significant leverage for every GEF dol-

lar and every donor dollar invested. Indeed, we are proud of our status as the recognized financial or implementing mechanism for many major multilateral environmental agreements and conventions, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Montreal Protocol, and the Stockholm Convention. The respective conferences of parties to these conventions have provided us with important guidance to improve our performance as an integral part of the conventions' functioning.

So, to build on this foundation, we have undertaken some far-reaching and sometimes challenging reforms. Although they are still too new to really assess, there is no doubt that, slowly but surely, we are seeing some positive results, and a more responsive, more dynamic GEF.

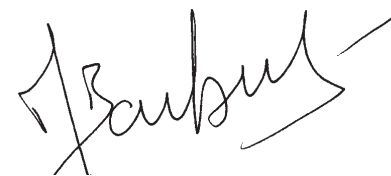
My colleagues and I work hard, every day, to earn the trust placed in us. We are doing a more intensive job of communicating to the world about what we do and the achievements we accomplish together. The GEF is becoming better known to those outside the small, insular world in which we

are an active participant. This is a key factor in ensuring that the GEF receives the support it deserves and needs. As many of you know, I personally called every country focal point—some 180 of them—to introduce our Resource Allocation Framework one-on-one. While I can only wish that I could achieve that level of personal contact every single day, please realize that you are always free to call me—or any of my GEF colleagues—to discuss what is on your mind.

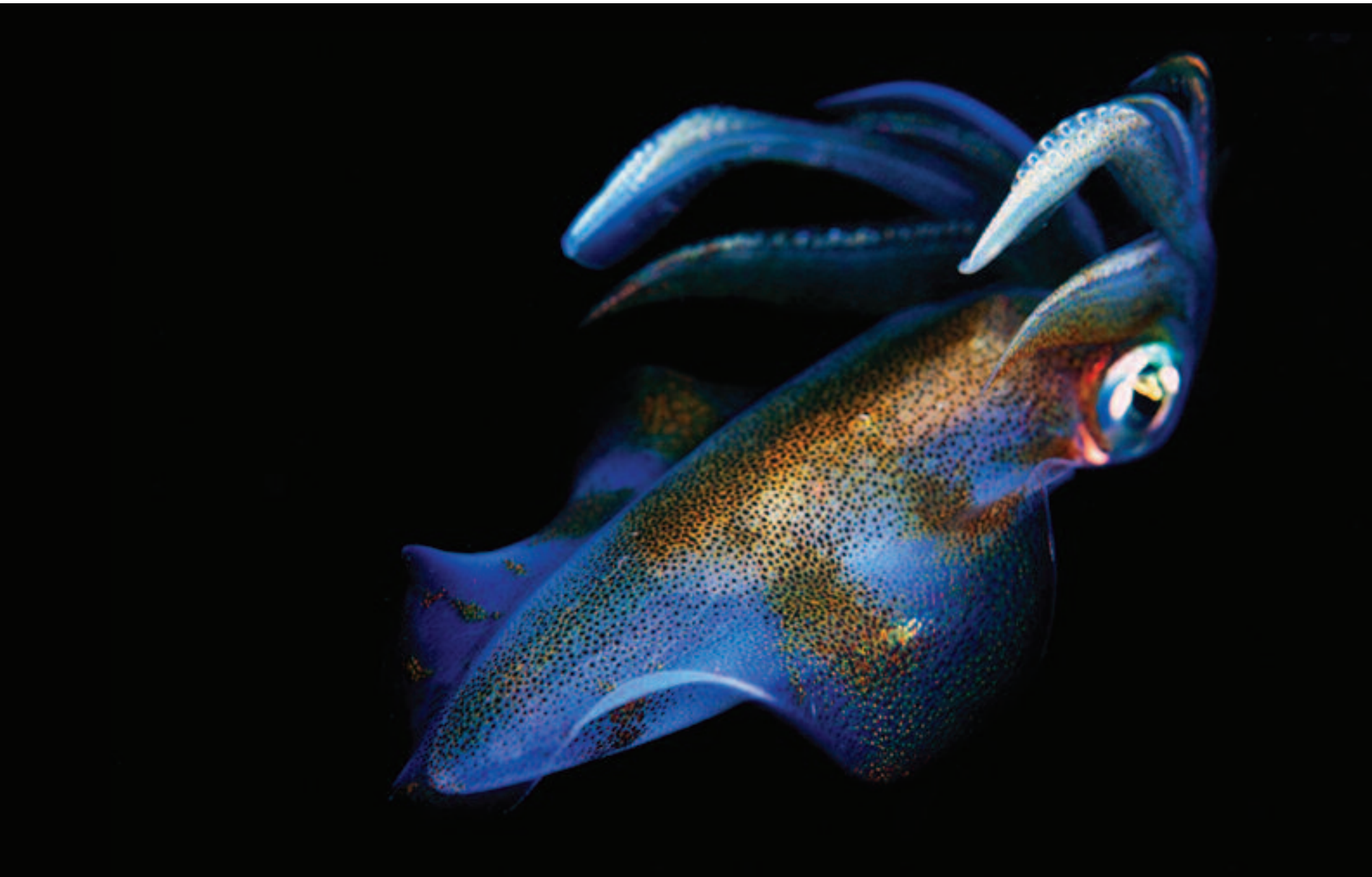
This report covers the two years over which these ideas and reforms have been developed and put in place. The sections that follow highlight these activities and set the tone for the coming years.

Looking forward, the GEF as an institution has to gear up to play a meaningful role for the 21st century. There is a large and growing demand for GEF resources, and together we can and should play an even more central role in helping our planet reverse the disturbing environmental trends that continue to plague us. Today's challenge is to build on past achievements by further catalyzing the participation of the various stake-

holders with which we work. As an independent, transparent entity with no vested interests, the GEF stands as a unique bridge between the UN agencies, the development banks, and bilateral donors. If we truly want to foster the kind of innovation we need to get results, we should take steps to increase the GEF's own resources. A stronger GEF will mean a better chance of advancing our collective goal to protect the world's resources for future generations.



Monique Barbut
CEO and Chairperson
Global Environment Facility



Investing in Our Planet

The 4th Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund

In November 2004, the GEF Council requested the World Bank, as trustee of the GEF Trust Fund in cooperation with the CEO and chairperson of the GEF, to initiate the fourth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (the GEF-4). The GEF Trust Fund is replenished once every four years by a varying number of donors who negotiate their contributions in a multistakeholder process that includes considerations on operational adjustments of the GEF work program.

GEF-4 replenishment discussions included the following subjects: (i) the Third Overall Performance Study of the GEF (OPS3); (ii) programming of resources for the GEF-4; (iii) policy recommendations for the GEF-4; and (iv) financial arrangements and burden sharing for the GEF-4. The establishment of the new Resource Allocation Framework was a key issue for the GEF-4 replenishment discussions, which were held for more than a year, from March 2005 to June 2006.

The replenishment discussions were based on the third Overall Performance Study of the GEF which provided an independent evaluation of the operations of the GEF during the third replenishment period. The study evaluated the results of GEF activities; the sustainability of results at the country level; the GEF as a catalytic institution; GEF policies, institutional structure and partnerships; and the GEF implementation processes.

In July 2006, 32 donors agreed at the GEF Council meeting in Cape Town on a fourth replenishment of the GEF for a total of \$3.13 billion to support programming during the 2006–2010 period. This represented the biggest amount ever pledged to a single institution for the financing of global environmental projects, and the biggest in the history of the GEF. Along with the replenishment, donors also agreed on an ambitious set of reforms to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the institution. The incoming CEO and chairperson, Monique Barbut, also enacted additional reforms to further the institutional development agenda.

These reforms have produced a revolution in the way the GEF conducts its day-to-day work. Though putting these elements in place took over a year and effectively delayed the start of GEF-4, their impact has been strong throughout the system. The components of this reform can be summarized as follows:

- Implementing the Resource Allocation Framework
- Revising and focusing the GEF focal area strategies
- Streamlining the project cycle and developing rules and procedures for management of project cycle processes
- Implementing a results-based management strategy
- Simplifying the approach to applying incremental cost
- Developing a communications and outreach strategy
- Establishing a level playing field among all GEF agencies
- Ensuring that countries are in the driver's seat when it comes to setting programming priorities
- Developing a programmatic approach

- Requiring GEF agencies to adhere to minimum fiduciary standards

The 32 donors to this replenishment were Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Many donors increased their contribution levels and helped achieve a GEF-4 replenishment larger than that of the GEF-3, demonstrating extraordinary financial support to the GEF. The countries that agreed to provide voluntary supplemental contributions were Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Japan, Korea, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Resource Allocation Framework: An Effective Way to Work Together

Since its inception, the GEF had been primarily allocating funds in a “first-come, first-serve” manner. As individual projects were proposed, they were usually put in line for approval if the project met the appropriate criteria.

During negotiations on GEF-3 replenishment in the earlier part of the decade, it was recommended that the GEF move away from this allocation method and, as was being done at many similar institutions, take a more holistic approach, one that looked at a country’s overall performance and potential in relation to generating global environmental benefits.

This new way of disseminating GEF funds, the Resource Allocation Framework (RAF), was put in place in the current period, initially affecting two of six focal areas—climate change and biodiversity—which together represent approximately two-thirds of GEF resources. Since July 2006, resources in these two focal areas are no longer provided in a first-come, first-serve

fashion, but are subject to a predetermined allocation.

The GEF RAF is built on two key pillars. The first pillar, a country’s potential to generate global environmental benefits, reflects the mandate of the GEF to provide incremental cost financing to generate global environmental benefits. The second pillar, country performance, reflects the national policies and enabling environment that facilitate successful implementation of GEF projects. These two pillars are reflected in the RAF through the two indexes:

- 1) The GEF Benefits Index (GBI), a measure of the potential of each country to generate global environmental benefits in a particular focal area; for example, in the climate change area, the country’s current greenhouse gas emissions level is a base factor, and
- 2) The GEF Performance Index (GPI), a measure of each country’s capacity, policies, and practices relevant to a successful implementation of GEF programs and projects.

GEF Benefits Index (GBI)

For the initial application of the RAF, separate indexes have been

developed to measure a country’s potential to generate global environmental benefits in the focal areas of biodiversity and climate change.

GBI for Biodiversity

The GBI for biodiversity measures the potential global benefits that can be realized from biodiversity-related activities in a country. It reflects the complex, highly uneven distribution of species and threats to them across the ecosystems of the world, both within and across countries. It recognizes the richness of available data in some areas of biodiversity through the inclusion of detailed indicators and acknowledges the data gaps in other areas through the inclusion of broad indicators. It is aligned with the 2010 targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

GBI for Climate Change

The GBI for climate change measures the potential global benefits that can be realized from climate change mitigation activities in a country. The approach reflects the objectives of the GEF climate change programs to address long-term priorities to mitigate climate change.

GEF Performance Index (GPI)

The second component of the framework, the GEF Performance Index, measures each country’s capacity to successfully implement GEF programs and projects based on the country’s current and past performance. It is composed of three indicators:

- *Portfolio Performance Indicator*, with a weight of 20 percent in GPI, is equally split between an indicator developed from GEF project ratings (contained in the Project Implementation Review) and an indicator developed from ratings from implementation completion reports on World Bank environment-related projects by the World Bank Operations Evaluation Department
- *Country Environmental Policy and Institutional Assessment Indicator*, with a weight of 60 percent in GPI, is based on the Policies and Institutions for Environmental Sustainability indicator from the World Bank’s Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA), and
- *Broad Framework Indicator*, with a weight of 20 percent in GPI, is based on the average of the five

indicators under the Public Sector Management and Institutions cluster of the CPIA

Allocations under the RAF

From these calculations, each country is assigned a figure representing a maximum allocation possibility, publicly disclosed at the beginning of the replenishment period, and subject to adjustment every two years. This figure is not an entitlement, but is a country's focal area maximum against which appropriate projects can be selected.

For each focal area, all eligible countries are listed in decreasing order of allocations. The highest-ranked countries whose cumulative allocations equal 75 percent of the total resources in the focal area receive specific country indicative allocations equal to their respective allocation.

The remaining countries are placed in a group with collective access to the indicative allocations for the group consisting of the resources available for a focal area that are not excluded from the RAF and are not allocated to individual countries. The upper limit on approved projects for any country in the

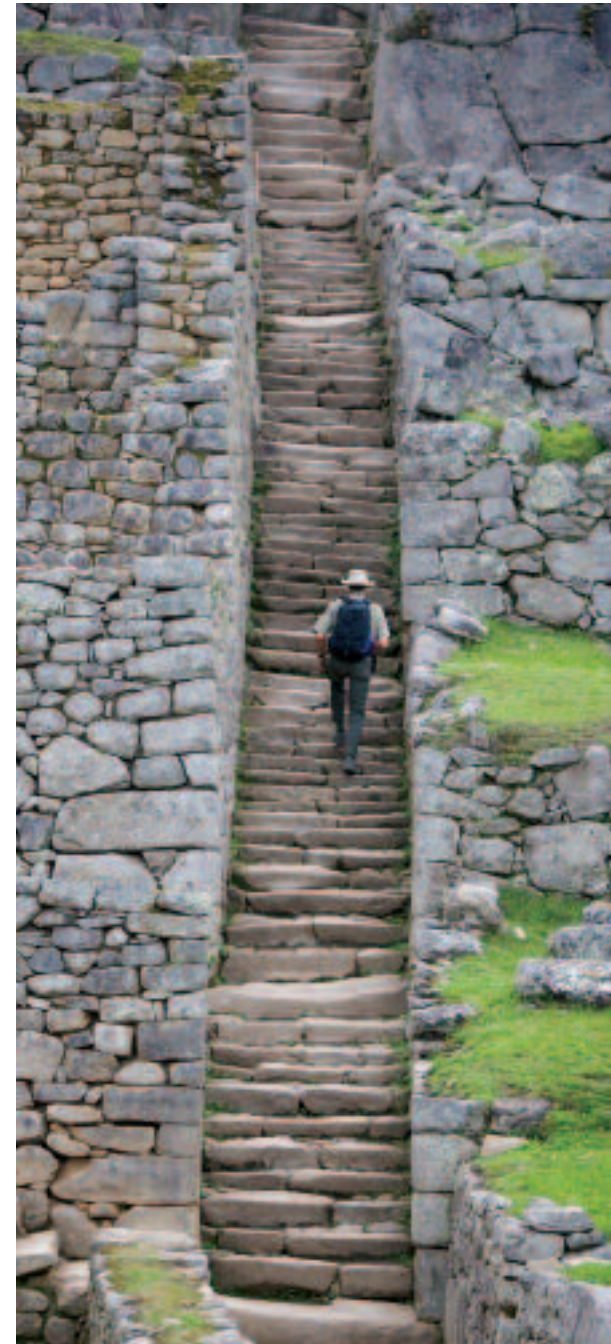
group is equal to the allocation of the highest-ranked country in the group. Ten percent of RAF resources were set aside for global and regional projects, enabling activities, and cross-cutting capacity building.

Unused allocations at the end of the replenishment period will not be carried forward as part of the country or group allocation into the next replenishment period. Unused allocations will be carried over as part of the total funds available for a new allocation in the next replenishment period.

The RAF system offers a number of benefits to the GEF, donors, and recipient countries alike. For example, now that countries know their potential allocation in advance, they can plan ahead over a four-year period, selecting projects and deploying funds more proactively. In fact, many recipient countries have taken the opportunity to create a central mechanism that holistically organizes information from dozens or hundreds of the agencies, ministries, NGOs, community groups, and other environmental stakeholders within their borders. They can then prioritize potential

efforts based on the needs of the country overall, ensuring maximum benefits and avoiding redundancies.

Like many other GEF reforms, the RAF is designed to be a work in progress, with semiannual Council reports and a mid-period review to fine-tune the program to best meet the needs of all stakeholders in the 5th replenishment period beginning in 2010.



The New Project Cycle: Simpler Process, Reduced Burden

One of the principal obstacles to efficient use of GEF resources was the complexity and time-consuming nature of the process leading from project concept to its implementation. Therefore, one of the key elements of the new CEO's reform was the design of a new project cycle. Its main goal is to make the work simpler, faster and more predictable.

In this new project cycle, all medium- (up to \$1 million) and full-size projects have been implemented according to a revised project cycle approved by the Council in June 2007.

By reducing the number of processing steps and harmonizing the documentation requirements with the standard procedures of the GEF agencies, the new project cycle reduces the time needed for project preparation. Full-size projects have to be endorsed by the CEO within 22 months from the date of Council approval of the work program;

medium-size projects have to receive the approval of the CEO of the final project document within 12 months from the Project Identification Form (PIF) approval. The new project cycle also allows a more strategic programming of GEF resources and increases transparency in the decision-making process by posting on the GEF Web site all the documents and the decisions related to each PIF submitted to the GEF Secretariat.

Once the GEF Secretariat has completed its review and has circulated the PIF among all GEF agencies and relevant Convention Secretariats, the CEO will consider the PIF for inclusion in a work program. PIFs cleared for work program inclusion will be sent for STAP screening. STAP comments will then be posted on the Web site together with the PIF.

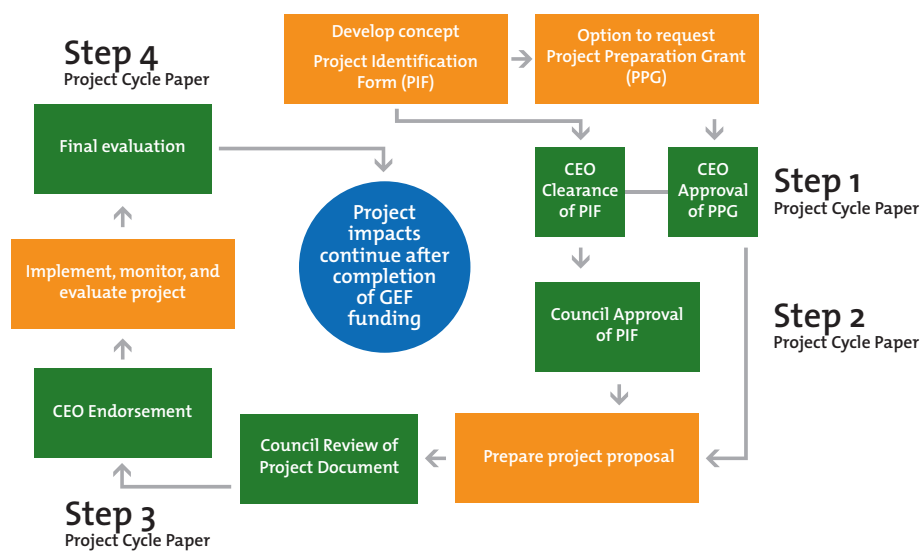
All PIFs cleared for work program inclusion will be eligible for a GEF project preparation grant, which may be approved by the GEF CEO for an amount based on the estimated incremental costs of project preparation. Agencies now have the option to request a fee advance on the amount of the project preparation grant.

If the agreed-upon milestones and agreements in the PIF and project preparation grant approval letters are not achieved, the CEO will consult with the recipient country and relevant GEF agency. The CEO may agree to revised milestones and understandings or decide to cancel the project concept.

Step 1: CEO Review of the PIF

In the new project cycles which GEF agencies can submit PIFs to the GEF Secretariat on a rolling basis, if endorsed by the country's operational focal point. The GEF Secretariat's review of a PIF focuses on the following elements:

- Country eligibility
- Consistency with GEF strategic objectives and programs
- Comparative advantage of the GEF agency submitting PIF
- Estimated cost of the project, including expected cofinancing
- Availability of resources for the GEF grant request within the focal area and under the Resource Allocation Framework
- Milestones for further project processing





Step 2: Council Approval of the Work Program

The second step in the GEF new project cycle is approval of the work programs (comprising PIFs for full-size projects, program framework documents, nonexpedited enabling activities, and agency fees) by the GEF Council. The Council reviews the work programs during the twice-yearly Council meetings and through several intersessional work programs and gives decisions by mail on a no-objection basis, between Council meetings. The work program document to be reviewed by the Council focuses on policy and strategic issues for Council consideration and describes the overall programmatic coherence of the concepts presented in the following terms:

- Their collective contributions to the GEF strategic objectives and programs
- Their focal area and geographic balance, including a cumulative assessment of previous work programs
- Their innovative elements, as well as replication potential;
- The key assumptions and risks in the further development of the portfolio
- The resource programming implications

In approving the work program, the Council will provide guidance to the Secretariat and the agencies on the strategic directions and programming framework for the GEF.

Beginning in fiscal year 2008, programmatic approaches for GEF funding will only be submitted to the Council at its meetings, not intersessionally. The Program Framework Document (PFD), which includes documentation for securing approval and guiding implementation of a specific program, is presented to the Council in a work program. The Council reviews the PFD and endorses the overall objective and scope of the program. PFDs will also identify, to the extent possible, all projects to be financed under the program. The PFD contains the following key information:

- Background and program rationale
- Value-added of the program (including cost-effectiveness)
- Program objective and results
- Consistency of the program with national/regional priorities/plans/policies
- Alignment with GEF focal area strategy
- Expected global environmental benefits
- Type of operations and potential

scope of projects under the program

- Risks and mitigation measures
- Program coordination, monitoring, and evaluation
- Other relevant information, including program implementation, indicative total GEF amount, potential cofinancing and sources, the program results framework, a list of potential projects and the program implementation timeline

Step 3: CEO Endorsement

The third step in the GEF project cycle is the GEF CEO's endorsement of the projects before such projects are approved by the GEF agencies. The final GEF funding amount is confirmed by the CEO at this point. The agencies transmit for CEO endorsement the same documentation that they submit for approval by their respective internal approving authorities, plus a Request for CEO Endorsement, which summarizes key information of the project. The project proposals are reviewed by the Secretariat for compliance with the following conditions for endorsement:

- High likelihood that the project, as designed, will deliver its outcomes and will generate appropriate global environmental ben-

efits that are consistent with focal area strategies, with an adequate explanation for any changes in expected global benefits since PIF approval

- Cost-effective use of GEF funds focus on review of the project budget, which includes cost tables for project components, project management, and consultants
- Compliance with GEF's monitoring and evaluation policy
- Cost-effective use of the project preparation grant as explained in the project preparation grant status report (which is included as an annex attached to the Request for CEO Endorsement)

Within 10 business days of receiving a draft final project document for endorsement, the Secretariat will review the proposal, and the CEO will determine whether the proposal is in compliance with the conditions for endorsement. As soon as the CEO has determined that the project proposal meets the conditions for endorsement, the Secretariat will circulate the draft final project document to Council members. Within four weeks of receiving such a document, and prior to CEO endorsement and final approval by the agency concerned,

Council members may transmit to the CEO any concerns they may have regarding the proposal related to technical, procedural, or policy issues or inconsistency with the GEF instrument.

The CEO has discretion to endorse or not endorse a proposal. The CEO will take into account any Council member's concerns prior to endorsement and work to address them with concerned parties, following which the CEO will recirculate the proposal, as needed.

The CEO will post those concerns on the GEF Web site, notify Council members within two days, and update the status of the project proposal in the management information system to indicate that endorsement will be delayed pending resolution of the concern expressed by the Council member. Endorsed final project documents will be posted on the GEF Web site.

The trustee will make commitments of funding to GEF agencies for projects and fees upon CEO endorsement. The commitments will be made based on the amounts endorsed by the CEO, as indicated in the endorsement letter from the CEO to GEF agencies. In

the case that the amount endorsed by the CEO is reduced from the amount approved by the Council for the project or fee, the trustee will release the remainder of the funds, which were previously set aside for the project or fee, back to the GEF Trust Fund to be made available for other projects, activities, or fees.

In all cases, transfer of funds from the trustee to agencies will be made after commitment by the trustee and subsequent agency approvals of the projects or activities, where relevant, following the procedures agreed to between the GEF agencies and the trustee.

For medium-size projects (MSP) the project cycle is shorter. The PIF has to be submitted to the GEF Secretariat for CEO approval. Once the PIF is approved, the agency can start preparation of the MSP until a final MSP project document is ready for CEO approval. A project preparation grant for the project may be approved by the CEO, if necessary, upon CEO approval of the PIF. After the CEO clears the MSP final project document, it will be posted on the GEF Web site for a two-week period, and a notification will be sent to the Council for com-

ments. At the end of the two-week circulation period, the CEO will send an approval letter to the agency indicating the approval of the project, the grant amount, and the associated agency fee.

If comments are provided by the Council, agencies should address the comments and notify the GEF Secretariat regarding responses to comments and if these have any effect on the final project document. As necessary, a revised project document may be resubmitted, and the CEO may approve the project based on the final submitted project document.

Enabling activities (EAs) under expedited procedures (up to \$500,000 in GEF financing, but varying across focal areas) do not need to submit a PIF. An EA project document will be approved by the CEO and will be accessible on the GEF database through the GEF Web site. For EAs that are not under expedited procedures, processing will be the same as full-size projects. The Secretariat will ask agencies to revise proposals that it deems not to be in compliance with the specified conditions for approval and to resubmit them for review, with another 10-day review

period. The CEO may also determine, in consultation with the country and the agency concerned, to stop further project preparation and cancel the project.

Step 4: Implementation Supervision, Monitoring, and Final Evaluation

The fourth step in the GEF project cycle consists of implementation supervision, monitoring, and final evaluation. Streamlining of the GEF project approval process will be accompanied by more robust result verification mechanisms. As part of its monitoring responsibilities, the Secretariat will conduct an Annual Monitoring Review, which will be based on the submission of Project Implementation Reports by the agencies. The key issues to be monitored include implementation progress, performance indicators, focal area strategic objectives, projects at risk, actions to achieve sustainability and replicability, stakeholder involvement, and cofinancing status.

The agencies are required to submit the final evaluation reports to the GEF Evaluation Office. In addition, the GEF Evaluation Office also assess the adequacy of the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) sys-

tem in the GEF, including compliance with the GEF M&E policy.

Upon financial closures of projects or activities, the GEF agencies report any unused funds to the Trustee.

The Secretariat, in consultation with the countries and in collaboration with the GEF agencies, will actively manage the project cycle as described in GEF/C.30/3, Rules, Procedures and Objective Criteria for Project Selection, Pipeline Management, Approval of Sub-projects, and Cancellation Policy (November 2006).

Results-Based Management Framework: Measuring Our Mutual Impact

The GEF has put into place a new monitoring system that will help demonstrate and ensure the ability of projects, focal areas, and the institution as a whole to provide measurable results and global environmental benefits.

The Results-Based Management Framework outlines specific objectives and measurable indicators in each focal area for every new project approved. A report will be made once a year on the status of these metrics. Typical indicators under particular objectives for each focal area might include, but are not limited to the following:

Biodiversity

Percentage increase in new habitat protected (hectares).

Climate Change

Energy consumption (and greenhouse gas emissions) of buildings and appliances (kilowatt-hours per square meter and tons of CO₂ equivalent per square meter).

International Waters

Monitoring levels of nutrient releases at demonstration sites.

Land Degradation

Percentage increase in carbon stocks (soil and plant biomass).

Persistent Organic Pollutants

PCBs phased out and disposed of.

Ozone-Depleting Substances

Percentage of GEF-funded countries that meet their reporting obligations under the Montreal Protocol.

Under the Results-Based Management Framework, the design of each new project will include baseline data for each metric so that progress can be measured and tracked systematically.

In addition to providing valuable data regarding the ongoing progress of individual projects, these annually measured indicators, in conjunction with the results of ultimate formal project evaluations by the independent Evaluation Office, will equip the GEF with the information needed to assess how the organization's efforts contribute to its overall goal—of achieving global environ-

mental benefits on both a focal area level and an institutional level—and are a major element of the GEF's evolution to a results-oriented culture.



Focal Area Strategies

At the outset of GEF-4, the GEF Secretariat led a process for revising the six focal area strategies, taking into account the cross-cutting issues of sustainable forest management and sound chemicals management. This was a direct response to the policy recommendations for the fourth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund. The revision also followed the strategic elements of the Sustainability Compact for a New GEF presented by the CEO to Council in December 2006.

In order to ensure a broad and consultative revision process, the CEO established Technical Advisory Groups on biodiversity, climate change, sustainable land management, international waters, sustainable forest management, and sound chemicals management and a Strategy Advisory Group for overarching coordination. Each TAG was composed of external experts, selected from among nominations by the Council Members, a representative from the relevant convention secretariats, a member of STAP, and a member from the GEF Secretariat, who served as technical secretary and convener of the TAG.

Working drafts of the focal area strategies and minutes from the meetings of the advisory groups were posted on the GEF Web site throughout the process for comment from all stakeholders.

The Council approved the revised long-term focal area strategies and, as a step towards a more programmatic approach, strategic programs were developed in support of them. The strategic programs were selected and defined in view of their importance, urgency, and cost-effectiveness from a global environment perspective, as well as the priorities identified by countries, especially in the context of the implementation of the RAF, as well as overall guidance from the Multilateral Environmental Agreements.

A major effort by the TAGs was to align the focal area strategies with the emerging Results Based Management (RBM) Framework for the GEF, in order to direct the strategies toward tangible global environmental benefits and to enable adequate reporting on the implementation of the strategies. The long-term objectives and strategic programs are summarized in the following table.

BIODIVERSITY	
STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4
1: To catalyze sustainability of protected area (PA) systems	1. Sustainable financing of PA systems at the national level 2. Increasing representation of effectively managed marine PA areas in PA systems 3. Strengthening terrestrial PA networks
2: To mainstream biodiversity in production landscapes/seascapes and sectors	4. Strengthening the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity 5. Fostering markets for biodiversity goods and services
3: To safeguard biodiversity	6. Building capacity for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
4: To build capacity on access and benefit sharing	7. Prevention, control, and management of invasive alien species 8. Building capacity on access and benefit sharing

CLIMATE CHANGE

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To promote energy-efficient technologies and practices in the appliance and building sectors
- 2: To promote energy-efficient technologies and practices in industrial production and manufacturing processes
- 3: To improve the efficiency and performance of existing power plants

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Promoting energy efficiency in residential and commercial buildings
 2. Promoting energy efficiency in the industrial sector
- Strategic objective not pursued directly in GEF-4*

- 4: To promote on-grid renewable energy

3. Promoting market approaches for renewable energy

- 5: To promote the use of renewable energy for the provision of rural energy services (off-grid)

Strategic objective not pursued directly in GEF-4

- 6: To support new low-GHG-emitting energy technologies

4. Promoting sustainable energy production from biomass

- 7: To facilitate market transformation for sustainable mobility in urban areas leading to reduced GHG emissions

5. Promoting sustainable innovative systems for urban transport

- 8: To support pilot and demonstration projects for adaptation to climate change

Reference is made to the SPA, SCCF, and LDCF, and to the principle of GEF-wide climate proofing.

LAND DEGRADATION

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To develop an enabling environment that will place Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in the mainstream of development policy and practices at the regional, national, and local levels
- 2: To upscale SLM investments that generate mutual benefits for the global environment and local livelihoods

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Supporting sustainable agriculture and rangeland management
2. Supporting sustainable forest management in production landscapes
3. Investing in innovative approaches in SLM

INTERNATIONAL WATERS

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To foster international, multistate cooperation on priority transboundary water concerns
- 2: To catalyze transboundary action addressing water concerns

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Restoring and sustaining coastal and marine fish stocks and associated biological diversity
2. Reducing nutrient overenrichment and oxygen depletion from land-based pollution of coastal waters in LMEs consistent with the GPA
3. Balancing overuse and conflicting uses of water resources in transboundary surface and groundwater basins
4. Adapting to melting ice in high-altitude basins and polar systems

PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs)

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To reduce and eliminate production, use, and releases of POPs

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Strengthening capacity for NIP (National Implementation Plan) development and implementation
2. Partnering in investments for NIP implementation
3. Generating and disseminating knowledge to address future challenges in implementing the Stockholm Convention

OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To phase out production and consumption of ODS

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Phasing out HCFC and strengthening of capacities and institutions

SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To protect globally significant forest biodiversity
- 2: To promote sustainable management and use of forest resources

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Sustainable financing of protected area systems at national level (same as BD#1)
2. Strengthening terrestrial protected area networks (same as BD#3)
3. New: Forest conservation as a means to protect carbon stocks and avoid CO₂ emissions (cross-cutting BD/CC/LD)
4. Strengthening the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity (same as BD#4)
5. Fostering markets for biodiversity goods and services (same as BD#5)
6. New: Promoting sustainable energy production from biomass (cross-cutting CC#4/BD/LD)
7. Supporting sustainable forest management in production landscapes (same as LD#2)

SOUND CHEMICALS MANAGEMENT

STRATEGIC LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES

- 1: To promote sound management of chemicals for the protection of human health and the global environment

STRATEGIC PROGRAMS FOR GEF-4

1. Integrating sound chemicals management in GEF projects
2. Articulating the chemicals-related interventions supported by the GEF within countries' frameworks for chemicals management

Capacity Building: Helping Countries Get the Most from GEF Resources

There is often potential for improvement in any country's ability to meet its environmental responsibilities and make the most of resources received from the GEF and similar institutions. With this in mind, the GEF accelerated its Strategic Approach to Enhance Capacity Development in the period. The Global Support Program was set up by the GEF Council in 2005 to provide the countries undertaking National Capacity Self-Assessments (NCSAs) with methodological support and knowledge-management mechanisms. It also gave substantive inputs for the implementation of the strategic approach. The three-year project started in August 2005 and was managed jointly by UNDP and UNEP through the guidance received from the Capacity Building Task Force.

The Global Support Program served as a learning and support mechanism for capacity development in the GEF program. The priority for

the first six months of the program was to provide assistance to and exchange lessons among the 100 NCSA projects under active implementation. Support was delivered by a variety of means, including direct response to individual NCSA project queries or requests; use of list serves and a Web site to facilitate networking and sharing of knowledge across regions and worldwide; and organization of "learning-training" workshops with NCSA teams from groups of countries.

In parallel, over the course of its first year, the Global Support Program developed a range of guidelines and tools aimed at enhancing the quality of both capacity assessment and capacity development activities supported by the GEF through each of the four strategic pathways. In addition to using lessons derived from the NCSAs, the guidelines and tools drew on other reviews and case studies of capacity-building efforts, including those undertaken as components of regular GEF focal area projects. Program guidelines and tools also drew on broader programs of institutional development, capacity building, and

human resource development that had targeted the management of natural resources and environmental issues. Countries were provided with guidelines and tools such as the following:

- (a) a revised resource kit of methods and suggestions for a country to undertake the NCSA process efficiently and effectively;
- (b) supplementary guidance on the preparation of a national strategy for capacity development, and an effective plan of follow-up actions;
- (c) synthesis reports and reviews of the outputs generated and capacities developed directly during the course of countries' NCSAs, plus lessons collated from each step of the process and supplementary guidelines for strengthening the outputs and impacts of the program;
- (d) a tool for defining the scope, objectives, and indicators of effective capacity development, to apply to the NCSA outputs and action plan, and to each of the other pathways of the GEF strategic approach; and
- (e) a progressive series of guides to effective planning and implementation of actions in critical areas of capacity needs that are

identified through the NCSAs, including guidelines for development of the NCSA follow-on for the other pathways.

The countries that reached the stage of finalizing their needs assessment considered the NCSAs to be a strategic tool in country programming on global environmental management and a logical follow-up to enabling activities that assisted them to plan their focal area strategies and the medium- and full-size projects that built capacity in specific areas of global environmental management. The NCSAs opened an opportunity for countries to assess the critical gaps in capacity for sustaining their monitoring and reporting activities in the focal areas and to follow this by mainstreaming these strategies and outputs from GEF projects into national frameworks for sustainable development planning.

By the end of the period, most of the 145 countries participating had completed their NCSA, and the GEF had begun providing additional resources to assist countries that were still in the process of developing it. The NCSAs provide countries an opportunity to assess the criti-

cal gaps in their ability to meet their environmental responsibilities under various conventions and compacts, and are an important tool for strategic action. The next phase of capacity building will be to work to proactively address these identified gaps.

In the period, the GEF also began working to ensure that attention to capacity building was included as part of regular GEF projects going forward, encourage the development of targeted capacity-building projects both within and across focal areas, and develop further cross-cutting capacity development programs for least developed countries and small island developing states.

GEF Country Support Program for GEF Focal Points

The Country Support Program for GEF focal points is a \$12 million, four-year multifocal global project. This capacity enhancement program was operationalized in January 2006 and is scheduled to end in December 2009.

The program focuses on providing support to country representatives (focal points) for activities related to training, outreach, and information sharing, and strengthening of country-level coordination. The goals are to promote genuine country ownership and facilitate active involvement of recipient countries and interested government and civil society stakeholders in global environmental activities.

The primary purpose of the Country Support Program (CSP) for focal points is to respond to GEF recipient countries' requests for tools to help them respond to their obligations as GEF recipient countries as well as obligations contained in the global conventions on biodiversity, climate change, and

persistent organic pollutants. The GEF is the financial mechanism for those conventions and for the Convention to Combat Desertification.

Historical Background

The GEF's overall performance evaluations (OPS1, OPS2, and OPS3) underscored the need to enhance the capacity of GEF countries to develop, manage, and mainstream GEF projects. The evaluations called for the GEF to take action to enable the GEF focal points to become more effective advocates for GEF programs and issues.

In May 1999, a program to support focal points was approved by the GEF Council in response to the evaluations. A subsequent evaluation of this pilot program found that it had a positive, but limited, effect on the capacity of focal points to carry out their responsibilities more effectively. The results of the evaluation made it clear that there is a continuing need, particularly among least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDs), to strengthen capacity for coordination of environmental activities at the country level; raise awareness of GEF priori-

ties, policies, and programs; strengthen stakeholder involvement in global environmental programs; and enhance the capacity of those countries to develop and implement GEF projects.

In June 2005, the Council approved elements for a new four-year phase of the program of assistance to strengthen national focal points and Council members. This new phase was developed in response to the evaluation of the first focal point support program, and in response to the recommendations of the three GEF Overall Performance Studies as well as the third replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund (GEF-3).

The Council requested that the GEF Secretariat and the Implementing Agencies collaborate in preparing a proposal, which was presented for approval to the November 2005 Council meeting. The current Country Support Program for focal points takes into consideration previous and current efforts by the GEF to address country needs and empower focal points.

Elements of the Country Support Program

The project comprises three components. The Direct Support for Focal Points is implemented jointly by the GEF Secretariat and UNEP. The subregional workshops and the Knowledge Management Framework are implemented by UNDP. The objective of these components is to enhance the capacity of focal points to better prioritize, design, implement, coordinate, and monitor global environmental projects.

The need for a programmatic approach to capacity building for focal points has become even more urgent as the GEF explores ways to operationalize the second phase of the Resource Allocation Framework.

CSP—Direct Support for Focal Points

This component was operationalized in February 2006. The mechanism and procedures to implement this component were established to help focal points develop national activities to carry out capacity-building activities in the country based on annual work plans. These activities contribute to building the

capacity of countries to develop global environmental projects in a more strategic manner, and to develop a capacity to coordinate and monitor global environmental activities.

Under this program, each eligible country receives financial support to carry out activities as expressed in the guidelines for the focal point support program, based on national work plans (for a maximum of \$8,000 per year per country).

Focal points prepare, with the guidance of the GEF Secretariat, an annual work plan, outlining the activities expected to be carried out and their anticipated costs.

Activities funded under this component focus on increasing awareness of GEF issues, creating institutional memory within relevant government agencies, supporting the establishment of coordination or resource units in appropriate ministries to increase coordination among agencies, keeping track of global environmental activities, and promoting mainstreaming and integration as well as strengthening stakeholder involvement, with emphasis on nongovernmental

organizations, indigenous peoples, and the private sector.

At the end of the first year of activities, the focal point submits a report to the GEF Secretariat on the activities carried out and actual expenditures. The GEF Secretariat reviews the substantive report, and UNEP reviews the financial report. Disbursement of funds for the second year follows the approval of the substantive and financial reports.

This program also provides financial support to enable the participation of the operational focal point and the political focal point, or their designates, at up to two constituency meetings convened each year. In addition, selected newly appointed focal points are invited to attend GEF familiarization seminars.

Subregional Workshops for GEF Focal Points

Beginning in 2007 the CSP organized a series of annual subregional workshops for focal points. These workshops provide an opportunity for focal points to exchange information and share their experiences, to be updated on evolving GEF policies and procedures, and to

interact with GEF Secretariat and GEF Agency staff in order to discuss priority issues.

The design and content of the 2007 subregional workshops were based on the requests and needs expressed by GEF focal points during earlier consultations. The CSP also conducted a survey in November 2006 to identify the priority topics of interest to focal points and specific experiences they would like to present. The survey results indicated that the following are the main topics of interest to focal points (in order of importance to respondents):

- Establishing national GEF coordination mechanisms
- Developing national GEF strategies and setting priorities
- Integrating GEF into national plans and programs
- Tracking national GEF portfolios and assessing results
- Improving communications and outreach to key stakeholders
- Creating tools and methodologies to support institutional memory
- Developing regional strategies and projects
- Managing stakeholder conflicts and building consensus

Knowledge Management Framework

The Knowledge Facility aims to address the potential knowledge needs of focal points and to assist them in carrying out their roles and responsibilities with respect to managing global environmental issues within their national development contexts.

The design of the Knowledge Facility is based primarily on the needs and priorities identified by focal points themselves, in the course of subregional consultations held in 2006, as well as through written requests and surveys conducted by the CSP. The Knowledge Facility has been designed in close collaboration with the GEF Secretariat and Implementing and Executing Agencies, taking advantage of, and ensuring integration with, existing knowledge management structures and available information and data.

The Knowledge Facility helps focal points address their immediate information needs related to the GEF and its policies, procedures, lessons, and experiences. The Knowledge Facility serves as a constantly accessible resource for

acquisition of knowledge, experience, and best practice targeted to meeting focal points needs. It also facilitates focal point learning through exchange, discussion, research, and action. The Knowledge Facility includes a GEF information section, targeted materials for focal points, discussion forums, management tools, an advanced search facility for targeted searches on key topics of interest, and partnership links, which provide information on and links to a number of related organizations and Web sites.

Council Member Support Program

This program is designed to help the GEF Council members of recipient countries convene meetings of their constituency partners in order to discuss matters of common interest and principally to define constituency positions for the Council meetings.

GEF member countries have been grouped into 32 constituencies, with 18 constituencies composed of recipient countries. These 18 constituencies are grouped based on a mixture of the following criteria and other relevant and environment-related factors:

- Equitable and balanced representation from within the geographic region
- Commonality of global, regional, and subregional environmental concerns
- Policies and efforts toward sustainable development
- Natural resource endowment and environmental vulnerability
- Contributions to the GEF as defined in paragraph 25(c)(iii) of the Instrument

Each constituency appoints a Council member to represent the constituency at GEF Council meetings. One of the responsibilities of the Council member is to hold a constituency meeting twice a year with focal points from all constituency countries. Constituency meetings provide an opportunity to work toward the following objectives:

- Develop constituency positions with regard to specific Council issues
- Share information and obtain feedback on the outcome of Council meetings and obtain feedback on Council decisions
- Review country and constituency coordination issues to

enhance communication and outreach efforts

- Decide upon constituency governance issues, such as the order in which countries will assume Council member and alternate seats (rotation agreements)
- Discuss implementation of GEF projects and share lessons learned.

Constituency meetings can be held prior to or after a GEF Council meeting to deliberate on proposed Council meeting agenda items or discuss outcomes from previous Council meetings. In addition, Council members can discuss issues related to constituency coordination.

Financial support is provided. Council members can request up to US\$2,000 to cover the cost of each of the two constituency meetings per year, including the costs of intraconstituency communication media such as teleconferences, e-mails, courier services, and faxes.

National Dialogue Initiative (NDI)

The National Dialogue Initiative (2004–2009), implemented by UNDP, has formed an integral component of country support activi-

ties provided by the GEF Secretariat and GEF partner agencies. The global objective of the national dialogues in GEF-4 has been congruent with the new GEF vision and strategic guidance provided by the Inter-Agency Steering Committee: To provide targeted and flexible support for country-level multi-stakeholder dialogue and sharing of information and experiences, leading to action on national GEF matters through strategic national priority setting and strengthened coordination and partnerships. To date, some 80 dialogues have been held since 2000 under the initiative and a previous program, the Country Dialogue Workshops.

National dialogues have provided unique country-level forums for broad, multistakeholder dialogue on GEF-related issues, involving a diversity of government ministries and agencies, NGOs, communities, academic and research institutions, the private sector, as well as other partners and donors in the country. National dialogues have allowed these diverse stakeholders in GEF recipient countries to achieve the following:

- Inform themselves about global environmental issues and GEF policies and procedures
- Take stock of activities and results of GEF portfolios in their countries
- Further define priorities for funding and develop national GEF programming strategies
- Strengthen national GEF coordination processes and mechanisms and intersectoral coordination
- Enhance interagency collaboration and partnerships
- Promote integration of GEF in national environmental and sustainable development plans and processes

The NDI has enabled the GEF partners to respond to new country concerns and challenges associated with the Resource Allocation Framework and the need for national priority setting and coordinated programming, as well as helped countries understand and implement new GEF policies such as the revised project cycle and focal area and cross-cutting strategies.



Civil Society Involvement in the GEF

As informed and effective advocates, civil society organizations, in particular nongovernmental organizations, have had a role in shaping the GEF and its agenda from the beginning. Participation by NGOs, both local and international, has become crucial, not only at the project level but also in GEF policy dimensions. Village organizations and other community-based groups, academic institutions, and foundations are among the NGO partners integral to the GEF's efforts. More than 150 GEF-financed projects are executed or coexecuted by, or contain contracts or subcontracts to, nongovernmental groups. More than 60 regional and global NGO networks are involved in the design and implementation of GEF-funded transboundary waters projects. The GEF's Small Grants Program, administered by UNDP, has provided grants of up to US\$50,000, an average of US\$20,000, to finance more than 9,000 projects executed by NGOs, community-based organizations, indigenous people's organizations, and so on.

During the period covered by this report the GEF continued to devel-

op its relationship with civil society through the GEF NGO Network. The original intent of establishing the GEF NGO Network was to involve constituencies not previously represented within the GEF, similar to the involvement in the United Nations of the UN Major Groups, which include NGOs, indigenous peoples, business and industry, women, children and youth, local authorities, workers and trade unions, scientific and technological communities, and farmers.

Opportunities for the GEF to work with and partner with NGOs have steadily increased. NGOs have been involved with the GEF in the following fields:

- (a) governance and policy formulation and development through NGO representation at consultations and Council meetings;
- (b) project preparation and execution in countries; and
- (c) advocacy, awareness, and outreach on global environmental issues.

NGOs have played a role in GEF governance and in policy formulation and development at the local, national, international, and GEF Council and assembly levels.

Local Level

At the local level NGOs and civil society organizations have played an increasingly important role in the engagement of local communities in the development, formulation, and implementation of GEF activities at the local or site level. By 2007, the Small Grants Program had financed more than 9,000 projects, for a total value over \$200 million, and was operating in 101 countries.

Local NGOs and Community Based Organizations have also been important partners in the implementation of many full- and medium-size projects. Governments in many GEF eligible countries have recognized that without the effective engagement of civil society, GEF interventions often are unable to achieve their goals.

National Level

At the national level, strong NGOs have been essential to ensuring country ownership of GEF projects and to supporting ongoing efforts to mainstream the GEF mandate and policies within national development and environmental plans and strategies. NGOs have contributed effectively and proactively

to integrating GEF goals into national policies through participation and representation in steering committees of national environmental action plans, national sustainable development strategies, and national conservation strategies, and in GEF national committees. Furthermore, NGOs have assisted GEF national focal points in identifying national priorities relating to global environmental issues.

International Level

At the international level, NGOs have participated in international meetings and conferences convened under the multilateral environmental conventions. They have provided views and technical input to the government participants and the parties to the conventions on the recommendations and guidance directed to the GEF and other international institutions.

NGO Consultations and Representation at Council and Assembly Meetings

Prior to each Council meeting during this period, NGO consultations continued to be held with NGO representatives from recipient countries. The NGO consultations pro-



vided an opportunity for NGOs to express their views about GEF activities and to engage in a substantive dialogue with the Implementing Agencies about GEF policies and projects.

The model of inclusive representation and participation of NGOs in the GEF Council is one that is unique among governing bodies of international financial institutions. The review of the NGO network highlighted that many NGO representatives who have attended Council meetings showed an increasing sophistication, over the years, in preparing and articulating their positions on many Council agenda items.

NGOs were also invited to participate in various working groups and task forces convened by the GEF Secretariat, and to provide inputs to technical workshops and other activities initiated by the Council, the Secretariat, and the Evaluation Office. For example, NGOs played a leadership role in formulating proposals that led to the establishment of procedures for medium-size projects and for subsequent proposals for improving these procedures. NGOs also participated in

the Resource Allocation Framework technical seminars, OPS consultations, and the Local Benefits Study. NGOs also played a key role in organizing the Third Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, hosted by the Republic of South Africa in Cape Town, August 29–30, 2006. Organized by the GEF NGO Network, under the umbrella of the Third GEF Assembly, the NGO forum brought NGOs, indigenous peoples groups, and rural and urban grassroots communities to participate and contribute their knowledge and expertise to discussion on the global environment, sustainable livelihoods, and poverty eradication. The forum brought to the attention of governments and regional organizations the capacity and contributions of these groups in addressing global environmental challenges. It also provided recommendations as to how best to incorporate the NGO's perspectives into policies and strategies that make a difference at the local level.

Small Grants Program

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved 2,914 new local environmental initiatives through the Small Grants Program (SGP). In addition, during the period, 3,977 previously approved SGP projects continued throughout the world. The total GEF allocation for the Small Grants Program during the reporting period was approximately \$72.3 million, but was significantly supplemented by an additional \$96.7 million generated in cash and in-kind cofinancing from partners, including the GEF agencies, bilateral agencies, recipient countries, local governments, the private sector, as well as the NGO and community grantees themselves.

High Level of Recognition through National and International Awards

The SGP's unique and innovative small projects often capture the attention of media around the world and are frequently cited for awards, honors, and recognition by various organizations. During the period, a large number of SGP-backed local community efforts

and leaders received national and international awards. The following are a few examples:

- A Honduran community, The Association of Indigenous Women of Moskitia, consisting of approximately 600 single mothers and spouses of disabled divers, was honored with the annual National Environment Award by the government of Honduras for their efforts in recycling solid waste and generating income to their families in rural areas of Moskitia.
- In the community of Guantanamo, Cuba, Ms. Irania Martinez Garcia won the CNN Heroes award in the "Defending the Planet" category for leading the fight to transform a local toxic waste dump from a health hazard into a community resource. This SGP project also won Cuba's National Environment Award.
- A community in Tanzania won the Commission on Sustainable Development award for one of the best practices in sustainable development in Africa. The Community Water Initiative

BACKGROUND ON THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

MANY ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES—WHETHER THEY BE RELATED TO CLIMATE CHANGE, DIMINISHING BIODIVERSITY, WATER POLLUTION, OR OTHER PHENOMENA—ARE MOST STRONGLY DAMAGING AT THE LEVEL OF THE INDIVIDUAL COMMUNITY. THESE COMMUNITIES—OFTEN COMPOSED OF ROUGHLY 100–300 HOUSEHOLDS—ARE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS ON TRADITIONAL SOURCES OF FOOD, WATER, LIVELIHOOD, AND MORE. IN FACT, MANY ISOLATED RURAL COMMUNITIES MAY BE THE ONLY HUMAN BEINGS IMMEDIATELY CONFRONTED WITH THE EVERYDAY REALITY OF SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. AND YET, THESE COMMUNITIES ARE GENERALLY MOST IN NEED OF THE POLITICAL SUPPORT AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES TO FIGHT BACK.

WITH THIS FACT IN MIND, THE GEF CREATED THE SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM (SGP) TO WORK WITH AND COMPLEMENT EACH OF ITS FOCAL AREAS. WITH THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP) AS IMPLEMENTING AGENCY, SGP REACHES OUT TO IDENTIFIED POOR AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES—THROUGH A DEMAND-DRIVEN PROCESS OWNED AND MANAGED BY A NATIONAL DECISION-MAKING AND GOVERNANCE BODY, THE NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (NSC). SGP PROACTIVELY HELPS THESE COMMUNITIES AND THEIR LOCAL NGO PARTNERS TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT SMALL, HIGHLY TARGETED PROJECTS TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC LOCAL CHALLENGES LINKED TO GEF FOCAL AREAS, WITH GRANT SUPPORT OF UP TO US\$50,000.

HIGHLY RESPONSIVE AND FLEXIBLE, SGP ALSO PROVIDES SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN AND TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, GROUPS THAT ARE CONSIDERED HIGHLY VULNERABLE. IN 2007, THE FOURTH INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAM FOUND THAT “SGP HAS CONTRIBUTED DIRECTLY TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS WHILE ALSO ADDRESSING THE LIVELIHOOD NEEDS OF LOCAL POPULATIONS” AND THAT “SINCE ITS INCEPTION, 60 PERCENT OF PROJECTS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY TARGETED THE POOR OR THE POOREST.” IN ADDITION, SGP FOSTERS COMMUNITY LEADERS’ ABILITY TO NETWORK AND COMMUNICATE WITH EACH OTHER GLOBALLY TO SHARE BEST PRACTICES, EXCHANGE LESSONS LEARNED, ORGANIZE SITE VISITS, AND FURTHER LEVERAGE SUCCESSES. SINCE ITS INCEPTION, THE GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM HAS GENERATED ABOUT \$512 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE, CONSISTING OF \$282 MILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$230 MILLION IN CASH AND IN-KIND COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS WORLDWIDE. THE SGP, OVER THE SPAN OF 15 YEARS, PROUDLY REACHED A TOTAL OF 10,000 PROJECTS WITH GRANTEES AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS.



project, supported by SGP partner cofinancing, reduced the distance needed to gather water from 2 kilometers to less than 500 meters.

- An artificial coral reef project in Iran was the final nominee to receive the UNDP Innovation and Commitment Award for a project to reverse the destruction of local marine resources and rehabilitate coastal habitats by creating innovatively designed artificial coral reefs and generating local income.

Pioneering of Community-Based Adaptation Projects

Climate change is currently considered the most critical global environmental problem worldwide, and individual communities are often the most severely affected. Yet they are also the most poorly equipped to deal with its impacts. Working in conjunction with UNDP/GEF, and with support from the GEF's Strategic Priority on Adaptation funds, SGP started its role as the delivery mechanism for the Community-Based Adaptation Program, a \$5 million pilot effort to help promote adaptation at the community level and disseminate

best practices worldwide. Projects are under way in the period, with local communities in 10 countries featuring many different types of ecosystems, such as highland, lowland, arid, and seaside topographies. Countries supported include Bangladesh, Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Samoa, and Vietnam.

Integration of Local Actions in International Waters Management

The GEF's international waters focal area focuses on bodies of water that span international boundaries. Yet many of the challenges affecting these waters rest in the hands of local communities. To help bridge the gap, SGP is working with the community-level aspect of many of the GEF's ongoing full-size projects. The SGP has taken its Community Approach to International Waters to efforts in the South China Sea, Nile River, Niger River Basin, and other critical international water bodies. For example, SGP implemented a microgrant component that has so far benefited more than 190 communities in the Nile River basin.

Work with Indigenous and Local Communities to Conserve Biodiversity

Many important biodiverse areas are and could be under the effective management of indigenous peoples and local communities. With this knowledge, SGP began its work to support indigenous peoples and help get appropriate recognition for Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas, natural sacred sites, and ancestral domains. More than 1,500 projects implemented by indigenous peoples have been supported as of the end of this reporting period. Initiatives to consolidate these efforts to promote Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas was also started with the aim of bringing together a wide range of partners, networks, and organizations whose joint efforts will eventually recognize an area of effectively managed biodiverse sites greater than the current 16 million square kilometers of globally protected areas under existing national park systems.



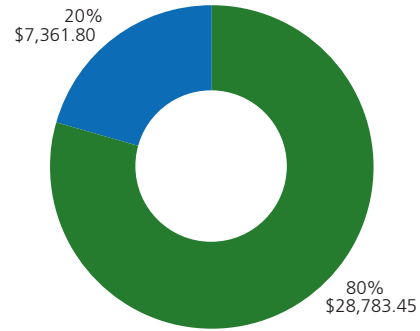
The GEF Portfolio

The GEF Portfolio Allocations and Cofinancing

The Leveraging Effect of GEF Support

1991–2007

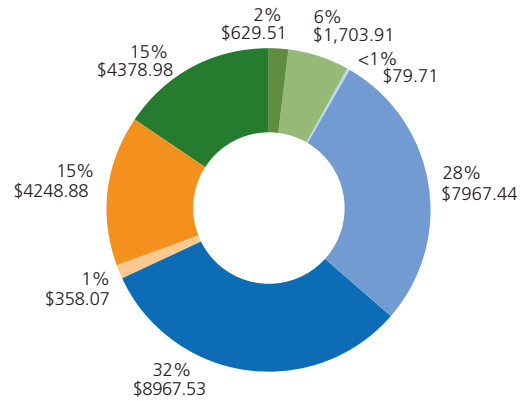
- GEF Allocation
- Cofinancing Amount



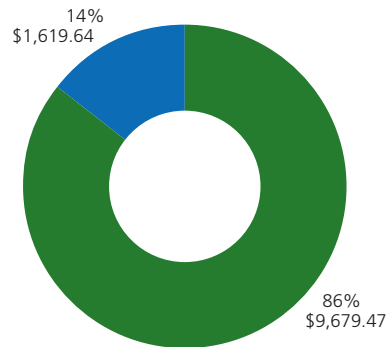
Sources of GEF Cofinancing

1991–2007

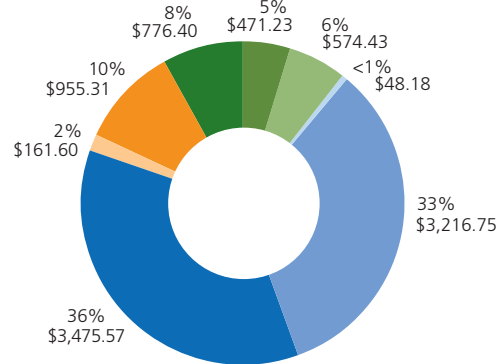
- Others
- NGO
- Multilateral
- Government
- Foundation
- Bilateral
- Beneficiaries
- Private Sector



2006–2007

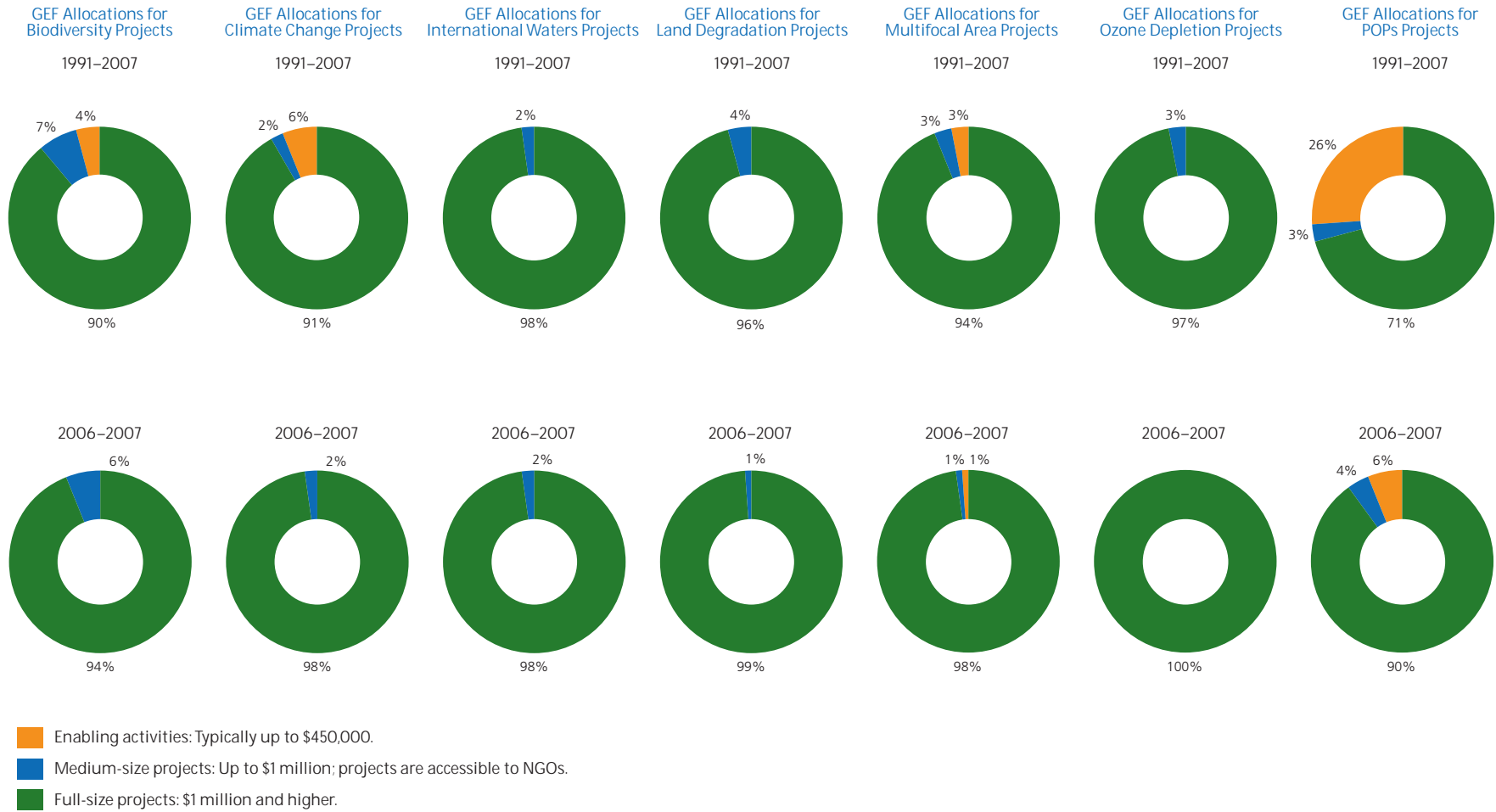


2006–2007



All amounts in millions of dollars. Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

The GEF Portfolio Project Types

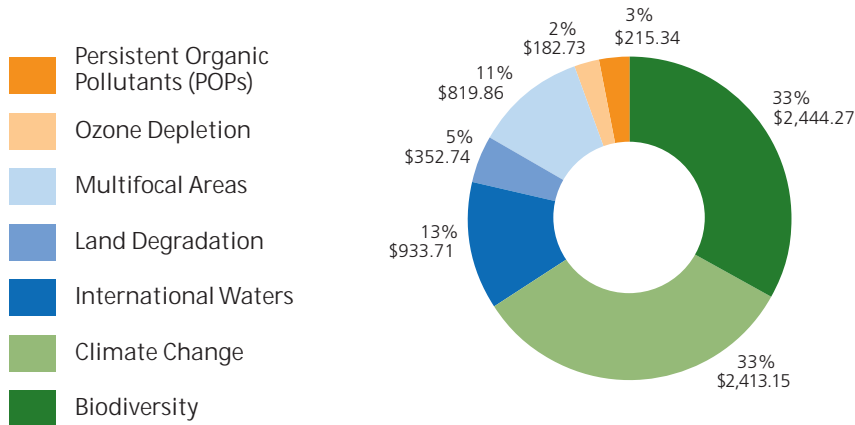


Totals may not equal 100% due to rounding.

The GEF Portfolio Focal Areas and Regions

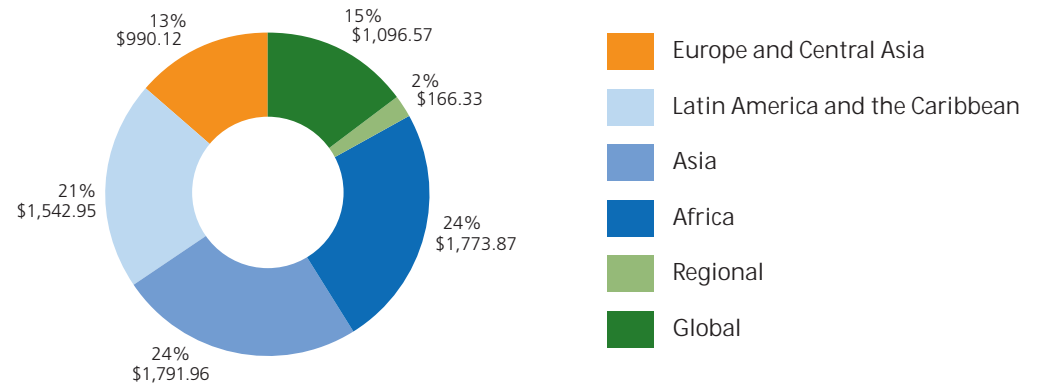
Total GEF Allocation by Focal Area

1991–2007

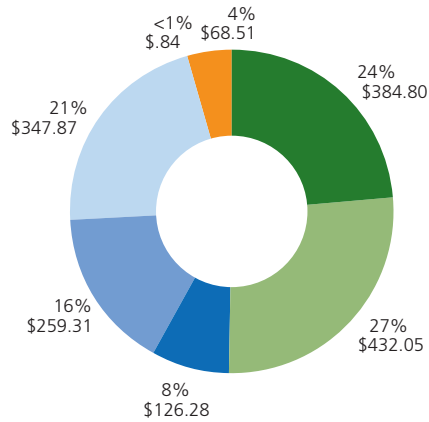


Total GEF Allocation by Region Including Global and Regional Projects

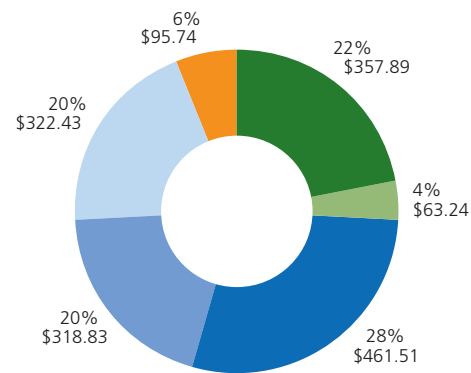
1991–2007



2006–2007



2006–2007



All amounts in millions of dollars.

GEF Focal Area: Climate Change

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved 65 new efforts in the climate change focal area. The total GEF allocation in the focal area during the reporting period was approximately \$432 million, significantly supplemented by an additional \$4 billion generated in cofinancing from partners including the GEF agencies, bilateral agencies, recipient countries, and the private sector.

Climate Change Mitigation Projects

Bringing Energy-Efficient Refrigerators to China

The highly successful project Barrier Removal for the Widespread Commercialization of Energy-Efficient CFC-Free Refrigerators in China was completed and had its final evaluation done in the period. Counting the entire savings over the lifetimes of the refrigerators affected by the project, the Evaluation Mission estimates a total reduction of about 630 million tons of CO₂ for refrigerators produced through 2010. These impressive savings were achieved through implementing both a technology push and market pull approach to putting energy-efficient, CFC-free

refrigerators in China, offering technical assistance to manufacturers, helping upgrade technologies, training designers, and creating new energy efficiency standards, as well as creating consumer education efforts, labeling programs, bulk procurement schemes, retail training, and incentive programs. The original goals of the project, including selling 20 million energy-efficient refrigerators, were significantly exceeded. Perhaps best of all, many Chinese manufacturers are now producing mainly energy-efficient refrigerators, so CO₂ savings will likely escalate far into the future.

Bringing Solar Power to Bangladesh

The GEF-assisted Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development Project was highly successful in the period. Of special note was the success of participant Grameen Shakti, a not-for-profit rural development company in Bangladesh. Nearly 70 percent of homes in Bangladesh have no electricity and rely on kerosene for lighting. Grameen Shakti is providing affordable solar home systems, and has supplied more than 150,000 systems, with thousands more sold each month. Later in the

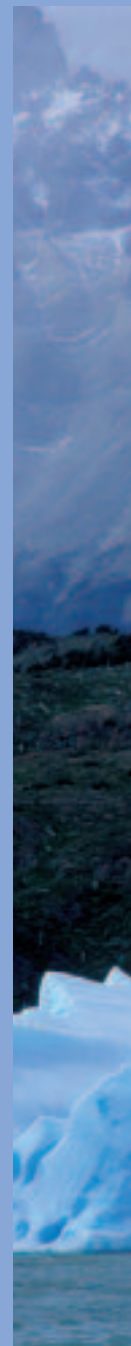
BACKGROUND ON CLIMATE CHANGE

THE TEMPERATURES AND WEATHER PATTERNS OF OUR PLANET HAVE BEEN CHANGING DRAMATICALLY OVER THE PAST FEW DECADES, AND THESE CHANGES ARE DETRIMENTALLY IMPACTING TRADITIONAL ANIMAL HABITATS AS WELL AS VULNERABLE HUMAN COMMUNITIES, CAUSING FARMLANDS TO FLOOD, WATER SOURCES TO EVAPORATE, HUNTING GROUNDS TO DISAPPEAR, AND CROPS TO ATROPHY. IMPLICATED IN CLIMATE CHANGE IS THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS, WHICH HAVE ADDED SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF CARBON DIOXIDE AND OTHER GREENHOUSE GASES TO THE ATMOSPHERE, CONTRIBUTING TO RISING TEMPERATURES AND AFFECTING LONG-STANDING PATTERNS OF RAINFALL AND OTHER WEATHER PHENOMENA.

THROUGH THE CLIMATE CHANGE FOCAL AREA, THE GEF IS HELPING IN TWO DISTINCT BUT COMPLEMENTARY WAYS:

- THROUGH CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION STRATEGIES, THE FOCAL AREA SUPPORTS PROJECTS THAT REDUCE OR AVOID GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IN THE AREAS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY, AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION. IT IS ALSO WORKING TO IMPROVE LAND USE AND FORESTRY MANAGEMENT AS A MEANS TO PROTECT CARBON STOCKS AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.
- THROUGH CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGIES, THE FOCAL AREA IS HELPING THE MOST VULNERABLE COUNTRIES ADAPT TO ENVIRONMENTS ALREADY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE. UNLIKE THE MITIGATION SIDE AND THE OTHER FIVE GEF FOCAL AREAS, ADAPTATION PROJECTS ARE SUPPORTED THROUGH SPECIFICALLY TARGETED FUNDS. IN THE PERIOD, THE GEF MANAGED THREE SOURCES OF FINANCING RELATED TO ADAPTATION STRATEGIES: 1) THE STRATEGIC PRIORITY ON ADAPTATION (SPA), A PILOT PROGRAM UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND; 2) THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND (LDCF), A UNFCCC CONVENTION FUND ADDRESSING THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF THESE 48 COUNTRIES; AND 3) THE ADAPTATION WINDOW UNDER THE SPECIAL CLIMATE CHANGE FUND (SCCF), ALSO A UNFCCC CONVENTION FUND, WHICH ASSISTS ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

SINCE ITS INCEPTION, THE CLIMATE CHANGE FOCAL AREA HAS GENERATED MORE THAN \$17 BILLION IN ASSISTANCE, CONSISTING OF \$2.4 BILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$14.6 BILLION IN COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS WORLDWIDE.



period, it also began offering fuel-efficient cooking stoves and domestic biogas systems, which bring clean sustainable energy to thousands of homes. The company's efforts led to an Ashden Award for Sustainable Energy, the world's leading green energy prize, in 2006.

Bringing Solar Lighting to Rural China

The GEF-assisted China Renewable Energy Development Project continued successfully in the period. It has enabled sales of more than 400,000 affordable photovoltaic (PV) solar home systems to nomadic herding communities in remote areas of western China, bringing clean sustainable energy to more than 1.6 million people off the grid and largely relying on kerosene for light. The program also supported the rapid growth of the PV industry in China, improving the quality of production and reducing costs, thereby expanding the market for solar home systems and compounding the benefits.

Providing a Source of Affordable Loans for Energy Efficiency Projects in Russia

Many factories in Russia are using equipment that is 30–40 years old and highly energy intensive. An impediment to upgrading these systems is the difficulty of obtaining favorable business loans. The Russia Sustainable Energy Finance Program was designed to provide long-term credit lines to Russian financial institutions specifically for energy efficiency lending, and is supported by a host of expert advisory services. Credit lines and partial loan guarantees are provided and several dozen projects have been financed through the period, with new equipment installed that is estimated to account for lifetime CO₂ reductions of 674,190 tons. In addition, the program's 2006 survey of 625 industrial companies is recognized as the only comprehensive study of industrial energy efficiency practices in Russia and has become an invaluable resource well beyond the program. The program is also serving as a successful model for energy efficiency finance efforts in many other countries throughout the world.

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions in China

China's township and village enterprises (TVEs) are rural, collective economic organizations established at the local level that have become a major component of the Chinese economy. Four TVE industrial sectors—brick, cement, metal casting and coking—account for one-sixth of China's CO₂ emissions, due mostly to the use of outdated, inefficient technologies. A GEF project designed to reduce the GHG emissions from TVEs by increasing the use of energy-efficient technologies in the four sectors received its final evaluation in the period. The project logged some impressive results, achieving far greater than anticipated GHG reductions and leaving a strong sustainability legacy. For example, in the eight pilot-demonstration projects implemented, a reduction of 193,192 tons of CO₂ per year has been achieved, as compared with the 85,000 tons originally anticipated in the project's design. Overall, self-replication lifetime CO₂ savings are estimated at about 30 million tons.

Climate Change Adaptation Projects

Reducing the Impacts of Melting Glaciers in Bhutan

Increasing temperatures have caused the melting of glaciers and the formation of supraglacial lakes in Bhutan. The water levels in these lakes are rising, creating a high risk of potential disasters due to glacial lakes outburst floods. Disaster management policies, and risk reduction and preparedness plans, including effective early warning systems, are not yet developed to deal with these new and previously unknown threats.

A new program funded by the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF) is helping the government of Bhutan integrate long-term climate change-induced risks into the existing disaster risk management framework. The lessons learned will facilitate replication in other high-risk glacial melting areas, both within and outside Bhutan.

Helping Farmers Adapt in Malawi

More than 90 percent of the people of Malawi, mainly resource-poor rural communities, are predominantly engaged in subsistence rain-

fed agriculture. Over the past two decades, rising temperatures and a later rainy season have contributed to some of the worst weather conditions in the country's history, with intense rainfall, floods, seasonal droughts, multi-year droughts, dry spells, cold spells, strong winds, thunderstorms, landslides, hailstorms, mudslides, and heat waves. A new GEF project under the LDCF is working to improve resilience to current climate variability and future climate change by developing and implementing cost-effective adaptation strategies, policies, and measures that will improve agricultural production and rural livelihoods.

Minimizing the Impacts of Climate Change in Colombia

Colombia is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change over a wide range of sectors and geographical regions. For example, melting Andean glaciers will limit water availability for fragile mountain ecosystems, agricultural and domestic purposes, and hydroelectricity, and sealevel rise will cause inundation of coastal regions and saltwater intrusion, which in turn will lead to the relocation of coastal communities and

destruction of coastal ecosystems. A GEF project under the Strategic Priority on Adaptation (SPA) fund aims to address all of these vulnerabilities through an integrated approach of capacity building and local pilot projects for adaptation interventions.

Protecting Historic Lands in Egypt

In Egypt, the delta and the narrow valley of the Nile are 5.5 percent of the country's area but are home to more than 95 percent of its people, of which 25 percent live in the low-elevation coastal zone areas. In this context, the Nile delta and Mediterranean coast include 30–40 percent of Egypt's agricultural production and half of its industrial production. Because of the concentration of much of Egypt's infrastructure and development along the low coastal lands and the reliance on the Nile delta for prime agricultural land, climate-change-induced sea level rise will have a direct and critical impact on Egypt's entire economy, and observations confirm that sea levels are already rising. A study revealed that, for example, a 0.3 meter sea level increase in Alexandria would result in land and property losses in the tens of billions of dollars,

and necessitate the relocation of 500,000 people. The goal of a new project under the Special Climate Change Fund is to enhance Egypt's resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change impacts, including creating climate change risk reduction strategies, and integrating policies and practices into land use plans and national development plans.

Protecting the Economy and Ecology of the Gulf of Mexico

The wetlands around the Gulf of Mexico perform vital functions—as fisheries, providing water for irrigation and drinking, and acting as storm buffers—that are critical to economic activity over a wide area of the country. Studies have documented ongoing changes in the wetlands of the Gulf of Mexico and have raised urgent concerns about their integrity. Other studies have indicated that the Gulf of Mexico wetlands are particularly vulnerable to subsidence and saline intrusion, both a result of changing climate. Effective adaptation measures would have a major economic and social impact in Mexico and in particular over the selected areas where most of the population is below the poverty line. A new proj-

ect under the SCCF, Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on the Coastal Wetlands in the Gulf of Mexico through Improved Water Resource Management is identifying national policies to address the impacts of climate change on water resources at the national level, quantifying climate change impacts on the integrity and stability of Gulf of Mexico wetlands, and implementing pilot adaptation measures to protect the environmental and economic services provided by these wetlands. The project will focus on areas that include important urban centers as well as poor rural localities.

Adaptation

Following guidance from the U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the GEF originally adopted a staged approach to adaptation. Stage I encompassed assessments and Stage II focused on capacity building. Also under the UNFCCC, since its inception the GEF has disbursed about \$120 million for national communications, of which a significant amount is allocated by the countries to vulnerability and adaptation assessments. In addition, the GEF-financed projects under Stages I

and II have built the capacities of developing countries, especially small island states, to gather and process data. The projects have also helped establish the institutional and local capacities to move to the next step and start implementing adaptation projects on the ground.

The GEF received the mandate from the Climate Convention in 2001 to finance adaptation projects on the ground. Thanks to this guidance, the GEF began piloting adaptation action under three financing avenues:

- Strategic Priority on Adaptation (SPA), a \$50 million pilot within the GEF trust fund
- Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) whose resources are accessible only to the 49 least developed countries (LDCs)
- Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), whose resources are accessible to all developing countries. The funds integrate adaptation measures into development practices.

Strategic Priority on Adaptation

The SPA was a groundbreaking initiative, not only within the GEF context, but also worldwide,

because until that time multilateral and bilateral organizations had mainly focused on research, assessments, and screening tools, rather than on-the-ground adaptation. Through this program, the GEF has financed the first concrete adaptation projects, implementing measures for the specific purpose of reducing vulnerability and increasing the adaptive capacity of vulnerable communities and the ecosystems on which their lives depend. The following examples illustrate the types of adaptation projects that the GEF has financed through the SPA.

CARIBBEAN ISLANDS (DOMINICA, ST. LUCIA AND ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES). Small island states are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change because of their susceptibility to sea level rise, the location of critical infrastructure in coastal areas, and the fact that most of the local populations live in coastal zones. This project aims to support Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines in their efforts to implement specific pilot adaptation measures addressing the impacts of climate change on the natural resource base of the region.

It focuses on biodiversity and sustainable land management along coastal areas and sustainable use of fresh water resources.

The pilot projects will form the foundation for learning and adaptive capacity building, not only in the project countries' but across the Caribbean region.

COLOMBIA. Colombia is highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change over a wide range of sectors and geographical regions. Melting Andean glaciers will limit water availability for fragile mountain ecosystems, agricultural and domestic purposes, and hydroelectricity. Sea level rise will cause inundation of coastal regions and saltwater intrusion, which in turn will lead to the relocation of coastal communities and destruction of coastal ecosystems. This project aims to address all of these vulnerabilities through an integrated approach of capacity building and pilot projects for local adaptation interventions. This project also links mitigation and adaptation. Because of Colombia's strong reliance on hydropower, timely adaptive measures in water management could prevent or limit the

need for replacement power supplies from fossil fuels.

Least Developed Countries Fund

The GEF mobilized over \$160 million for the LDCF. This fund applies a streamlined procedure—including principles, modalities, and criteria to access the funds—that meets the needs of the LDCs. The results speak for themselves.

Although these countries are some of the poorest in the world, and the least capable of adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change, 21 of them have developed and submitted their National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs) and 10 of them have submitted a concrete adaptation project to the GEF under the LDCF. The LDCs have made impressive progress toward reducing their vulnerability to climate change. They are now positioned to provide examples of adaptation experience and lessons learned to other countries around the world.

BHUTAN. The NAPA for Bhutan highlighted the country's vulnerability to glacial lake outbursts. As water levels increase, critical thresholds can be reached, causing catastrophic flash floods down-

stream into the valleys. Such massive flash floods pose a major threat to life as well as infrastructure and the economy in the affected valleys, such as farming areas. As a follow-up to the NAPA, Bhutan has requested financing through the LDCF aimed at reducing Bhutan's vulnerability to glacial lake outbursts. This project has a two-pronged strategy: first, physical measures to artificially lower the water level of critical glacial lakes will be implemented, and second, capacities for responding to and predicting disasters will be increased through development of targeted disaster risk management and installation of early warning systems.

MALAWI. This country is heavily dependent upon rain-fed subsistence agriculture, with more than 80 percent of the population generating their daily livelihoods from small-scale agriculture. As Malawi faces increasing rates of extreme weather events, such as recurrent floods and droughts, efforts at fostering sustainable economic growth and improved rural livelihoods are at risk of failing. An LDCF project is addressing this situation through two key components (a)

investments aimed at improving agricultural practices, land management, and natural systems, as well as rural livelihoods, through targeted adaptation interventions in crop diversification, cropping sequences, conservation tillage, food storage, and irrigation and efficient water use, and (b) creation of an enabling environment for climate risk management, including activities in policy development and implementation, institutional coordination, and generation of knowledge on climate risk management.

Special Climate Change Fund

The SCCF, a special fund established by the UNFCCC, addresses the special needs of developing countries under the climate regime. The fund includes four avenues of financing: (a) adaptation, which is the top priority; (b) technology transfer; (c) energy, transport, industry, agriculture, forestry, and waste management; and (d) economic diversification. The resources for adaptation now amount to about \$65 million.

BOLIVIA, ECUADOR, AND PERU.

Millions of people throughout the Andean region depend on run-off from glacial melting in the high-

lands for their daily freshwater needs. As Andean glaciers are projected to rapidly recede over the coming years, freshwater access will be severely strained in the region, threatening agriculture, hydropower generation, and health. The GEF has financed, through the SCCF, a project that will implement measures to meet the anticipated consequences of the catastrophic glacier retreat induced by climate change. This will be achieved through the design and implementation of strategic pilot adaptation measures to address key impacts of glacier retreat, including management plans for potable water systems in urban areas, promotion of less water-consuming management practices in the agricultural sector, and measures to increase the natural water storage capacity of highland ecosystems.

CHINA. The Huang-Huai-Hai (3H) Basin is home to more than 400 million people and is China's prime agricultural area. With a high water demand, the region is sensitive to the decreases in stream flows and groundwater recharges that are projected as an impact of climate change. At the same time,

rising temperatures could increase water demand in the agricultural sector even further, causing major shortages in water and, ultimately, grain, which affects the livelihoods of millions of people. China has accessed the SCCF's resource, to implement adaptation measures that will enhance the resilience of agricultural and water development to climate change in the basin. This will be achieved through the identification and pilot demonstrations of a range of adaptation options in the agricultural sector: exploration of alternative water sources, improved efficiency of irrigation, and promotion of alternative (less water-consuming) crops. The project also supports mainstreaming adaptation into national agricultural planning.

Thanks to the new climate funds, innovative approaches are being promoted among the GEF agencies that integrate adaptation into development programs and policies.

GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved 80 new efforts in the area of biological diversity and biosafety, including two enabling activities. The total GEF grants approved in this area during the reporting period was approximately \$385 million, significantly supplemented by an additional \$1.5 billion generated in cofinancing from partners, including the GEF agencies, bilateral agencies, recipient countries, and the private sector.

Environmental Services Project in Mexico

The Environmental Services Project in Mexico protects globally significant forest and mountain ecosystems. It was initiated during the period with a grant from GEF of \$15 million, and cofinancing of \$166.8 million from GEF partner organizations. By using payments for ecosystem services to augment and diversify revenue for the management of Mexico's protected area system, the project aims to ensure the provision of environmental services that bring both national benefits, such as water services, and global benefits, such as biodiversity conservation and carbon capture. The projects' activities

include establishing sustainable long-term financing mechanisms; establishing legal, institutional, and financial arrangements to pilot market-based mechanisms for payment for environmental services; and documenting links between land-use changes, water services improvements, and biodiversity conservation. Ultimately, it is expected that, as a result of the program, 200,000 hectares of forests and other natural ecosystems of global biodiversity significance will be under effective management by landowners in the buffer zones of protected areas and the corridors that connect them, including the Mexican portion of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.

Wildlife Conflict Management and Biodiversity Conservation for Improved Rural Livelihoods in Botswana

This project has been designed to strengthen conservation, sustainable use, and mainstreaming of wildlife and biodiversity resources in Botswana's economic development. The project is aimed at enhancing biodiversity conservation in Botswana's northern wetland areas because of their exceptional but highly vulnerable biodi-

versity richness. Within this semi-arid savannah ecosystem, biodiversity is concentrated in critical wetlands habitat found only in the northern part of the country in three primary wetlands: the Okavango Delta, Chobe Linyanti, and the Makgadikgadi Wetlands system. These wetlands identify an oasis of biodiversity resources increasingly under threat from overexploitation, wildlife conflict with communities, and agricultural transformation. Project sites focus on communities experiencing the highest level of wildlife conflict, engaged at some level in community-based natural resource management, and living adjacent to the protected area network in critical wetlands habitat.

The project assisted the Botswana Department of Wildlife and National Parks in collaboration with local NGOs, Ngamiland and Chobe District governments, and key agencies in strengthening conservation, sustainable use, and mainstreaming considerations of wildlife and biodiversity in Botswana's economic development. Policy and institutional reforms include development of a National Wildlife Conflict Management

Policy and Strategy, and a national community-based Wildlife Conflict Management and Early Warning System Framework. The project also strengthened CBNRM policy and the implementation (including developing the capacity of local CBOs and NGOs) and on-the-ground interventions in high-biodiversity and conflict areas; and it focused on livelihood-enhancing community participation in wildlife management, conflict resolution, and monitoring and evaluation. The project's objective was to reduce the incidence of wildlife conflict within the project area, by helping communities monitor, co-manage, and directly benefit from the sustainable use of biodiversity resources, as well as to strengthen Botswana's overall wildlife policy and institutional framework. (GEF: \$5.8 million; Total project: \$30.8 million.)

Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wild Relatives of Crops in China

Wild relatives of rice, soybeans, and wheat are significant for sustainable development in both China and the world. The China Agricultural Agenda 21 (1999) identified a large number of important in-situ conservation sites, but

because of capacity and financial constraints, threats still exist at most sites. This project aimed at eliminating barriers to the mainstreaming of conservation of wild relatives within the agricultural sector, thus promoting integration of conservation and production, and ensuring that the global environmental benefits secured thereby are sustainable. The project involved participation from local stakeholders in eight diverse provinces and autonomous regions to secure conservation of wild relatives of soybean, wheat, and rice in their natural habitats. This was achieved through a combination of actions aimed at establishing sustainable sources of financial and other incentives for conservation, modification to the legal framework, capacity building, and awareness raising. (UNDP, GEF: \$8.06 million; Total project: \$20.9 million.)

Taking a Multifocal Approach to Deforestation Issues

In the latter part of the reporting period, the GEF initiated a sustainable forest management (SFM) program, addressing threats to forest ecosystems arising from a variety of sources. This multidisciplinary initiative draws upon the

resources of three distinct GEF focal areas: biodiversity, climate change and land degradation. More than \$44 million was invested during the first six months of the program, and the GEF has decided to create a new initiative designed to scale up its investments in high-biodiversity, highly forested countries. The newly created GEF SFM Tropical Forest Account (TFA) is starting to provide incentives for countries to direct part of their resources from the Resource Allocation Framework to SFM. TFA advances the GEF's three focal-area strategies by fostering a convergence of investments in high tropical forest cover regions. The initial target area comprises three regions of large, intact, tropical forest: Amazonia, the Congo Basin, and New Guinea/Borneo. Each of these regions has over 8 million hectares of wet broadleaf forest, and the 17 countries within them house 54 percent of tropical forest cover and contain 68 percent of tropical forest carbon.



BACKGROUND ON BIODIVERSITY

THE CURRENT RATES OF SPECIES EXTINCTION ON OUR PLANET IN THE 21ST CENTURY EXCEED THE EXTINCTION RATES EXPERIENCED OVER THE PAST HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS OF GEOLOGIC TIME BY FACTORS OF 100 TO 1,000 TIMES. THE ENVIRONMENTAL COST OF THIS DANGEROUS TREND IS STAGGERING, AS IS THE IMPACT ON THE HUMAN COMMUNITIES THAT DEPEND UPON THESE NATURAL PLANT AND ANIMAL RESOURCES FOR THEIR SUSTENANCE, PARTICULARLY IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

SINCE 1991, THE GEF HAS HELPED MORE THAN 150 COUNTRIES REDUCE THEIR RATE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS, FOLLOWING THE GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORK OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (CBD). AS OF THE END OF FY 2007, THE GEF HAS GENERATED \$8.6 BILLION IN ASSISTANCE, WHICH CONSISTS OF \$2.4 BILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$6.15 BILLION IN COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS WORLDWIDE.

GEF Focal Area: Persistent Organic Pollutants

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved 25 new efforts in the persistent organic pollutants (POPs) focal area. The total GEF allocation in the focal area during the reporting period was approximately \$68 million, significantly supplemented by an additional \$100 million generated in cofinancing from partners including the GEF agencies, bilateral agencies, recipient countries, and the private sector.

Program Shifts Focus from Planning to Action

The persistent organic pollutants area began its efforts primarily funding the development of national implementation plans as mandated by the Stockholm Convention, helping more than 130 countries assess their unique POP situations, and drafting a path forward. Near the end of the current period, it was determined that the majority of the countries had completed these plans or were about to, leading to an anticipated strategic shift in focal area funding, with projects focusing on implementation, rather than preparation efforts, gaining support.

Cleaning Up PCBs, One of the Most Widespread Environmental Toxins

Now known to be carcinogenic and toxic to humans, fish, and wildlife, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), a class of synthetic organic chemicals, were used extensively in electrical equipment and other applications for more than 60 years.

Today, PCB production is banned under the Stockholm Convention, yet in developing countries a wide array of PCB-containing equipment is still in service, and a significantly higher volume of discarded equipment is being housed in mass storage sites, where the potential for leakage into the environment is high. The GEF has been working to help countries locate and safely destroy PCBs. Some early projects were continuing to demonstrate success in the period. For example, many former Soviet republics have the responsibility of disposing of large volumes of abandoned electrical equipment. In Moldova, the GEF has helped export 900 tons of such equipment for final disposal. In Latvia, the GEF has been highly successful in mobilizing the private sector and forging public-private partnerships to raise awareness of the issue and identify PCB-carrying equipment. As a result, the project

is well on its way toward its original goal of disposing of 280 tons of equipment, and has even raised that goal to 420 tons.

Finding Alternatives to DDT in Fighting Malaria-Carrying Insects

DDT is a pesticide that was widely used in many agricultural applications since the 1940s. By the 1970s, it was found to have accumulated to toxic levels in the food chain, and was implicated in the near extinction of several species, including the American Bald Eagle. As a result, it has been banned in all applications except control of insects in malaria-prone areas, due to the lack of readily available alternatives to fighting this deadly disease. The GEF's highly successful first effort to identify sustainable alternatives to DDT in Mexico and several countries in Central America was completed in the period. The project demonstrated significant progress in reducing the incidence of malaria without the use of DDT, with an average of between 26 percent and 80 percent reduction in each country, and about 30 percent reduction for the whole subregion. This success is forming the framework for new DDT reduction projects under way in Africa, the Middle East,

Southeast Asia, and elsewhere in the world.

Developing Safer Approaches to Termite Control

No fewer than six of the deadliest POPs were traditionally used in termite control. The Stockholm Convention allows the limited use of three of them until sustainable alternatives can be found. The GEF is working to reduce and eventually eliminate the use of all POPs for termite control by addressing the constraints that limit the adoption of alternative methods. During the period, the GEF also helped China reduce its output of these POPs by working to permanently close the country's largest chlordane and mirex plant, which had a production capacity of 500 metric tons of chlordane and 250 metric tons of mirex.

In Africa, Removing Barrels of Leaching Pesticides

Throughout Africa, more than 50,000 tons of obsolete pesticides have accumulated, often stored in leaky drums leaching contamination into the soil, water, air, and food, and poisoning people and wildlife. Passing militias have even been known to use found drums for target practice. Through the

Africa Stockpiles Program, the GEF and a wide variety of private and public sector partners are working to inventory and safely dispose of these dangerous stores. During the period, assessments were completed or ongoing in seven countries, including Ethiopia, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, and Tunisia. An extensive safe disposal effort will begin shortly, with some 1,171 tons in Tunisia and 800 tons in Mali first in line for removal.



BACKGROUND ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS

PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs) ARE A GROUP OF MANUFACTURED CHEMICALS THAT HAVE BEEN USED FOR DECADES BUT HAVE MORE RECENTLY BEEN FOUND TO SHARE A NUMBER OF DISTURBING CHARACTERISTICS, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO CAUSE DAMAGE TO THE ENDOCRINE AND NERVOUS SYSTEMS OF HUMANS AND ANIMALS, TO RESIST DEGRADATION AND ENDURE IN THE ENVIRONMENT FOR DECADES, AND TO DRIFT EXTENSIVELY, OFTEN CONTAMINATING AREAS THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY FROM ANY KNOWN SOURCE. AN INITIAL "DIRTY DOZEN" OF THESE DANGEROUS CHEMICALS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED, INCLUDING ORGANOCHLORINE PESTICIDES SUCH AS DDT, MIREX, AND CHLORDANE; INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS SUCH AS POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCBs); AND UNWANTED CHEMICAL BY-PRODUCTS SUCH AS DIOXINS AND FURANS.

RECOGNIZING THE DANGERS OF POPs, MANY COUNTRIES BEGAN LIMITING OR BANNING THEIR PRODUCTION, USE, AND RELEASE, WITH THESE EFFORTS CULMINATING IN THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION OF 2001, WHICH WAS SIGNED BY 150 COUNTRIES. THE GEF IS THE LEAD INSTITUTION HELPING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND COUNTRIES IN TRANSITION TO IMPLEMENT THE TENETS OF THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION. THE GEF IS HELPING COUNTRIES CREATE NATIONAL INVENTORIES OF POPs AND REDUCE OR ELIMINATE THEIR USE AND RELEASE INTO THE ENVIRONMENT, AS WELL AS ASSISTING WITH SAFE DISPOSAL AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND ALTERNATIVE PRODUCTS, PRACTICES, AND TECHNIQUES. SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2002, THE GEF POPs FOCAL AREA HAS GENERATED MORE THAN \$420 MILLION IN ASSISTANCE, CONSISTING OF \$215 MILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$208 MILLION IN COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS WORLDWIDE.

GEF Focal Area: Land Degradation

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved 29 new initiatives in the land degradation focal area. The total GEF allocation in the focal area during the reporting period was approximately \$259 million, significantly supplemented by an additional \$1.94 billion generated in cofinancing from partners including the GEF agencies, bilateral agencies, recipient countries, and the private sector.

Restoring Growing Conditions in Central Asia

Decades of improper irrigation in the agricultural lands surrounding Aral Lake, once the world's fourth largest lake, have led to the significant shrinkage and salinization of the water, and desertification of nearby farms in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. During the period, the focal area began a programmatic effort working for sustainable land management for sustainable agriculture in the region, mostly through improving the efficiency of water use and implementing crop diversification strategies. Dozens of individual efforts are under way, focusing both on challenges within specific countries and efforts valuable to the region as a whole.

Assisting Sub-Saharan Africa

Land degradation impacts in Sub-Saharan Africa, home to some 717 million people, are among the most severe on the planet, and accelerating at an alarming pace. For example, more than 30 percent of the land area of Burkina Faso, Burundi, Lesotho, Rwanda, and South Africa is degraded to the extent that biotic functions of the land are considered irreclaimable. And salinization affects between 27 percent and 34 percent of irrigated surfaces in Kenya, Nigeria, Sudan, and Tanzania. During the period, the GEF developed the Strategic Investment Program for Sustainable Land Management in Sub-Saharan Africa (SIP), a far-reaching, multipartner, billion-dollar initiative designed to push forward a sustainable agriculture agenda in 28 participating countries, boosting food security and improving natural resource-based livelihoods by reducing land degradation. Assessment efforts are under way in all countries.

Helping Farmers in India

An estimated 72 percent of India's population lives in rural areas, with agriculture the main or only source of livelihood. In spite of the Green Revolution, most Indian farmers

have remained poor, and millions of households are still engaged in subsistence farming. At the same time, the natural resources and ecological foundations essential for sustained advances in the country's agricultural productivity are rapidly shrinking. Causes related to human activity include unsustainable agricultural practices such as overcultivation, nutrient inputs, poor irrigation practices, deforestation, and overgrazing. In response, the land degradation focal area, in conjunction with the biodiversity and climate change areas, has begun the India Country Program Sustainable Land and Ecosystem Management. The effort is based on the experience that a purely conservationist approach to natural resources is not likely to work. Therefore, teams are working to find innovative win-win combinations for sustainable ecosystem and resource management that takes into account traditional techniques and approaches and adapts them to current challenges by incorporating new techniques and approaches. Project concepts are currently being assessed and will be implemented shortly.

Developing an Advanced New Carbon Benefits Methodology

Working with a select group of research partners, including Michigan State University and Colorado State University, the land degradation focal area began a nontraditional effort that invests in developing a methodology as opposed to focusing on an area. The Carbon Benefits Project: Modeling, Measurement, and Monitoring seeks to develop a simple, rigorous, and cost-effective method for measuring the carbon in the soil, both above and below ground, as a means to protect carbon stocks and avoid carbon dioxide emissions. In addition to providing the ability to better measure the quality of the soil, it will also help developing countries participate in the carbon benefits market, bringing in a whole new dynamic for financial sustainability of forestry investment. The project is also notable because of the strong link it makes between climate change issues and the health of forest soils, and will have widespread applicability worldwide.

Measuring Our Positive Impact

The land degradation focal area is working to develop measurable and verifiable indicators that can help gauge the progress it is making in all of its program efforts.

During the period, the focal area launched Ensuring Impacts from SLM—Development of a Global Indicator System, the first phase of a three-phase process that will provide the scientific-technical basis for selecting such indicators, develop a community of practice for GEF projects in land degradation, develop knowledge management tools and guidelines as well as exchanges of experiences, and develop the suitable frameworks and mechanisms to monitor results from SLM projects. It is expected that three to five crucial impact indicators will be ultimately identified. These will likely be diverse. For example, some may be chemical, such as carbon stores, and others may be economic, such as a metric related to residents' improving ability to make a living off their agricultural lands.



BACKGROUND ON LAND DEGRADATION

DECREASES IN SOIL FERTILITY AND QUALITY CAUSED BY CLIMATIC VARIATIONS AND HUMAN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS OVERUSE OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZERS, FOREST CUTTING AND IMPROPER IRRIGATION AND FARMING METHODS GREATLY AFFECT THE FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS OF MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD, AND CAN HAVE DEVASTATING IMPACTS ON WILDLIFE. FOR EXAMPLE, MORE THAN 250 MILLION PEOPLE ARE DIRECTLY AFFECTED BY DESERTIFICATION OF THEIR ONCE USEFUL LAND, WITH ABOUT 1 BILLION MORE AT RISK, INCLUDING MANY OF THE WORLD'S POOREST CITIZENS.

THE GEF LAND DEGRADATION FOCAL AREA, INITIATED IN 2002, IS WORKING TO ARREST AND REVERSE CURRENT TRENDS IN LAND DEGRADATION THROUGH SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT. IN 2003, THE GROUP WAS DESIGNATED THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM FOR THE CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION. SINCE LAND DEGRADATION IS ASSOCIATED WITH A RANGE OF OTHER ECOLOGICAL CONCERNS, THE FOCAL AREA IS CLOSELY LINKED WITH MOST OTHER GEF FOCAL AREAS, PARTICULARLY BIODIVERSITY, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND INTERNATIONAL WATERS. THE FOCAL AREA ALSO WORKS TO STRATEGICALLY PRIORITIZE PROJECTS THAT HAVE THE WIDEST POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS. SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2002, THE LAND DEGRADATION FOCAL AREA HAS GENERATED MORE THAN \$2.64 BILLION IN ASSISTANCE, CONSISTING OF \$353 MILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$2.25 BILLION IN COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS WORLDWIDE.

GEF Focal Area: International Waters

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved 19 new projects in the focal area of international waters. The total GEF allocation in the area approved by the GEF Council during the reporting period was approximately \$126 million, significantly supplemented by an additional \$1.41 billion generated in cofinancing from partners including the GEF agencies, bilateral agencies, recipient countries, and the private sector.

Fourth Biennial GEF International Waters Conference

A key element in the GEF's strategy for international waters includes the sharing of project experiences and structured learning for the portfolio. One of the components of this approach is a biennial portfolio conference aimed at South-to-South learning while projects are under way. The Fourth Biennial GEF International Waters Conference brought more than 300 participants to Cape Town in July 2007, and by all indicators it was the most successful ever. The GEF Secretariat and agencies worked together through the GEF IW:LEARN program to organize the learning event to meet the past participants requests for more

opportunities for interaction with colleagues. Small-group discussions led by expert facilitators stimulated the sharing of ideas and building of relationships for ongoing communication, and a rollicking session of GEFoardy, based on the game show Jeopardy, was an unusual and enjoyable way to learn about the GEF and its monitoring and evaluation requirements. The GEF looks forward to the possibility of topping the success of this conference with an interactive schedule of learning opportunities at the fifth International Waters Conference, scheduled for Australia in late 2009. The innovative use of daily videos to capture participant feedback at the Cape Town conference can be viewed at the GEF International Waters knowledge management resource center (<http://www.iwlearn.net>).

First and Second Phases of Nile Basin Initiative

The first phase of the GEF Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project (NTEAP) was completed in the period with assistance of the World Bank and UNDP. The project was highly successful in its activities to secure cooperation

among the basin countries on sustainable water resources management, including capacity building, training, education, awareness raising, knowledge and information sharing, and, especially environmental conservation field activities to activate and engage local communities at more than 170 pilot sites. The Nile River Basin comprises ten culturally disparate countries, many of them among the world's poorest. With this success, the last phase of the project was approved by the Council and initiated in late 2007.

Completion of Danube Basin and Black Sea Regional Projects and Dramatically Reduced "Dead Zone"

One of the focal area's first and longest-term series of projects, begun in the early 1990s during the GEF's pilot phase, came to a highly successful conclusion during the period. Over more than 15 years, the GEF worked with 16 countries and several organizations in an effort to reduce nitrogen and phosphorus pollution and reduce the highly polluted dead zones in the Danube Delta and downstream Black Sea. Many individual country actions and other development assistance

projects accompanied a decrease in phosphorus levels by nearly 50 percent and nitrogen levels by 20 percent in the Danube, and great reductions in the extent of the dead zone in the western Black Sea. Experts consider the Danube program a model for reclaiming some of the more than 200 other dead zones identified across the planet, and the European Union highlighted it as a model for transboundary waters governance in a report to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development. Furthermore, the program ended with the participant countries well positioned, and with high-level commitment, to carry on with the program's work and capitalize on its successes going forward with two functioning regional treaties and institutions.

Focus of the International Waters Strategy

The international waters focal area unveiled a GEF Council-approved four-point strategy during the period, which is guiding the focal area's activities through 2010. It is designed to promote international cooperation on transboundary surface water, groundwater, and coastal and marine issues and to

catalyze action to address those issues. The strategies are as follows:

- Restoring and sustaining coastal and marine fish stocks and associated biological diversity
- Reducing nutrient overenrichment and oxygen depletion from land-based pollution of coastal waters in large marine ecosystems consistent with the GPA
- Balancing overuse and conflicting uses of water resources in surface and groundwater basins that are transboundary in nature
- Reducing persistent toxic substances and testing adaptive management of waters with melting ice

Benefits of “Google Earth” for the South China Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Project and its Innovative Approach to Fish Refugia

The international waters focal area has been investigating using the exciting Google Earth technology as a tool to disseminate information about its program, and to communicate with project participants as well as politicians and members of the public in the Black Sea and in the South China Sea. The first project to be featured is the South China Sea project, which is working to reverse environmental degradation of large marine ecosystems in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand. The project's Google Earth layer includes information on a number of efforts, including work to establish a regional system of fisheries refugia in the area. This exciting application of Google Earth and the South China Sea project can be seen at http://earth.google.com/outreach/kml_entry.html#tSouth%20China%20Sea%20Project.



BACKGROUND ON INTERNATIONAL WATERS

SEVENTY PERCENT OF OUR PLANET IS MADE UP OF COASTAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS, AND COASTAL ECONOMIES DEPEND ON THEM TO GENERATE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES. MORE THAN 2.5 BILLION PEOPLE CURRENTLY FACE WATER SHORTAGES AND WATER STRESSES DUE TO BOTH ENVIRONMENTAL AND HUMAN FACTORS. FINDING SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS IS THWARTED BY THE FACT THAT MOST OF THE WORLD'S WATERWAYS FLOW ACROSS MULTIPLE COUNTRIES.

THE GEF INTERNATIONAL WATERS FOCAL AREA TARGETS TRANSBOUNDARY WATER SYSTEMS, ADDRESSING VITAL ISSUES INCLUDING WATER POLLUTION, OVEREXTRACTION OF GROUNDWATER RESOURCES, OVERFISHING, AND INVASIVE SPECIES, AS WELL AS WORKING TO BALANCE COMPETING USES OF WATER RESOURCES. SINCE 1991, THE GEF HAS WORKED WITH 155 COUNTRIES, CATALYZING COLLECTIVE ACTION TO PROTECT THE FRESHWATER AND MARINE SYSTEMS THAT THEY SHARE. AS OF THE END OF FY 2007, THE GEF HAS GENERATED MORE THAN \$4.6 BILLION IN ASSISTANCE, CONSISTING OF \$934 MILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$3.7 BILLION IN COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS WORLDWIDE.

GEF Focal Area: Ozone Depletion

Between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2007, the GEF approved one new effort—a medium-size project in the ozone depletion focal area. The total GEF allocation in the focal area during the reporting period was approximately \$0.84 million, supplemented by an additional \$0.41 million generated in cofinancing from project partners.

Close to Victory over CFCs

The reporting period can best be characterized as a period of transition for the GEF ozone depletion focal area. There was one new project approved and active during the period, giving continuing support for the countries of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, helping them put the finishing touches on meeting their commitments to the Montreal Protocol. The countries of the former Soviet Union had been the third-largest consumer of ozone-depleting substances, and in the years leading up to the period, the GEF helped 18 of them reduce their

consumption of these chemicals by more than 99 percent, from 296,000 tons in 1991 to just 350 tons in 2006. In this way, the GEF made a significant contribution to the ongoing success of the Montreal Protocol, and to the hope the world now holds for a repair of the damage done to the ozone layer and the detrimental impact it has had on the health of the earth and its inhabitants.

Gearing Up to Tackle HCFCs

With the successful phaseout of the most potent ozone-depleting substances well under way, the international community turned its attention to the threats to the ozone layer posed by hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs). These chemicals, although somewhat less harmful to the ozone layer than CFCs, are now being produced in large and increasing quantities, and are also potent greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change.

Indeed, in September 2007, the Montreal Protocol adapted a resolution to strengthen HCFC phase-out goals. As the Ozone Layer Depletion focal area transitions from emphasis on CFCs to emphasis on HCFCs, it is funding surveys in all countries under its purview to assess the HCFC situation and develop specific strategies for phaseout.



BACKGROUND ON OZONE DEPLETION

THE DRAMATIC ONGOING DEPLETION OF THE OZONE LAYER, A NATURAL SHIELD AROUND THE EARTH WHICH FILTERS ULTRAVIOLET RADIATION FROM THE SUN, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR A NUMBER OF SERIOUS IMPACTS ON HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL, NOTABLY AN INCREASE IN CASES OF SKIN CANCER. THE MAIN CAUSE OF THE DAMAGE TO THE OZONE LAYER WAS DEMONSTRATED TO BE THE HUMAN USE OF SEVERAL GROUPS OF HALOGENATED HYDROCARBON CHEMICALS INCLUDING CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS (CFCs), HALONS, CARBON TETRACHLORIDE (CTC) AND METHYL BROMIDE, IN VARIED APPLICATIONS SUCH AS REFRIGERANTS.

IN RESPONSE TO THIS REALIZATION, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CAME TOGETHER TO ADAPT AN UNPRECEDENTED AGREEMENT CALLING FOR THE PHASING OUT OF THESE CHEMICALS. ADOPTED IN 1987, MORE THAN 190 COUNTRIES HAVE SIGNED THE MONTREAL PROTOCOL ON SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER. IN ADDITION, A MULTILATERAL FUND WAS ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO HELP THEM MEET THEIR COMMITMENTS UNDER THE AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, THE AGREEMENT COULD NOT ANTICIPATE THE NEEDS OF THE NEW NATIONS FORMED AFTER THE FALL OF THE SOVIET UNION, MANY OF THEM PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS OF OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES. THE GEF HAS STEPPED IN TO COMPLEMENT AND HELP ACCELERATE THE WORK OF THE MULTILATERAL FUND BY HELPING THESE NATIONS PHASE OUT THEIR USE OF THESE CHEMICALS. SINCE ITS INCEPTION, THE GEF OZONE LAYER DEPLETION FOCAL AREA HAS GENERATED ABOUT \$370 MILLION IN SUPPORT, CONSISTING OF \$183 MILLION IN GEF INVESTMENT AND \$187 MILLION IN COFINANCING FROM GEF PARTNERS, INCLUDING THE GEF AGENCIES, BILATERAL AGENCIES, RECIPIENT COUNTRIES, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

GEF Projects and Programs Entering the Work Program in 2006

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
BIODIVERSITY					
Global	Indigenous Peoples' Network for Change	UNEP	0.94	0.50	1.44
Global	Coastal Resilience to Climate Change: Developing a Generalizable Method for Assessing Vulnerability and Adaptation of Mangroves and Associated Ecosystems	UNEP	1.00	1.00	2.00
Global	Conservation & Management of Pollinators for Sustainable Agriculture through an Ecosystem Approach	UNEP	8.51	18.65	27.16
Global	Conservation and Adaptive Management of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS)	FAO	4.23	14.50	18.73
Global	Institutionalizing Payments for Ecosystem Services	UNDP	6.15	12.03	18.17
Global	Supporting Country Early Action on Protected Areas (resubmission from Feb 2006 IWP)	UNDP	9.47	4.04	13.50
Global	Biodiversity and Agricultural Commodities Program (BACP), Phase 1	World Bank/IFC	7.44	11.67	19.11
Global	Building the Partnership to Track Progress at the Global Level in Achieving the 2010 Biodiversity Target (Phase I)	UNEP	3.95	10.38	14.33
Global	Knowledge Base for Lessons Learned and Best Practices in the Management of Coral Reefs	UNEP	0.97	0.95	1.91
Global	National Reporting to the CBD: Supporting Countries to Prepare the Third National Report on Biodiversity (Phase II)	UNDP	1.00		1.00
Global	Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund (CEPF), Phase 2	World Bank	20.00	80.00	100.00
Global	Conservation and Use of Crop Genetic Diversity to Control Pests and Diseases in Support of Sustainable Agriculture (Phase 1)	UNEP	3.76	4.27	8.04
Regional	West African Regional Biosafety Program	World Bank	6.10	15.54	21.64
Regional	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Tourism through the Development and Dissemination of Best Practices	UNEP	1.00	1.31	2.31
Regional	Integrated Management of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area	IADB	3.65	5.60	9.25
Regional	Latin America: Multi-country Capacity-building for Compliance with the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	World Bank	5.26	10.75	16.01
Regional	Biodiversity Conservation in Coffee: Transforming Productive Practices in the Coffee Sector by Increasing Market Demand for Certified Sustainable Coffee	UNDP	12.64	81.61	94.25
Regional	Mainstreaming Conservation of Migratory Soaring Birds into Key Productive Sectors along the Rift Valley/Red Sea Flyway (Tranches 1 and 2)	UNDP	10.24	15.60	25.84
Regional	Enhancing the Effectiveness and Catalyzing the Sustainability of the W-Arly-Pendjari (WAP) Protected Area System	UNDP	5.62	18.59	24.21
Albania	Butrint National Park: Biodiversity and Global Heritage Conservation	World Bank	0.98	1.21	2.18
Argentina	Biodiversity Conservation in Productive Forestry Landscapes	World Bank	7.25	7.22	14.47
Belarus	Catalyzing Sustainability of the Wetland Protected Areas System in Belarusian Polesie through Increased Management Efficiency and Realigned Land Use Practices	UNDP	2.41	9.09	11.50
Belize	Integrating Protected Area and Landscape Management in the Golden Stream Watershed	UNDP	1.00	1.12	2.12
Bhutan	Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program	UNDP	0.92	2.00	2.92
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Forest and Mountain Protected Areas Project	World Bank	3.40	3.50	6.90
Botswana	Building Local Capacity for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Okavango Delta	UNDP	4.28	8.65	12.93
Botswana	Wildlife Conflict Management and Biodiversity Conservation for Improved Rural Livelihoods	World Bank	5.82	25.00	30.82
Brazil	National Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Institutional Consolidation Project	World Bank	22.00	75.00	97.00
Brazil	Effective Conservation and Sustainable Use of Mangrove Ecosystems in Brazil	UNDP	5.33	15.35	20.68
Brazil	GEF Sustainable Cerrado Initiative, Tranche 1	World Bank	13.00	54.00	67.00
Brazil	Tabuleiro State Park: Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Rehabilitation	World Bank	1.00	1.35	2.35
Bulgaria	Conservation of Globally Important Biodiversity in High Nature Value Semi-natural Grasslands through Support for the Traditional Local Economy	UNDP	1.00	1.20	2.20
Cambodia	Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework of Cambodia	UNEP	0.64	0.46	1.10
Chile	Regional System of Protected Areas for Sustainable Conservation and Use of Valdivian Temperate Rainforest	UNDP	5.04	15.61	20.65
China	Conservation and Sustainable Utilization of Wild Relatives of Crops (resubmission from Feb 2006 IWP)	UNDP	8.06	12.84	20.90
China	Guangxi Integrated Forestry Development and Biodiversity Conservation	World Bank	5.60	199.33	204.93

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Colombia	Colombian National Protected Areas Conservation Trust Fund	World Bank	15.35	27.50	42.85
Congo	Agricultural Development and Rural Road Rehabilitation Project	World Bank	3.85	20.00	23.85
Congo DR	Support to ICCN's Program for the Rehabilitation of the National Parks Network	World Bank	7.28	48.60	55.88
Costa Rica	Overcoming Barriers to Sustainability of Costa Rica's Protected Areas System	UNDP	5.14	20.31	25.44
Costa Rica	Mainstreaming Market-based Instruments for Environmental Management Project	World Bank	10.00	80.30	90.30
Croatia	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Dalmatian Coast through Greening Coastal Development	UNDP	7.31	24.33	31.64
Cuba	Mainstreaming and Sustaining Biodiversity Conservation in Three Productive Sectors of the Sabana Camaguey Ecosystem	UNDP	4.32	23.35	27.67
Czech Republic	Support for the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.45	1.43	1.89
Egypt	Support the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.91	1.39	2.30
El Salvador	Protected Areas Consolidation and Administration	World Bank	5.35	8.40	13.75
Estonia	Support the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.67	0.28	0.95
Ethiopia	Sustainable Development of the Protected Area System	UNDP	9.32	22.43	31.75
Guatemala	Improvement of Management Effectiveness in the Maya Biosphere Reserve (MBR)	IADB	4.41	10.94	15.35
India	Mainstreaming Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plant Diversity in Three Indian States	UNDP	5.28	6.48	11.76
India	Biodiversity Conservation and Rural Livelihoods Improvement	World Bank	11.83	35.60	47.43
Indonesia	Partnerships for Conservation Management of the Aketajawe-Lolobata National Park, North Maluku Province	World Bank	1.00	1.09	2.09
Indonesia	Fisheries Revitalization Project (FRP)	World Bank	8.00	87.00	95.00
Jordan	Integrated Ecosystem and Natural Resource Management in the Jordan Rift Valley	World Bank	6.50	6.10	12.60
Kazakhstan	Conservation and Sustainable use of Biodiversity in the Kazakhstani Sector of the Altai-Sayan Mountain Ecoregion	UNDP	2.42	16.34	18.76
Kenya	Improved Conservation and Governance for Kenya Coastal Forest Protected Area System	UNDP	0.81	2.29	3.10
Korea DPR	Updating of NBSAP, Preparation of 2nd National Reports, and Establishment of a National Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)	UNEP	0.13	0.08	0.21
Lithuania	Support for the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.69	0.40	1.09
Mauritius	Support the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.43	0.21	0.64
Mexico	Consolidation of the Protected Area System (SINAP II) - Tranche 3	World Bank	7.35	7.35	14.70
Mexico	Environmental Services Project	World Bank	15.35	166.79	182.14
Moldova	Support to the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.54	0.15	0.69
Nicaragua	Strengthening and Catalyzing the Sustainability of Nicaragua's Protected Areas System	UNDP	2.15	3.82	5.97
Pakistan	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation into Production Systems in the Juniper Forest Ecosystem	UNDP	1.00	1.54	2.54
Romania	Strengthening Romania's Protected Area System by Demonstrating Best Practices for Management of Small Protected Areas in Macin Mountains National Park	UNDP	1.00	2.10	3.10
Russian Federation	Development of National Biodiversity CHM (Add On)	UNEP	0.38	0.03	0.40
Serbia	Transitional Agriculture Reform	World Bank	4.84	32.31	37.15
Seychelles	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Management into Production Sector Activities	UNDP	4.00	7.59	11.59
Seychelles	Mainstreaming Prevention and Control Measures for Invasive Alien Species into Trade, Transport and Travel Across the Production Landscape	UNDP	2.00	4.61	6.61
Sierra Leone	Wildlife Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Project	World Bank	5.35	11.60	16.95
Slovak Republic	Support to the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework of Slovakia	UNEP	0.47	0.14	0.61
South Africa	National Grasslands Biodiversity Program	UNDP	8.65	37.26	45.91
Tajikistan	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in the Gissar Mountains of Tajikistan	UNDP	1.00	0.75	1.75
Tanzania	Support the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.78	0.61	1.39
Tunisia	Capacity Building for the Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	0.85	0.92	1.77
Uruguay	Catalyzing the Implementation of Uruguay's National Protected Area System	UNDP	2.84	4.90	7.75
Venezuela	Expanding Partnerships for the National Parks System (resubmission)	World Bank	6.35	18.52	24.87

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Venezuela	Biodiversity Conservation in the Productive Landscape of the Venezuelan Andes	UNDP	7.70	29.55	37.24
Vietnam	Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework	UNEP	1.00	0.64	1.63
Zambia	Zambia Biological Diversity Enabling Activity (Add On)	UNDP	0.15	0.02	0.17

CLIMATE CHANGE

Global	A Policy Forum of Power Sector Regulatory Frameworks for On-grid Renewable Energies	World Bank	1.00	0.75	1.75
Global	Community-based Adaptation (CBA) Programme	UNDP	5.01	4.53	9.53
Global	Solar Water Heating Market Transformation and Strengthening Initiative, Phase 1	UNDP/UNEP	12.29	19.15	31.44
Global	Adaptation Learning Mechanism: Learning by Doing	UNDP	0.72	0.65	1.37
Regional	Implementation of Pilot Adaptation Measures in coastal areas of Dominica, St. Lucia and St. Vincent & the Grenadines	World Bank	2.40	4.00	6.40
Regional	Financing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Investments for Climate Change Mitigation	UNEP	3.00	9.26	12.26
Regional	Adaptation to Climate Change—Responding to Shoreline Change and its human dimensions in West Africa through integrated coastal area management.	UNDP	4.00	4.00	8.00
Regional	Cogen for Africa	UNEP	5.62	61.59	67.20
Regional	First Regional Micro/Mini-Hydropower Capacity Development and Investment in Rural Electricity Access in Sub-Saharan Africa	UNDP	19.17	121.34	140.51
Regional	African Rift Geothermal Development Facility (ARGeo)	UNEP/World Bank	19.05	55.55	74.60
Regional	Promoting Sustainable Transport in Latin America (NESTLAC)	UNEP	0.99	1.42	2.41
Regional	Lighting the "Bottom of the Pyramid"	World Bank/IFC	5.40	6.75	12.15
Regional	Sustainable Energy Financing	World Bank/IFC	9.48	21.60	31.08
Regional	CleanTech Fund	IADB	1.00	61.20	62.20
Regional	LAC Regional Sustainable Transport and Air Quality Project	World Bank	21.18	56.37	77.55
Regional	Integrating Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change into Sustainable Development Policy Planning and Implementation in Southern and Eastern Africa	UNEP	1.00	1.27	2.27
Regional	Greening the Tea Industry in East Africa	UNEP	3.42	25.61	29.04
Regional	Barrier Removal to the Cost-Effective Development and Implementation of Energy Standards and Labeling Project (BRESL)	UNDP	6.85	27.35	34.20
Argentina	Energy Efficiency Project	World Bank	15.50	82.61	98.11
Armenia	Renewable Energy Project	World Bank	3.25	15.50	18.75
Bangladesh	Improving Kiln Efficiency for the Brick Industry	UNDP	3.35	11.04	14.39
Belarus	Removing Barriers to Energy Efficiency Improvements in the State Sector in Belarus	UNDP	1.60	8.37	9.96
Brazil	Second National Communication of Brazil to the UNFCCC	UNDP	3.40	4.18	7.58
Brazil	Market Transformation for Energy Efficiency in Buildings	UNDP/IADB	13.75	64.83	78.58
Bulgaria	Building the Local Capacity for Promoting Energy Efficiency in Private and Public Buildings	UNDP	1.00	6.27	7.27
Burkina Faso	Transformation of the Rural PV Market (prev. Energy Sector Reform)	UNDP	1.76	4.13	5.89
China	Energy Efficiency Financing	World Bank	13.50	583.15	596.65
China	Demonstration of Fuel Cell Bus Commercialization in China, Phase 2	UNDP	5.77	12.86	18.63
China	GEF-World Bank-China Urban Transport Partnership Program (CUTPP)	World Bank	21.35	585.75	607.10
Colombia	Integrated National Adaptation Plan: High Mountain Ecosystems, Colombia's Caribbean Insular Areas and Human Health (INAP)	World Bank	5.57	11.90	17.47
Egypt	Bioenergy for Sustainable Rural Development	UNDP	3.34	13.30	16.64
Egypt	Sustainable Transport	UNDP	7.18	28.57	35.75
Ghana	Energy Development and Access Project (formerly) Development of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency	World Bank	5.50	157.00	162.50

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Ghana	Ghana Urban Transport	World Bank	7.35	29.00	36.35
Guinea	Electricity Sector Efficiency Improvement Project	World Bank	4.50	9.20	13.70
Honduras	Rural Infrastructure (Electrification Sector)	World Bank	2.70	18.74	21.44
India	Market Transformation for Energy Efficient Refrigerators and Air-conditioners	UNDP	5.66	25.95	31.61
India	Enabling activities for Preparing India's Second National Communication to UNFCCC	UNDP	3.85	6.50	10.35
India	Coal Fired Generation Rehabilitation Project	World Bank	45.40	299.70	345.10
Indonesia	Bus Rapid Transit and Pedestrian Improvements in Jakarta	UNEP	6.16	187.98	194.14
Indonesia	Integrated Microhydro Development and Application Program (IMIDAP), Part I	UNDP	2.12	18.46	20.58
Jordan	Promotion of a Wind Power Market	World Bank	6.35	82.60	88.95
Kenya	Market Transformation for Efficient Biomass Stoves for Institutions and Small and Medium-Scale Enterprises	UNDP	1.00	5.65	6.65
Kenya	Development and Implementation of a Standards and Labeling Programme in Kenya	UNDP	2.35	8.76	11.11
Kiribati	Kiribati Adaptation Program—Pilot Implementation Phase (KAP-II)	World Bank	1.90	4.80	6.70
Macedonia	Sustainable Energy Program	World Bank	5.85	28.80	34.65
Mauritania	Adrar Solar Initiative and Decentralized Electrification in the Northern Coastline of Mauritania through Hybrid (Wind/Diesel) Systems	UNDP	2.80	9.36	12.16
Mexico	Integrated Energy Services for Small Localities of Rural Mexico	World Bank	15.35	81.50	96.85
Mexico	Grid-connected Photovoltaic Project	UNDP	1.00	1.00	2.00
Mongolia	Renewable Energy and Rural Electricity Access (RERA)	World Bank	3.50	12.80	16.30
Mongolia	Heating Energy Efficiency	World Bank	7.20	20.00	27.20
Morocco	Energy Efficiency Codes in Residential Buildings and Energy Efficiency Improvement in Commercial and Hospital Buildings in Morocco	UNDP	3.28	12.61	15.89
Namibia	Barrier Removal to Namibian Renewable Energy Programme (NAMREP), Phase II	UNDP	2.60	7.64	10.24
Nicaragua	Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable Transport in Metropolitan Managua	UNDP	4.23	60.59	64.82
Peru	Second National Communication of Peru to the UNFCCC	UNDP	1.85	1.01	2.86
Peru	Rural Electrification	World Bank	10.35	134.95	145.30
Philippines	Philippines Sustainable Energy Finance Program	World Bank/IFC	5.30	20.00	25.30
Russian Federation	Renewable Energy Project (RREP)	World Bank	10.35	66.80	77.15
Rwanda	Sustainable Energy Development Project (SEDP)	World Bank	4.50	22.35	26.85
South Africa	Sustainable Public Transport and Sport: A 2010 Opportunity	UNDP	11.20	323.94	335.14
Sri Lanka	Portfolio Approach to Distributed Generation Opportunity (PADGO) (Phase 1)	World Bank/IFC	3.60	24.95	28.55
Tanzania	Tanzania Energy Development and Access Project (TEDAP)	World Bank	6.50	32.30	38.80
Uruguay	Uruguay Wind Energy Programme (UWEP)	UNDP	1.00	6.01	7.01
Vietnam	Hanoi Urban Transport Development	World Bank	10.15	328.89	339.04
Zambia	Increased Access to Electricity Services	World Bank	4.74	22.10	26.84

INTERNATIONAL WATERS

Global	Building Partnerships to Assist Developing Countries to Reduce the Transfer of Harmful Aquatic Organisms in Ships' Ballast Water (GloBallast Partnerships)	UNDP	6.39	17.70	24.09
Global	Pollution Reduction through Improved Municipal Wastewater Management in Coastal Cities in ACP Countries with a Focus on SIDS	UNDP	1.00	1.20	2.20
Regional	World Bank/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the Large Marine Ecosystems of East Asia (Tranche 1, 2nd Installment)	World Bank	10.00	80.87	90.87

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Regional	Regional Activities of the Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa, Tranche 1	World Bank	1.00	0.33	1.33
Regional	World Bank-GEF Investment Fund for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Partnership, Tranche 1, 2nd Installment	World Bank	15.00	45.00	60.00
Regional	Implementation of Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA)	UNDP	11.58	33.37	44.95
Regional	Integrated Ecosystem Management of the Gulf of Fonseca	IADB	5.60	21.33	26.93
Regional	Demonstrating and Capturing Best Practices and Technologies for the Reduction of Land-sourced Impacts Resulting from Coastal Tourism	UNEP	6.01	23.36	29.37
Regional	Lake Skader-Shkoder Integrated Ecosystem Management	World Bank	5.00	11.16	16.16
Regional	Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa (Tranche 1, Installment 1)	World Bank	12.74	75.00	87.74
Regional	Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project	World Bank	11.70	14.50	26.20
Regional	Programme for the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems: Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems Project (ASCLMEs)	UNDP	12.92	18.26	31.19
Regional	World Bank/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the Large Marine Ecosystems of East Asia (Tranche 1 of 3 tranches)	World Bank	5.14	459.93	465.07
China	Ningbo Water and Environment Project—under WB/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the LME of East Asia	World Bank	5.35	133.90	139.25
China	Participatory Planning and Implementation in the Management of Shantou Intertidal Wetland	UNEP	0.40	0.52	0.92
China	Second Shandong Environment—under WB/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the LME of East Asia	World Bank	5.35	201.90	207.25
China	Liaoning Medium Cities Infrastructure—under WB/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the LME of East Asia	World Bank	5.35	187.70	193.05
Indonesia	Demonstration of Community-based Mgt of Seagrass Habitats in Trikora Beach East Bintan, Riau Archipelago Province, Indonesia	UNEP	0.40	0.39	0.79
Philippines	Manila Third Sewerage Project (MTSP)—under WB/GEF Partnership Investment Fund for Pollution Reduction in the LME of East Asia	World Bank	5.35	87.81	93.16
LAND DEGRADATION					
Global	Ensuring Impacts from SLM—Development of a Global Indicator System	UNDP	1.00	-	1.00
Global	Supporting Capacity Building for the Third National Reporting to CRIC-5/COP-8	UNDP	0.51	0.45	0.97
Global	Supporting Capacity Building for the Third National Reporting to CRIC-5/COP-8	IFAD	0.64	0.51	1.14
Regional	Central Asia Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM) Multicountry Partnership Framework Support Project —under CACILM Partnership Framework, Phase 1	ADB	3.03	3.30	6.33
Regional	SIP PROGRAM: Strategic Investment Program for SLM in Sub-Saharan Africa (SIP)	World Bank /UNDP/ UNEP/ AfDB/ IFAD/			
Regional	Central Asian Countries Initiative for Land Management (CACILM) Multi-country Partnership Framework Phase 1	FAO	123.70	978.43	1,102.12
Regional	Sustainable Land Management in the High Pamir and Pamir-Alai Mountains—and Integrated and Transboundary Initiative in Central Asia Phase I	ADB	4.69	134.82	139.51
Regional	Fouta Djallon Highlands Integrated Natural Resources Management Project (FDH-INRM) (Tranches 1 and 2)	UNEP	3.65	6.00	9.65
Regional	Dummy Project for 3 SIP (3398, 339, 3390)	UNEP	11.55	33.00	44.55
		World Bank/IFAD	7.84	69.70	77.54

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Argentina	Sustainable Management of Arid and Semi-arid Ecosystems to Combat Desertification in Patagonia (resubmission)	UNDP	5.53	26.57	32.10
Bhutan	Sustainable Land Management	World Bank	7.96	8.23	16.18
Burkina Faso	Partnership Programme for Sustainable Land Management (CPP), Phase 1	UNDP	7.98	60.71	68.69
Burkina Faso	CPP Burkina Faso: Sub-programme of the Northern Region-under Partnership Programme for Sustainable Land Management	IFAD	2.02	27.82	29.83
Cameroon	Sustainable Agro-Pastoral and Land Management Promotion under the National Community Development Program Support Program (PNDP)	World Bank	6.35	92.00	98.35
Cuba	CPP Cuba: Supporting Implementation of the Cuban National Programme to Combat Desertification and Drought (NPCDD)	UNDP/UNEP/FAO	10.00	79.44	89.44
Ethiopia	SIP-Country Program for Sustainable Land Management (ECPSLM)	World Bank	9.35	28.80	38.15
Kenya	Agricultural Productivity and Sustainable Land Management	World Bank	10.35	72.80	83.15
Kyrgyzstan	CACILM: Southern Agriculture Area Development Project—under CACILM Partnership Framework, Phase 1	ADB	2.50	29.53	32.03
Mauritania	Community-based Watershed Management Project	World Bank	6.35	58.60	64.95
Namibia	CPP: Country Pilot Partnership for Integrated Sustainable Land Management, Phase 1	UNDP/World Bank	2.25	51.99	54.24
Namibia	CPP Namibia: Sustainable Land Management Support and Adaptive Management Project (NAM SLM SAM)	UNDP	7.00	34.35	41.35
Nicaragua	Sustainable Land Management in Drought-Prone Areas of Nicaragua	UNDP	3.34	17.49	20.84
Niger	Sustainable Co-Management of the Natural Resources of the Air-Tenere Complex	UNDP	4.23	5.24	9.47
Pakistan	Sustainable Land Management for Combating Desertification (Phase I)	UNDP	2.34	2.60	4.94
Senegal	Groundnut Basin Soil Management and Regeneration	UNDP	4.01	10.09	14.10
Senegal	SIP: Integrated Ecosystem Management in Four Representative Landscapes of Senegal, Phase 2	UNDP	3.64	7.79	11.43
Tajikistan	Demonstrating Local Responses to Combating Land Degradation and Improving Sustainable Land Management in SW Tajikistan—under CACILM Partnership Framework, Phase 1	UNDP	1.00	1.05	2.05
Tajikistan	CACILM: Rural Development Project under CACILM Partnership Framework, Phase I	ADB	3.50	20.66	24.16
Uzbekistan	CACILM Partnership Framework—Land Improvement Project	ADB	3.00	77.18	80.18

MULTIPLE FOCAL AREAS

Global	Small Grants Programme, Fourth Operational Phase	UNDP	106.00	147.00	253.00
Global	The GEF Earth Fund (formerly GEF Public-Private Partnership Fund)	World Bank/IFC	50.19	160.00	210.19
Global	SGP Small Grants Program, 4th Operational Phase, RAF Allocations 1	UNDP	13.65		13.65
Global	Small Grants Programme, Third Operational Phase, Year 2, Tranche 3	UNDP	20.00	20.00	40.00
Global	Country Support Program for GEF Focal Points	UNDP/UNEP	11.86	0.27	12.13
Global	GEF-Development Marketplace Partnership	World Bank	5.00	7.60	12.60
Global	Small Grants Programme (Third Operational Phase), Tranche 2	UNDP	25.00	50.00	75.00
Global	Small Grants Programme (Third Operational Phase), Tranche 2, Installment 2	UNDP	15.00	15.00	30.00
Global	SGP Small Grants Program, Fourth Operational Phase, RAF Allocation 2	UNDP	4.00		4.00
Regional	Sustainable Environmental Management for Sixaola River Basin	IADB	4.00	15.88	19.88
Regional	Strategic Partnership for the Mediterranean Large Marine Ecosystem-Regional Component: Implementation of Agreed Actions for the Protection of the Environmental Resources of the Mediterranean Sea and Its Coastal Areas	UNEP/UNIDO	13.59	29.61	43.20
Regional	World Bank-GEF Investment Fund for the Mediterranean Sea Large Marine Ecosystem Partnership, Tranche 1, 1st Allocation	World Bank	10.00	90.00	100.00
Regional	Sustainable Management of the Water Resources of the la Plata Basin with Respect to the Effects of Climate Variability and Change	UNEP	11.46	50.56	62.02

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Regional	Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Prespa Lakes Basin of Albania, FYR-Macedonia and Greece	UNDP	4.51	9.40	13.91
Regional	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP)	World Bank	12.73	22.95	35.68
Antigua and Barbuda	Demonstrating the Development and Implementation of a Sustainable Island Resource Management Mechanism in a Small Island Developing State	UNDP	3.19	4.70	7.90
Barbados	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNEP	0.21	0.04	0.25
Brazil	Caatinga Conservation and Sustainable Management Project	World Bank	10.35	13.06	23.41
Brazil	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Needs (NCSA)	UNDP	0.17	0.01	0.18
Bulgaria	Integrating Global Environmental Issues into Bulgaria's Regional Development Process	UNDP	0.55	2.13	2.67
Burkina Faso	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.23	0.05	0.28
Central African Republic	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.23	0.08	0.30
Chad	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.23	0.05	0.28
Comoros	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.22	0.04	0.26
Congo DR	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management in DR Congo	UNDP	0.23	0.03	0.25
Cuba	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNEP	0.23	0.05	0.27
Dominican Republic	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environment Management	UNDP	0.23	0.02	0.25
Gabon	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.20	0.04	0.24
Haiti	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environment Management	UNEP	0.21	0.05	0.26
Malaysia	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environment Management (NCSA)	UNDP	0.17	0.10	0.27
Mauritania	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.23	0.03	0.25
Morocco	The Middle Atlas Forest Restoration project	UNDP	1.00	2.11	3.11
Mozambique	Zambezi Valley Market Led Smallholder Development	World Bank	6.55	21.00	27.55
Niger	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.23	0.04	0.26
Paraguay	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.20	0.05	0.25
Philippines	National Program Support for Environment and Natural Resources Management Project (NPS-ENRMP)	World Bank	7.35	50.00	57.35
Slovak Republic	Integration of Ecosystem Management Principles and Practices into Land and Water Management of Slovakia's Eastern Lowlands	UNDP	1.00	3.35	4.34
Sri Lanka	Participatory Coastal Zone Restoration and Sustainable Management in the Eastern Province of Post-Tsunami Sri Lanka	IFAD	7.27	7.57	14.84
Tanzania	National Capacity Needs Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)	UNDP	0.22	0.02	0.24
Togo	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management	UNDP	0.23	0.05	0.28

OZONE DEPLETION

Regional	Continued Institutional Strengthening Support for CEITs to meet the obligations of the Montreal Protocol	UNEP	0.84	0.41	1.24
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PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPS)

Global	Action Plan Skills Building for 15 Least Developed Countries to assist with National Implementation Plan of Development under the Stockholm Convention	UNDP	0.70	0.75	1.45
Global	Demonstrating and Promoting Best Techniques and Practices for Reducing Health-care Waste to Avoid Environmental Releases of Dioxins and Mercury	UNDP	11.05	13.54	24.60

COUNTRY	PROJECT NAME	AGENCY	GEF AMOUNT	COFIN AMOUNT	TOTAL PROJECT COST
Regional	Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT and Strengthening of National Vector Control Capabilities in Middle East and North Africa	UNEP	5.56	8.42	13.98
Regional	Regional Project to Develop Appropriate Strategies for Identifying Sites Contaminated by Chemicals listed in Annexes A, B, and/or C of the Stockholm Convention	UNIDO	2.65	2.00	4.65
Bahamas	Enabling Activities for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs): National Implementation Plan for The Commonwealth of The Bahamas	UNEP	0.39	0.13	0.53
Brazil	Development of a National Implementation Plan in Brazil as a First Step to Implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	UNEP	1.85	1.68	3.53
Cape Verde	The Development of a National Implementation Plan for Cape Verde	UNEP	0.30	0.02	0.32
China	Strengthening Institutions, Regulations and Enforcement Capacities for Effective and Efficient Implementation of the National Implementation Plan (NIP) in China	UNIDO	5.41	9.83	15.24
China	Environmentally Sustainable Management of Medical Waste in China	UNIDO	12.00	33.08	45.08
China	Alternatives to DDT Usage for the Production of Anti-fouling Paint	UNDP	11.91	12.25	24.16
Congo DR	Preparation of the POPs National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention	UNDP	0.50	0.07	0.57
Dominican Republic	POPs Enabling Activity in Dominican Republic	UNDP	0.45	0.02	0.47
Ecuador	Development of National Implementation Plans for the Management of POPs - Ecuador (add-on)	UNEP	0.05	0.02	0.06
El Salvador	El Salvador: Initial Assistance to Enable El Salvador to Fulfil Its Obligations Linked to The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	UNDP	0.43	0.40	0.83
Eritrea	Enabling Activities to Facilitate Early Action on the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs	UNIDO	0.35	0.04	0.38
Guinea	Development of National Implementation Plans for the Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants (add-on)	UNEP	0.08	0.02	0.09
India	Development of a National Implementation Plan in India as a First Step to Implement the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	UNIDO	3.56	7.08	10.64
Latvia	Environmentally Sound Disposal of PCBs Containing Equipment and Waste	UNDP	1.00	1.84	2.84
Mali	Development of National Implementation Plans for the Management of Persistent Organic Pollutants - Mali (add-on)	UNEP	0.09	-	0.09
Moldova	POPs Management and Destruction Project	World Bank	7.90	7.40	15.30
Romania	Disposal of PCB Wastes in Romania	UNIDO	1.00	1.02	2.02
Sierra Leone	Enabling Activities to Facilitate Early Action on the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Sierra Leone	UNIDO	0.39		0.39
Suriname	Initial Assistance to Enable Suriname to Fulfill its Obligations Under the Stockholm Convention on POPs	UNDP	0.41	0.02	0.43
Trinidad and Tobago	Initial assistance to enable Trinidad and Tobago to fulfill its obligations under the Stockholm Convention on POPs	UNDP	0.43	0.40	0.83
Zambia	Development of a National Plan for Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs in Zambia— POPs enabling activities (add-on)	UNEP	0.06	0.02	0.08



Independent Bodies

Improved Effectiveness for the GEF's Expert Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP)

The Establishment of the Instrument for the Restructured Global Environment Facility charged the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) with establishing, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the World Bank and on the basis of guidelines and criteria established by the GEF Council, the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) as an advisory body to the GEF. This board of internationally recognized, independent industry experts that assists the GEF in keeping up with the developments germane to each focal area was fine-tuned in the period for greater effectiveness.

The GEF Council at its meeting in June 2006, requested the executive director of UNEP and the chair of the STAP to review the terms of reference of the STAP and to develop a proposal for the Council to enhance the panel's effectiveness and relevance to the GEF.

Several changes had been made to the structure and functioning of the STAP as a result of Council decisions in 2005 and 2006. These included a more independent review function so that the STAP, rather than the GEF agencies, selects candidates from the Roster, and a more flexible system of STAP membership, with overlapping terms of office and cross-cutting roles intended to improve the STAP's responsiveness.

The Third Overall Performance Study of the GEF (OPS3) and the joint evaluation of the GEF activity cycle identified a number of further improvements that could be made to the fundamental design and functioning of the STAP. In response, the STAP, in its meeting of October 2006, convened a brainstorming session on its future, attended by the CEO, the GEF Secretariat, the GEF Evaluation Office, and Implementing Agency staff. The CEO of the GEF recommended that the STAP do the following:

- Make its input into the project cycle more effective by applying its expertise selectively and earlier in the project cycle, and by redefining the role of the Roster

- Assist the GEF in delivering improved strategies for the GEF's focal areas, for approval by the GEF Council
- Advise on a limited number of strategic, innovative, or controversial projects, and work with the GEF throughout the lifetime of these projects
- Make better use of the "targeted research" modality
- Translate new knowledge, e.g., from scientific assessments such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment or from Convention subsidiary bodies, into actionable policy advice
- Provide the GEF with scientific and technical guidance on how to make operational the recommendations made to the GEF by the Conference of Parties of multilateral environmental agreements where the GEF serves as a financial mechanism
- Establish effective working relations with the GEF Evaluation Office to enable science-based evaluation.

As a result, UNEP, in consultation with the members of the STAP, proposed changes to the structure and functioning of the STAP that were approved by the GEF Council early in 2007.

Key issues included the need to make the STAP's advice more strategic, timely, and effective, together with necessary changes to enable panel members and the STAP Secretariat to support these redefined expectations.

In considering a response to the new challenges in GEF-4 and looking ahead to GEF-5, UNEP took into account the STAP's track record of advice, including the effective advice provided on sustainable transport, liquid biofuels, and land degradation.

UNEP proposed that the STAP, on behalf of the GEF, should develop and maintain a broader network of global scientific and technical expertise, using the most appropriate mechanisms, including but not limited to memoranda of understanding with scientific institutions in the public and private sectors.

To build previously agreed upon and implemented changes, and to improve the level of strategic advice provided to the GEF Council, UNEP proposed that the number of members appointed to the panel be reduced from 15 to 6, including the chair, and that each member be contracted for three months per year instead of one. The consequent cost savings were to enable the panel to engage with networks of scientific institutions as indicated above. Because of the additional operational duties implied by the proposed changes, it was proposed that the STAP Secretariat be strengthened by adding one professional post.

With regard to the new GEF project cycle, UNEP recommended that the STAP focus on (a) the provision of advice on the scientific rationale for new strategic programs, (b) the review of the scientific rationale of existing strategic programs, (c) the provision of tools for screening project concepts for scientific and technical soundness and of oversight of the screening process, and (iv) the provision of advice on project development on a selective basis.

As always, the panel continues to be responsible for connecting the GEF to the most up-to-date, authoritative, and globally representative science in each area, and for providing input into programmatic approaches, technical strategies and challenges, project feasibility, and more.

GEF Evaluation Office

The GEF works through a partnership involving 176 member countries, the 10 GEF agencies, a number of recipient countries, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector. With such a large and complex alliance, accurate monitoring and evaluation (M&E) poses a significant challenge.

According to the GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy, M&E allows the GEF to track progress in fulfilling its general mission of making a positive impact on the global environment. It also promotes learning, feedback, and knowledge sharing of results and lessons learned among the GEF and its partners.

Monitoring and evaluation is a shared responsibility at the GEF, with each partner having a role. M&E in the GEF has two main objectives: to promote accountability for the achievement of GEF objectives and to promote learning and knowledge sharing to improve performance. Various types of evaluations are conducted within the GEF context, including project, program, country portfolio, impact, cross-cutting, thematic, and process

evaluations, plus overall performance studies (OPS).

GEF Evaluation Office

The GEF Evaluation Office reports directly to the GEF Council. It has the central role of ensuring the independent evaluation function within the GEF by setting minimum requirements, and of ensuring oversight of the quality of M&E at the program and project levels. The Evaluation Office routinely evaluates GEF policies, strategies, principles, and procedures, as well as focal area programs and priorities, and reports on overall portfolio performance. Findings and recommendations of evaluations generally are routinely used by the GEF Council in decision making.

Results

- During fiscal year 2006, the GEF Evaluation Office completed and disseminated the Third Overall Performance Study to all major stakeholders
- The office also completed a number of evaluations, such as the Local Benefits Study, the evaluation of GEF support to Costa Rica, and the 2006 Annual Performance Report
- In fiscal year 2007 the office completed several evaluations,

including the Joint Evaluation of the GEF Activity Cycle and Modalities, the Evaluation of Incremental Cost Assessment, and the Evaluation of the Experience of Executing Agencies, which were presented at the December 2006 Council

- Two country portfolio evaluations on the Philippines and Samoa and the Annual Performance Report 2007 were presented to the GEF Council during its June 2007 meeting
- Work began on other evaluations, including the Catalytic Role of the GEF, evaluations of the GEF Capacity Development Activities, the first Impact Evaluation, and the Joint Evaluation of the Small Grants Program

Highlights

The ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORTS (APRs) for fiscal years 2006 and 2007 reported that 75 percent of the completed projects had outcomes that are in the satisfactory range or better. In 2006 recommendations included the need for all agencies to establish a structured supervision of GEF projects and the need to ensure that all evaluations provide information on sustainability of outcomes, cofi-

ancing, and quality of M&E. In the APR 2007 it was found that the overall quality of terminal evaluation reports improved. Furthermore, while the projects' M&E plans improved significantly from fiscal year 2006 to fiscal year 2007, further improvement is needed in reporting financial information. The APR 2007 reported that all verified Council decisions in the Management Action Record show a medium and higher level of adoption, compared to previous years.

The COUNTRY PORTFOLIO EVALUATIONS (Costa Rica 2006, the Philippines 2007, and Samoa 2007) showed that this type of evaluation is feasible and valid, even when the GEF does not have a country program as such, but a portfolio of projects approved at different times and in different contexts. The evaluations concluded that GEF support to the countries has achieved on-the-ground results, and has been relevant to the progress of the countries' environmental agendas, but could be more relevant in terms of the contributions to global benefits. The evaluations also found that GEF operational information, for example, on project procedures and requirements, is often unavailable and

sometimes confusing to stakeholders. Furthermore, lack of a national GEF strategy, for example in the Philippines, has reduced potential results and led to inefficiencies. As a result, the GEF Council asked the Secretariat to prepare a proposal on developing country assistance strategies that lead to better coordination and programming at the country level; to ensure the transparency of and better access to information on GEF procedures and the status of projects in the GEF Activity Cycle; and to take into account Samoa's experience with the GEF in its further development of the GEF Pacific Alliance for Sustainability.

The study on LOCAL BENEFITS IN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS addressed the role and achievement of benefits at the local level that are generated by GEF activities. The study found that for many areas of GEF-supported activity, local and global environmental benefits are strongly interlinked. Moreover, these interlinkages are particularly found in activities that depend on lasting changes in human behavior to achieve and sustain global environmental gains. Also, in some GEF projects there were considerable achieve-

ments in developing local incentives to ensure environmental gains. At the national scale, the development of supportive policy and legislative frameworks enabled socioeconomic and political incentives for local environmental management. Shortcomings that were encountered often started with inadequate understanding of the community in terms of its socioeconomic, institutions, and resource access, use, and needs. The Council requested that the GEF Secretariat present reformed guidelines to result in a simplified demonstration of the project baseline, incremental costs, and cofunding.

The JOINT EVALUATION OF THE GEF ACTIVITY CYCLE AND MODALITIES found that the GEF activity cycle was widely regarded as complex, long, and costly. Almost since the GEF began, the need to streamline and simplify the cycle has been highlighted by numerous evaluations, the overall performance studies, the GEF Council, and many of the GEF's partners and stakeholders. More recent GEF replenishment negotiations emphasized that the GEF should be "making its processes more expeditious, streamlined and efficient" (GEF 2002k, para-

graph 19). In addition, the low cycle efficiency implies that the GEF is not effective in leading projects through the full activity cycle. No easy fix will improve the activity cycle. What is needed is a radical redrawing of the cycle, maintaining the quality and attributes for GEF funding. A shift toward results-based management would ensure quality during implementation and enable a dramatic reduction of the detailed “blueprint” information currently required in the formulation and appraisal stages. The Council approved a new project cycle for immediate application.

THE EVALUATION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF EXECUTING AGENCIES UNDER EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GEF aimed at reviewing the experience of the seven Executing Agencies (ExAs) in working with the GEF and providing recommendations to enhance their involvement. The overarching conclusion from this evaluation was that the ExAs faced two kinds of structural constraints: at the policy and strategic level and in preparing project proposals. The lack of ExA involvement in development of new policies, strategies, and programs adds to the difficul-

ties that the ExAs face when preparing proposals for new projects. Furthermore, ExAs lack an incentive structure for their enhanced participation. The current low level of ExA involvement in the GEF curtails achievement of the objectives of the ExAs with expanded opportunities policy in the longer run. A recommendation that came out of the study was that the GEF should set in motion a longer-term process of assessing its core partnership philosophy and the consequences for the GEF structure, including a final assessment of these issues in the Fourth Overall Performance Study.

THE EVALUATION OF INCREMENTAL COST ASSESSMENT found that incremental reasoning underpins the global environmental focus of GEF project design. Incremental reasoning takes place at the concept phase, well before the process of incremental cost assessment takes place (during project design and drafting of the project document). Incremental reasoning was confirmed to be used (mostly implicitly) to justify and agree on the global benefits—and the ways in which the proposed GEF project will secure these benefits—and provide

additional funding to cover their incremental costs. There remains weak understanding and much confusion about incremental cost concepts and procedures, and complying with minimum requirements for incremental cost reporting does not guarantee a quality project. As expected, the GEF is not the only source of funding to cover incremental cost; on average, the GEF contributes about 40 percent of the total incremental cost. Some focal areas have developed more formalized or standardized approaches to estimate the GEF contribution to the incremental cost of a project, such as cofinancing ratios (international waters), sliding scales (for funding adaptation to climate change projects under the Least Developed Countries Fund), and cost-sharing arrangements (land degradation). Incremental cost assessment and reporting should be dropped as requirements for GEF projects.

For More Information

- The GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy, Evaluation Document 2006, No. 1. (Washington, DC: GEF Evaluation Office)
- Signposts (GEF Evaluation Office summaries of recent evaluations and studies highlighting findings and recommendations)
- GEF Evaluation Office Web site: <http://www.gefeo.org>

GEF Contacts



Council Members, Alternates, and Constituencies

COUNCIL MEMBER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	ALTERNATE MEMBER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	CONSTITUENCIES
AISI, Robert G. (Papua New Guinea)	01/23/2006	REBUelta-TEH, Analiza (Philippines)	01/23/2006	Cook Islands, Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
ANDERSEN, Geert Aagaard (Denmark)	09/01/2005	BJORNEBYE, Erik (Norway)	09/01/2002	Denmark, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway
ARASTOU, Seyed Motjaba	08/17/2005	AMIN-MANSOUR, Javad	03/01/2005	Iran
AYUDHYA, Petipong Pungbun Na (Thailand)	02/20/2006	VAN TAI, Nguyen (Vietnam)	02/20/2006	Cambodia, Korea DPR, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam
TOTSKIY, Anatoly (Russian Federation)	09/21/2006	DAVTYAN, Ruzanna (Armenia)	08/17/2006	Armenia, Belarus, Russian Federation
DALI, Najeh (Tunisia)	10/11/2005	KONDOS, George (Egypt)	06/13/2006	Algeria, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia
DE JONG, Gerben (Netherlands)	09/02/2005	VAN DEN BERGEN, Vincent (Netherlands)	04/01/2002	The Netherlands
DOUNGOUBE, Gustave (Central African Republic)	05/30/2006	t.b.a.		Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Congo DR
EHRHARDT, Roger (Canada)	01/01/2004	GUTHRIE, Tina (Canada)	08/03/2005	Canada
FERNANDEZ, Ramon (France)	10/01/2003	MARTIN, Marc-Antoine (France)	09/01/2002	France
GRAYEB BAYATA, Claudia (Mexico)	06/01/2005	SEMPRIS, Emilio (Panama)	10/01/2004	Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Venezuela
JOST, Manuela (Switzerland)	06/14/2005	HILBER, Anton (Switzerland)	04/01/2005	Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
KABWAZA, Raphael Peter (Malawi)	01/01/2005	POLICARPIO, Napica (Mozambique)		Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe

COUNCIL MEMBER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	ALTERNATE MEMBER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	CONSTITUENCIES
KRAEVA, Emiliya (Bulgaria)	10/01/2004	IVANOV, Violeta (Moldova)	11/01/2004	Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Ukraine
KUMAR, Dhanendra (India)	11/28/2005	AHMED KHAN, Zakir (Bangladesh)	11/14/2005	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka
LUGRIS, Fernando (Uruguay)	08/26/2005	ROSELLINI, Adolfo (Argentina)	08/26/2005	Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay
MIYAHARA, Takashi (Japan)	08/22/2005	TAKANO, Shuichi (Japan)	07/27/2005	Japan
MONTALVO, Mauricio (Ecuador)	03/13/2006	LAZARY TEIXEIRA, Carlos Alfredo (Brazil)	12/06/2005	Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador
MONTEIRO, Carlos Alberto de Sousa (Cape Verde)	11/01/2004	SARR, Momodou (Gambia)	05/01/2004	Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, The Gambia
NIETO, Alejandro	10/13/2005	MOTA PINTO, Nuno (Portugal)	11/01/2003	Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain
PARK, Kang-ho (Republic of Korea)	12/01/2004	COOK, Alan (New Zealand)	12/01/2004	Australia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea
PEEL, Kenneth (United States)	03/20/2006	REIFSNYDER, Daniel (United States)	05/30/2006	United States
PERSUAD, Doorga (Guyana)	03/01/2005	COOPER, Donald (Bahamas)	03/01/2005	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
SHAH, Shuja (Pakistan)	08/25/2005	LUTFI, Sultan (Jordan)	02/01/2001	Afghanistan, Jordan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Syria, Yemen
SODERINI, Ludovica (Italy)	11/01/2003	D'ONOFRIO, Gaetano	01/01/2004	Italy

COUNCIL MEMBER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	ALTERNATE MEMBER	DATE OF APPOINTMENT	CONSTITUENCIES
STEINKE, Marita (Germany)	09/04/2003	HERMANN, Walter (Germany)	10/01/2003	Germany
TREPPEL, Leander (Austria)	02/24/2006	MARQUES, Miguel (Luxembourg)	03/30/2006	Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Hungary, Luxembourg, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Turkey
WAISS, Aboubaker Doulé	12/01/2004	WOLDEYOHANNES, Mogos (Eritrea)	03/01/2005	Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda
WALLENIOUS, Tapio (Finland)	05/05/2006	GARCIA-THARN, Amalia (Sweden)	10/1/2005	Estonia, Finland, Sweden
WHEATLEY, Josceline (United Kingdom)	03/01/2004	WHALEY, Christopher (United Kingdom)	05/30/2006	United Kingdom
WOROU, Theophile Chabi (Benin)	03/01/2005	OTENG-YEBOAH, Alfred (Ghana)	05/01/2004	Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo
ZOU, Jiayi (China)	03/01/2005	YANG, Jinlin (China)	03/01/2005	China



Details of Country Focal Points and Regional Focal Points of Non-Governmental Organizations in 2006 – 2007

Africa

NORTHERN AFRICA

November 2004–2008
Salah Sahabi-Abed
Association de Recherche sur le
Climat et l'Environnement (ARCE)
IFHR Cite des HLM,
Gambetta
31000-Oran
Algeria
Tel: 213 772 41 1375 GSM
Telefax: 213 41 538 397
E-mail: salah_sahabi@yahoo.com

SOUTHERN AFRICA

November 2005–2009
Dorothy C. Manuel
ZERO Regional Environment
Organization
158 Fife Avenue, P O Box 5338,
Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel/Fax (manual):
263 4 734023/734027-30/706998/
700030
E-mail: dorothy@zeroregional.com,
zabelisd@gmail.com

EASTERN AFRICA

November 2004–2008
Rajen Awotar
Council for Development
Environmental Studies and
Conservation (MAUDESCO)
P O Box 1124, Port Louis, Mauritius
Tel: 230 947 9333/763 0744
Fax: 230 454 3900
E-mail: maudesco@intnet.mu

WESTERN AFRICA

June 2007–2011 (second term)
Djimingue Nanasta
ENDA Tiers Monde Programme
Energie
54 rue Carnot
BP 3370
Dakar, Senegal
Tel: 221 33 822 2496/822 5983
Fax: 221 33 821 7595/823 5157
E-mail: enda.energy@sentoo.sn
djim@enda.sn

Europe

WESTERN EUROPE

June 2007–November 2010
Jurgen Maier
German NGO Forum Environment
and Development
Am Michaelshof 8-10
53177 Bonn, Germany
Tel: 49 228 359 704
Fax: 49 228 92399356
E-mail: chef@forumue.de

Americas

SOUTH AMERICA

November 2003–2007
German Rocha
Corporacion Pais Solidario (CPS)
Calle 70 No. 13-29
Bogota, Colombia
Tel: 571 249 5336
Fax: 571 249 1044
E-mail: cpscol@yahoo.com
cenprof@sky.net.co

MESO AMERICA

June 2006–November 2009
Felipe Villagran
MERO LEC A.C.
Privada Guanajuato No 165
Plan de Ayala
Tuxtla GTZ Mexico C.P. 29110
Tel: 52 961 671 54 36
E-mail: lacandon@prodigy.net.mx

Asia

CARIBBEAN

June 2006–November 2009
Ermath Harrington
Caribbean Conservation Association
The Garrison,
St. Michael, Barbados
Tel: (246) 426-5373
Fax: (246) 429-8483
E-mail: harcon_o4@yahoo.com

NORTH AMERICA

June 2007–November 2010
Yabanex Batista
The Nature Conservancy
4245 North Fairfax Drive
Suite 100
Arlington, VA 22203-1606
United States
Tel: +1 703 841 8170
Fax: +1 703 276 3241
E-mail: ybatista@tnc.org

PACIFIC

November 2003–2007
Rex Horoi
The Foundation of the People of the
South Pacific International (FSPI)
6 Des Voeux Road
GPO Box 18006
Suva, Fiji
Tel: 679 331 2250/330 8469
Fax: 679 331 2298
E-mail: rex.horoi@fsp.org.fj

SOUTH ASIA

June 2007–November 2010
Jagdeesh Rao Puppala
Foundation for Ecological Security
(FES)
P.B No. 29, NDDDB Campus
Anand 388 001
India
Tel: + 91 2692 261303
Fax: + 91 2692 262916
E-mail: ed@fes.org.in
jagdeesh@fes.org.in

SOUTHEAST ASIA

June 2007–November 2010
Faizal Parish
Global Environment Centre
2nd Floor, Wisma Hing, No. 78,
Jalan SS2/72,
47300 Petaling Jaya
Selangor D.E., Malaysia
Tel: 60 3 7957 2007
Mobile: 60 12 322 7350
Fax: 60 3 7957 7003
E-mail: fparish@genet.po.my (office),
faizal.parish@gmail.com (mission)

WESTERN ASIA

November 2004–2008
Khadija Razavi
Centre for Sustainable Development
(CENESTA)
142 Azerbaijan Avenue
West 10 Juybar Street,
Fatemi Place
13169 Tehran, Iran
Tel: 98 21 66 972 973
Mobile: 91 213 554
Fax: 98 21 66 400 811
E-mail: khadija@cenesta.org

Indigenous Peoples

November 2006–June 2011
Johnson Hugo Cerda Shiguango
Urbanizacion Palermo Manzana H2
Casa 37 (Chillogallo)
Quito, Ecuador
Mobile: +593 99885648
E-mail: johnsoncerda@hotmail.com
Skype: johnson200569

Benedict Solang
Centre for Development Programs
in the Cordillera (CDPC)
362 Magsaysay Avenue,
Episcopal Church Compound
Baguio City, Philippines
Tel: 074 300 5175
Fax: 074 442 2572
E-mail: cdpc.envi@gmail.com,
bskordimts@yahoo.com

Central Focal Point

November 2006–2010
Dorothy C. Manuel
ZERO Regional Environment
Organization
158 Fife Avenue, PO Box 5338,
Harare, Zimbabwe
Tel/Fax (manual):
263 4 734023/734027-30/706998/
700030
E-mail: dorothy@zeroregional.com
zambelis@gmail.com
Skype: zambelis or zerodm1

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel Secretariat

The panel is supported by a Secretariat based in UNEP's Regional Office for North America in Washington, DC, and at UNEP's headquarters in Nairobi.

WASHINGTON, DC

Douglas Taylor
Secretary, STAP
+1 202 974 1318
doug.taylor@rona.unep.org

Guadalupe Durón
Associate Program Officer
+1 202 974 1313
gd@rona.unep.org

Robin Burgess
Administrative Assistant
+1 202 974 1311
rb@rona.unep.org

MAILING ADDRESS USA (MAIN):

900 17th Street, NW
Suite 506
Washington, DC 20006
USA

NAIROBI

Katherine Kinuthia
Administrative Assistant
+ 254 20 7624159
Katherine.Kinuthia@unep.org

MAILING ADDRESS NAIROBI:

STAP Secretariat
UNEP/DGEF
P.O. Box 30552
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
Nairobi, Kenya

Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel Members

The panel has members who are internationally recognized experts in the GEF's key focal areas of work: biodiversity (including biosafety), climate change, coastal and fresh-water management, sustainable land management, and persistent organic pollutants. The panel also addresses cross-cutting issues such as sustainable forest management, adaptation to climate change, and sound chemicals management. The panel is led by a chair.

PANEL MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Members are appointed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the President of the World Bank. The Chair reports directly to the GEF Council. The mandate of Members is normally for a two-year period, except for the Chair who is appointed for up to four years.

STAP Members 2005–2006

Yolanda Kakabadse
STAP Chair
Fundacion Futuro Latinoamericano
Mariano Echeverria 843
Quito, Ecuador
Tel/Fax: +593 2 292 0635 / 6 (dial 0 when you hear recording)
Email: yolandakn@gmail.com

Dr. Habiba Gitay
Vice Chair, STAP
9918 Chase Hill Court
Vienna, VA 22182, USA
Tel: +1 703 438 3064
Email: hibaba.gitay@anu.edu.au

Dr. Cristian Samper
Director
Smithsonian Institute
National Museum for Natural History
10th & Constitution Avenue, NW
Suite 421
Washington, DC 20560-0106
Tel: +1 202 633 2664
Fax: +1 202 357 4779
Email: samperc@si.edu

Prof. Brian Huntley
Chief Executive
National Botanical Institute
Kirstenbosch
Private Bag X7
Claremont 7735, Cape Town
South Africa
Tel: +27 21 799 8800 or +27 72 799 8766
Tel: +27 21 761 4155 (direct office)
Fax: +27 21 761 4687
Email: Huntley@nbi.ac.za;
laidler@nbi.ac.za
Huntley@sanbi.org; laidler@sanbi.org

Dr. Peter Schei

DG PJS
Fridtjof Nansen Institute
PO Box 326
NO-1326 Lysaker, Norway
Tel: +47 67 11 19 00
Fax: +47 67 11 19 10
Email: pjs@fni.no

Peter Hennicke

President, Wuppertal Institute
For Climate, Environment and Energy
Doppersberg 18, 42103 Wuppertal
Germany
Tel: +49 202 2492 100
Fax: +49 202 2492 108
Email:
peter.hennicke@wupperinst.org,
sylvia.borbonus@wupperinst.org

Dr. Anjali Rambaud-Measson

Shanker
IED Innovation Energie
Développement
2, Chemin de la Chauderaie, 69340
Francheville
France
Tel: +33 4 72 59 13 20
Fax: +33 4 72 59 13 39
Email: a.shanker@ied-sa.fr

Dr. Timothy O. Williams

Chief Programme Officer
(Agriculture)
Special Advisory Services division
Commonwealth Secretariat
Marlborough House
Pall Mall
London, SW1Y 5HX
UK
Tel: +44 20 7747 6374
Fax: +44 20 7747 6307
Email: t.williams@commonweath.int

Prof. Anne R. Kapuscinski

Director
Institute for Social, Economic and
Ecological Sustainability (ISEES)
University of Minnesota
186 McNeal Hall
1985 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108, USA
Tel: +1 612 624 7719 or +612 624 7723
Fax: +1 612 624 5299
Email: isees@umn.edu,
kapus001@umn.edu

Ms. Angela Cropper

2 Mt. Anne Drive, Second Avenue
Cascade
Port of Spain
Trinidad and Tobago, W.I.
Tel: +1 868 626 2628
Fax: +1 868 626 2564
Email:
acropper@thecropperfoundation.org

Prof. Anand Patwardhan

TIFAC
Vishwakarma Bhavan
Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg
New Delhi 110 016
Tel: +91 11 26531299
Fax: +91 11 26515420
Email: edtifac@tifac.org.in

Prof. Thomas B. Johansson

Professor and Director
International Institute for Industrial
Environmental Economics
Lund University
PO Box 196
221 000 Lund
Sweden
Tel: +46 46 222 0222
Fax: +46 46 222 0220
Email:
thomas.b.johansson@iiee.lu.se

Prof. Saburo Matsui

Professor
Graduate School of Global
Environmental Studies
Department of Technology & Ecology
Kyoto University
Yoshida Honmachi,
Sakyo-ku, Kyoto City
Kyoto 606-8501
Japan
Tel: +81 75 753 5151
Fax: +81 75 753 3335
Email:
matsui@eden.env.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Prof. Sani Ibrahim

Associate Professor
School of Chemical Sciences
Universiti Sains Malaysia
11800 USM, Pulau Pinang
Malaysia
Tel: +604 6577888, ext. 3555
Fax: +604 6574854
Email: sani@usm.my,
sanihim@yahoo.com

GEF New Publications 2006–2007

New in 2006 and 2007

GEF Annual Report 2005: Fertile Ground—Seeding National Actions for the Global Environment
GEF Global Support for Wilderness Areas (folder and fact sheets) revised and printed January; 2006
GEF Global Support for Biodiversity Conservation (folder and fact sheets), revised and printed July 2006*
Protecting the Global Environment: An Overview of GEF Actions by Region (folder and fact sheets), July 2006
Resource Mobilization and the Status of Funding of Activities Related to Land Degradation
Linking Adaptation to Development The New GEF: A Proving Ground for Our Sustainable Future—speech by Monique Barbut (in English and French)

New in 2007

GEF Global Action on Persistent Organic Pollutants (folder and fact sheets), revised and printed; April 2007
GEF Global Action on Sustainable Land Management (folder and fact sheets), revised and printed, March 2007

General Interest

GEF—Effective, Responsive, Targeted (calling card brochure)
High Priorities: GEF's Contribution to Preserving and Sustaining Mountain Ecosystems (2002)
Biodiversity Matters: GEF's Contribution to Preserving and Sustaining the Natural Systems that Shape our Lives (2002)

GEF Policies, Operations, and Future Development (by Mohamed T. El-Ashry, former CEO & Chairman, Global Environment Facility): Address to the Second GEF Beijing Assembly (2002)
The GEF Roundtable Series 2002: A Contribution to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the brochures for: GEF Roundtable on Sustainable Energy: January 2002, New York, USA; GEF Ministerial Roundtable on Financing the Environment and Sustainable Development: March 2002, Monterey, Mexico & June 2002, Bali, Indonesia; GEF Roundtable on Forests: March 2002, New York, USA; GEF Roundtable on Land, Water, & Food Security: March 2002, New York, USA
GEF...Dynamic Partnerships: Real Solutions (2002)
Operational Report on GEF Projects (2002)
The Challenge of Sustainability (2002)
Shine a Light—15-minute video describing the work of the GEF over its 10-year history; narrated by Harrison Ford (2002)
GEF Securing Livelihoods—15-minute video describing the rehabilitation of small farms around Lake Baringo in Kenya (2002)
Forests: Here for Eternity—16-minute video that demonstrates Costa Rica's systems of charges for ecological services (2002)
Powering Sustainable Development—15-minute video showing the different approaches to renewable energy provision in developing countries (2002)
Life Support (brochure) (2001)
New Business: Geothermal, Biomass, Wind, Fuel Cells, Solar* (2001)
GEF Contributions to Agenda 21: The First Decade* (2000)

Introduction to the GEF* (2000); also available in German
The Difference GEF Makes, 2000 Annual Report of the Global Environment Facility
GEF Digest*: a quarterly newsletter for nongovernmental organizations
The New Delhi Statement of the First GEF Assembly** (1998)
Keeping the Promise (1997); Harrison Ford narrates this video introduction to the GEF (15- and 30-minute versions)

Thematic Publications

What Kind of World? The Challenge of Land Degradation*
Making a Visible Difference in Our World (GEF and protected areas)
Keeping the Promise on Water: GEF's Contributions to Sustaining Our Planet's Ecosystems
GEF in Africa: How the Global Environment Facility Is Working with African States for a Sustainable Future; also available in French
Good Practices: Country Coordination and GEF (2001)
IUCN & GEF: Partners in Conservation (2000)
GEF Caring for Generations
Solar Thermal Energy Comes to Rajasthan (2000); also available in German
Mountain Matters (2000)
Promoting Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy: GEF Climate Change Projects and Impacts (2000)
GEF Global Action Waters* (2000); a series of five fact sheets
GEF Action on Biodiversity (2000)
GEF Projects Related to Water Resources (2000)
GEF Support for Activities to Address Climate Change (1999)

GEF Projects with Components That Address Land Degradation (1999)
10 Cases of Technology Transfer (2000)
GEF Action on Biodiversity: poster-size map (2000)
GEF Action on International Waters: poster-size map (2000)

GEF Strategy and Operations

Operational Report on GEF Programs (updated yearly)
GEF Operational Programs* (1997)
Operational Strategy* (1996)
The GEF Project Cycle* (1995)
Incremental Costs* (1996)
Medium-Size Projects* (1997)
A Framework of GEF Activities Concerning Land Degradation* (1996)
Public Involvement in GEF-Financed Projects* (1996)
Rules of Procedure for the GEF Council* (2000)
Rules of Procedure for the GEF Assembly* (2000); Arabic, Chinese, and Russian versions (2002)
Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility* (1994)

Working Papers

Working Paper 10—From Idea to Reality: The Creation of the Global Environment Facility (1994)
Working Paper 11—Environmental Indicators for Global Cooperation (1995)
Working Paper 12—Capacity Building Requirements for Global Environmental Protection
Working Paper 13—Restructuring the Global Environment Facility
Working Paper 14—The Outlook for Renewable Energy Technologies
Working Paper 15—Implications of

Agenda 21 and UNCLOS for International Waters as a GEF Focal Area (1998)

Working Paper 16—The Costs of Adapting to Climate Change

Working Paper 17—Financing Protection of the Global Commons: The Case for a Green Planter Contribution (2000)

Working Paper 18—Creating Income and Local Employment in a Selection of GEF Projects

Working Paper 19—The Global Environment Facility as a Pioneering Institution: Lessons Learned and Looking Ahead

Working Paper 20: Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Production Landscapes

Regional Reports

GEF in Africa: How the Global Environment Facility Is Working with African States for a Sustainable Future (2001); also available in French

GEF in Africa; project fact sheets (2001)

GEF Action in the Asia-Pacific Region: Partnerships for Sustainable Development (2001)

GEF Action in the Asia-Pacific Region; project fact sheets (2001)

GEF in the Western Asia Region: How the Global Environment Facility Is Working with Countries in Western Asia for Sustainable Development (2001)

GEF in the Western Asia Region; project fact sheets (2001)

GEF in Latin America and the Caribbean Region (LAC): How the Global Environment Facility Is Working with LAC for a Sustainable Future (2001); also available in Spanish

GEF in Latin America and the Caribbean Region (LAC); project fact sheets (2001)

Global Environment Facility (GEF) Action in the ECE Region: Partnerships for Sustainable Development (2001); also available in French

Global Environment Facility (GEF) Action in the ECE Region: project fact sheets (2001)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Papers

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 1—Achieving Sustainability of Biodiversity Conservation (2000)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 2—The GEF Solar PV Portfolio: Emerging Experience and Lessons (2000)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 3—Multicountry Project Arrangements: Report of a Thematic Review

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 4—Measuring Results from Climate Change Programs: Performance Indicators for GEF (2000)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 5—Integrating Capacity Development into Project Design and Evaluation: Approach and Frameworks (2000)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 6—GEF Land Degradation Linkage Study (2001)

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 7—Thematic Review of GEF-Financed Solar Thermal Projects

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 8—Contributions to Global and Regional Agreements: Review of the GEF International Waters Program

Monitoring and Evaluation Working Paper 9—The GEF Energy-Efficient Product Portfolio

Monitoring and Evaluation Reports

Third Overall Performance Study (2005) Biodiversity Program Study (2004)

Climate Change Program Study (2004) Program Study on International Waters (2004)

Review of Financial Arrangements in GEF-Supported Biodiversity Projects (2003)

Biodiversity Program Study (2002) Program Study on International Waters (2002)

Monitoring and Evaluation Policies and Procedures (2002)

International Waters Program Study (2001)

Biodiversity Program Study (2001)

Review of Climate Change Enabling Activities, Evaluation Report (2000) and Evaluation Summary Report* (2000)

Study of Impacts of GEF Activities on Phase-Out of Ozone Depleting Substances, Evaluation Report (2000); summary report also available in Russian

Interim Assessment of Biodiversity Enabling Activities, Evaluation Report* (1999); and Evaluation Summary Report* (1999)

Project Performance Report (1996–2005)* Experience with Conservation Trust Funds, Evaluation Report* (1999)

Evaluation Summary Report of Experience with Conservation Trust Funds* (1999)

Summary Report of the Study of GEF Project Lessons* (1998)

Study of GEF's Overall Performance** (1997)

The First Decade of the GEF: Second Overall Performance Study

GEF Lessons Notes Series

1 – Building Partnerships with Communities (1998)

2 – Encouraging Private Sector Involvement in GEF Projects (1998)

3 – Lessons from an Integrated Conservation and Development “Experiment” in Papua New Guinea (1998)

4 – Partnership with the Private Sector: Lessons from Batangas Bay, The Philippines (1998)

5 – When Is Conservation Best Served by a Trust Fund? (1999)

6 – Building Strategic Focus in a Conservation Trust Fund (1999)

7 – The Mexican Nature Conservation Fund (1999)

8 – 1998 Project Performance Report (1999)

9 – Best Practices in Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (1999)

10 – 1999 Project Performance Report (2000)

11 – Emerging Lessons from GEF Multicountry Projects (2000)

12 – Participation Means Learning Through Doing: GEF's Experience in Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use (2001)

13 – Transforming Markets for Energy-Efficient Products: Experience and Lessons from GEF-Supported Projects

14 – Best Practices in Project Monitoring and Evaluation: Lessons Learned in Manufacturing and Marketing of Energy-Efficient Products

* Documents marked with an asterisk are available in English, French, and Spanish.

** Documents marked with two asterisks are available in six languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank	IA	Implementing Agency	OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
AF	Adaptation Fund	IADB	Inter-American Development Bank	OFM	Oceanic fisheries management
AfDB	African Development Bank	IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)	OME	Office of Monitoring and Evaluation, now GEF Evaluation Office
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity	ICT	Information and communication technology	OPS	Overall Performance Study (GEF)
CBO	Community-based organization	ICWM	Integrated coastal and water management	PCB	Polychlorinated biphenyl
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism	IFC	International Finance Corporation	PES	Payment for environmental services
CDW	Country Dialogue Workshop	IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	PIC	Pacific island country
CEIT	Countries with economies in transition	IMO	International Maritime Organization (UN)	PLEC	People, land management and environmental change
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change	PMIS	Project Management Information System
CEPF	Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund	IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature	POPs	Persistent organic pollutants
CFC	Chlorofluorocarbon	IW	International Waters	PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
CNR	Community nature reserve	IW:LEARN	International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network	PTS	Persistent toxic substance
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide	LDC	Least developed country	PV	Photovoltaics
COP	Conference of the Parties	LDCF	Least Developed Country Fund	RAF	Resource Allocation Framework
CPB	Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	LME	Large marine ecosystem	SAP	Strategic Action Programme
CPP	Country Pilot Partnership	M&E	Monitoring and evaluation	SCCF	Strategic Climate Change Fund
CSP	Country Support Program	MEA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment	SFM	Sustainable forest management
DWFN	Distant-water fishing nation	MPMF	Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund	SGP	Small Grants Programme
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action	SIDS	Small island developing state
EEZ	Exclusive economic zone	NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment	SLM	Sustainable land management
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization	NDI	National Dialogue Initiative	SPA	Special Priority on Adaptation
FCCC	[United Nations] Framework Convention on Climate Change (usually written UNFCCC)	NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development	STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
FFA	Fisheries Forum Agency	NGO	Nongovernmental organization	TDA	Transboundary diagnostic analysis
GDP	Gross domestic product	NIP	National Implementation Plan	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
GEF	Global Environment Facility	ODA	Official development assistance		
GEFM&E	GEF Monitoring & Evaluation Unit (now GEF Evaluation Office)	ODS	Ozone-depleting substances		
GEFSEC	GEF Secretariat				
GET	Global Environment Trust Fund				
GHG	Greenhouse gas				
GNP	Gross national product				
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbon				
HFC	Hydrofluorocarbon				



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www.theGEF.org

For more information contact:

Global Environment Facility
1818 H Street NW
Washington, DC 20433 USA
Tel: 202-473-0508
Fax: 202-522-3240
Email: Secretariat@theGEF.org