



GEF-8 SCORECARD

February 2024



ABOUT THE GEF-8 CORPORATE SCORECARD

The GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard is a comprehensive report on the performance of the Global Environment Facility during the GEF-8 period. In particular, the Scorecard reports on the progress made towards the achievement of the GEF-8 targets. It also looks at how the GEF is utilizing resources available

for its eighth replenishment cycle and making progress in the implementation of key policies. The Scorecard is published twice a year; this issue includes all projects approved from July 2022 to date, including the February 2024 Work Program.

FOREWORD

This edition of the Corporate Scorecard highlights the cumulative impact of transformative investments supported in GEF-8 across crucial environmental areas. It covers the first three Work Programs in GEF-8, of which the latest two are the largest since GEF's inception. Before reaching the halfway point, \$2.48 billion of the \$5.33 billion for GEF-8 has been programmed.

Through its current replenishment cycle, the GEF is helping countries deliver transformational outcomes under the *Healthy Planet, Healthy People* framework. Integrated programs, projects, and other programs aim altogether to support close to 200 million hectares of protected areas, rehabilitate 7.6 million hectares of land and ecosystems, mitigate 1,610 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, enhance the management of 22 shared water ecosystems, and eliminate 66 thousand metric tons of chemicals of global concern and their waste. Collectively, these investments are expected to improve the quality of life for nearly 22 million people.

Integrated Programs account for a large share of progress in reaching GEF-8 results targets. They contribute up to 45 percent of the target for protecting terrestrial areas and 57 percent of the target for mitigating CO₂ emissions. A record number of 93 countries participate in Integrated Programs, of which 26 are Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and 31 are Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

Progress in allocating financing is highest in the biodiversity focal area, where 60 percent of resources are now part of approved projects and programs. Notably, SIDS and LDCs have already used over half of their allocated resources, attesting to a strong country demand for GEF financing by these countries.

GEF provides crucial financing to support biodiversity conservation, address climate change, and achieve land restoration goals. This is evident as each of the Rio marker targets for GEF investments have been surpassed, with 88 percent of financing allocated with climate objectives, 83 percent for biodiversity, and 68 percent for land restoration.

Mobilized resources exceed the targeted overall co-financing ratio, with \$7.9 mobilized for every GEF dollar invested. Blended finance investments supporting nature and climate

reach a noteworthy average co-financing ratio of 26:1. Overall portfolio co-financing includes dedicated investment resources with a ratio of 6.3:1, surpassing the targeted levels. The private sector's contribution to co-financing now reaches almost \$3 billion.

The activities outlined in the Country Engagement Strategy (CES) play a pivotal role in facilitating countries' unprecedented level of programming. In conjunction with 13 GEF-8 Roll-out Regional Workshops, Upstream Technical and National Dialogues were conducted in 41 countries. These dialogues focus particularly on socializing programming strategies, with a specific emphasis on Integrated Programs. Expanded Constituency Workshops were held in person, bringing together countries from Europe and Central Asia, the Middle East, and North and Southern Africa. They engage key GEF country partners from governments, agencies, conventions, and civil society organizations. Additionally, two interactive multi-day Introduction Seminars, involving 400 members of the GEF Partnership, were conducted online.

Integrating gender equality considerations and active engagement with stakeholders are intrinsic components of project and program design, serving as crucial elements in augmenting the delivery of Global Environmental Benefits. Furthermore, agencies have expressed their commitment to expand their involvement with the private sector during project preparation.

The GEF Assembly was held in August 2023 and marked a pivotal moment in the GEF's history, providing a critical stocktaking for 2030 goals to end pollution and nature loss, combat climate change, and propel inclusive, locally-led conservation. The knowledge exchanged during this high-level event will help GEF partners to continue to learn how to achieve even more significant environmental outcomes in the future, underpinned by the recently approved knowledge management and learning strategy.

As the GEF mandate grows, strategic communications and media outreach are critical. Building on the new communication and visibility policy, this involves promoting achievements and contributions from across the GEF partnership through storytelling, focused publications, a robust digital presence, and active participation in global events.

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1. CONTRIBUTION TO THE GENERATION OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Projects and programs deliver significant levels of expected results for GEF-8 against the Core Indicator targets, presented here along the results areas of the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework and highlighting the contribution of Integrated Programs.

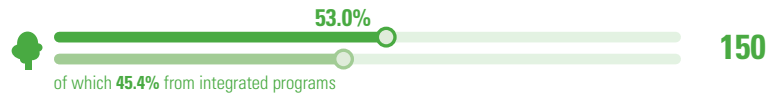
CORE INDICATORS

SHARE OF TARGETS

GEF-8 TARGETS

CONSERVING & SUSTAINABLY USING BIODIVERSITY

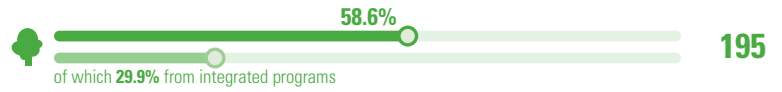
Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (million hectares)



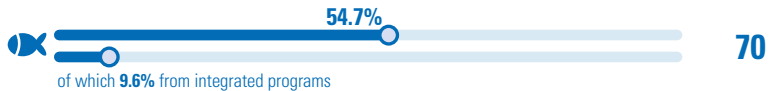
Marine protected areas created or under improved management (million hectares)



Area of landscapes under improved practices* (million hectares)



Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (million hectares)



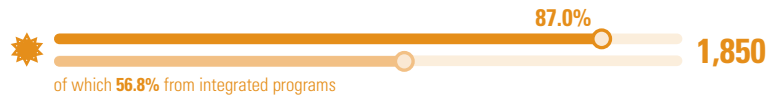
SUSTAINABLY MANAGING AND RESTORING LAND

Area of land and ecosystems under restoration (million hectares)



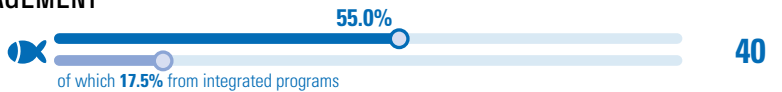
REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS

Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (million metric tons of CO₂e)



STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT

Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management



Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (million metric tons)



REDUCING CHEMICALS AND WASTE

Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced (thousand metric tons)










Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced (grams of toxic equivalent)



*This Core Indicator also includes a target of 85 million hectares for its sub-indicator 'Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems' shared with the grouping of indicators 'Sustainably Managing and Restoring Land' under the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework. To date, 42.1 percent of this sub-indicator target is achieved, including 15.8 percent from Integrated Programs.



The GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework is organized around five results areas, which group together Core Indicators on Global Environmental Benefits, associated sub-indicators and sex-disaggregated metrics on direct beneficiaries.

CONSERVING AND SUSTAINABLY USING BIODIVERSITY		VALUE
	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management (million hectares)	79.5
	– of which newly created (million hectares)	3.2
	– of which under improved management effectiveness (million hectares)	76.3
	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (million hectares)	115.9
	– of which newly created (million hectares)	21.5
	– of which under improved management effectiveness (million hectares)	94.4
	Area of landscapes under improved practices* (million hectares)	114.3
	– of which under improved management to benefit biodiversity (million hectares)	73.2
	– of which that meets third-party certification (million hectares)	2.7
	– of which of High Conservation Value or other forest loss avoided (million hectares)	2.6
	Terrestrial OECMs supported (million hectares)	12.9
	Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (million hectares)	38.3
	Fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations (count)	2.0
	Marine OECMs supported (million hectares)	0.0
	People benefiting from the conservation, sustainable use or restoration of biodiversity (million)	6.9
	– of whom women	3.4
SUSTAINABLY MANAGING AND RESTORING LAND		
	Area of land and ecosystems under restoration (million hectares)	7.6
	– of which degraded agricultural lands under restoration (million hectares)	4.1
	– of which forest and forest land under restoration (million hectares)	2.0
	– of which natural grass and woodlands under restoration (million hectares)	1.2
	– of which wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves) under restoration (million hectares)	0.3
	Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (million hectares)	35.8
	People benefiting from sustainable land management and restoration investments (million)	2.3
	– of whom women	1.1




*The indicator 'Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems' contributes to this Core Indicator. It is located under the 'Sustainably Managing and Restoring Land' results area.

REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS




VALUE

	Greenhouse gas emissions mitigated (million metric tons of CO₂e)	1,610.0
	– of which carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (million metric tons of CO ₂ e)	1,185.0
	– of which emissions avoided outside of the AFOLU sector (million metric tons of CO ₂ e)	425.0
	– Energy saved (gigawatt hours)	44,553.6
	– Installed renewable energy capacity (mega watts)	417.0
	People benefiting from climate change mitigation support (million)	1.8
	– of whom women	0.9

STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT

	Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management (count)	22.0
	– Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program formulation and implementation (1 Low – 4 High)	2.4
	– Level of regional legal agreements and regional management institution(s) to support its implementation (1 Low – 4 High)	2.5
	– Level of national/local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees (1 Low – 4 High)	2.0
	– Level of engagement in IW:LEARN through participation and delivery of key products (1 Low – 4 High)	1.6
	Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (thousand metric tons)	0.9
	– Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia (number)	8.0
	People benefiting from transboundary water management (million)	1.0
	– of whom women	0.5

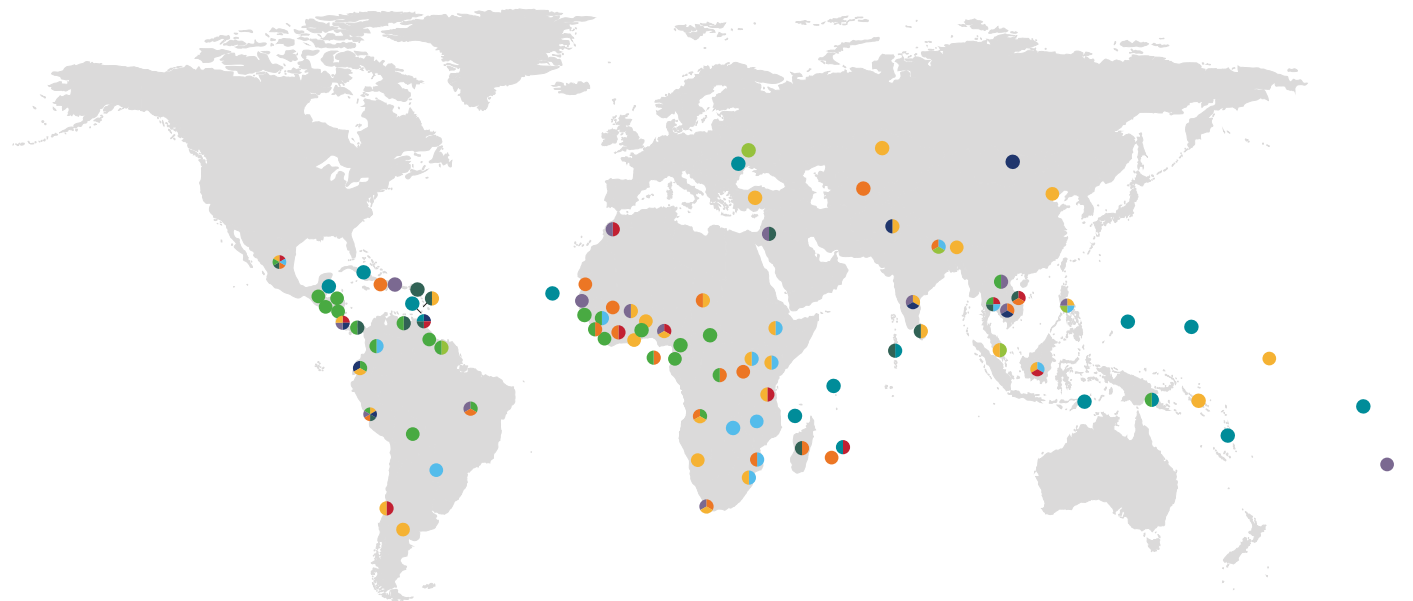
REDUCING CHEMICALS AND WASTE

	Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced (thousand metric tons)	65.8
	– of which persistent organic pollutants (POPs) removed or disposed (POPs type) (thousand metric tons)	57.0
	– of which mercury reduced (thousand metric tons)	0.6
	– of which hydrochlorofluorocarbons reduced/phased out (metric tons)	0.5
	– of which highly hazardous pesticides eliminated (metric tons)	7.7
	Countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste (number)	24.0
	Low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing, and cities (number)	12.0
	POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided (thousand metric tons)	362.3
	Avoided residual plastic waste (thousand metric tons)	2,708.8
	Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced (grams of toxic equivalent)	1,977.0
	Countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air (metric tons)	2.0
	Emission control technologies/practices implemented (number)	0.0
	People benefiting from reduced exposure to hazardous chemicals (million)	9.8
	– of whom women	4.9

2. INTEGRATED AND OTHER PROGRAMS

Integrated Programs are poised to deliver environmental benefits on a large scale in GEF-8. To date, a total of 93 countries are participating in these programs, with some in more than one program.

COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN INTEGRATED PROGRAMS



- Blue and Green Islands
- Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution
- Ecosystem Restoration
- Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes
- Food Systems
- Clean and Healthy Ocean
- Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains
- Net Zero Nature Positive Accelerator
- Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development
- Wildlife Conservation for Development

Note: A pie chart representing different programs is used for each country participating in multiple programs.

PROGRAMMED FINANCING AGAINST GEF-8 RESOURCES FOR INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

88.4%

INTEGRATED PROGRAMS	Countries	SIDS	LDCs	Total Financing (\$m)
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes	28	5	10	306.6
Blue and Green Islands	15	15	2	135.6
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	15	2	4	107.9
Clean and Healthy Ocean	14	4	1	112.4
Ecosystem Restoration	20	2	13	205.0
Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains	8	1	1	51.3
Food Systems	32	3	9	281.5
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	5	1	1	26.8
Net Zero Nature Positive Accelerator	12	2	1	110.0
Wildlife Conservation for Development	15	-	7	150.3
Total	93	26	31	1,487.5
PROGRAM				
Global Programme to Support Countries to Upscale Integrated Electric Mobility Systems	7	3	3	24.8
Global Clean Hydrogen Programme	8	-	-	15.0
Central Asia Water and Land Nexus (CAWLN) for Ecosystem Restoration, Improved Natural Resource Management and Increased Resilience	5	-	-	29.4

Notes: 'Total' reflects unique count of countries. Some countries are part of both the SIDS and LDCs country groups. Total financing includes projects financing, agency fee, PPG, and PPG fee, inclusive of the resources allocated for global coordination programs. Four new IPs are included in the February 2024 Work Program – Clean and Healthy Oceans, Food Systems, Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development, and Wildlife Conservation for Development. Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forests Biomes includes three new countries added in the February 2024 Work Program: Guyana under Amazon Forests Biome; Guinea-Bissau and Togo under Guinean Forests Biome

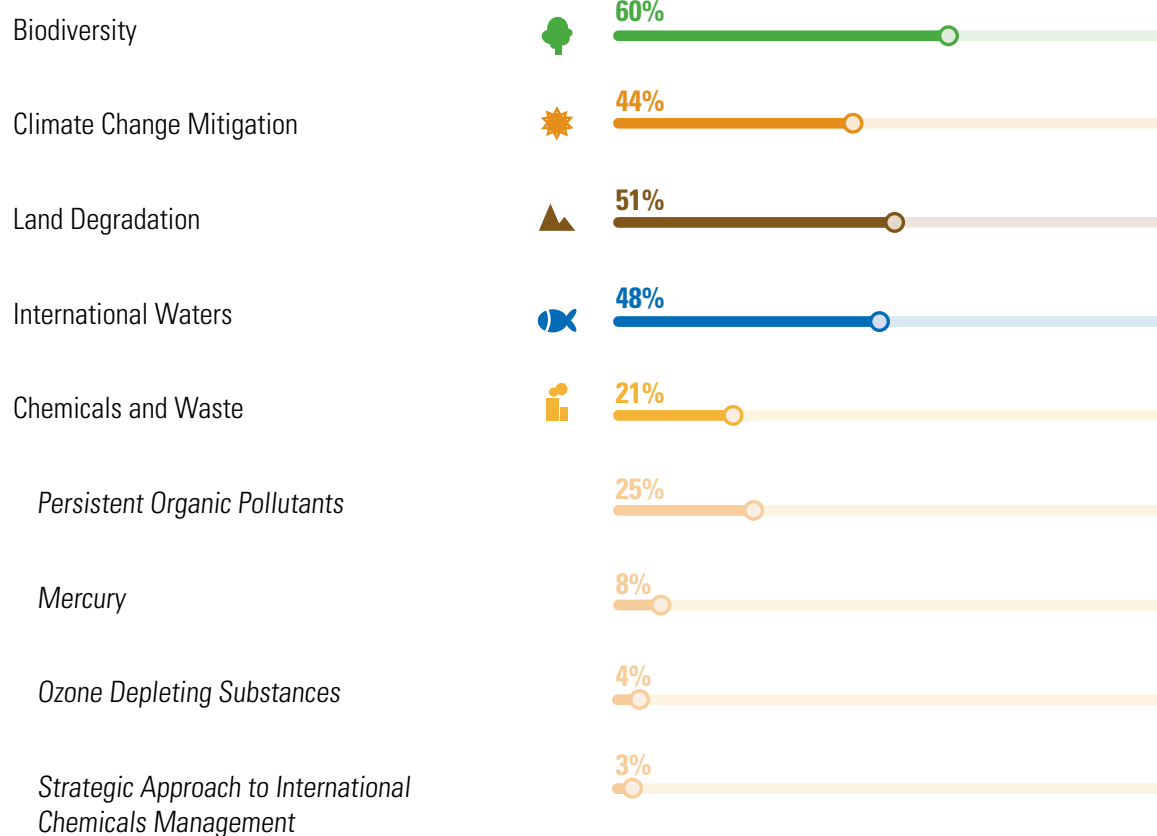
3. PROGRAMMING BY FOCAL AREA

This section summarizes the progress made in programming GEF-8 resources to date. It provides a cumulative summary of GEF-8 utilization of funds against the programming envelopes established during the GEF-8 Replenishment.

GEF TRUST FUND

FOCAL AREAS

UTILIZATION RATE



NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT PROGRAM



INNOVATIONS WINDOW

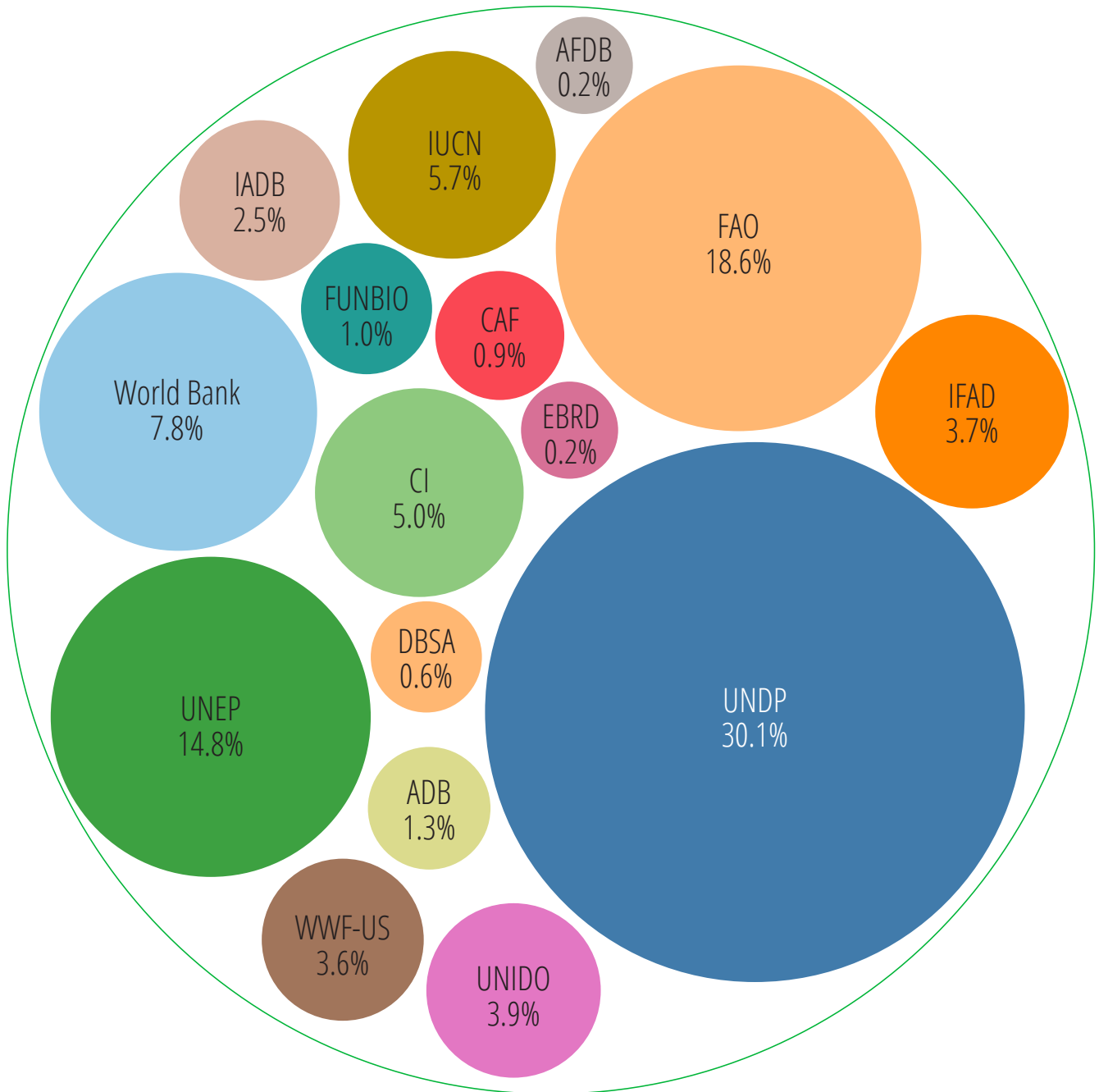


SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME



4. PROGRAMMING BY GEF AGENCY

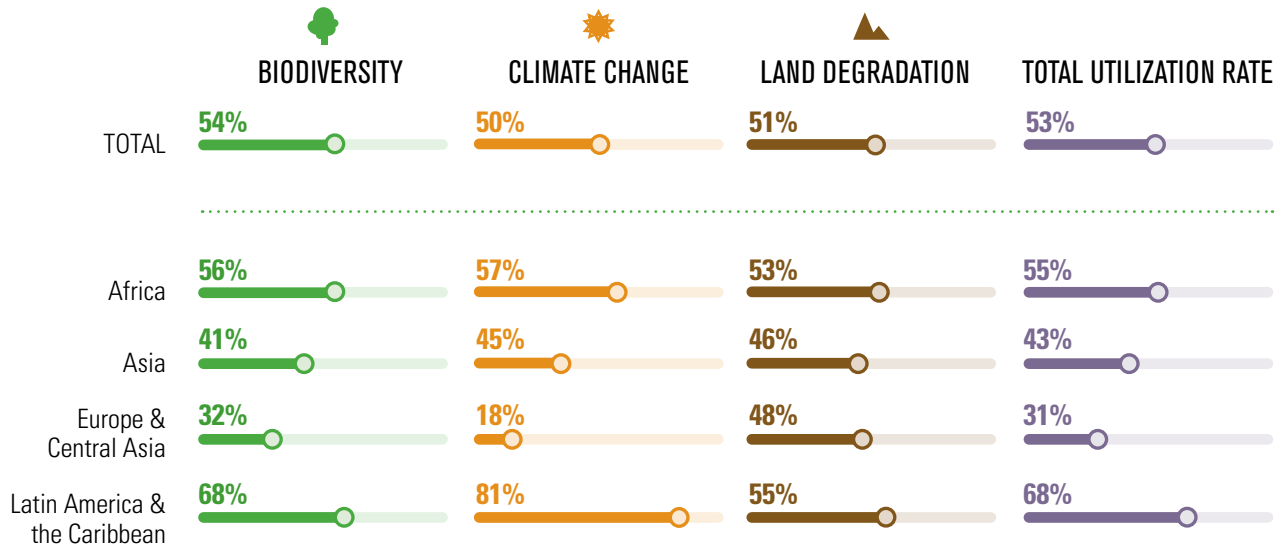
GEF agencies submit new projects and programs in GEF-8 in response to country demand. The data shown here reflects the respective Agency share of cumulative programming in GEF-8.



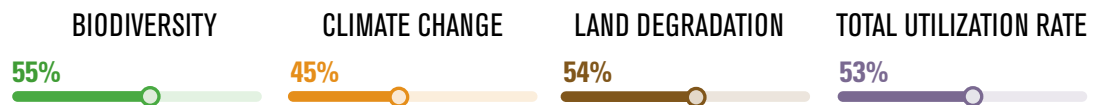
5. SYSTEM FOR TRANSPARENT ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

Utilization of resources allocated to countries under the System for the Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) is increasing across the three focal areas it covers—biodiversity, climate change, and land degradation—and in every region.

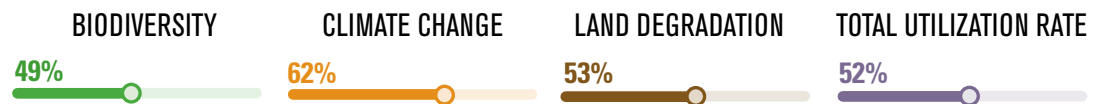
GEF GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS



LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCs)

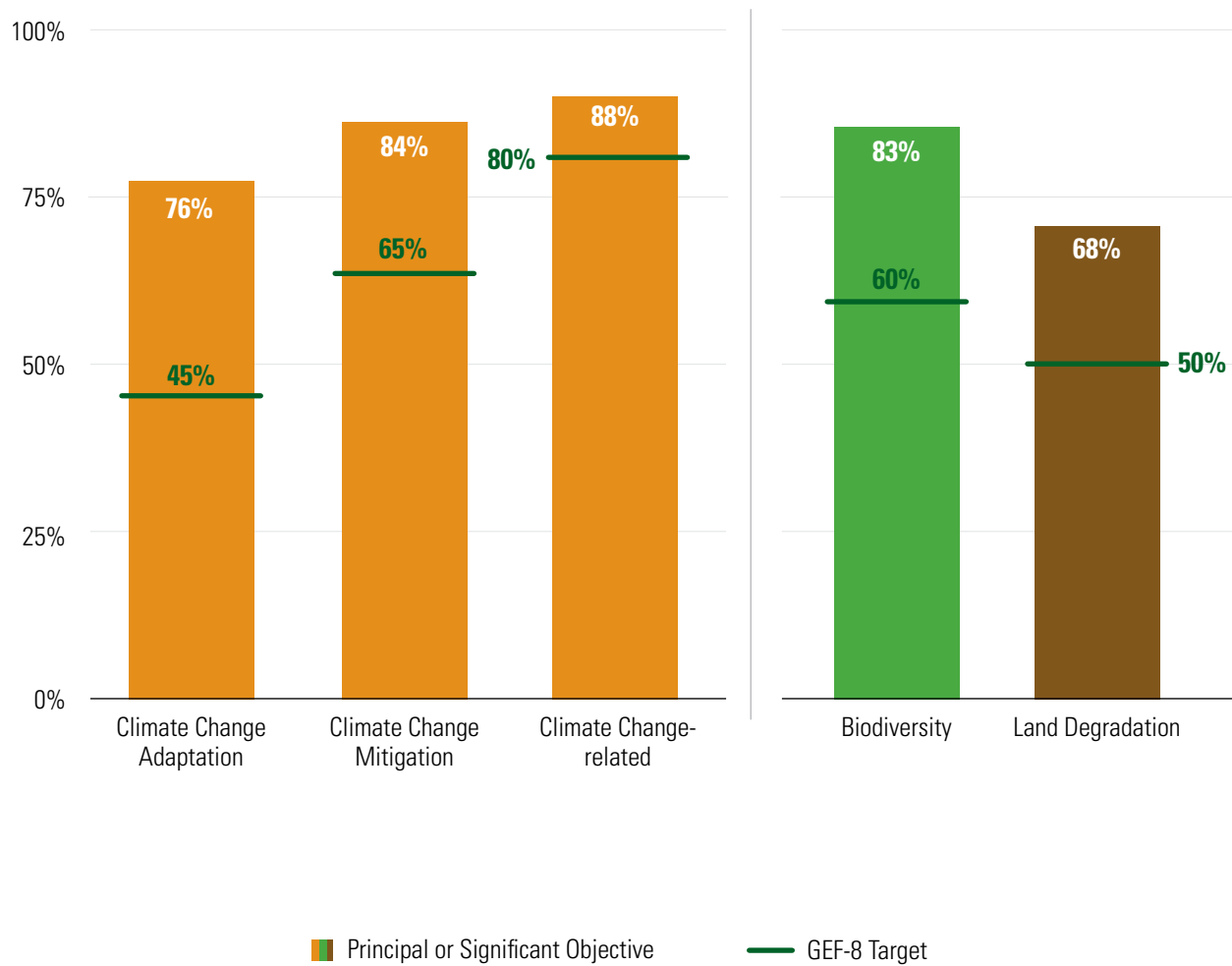


SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES (SIDS)



6. BIODIVERSITY, CLIMATE, AND LAND DEGRADATION FINANCING

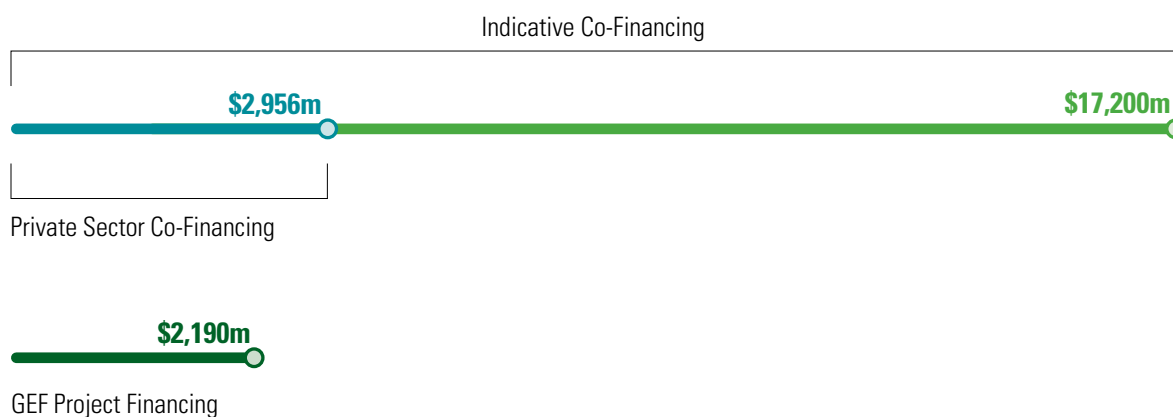
GEF financing contributing toward Biodiversity, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change Mitigation and Land Degradation as a principal or significant objective is tracked against indicative targets, consistent with the OECD DAC Rio marker methodology. Climate-related financing refers to any GEF investment considered as principal or significant for Climate Change Adaptation and/or Mitigation.



7. CO-FINANCING

The Policy on Co-Financing sets out a goal for the overall GEF portfolio to reach a ratio of co-financing to GEF project financing of at least 7:1, and for the portfolio of projects and programs approved in Upper-Middle Income Countries and High-Income Countries that are not Small Island Developing States or Least Developed Countries to reach a ratio of investment mobilized to GEF project financing of at least 5:1. Co-Financing means financing that is additional to GEF Project Financing, and that supports the implementation of a GEF-financed project or program and the achievement of its objectives. Investment Mobilized means Co-Financing that excludes recurrent expenditures. Enabling Activities qualify for full agreed costs funding from the GEF; there is no co-finance requirement for Enabling Activities.

GEF FINANCING VS. CO-FINANCING



INDICATIVE RATIOS OF RESOURCES MOBILIZED TO GEF PROJECT FINANCING IN GEF-8 (X:1)

	LATEST	AMBITION
Co-Financing	7.9	7.0
Investment Mobilized in UMICs and HICs that are not SIDS or LDCs	6.3	5.0
Co-Financing of non-grant instrument projects	26.0	

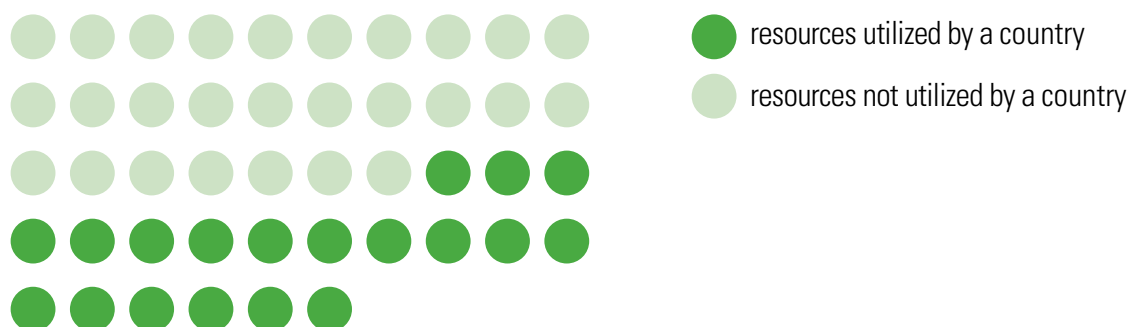
8. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

The GEF-8 Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) results framework is linked to the GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). Core Indicators track the progress in Adaptation Benefits, including beneficiaries disaggregated by gender. This section depicts the expected results from approved projects and programs.

USE OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND

Resources approved to date in GEF-8 amount to \$252.1 million.

Out of 46 Least Developed Countries, 19 have used LDCF resources (Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Lao PDR, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan, and Zambia).



USE OF SPECIAL CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

Resources approved to date in GEF-8 amount to \$26.5 million.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CORE INDICATORS

Core Indicator	Total
Direct beneficiaries (number)	4,977,179
- of whom women	2,540,688
Area of land managed for climate resilience (hectare)	1,960,031
Coastal or marine area managed for climate resilience (hectare)	1,886,894
Policies, plans, and frameworks that will mainstream climate resilience (number)	341
People trained or with awareness raised (number)	943,680
- of whom women	460,653
Private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action (number)	1,574

9. GENDER EQUALITY

Without greater equality between men and women, the world will not meet its environment objectives. That's why the GEF is making sure that projects are gender informed, giving women and men equal opportunities to contribute and benefit from them.

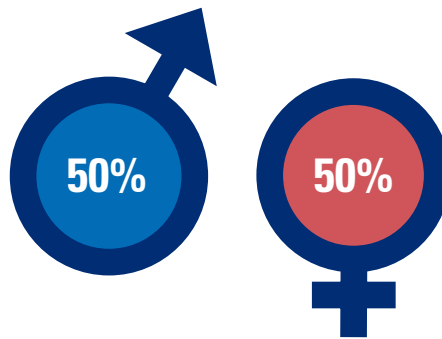
QUALITY AT ENTRY OF GEF-8 PROJECT CONCEPTS

Percentage of projects that considered gender issues at the initial project design

100%



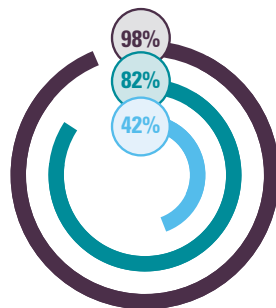
PERCENTAGE OF ANTICIPATED GEF BENEFICIARIES THAT ARE FEMALE AND MALE



10. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

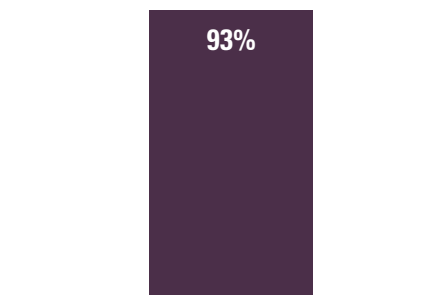
Including stakeholders—civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and the private sector—in preparing projects and defining their expected roles during implementation is key in strengthening the overall impact of a project. The data show that over three-quarters of projects consulted and took into account civil society and the private sector in their design. Not all projects have Indigenous Peoples or private sector as stakeholders. Therefore, the percentages are expected to be lower than those reported for civil society

CONSULTATION IN PROJECT IDENTIFICATION



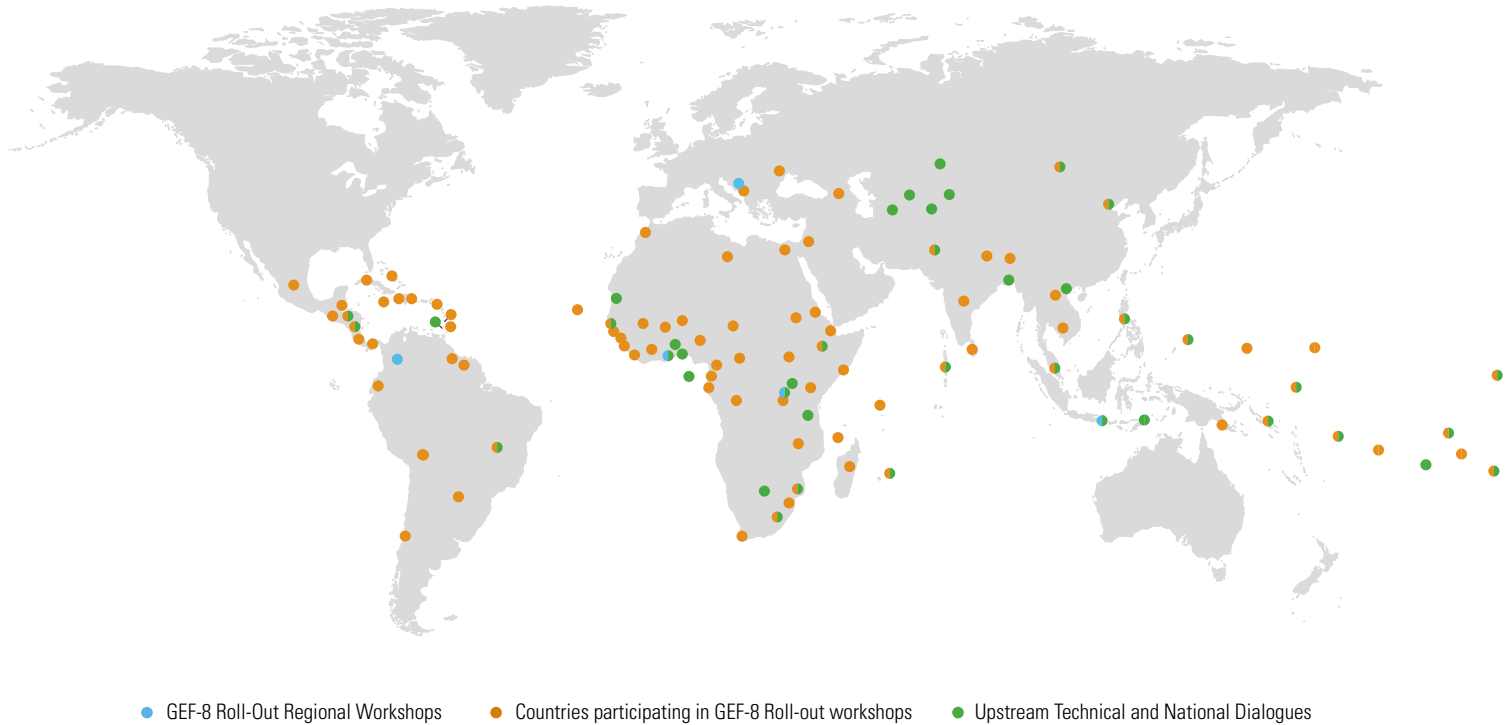
- Private Sector
- Civil Society Organizations
- Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

PLANNED PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT DURING IMPLEMENTATION



11. COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Country Engagement Strategy (CES) empowers countries to improve portfolio progress and maximize the impact of GEF resources, including through capacity strengthening activities, upstream country engagement and country-specific knowledge activities. To date, 13 Regional GEF-8 roll-out workshops and 41 Upstream Technical and National Dialogues helped countries identify programming priorities for GEF-8. The online GEF calendar provides information on CES events.



ADDITIONAL COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY ACTIVITIES SINCE JULY 2022 INCLUDE:

- 22 Constituency Meetings
- 3 Expanded Constituency Workshops
- 2 Introduction Seminars
- 5 LDCF/SCCF Regional Adaptation Workshops

12. COMMUNICATIONS

12,504
MEDIA MENTIONS

Number of times GEF is mentioned in English, Spanish, and French language online media.

395
NEWSROOM CONTENT

Number of news and feature stories, press releases, blogs, publications, videos, and stories from partners posted on the GEF website.

3,464,441
WEB/CONTENT ENGAGEMENT

Number of times visitors viewed pages on the GEF website and videos on the GEF YouTube channel.

19,025
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

Number of subscribers to the GEF newsletter and announcements campaign list.



SOCIAL MEDIA = 344,645

Total number of followers of GEF social media accounts: Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, and Instagram.

In June 2023, the 64th GEF Council approved a new communication and visibility policy. The new policy, supported by updated brand guidelines, will help to make the GEF better known and raise awareness about the unique and important role it plays.

Ensuring strong, clear, and consistent communications strategies across the GEF Partnership is vital to ensure that donors, recipient countries, and other stakeholders see the value of GEF-funded activities and initiatives. Creating a more coordinated, appropriately funded approach at the global, Agency, program, and project level will help to better communicate the GEF's impacts and results.

NEW AND UPDATED PUBLICATIONS

Canada and the GEF



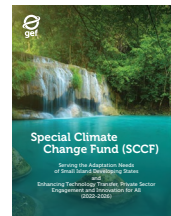
GEF-8 June 2023 Scorecard



Climate Change Mitigation



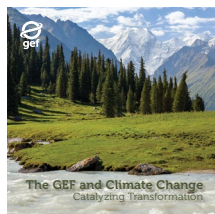
Special Climate Change Fund



Climate Change Adaption



The GEF and Climate Change: Catalyzing Transformation



Funding Adaptation Action in Least Developed Countries



Guidance from the Conference of the Parties and Responses by the GEF



Protecting Biodiversity by Respecting Rights



GEF Brand Guidelines



Support for Innovation, Technology Transfer, and Private Sector Engagement



13. KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING

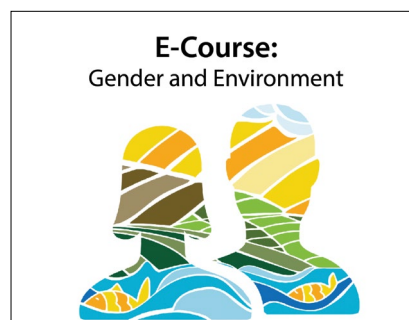
In August 2023, the seventh GEF Assembly brought together over 1,500 people and served as a pivotal platform for fostering knowledge exchange and sharing, empowering GEF partners and stakeholders to better deliver global environmental benefits. This included four high level panels focused on addressing key global environmental issues, eleven roundtables on substantive aspects of the GEF-8 programming, a Science Day organized by STAP to discuss emerging trends, a youth and civil society day, and more than seventy side events organized by GEF agencies and partners.

In October 2023, GEF Council approved a new strategy for Knowledge Management and Learning. The implementation will focus on three main objectives:

- Embedding cutting-edge knowledge into investments and generate public goods in line with GEF mandate and enhance the role of knowledge management in projects and programs.
- Increasing knowledge flows through platforms, partnerships, and communities of practice; and
- Creating and enabling the environment for learning and capacity building for greater exchange of knowledge and collaboration across the partnership.

The GEF continues to provide a series of different courses online, and over 10,000 participants received a certificate upon completion of the e-course on gender and the environment.

A new Good Practice Brief on Protecting Biodiversity by Respecting Rights: Recognizing and Supporting Indigenous Peoples and Local Community Conserve Areas in the Philippines was produced. The Brief highlights the effectiveness of co-management of protected areas with Indigenous Peoples Organizations and mainstreaming the approach into national and local governments.



Developed with the Small Grants Programme

www.thegef.org

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a family of funds dedicated to confronting biodiversity loss, climate change, pollution, and strains on land and ocean health. Its grants, blended financing, and policy support helps developing countries address their biggest environmental priorities and adhere to international environmental conventions. Over the past three decades, the GEF has provided more than \$24 billion and mobilized \$138 billion in co-financing for 5,700 national and regional projects.



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

February 2024
978-1-948690-94-2