



# GEF EXPANDED CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOP

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic  
March 2024



global  
environment  
facility  
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

# INTRODUCING THE GEF TEAM



**Peter Lallas**  
General Manager



**Asha Bobb-Semple**  
Land Degradation,  
SIDS Regional  
Coordinator



**Patricia Marcos**  
Huidobro  
Climate Change



**Celine Coisy**  
Biodiversity



**Ikuko Matsumoto**  
Knowledge  
Management



**Teayeon Kim**  
Blended Finance



**Ted Schreiber**  
Knowledge,  
Country Support



**Christian Hofer**  
External Affairs



**Sarah Wyatt**  
Biodiversity,  
Indigenous Peoples



**Dikshya Devkota**  
Data and Analytics



**Glynis Afiong Barber**  
Country Support,  
Caribbean





# AGENDA

## GEF EXPANDED CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOP

MARCH 11 (Monday)

MARCH 12 (Tuesday)

MARCH 13 (Wednesday) GEF Knowledge & Learning (field visit)  
"Mainstreaming Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Productive Landscapes in Threatened Forested Mountainous Areas (GEF-6, Multi)", in Yamasá, Monte Plata Province

## GEF ADAPTATION PROGRAMING & STRATEGY WORKSHOP

MARCH 14 (Thursday)

MARCH 15 (Friday)

# AGENDA

## DAY 1 (MONDAY)

- GEF OVERVIEW & FUNDING STRUCTURE
  - Country Engagement Strategy
  - Operations & Policies
  - Results & Monitoring
  - Small Grants Programme (SGP)
  - Q and A
- BREAK
- GEF-8 PROGRAMMING DIRECTIONS
- GBFF PROGRAMMING DIRECTIONS AND PROJECT CYCLE
- Q and A
- LUNCH
- PROJECT DESIGN CARD GAME *Developing a GEF project interactively*
- OPEN DIALOGUE
- GEF PORTAL
- RECEPTION (*pool area*)





# WHAT IS THE GEF?

## MANDATE

## GOVERNANCE



# A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

Largest environmental multi-donor trust fund

Financial mechanism of international environmental conventions



## 18 AGENCIES



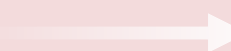


# GOVERNANCE

## GUIDANCE

### CONVENTIONS

CBD  
UNFCCC  
UNCCD  
Stockholm (POPs)  
Minamata  
BBNJ



### COUNCIL

32 Constituencies



### SECRETARIAT

INDEPENDENT  
EVALUATION OFFICE

STAP

TRUSTEE

## OPERATIONS

## ACTION

185 member governments

### COUNTRIES

Operational & Political Focal Points  
Convention Focal Points  
Civil Society Organizations  
Indigenous Peoples  
Private Sector

18 AGENCIES

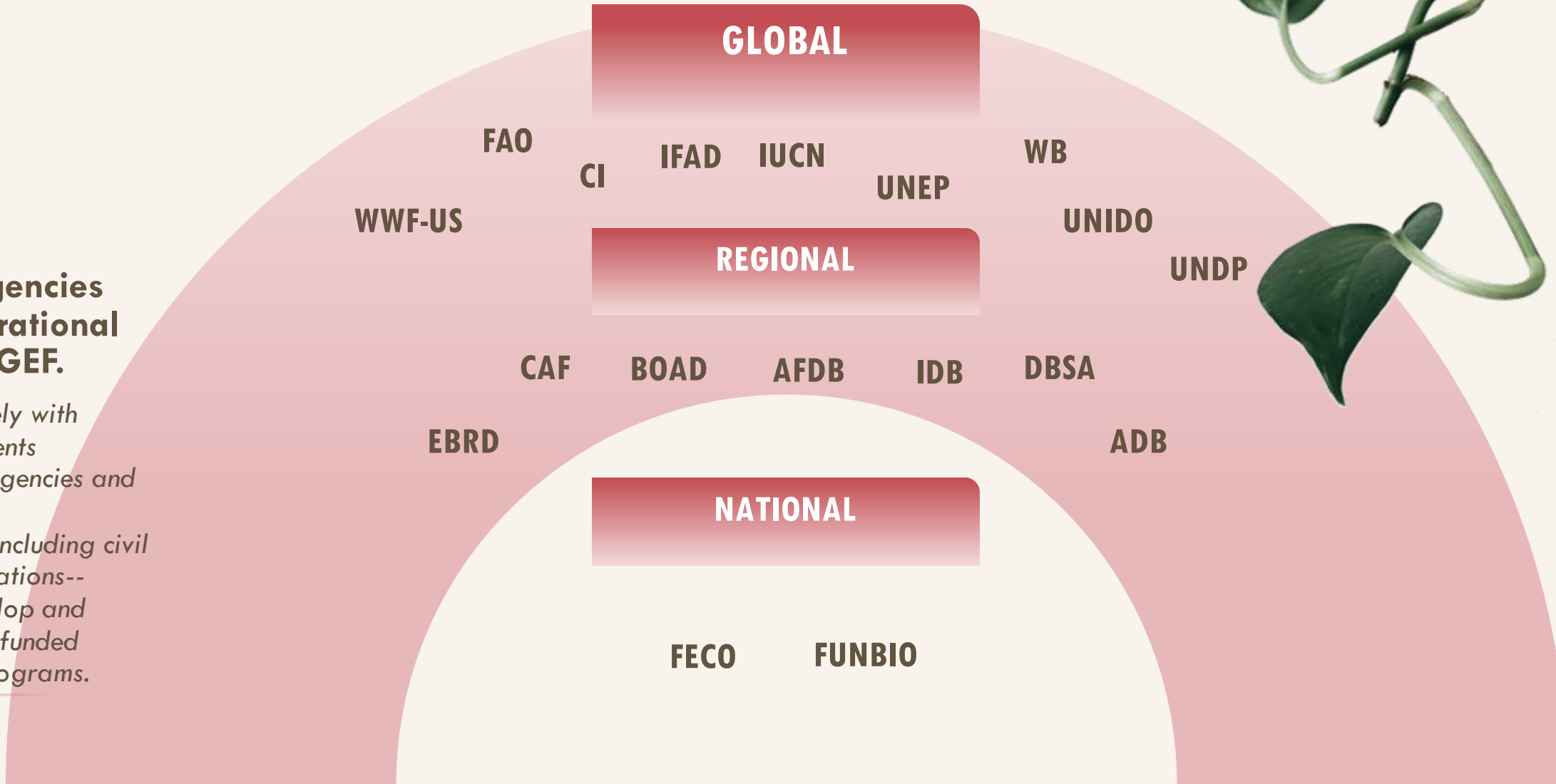
EXECUTING ENTITIES



# 18 GEF AGENCIES

**The GEF Agencies are the operational arm of the GEF.**

*They work closely with project proponents --government agencies and other national organizations, including civil society organizations-- to design, develop and implement GEF-funded projects and programs.*





# GEF-8 Resources

## GEF Trust Fund

Started in 1991 with Pilot Phase and was Restructured in 1995

**4-year**

replenishment cycle from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2026

**\$5.33 billion**

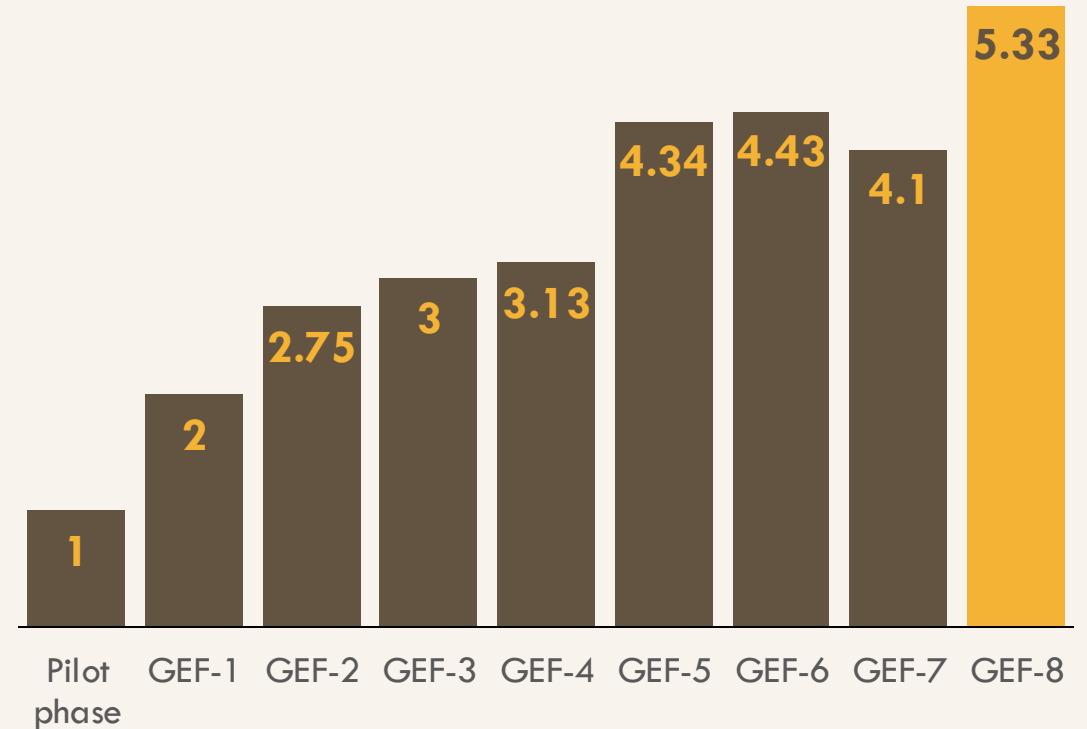
pledged by 39 donor nations

**Country 'STAR'**

allocation

GEF-8 strategy responds to conventions and takes an **integrated approach to systems transformation**

**GEF Replenishment Cycles**  
(billion USD)



# GEF-8 FUNDING OVERVIEW

GEF-8: July 2022-June 2026

## GEF TRUST FUND (\$5.33B)

### BIODIVERSITY



### CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION



### LAND DEGRADATION



### CHEMICALS & WASTE



### INTERNATIONAL WATERS



**GEF-8 STAR allocation**  
*Fully flexible*

Integrated Programs Incentive & Contributions

Enabling Activities, CBIT

Global & Regional Set-aside

Non-Grant Instrument (NGI)

Small Grants Program (SGP)

Innovations Window

## LDCF / SCCF

### CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

**LDCF**  
\$20M per LDC

**SCCF-A**  
\$3M per non-LDC SIDS

**SCCF-B**  
Innovation, technology transfer & private sector engagement



# GEF-8 SYSTEM OF TRANSPARENT ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES (STAR)

## GEF TRUST FUND (\$5.33B)

### BIODIVERSITY



### CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION



### LAND DEGRADATION



### CHEMICALS & WASTE



### INTERNATIONAL WATERS



## GEF-8 STAR allocation (\$2.43B)

Integrated Programs Incentive & Contributions

Enabling Activities, CBIT

Global & Regional Set-aside

Non-Grant Instrument (NGI)

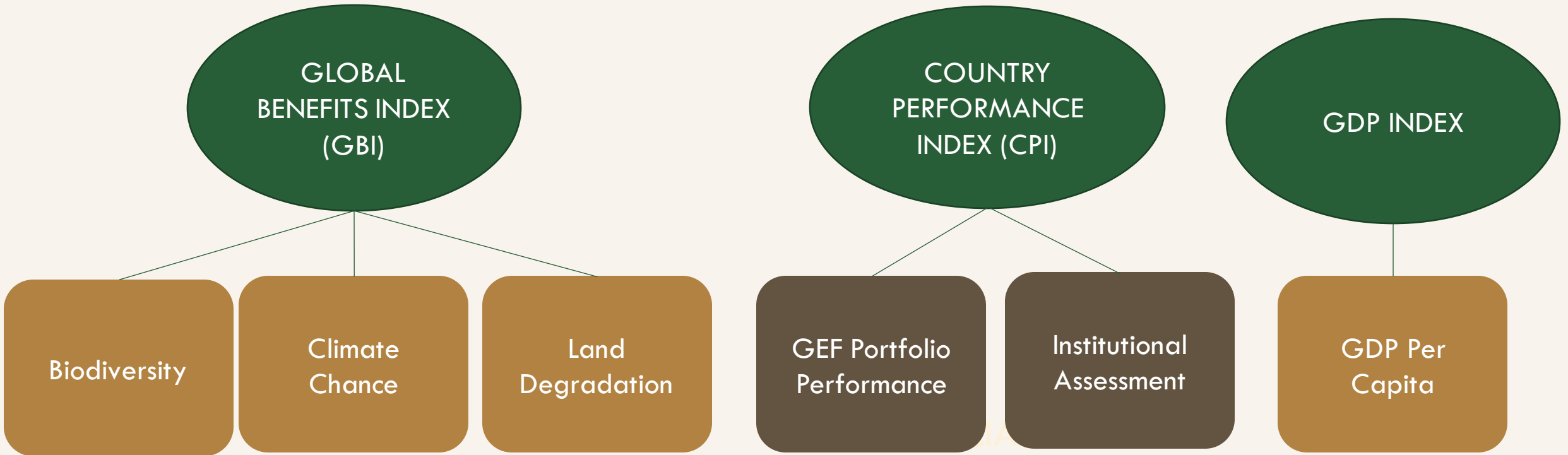
Small Grants Program (SGP)

Innovations Window

COUNTRY	BIODIVERSITY	CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION	LAND DEGRADATION	TOTAL
Bangladesh	4.00	4.58	2.00	10.58
Bhutan	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Cambodia	4.65	2.00	3.14	9.80
China	43.64	47.02	3.03	93.68
Cook Islands	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Fiji	7.96	2.00	2.00	11.96
India	43.78	41.65	3.89	89.32
Indonesia	82.15	20.05	1.45	103.65
Kiribati	4.58	2.00	2.00	8.58
Lao People's Democratic Republic	6.75	2.00	2.15	10.90
Malaysia	19.90	5.01	1.41	26.32
Maldives	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Marshall Islands	4.41	2.00	2.00	8.41
Micronesia (Federated States of)	5.15	2.00	2.00	9.15
Mongolia	4.72	1.60	3.77	10.08
Nauru	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Nepal	5.19	2.00	2.13	9.33
Nive	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Pakistan	5.74	7.35	4.68	17.77
Palau	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Papua New Guinea	25.04	2.00	2.00	29.04
Philippines	45.51	5.45	1.80	52.76
Samoa	4.00	2.00	2.00	8.00
Solomon Islands	9.33	2.00	2.00	13.33
Sri Lanka	13.91	2.04	3.05	19.00

GEF-8 STAR FORMULA

$$\text{GBI}^{0.8*} \text{CPI}^{1.0*} \text{GDP}^{-0.16}$$



Funding envelope

Floors

Index weight

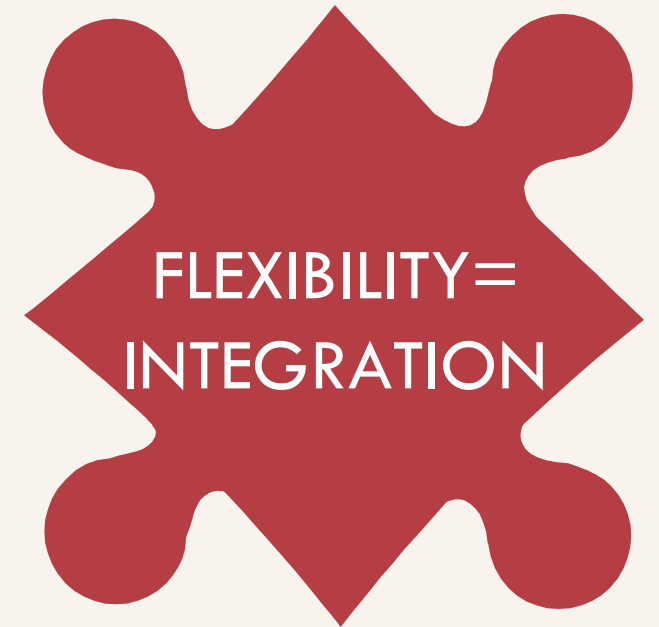
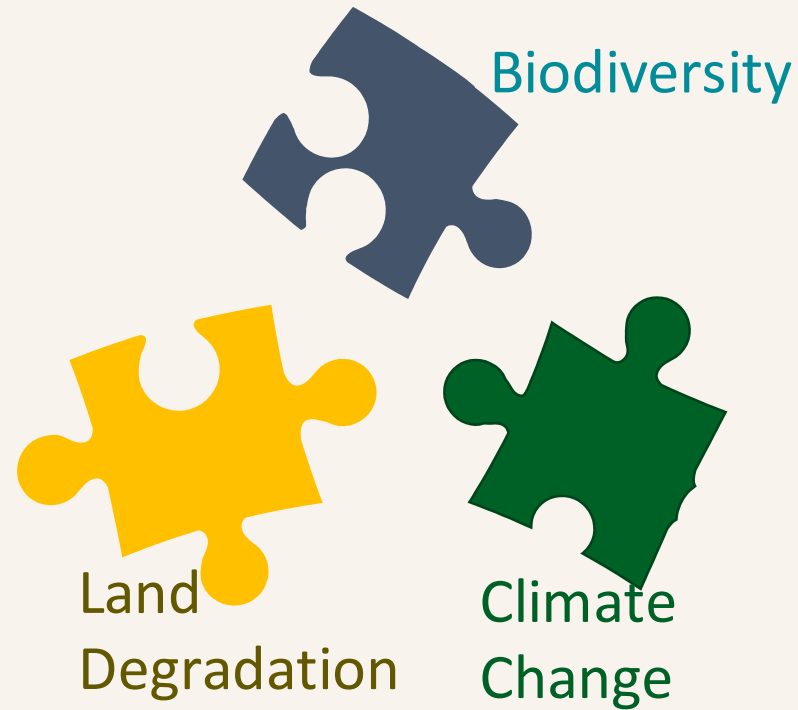
Ceilings



Countries can move STAR allocated  
resources across the 3 focal area lines



**FULL  
FLEXIBILITY**





# **GEF-8 RESULTS MEASUREMENT FRAMEWORK**

**AND HOW TO MONITOR PROJECTS**

# OUTLINE

- 1 | The GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework
- 2 | Project M&E Framework



# OUTLINE

- 1 | The GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework
- 2 | Project M&E Framework

# We are looking to boost GEF-8 shared impact

Assisting the GEF in delivering on its priorities



Increasing **impact** on the environment



Enhance **speed and quality**



Better measuring our **shared impact** over time



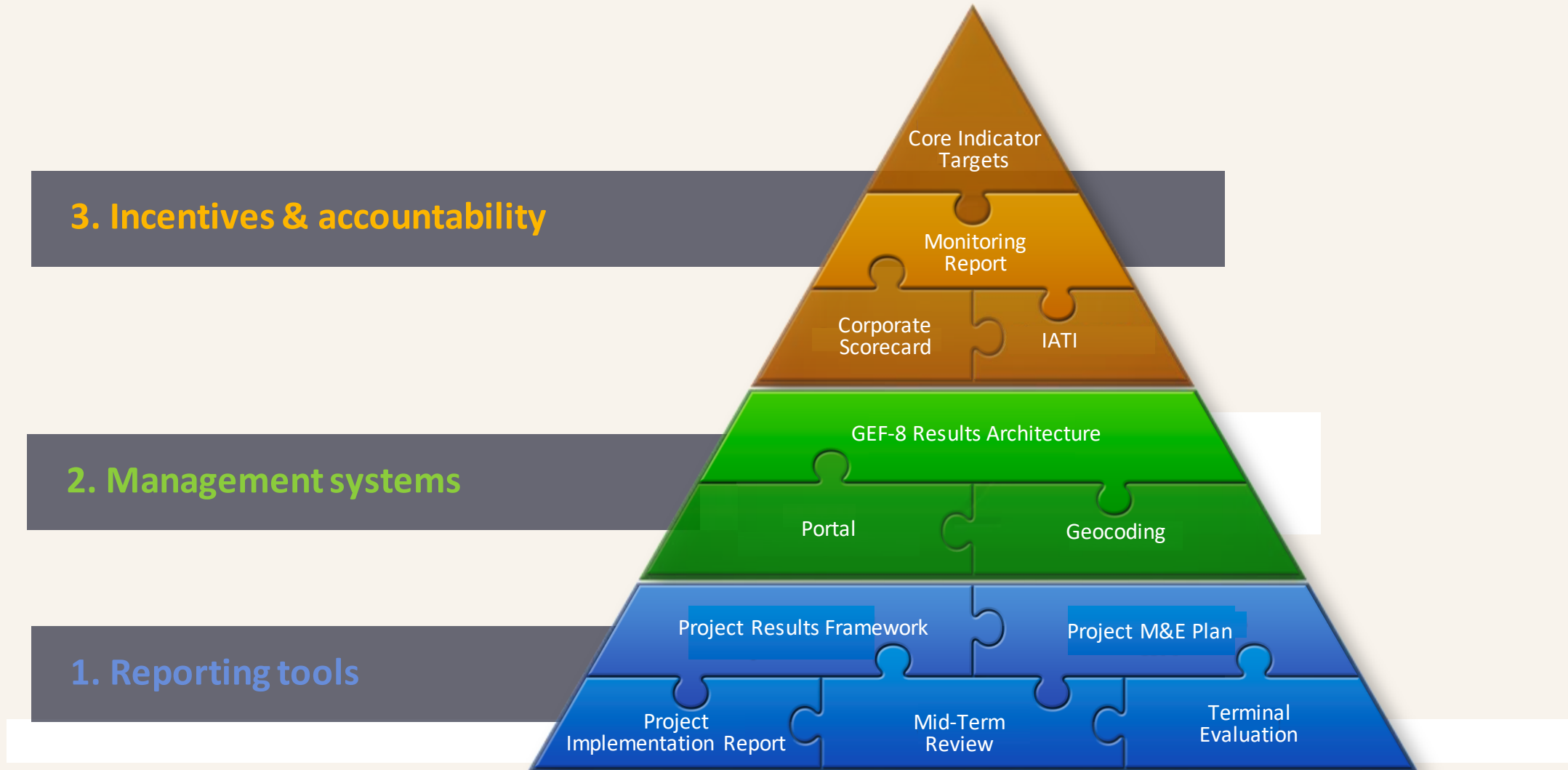
Communicate **institutional priorities**



Identify **lessons** from the past to guide the future

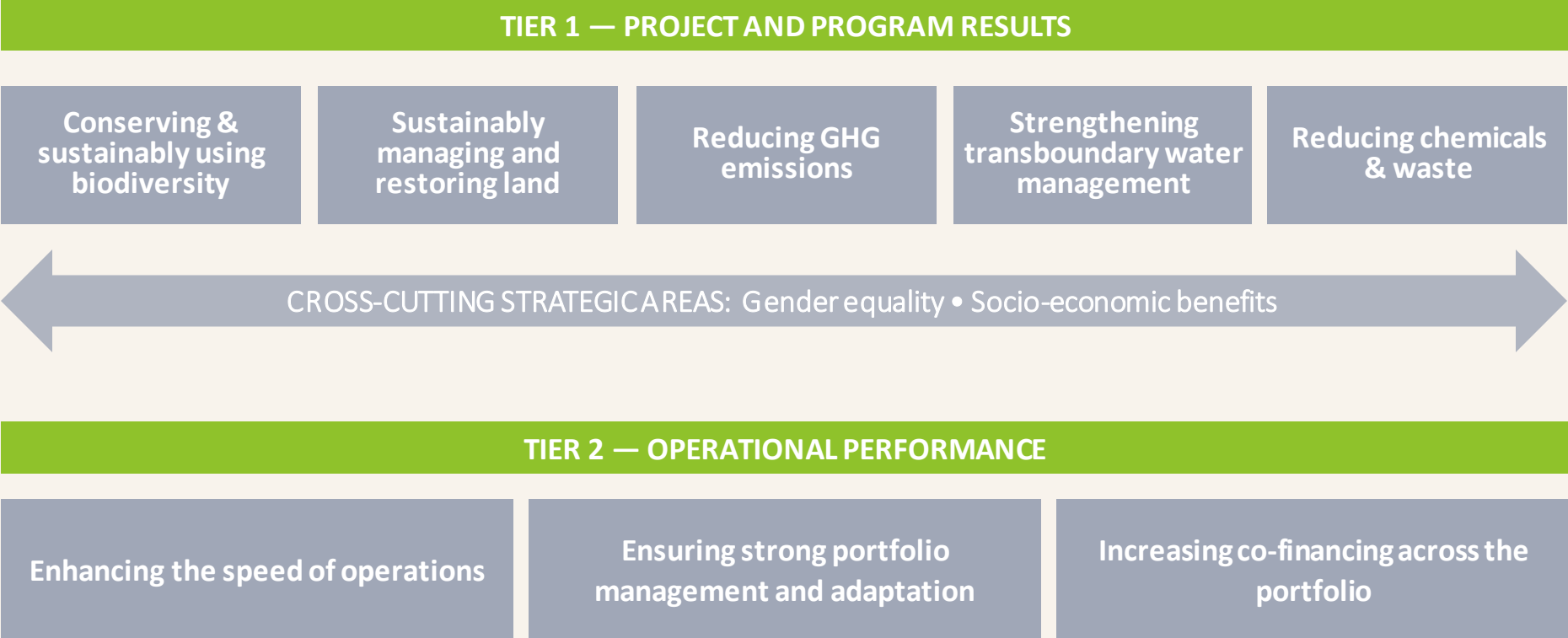
# Expanding from GEF-7 achievements

A suite of systems, processes and practices to manage for results



# The GEF-8 RMF strengthens the focus on delivering results

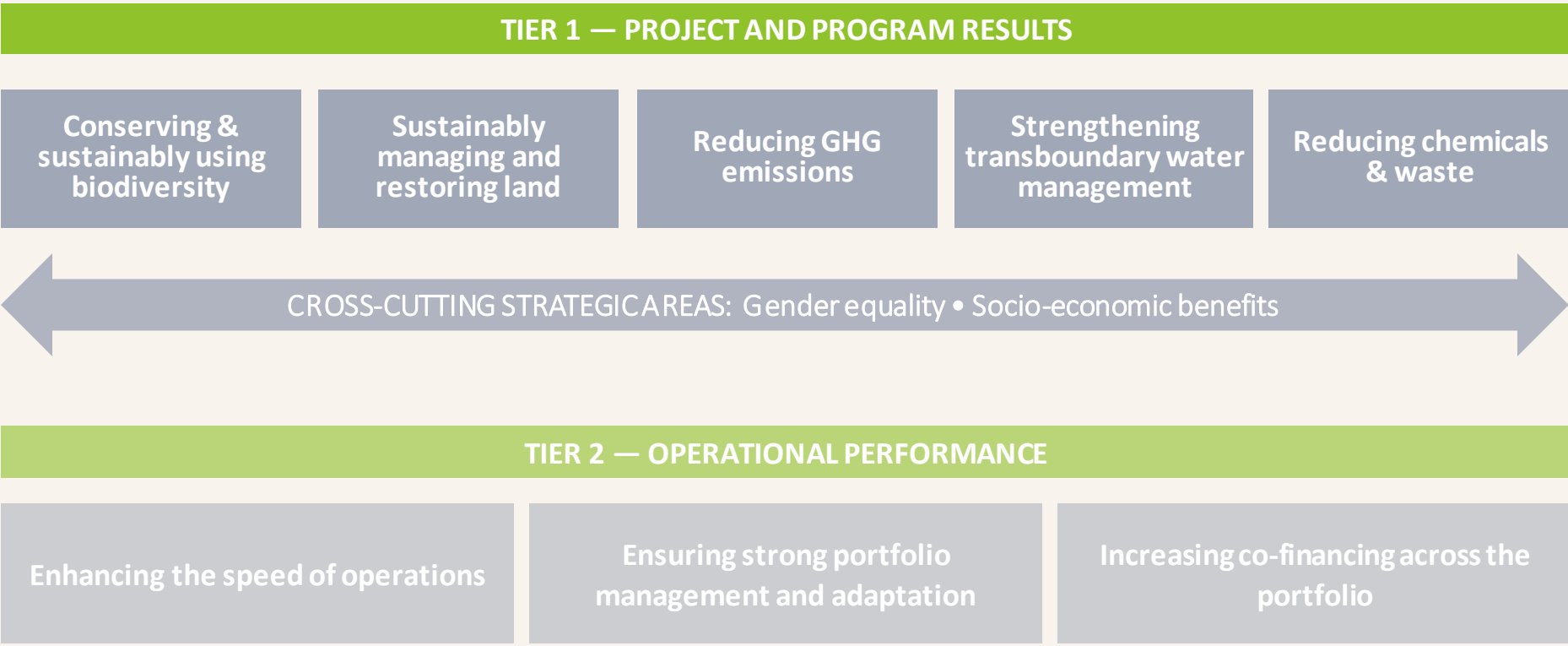
Increasing strategic focus on key programming areas





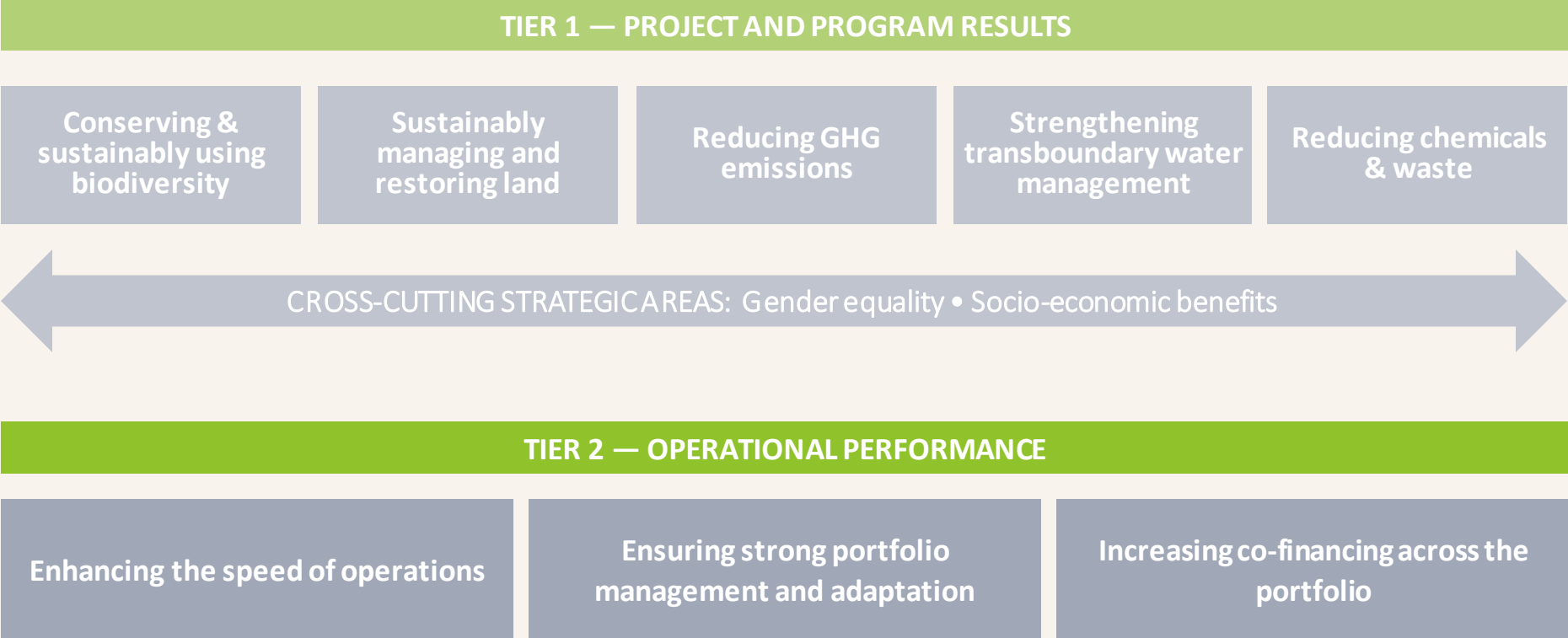
# The GEF-8 RMF strengthens the focus on delivering results

Increasing strategic focus on key programming areas



# Focusing on metrics that boost the partnership's impact

## Continuing the Portfolio Scorecard implementation



# Core indicators increase the focus on strategic priorities

Aligned to environmental challenges



Terrestrial protected areas for **conservation**



Marine protected areas for **conservation**



Area of **landscapes** restored



Area of **landscapes** under improved practices



Area of **marine habitat** under improved practices



**Greenhouse Gas Emissions** Mitigated



Number of **shared water ecosystems** under cooperative management



Over-exploited **marine fisheries** moved to more sustainable levels



Reduction, destruction, elimination and **avoidance of chemicals**



Reduction, **avoidance of emissions of POPS** to air

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CO-BENEFIT



Number of **direct beneficiaries** disaggregated by **gender**



# 30+ Sub-indicators support and inform core indicators

They include disaggregated and contextual indicators

- ▶ *Core indicator* —Reduction, elimination and avoidance of **chemicals of global concern and their waste** (metric tons of toxic chemicals reduced)

## AGGREGATE UP TO CORE INDICATOR

- Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and POPs containing materials and products removed or disposed (POPs type)
- Quantity of mercury reduced
- Hydrochlorofluorocarbons reduced or phased out

## BRING CONTEXT TO CORE INDICATOR

- Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste
- Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing, and cities





# Results on Gender

## Gender policy

- ▶ Enhance accountability and compliance
- ▶ Take gender into account during project preparation
- ▶ Action, results and lessons during implementation
- ▶ Conduct gender analysis and action plan

## Reporting on gender

- ▶ Access and control of natural resources
- ▶ Improve of women participation in decision making
- ▶ Socio economic benefits and services for women

# GEF-8 TARGETS & EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION FROM INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

CORE INDICATOR	GEF-8 TARGETS	EXPECTED IP CONTRIBUTION (%)
<b>CONSERVING &amp; SUSTAINABLY USING BIODIVERSITY</b>		
1 Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management	150 million ha	49
2 Marine protected areas created or under improved management	100 million ha	48
4 Area of landscapes under improved practices	195 million ha*	51
5 Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity	70 million ha	69
<b>SUSTAINABLY MANAGING AND RESTORING LAND</b>		
3 Area of land and ecosystems under restoration	10 million ha	64
<b>REDUCING GHG EMISSIONS</b>		
6 Greenhouse Gas emissions mitigated	1850 million metric tons of CO <sub>2</sub> e	51
<b>STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT</b>		
7 Shared water ecosystems under new or improved cooperative management	40	18
8 Globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels	2.1 million metric tons	1
<b>REDUCING CHEMICALS AND WASTE</b>		
9 Chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced	300 thousand metric tons	17
10 Persistent organic pollutants to air reduced	5900 grams of toxic equivalent	33

# GEF-8 RMF — Key Documents

Ensuring a consistent use of Core Indicators and approach to reporting

GEF-8 PROGRESS



ANNUAL UPDATE

FY2023  
Monitoring Report

GUIDELINES

Implementation of  
the GEF-8  
Results Measurement  
Framework



# The GEF Partnership has achieved significant impact

## Tangible results across environmental areas in FY22-23



### BIODIVERSITY

**97.9 million**

hectares of protected areas created or managed sustainably



### RESTORE LAND

**3.3 million**

hectares of land under sustainable land management



### MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE

**742.6million**

tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e in greenhouse gas emissions expected to be reduced



### MANAGE INTERNTL. WATERS

**8**

shared water ecosystems under cooperative management



### REDUCE CHEMICALS & WASTE

**11.6 thousand**

tons of chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced



# WE HAVE LOCATED THE ACTIVITIES OF 1000+ PROJECTS

We have developed an interactive platform: **GEF Geospatial Platform**

<https://www.thegef.org/maps>



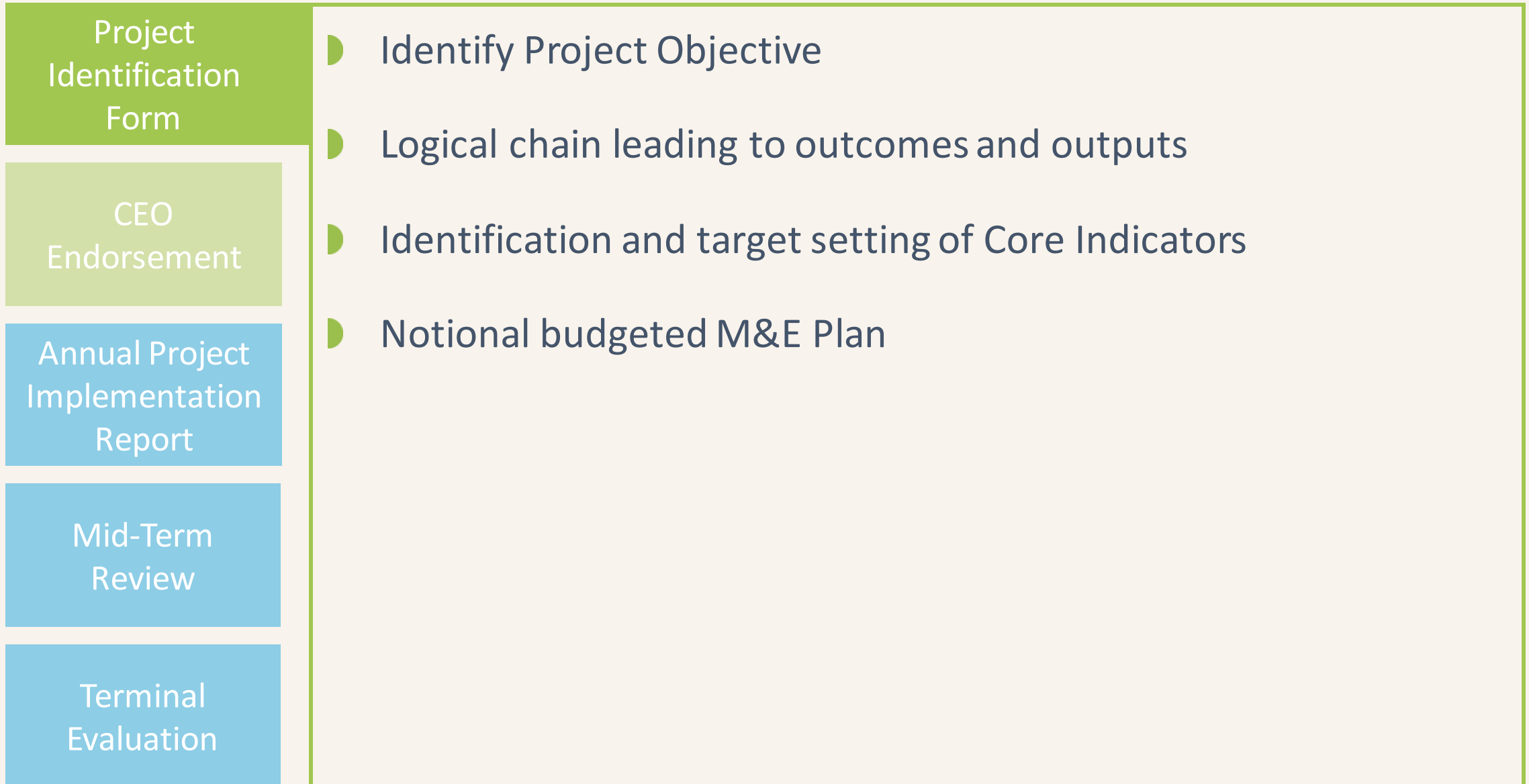
# OUTLINE

- 1 | The GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework
- 2 | Project M&E Framework

# WHAT IS MONITORING?

- ▶ Starts at the project design stage
- ▶ Standardized data collection and analysis on specific indicators
- ▶ Continuous and systematic in-house function
- ▶ Provides information on progress in the achievement of agreed objectives and the use of allocated resources
- ▶ System, structure and processes.

# The monitoring policy tracks implementation progress



# The monitoring policy tracks implementation progress

Project  
Identification  
Form

CEO  
Endorsement

Annual Project  
Implementation  
Report

Mid-Term  
Review

Terminal  
Evaluation

- ▶ Full results framework assessing the logical achievement of project objective, with outcomes and outputs
  - ▶ Indicators include baselines and targets
- ▶ Final Core Indicator targets informed by preparation
- ▶ Full M&E Plan
  - ▶ Plan to collect data: source, methodology, frequency, resp. entity
  - ▶ Timeline of activities (MTRs, TEs)
  - ▶ Budget



# The monitoring policy tracks implementation progress

Project  
Identification  
Form

CEO  
Endorsement

Annual Project  
Implementation  
Report

Mid-Term  
Review

Terminal  
Evaluation

## Update on key progress indicators:

- ▶ Project status
- ▶ Disbursement
- ▶ Ratings—Implementation Progress, Development Outcome and Risk
- ▶ Expected MTR and Terminal Evaluation dates
- ▶ Indicators include baselines and targets

## Qualitative update

- ▶ Project implementation progress and challenges
- ▶ Gender plan, Stakeholders engagement and Knowledge activities

# The monitoring policy tracks implementation progress

Project  
Identification  
Form

CEO  
Endorsement

Annual Project  
Implementation  
Report

Mid-Term Review

Terminal  
Evaluation

- ▶ Full MTR report
- ▶ Update on key progress indicators:
  - ▶ Actual core indicators results achieved
  - ▶ Progress in materializing co-financing
- ▶ Qualitative update
  - ▶ Project implementation progress and challenges
  - ▶ Gender plan, Stakeholders engagement, Environmental and social action plan and Knowledge activities
  - ▶ Lessons learned

# The monitoring policy tracks implementation progress

Project  
Identification  
Form

CEO  
Endorsement

Annual Project  
Implementation  
Report

Mid-Term  
Review

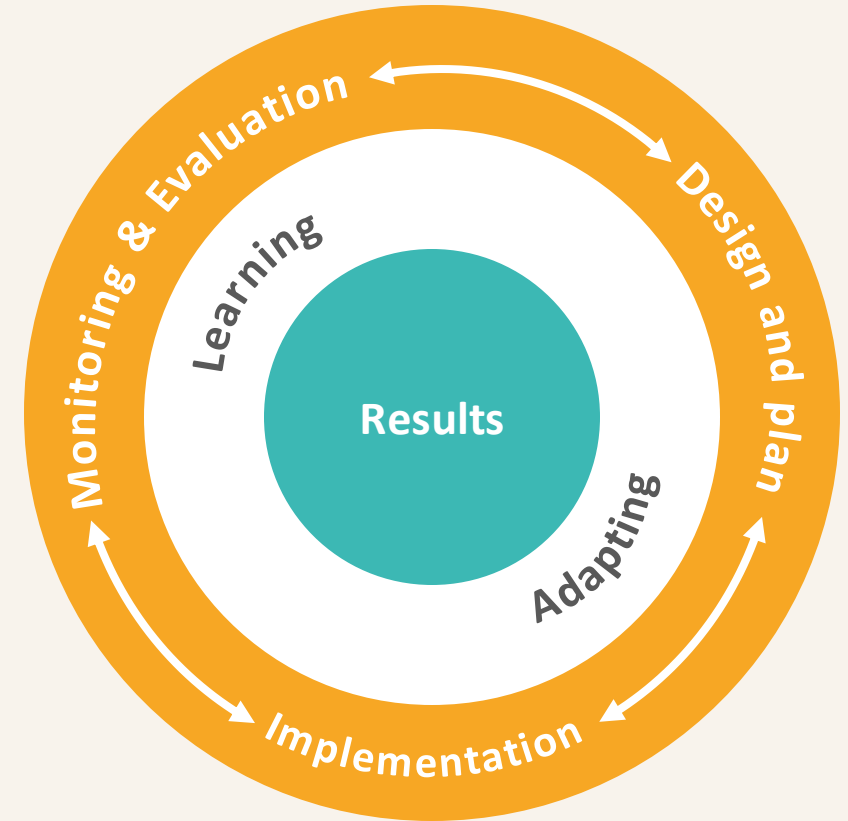
Terminal  
Evaluation

- ▶ Full Terminal Evaluation report
- ▶ Update on key progress indicators:
  - ▶ Final achieved core indicators results
  - ▶ Final co-financing materialized
- ▶ Qualitative update
  - ▶ Project implementation progress and challenges at completion
  - ▶ Gender plan, Stakeholders engagement and Knowledge activities
  - ▶ Lessons learned

# Strengthening M&E quality, Promoting adaptation

## Designing sound M&E frameworks and promoting adaptation

- ▶ Continue promote the use of theories of change to enhance learning and evaluability
- ▶ Design Impact Program M&E plan to facilitate aggregation across projects
- ▶ Better track adaptation during implementation
- ▶ Encourage the use of Mid-Terms Reviews for learning and solving implementation problems





# The GEF-8 Country Engagement Strategy





## **GEF-8 COUNTRY ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY**

The Country Engagement Strategy builds on three decades of GEF's work focused on empowering and supporting countries to achieve higher impact with GEF resources.

It combines the activities of the very successful Country Support Program (CSP) with upstream engagement with countries.

It also aims to bring us together as a partnership, build capacity, listen & learn

## UPSTREAM TECHNICAL MEETINGS

Upstream Technical Dialogues provide:

1. **Technical and strategic support** to GEF stakeholders and recipient countries to ensure delivery of Global Environmental Benefits.
2. **Technical upstream missions** to present the GEF-8 Programming Directions, the Integrated Programs, and the Focal Areas Strategies in a more direct way.
3. **Provide technical support** to countries during **portfolio development, project design, and project review** to enhance the quality of projects at entry and ensure the strongest country portfolio that advances the GEF-8 Results Framework



## NATIONAL DIALOGUES

National Dialogues convene all relevant national stakeholders in a country to jointly discuss and decide the programming of GEF resources and to promote policy coherence within each country. These National Dialogues on programming will complement the Upstream Technical Dialogues, as necessary.



## GEF WORKSHOPS

GEF Workshops include:

1. Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECWs)
2. Stakeholder Empowerment Series (SEs)
3. Thematic Workshops

## INTRODUCTION SEMINARS

Introduction Seminars provide training and relevant information for an **enhanced understanding of the GEF**, its policies and operations to new Agency staff, Operational Focal Points, selected stakeholders as well as new Convention Secretariat staff.



## CONSTITUENCY/PRE-COUNCIL MEETINGS

The **main tool** for **Council Members and Alternates** within a constituency to prepare for **decision making** at the GEF Council.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO OFPs

TO ENABLE THEM TO EFFECTIVELY **OVERSEE AND MONITOR THEIR GEF PORTFOLIO**. ACCESS TO THESE DEDICATED FUNDS IS OPTIONAL AND FLEXIBLE.





## KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND LEARNING

A GEF-wide Knowledge and Learning Strategy has been developed and approved in response to the IEO Evaluation of Knowledge Management in the GEF.

The Strategy aims to **enhance knowledge capture, exchange and learning** amongst all GEF Partners and stakeholders, including recipient countries.



## **GUSTAVO FONSECA YOUTH CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

- Graduate Studies Support
- Support to Field work in Conservation
- Support to participate in International Policy Meetings
- Youth Leaders Summits





Questions?



**Full-Sized Project (FSP):** over US\$5M

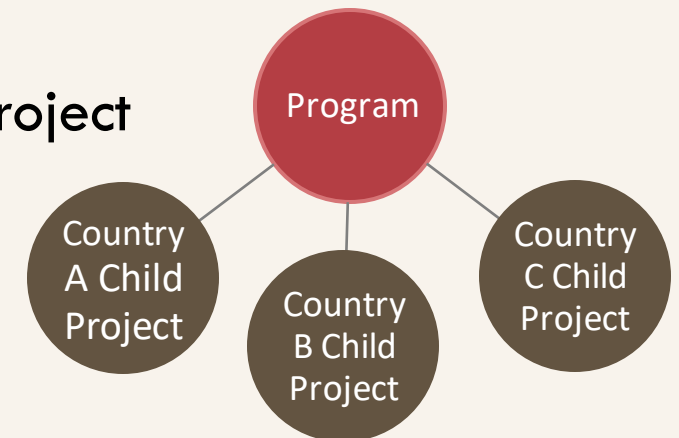
Approval by **Council** (twice a year & intersessional by mail)

**Medium-Sized Project (MSP):** US\$5M or less

Approval by **GEF CEO** (on a rolling basis)

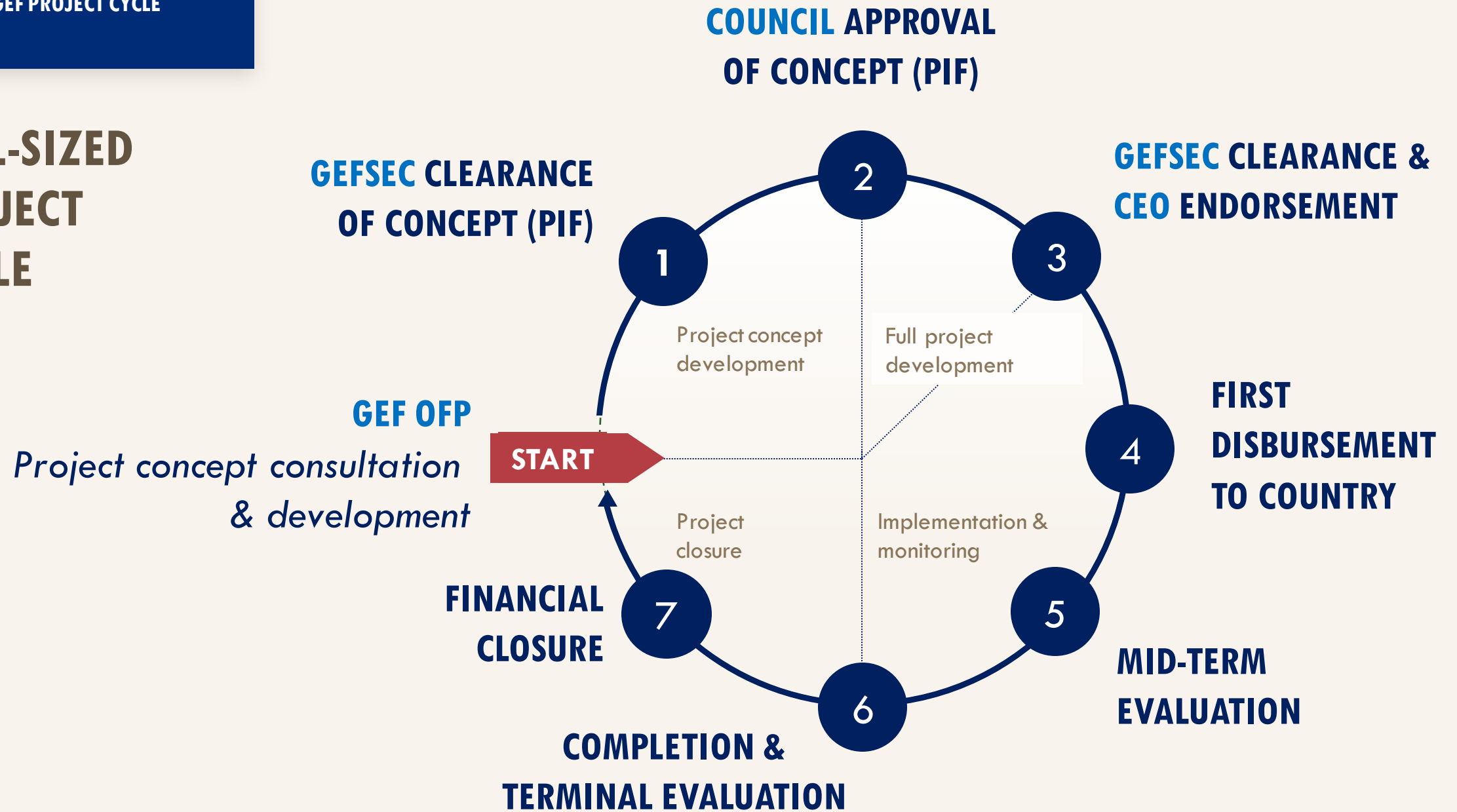
**Program:** longer term and strategic arrangement of individual interlinked projects that aim at achieving large-scale impact

**Child Project:** an individual project under Program



**PROJECT  
MODALITY**

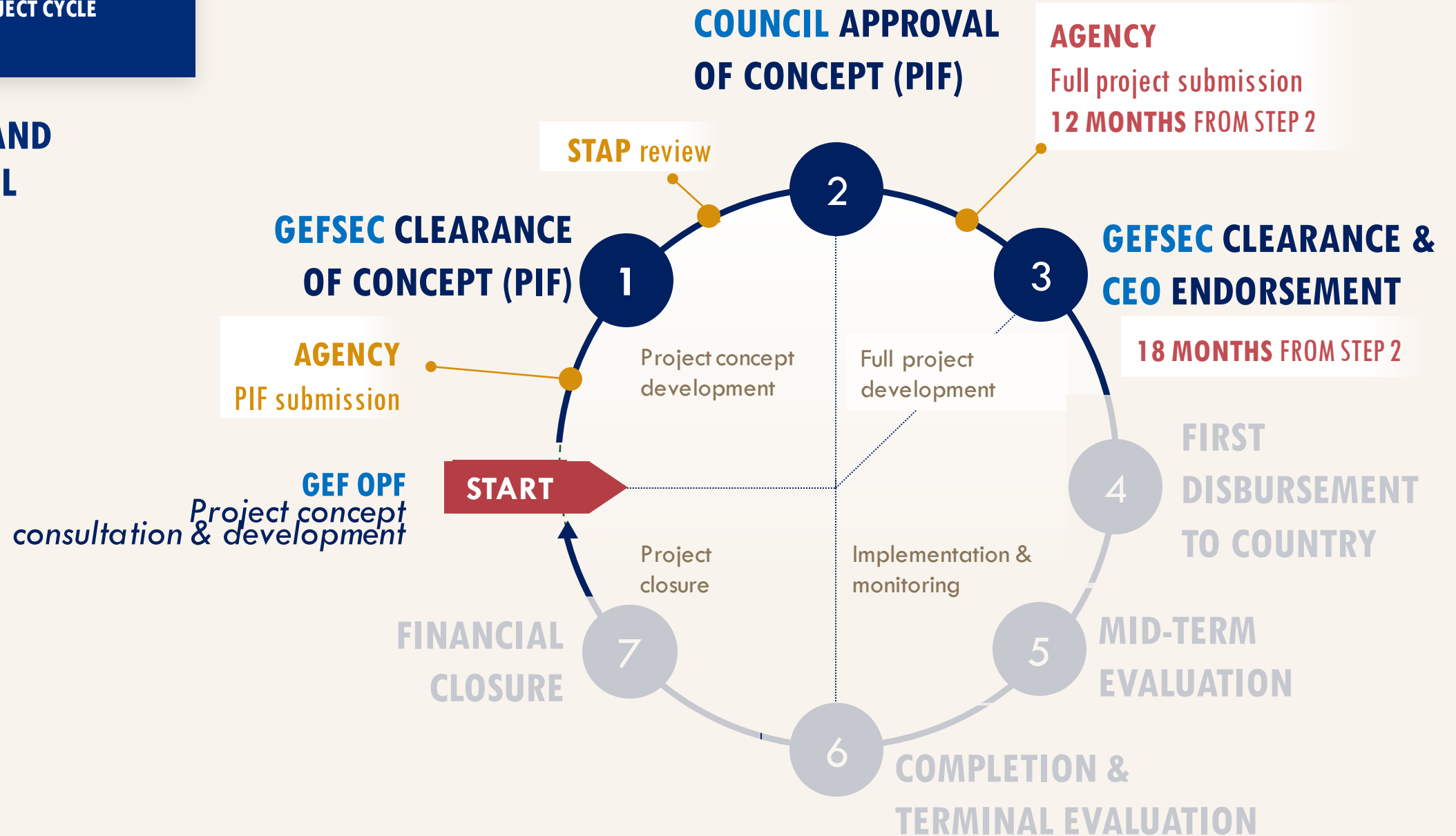
# FULL-SIZED PROJECT CYCLE





## REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS

FULL-SIZED PROJECT CYCLE



# PROJECT CANCELLATION

## FULL-SIZED PROJECT

### COUNCIL APPROVAL OF PROJECT CONCEPT (PIF)

*Project cancellation if CEO Endorsement Request (full project) not submitted in 12 months*

*Project cancellation if CEO Endorsement (final approval step) not obtained in 18 months*

SOFT DEADLINE

HARD DEADLINE

# PROJECT CANCELLATION POLICY

## FULL-SIZED PROJECT

**COUNCIL APPROVAL  
OF CONCEPT (PIF)**

*12 months*

**CEO Endorsement  
Request Submission**

*18 months*

**CEO Endorsement**

Unable to **SUBMIT CEO  
Endorsement Request** in time?

**OFP** or **Agency** (for Global/Regional projects) notifies the GEF CEO **prior to** the submission deadline.

Unable to **OBTAIN  
CEO Endorsement** in time?

**OFP** or **Agency** (for Global/Regional projects) submits Extension Request to the GEF CEO **prior to** the deadline.  
GEF CEO approves **only in an extraordinary event**, (e.g., war, pandemic) one-time extension up to 12 months.

# SEPARATION OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION & EXECUTION

**Implementation** entails the **oversight** of project execution to ensure that the project is being carried out in accordance with agreed standards & requirements.



**Execution** refers to the **management & administration** of the day-to-day activities of projects in accordance with specific project requirements in an agreement with the GEF Agency.



**Fiduciary Standards & Agency Fee Policy** mandate **separation** of implementation & execution functions to:

- avoid conflict of interest
- promote country ownership
- build capacity of national executing entities



# GEF POLICY FRAMEWORK



# POLICY REQUIREMENTS FOR GEF PROJECTS AND AGENCIES

**Gender Equality**

**Environmental &  
Social Safeguards**

**Stakeholder  
Engagement**

**Fiduciary Standards**

**Co-financing**

**Grievance Mechanism**

**GEF Policies & Guidelines:**

<https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/policies-guidelines>

# FIDUCIARY STANDARDS

## OBJECTIVE

To strengthen financial and programmatic accountability of the GEF by requiring that all GEF Agencies meet the agreed minimum fiduciary standards

## MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

### Project/Activity Processes & Oversight

- Project Appraisal Standards
- Procurement Processes
- Monitoring and Project-at-Risk Systems
- Project Completion and Financial
- Evaluation Function

### Governance Framework

- External Financial Audit
- Financial Management and Control Frameworks
- Oversight of Executing Entities
- Code of Ethics/Conduct for GEF Agency staff
- Internal Audit
- Investigation Function
- Hotline & Whistleblower
- Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

1

Environment  
and Social  
Assessment  
Management  
and Monitoring

2

Accountability,  
Grievance and  
Conflict Resolution

3

Biodiversity Conservation

4

Restriction on Land Use & Involuntary  
Resettlement

5

Indigenous Peoples (FPIC)

6

Cultural Heritage

7

Resource Efficiency & Pollution Prevention

8

Labor and Working Conditions

9

Community Health, Safety & Security



# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

## OBJECTIVE

To prevent, mitigate and manage adverse impacts that GEF projects may have on people or the environment

## REQUIREMENTS

### PIF (Project Concept)

- Initial screening of the **relevant types of risks and potential impacts** of project or program (among 9 Minimum Standards)
- Initial **overall risk classification**
- **Plan** during PPG stage

### CEO Endorsement/Approval (Project Development)

- **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment**
- **Environmental and Social Management Framework/Plan**
- Indigenous Peoples Plan etc.

### PIR/Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

- Progress, challenges and outcomes of the implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plan

# GENDER EQUALITY

## OBJECTIVE

To ensure equal opportunities for women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from GEF-financed interventions

## REQUIREMENTS

### PIF (Project Concept)

Indicative information on gender considerations in project description and relevant project components

### CEO Endorsement/Approval (Project Development)

- Detailed **gender analysis & action plan**
- Gender-responsive measures for each project component
- Gender-sensitive indicators, sex-disaggregated targets

### Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

- Information in PIRs, MTRs, TEs progress on gender-sensitive indicators, results
- Share good practice, methodologies and lessons learned



# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

## OBJECTIVE

To promote the inclusive and meaningful participation of stakeholders in GEF's governance and operations

## REQUIREMENTS

### PIF (Project Concept)

- Consultations during project development
- Information on how stakeholders will be engaged and means of engagement

### CEO Endorsement/Approval (Project Development)

- Stakeholder Engagement Plan

### Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

- Progress, challenges and outcomes of the implementation of Stakeholder Engagement Plan

# CO-FINANCING

## OBJECTIVE

Set out the definitions, level of ambition and requirements for Co-Financing in GEF projects

## REQUIREMENTS

- Co-financing is **required** for **Full-sized & Medium-sized Projects**.
- Co-financing is encouraged for Enabling Activities.
- **No minimum co-financing ratio** on a project level.

**PIF**  
(Project Concept)

**CEO Endorsement/Approval**  
(Project Development)

**Midterm/Terminal Evaluation**  
(Project Implementation)

**INDICATIVE**  
co-financing

**CONFIRMED**  
co-financing

**ACTUAL**  
co-financing

# GEF CONFLICT RESOLUTION SYSTEM

## FOUNDATION AND PURPOSE

An overview

### GEF Policies on Safeguards and Fiduciary Standards require:

- Agency have independent accountability and grievance systems that meet **minimum standards**
- Agencies report on cases and new developments in real time

### PURPOSE

- Voice and right of **recourse** for project affected people
- Enlist their expertise for **accountability** and better **results**
- Identify and address potential issues of **fraud** and **corruption**

### *Prompt* reporting to Council

- **Transparency** and **confidentiality**

## REFERENCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

For **additional information** please see:

- GEF website: **Conflict Resolution [here](#)**
- Annual Reports on Cases and Trend from [Nov. 2020](#), [Nov. 2021](#) and [Nov. 2022](#)

### Contact information:

- Peter Lallas, GEF Conflict Resolution Commissioner, [plallas@thegef.org](mailto:plallas@thegef.org)

## CASES AND LESSONS

**54 CASES IN PAST THREE YEARS** (about half now closed) in two groups:

- **Safeguards-related cases:** environmental or social harm, lack of consultations, land disputes, FPIC, human rights . . .
- **Fiduciary-related cases:** misuse of funds, procurement, whistleblower protection

**SOME LESSONS AND TRENDS** (reported in annual reports)

- Much to be learned and understood –importance of listening
- Be proactive in response; impartially and independently!
- Confidentiality and no retaliation
- Even well-intended projects can cause unanticipated harm
- Integral to stakeholder engagement and better projects
- Need to help build awareness that people have a place to go





# GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

# GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM

- A flagship corporate program of the GEF
- Demand-driven grants to local communities
- Direct financing and capacity development to CSOs and CBOs
- Local conservation, development, and livelihoods results
- Global Environmental Benefits

**Decentralized and country-level delivery of more than 26,000 community-led projects around the world since 1992**







## **New Features SGP in GEF-8**

- **Open up SGP implementing roles of SGP Core**
- **Eliminate the SGP upgrading country policy**
- **Recalibrate cost efficiency measures and reporting**
- **Launch novel two new CSO Initiatives, focused on youth, women and IPLCs**

# SMALL GRANTS CORE PROGRAM

Aligned with GEF-8 Strategy & Integrated Programs

## Landscape and Seascape Approach

### Thematic Priorities

- Community-based management of threatened ecosystems and species
- Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries and Food Security
- Low-Carbon Energy Access Co-Benefits
- Local to Global Coalitions for Chemicals and Waste Management
- Catalyzing Sustainable Urban Solutions

### Cross-cutting priorities

- Enhance social inclusion and engagement of IPLC, women and youth
- Facilitate Government-CSO-Private Sector collaboration
- Support capacity building
- Advance knowledge management and learning



# SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM RESOURCE ALLOCATION

US\$155 Million



*Resources are operationalized through two tranches split 50/50*

- 1<sup>st</sup> tranche open to UNDP only*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche open later during the GEF-8 period once selection of new Agencies process is completed*

**CSO  
INITIATIVES  
US\$ 20M**

**1**

**All countries** can access SGP Core Resources

**2**

SGP Core Resources are allocated **equally**  
**\$937,500**

**3**

Countries are encouraged to utilize **STAR**





# SGP 2.0 CSO INITIATIVES

## MICROFINANCE INITIATIVE

**Support Microfinancing Institutions** to facilitate microenterprises' access to finance for climate and environmental solutions

- **Pilot new GEF models** to engage and support civil society actors to catalyze environmental actions and solutions

## CSO CHALLENGE PROGRAM

**Support competitive opportunities** for local civil society organizations to access financial and technical resources to scale up innovative environmental solutions

- **Support innovation** of youth, women, Indigenous Peoples and local communities in LDCs and SIDS
- **Capitalize on expertise** of the GEF expanded Agency network and specialized organizations

# SGP 2.0 - Key Timeline and Outputs

- 1** **Tranche 1** CEO endorsement, which includes 99 countries, is currently under the review process.
- 2** **FAO and CI** officially selected as two additional SGP Implementing Agencies in December 2023.
- 3** **Tranche 2 roll out** (\$67.5M): provisions and next steps communicated to GEF Operational Focal Points on February 2, 2024.
- 4** **Operational Guidelines** for the SGP 2.0 in GEF-8 have been developed by the GEF Secretariat and shared with SGP Implementing Agencies.
- 5** **2 CSO Initiatives**, for \$10M each, will be launched in the second semester of 2024

**THANK YOU**







- **Context for GEF-8**
- **GEF-8 strategy and programming directions**
  - Integrated Programs
  - Focal Areas

#### **Q&A**

- **GBFF**
  - Programming Directions
  - Project Cycle



# GLOBAL RESPONSES AND COMMITMENTS to seek bold results by 2030 and beyond

Commitments by countries representing ~45% of the world's emissions to achieve **carbon neutrality** by 2050

Sustainably manage 100% of the **ocean** area under national jurisdiction by 2025

Commitment to prevent, halt and reverse the **degradation of ecosystems** - 350 million hectares of degraded landscapes into restoration

High ambition coalition commitment to bring 30% of **land and oceans** under protection

Phase out **POPs** controlled by the Stockholm Convention with time bound phase out dates during the period 2025 – 2036

Develop the Task Force on Nature-related **Financial Disclosures**

Phase out of **mercury** in products and industrial process by 2025



**Calls for a GEF-8 Strategy that is**

*systemic and  
transformational and  
responds to urgency  
of raising ambition*



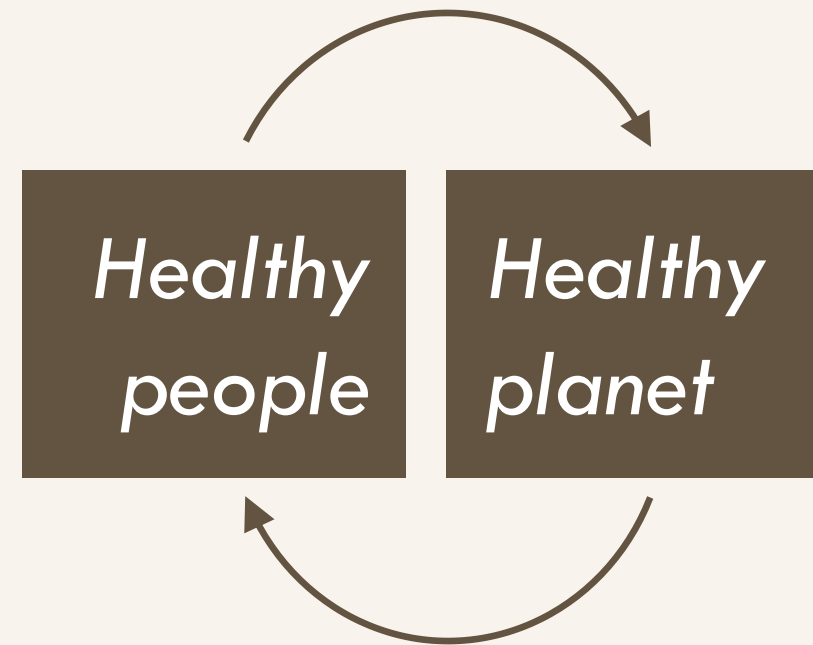
**A longer-term vision for the GEF**

*To halt nature loss and ensure that the world is nature-positive by 2030 and carbon neutral and pollution-free by 2050*





## GEF-8 embracing a post-COVID-19 framework



*...protecting nature and restoring health of the environment that can and needs to underpin the health and well-being of human societies.*



# GEF-8 FOCUS ON INTEGRATION FOR IMPACT AND SCALE

## *Pathway to Transformative Change for Blue and Green Recovery*

*Country projects and portfolios should focus on maximizing these characteristics:*

### **Integration of actions across sectors, focal areas, or drivers**

Address drivers of environmental degradation at global or regional scales;

Avoid leakage and promote policy coherence

Work across scales and sectors

### **Transformative Investments**

Promote greater private sector engagement;

Innovate and take measured risk for higher return

### **Ensure Durable Outcomes**

Design for resilience in the face of uncertainty

Build Institutional and financing to sustain impact

# GEF-8: HEALTHY PLANET, HEALTHY PEOPLE

*Unified action towards 2030 Goals and Commitments*

## FOCAL AREAS

Biodiversity

Climate change mitigation

Land degradation

International waters

Chemicals and waste

## INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

Food Systems

Ecosystem Restoration

Sustainable Cities

Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Blue and Green Islands

Clean and Healthy Ocean

Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development

Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator

Wildlife Conservation for Development

Elimination of Harmful Chemicals from Supply Chains

## GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Mobilizing the Financial Sector for Environmental Goals through Blended Finance

Community Action for Global Transformation - Small Grants Program and Beyond

## CROSS-CUTTING

Circular economy • Nature-based solutions • Gender responsiveness • Resilience • Private sector engagement



# INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

GEF-8



# GEF-8 INTEGRATED PROGRAMS

## *Pathway to Transformative Change for Blue and Green Recovery*

*Integrated programs are defined by sharing several of the following characteristics:*

1

**Integration** of focal areas and approaches

2

Deliver **multiple** global environmental benefits

3

Complement country-level investments with **transboundary** action and impact at regional or global scales

4

Promote a global **platform** for coordination and technical support to country projects

5

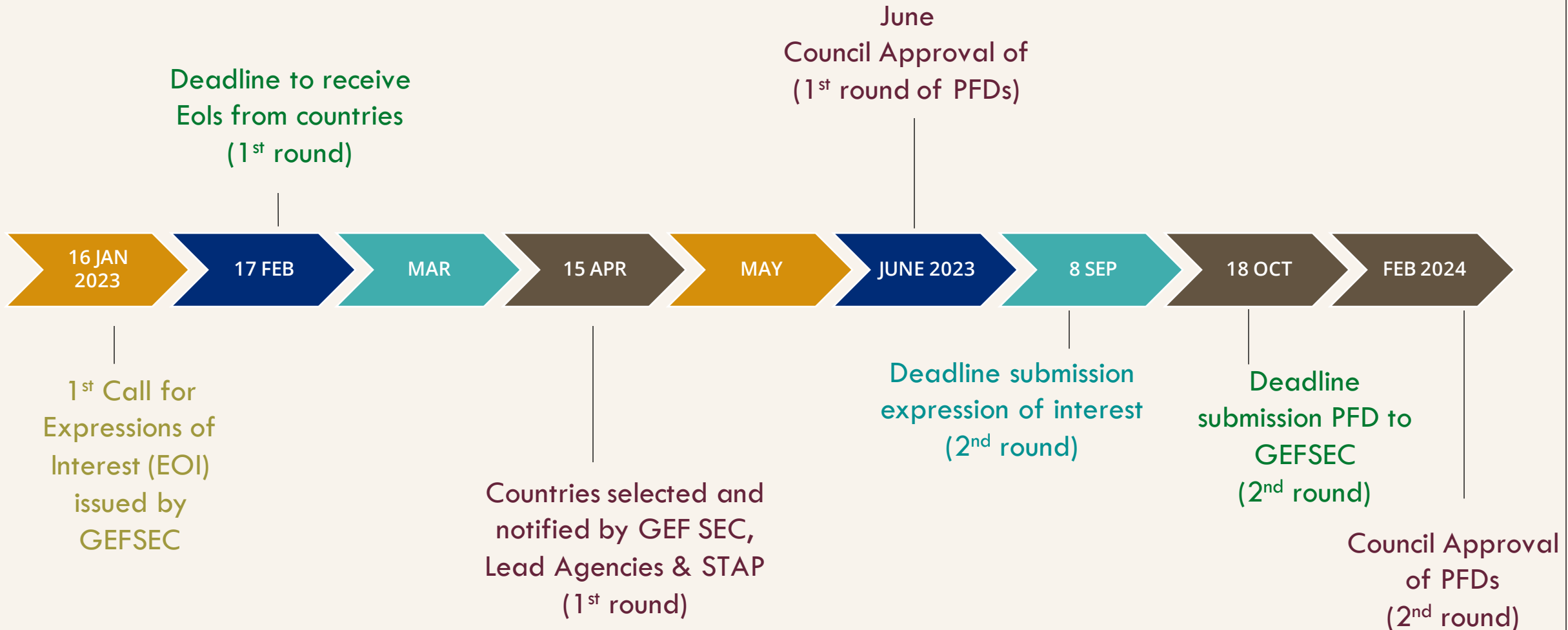
Provides incentives for **country** participation

6

Delivers more **outcomes** than individual projects on same topic



# INTEGRATED PROGRAM PROCESS



# INTEGRATED PROGRAM CHILD PROJECTS

*Caribbean Constituency*

## Blue and Green Islands

St Lucia  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Belize  
Cuba

## Food Systems

Grenada

## Sustainable Cities

Belize  
Cuba

## Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains

Trinidad and Tobago

## Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution

Dominican Republic

# INTEGRATED PROGRAM CHILD PROJECTS

## *Caribbean Constituency*

### Critical Forest Biomes

Guyana  
Suriname

### Ecosystem Restoration

Haiti

### Net Zero Nature Positive Accelerator

Trinidad and Tobago

### Clean and Healthy Oceans

Trinidad and Tobago  
St. Kitts and Nevis  
Grenada



# FOCAL AREAS

Sri Lanka

GEF-8



# LAND DEGRADATION

## GOAL

*To avoid, reduce, and reverse land degradation, desertification and mitigate the effects of drought.*

## Major objectives

Sustainable land management.  
Landscape restoration.  
Address Desertification, Land Degradation and Drought (DLDD), particularly in drylands.  
Improve the enabling policy and institutional framework for LDN.

## Major contributions to GEBs and MEAs

Specific objective on addressing DLDD issues.  
Increased emphasis on land-based interventions for drought mitigation.



# CLIMATE CHANGE

## GOAL

*Support developing countries to make transformational shifts towards net-zero GHG emissions and climate-resilient development pathways.*

## Major objectives

### **1. Innovation, technology transfer, and enabling policies** for mitigation options with systemic impacts.

- 1.1. Accelerate the efficient use of energy and materials.*
- 1.2. Enable the transition to decarbonized power systems.*
- 1.3. Scale up zero-emission mobility of people and goods.*
- 1.4. Promote Nature-based Solutions with high mitigation potential.*

---

### **2. Enabling conditions to mainstream mitigation concerns** into sustainable development strategies.

- 2.1. Support capacity-building needs for transparency under the Paris Agreement through the CBIT.*
- 2.2. Support relevant Convention obligations and enabling activities.*

# BIODIVERSITY

## GOAL

*Globally significant biodiversity conserved, sustainably used, and restored.*

## Major objectives

To improve conservation, sustainable use and restoration of natural ecosystems.

To effectively implement the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols.

To increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity.

## Major contributions to GEBs and MEAs

Comprehensive implementation support for the Global Biodiversity Framework

Integrated landscape/seascape management.

Domestic resource mobilization.



# INTERNATIONAL WATERS



## GOAL

*Supporting nations in transboundary cooperation in shared marine and freshwater ecosystems through 3 step process:*

- *Assess ecological & socioeconomic conditions*
- *Agree on a regional strategic action program (SAP)*
- *Implement the SAP*

## Major objectives

Support **Large Marine Ecosystems** to accelerate Blue Economic Development.

Advance management in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (**ABNJ**).

Enhance water security in **freshwater** ecosystems.

## Major contributions to GEBs and MEAs

### GEBs:

New or improved marine protected areas (**MPAs**)

More sustainable **fisheries** and aquaculture

Reduced **pollution**, including from wastewater, agricultural run-off and plastics

Strengthened **collaboration** among countries with shared water body



# CHEMICALS AND WASTE

## GOAL

*Prevent pollution from harmful chemicals and waste particularly POPs and Mercury.*

## Major objectives

Policy reform to cleaner chemistry and eliminate existing waste.

Preventing a future build up of harmful chemicals and waste in the environment.

Eliminating harmful chemicals and waste in current waste streams and that are stockpiled in existing infrastructure and processes.

## Major contributions to GEBs and MEAs

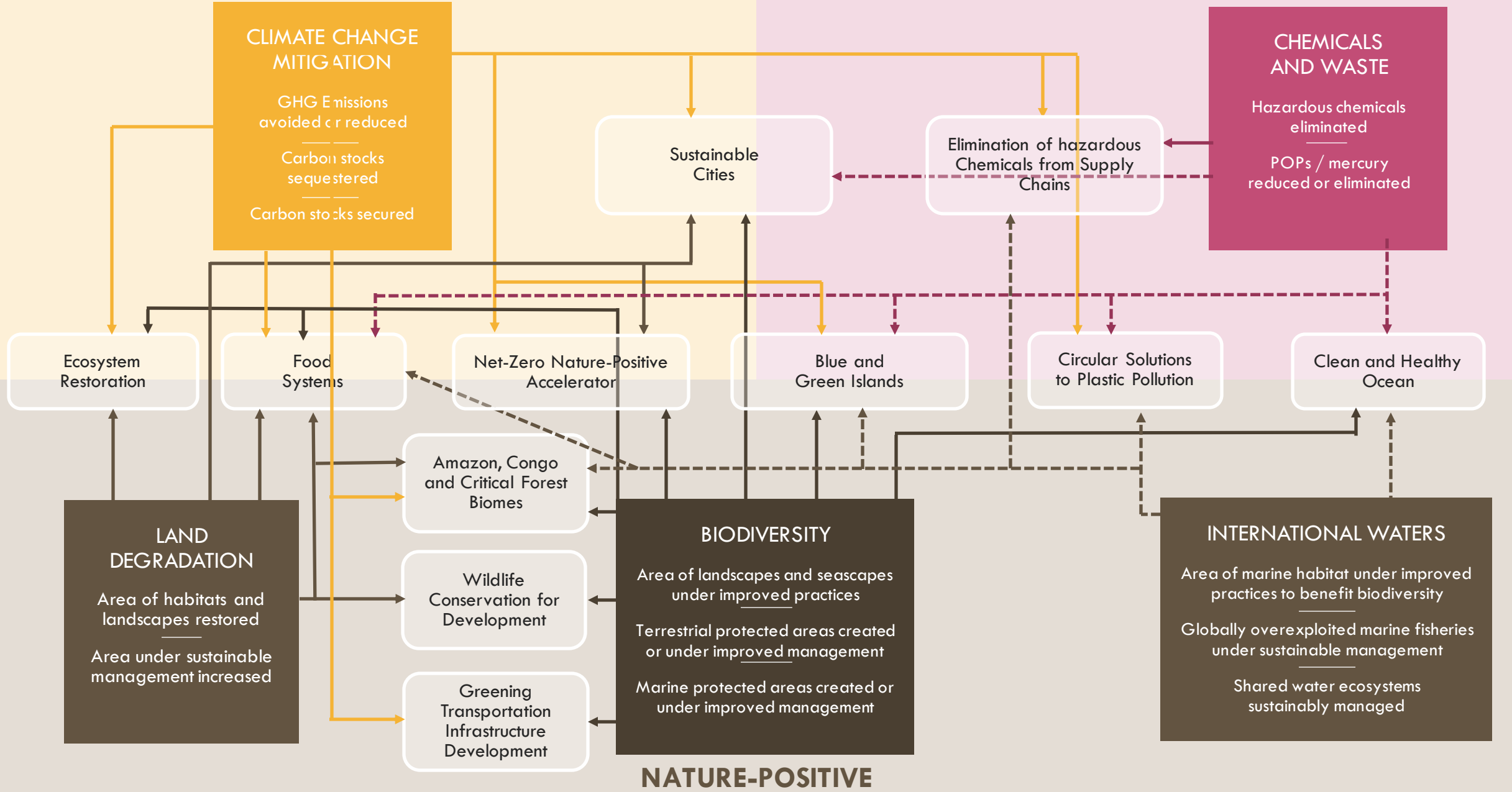
Focus on gaps preventing sound management and to prevent a future buildup of chemicals in the environment

Harmonized approaches across jurisdictions to allow transparency in supply chains



# CARBON-NEUTRAL

# POLLUTION-FREE



# NATURE-POSITIVE



Questions?





**FIRST  
PROGRAMMING  
TRANCHE of the  
GLOBAL  
BIODIVERSITY  
FRAMEWORK  
FUND**

---



# Background: COP 15 Decisions on GBF Fund

- GEF requested to establish... **a Special Trust Fund to support GBF implementation (GBF Fund)**, “...to **complement existing support and scale up financing** to ensure its timely implementation, taking into account the need for **adequacy, predictability, and the timely flow** of funds.”
- GEF requested to establish **a dedicated and accessible fund in 2023** that can quickly mobilize and disburse new and additional resources from all sources, commensurate with the ambition of the GBF.
- GEF requested to make arrangements to allow the GBF Fund to **receive financing from all sources in addition to ODA, to design and implement a simple and effective project cycle for easy and efficient access**, and calls upon the GEF to approve these decisions at the next possible session of the Council and its ratification at the next possible session of the Assembly in 2023.

# GBF Fund Establishment and Operationalization



## Fund Establishment (June 2023)

- **GBFF establishment**
  - Governance arrangements
  - Funded by all sources
  - Program/window structure
- **Programming Directions**
  - Define Action Areas for eligible activities
  - Clarify alignment with GEF Trust Fund support



## Ratification and Set-up

- **7<sup>th</sup> GEF Assembly**
  - Ratified GBFF establishment decision, fund launched
- **Donor contributions**
  - Approx. \$225 million to date
- **Trust Fund established**
  - World Bank as Trustee



## 1<sup>st</sup> GBFF Council (February 2024)

- **Resource Allocation Policy**
  - Competitive access, with financing “tranches”
  - Each tranche with multiple calls
- **Project Cycle Policy**
  - Different and streamlined from GEF project cycle
- **Business Plan and Budget**

GBFF Operator Programming

# GBFF ACTION AREAS

ACTION AREA	DESCRIPTION
1	Biodiversity conservation, restoration, land/sea-use and spatial planning
2	Support to IPLC stewardship and governance of lands, territories, and waters
3	Policy alignment and development
4	Resource mobilization
5	Sustainable use of biodiversity
6	Biodiversity mainstreaming in production sectors
7	Invasive alien species
8	Capacity building and implementation support for the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols



# GBFF ALLOCATION SYSTEM

## PROGRAMMING TRANCHES

*First \$211 million tranche opened upon Allocation Policy approval  
Future programming tranches triggered by an additional \$250 million  
in confirmed pledges or 18-month time limit*

1

## BD DIFFERENTIATION THROUGH COUNTRY-SPECIFIC CEILINGS

*Share of GBFF resources a given country may receive limited to  
twice its share of the GEF-8 BD STAR allocation*

2



# 2

## Country ceilings and maximum funding request(s) in a tranche

### Country C

Ceiling: 2.36%

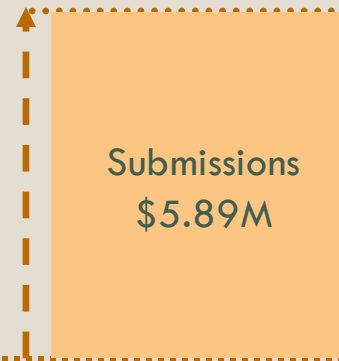
Maximum dollar value:  
\$4.97M



**TRANCHE 1**  
GBFF capitalization (\$211M)

Maximum dollar value:

$$\$5.89M = 2.36\% \times \$461M - \$4.97M$$



**TRANCHE 2**  
GBFF capitalization (\$461M)

# 2

## Country ceilings and maximum funding request(s) in a tranche

### Country C

Ceiling: 2.36%

Maximum dollar value:  
\$4.97M

Approvals  
\$0

**TRANCHE 1**  
GBFF capitalization (\$211M)

Maximum dollar value:  
\$10.87M = 2.36% x \$461M-0

Submissions  
\$10.87M

**TRANCHE 2**  
GBFF capitalization (\$461M)

# GBFF ALLOCATION SYSTEM

## PROGRAMMING TRANCHES

*First \$211 million tranche opened upon Allocation Policy approval  
Future programming tranches triggered by an additional \$250 million  
in confirmed pledges or 18-month time limit*

1

## BD DIFFERENTIATION THROUGH COUNTRY-SPECIFIC CEILINGS

*Share of GBFF resources a given country may receive limited to  
twice its share of the GEF-8 BD STAR allocation  
Maximum dollar value of funding request(s) for Tranche 1 published*

2

## SELECTION ROUNDS AT PPG REQUEST STAGE

*Selection based on resource availability, portfolio-level targets  
and 7 agreed criteria*

3

### SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Potential to generate Global Environmental Benefits
2. Alignment with the GBFF Programming directions and advancing the GBF implementation
3. Alignment with the NBSAP and Biodiversity Finance Plan or similar instruments to identify national and/or regional priorities
4. Level of policy coherence and coordination across multiple ministries, agencies, the private sector and civil society
5. Balance amongst regions
6. Mobilization of private sector and philanthropies' resources
7. Engagement with and support to IPLCs

# 3

## Selection rounds at the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) request stage

### PPG request

Submission - CEO Approval

### Council Approval of Work Program

Implementation  
1st Disbursement

#### SUBMISSION

- Secretariat opens a submission window
- Agencies submit PPG requests **within country-specific ceilings**

#### REVIEW

- Secretariat reviews all eligible PPG requests based on the agreed 7 **selection criteria**

#### CEO APPROVAL

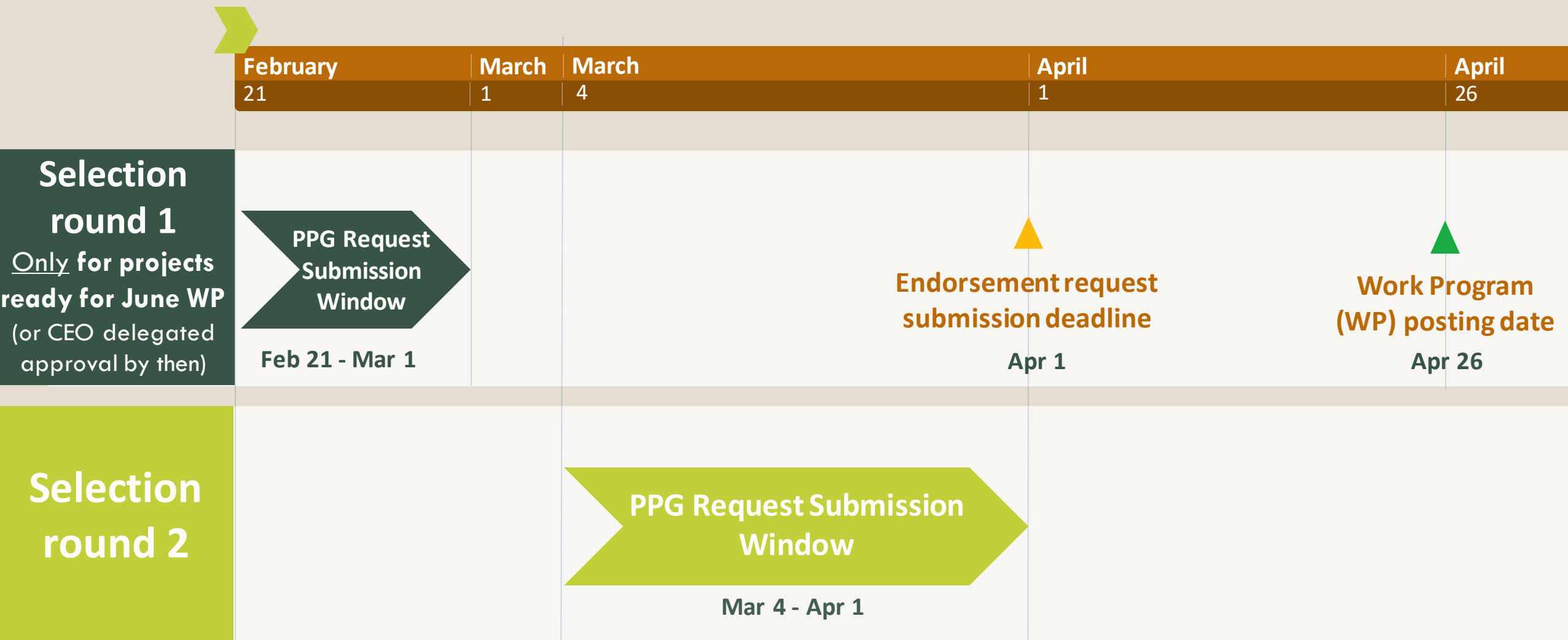
- Based on the review, **resource availability** and the three **portfolio-level targets**, the **CEO approves all or a subset** of the submitted PPG requests
- Resources for the full project value set aside upon PPG approval



# 3

## Selection rounds at the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) request stage

### First two selection rounds



# GBFF ALLOCATION SYSTEM

## PROGRAMMING TRANCHES

*First \$211 million tranche opened upon Allocation Policy approval  
Future programming tranches triggered by an additional \$250 million  
in confirmed pledges or 18-month time limit*

1

## BD DIFFERENTIATION THROUGH COUNTRY-SPECIFIC CEILINGS

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twice its share of the GEF-8 BD STAR allocation  
Maximum dollar value of funding request(s) for Tranche 1 published*

2

## SELECTION ROUNDS AT PPG REQUEST STAGE

*Selection based on resource availability, portfolio-level targets  
and 7 agreed criteria  
First PPG request submission windows: Feb 21 - March 1; March 4 - April 1*

3

## THREE PORTFOLIO-LEVEL TARGETS

- *36%+3% allocated to SIDS/LDCs*
- *A full 25% to be programmed through IFIs*
- *Aspirational share of 20% by 2030 to support actions by IPLCs*

4





# **GBFF CYCLE AND PPG REQUEST**



## COP GUIDANCE

“ Request the GEF to design and implement a project cycle with a simple and effective application and approval process, providing easy and efficient access to resources of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund ”



# GBFF PROGRAMMING DIRECTIONS

*(approved June 2023)*

---

**1**

*A single project modality  
namely “GBF Fund Project”*

**2**

*The GEF Secretariat (through the  
CEO) approves a simplified PPG*

**3**

*Agencies prepare the project  
document within 9 months  
of PPG approval*

**4**

*Fully prepared projects will be  
presented to Council for approval as  
part of formal Work Programs*

**5**

*STAP will provide comments prior to  
council. Council can provide comments up  
to 2 weeks after GBFF Council meetings*

**6**

*Project Implementation  
starts with first disbursement*

# GBFF PROGRAMMING DIRECTIONS

*(approved June 2023)*

## KEY PROVISIONS

---



*require an advanced analysis of implementation arrangements prior to approval;*



*modify the cancellation policy for a new milestone attached to the first disbursement.*

# A STREAMLINED PROJECT CYCLE

## *GEF Trust Fund Project Cycle*

**PIF  
Submission**

**Council Approval  
of Work Program  
as presented by the  
CEO (PIFs)**

**Project  
Preparation**

**CEO  
endorsement**

**Implementation/  
1st disbursement**

## *GBFF Project Cycle*

**PPG Submission/  
CEO Approval  
of PPG / Project  
Preparation**

**Council Approval  
of Work Program  
(prepared projects) /  
CEO Endorsement**

**Implementation/  
1st Disbursement**

# A FASTER PROJECT CYCLE

*12 months*

**PPG Submission/  
CEO Approval  
of PPG / Project  
Preparation**

*12 months*

**Council Approval  
of Work Program  
(prepared projects)  
/ CEO Endorsement**

**Implementation/  
1st Disbursement**



# PROJECT CANCELLATION PROVISIONS

*12 months*

*12 months*

PPG Submission/  
CEO Approval  
of PPG / Project  
Preparation

Council Approval  
of Work Program  
(prepared projects)  
/ CEO Endorsement

Implementation/  
1st Disbursement

*Unable to submit CEO Endorsement  
Request 9 months after PPG approval ?*

OFP (for national projects) or Agency (for Global/  
Regional projects) submits a **Request for Extension  
invoking force majeure** to the GEF CEO prior to  
the deadline (max. 3 months)

*Unable to start implementation 12  
months after CEO Endorsement?*

Project cancelled.  
Subject to funds availability, the Agency  
**may resubmit the project** for CEO  
Endorsement within one year from the  
effective date of cancellation



Questions?





# PROJECT CYCLE CARD GAME



# Project Life-Cycle Exercise

This activity is designed to visually create a GEF project and its life-cycle based on IPs, focal area objectives, deliverables and results.







# Project Life-Cycle Exercise

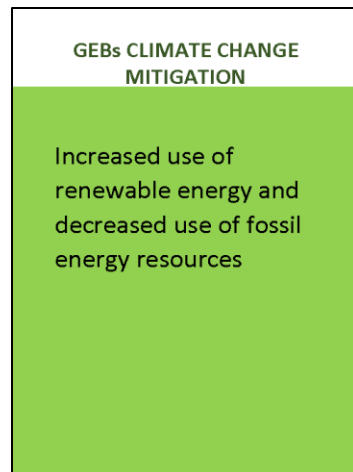
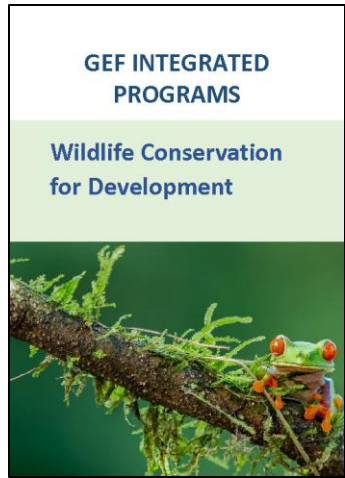
**Step 1:** Agree on a project.

**Step 2:** Use the cards to illustrate the project, the targets (Results) and where key deliverables appear in the project life-cycle





# Project Life-Cycle Cards



## There are 6 types of cards

1. IP cards
2. Focal Area Objective cards
3. Agency cards
4. Target cards
5. GEB cards
6. Timeline and Deliverable cards



# Project Life-Cycle Exercise

- **Begin by deciding on a project** – it can be existing, or one created on the spot.
- Choose the **focal areas and objectives and IP** (if applicable) by laying out the cards on the table to create a visual representation of the project life-cycle.
- Select which **Agency(s)** to use
- Select which **Targets and GEB** that are being addressed
- Use the **timeline and deliverables cards** to layout the order that actions need to take place. – *Such as PIF creation, CEO Endorsement, Stakeholder Consultations, MTR, TE, etc.*



**Questions?**