



# Overview of the GEF

Workshop for nominated Stockholm Convention centers  
Geneva, 17-19 June 2008



# Structure of this Presentation

- I. GEF History and Structure
- II. Update on GEF Policies and Procedures
  - I. Comparative Advantage of Agencies
  - II. Project Cycle
- III. GEF Focal Areas & Cross-cutting Issues



# I. GEF History and Structure



## Origin of the GEF

- Mechanism for financing “incremental costs” of new “global environment” actions by developing countries
- Linked to negotiation process and based on philosophy and guidance of Convention on Biological Diversity, U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Stockholm Convention
- Initially focused on biodiversity, climate change and shared (“international”) water bodies, and ozone layer depletion
- Extended in 2002 to land degradation and POPs



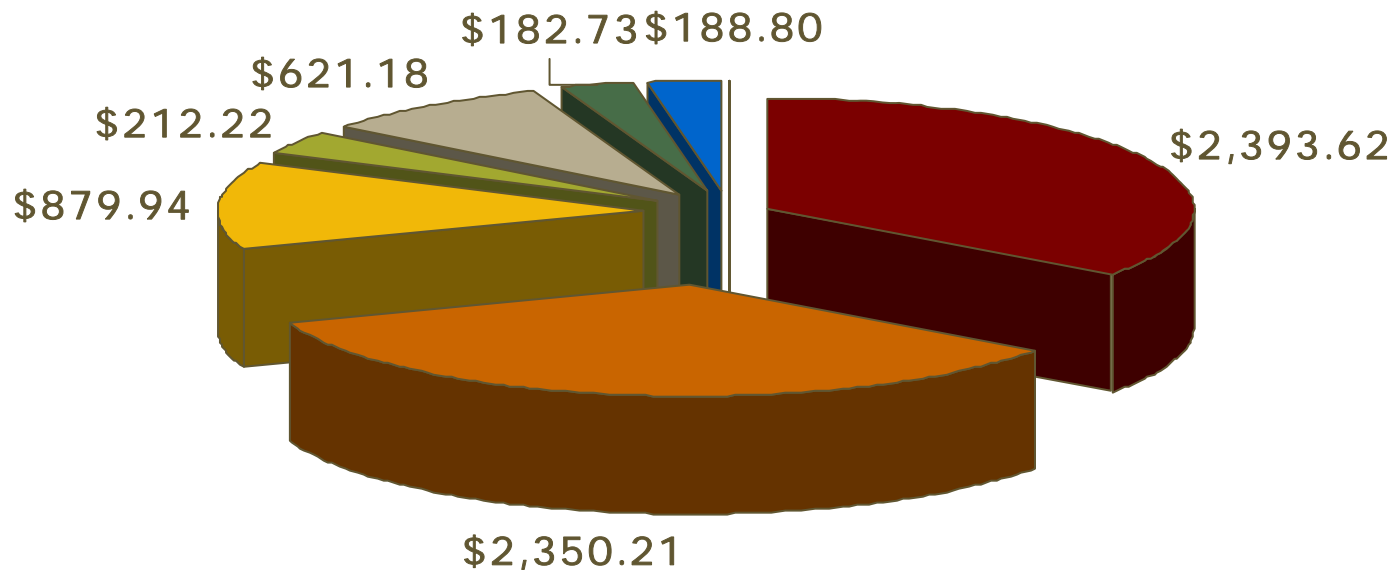
## Financial History of the GEF

- GEF Pilot Phase
  - 1991-1994 -- \$1 Billion US Dollars
  
- Replenishments
  - 1995-1998 – \$2.2 Billion US Dollars
  - 1999-2001 – \$2.8 Billion US Dollars
  - 2002-2005 – \$2.9 Billion US Dollars
  - 2006-2010 – \$3.1 Billion US Dollars

World Bank is the Trustee of the GEF Trust Fund

# GEF Portfolio

as of June 2007, in US\$ millions

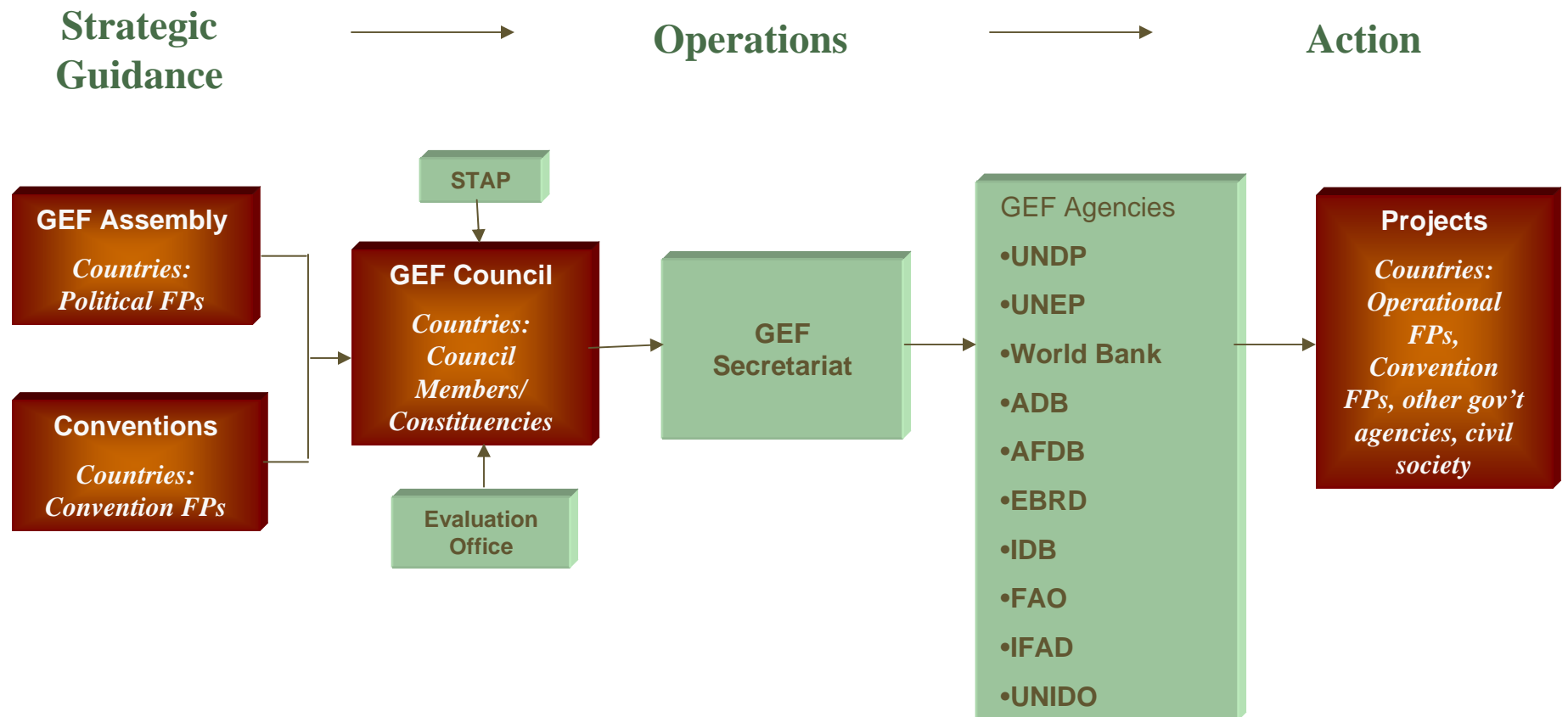


TOTAL GEF GRANTS: \$ 6,828.74

TOTAL CO-FINANCING: \$25,081.32

**TOTAL** \$31,165.63

# GEF Governance Framework





# GEF Reform: Five-Point Sustainability Compact

- **Strategy**
- **Innovation**
- **Equity**
- **Accessibility**
- **Focus**





## II. Update on GEF Policies and Procedures

- Comparative Advantages of Agencies
- Project Cycle

# Comparative Advantage of GEF Agencies: Guiding criteria

- Increasing capacity of GEF to address new and emerging areas, and respond to country driven priorities and the requirements of the conventions
- Increasing the diversity of experience from which the GEF can draw on for innovative interventions
- Leveraging additional resources
  - ❖ expanding the GEF's capacity to mobilize financial and technical resources and co-financing for its projects



## Comparative Advantages: Assessment

Comparative advantages assessed based on:

- Institutional role and core functions as described in:
  - official mandate
  - mission statement
  - policies approved by its governing body
  
- The agency's actual capacity, expertise and experience
  - medium-term strategic plan
  - portfolio of completed and ongoing projects
  - country presence



## Comparative Advantage of GEF Agencies

- GEF agencies are requested to focus their involvement in GEF project activities within their respective comparative advantages
- Secretariat, in agreement with country, assesses comparative advantage of GEF agency proposed to manage a project during the PIF review.
- Partnerships encouraged for integrated projects with components where the expertise and experience of a GEF agency is lacking or weak.
- Criteria and description of comparative advantages to be regularly reviewed by Council
  - analysis of additional information and assessments of agency and project performance
  - Take into account changes in an agency's mandate or the conclusions of the UN reform process.



# Simplified GEF Project Approval Process

## Main Features:

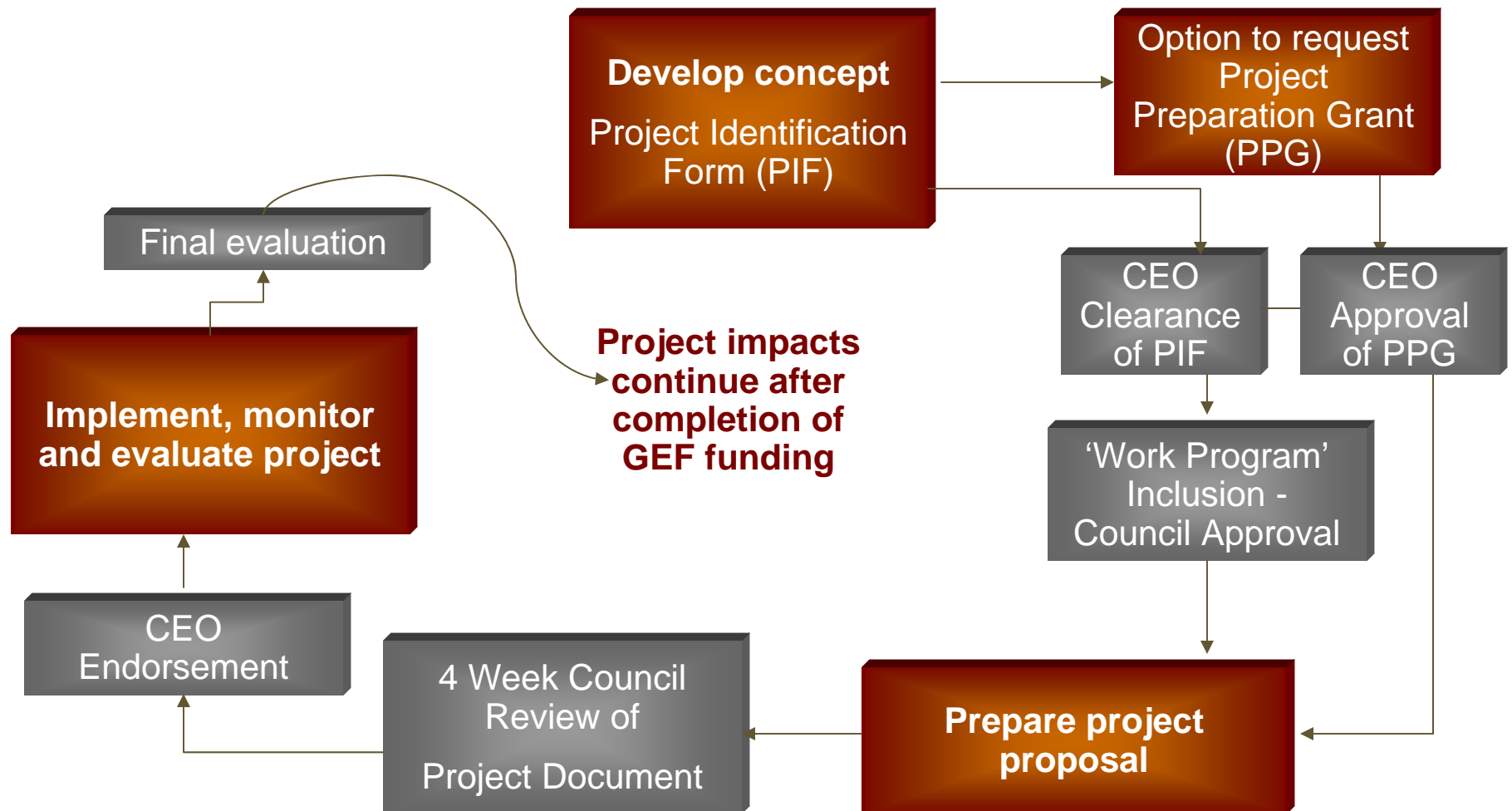
- Consolidation of steps in project cycle
- Reduction in documentation requirements



## GEF Project Cycle: Stages

- National Operational Focal Point endorses project idea
- GEF Agencies and Countries work together on three major phases:
  1. Project preparation
  2. Project approval and implementation
  3. Project closing and evaluation

# Project Cycle: Full Size Projects



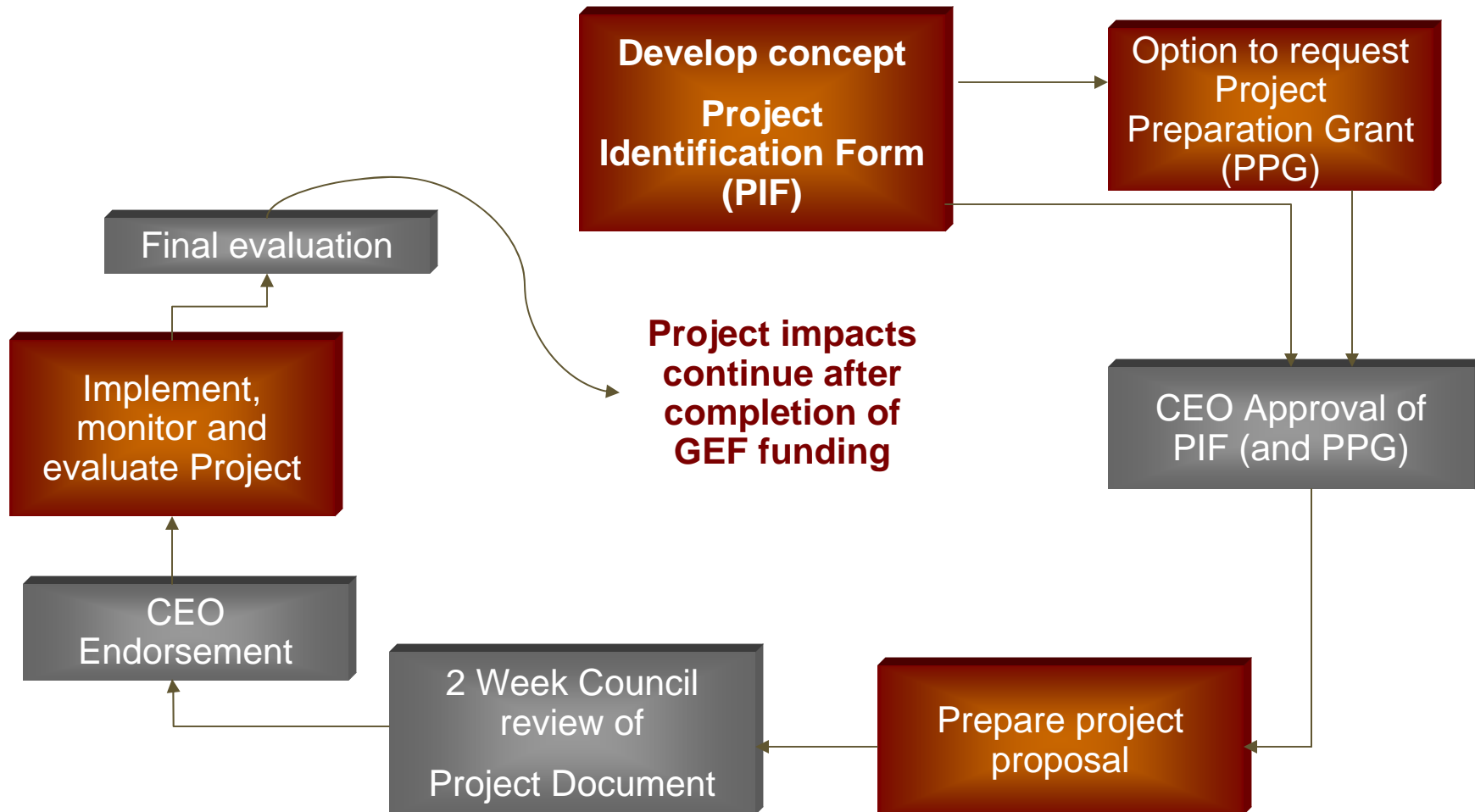


## Approval of Full Size Projects

- PIFs cleared by CEO
- Cleared PIFs included in work program for approval by Council
- Fully prepared project documents circulated to Council for a 4 week review period prior to CEO endorsement



# Project Cycle: Medium Size Projects





# Approval of Medium Size Projects and Enabling Activities

## Medium Size Projects

- PIFs approved by CEO for further preparation
- Fully prepared project documents circulated to Council for 2 week comment period prior to CEO endorsement.

## Enabling Activities

- PIFs approved by CEO for further preparation
- Fully prepared projects documents endorsed by CEO and documents posted on the web site.



## GEF Project Cycle: Project Identification & Preparation

- Project Identification Form (PIF)
  - Provides key information on project idea and best estimate of project cost
  - Submitted on a rolling basis
  - Accompanied by Focal Point endorsement
- Project Preparation Grant (PPG)
  - Available to Approved PIFs
  - Grant amount based on estimate of project preparation costs and deducted from total project cost
  - Approved on a rolling basis
- PIF and PPG can be submitted together



## GEF Project Cycle

There are two GEF review points in the project cycle:

1. PIF Clearance & Work Program Inclusion:
  - Project Identification Form (PIF) - for review and clearance by CEO
2. CEO endorsement: Fully prepared projects submitted for CEO endorsement before approval by Agencies



# Review Criteria for Project Concepts

## Criteria for PIF Review:

- Country eligibility
- Consistency with GEF strategic objectives/programs
- Comparative advantage of GEF agency submitting PIF
- Estimated cost of the project, including expected co-financing
- Milestones for further project processing



# Review Criteria for Complete Project proposals

## Criteria for CEO Endorsement of Projects:

- Project's ability to deliver its outcomes, and generate global environmental benefits consistent with focal area strategies
- Cost-effectiveness in using GEF funds (review of project budget, cost tables for project components, project management, consultants, and co-financing)
- Compliance with GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Policy
- Project preparation grant status report

A blue-tinted background image showing silhouettes of people walking along a pier or boardwalk. The scene is set against a light sky, and the figures are dark against the background. The title 'Role of Countries' is overlaid on the left side of this image in a yellow font.

## Role of Countries

- Countries are advised to:
  - Identify national priorities for GEF funding
  - Develop comprehensive and coherent GEF strategy in consultation with key stakeholders
  - Integrate GEF priorities within broader national environment and sustainable development frameworks



## Role of Operational Focal Points

- Dialogue with GEF Secretariat to discuss proposed project concepts and approach
- OFP endorses projects for GEF funding after consultation
- Should be involved in project development, implementation, and evaluation, in partnership with appropriate GEF Agencies





### III. GEF Focal Areas & Cross-cutting Issues

## GEF's Six Focal Areas

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- International Waters
- Ozone Depletion  
(only countries in transition)
- Land Degradation
- Persistent Organic Pollutants – POPs





## Revision of Focal Area Strategies in GEF-4

- Purpose: to sharpen focus of strategies and foster harmonized and integrated approaches across Focal Areas
- Basis for programming of resources during GEF-4
- Better alignment with the GEF results-based management framework.

# BIODIVERSITY

## Strategic Objectives and Programs



- 1: Catalyzing Sustainability of Protected Area Systems
- 2: Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Production Landscapes/Seascapes and Sectors

# BIODIVERSITY (contd.)

## Strategic Objectives and Programs

### 3: Safeguarding Biodiversity

- Capacity Building for the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
- Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien species

### 4: Capacity Building on Access and Benefit Sharing



# LAND DEGRADATION

## Strategic Objectives and Programs

1. Develop an enabling environment that will place Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in the mainstream of development policy and practice at regional, national and local levels
2. Upscale SLM investments that Generate mutual benefits for the global environment and local livelihoods





# INTERNATIONAL WATERS

## Strategic Objectives and Programs

- Restore and sustain coastal and marine fish stocks and associated biological diversity
- Reduce nutrient over-enrichment and oxygen depletion from land-based pollution of coastal waters in Large Marine Ecosystems



# INTERNATIONAL WATERS

## Strategic Objectives and Programs

- Balance overuse and conflicting uses of water resources in transboundary surface and groundwater basins
- Reduce persistent toxic substances and adaptive management of waters with melting ice





# CLIMATE CHANGE

## Strategic Programs - Mitigation

- Promote energy-efficiency in residential and commercial buildings
- Promote energy efficiency in industrial sector
- Promote market approaches for renewable resources
- Promote sustainable energy from Biomass
- Promote sustainable, innovative systems for urban transport
- Manage land-use, land-use change and forestry to protect carbon stocks and reduce GHG emissions



# CLIMATE CHANGE

## Strategic Programs and Funds - Adaptation

Strategic Pilot on Adaptation (SPA)  
to ensure delivery of global  
environmental benefits in the  
focal areas (coral reefs, Integrated  
Coastal Zone Management, Sustainable  
Land Management, etc)



Special Climate Change Fund and  
Least Development Country  
Fund

- Implementation of NAPAs
- Top priorities on adaptation

# POPS

## Strategic Objective and Programs

**To reduce and eliminate production, use and releases of POPs**

- Strengthening capacities for implementation of National Implementation Plans (NIPs)
- Partnering in investments for NIP implementation
- Demonstration of feasible, innovative, technologies and best practices for POPs reduction





## POPs: Key Issues

- Limited capacity to deal with POPs in developing countries / often lack of basic foundational capacities for chemicals management
- 131 countries have been preparing a NIP, assessing and prioritising POPs issues – many now ready for NIP implementation
- GEF-4: moving from NIP preparation to NIP implementation



## POPs: Programming so far

- 2001-2006 (mostly GEF-3)  
\$218m (co-financing \$153m)
- GEF-4 allocation \$282m (incl fee)
- Around 50% committed so far 2 years into the 4 years of the replenishment period
- WB, UNDP, UNIDO, UNEP, FAO all active in the POPs focal area



## POPs: Long-term goal and mid-term strategic objective

- *The GEF's goal in the POPs focal area is to protect human health and the environment by assisting countries to reduce and eliminate production, use and releases of POPs, and consequentially contribute generally to capacity development for the sound management of chemicals.*
- The mid-term objective is to assist eligible countries to implement their obligations under the Stockholm Convention.





## POPs: Expected impacts of GEF-4

- GEF-supported countries have strengthened capacity for POPs management and consequently strengthened capacity for the general sound management of chemicals
- Dangerous obsolete pesticides that pose a threat to human health and to the environment are disposed of in an environmentally sound manner
- PCBs, some of the most widespread toxics, are no longer a source of contamination of the local and global environment because they are phased out and disposed of



## POPs: Expected impacts of GEF-4

- The risk of adverse health effects from POPs is decreased for those local communities living in close proximity to POPs wastes that have been disposed of or contained
- The basis for the future implementation of the Stockholm Convention is established through the demonstration of innovative alternative products, best practices, and environmentally sound processes to the generation, use or release of POPs





## POPs: GEF-4 Strategic Program 1

### ***Strengthening Capacity for NIP Development and Implementation***

Resources: approx. 40%

e.g. depending on NIP priorities: strengthening regulatory framework

Outcome: Countries have capacity to implement measures to meet obligations under the Stockholm Convention – thus improving their general capacity to achieve the sound management of chemicals



## POPs: GEF-4 Strategic Program 2

### *Partnering in Investments for NIP Implementation*

Resources: approx 45%

e.g. depending on NIP priorities: phase-out and disposal of PCBs / non-POPs alternative products and practices / destruction of pesticides wastes

Outcome: Sustainably reduced POPs production, use and releases - leading to reduced environmental and health risks from POPs



## POPs: GEF-4 Strategic Program 3

### ***Partnering in the Demonstration of Feasible, Innovative Technologies and Best Practices for POPs Reduction and Substitution***

Resources: approx 15%

e.g. identification of alternative products or practices to DDT, or POPs termiticides / demonstration of destruction technologies / demonstration of BAT-BEP/ targeted research

### Outcomes

Effective alternative products, practices or techniques that avoid POPs production/use/release demonstrated / in particular DDT

# Cross-Cutting Issues

Cross-cutting issues that are addressed within the focal area strategies include:

- Adaptation to climate change (CC and all Focal Areas)
- Sustainable Forest Management (BD, CC and LD)
- Sound Chemicals Management (all Focal Areas)



# Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

## Strategic Objectives

1. To conserve globally significant forest biodiversity
2. To promote sustainable management and use of forest resources



# Sound Chemicals Management Strategic Objective and Programs

*To promote sound management of chemicals for the protection of human health and the global environment*

- Integrating sound chemicals management in GEF projects
- Articulating GEF supported chemicals-related projects and programs within countries' broader frameworks for chemicals management





A blue banner at the top of the slide features silhouettes of a group of people standing on a pier or walkway. The text 'For more information:' is written in yellow on the left side of the banner.

For more information:

[www.TheGEF.org](http://www.TheGEF.org)  
[/POLICIES/Focal Area Strategies](#)

[/PROJECTS/Templates and Guidelines](#)

[/PROJECTS/Project Database](#)

[/COUNTRY PAGE/Country Projects](#)

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