



GEF EXPANDED CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOP

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
March 2024



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

DAY 2 (TUESDAY)

AGENDA

- POLICY COHERENCE
- BILATERAL MEETINGS (Country representatives only)/
POLICY COHERENCE ROUNDTABLES
- NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT & PRIVATE SECTOR
ENGAGEMENT
- GEF COMMUNICATION STRATEGY
- LUNCH
- INTERACTIVE DISCUSSIONS
 - Coordination at Country Level – OFPs, Convention
Focal Points, CSOs, Implementing Agencies, Executing
Agencies
 - Steering Committee, CSO Inclusion
- BRIEF ON FIELD TRIP
- GEF INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE



POLICY COHERENCE IN GEF OPERATIONS





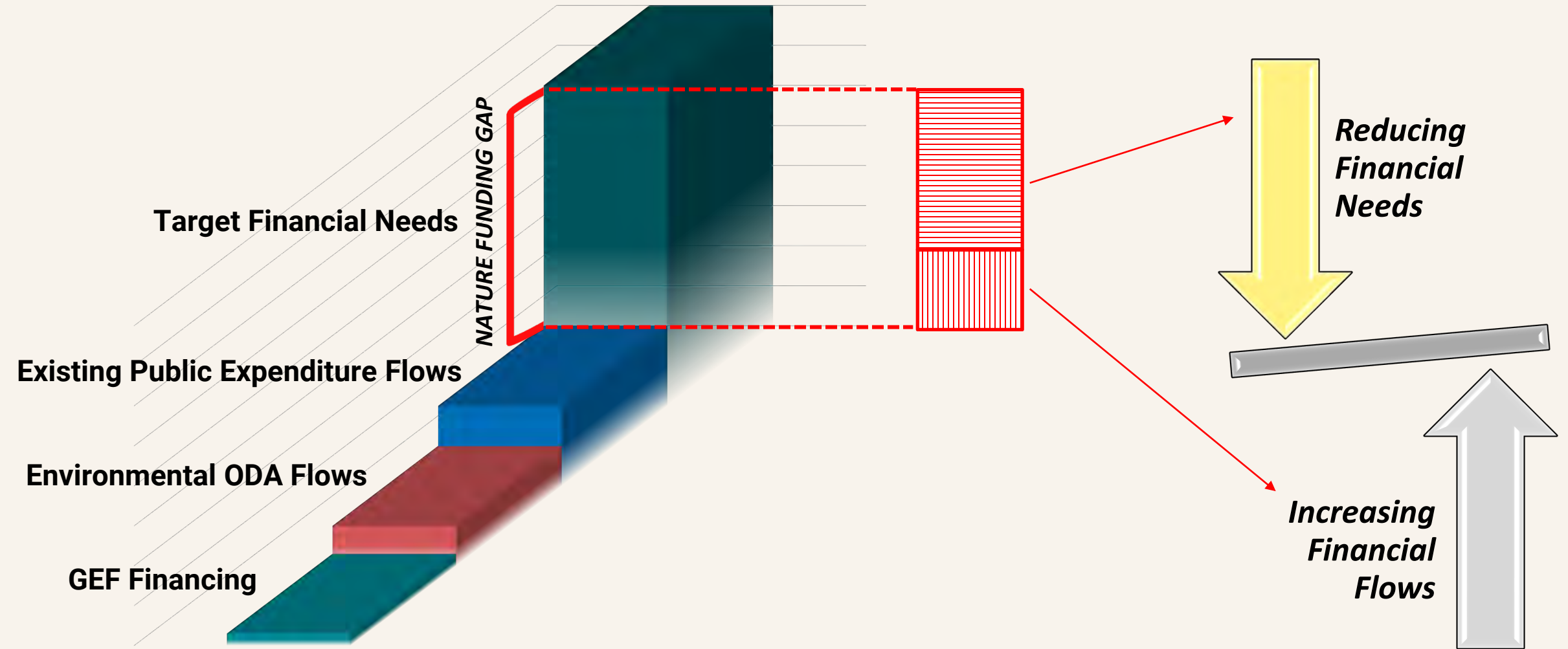
Policy Coherence

“the systematic promotion of mutually reinforcing policy actions across government departments and agencies, creating synergies towards achieving the agreed objectives”





Closing the Nature Funding Gap



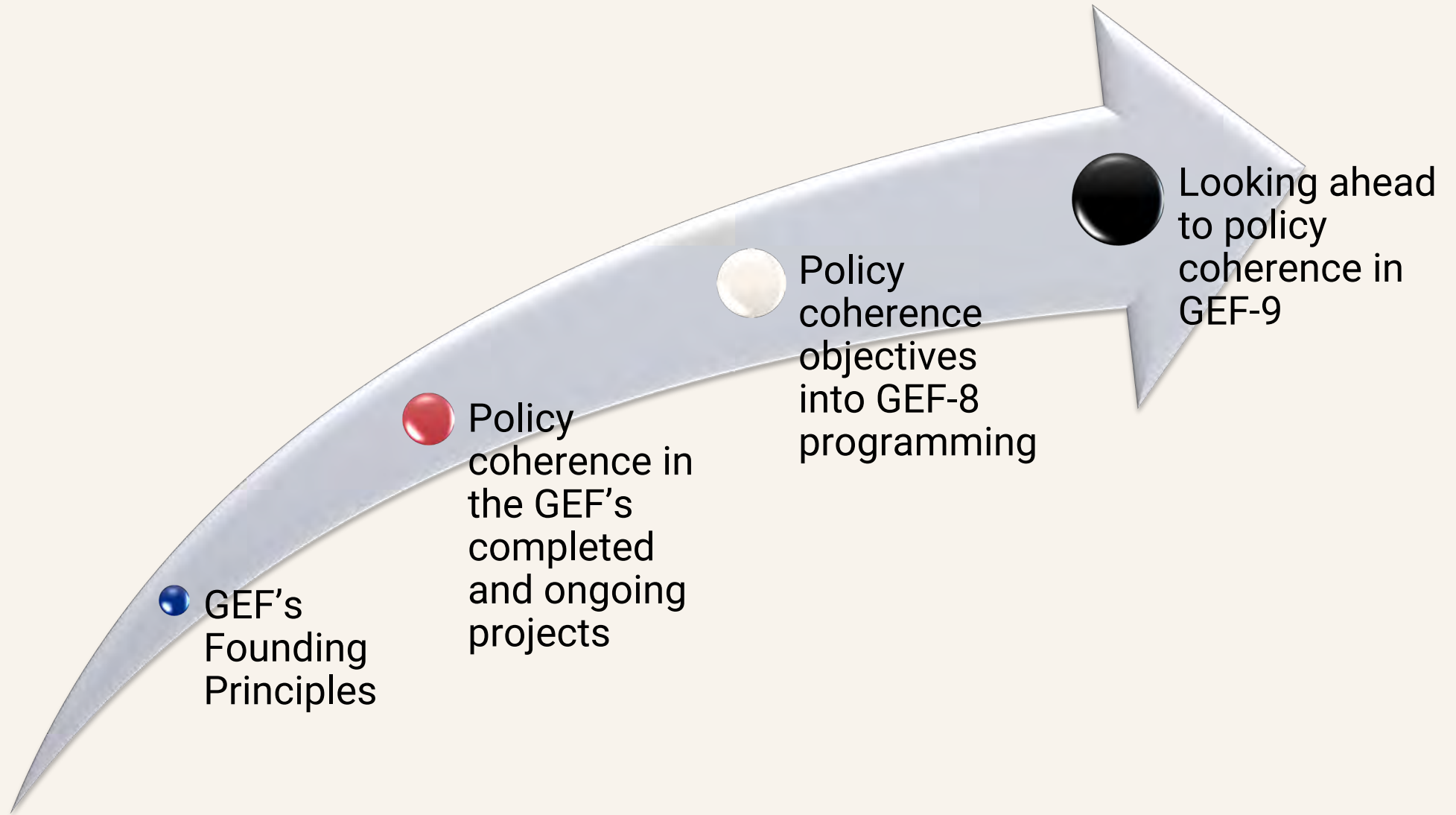


The Critical Role of Policy Coherence in GEF's Work

- “whole-of-government” and “whole-of-society” approach
- Cross-sectoral, cross-ministerial, and cross-institutional collaboration
- Align, catalyze and mobilize resources from different sources
- Enabling environment and eliminate perverse incentives that conflict with nature conservation efforts
- Narrow the nature funding gap

Policy coherence is an essential component of maximizing the benefits of nature investments and the sustainability of those benefits.

GEF has an Advancing Agenda on Policy Coherence



"Policy Coherence for Global Environmental Benefits"

- GEF-7 MSP
- Columbia, Mongolia, and Zambia – members of the Conservation Caucus (members of Legislature)

identify approaches and promote mutually reinforcing legal frameworks and alignment of financial resources for global biodiversity benefits

identify approaches and opportunities for policy coherence

conduct country-level pilot studies to increase policy coherence through technical reviews and legislative processes, and

conduct knowledge-management and communications activities

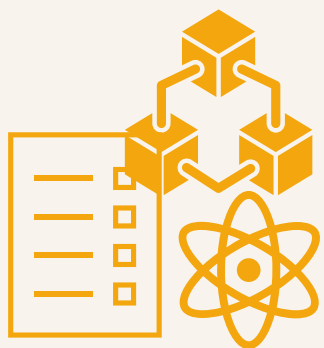


Policy Coherence in GEF Operations

Mandate from GEF Council (October 2023)



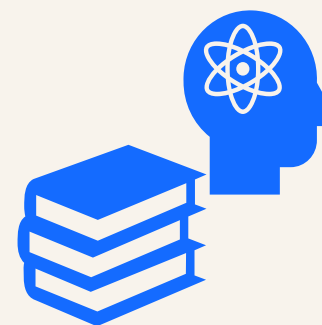
Policy Coherence in GEF Operations



Mainstreaming into
GEF-8 design and
implementation
Dedicated financing
activities



National and
agency dialogues
National Steering
Committees



Knowledge
activities and
products



Assessing GEF
portfolio
Tools and indicators

QUESTIONS?



Round Tables with Countries	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
9:30 – 10:00			
10:00 – 10:30			
10:30 – 11:00			
	Policy Coherence Interactive Discussion		

Policy Coherence Session

- 1) Examples of policy coherence and/or policy alignment for environmental benefits in your country.
- 2) What are the main challenges in the advancement of policy coherence for environmental benefits in your country?
- 3) Are there any specific government department(s) or level where this agenda would be the most beneficial to focus on?
- 4) What role do you think the GEF can have in the advancement of national policy coherence?



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF Blended Finance Program (Non-Grant instrument)

March 2024

Hydrogen H₂



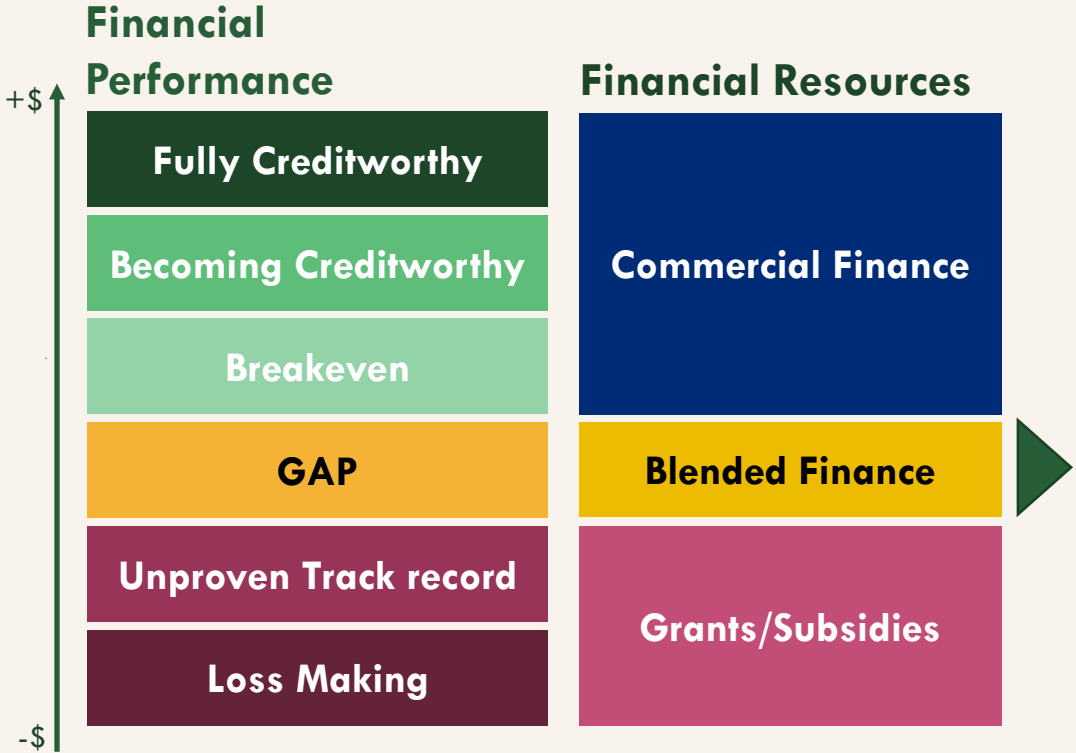
1. GEF Blended Finance Program (Non-Grant Instrument)

- What is Blended Finance?
- Two entry points
- Terms and conditions
- Eligibility/selection criteria
- Case projects
 - Rhino Bond
 - Debt for nature conversion facility

2. Private Sector Engagement



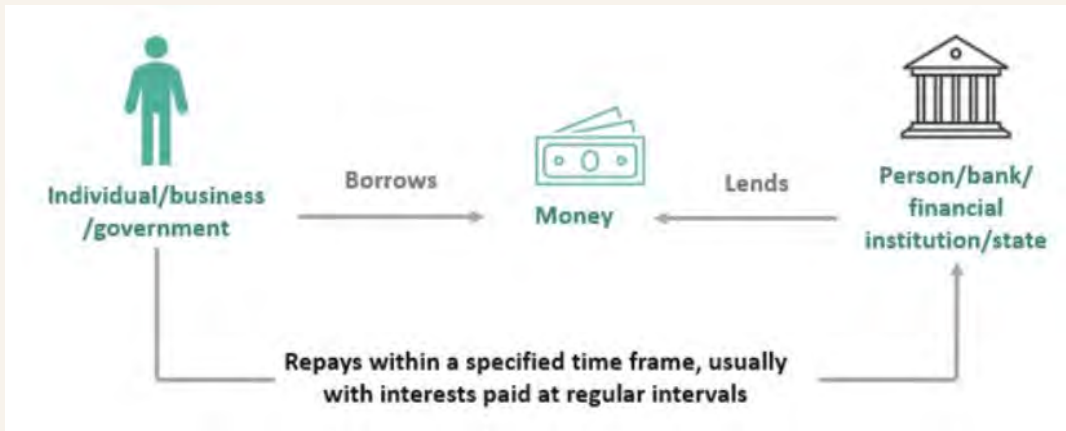
What is Blended Finance?



Blended Finance is an investment mechanism filling the gap between *grants* and *commercial finance*. It is used in projects which commercial banks cannot finance due to *high risk*.



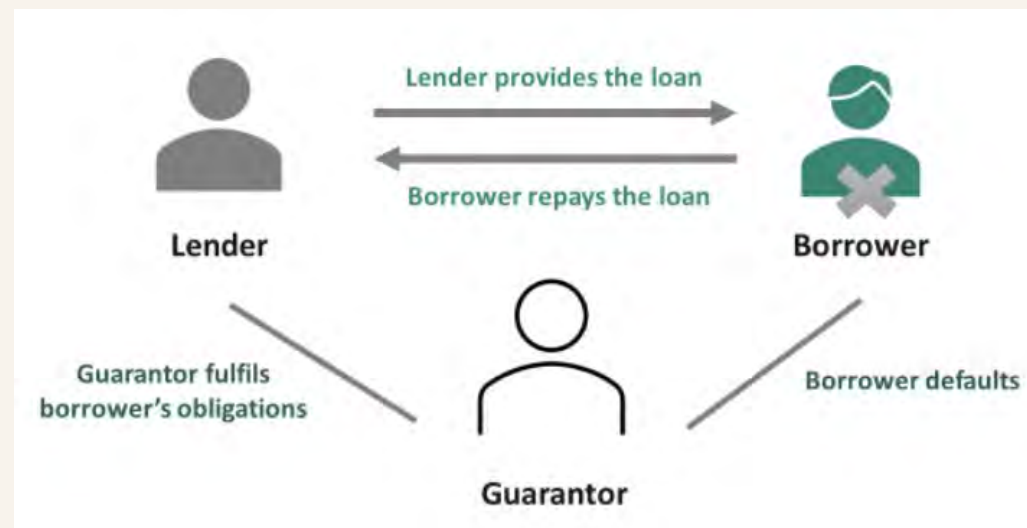
Debt: Money lent for repayment later, usually with interest. Concessional debt has favorable terms (longer payback period, lower priority for payback) or lower interest rates relative to market conditions

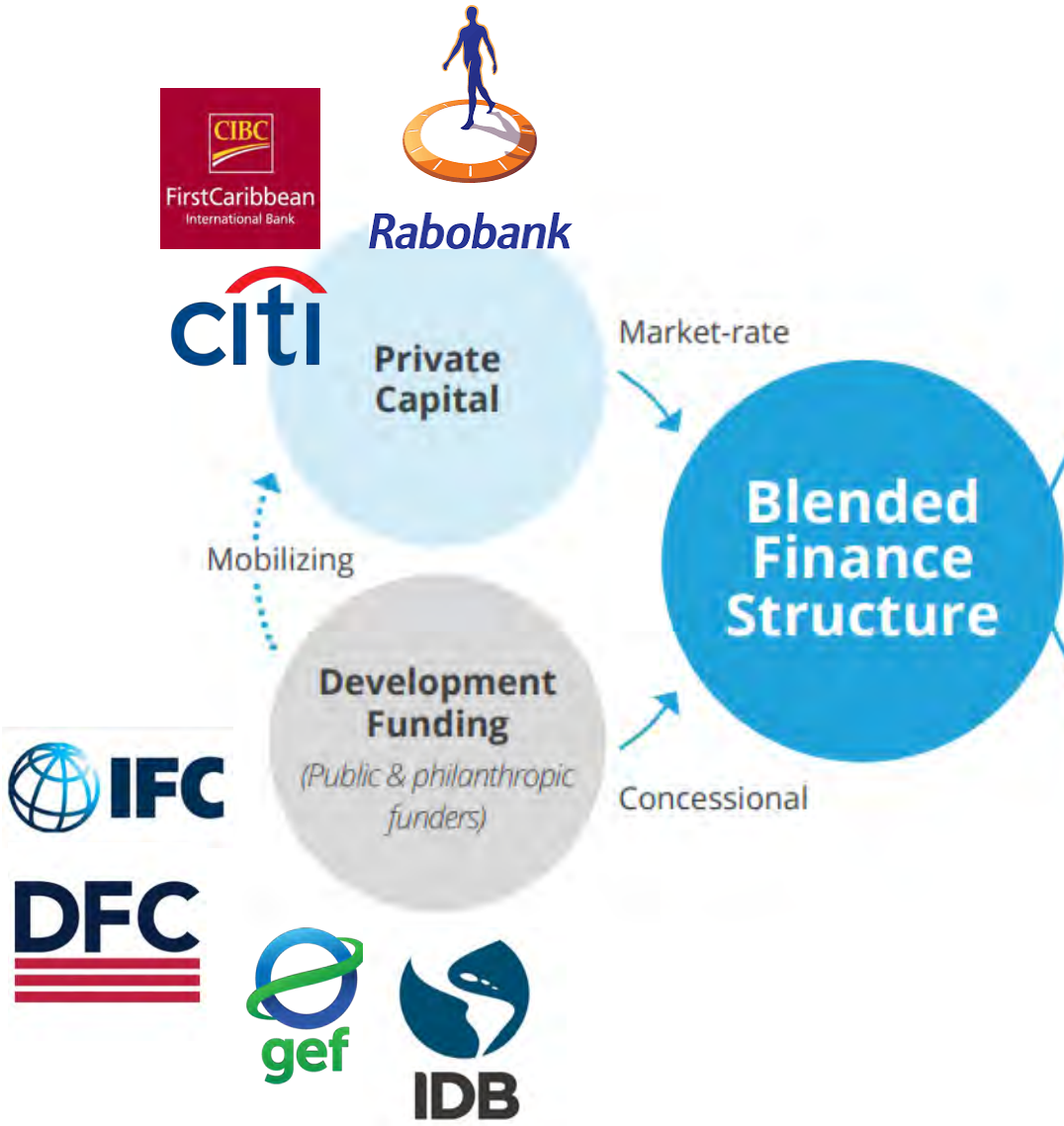


Equity: Instrument providing ownership in a company. GEF would accept higher risk for lower financial returns in exchange for environmental impact.



Guarantee: Instrument protecting investor's losses from various forms of risk (credit/performance).





EXAMPLE STRUCTURES

Private equity or debt funds with concessional public or philanthropic funding attracting institutional investment



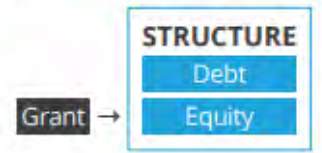
Bond or note issuances with concessionally priced guarantees or insurance from public or philanthropic funders



Grant funding from public or philanthropic funders to build capacity of investments to achieve expected financial and social return



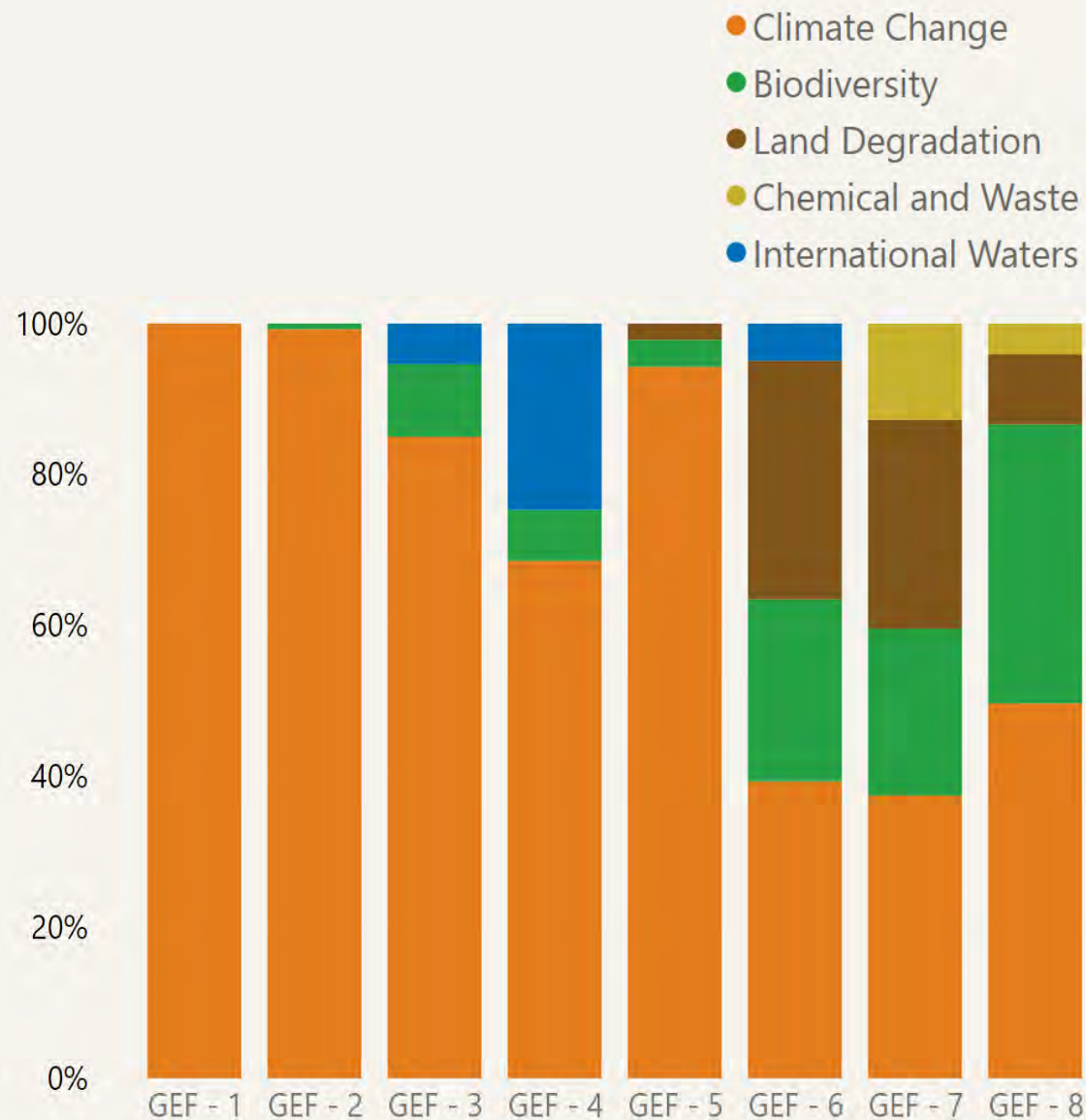
Grant funding from public or philanthropic funders to design or structure projects to attract institutional investment



History of GEF Non-Grant Instrument

Goal	Mobilize private sector investment in projects with high potential to generate GEBs
Definition	Investment has the potential to generate reflows

- **GEF** has used non-grant instruments to de-risk investment **since its inception**.
- **A separate NGI set-aside** was created in GEF-4, which increased the **expectation of reflows** to the GEF Trust Fund.
- Since inception, among 105 projects approved by the Council, \$313M invested in 28 projects with potential reflow of \$327M with co-financing of \$4.4 billion
- **High co-financing ratios since GEF-5** achieving 1:18.3 in average.





USE OF NON-GRANT INSTRUMENTS: 2 ENTRY POINTS

	GOAL	FEATURES	PROJECTS
“BLENDED FINANCE PROGRAM” (NGI SET-ASIDE)	Mobilize private sector investment	Investment has potential for generating reflows back to the GEFTF Separate Call for Proposals (CfP) and rules for selection of projects	NGI window GEF-7 supported projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>GEFID 9370 Meloy Fund (CI)</i>• <i>GEFID 10330 Wildlife Conservation Bond (WB)</i>
STAR OR IW/CW ALLOCATION	Mobilize public/private sector investment	Investment reflows stay in the country Selection and allocation depend on Country priorities.	GEF-3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>GEFID 2108 Philippines Sustainable Energy Finance Program (WB)</i>



TERMS AND CONDITIONS NGI (GEF/C.63/12, FI/PL/02)

Financial products

Risk mitigation products, Equity, Debt,
Convertible and contingent instruments,
Grant for Technical Assistance

Minimum Concessionality*

Should be justified and documented

* Means recipients of concessional finance would not fully self-finance the initiative without GEF support, to avoid crowd-out other sources of financing

Financing Amount

< \$15M

(exception for global/regional project
with high impact)

Maximum maturity

< 20 years

Currency

Local currencies are acceptable
with risk and hedging strategy
disclosed and quantified



Eligibility Criteria

**Alignment with GEF-8
Programming Directions**

**Compliance with GEF Agency
eligibility requirements**

Geography

Modalities

**Capacity to report
reflows**



Selection Criteria

Scalability

**Appropriate and
enhanced
co-financing ratio**

**Financial
innovation**

**High financial
additionality**

**Capacity to
generate reflows**

**Innovative use of
proceeds**

**Global Environmental
Benefits**

Innovative use of Financial Instruments for BD (GEF-8)

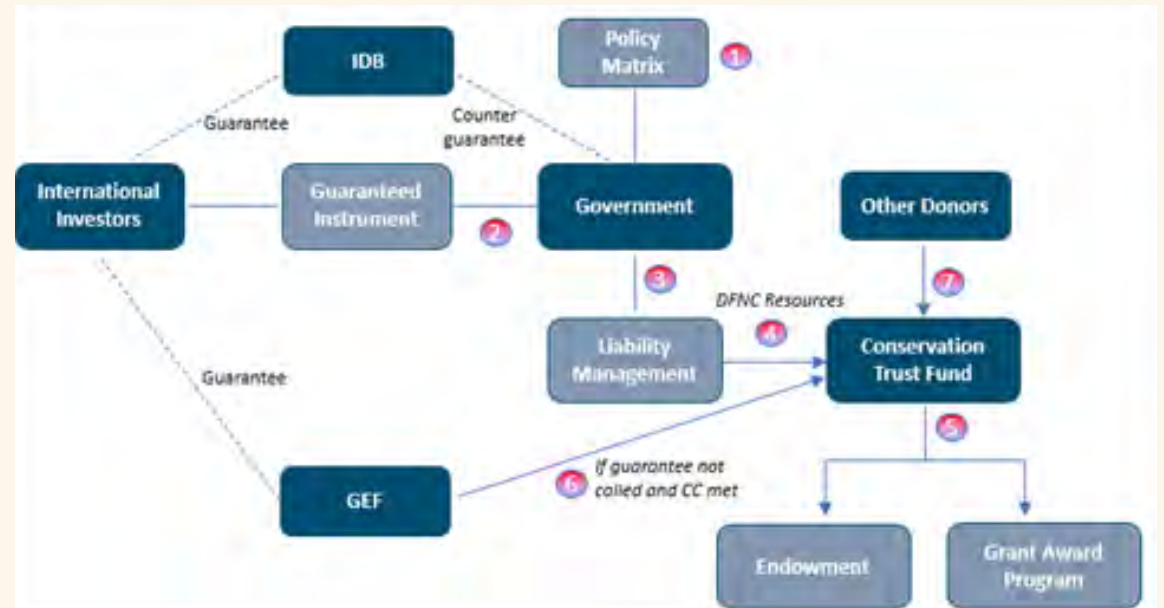
Project summary: The objective of this Project is to establish a Regional Facility to support biodiversity conservation and restoration in at least 3 LAC countries by: (i) enabling long-term financing for conservation, restoration, and sustainable management without increasing the debt ceiling; (ii) introducing very powerful incentives to timely achieve conservation commitments; and (iii) strengthening national institutional frameworks to support natural resources management.

The Facility will provide to each participating country an innovative blended finance solution through the use of guarantees to support a Debt for Nature Conversion (DFNC) and a convertible risk mitigation instrument, that will help countries attend to nature and debt objectives concurrently, ensuring long-term financing for PAs, spatial planning, effective management, and/or expansion without increasing the debt ceiling.

Financial terms

- **Investment type:** Convertible Risk Mitigation Instrument, performance-based grant
- **Amount of investment:** USD 39.0M (+grant USD 1.18M), co-financing: USD 641M (+future mobilization expected)
- **Convertibility Feature:** Behaving as a first loss guarantee that covers default of payment of interest/principal of the Guaranteed Instrument until the Convertibility Event; and performance-based grant that will be disbursed contingent to the achievement of pre-defined Conservation Commitments.
- **Co-financing:** 1:16
- **Maturity:** 20 years
- **Reflows for GEF:** premium of the guarantee on a yearly basis and uncalled guarantees that do not have a convertibility event.

Financial structure

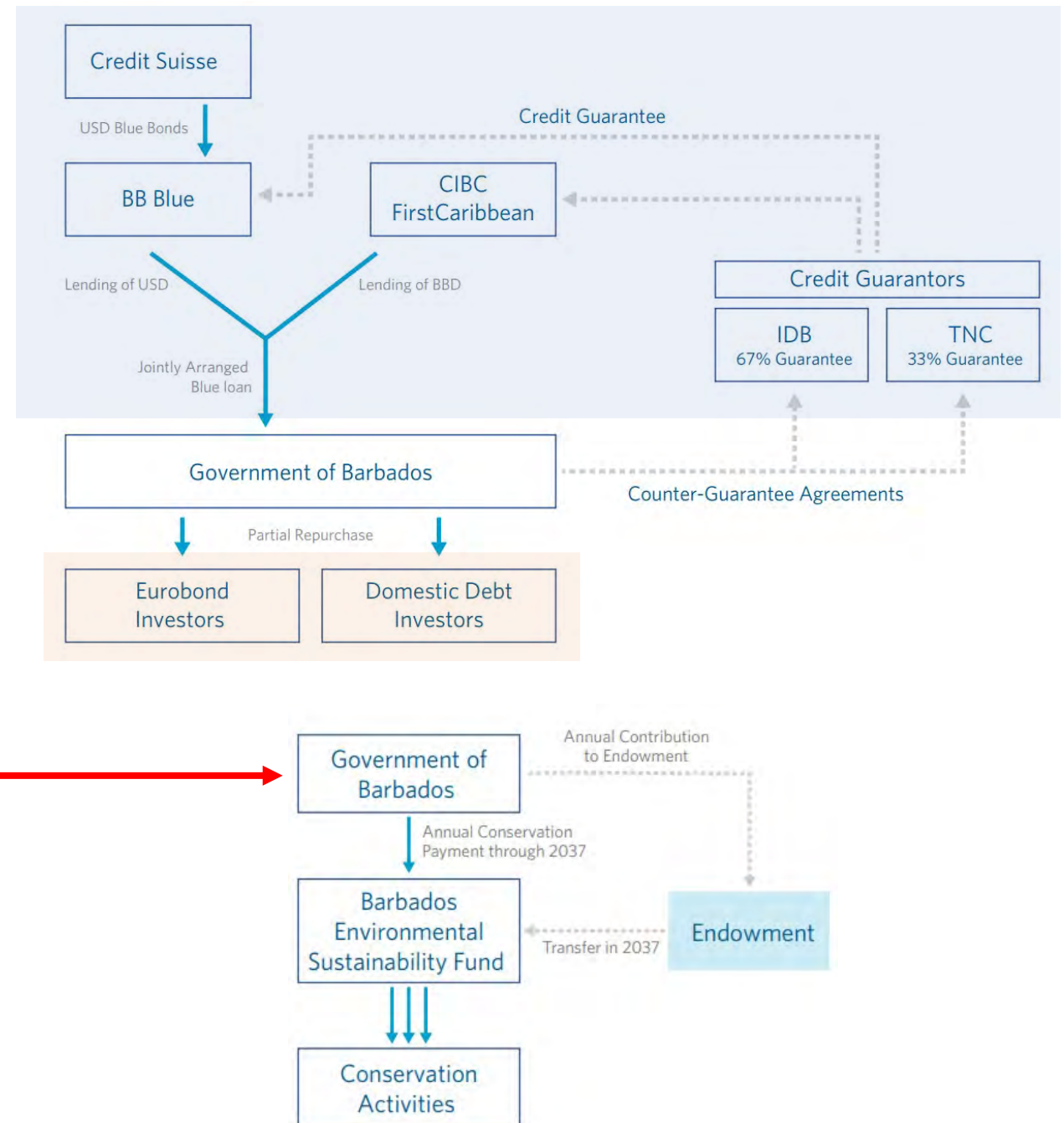
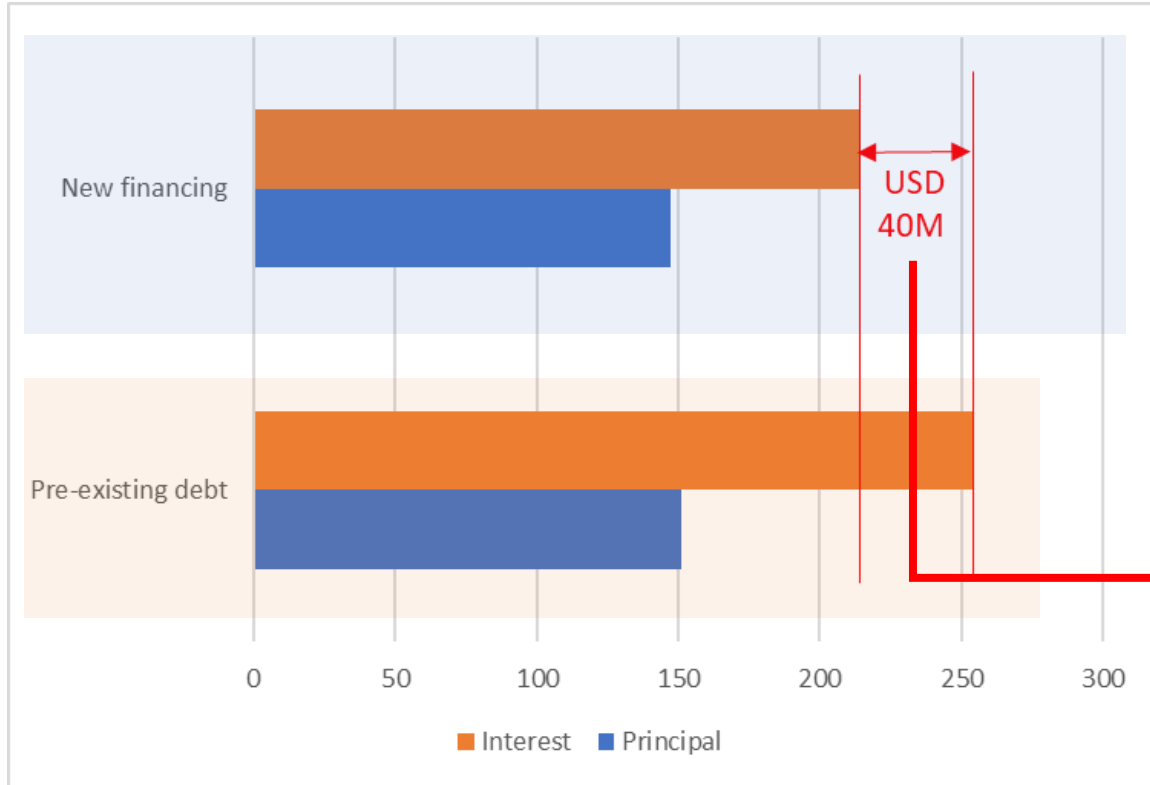


Global Environmental Benefits

Indicator 1	Terrestrial Protected Areas under Improved Management effectiveness	2,112,297ha
Indicator 2	Marine Protected Areas under improved Management	40,630,170ha
Indicator 3	Area of land of ecosystems under restoration	187,500 ha
Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	310,737

Case from Barbados (example)

Saving from debt restructuring






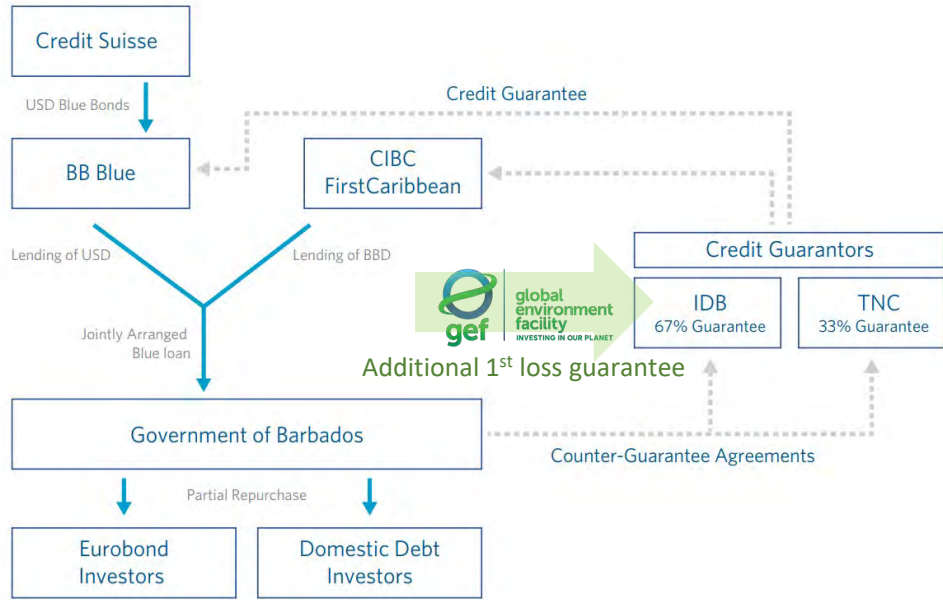
Past cases of debt-nature conversion

Country	Date of Transaction	Size of Bond/Loan issuance	Maturity	Credit Enhancement	Rating without Credit Enhancement	Rating with Credit Enhancement	Old Debt Coupon	New Debt Coupon	Total Savings	Conservation Savings	CTF funding	Endowment	Pas created or under improved management
Gabon	Aug 2023	USD 500M	15 yrs	DFC Political Risk Insurance	Caa1	Aaa2 Moody's	6/625% and 7%	6.07% (Trecs+200 bps)	Almost 1%		USD 5M/year	Endowment to grow USD 88M by 2038 (est)	30% MPAs
Ecuador	May 2023	USD 656M	18.5 yrs	IDB Partial Credit Guarantee and DFC Political Risk Insurance	Caa1	Aaa2 Moody's	Yields at around 17%	6.9%	USD 1.6B	USD 450M	USD 12M/year	USD 100M to grow to USD 227M by 2041 (est)	New 11,500 square mile (30,000 sqkm) marine reserve La Hermandad
Barbados	September 2022	USD 150M	15 yrs	IDB and TNC partial credit guarantee	Baa2	Aa1/Aa2 Moody's	6.5% Eurobond and 8% Domestic bond	4.9%	USD 50M	USD 50M	USD 1.5M/year (on average)	USD 17M to grow to USD 27M by 2037 (est)	Aspirational goal of 30% ocean under protection by 2030
Belize	November 2021	USD 364 M	20 yrs	DFC Political Risk Insurance and TNC	Baa2	Aaa2 Moody's		6.1%	USD 189M debt stock reduction + USD 200M total debt service reduction over 20 years	USD 180M	USD 4.2M/year	USD 23.5M to grow to USD 82M by 2041 (est)	30% of ocean area under protection by 2026

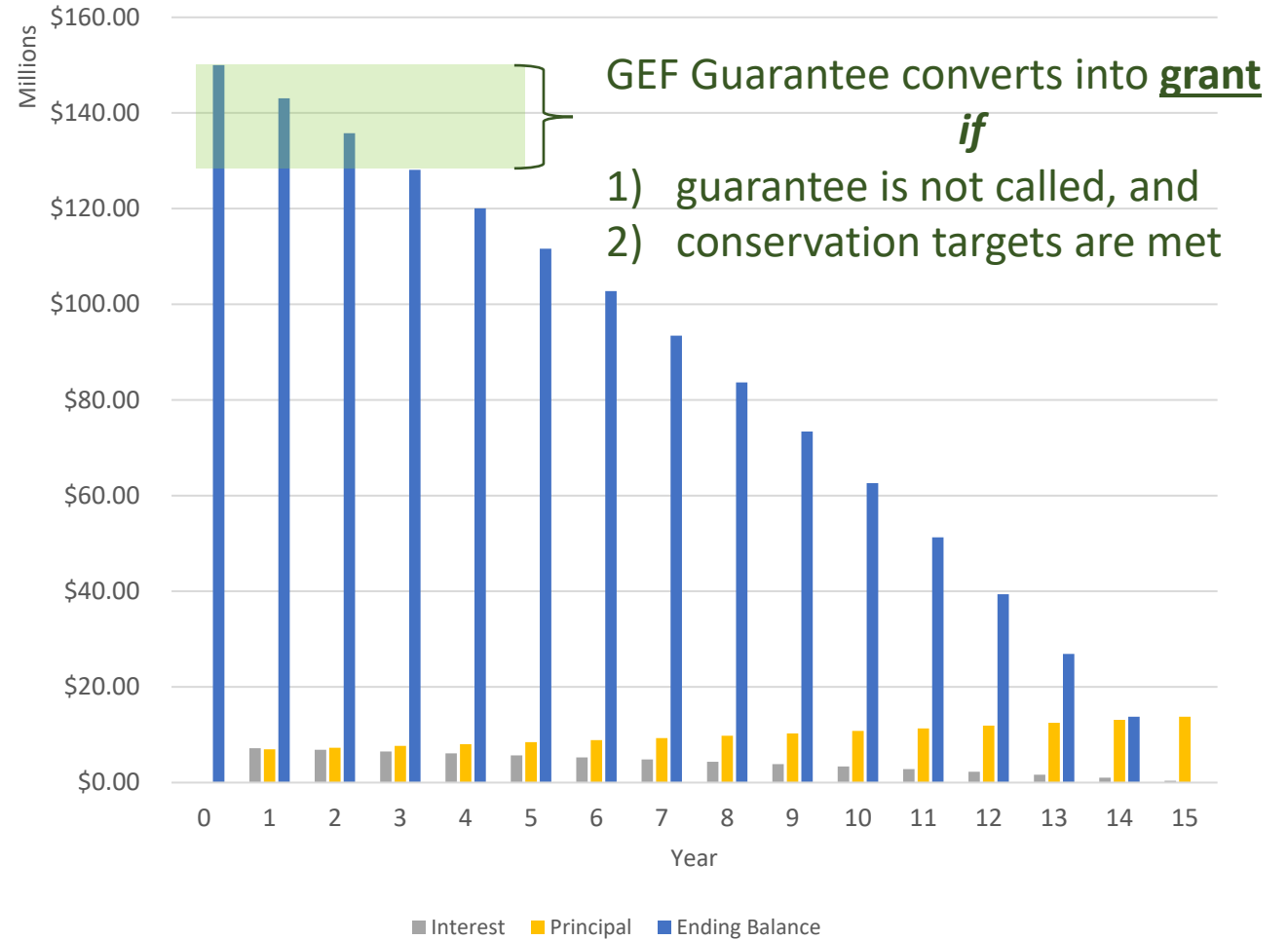
Credit Ratings Scale

MOODY'S	S&P	FITCH	DESCRIPTIONS	GRADE
Aaa	AAA	AAA	Highest credit quality, minimum credit risk	 INVESTMENT
Aa	AA	AA	Very high credit quality, very low credit risk	
A	A	A	High credit quality, low credit risk	
Baa	BBB	BBB	Good credit quality, moderate credit risk	
Ba	BB	BB	Issuer faces adverse conditions and uncertainty, substantial credit risk	 HIGH YIELD (or "Junk")
B	B	B	High credit risk, issuer able to meet financial commitments	
Caa	CCC	CCC	Vulnerable and default likely	
Ca	CC	CC	Issuer is highly vulnerable or near default	
C	C	C	Lower ratings, issuer in default	
	D	RD	Lower ratings, issuer in default	
		D	Lower ratings, issuer in default	

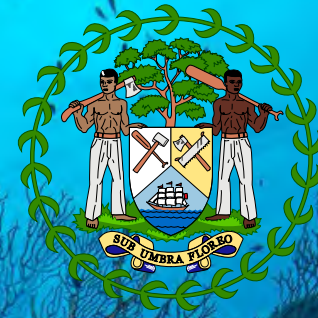
Case from Barbados (what if GEF-IDB facility participate?)



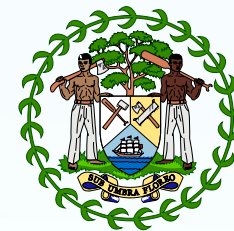
Amortization schedule of Barbados Blue Bonds



BELIZE BLUE BONDS



Safira Vasquez
Senior Technical Officer
Blue Bond and Finance Permanence Unit
Office of the Prime Minister



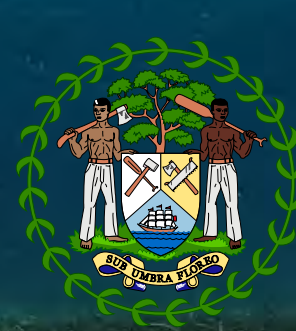
BELIZE'S CHALLENGES

National Economy contracted by 16.7% and the debt at 133% of GDP

Negotiating to defer superbond payments (trading 38-45 cents on the dollar)

Belize economy highly exposed to economic slowdown and reduced Government revenues resulting from hurricanes and large storms

Belize like most SIDS is challenged with identifying the finances for its conservation, sustainable development and climate change targets and ambitions



© Marcus Alamina Jr

BELIZE BLUE BONDS



Sovereign Debt Discount

~45% - 0.55c on dollar

Debt Reduction

US\$ 553 million (Superbond)
refinanced into US\$ 364 million (Blue Loan)
Debt to GDP ratio by 25%
National Debt by 12%

Debt Service Reduction

US\$ 200 mil reduction over 20 years

Longterm Sustainable Financing

US\$180 mil - 20 years

Conservation and Blue Economy Development

Up to 30% TOS BSOP

Conservation Milestones

Expand BPZ May 2022

HBPZ = 11.65%
MBPZ = 8.64%
Total BPZ of 20.3%

01

Designation of Mangrove Reserves

May 2022

Public lands within the BBRRS
designated as Mangrove
Reserves

02

Initiation of the MSP Process

November 2022

Official MSP Launch
Designation of Lead Agency
Establishment of MSP SC

03

ICZM

November 2025

Legislate Revised CZM Act
Endorse ICZMP

05

07

IUCN Green List

November 2027

Application for at least 3 MPAs to
be listed

06

Expand BPZ

November 2026

Increase BPZ by 5 % for total of 30% BPZ
or MSP %
MSP endorsed for Implementation

04

Expand BPZ

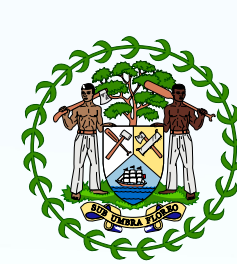
November 2024

Increase BPZ by 4.7 % for total
of 25% BPZ

08

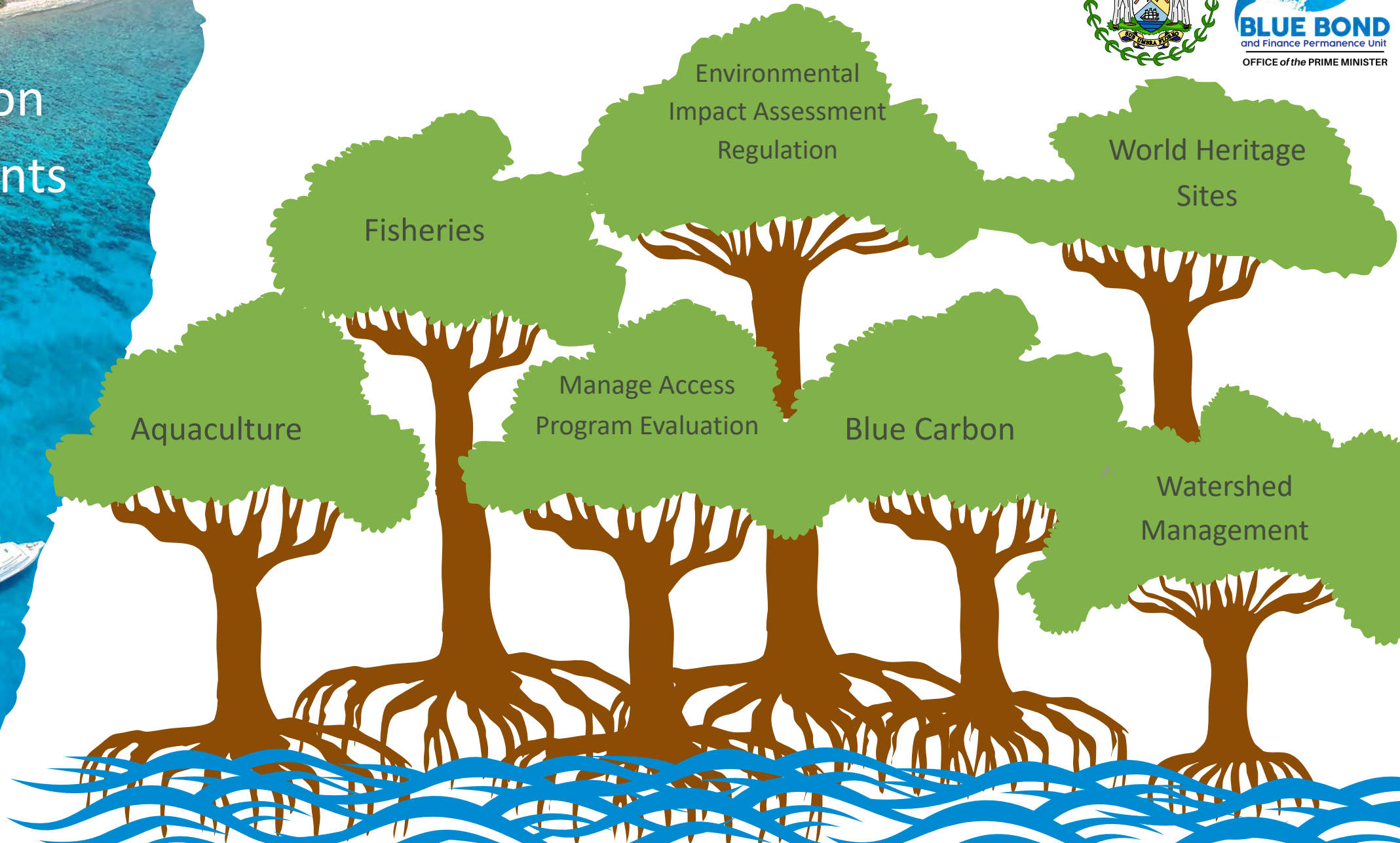
Management Plans November 2029

Approved Management
Plans for BPZ



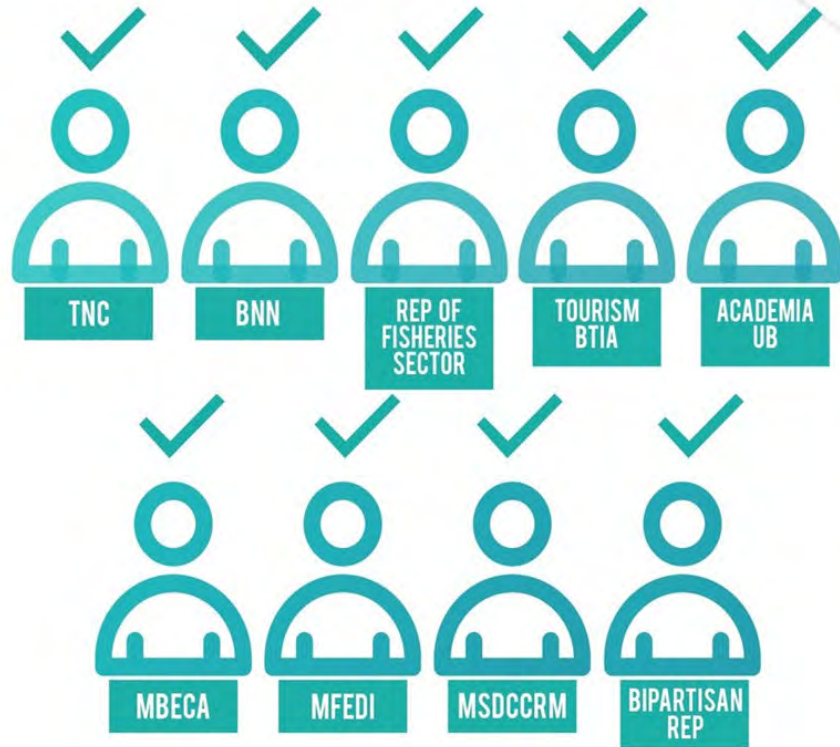


Conservation Commitments





Belize Fund For A Sustainable Future



5 NON-GOVERNMENT

4 GOVERNMENT

CONSERVATION FUND

Non-profit company with a non-government majority board of directors

Provide grant funding and other forms of support for conservation and sustainable use of ocean resources in Belize.

Support the achievement of Belize's conservation commitment under the Conservation Funding Agreement (Blue Bond).

Contribute to the stewardship of a sustainable future for the people and environment of Belize



THANK YOU



infobbfp@opm.gov.bz



Belize Blue Bonds: Blue Finance for Nature and People

<https://2ly.link/1vxUt>



FOLLOW US ON



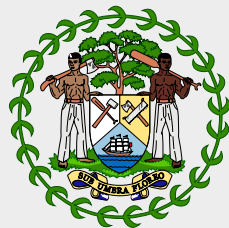
Blue Bond & Finance
Permanence Unit



@bbfpunit



@BelizeBlueBond



Wildlife Conservation Bond (GEF-7)

Project summary

The five-year rhino bond, which raised \$150 million in its March 23, 2022 issuance, has changed this story. It is a combination of existing financial products – a bond with an excellent credit rating (AAA for World Bank issued bonds), paired with a performance-based grant funded by the GEF which results in a new financial structure that can successfully harness investment from capital markets to directly support endangered species conservation. 2 South African Parks will receive TA for protection of Black Rhinos.

Country (South Africa)/ Biodiversity/ SDG 15

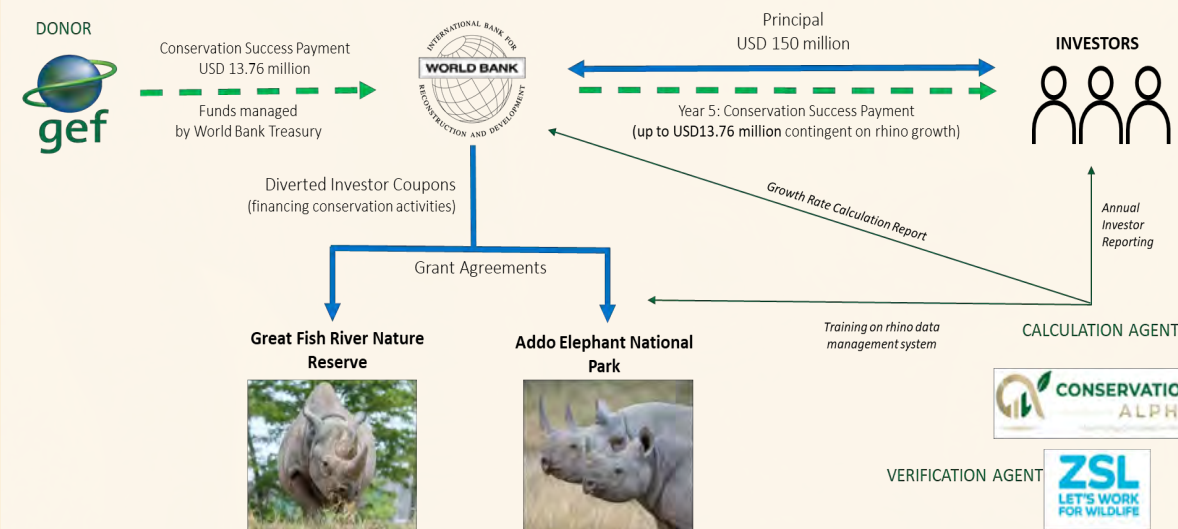
Financial terms

- **Investment type for the GEF: outcome based Reimbursable Grant**
- Amount of investment: USD 15M*
- Coupon: The bonds will be redeemed on the maturity date as par plus a Conservation Success Payment. The higher the rhino growth rate, the higher the success payment.
- Maturity: 5 years
- Reflow: Reflow will vary between 0 and 13.76 million (net of fees) based on rhino growth rate

Global Environmental Benefits

Indicator 1	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use	153,141 ha
Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	1,684 male 620 female

Financial structure



* Including GEF Agency fee, Project Preparation Grant (PPG) and PPG Agency fee



Wildlife Conservation Bond Results Framework

•Potential Payoff to Investors

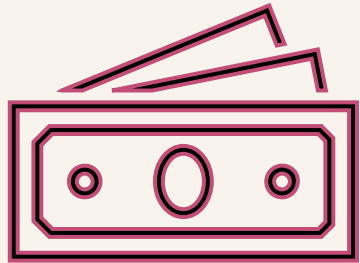
Rhino Growth Scenario	Guaranteed Minimum Return	Redemption Principal	Contingent Success Payment**	Bond Yield Per Annum
Annualized Rhino Growth Rate				
>4%	1.06%	100%	9.173%	2.83%
<=4% and >2%	1.06%	100%	7.338%	2.49%
<=2% and >0%	1.06%	100%	3.669%	1.79%
<=0%	1.06%	100%	0.000%	1.06%



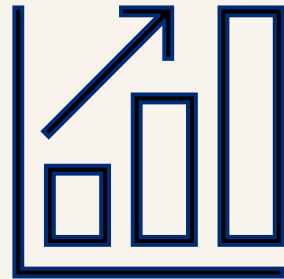
**Contingent Success Payment provided by Global Environment Facility



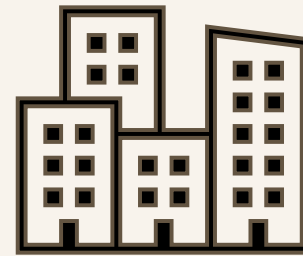
GEF-7: A Snapshot of Private Sector Engagement



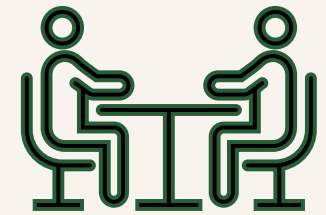
10% of GEF-7 co-financing from Private Sector



93% of GEF-7 projects include private sector actors - more than double from GEF-5



Over 3000 private sector entities from SMEs, to multinational banks



Over 100 global and regional multistakeholder platforms

Working with the private sector at all scales



GEF Private Sector Categories

Small enterprises and artisans

Medium-sized enterprises

Cooperatives

National corporations

State-owned / partially state-owned

corporations National trade and

professional organizations

National chambers of commerce and industry

Multinational corporations

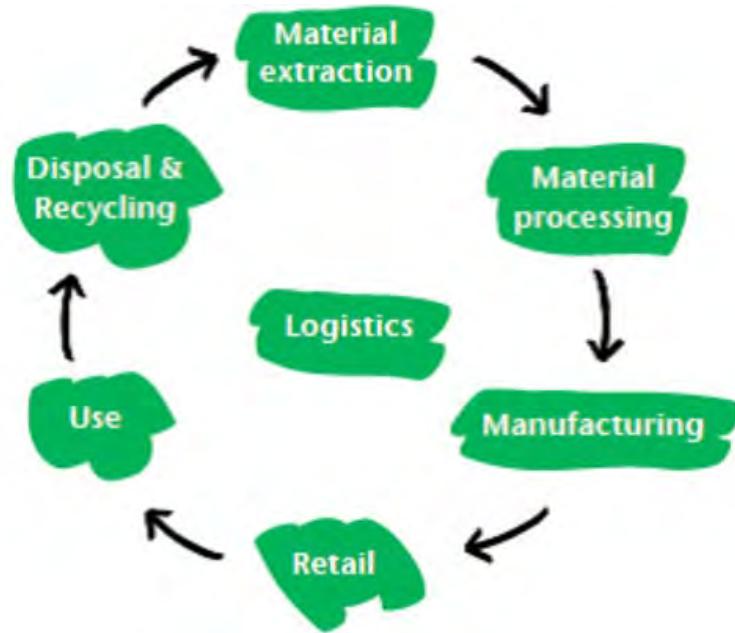
Private foundations

Women's private sector organizations



Private Sector Engagement – Models of Success

GEF Programs are perfectly suited to engage the private sector at all scales



Value chain approaches



Multistakeholder platforms



Private Sector Engagement – Models of Success

Engaging multistakeholder platforms for scale

World Cocoa Foundation which has a membership representing over 80 percent of the world's chocolate and cocoa sector

BIMCO (Baltic and International Maritime Council) is an organization for the global shipping community with over 2,000 members in 130 countries representing 62% of global shipping tonnage.

The Alliance to End Plastic Waste with 72 members across the plastics value chain including brand owners, resin producers, converters, waste managers, recyclers and technology providers.

Business for Nature with over 1000 signatory companies and a combined revenue of over \$4.7 trillion.

IDH which brings together over 600 companies and governments and reaching over 4 million farmers in 30 countries in combined revenues and over 19 million employees.



Questions?

AGRI3 A Forest Conservation and Sustainable Agriculture Fund for Developing Countries (GEF-7)

Project summary

AGRI 3 is a guarantee and sub-debt fund, aiming to de-risk investment in forest conservation and sustainable agriculture. The Fund will guarantee tenor extension and loss of first three year to the local commercial bank to unlock finance for sustainable agriculture and forest conservation activities by local farmers. It aims to unlock a total of USD 1 billion by blending AGRI 3 products with commercial bank loans.

Global/ Biodiversity & Climate Change & Land Degradation/ SDG 2, 13, 15

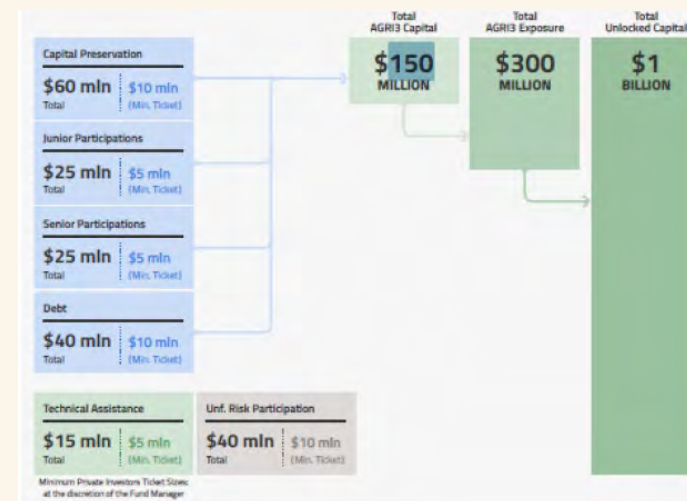
Financial terms

- **Investment type: Equity for guarantee and sub-debt fund**, GEF will be an anchor investor as senior participant to the fund after the first loss provided by Netherlands Government, bridging the gap between investment/grant by Netherlands Government and senior debt by Rabobank and other banks
- Amount of investment: USD 15M*, co-financing: USD 146 M
- IRR: 5% after year 5
- Maturity: 20 years (minimum 10 years)

Global Environmental Benefits

Indicator 3	Area of land and ecosystems under restoration	91,000 ha
Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)	741,000 ha
Indicator 6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated	18,400,000 tCO ₂ e
Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	210,000 male 90,000 female

Financial structure



* Including GEF Agency fee, Project Preparation Grant (PPG) and PPG Agency fee

Circular Economy Regional Initiative (CERI) (GEF-7)

Project summary

The Programme's objective is to catalyze the scale up of circular economy initiatives by addressing barriers to investments in circular economy technologies and processes, and adoption of circular economy strategies and business practices.

Regional (Europe and Central Asia)/ Climate Change & Chemicals and Waste/ SDG 12, 13

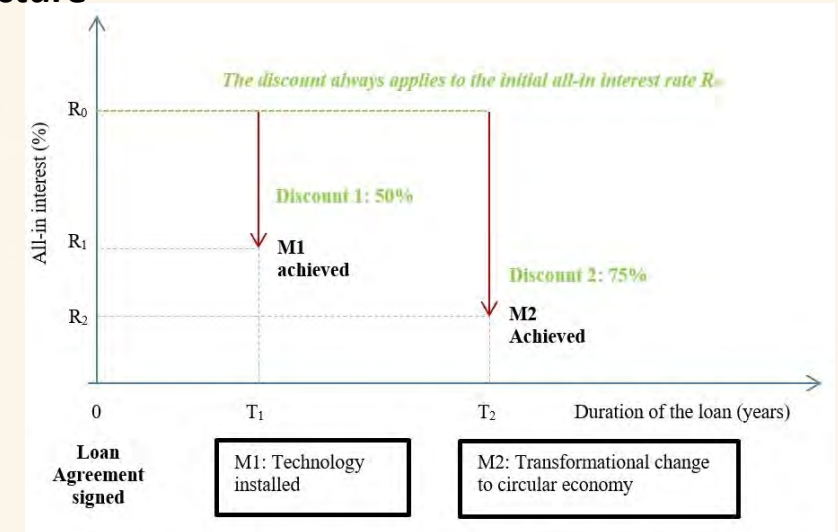
Financial terms

- **Investment type:** Loan
- Amount of investment: USD 15M*, co-financing: USD 141.8M
- IRR: 0.5% - 6.0% p.a. depending on the market conditions (initial interest rate will be parallel to EBRD loan, discount subject to achievement of two milestones – technology installation and transformational change to circular economy)
- Maturity: 10 years

Global Environmental Benefits

Indicator 5.3	Amount of Marine Litter Avoided	50,000 Metric Tons
Indicator 6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated	6,250,000 tCO ₂ e (dir) 15,625,000 tCO ₂ e (indir)
Indicator 9	Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials and products	2,000 Metric Tons
Indicator 9.6	Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided	10,000 Metric Tons
Indicator 10	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POP to air from point and non-point sources	75 gTEQ
Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	640 male 160 female

Financial structure*



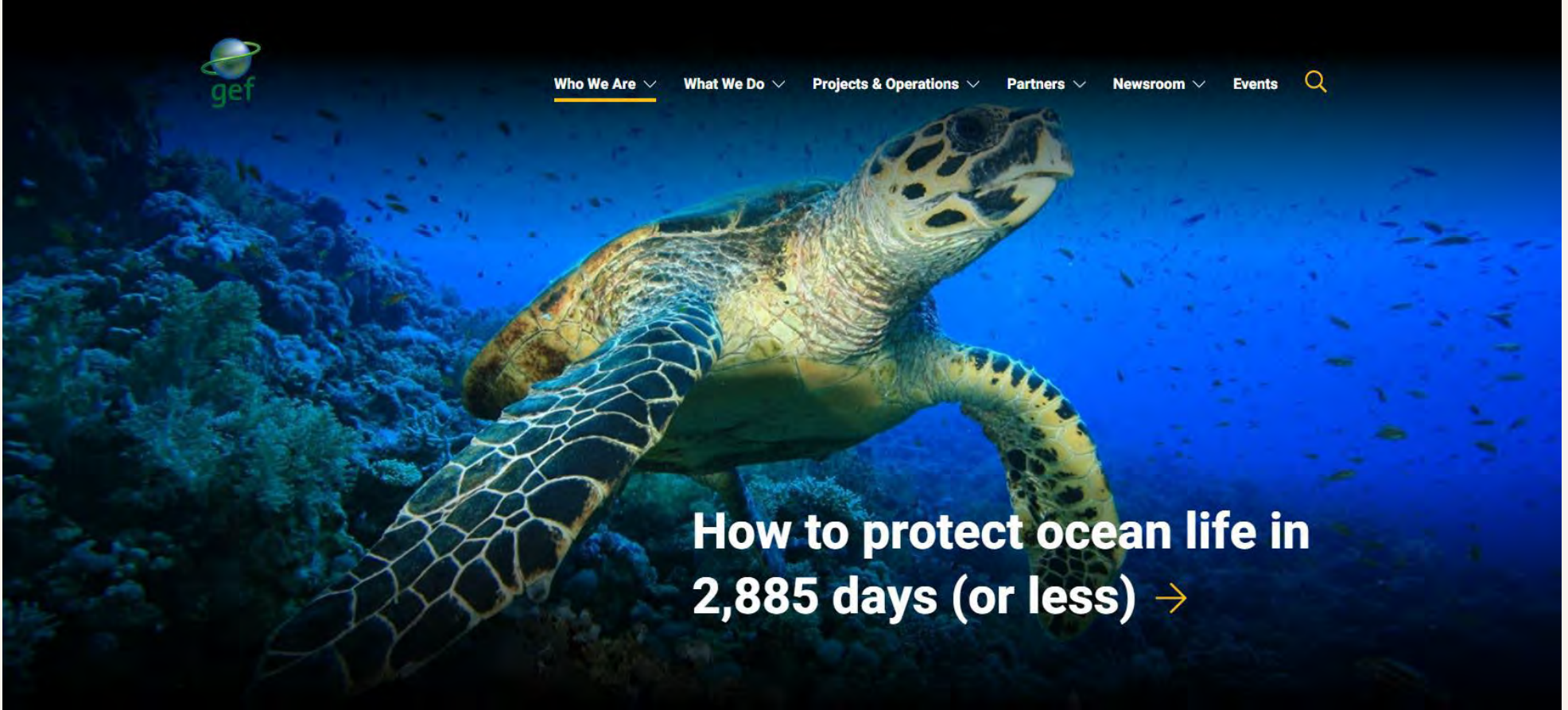
* Including GEF Agency fee, Project Preparation Grant (PPG) and PPG Agency fee



GEF Communications



Website
www.thegef.org



get 2022

FEATURE STORY

The first year of the Inclusive Conservation Initiative

FEATURE STORY

Sampling the fruits of success and innovation in the Maldives

EVENT

The GEF at CBD COP15

Storytelling



'Youth, women, and elders are the ones who don't give up'

NEWS / November 23, 2022



Photo courtesy of Mirna Inés Fernández Pradel

Mirna Inés Fernández Pradel is a member of the *Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN)*, an international network of young people focused on preventing biodiversity loss and protecting nature. In an interview, she shared lessons from her work to elevate youth voices internationally and expressed her hopes for the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COP15 summit in Montreal.

Why is youth engagement around biodiversity important to you?

I believe that the full and effective engagement of young people in decision-making processes about biodiversity is key to delivering policies that protect the diversity of species, ecosystems, and genetic resources that we have, and ensuring the well-being of the communities who depend on these.

Youth all over the world are not only extremely worried about the socio-ecological crisis that we are facing but taking bold actions to halt it. They are taking to the streets and raising their voices to demand social-ecological justice. They also lead projects for biodiversity conservation, restoration, sustainable management, and awareness. All of this happens most of the time with very little or zero funding or institutional support.



Reviving wetlands in the Western Indian Ocean: efforts and progress

FEATURE STORY / February 8, 2023



Photo credit: RMFerreira/Shutterstock

Wetlands in the Western Indian Ocean region are not just a pretty sight, they are vital ecosystems that support a diverse array of life. They include salt marshes, seagrass beds, and mangrove forests. These unique habitats are homes, breeding and feeding grounds for species such as fish, turtles, sea cucumbers, molluscs, corals, mangroves, and seagrasses. Additionally, wetlands in the Western Indian Ocean region also have significant economic and cultural value. However, these wetlands are under threat from human activities such as pollution through the release of untreated wastewater from cities and settlements, upstream activities like agriculture, deforestation, and natural disasters such as cyclones.

But there's hope! Efforts to safeguard and maintain these invaluable wetlands are in full swing. From Chake Chake, Pemba, where drainage capacity is being boosted, to Seychelles, where locals are being educated on wetland



Media Relations



Gabon, Jamaica, and Sri Lanka unite to fight hazardous skin lightening products

NEWS / February 14, 2023



An array of skin lightening products. Photo credit: Jasmine Halki/Flickr

The governments of Gabon, Jamaica, and Sri Lanka have joined forces to fight back against damaging beauty practices, launching a joint \$14-million project to eliminate the use of mercury in skin lightening products.

Using cosmetics to inhibit the body's production of melanin, leading the skin to appear lighter, is a centuries-old practice in many parts of the world that continues to take a toxic toll today.

Both men and women use skin lightening products, not only to lighten their skin but to fade freckles, blemishes, age spots, and treat acne. However, consumers are often unaware that many of these products contain harmful chemicals including mercury, a toxic substance which poses risks to human health and contaminates the environment.

Skin lightening products can cause skin rashes and discoloration; scarring; nervous, digestive, and immune system damage, as well as anxiety and depression. The Minamata Convention on Mercury has set a limit of 1mg/1kg (1ppm) for mercury in skin lightening products. However, a 2018 Zero Mercury Working Group and Biodiversity



Publications



MAIN ISSUE

Biodiversity is the variety of Earth's terrestrial, freshwater, and marine organisms, as well as the ecosystems of which they are part. Biodiversity is crucial to the future of all life on the planet and is also the foundation for the ecosystem goods and services that enable human societies and services. Biodiversity provides us with food, water, climate regulation, pollination, disaster protection, and nutrient cycling.

Biodiversity, thus, is fundamental to sustainable development. Managing and protecting this asset for current and future generations requires full engagement of organizations, the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), and others.

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), which came into force in 1993, is the global policy framework for action to maintain biodiversity for future generations and sustainably use biodiversity and ecosystem services at local and national levels over the past several decades but not at the scale necessary to stem the ongoing tide of biodiversity loss. Changing the trajectory of biodiversity loss means addressing its five main direct drivers: habitat change, over-exploitation or unsustainable use, climate change, pollution, and invasive alien species. These critical drivers of biodiversity loss are intensifying, particularly habitat loss driven by the expansion of agriculture.

The GEF provides financial resources for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement the goal of the GEF-8 (2022-2026) biodiversity focal area strategy to globally conserve, sustainably use, and restore significant biodiversity.

To achieve this goal, GEF-8 investments will focus on three main objectives:

1. Improve conservation, sustainable use and restoration of natural ecosystems
2. Implement the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols effectively.
3. Increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity.

WHAT WE DO

The GEF provides financial resources for developing countries and countries with economies in transition to implement the goal of the GEF-8 (2022-2026) biodiversity focal area strategy to globally conserve, sustainably use, and restore significant biodiversity.

To achieve this goal, GEF-8 investments will focus on three main objectives:

1. Improve conservation, sustainable use and restoration of natural ecosystems
2. Implement the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols effectively.
3. Increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity.

RESULTS

The GEF has invested more than \$5.2 billion to conserve biodiversity and use it sustainably. This investment has leveraged over \$33.4 billion in additional funds, supporting 1,500 projects in more than 156 countries.

The GEF has supported the improved management of more than 2,500 million hectares of terrestrial and marine protected areas around the world, an area larger than the size of Latin America. We have managed biodiversity across more than 543 million hectares of productive landscapes and seascapes.

Under the Cartagena Protocol, the GEF has supported the development of National Biodiversity Frameworks in 127 countries and their implementation. GEF supports the Nagoya Protocol into force by supporting countries to develop the needed legal and policy frameworks to be able to ratify the agreement. A growing part of the GEF implementation.

GEF-8 Provides New Opportunities for Implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy

In GEF-8 \$1.92 billion have been allocated to the biodiversity focal area making it the largest focal area of the GEF. The GEF-8 biodiversity focal area strategy reflects the priorities of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and responds to several major global studies on the biodiversity crisis, including the *Cartagena Review*, the *Fifth Global Biodiversity Review*, the *Fifth Intergovernmental Outlook*, and the *2019 Global Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (GBES)* global assessment.

Objective One of the strategy (improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems) marks a shift in the GEF strategy from previous phases. GEF-8 focuses on integrated landscape/seascape management approaches that use multiple tools and strategies to respond to the drivers of biodiversity loss within large landscape and seascape mosaics. This strategic shift reflects

will include... of biodiversity to the CBD... countries with additional... drivers of biodiversity loss in comprehensive and integrated ways.

www.thegef.org

GEF-8 SCORECARD November 2022

gef GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

Strengthening Regional Cooperation to Mainstream Migratory Soaring Birds Safeguards: Strong Partnership with Private Sector and CSOs in Middle East and Africa

gef GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

PROJECT FULL NAME	COUNTRY & REGION	IMPLEMENTING AGENCY
Mainstreaming Conservation of Migratory Soaring Birds into Key Productive Sectors along the Rift Valley / Red Sea Byway	Regional (Libani, Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, and Sudan)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

IMPACT AREAS

- Biodiversity
- Land Degradation
- Sustainable Forest
- Poverty Reduction
- Food Security
- Socio-economic Benefits
- Education

GEF PROJECT ID: 9491

MAINTAINED

social and environmental

1,885

By the Red Sea Byway is the second most biodiverse in the world. Each year, one of at least 37 species, including 7 threatened species, use this corridor for breeding grounds in Europe and Asia, and wintering areas in Africa. The project focuses on Tranche 1 of the GEF-8, which includes an environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) and a biodiversity management plan (BMP). Under the project, the goal is to mainstream biodiversity into the productive sectors along the Red Sea Byway. The project focuses on 111 key countries: Ethiopia, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and Sudan.

GEF-8: Moving Toward an Equitable, Nature-Positive, Carbon-Neutral and Pollution-Free World

gef GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

Social Media

The image shows the Facebook profile page for the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The profile picture is a scenic landscape with a large body of water and green hills. The page header includes the GEF logo, the name "Global Environment Facility", and statistics: "64K likes • 110K followers". There are buttons for "Sign Up", "Liked", and "Search". Below the header are tabs for "Posts", "About", "Mentions", "Reviews", "Followers", "Photos", and "More". The "Intro" section describes the GEF as the "Official Facebook page of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)" and lists details like "Page · Nonprofit organization", "thegef.org", and a "Rating · 4.9 (86 Reviews)". The "Posts" section shows a post from February 17 at 10:33 AM about wetlands in the Western Indian Ocean region.



The image shows the Twitter profile page for the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The profile picture is the same scenic landscape as the Facebook page. The header includes the GEF logo, the name "Global Environment Facility (GEF)", and the handle "@theGEF". It indicates "Following" status. The bio states: "The GEF is the largest multilateral trust fund dedicated to addressing inter-related environmental threats including climate change. Follow CEO @cmrodriguez." Below the bio are details: "Non-Governmental & Nonprofit Organization", "Washington DC, USA", "thegef.org", and "Joined May 2009". It shows "1,200 Following" and "114K Followers". A section below lists "Followed by Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, UNDP Climate, and 12 others you follow".

The image shows the Instagram profile page for "gef_global_environment". The profile picture is the GEF logo. The header shows "Following" status, a "Message" button, and "243 posts", "6,017 followers", and "53 following". The bio identifies it as a "Nonprofit organization" and includes the website "linktr.ee/thegef". Below the bio are several posts, including one about the "Blue Nature Alliance" and another about "Achieving Finance and High Ambition for MPAs: 30 x 30 Implementation through the GEF and HAC".

The image shows the LinkedIn profile page for the Global Environment Facility. The profile picture is the scenic landscape. The header includes the GEF logo, the name "Global Environment Facility", and the tagline "Tackling our planet's most pressing environmental problems." It lists "Environmental Services · Washington, DC · 80,760 followers". Below the header are buttons for "Following", "Invite", and "More". The page includes sections for "Be a team player" with an "Invite connections" button, and "Trending coworker content" featuring posts from Peter M. Umunay and Anil Sookdeo.



Social Media





Newsletter

www.thegef.org/newsletter



Sampling the fruits of success and innovation in the Maldives

Sometimes the fruits of success taste particularly sweet, as GEF CEO Carlos Manuel Rodríguez discovered on a visit to the Maldivian island of Meedhoo, where he witnessed an effort led by local women to revive a dying culinary art. "This GEF Small Grants Programme project is not only investing in preserving the rich tradition of Bondi-making in the Maldives but, more importantly, in its future generations," said Rodríguez, who later visited two waste-related projects elsewhere in the Addu Atoll. [Read more >>](#)



How to protect ocean life in 2,885 days (or less)

Countries have committed to protecting at least 30 percent of the world's land and sea habitats by 2030. But how? At an event co-hosted by the GEF, World Resources Institute, and High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People during IMPAC5 in Vancouver, people leading, planning, and funding marine protected areas around the world shared ideas about how to make this happen with less than seven years on the clock. [Read more >>](#)



Countries unite to fight hazardous skin lightening products

The governments of Gabon, Jamaica, and Sri Lanka have joined forces to fight back against damaging beauty practices, launching a joint \$14-million project to eliminate the use of mercury in skin lightening products. The project is led by UNEP, with funding from the GEF, and executed by the World Health Organization and the Biodiversity Research Institute. [Read more >>](#)



HOME

Color | Primary

The GEF Primary Color has been selected to present the GEF as a leader in global environmental issues.

Never use the GEF Signature in any other color than the versions provided in these guidelines.

Primary Brand Color



CMYK: 83 / 16 / 83 / 54
RGB: 39 / 94 / 55
Hex: #006227

Color | Focal Area

There are five Focal Areas.

- International Waters
- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Land Degradation
- Chemicals & Waste

Each Focal Area has a designated color.

This color should be used when developing a product for that Focal Area, such as a brochure, poster, or other material.

The color can be used throughout the communication, for backgrounds, sidebars, headlines, subheads, charts, and graphs.

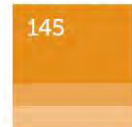
Use the Focal Area designated color for the accent bar on the cover of the publication.

International Waters



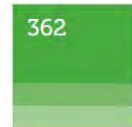
CMYK: 91 / 53 / 0 / 0
RGB: 42 / 110 / 187
Hex: #026CB6

Climate Change



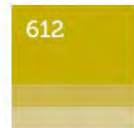
CMYK: 0 / 58 / 100 / 8
RGB: 229 / 142 / 26
Hex: #E58E1A

Biodiversity



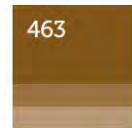
CMYK: 78 / 2 / 98 / 9
RGB: 63 / 156 / 53
Hex: #49A942

Chemicals & Waste



CMYK: 26 / 24 / 100 / 0
RGB: 196 / 176 / 0
Hex: #C4B000

Land Degradation



CMYK: 30 / 56 / 100 / 37
RGB: 128 / 86 / 27
Hex: #80561B



**global
environment
facility**
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET





GEF Communications Contacts



Robert Bisset –
Head of
Communications



Laura MacInnis –
Editorial



Jason Harmala –
Website Management
and IT Liaison



Christian Hofer –
Multimedia,
Publications



Alua Kennedy –
Digital
Services/Social
Media



Alexandre Rego – Media
Relations



Olivier Besson –
Admin and
Procurement,
Pavilions,
Publications



communications@thegef.org





Questions?



March 12, 2024

Experience sharing

About the session

- 1:45-1:50 Introduction
- 1:50-2:00 Role of OFPs, Agencies
- 2:00-2:15 Coordination at country level
- 2:15-2:30 Inclusion of stakeholders
- 2:30-2:40 Country Engagement Strategy
- 2:40-2:45 Open discussion



Objective of the session


- To review roles/responsibilities of OFPs, Agencies (a quiz)
- To exchange experiences, good practices and challenges related to:
 - Coordination in project design and implementation within the government
 - Inclusion of civil society - youth, women, IPLCs, private sector
- To seek ideas and inputs on implementation of the GEF-8 Country Engagement Strategy.





Quiz: Role of OFPs (1)


Q1: Which of the below is NOT a general responsibility of OFPs?

1. Consult with CSO and other key stakeholders in the country on GEF matters and provide information on GEF activities, including project implementation, results and impacts.
 2. Establish, if appropriate, and convene a National Steering Committee for GEF-related work as feasible and appropriate to the national situation.
 3. Support mainstreaming of GEF objectives in national policy frameworks.
 4. Follow and participate in projects only at PIF and CEO Endorsement stages.
- 



Quiz: Role of OFPs (2)


Q2: Which of the below is NOT an operational responsibility of OFPs?

1. Work and coordinate with line ministries and stakeholders in choosing projects and programs, and the GEF Implementing Agency for each project.
 2. Work with the Agencies in the preparation of the Project Identification Form (PIF) to request funding from the GEF and decide on whether to endorse a project before the Agencies submit the PIF to the GEF Secretariat.
 3. Rely only on the GEF Website to track GEF projects and programs.
 4. Collaborate on Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) at project, program, and portfolio levels.
- 



Quiz: Role of Agencies

Q3: Which of the below is NOT a recommended action by Agencies in their engagement with OFPs?

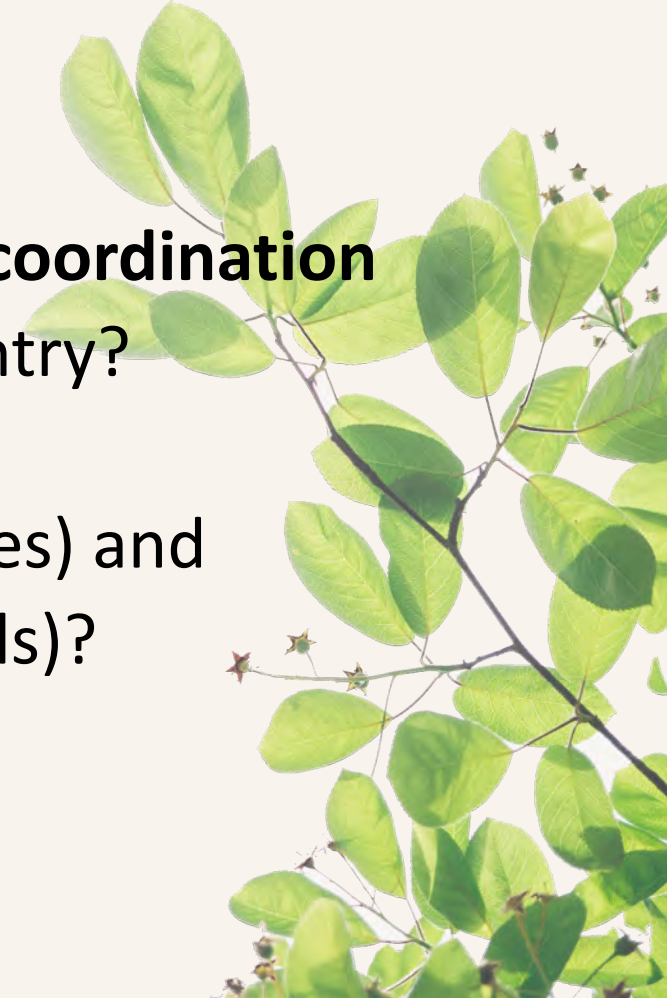
1. Engage with OFPs throughout the project cycle including:
 - Early dialogue on ideas and options for projects, in the context of country strategies and needs.
 - Ongoing dialogue on ways to meet GEF policy requirements, including on stakeholder engagement.
 2. Provide regular updates on status and milestones of the project.
 3. Ensure coherent communication with governments from Agency headquarters and local offices.
 4. Engage and work with consultants who know the country and its needs.
- 

Coordination at country level

Q1: Does your country have a National Steering Committee for GEF-related work?

Q2: What are good practices/challenges related to coordination for project design and implementation in your country?

- Both horizontal (across departments, ministries) and
- Vertical (national, sub-national, and local levels)?



Inclusion of CSOs, youth, women, IPLCs , and private sector

Q3: How are other stakeholder groups (private sectors, CSOs, youth, women's groups, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), academics, and others) included in these different levels of coordination?

What are **good practices** and/or **challenges** in your country related to the inclusion of CSOs, youth, women, IPLCs, and most vulnerable groups in the preparation and implementation of the GEF projects?



Country Engagement Strategy

The GEF CES has some new funding lines, including:

- *Financial Support to GEF OFPs* – to help effectively oversee & monitor their GEF Portfolio
- *Building the Execution Capacity of Stakeholders*, including **national executing agencies** to enhance portfolio management, and **CSOs** to build their capacity to partner in GEF projects

We're still formulating approach for these funds.

Q4: Do you have any thoughts, perspectives, or feedback?



Open discussion related to partnership

Q5: Any topics to discuss with colleagues and partners here today?



Reference

Practical Steps to Improve Coordination and Workflow in the GEF Partnership

<https://www.thegef.org/newsroom/publications?topic=&agency=&title=practical+steps>



Practical Steps to Improve
Coordination and Workflow
IN THE GEF PARTNERSHIP

PAST
CHALLENGES
ON PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT

1

Proposals were endorsed on a *first come, first served* basis

2

Submission of project proposals are donor-driven

3

Lack of long-term strategic direction in programming



INITIATIVES

1

Government interagency mechanism headed by the GEF OFF & PFP with Convention focal points

2

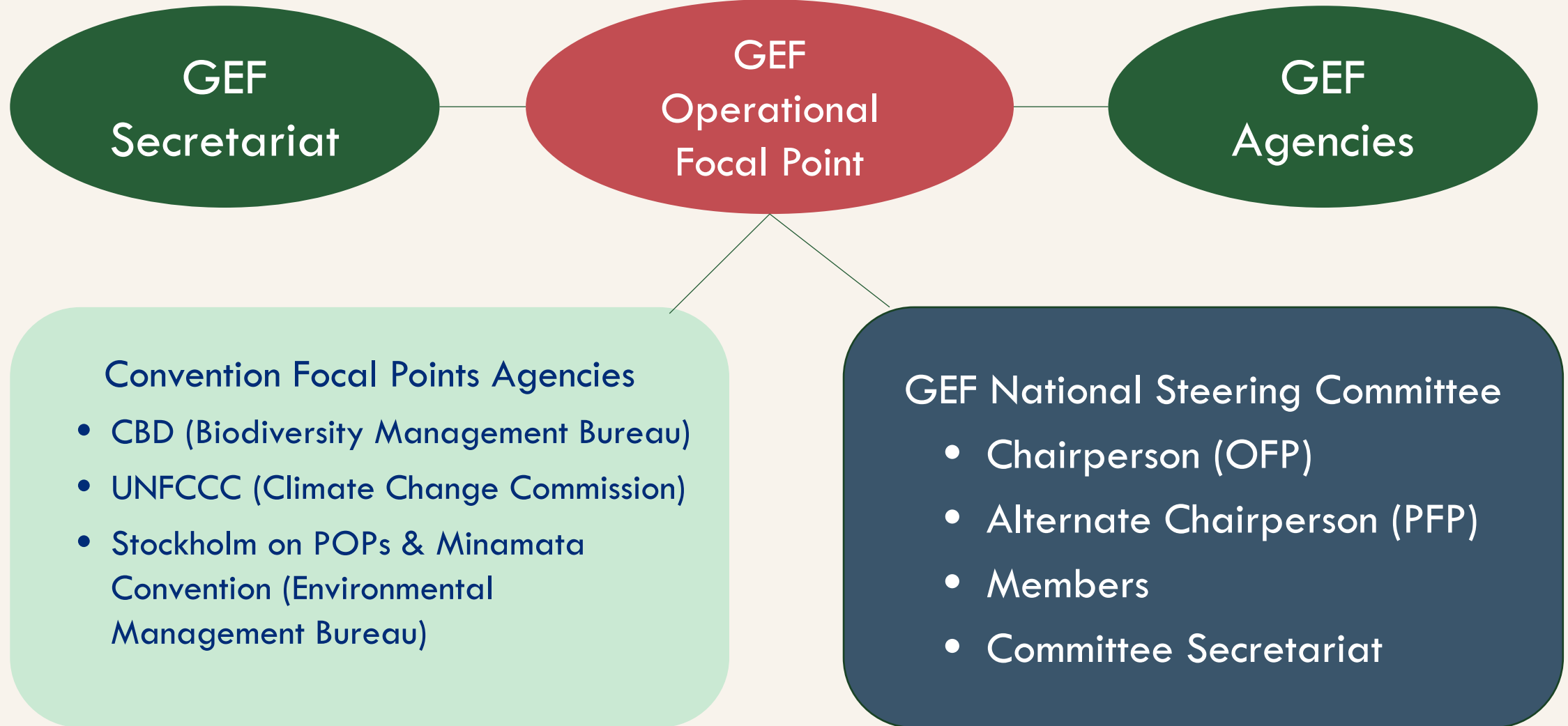
Technical Working Groups comprising of the Convention focal points which review the GEF project proposals

3

GEF National Steering Committee (created in GEF-4 cycle)

- ✓ *Inclusive membership composition*
- ✓ *Transparent decision-making process*

GEF COORDINATION FRAMEWORK



PHILIPPINES

*Inclusive
Coordination*
**STEERING
COMMITTEE
MEMBERS**

Department of Environment
& Natural Resources
(Chairperson: OFP)

National Economic &
Development Authority
(Co-chairperson: PFP)

Biodiversity Management
Bureau

Department of Foreign Affairs

Environmental Management
Bureau

Department of Interior & Local
Government

Climate Change Commission

Department of Finance

Soils & Water Management
Bureau

League of Cities &
League of Municipalities

Department of Energy

National Commission on
Indigenous Peoples

Civil Society Organizations

CSO REPRESENTATION IN THE STEERING COMMITTEE

Role of CSO in the committee and GEF projects

Propose potential projects, execute certain components of projects, co-financing, coordinate in national & local levels, directly interact with local beneficiaries through outreach & consultations, bring specialized experience & local knowledge in the monitoring & evaluation of projects

Role of OFP in supporting CSO capacity building

- OFP ensures CSOs participate in GEF workshops, national dialogues & trainings.
 - OFP engages CSOs in GEF project pipeline development and provides opportunities to execute GEF projects.
-
- In 2011, 3 CSO representatives were elected to the committee.
 - In 2019, CSO representation was increased to 5 members
 - In GEF-7, Philippines GEF CSO Network was created.

PHILIPPINES

GEF FEATURED STORY FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
Good example of local CSO's role in empowering women



Transparency
**STEERING
COMMITTEE
PROJECT
SELECTION
CRITERIA**

GEF-8 PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA

- Alignment with country priorities & frameworks (geo-spatial, thematic areas) and international commitments.
- With potential for scalable transformation & impacts, e.g., biodiversity corridor/landscape approach, demonstration models for upscaling/replication.
- Addressing systemic barriers (policy support, institutional changes, capacity-building, public investments), thus, with potential to provide solutions to interrelated drivers of environmental degradation (e.g., BD and CC).
- With opportunities for local innovative solutions & stakeholder engagement towards empowerment of women, youth and indigenous peoples.
- With potential to unlock private sector resources and engagement.
- Alignment with GEF programming strategy.
- Demonstrating approaches to address the intersectionality of sectors to enhance climate & disaster resilience.

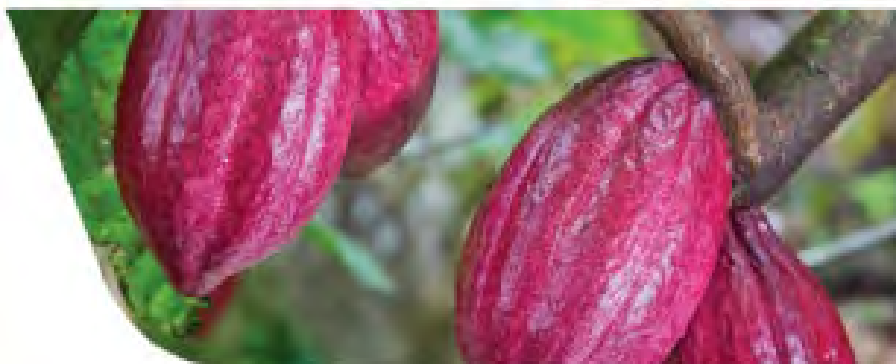


Questions?

An aerial photograph of terraced rice fields on a hillside. The terraces are arranged in a series of concentric, curved steps that follow the contours of the land. The fields are filled with green rice plants, and some areas appear to be recently harvested or are in a different stage of growth. The background shows more rolling hills and dense green forest. A large, semi-transparent blue rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing text. There are also yellow horizontal bars on the left and right sides of the image.

March 12, 2024

Field trip



Proyecto Biodiversidad en Paisajes Productivos

Sostenibilidad de sistemas productivos a través de la
conservación

Objetivo del proyecto

Fomentar la conservación del capital natural en los sistemas productivos de montaña para influir **en las políticas públicas** de biodiversidad, desarrollo y producción sostenibles.

 8.18 Millones USD

 2018-2024



COMPONENTES del proyecto

1

Marco sistémico para el manejo sostenible de los paisajes productivos de montaña (PPM)

2

Sistemas de producción compatibles con la conservación de ecosistemas de montaña amenazados

3

Medios de vida sostenibles incorporando prácticas amigables con la biodiversidad



10

Entidades

10

Municipios

36

**Asociaciones
de productores**

Iniciativa sustentada en alianzas

- Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales
- Ministerio de Agricultura
- Programas Agroforestales
- Instituto Dominicano del Café (INDOCAFE)
- Comisión Nacional de Cacao
- Viceministerio de Ordenamiento Territorial del MEPyD
- Secretaría Técnica de ODS
- Fondo de Agua
- FEDOMU
- Gobiernos locales
- Otras agencias de cooperación

CONTRIBUCION METAS PAIS:



Metas
AICHI



Neutralidad de la
Degradación de la
Tierra

OBJETIVOS DE DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE



Agenda 2030 y
ODS

Donde: Municipio de Yamasa



Una de nuestras **3 zonas piloto**, donde trabajamos con producción de **cacao**.

1. Tendremos **cuatro estaciones temáticas**:
 - **Conectividad**
 - **Gobernanza**
 - Fortalecimiento **Programa de Incendios (con la FAO)**
 - Experiencia **Escuelas de Campo** para producción sostenible
2. Recorrido por las instalaciones post cosecha de CONACADO*, socio del proyecto

**A nivel nacional brinda servicios a más de 10,000 productores pequeños y medianos de cacao y son responsable de la compra y exportación de 25% del cacao certificado que exporta el país.*

Compartiremos nuestra experiencia

- - ECAS: Buenas prácticas en producción
- Sistemas agroforestales sostenibles

- Fortalecimiento del sistema de manejo de incendios.
- SAT
- Brigadas



- Planes Municipales de Desarrollo (PMD)
- Planes/instrumentos de Ordenamiento Territorial (POT)
- Agendas ambientales
- Conectividad – corredores ecológicos
- Consejos de cuenca



Muchas Gracias

GEF project to visit

Title	Focal Areas	Type	Agencies/EA	Status	GEF Period
<u>Mainstreaming Conservation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in Productive Landscapes in Threatened Forested Mountainous Areas</u>	Multi (BD, LD)	FSP	UNDP/ Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	<u>MTR (2022)</u> , PIR 2023	GEF-6



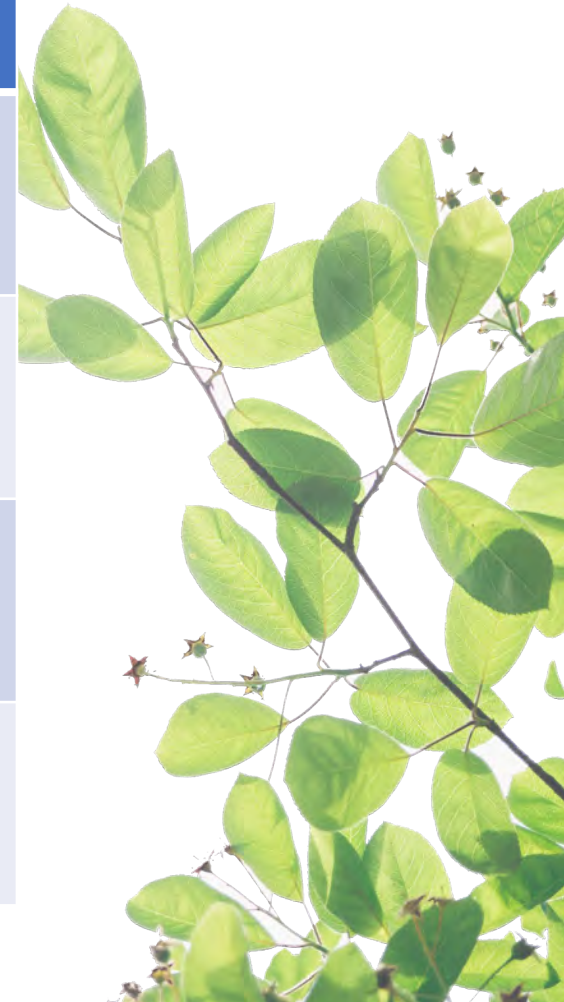
Schedule

- 7:00 a.m.- Meeting in the lobby of the Hotel El Embajador (4 buses)
- 7:30 a.m.- Departure from Hotel to Yamasá by each group (2:00)
- 9:30 a.m.- Welcome remarks (0:30).
- 10:00 a.m.- Learning stations in the village <4 learning stations> (2:00)
- 12:00 p.m.- Presentation of local products (0:30)
- 12:30 p.m.- Lunch and tour of the cocoa post-harvest processing facilities (1:30)
- 2:00 p.m.- Departure to the hotel (2:00)
- 4:00 p.m. Arrival at the hotel

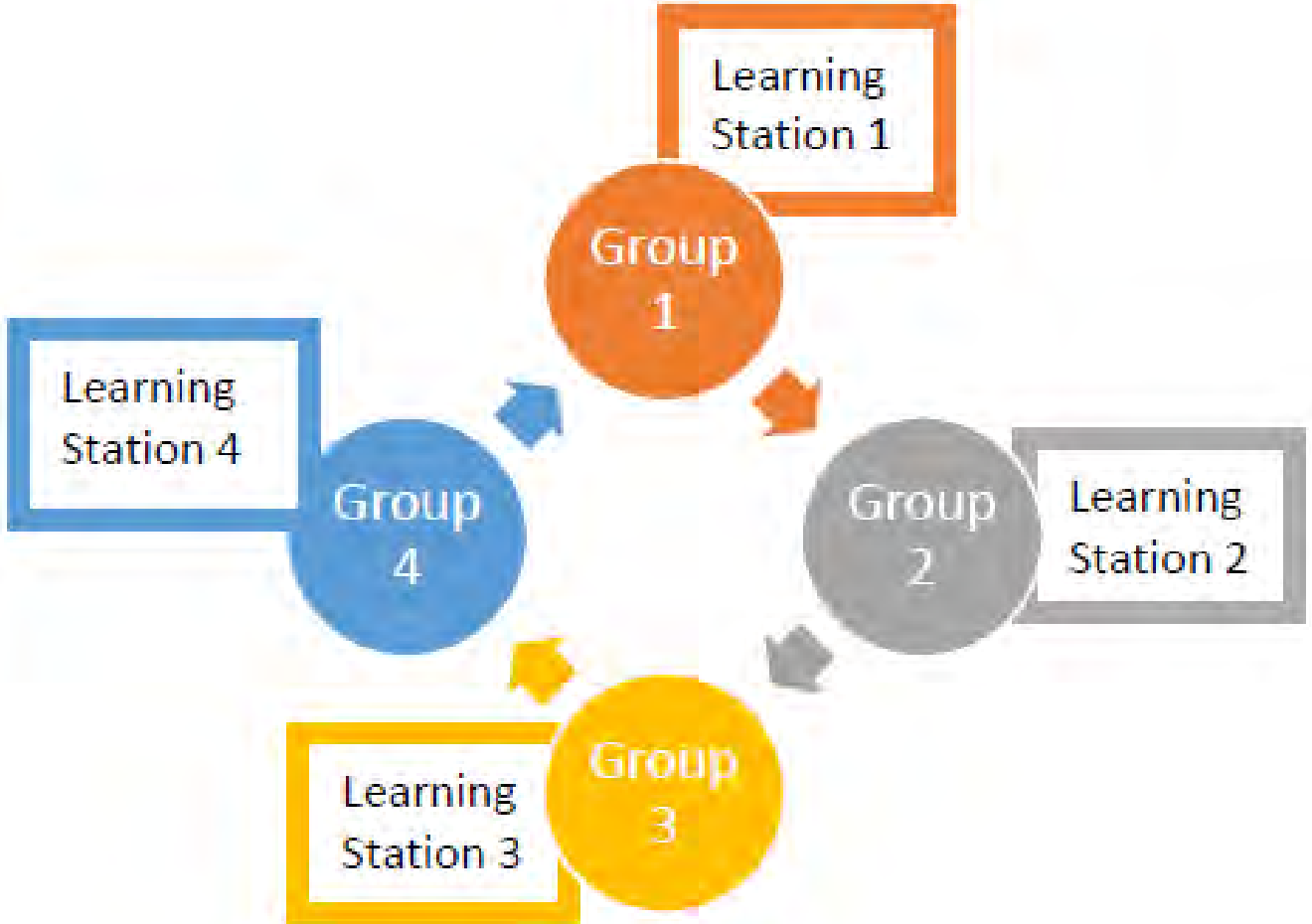


Grouping for the field trip

	GEF Sec (Facilitator)	Bus #	Visiting Learning Stations
Group 1: Antigua And Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica	Sarah	1	Learning station 1 -> 2 ->3 -> 4
Group 2: Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts And Nevis	Patricia	2	Learning station 2 -> 3 ->4 -> 1
Group 3: St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago	Asha	3	Learning station 3 -> 4 ->1->2
Group 4: Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti	Miguel	4	Learning station 4 -> 1-> 2-> 3



About the Learning Stations



Learning Stations

- 1) Forest Fire Management
- 2) Farmers Field School for sustainable cocoa farmers
- 3) Municipal development plan including land use planning in landscapes
- 4) Connecting corridors for biodiversity conservation



Prepare for the field trip

- Light clothing, comfortable shoes, cap or hat, water bottle, sunscreen, insect repellent, and sunglasses.
- PLEASE go to the restroom before getting on the bus tomorrow morning. <very limited number of restroom at the lunch venue>

