



**UNDP EEG**  
**2008 – 2009 Annual Monitoring Report**  
**of UNDP supported GEF funded Projects**

***Fiscal Year 2009***

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# 1 Introduction

This report highlights progress made in 88 countries<sup>1</sup> through the contribution of 242 UNDP supported GEF funded projects that began implementation on or before 30 June 2008<sup>2</sup>. These country-led investments in national environment and sustainable development priorities have also helped countries progress towards the achievement of the global environmental goals laid out in the global environmental conventions for Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation as well as the international waters and persistent organic pollutant objectives supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The strategic focus of UNDP's support is to help countries put in place the policy, institutional and financial frameworks that will help drive private investment flows towards environmentally sustainable solutions, and to assist countries in making sustained progress toward the Millennium Development Goals, and the environment and sustainable development focus areas of UNDP outlined in the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2008-2013.

National governments develop and execute UNDP supported GEF funded projects, though international agencies and NGOs also execute some projects when they are best placed to do so. The International Waters portfolio is mainly comprised of regional or global projects. UNDP technical support is provided by the UNDP Environment and Energy Group (EEG) and additional support is provided by the Governance, Poverty, Crisis Prevention and other groups within UNDP when appropriate. Principal Technical Advisers (PTAs), Regional Environment Practice Leaders/Team Leaders and Regional Technical Advisers located in Regional Bureaus and Service Centres<sup>3</sup> provide technical and oversight support to UNDP Country Offices who in turn support the country project management teams. A small percentage of projects are managed globally by UNDP EEG staff based at UNDP headquarters in New York. Additional fiduciary and management oversight support services are also provided by UNDP EEG staff in New York.

UNDP EEG support to these country-led projects is based on a strong commitment to results management, continuous improvement, learning, and the sharing of knowledge and best practice. This report is based on individual project Annual Performance Reviews/Project Implementation Reports (APR/PIR) covering the period from 01 July 2008 to 30 June 2009, as well as 29 mid-term project evaluations and 16 final project evaluations undertaken during this reporting period. While based on the standard requirements of UNDP project management procedures, this annual monitoring process of UNDP supported GEF funded projects is more comprehensive and requires considerable commitment, time and resources of the project team, the Country Office, the Regional Teams, and Headquarters staff. In addition, since 2008, UNDP EEG has instituted a process whereby the quality of the APR/PIR for each UNDP supported GEF funded project is rated by an external independent adviser, and this rating is used in the performance evaluation of the project oversight responsibilities of the Regional Technical Advisers. This explains, in part, why the GEF OPS 4 evaluation<sup>4</sup> noted that UNDP remains the leading Implementing Agency (IA) in quality of project supervision<sup>5</sup> due to the shared oversight at global/regional and country levels as well as the institutional systems in place to support sustained supervision.

The progress made by the 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects is divided into two general categories: impact results and management performance. Impact results are reported by the environmental issue being addressed namely biodiversity, climate change mitigation, international waters, land degradation, integrated ecosystem management, climate change adaptation and POPs which also represent UNDP portfolios and GEF focal

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<sup>1</sup> This does **not include** those countries involved in 18 regional and/or 14 global projects, thus the total number of countries involved in UNDP supported GEF funded projects is actually higher than 88.

<sup>2</sup> 86% of the 242 projects were approved during GEF-3. 1 project is from the GEF-1 period, 21 from GEF-2 and 12 from GEF-4.

<sup>3</sup> Africa (Dakar and Pretoria), Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

<sup>4</sup> [www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org)

<sup>5</sup> UNDP was reported to have progressed in its overall rating in quality of supervision from a score of 88 in 2006 to 92 in 2008, the World Bank from 87 to 86 and UNEP progressed from 36 to 73.

areas<sup>6</sup>. Each project monitors quantifiable progress made against a set of portfolio specific impact result indicators common to all projects in the portfolio (i.e. GEF focal area tracking tools<sup>7</sup> or other indicator sets<sup>8</sup>). While some margin of error is inevitable, the quality of the reported data is improving each year. Where appropriate, these impact results have been aggregated at the portfolio level.

Management performance indicators measure efficiency and effectiveness in the project cycle from project design to closure. In addition, each project monitors progress made towards reaching their project objective and outcomes against baseline data and end-of-project targets. This progress - called progress made toward the development objective - is then rated on a six point scale<sup>9</sup> as is project implementation or the progress made in delivering outputs. These self-ratings are made by the project manager/coordinator, the UNDP Country Officer, the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor, and in some cases the GEF operational focal point and Executing Agency, and are then averaged using a conservative formula to arrive at the overall rating for the project. These management performance results for the 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded project are aggregated by focal area and by region. Lessons learned and highlights of best practice have also been included in the report. Comprehensive separate reports for Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation, International Waters, and a combined Land Degradation and Integrated Ecosystem Management report are also available and provide the basis for this summary report.

## 2 Executive Summary

The 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects is comprised of 242 projects that have been under implementation for more than 12 months as of 1 July 2009. The total GEF grant funding for these projects is US\$ 969.93 million. An additional US\$ 2.79 billion in co-financing was committed to these projects before implementation began, and since project start an additional US\$ 593.67 million in co-financing has been committed. Thus, every dollar of GEF grant provided to this cohort of UNDP supported projects has to date leveraged approximately 3.5 dollars in committed co-financing (cash and in-kind). **This represents a combined total value of US\$4.35 billion invested in environment and sustainable development priorities in 88 countries, and 18 regional and 14 global projects.**

This 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects reported their contribution to following aggregated results:

- Across 56 countries<sup>10</sup>, 128 new Protected Areas (PAs) covering 11.1 million hectares have been established, an additional 197 new PAs covering 4.2 million hectares are in the process of being established, and 453 existing PAs covering 85.2 million hectares have been strengthened<sup>11</sup>.
- 50 countries<sup>12</sup> are mainstreaming biodiversity objectives into 18 economic sectors<sup>13</sup> as a key means to achieve biodiversity conservation. Changes to encourage more biodiversity-friendly practices have reportedly resulted in a growth in the market or profitability for many biodiversity-based types of products, including medicinal plants, coffee, legumes, meat, dairy, fish, and livestock. In addition, certification systems for biodiversity-based products including coffee, timber and other forestry products,

<sup>6</sup> The 10 multi-focal area projects of the 2009 cohort do not report against progress made against a specific set of indicators for the portfolio and thus are not included in the impact results section however they are included in the management performance section.

<sup>7</sup> Please see GEF tracking tools available at <http://www.thegef.org/interior.aspx?id=20480>

<sup>8</sup> See separate reports for Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation, International Waters, and a combined Land Degradation and Integrated Ecosystem Management report.

<sup>9</sup> HS=highly satisfactory, S=satisfactory, MS = moderately satisfactory, MU=moderately unsatisfactory, U=unsatisfactory, MU=moderately unsatisfactory

<sup>10</sup> Note that the number of countries noted throughout this report does not include those countries involved in regional and/or global projects.

<sup>11</sup> UNDP assists countries to establish the governance frameworks needed to strengthen PA management and unleash their economic potential by harnessing direct use values (such as sustainable tourism or direct use of resources) or sustaining ecosystem services.

<sup>12</sup> Note that 7 biodiversity projects work under both Protected Area and Mainstreaming objectives.

<sup>13</sup> These include: **Agriculture** (28 projects), **Animal Husbandry/Livestock** (58 projects), Apiculture (1 project), Energy (3 projects), **Fisheries** (16 projects), **Forestry** (20 projects), Health (1 project), Horticulture (1 project), Hunting (1 project), Infrastructure development (1 project), Land Use Planning (2 projects), Mining (1 project), Trade (1 project), Transport (1 project), **Travel/Tourism/Ecotourism**(26 projects), Urban (1 project), Waste (1 project), **Water** (7 projects),

handicrafts, flax oil, mangrove duck eggs, honey, fruits and herbal tea have been supported and/or developed.

- Across 44 countries, approximately 25.9 million tonnes (Mt) of CO<sub>2</sub> was avoided this reporting period through market transformation made in 93 different sectors. Cumulatively, an estimated 87.3 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have been avoided over the lifetime of all the climate change mitigation UNDP supported GEF funded projects. To provide some context for these total values, noting that comparisons are not appropriate, the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reported by Norway in 2004 for example was 87.5 Mt<sup>14</sup>
- Over 15 Large Marine Ecosystems, Lakes and River Basins, and shared aquifers are identifying and in several cases already implementing stress reduction measures supported by governance reforms and investments to address depleted fisheries, reduce nutrient pollution, apply integrated approaches to watershed and coastal area management, and reduce the risk of invasive species from ship ballast water.
- Approximately 5 million hectares of agricultural land in 12 countries was reported to be applying sustainable land management techniques and approaches. This is a considerable amount given that approximately 6 million hectares of global agricultural land is lost each year<sup>15</sup>.
- In management performance, 94% of the 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects were rated marginally satisfactory or above in likelihood of achieving project objectives and in project implementation, similar to the ratings provided in 2008. Based on mid-term and final evaluations undertaken this reporting period, on average UNDP supported GEF funded projects realised higher amounts of co-financing than the amount committed in the project document. 12% of the 2009 cohort was rated as high risk projects; however the majority of projects were rated with moderate to low risk.

### 3 Overview of 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects

The 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects is comprised of 242 projects that have been under implementation for more than 12 months as of 1 July 2009. 160 received a GEF grant over US \$ 1 million (full-size projects) and 82 received a GEF grant under US\$1 million each (medium-sized projects). The total GEF grant funding for these projects is US\$ 969.93 million. An additional US\$ 2.79 billion in co-financing was committed to these projects before implementation began, and since project start an additional US\$ 593.67 million in co-financing has been committed. The co-financers include governments, NGOs, the private sector, UNDP and other stakeholders. Thus, every dollar of GEF grant provided to this cohort of UNDP supported projects has to date leveraged approximately 3.5 dollars in committed co-financing (cash and in-kind). **This represents a combined total value of US\$4.35 billion invested in environment and sustainable development priorities in 88 countries, and 18 regional and 14 global projects.** 56% of the GEF funds have been disbursed as of 30 June 2009. The average GEF grant of a full-size project is US\$ 5.59 million.

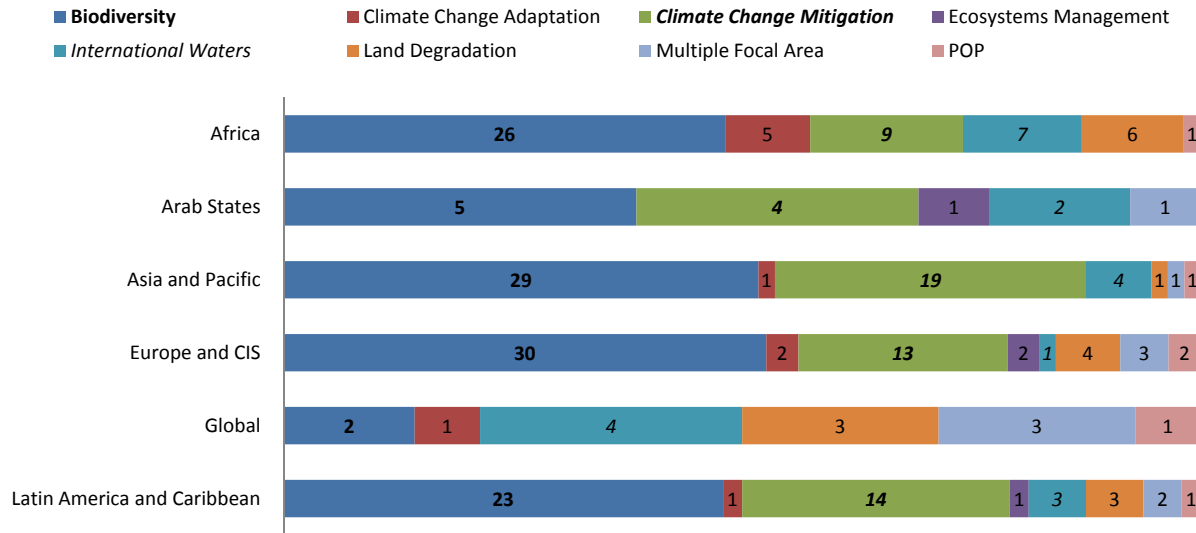
The 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects are distributed as follows: Africa (54 projects), Arab States (13 projects), Asia and the Pacific (56 projects), Europe and CIS (57 projects), Latin America and the Caribbean (48 projects), and 14 global projects. By focal area, the 2009 cohort includes 115 Biodiversity projects, 59 Climate Change Mitigation projects, 21 International Waters projects, 17 Land Degradation projects, 10 Climate Change Adaptation projects, 6 Persistent Organic Pollutants projects, 4 Integrated Ecosystem Management projects and 10 Multifocal Area projects.

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<sup>14</sup> UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008, Fighting Climate Change: Human solidarity in a divided world. UNDP <http://hdrstats.undp.org/indicators/232.html>

<sup>15</sup> See 2009 UNDP Land Degradation performance report for further details.

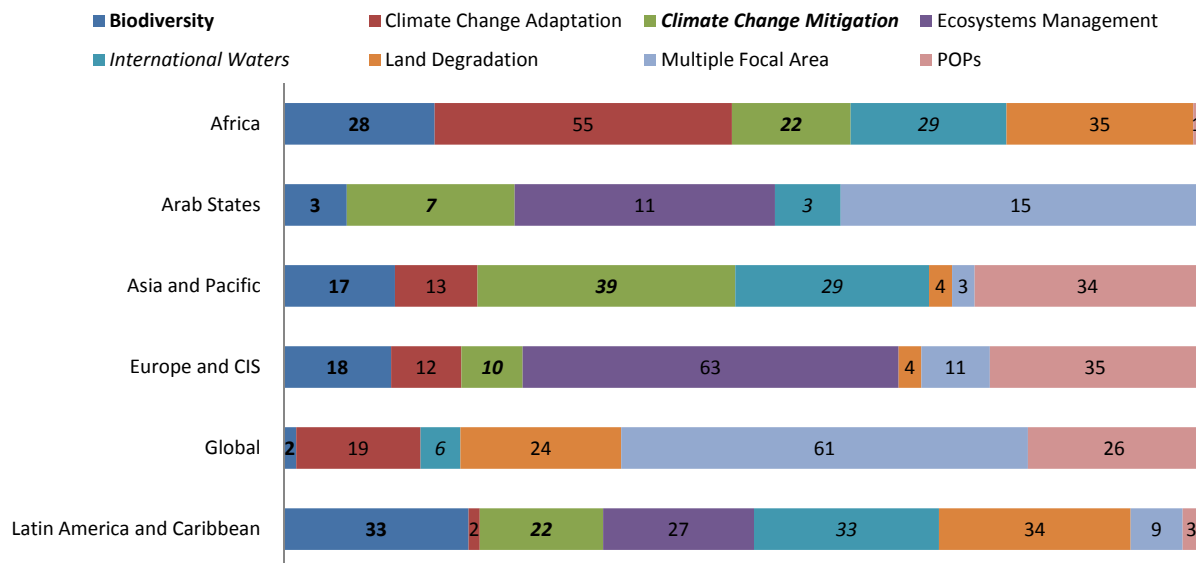
### # Projects by Region



The total project value<sup>16</sup> of the 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded is distributed across the regions as follows: Africa 28.3%, Arab States 3.8% , Asia and the Pacific 24.7%, Europe and CIS 12.5%, and Latin America and the Caribbean 28.3%, and global projects 4.3%. By focal area: Biodiversity 43.5%, Climate Change Mitigation 30.8, International Waters 14.7%, Land Degradation 6.5%, Climate Change Adaptation 1.4%, Persistent Organic Pollutants 1.8%, Integrated Ecosystem Management 0.8% and Multifocal Area projects at 0.6%.

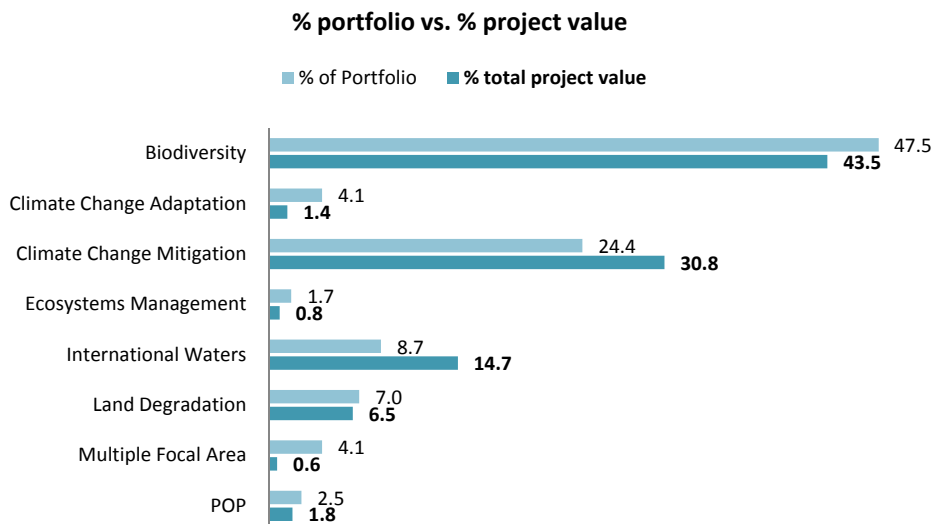
As highlighted in the table below, 55% of the total project value of the climate change adaption portfolio is being implemented in Africa, 39% of the climate change mitigation projects in Asia and the Pacific, and 33-34% of the biodiversity, international waters and land degradation portfolio in Latin America and the Caribbean.

### % Project Value by Region



<sup>16</sup> Total project value = GEF project preparation grant + GEF grant + committed co-financing. Due to rounding, total number may not equal 100.

As noted in the chart below, the Climate Change Mitigation and International Waters portfolios have a larger total project value compared to the size of the portfolio. 71.4% of the International Waters portfolio (total 21 projects) is comprised of full-sized projects (average GEF funding per full size project is US\$ 8.23 million and co-financing is US\$ 27.40 million) and 80% of the Climate Change Mitigation portfolio (total 59 projects) is comprised of full-sized projects (average GEF funding per full size project is US\$ 4.63 million and co-financing is US\$ 19.40 million). This may in part be due to the complexity and technical/demonstration components of these projects.



Finally, 35 of the 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects reported direct execution by NGOs or indirect implementation by NGOs on behalf of the government. 60% of these are biodiversity projects. These projects represent a total GEF grant of US\$ 108 million, matched with US\$ 427 million in co-financing – a ratio of 1 to 4.

## 4 Progress made toward Impact Results

The 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects have helped countries progress towards the achievement of the global environmental goals laid out in the global environmental conventions for Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation as well as the international waters and persistent organic pollutant objectives supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and have also contributed to national environment and sustainable development priorities.

The strategic focus of UNDP’s support is to help countries put in place the policy, institutional and financial frameworks that will help drive private investment flows towards environmentally sustainable solutions, and to assist countries in making sustained progress toward the Millennium Development Goals, and the environment and sustainable development focus areas of UNDP outlined in the UNDP Strategic Plan for 2008-2013. As reported in the UNDP Enhanced Results Based Management Platform, the 2009 cohort of UNDP supported GEF funded projects has contributed to the 4 environment and sustainable development corporate outcomes of mainstreaming environment and energy; catalyzing environmental finance; promoting climate change adaptation; and, expanding access to environmental and energy services for the poor. Some of these projects have been aligned to the UNDP key results areas of poverty reduction, democratic governance and crisis prevention.

### Biodiversity

UNDP Biodiversity interventions are designed to address the threats to biodiversity by lifting barriers to country actions needed to address the root causes of biodiversity loss, improve the state of biodiversity over the long-term, and maintain and enhance the beneficial services provided by natural ecosystems. This approach helps to secure livelihoods; secure food, water and health; and, reduce vulnerability to climate change, increase the storage of carbon, and avoid emissions from land use, land use change and forestry.

72 countries<sup>17</sup> are, with the support of UNDP, implementing 115 biodiversity GEF funded projects. This represents US\$ 461.01 million of GEF funding and US\$ 1,167.74 million in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – ratio of 1:2.5 – and a combined investment of US\$ 1,634 million.

These interventions are active in 82 of the 200 World Wildlife Fund Global Ecoregions, 27 of the 34 Conservation International Hotspots, and 13 of the 17 Mega diverse countries: Democratic Republic of Congo, Madagascar, South Africa, and the People's Republic of China, India, Malaysia, Philippines, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela. An estimated 431<sup>18</sup> globally threatened species are covered in the territory of 100 UNDP supported GEF funded projects and invasive alien species are being addressed through the strategies of 36 projects.

Climate change adaptation is being addressed by the Biodiversity portfolio either directly or indirectly through various means including the adoption of alternative fuel sources, the collection of native plant genotype, and the inclusion of particularly vulnerable species and ecosystems in Protected Areas (PAs). Nearly half of the portfolio reported carbon sequestration potential. Over 150 different indigenous communities are involved in a wide range of activities including training, knowledge sharing, joint/co-management, participatory planning, developing sustainable alternative/traditional livelihoods, and awareness-raising.

As outlined further in the separate UNDP EEG GEF Biodiversity Portfolio Annual Global Performance Report 2008-2009, 90% of the biodiversity portfolio contributes to MDG 1 to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger. 74% contributes to MDG 3 to promote gender equality and empower women, and approximately 50% of the biodiversity portfolio has worked toward MDG 8 by supporting and encouraging global partnerships.

### ***Catalyzing the Sustainability of Protected Areas***

Protected Areas (PAs) are widely recognized as a cornerstone of biodiversity management and sustainable development. UNDP assists countries to unleash the economic potential of PAs by addressing barriers at systemic (i.e. policy framework), institutional (i.e. develop capacity PA authorities), individual (i.e. enhance skills of PA managers) and financial levels (i.e. capturing cost efficiencies in management and generating revenue). In addition, the representation of PA systems is addressed to ensure they are bio-geographically representative in the first place and thus have the potential to conserve biodiversity.

UNDP works through strategic partnerships mobilized with governments and the private sector, non-government organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) that build on their respective strengths. This approach aims to strengthen PA systems by mobilizing funding and management know-how, and through a rights-based approach ensures that local communities are partners with clear rights and responsibilities in PA management. For example, in Latin America and the Caribbean, indigenous communities of various ethnic groups, including Rikbatsa, Zoro and Arara (Brazil); Melillanca Huanqui, Trafunko los Bados, and Huilliches (Chile); Pame (Mexico); Pykasu, Ñu Guasu, Jukeri, Arroyo Claro (Paraguay); Kekchi and Mopan (Belize); and Warao (Venezuela) are key partners in a number of UNDP supported GEF funded projects. They have been involved in the development of management plans for PAs in Belize, Guatemala, and Chile, as well as in productive initiatives in buffer zones for increasing sustainable livelihood options in Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Paraguay, and Venezuela.

56 countries are addressing the sustainability of protected areas through the support of 67 UNDP GEF funded biodiversity projects<sup>19</sup>. These projects have contributed to the following reported aggregated results<sup>20</sup>:

<sup>17</sup> This figure does not include those countries involved in regional and/or global projects.

<sup>18</sup> This figure likely contains double-counting (which cannot be avoided due to potential overlap of project territories and/or movement of species populations) and is potentially a significant underestimate due to limitations in the reported data.

<sup>19</sup> The following countries have more than one biodiversity UNDP supported GEF funded project: DR Congo, Gabon, Niger, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Romania, Russia, Uzbekistan, and Chile and other countries are participating in regional and/or global projects.

<sup>20</sup> These figures are estimates. Some projects have yet to determine the spatial coverage of the PAs. These figures do not include the contributions of the global project *Supporting the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas (PIMS 3273)*, which provides small grants to



- 128 new protected areas covering 11.1 million hectares have been created. In Africa this represents, 60 new PAs covering 4,170,015 hectares. In the Arab States, 3 new PAs covering 37,758 hectares. In Asia & Pacific, 11 new PAs covering 2,405,139 hectares. In Europe & CIS, 19 new PAs covering 2,612,368 hectares and in Latin America and Caribbean, 35 new PAs covering 1,895,393.
- An additional 197 new PAs covering 4.2 million hectares are in the process of being established. In Africa this represents 49 new PAs in progress covering 1,890,937 hectares. In Asia & Pacific, 4 new PAs in progress covering 688,700 hectares. In Europe & CIS, 85 new PAs in progress covering 805,322 hectares. In Latin America and Caribbean, 59 new PAs in progress covering 878,711 hectares.
- 453 existing PAs covering 85.2 million hectares have been strengthened. In Africa this represents, 212 strengthened PAs covering 56,721,291 hectares. In the Arab States, 6 strengthened PAs covering 7,140,418 hectares. In Asia & Pacific, 24 strengthened PAs covering 5,331,555 hectares. In Europe & CIS, 126 strengthened PAs covering 9,686,540 hectares. In Latin America and Caribbean, 85 strengthened PAs covering 6,296,161 hectares.

This progress has been achieved through the drafting and/or amendment of PA legislation in 35 countries, the drafting of policies on PA financing and property rights, and 18 countries have ratified relevant international environmental conventions through the support of UNDP GEF funded projects. In addition, projects in 37 countries have supported or established institutions responsible for PAs, and in many other countries the authority of regional, national and local institutions responsible for PAs has been strengthened.

For example, in Africa, the capacity of PA authorities has been strengthened to improve planning, monitoring, enforcement and reporting, to widen stakeholder participation in PA management, and to cultivate private sector investment and expertise. Institutional capacities to undertake basic PA functions have been strengthened at the central level in Eritrea, Rwanda, Namibia, Zambia, Uganda and sub systems level in South Africa and Tanzania. A PA Systems Effectiveness Toolkit has been tested in Namibia and Zambia and management effectiveness tracking has been undertaken in 60 sites in ten countries using the WWF-WB METT tool. Co-management compacts are being negotiated in Botswana and Zambia between private sector entities and communities.

In Egypt the project *Conservation and sustainable use of native biodiversity resources used for herbal, medicinal, pharmaceutical and cosmetic purposes (PIMS#972)* has collaborated with the St. Katherine Medicinal Plants Association, providing it with technical support for registration, organic certification, marketing, preparation of a business plan and identification of key criteria for projects receiving revolving funds. The project team has worked through the 'community-based natural resources management' (CBNRM) component of the project to set up the "Green Gold Association". This is the formal name of the CBO that will be responsible for the management of wild medicinal plants; 40 of its 42 members are women collectors in the region. Additionally, the project activities aim at including the women in the production of newly developed products, thus training them for income-generating activities that are more lucrative and profitable than their current line of products. 200 women have received loans from the existing revolving fund to buy cookers and butane cylinders which has reduced firewood collection significantly and improved the quality of life of these women.

In Mexico, the project *Biodiversity Conservation in the Sierra Gorda biosphere reserve (PIMS#2189)* has helped combat poverty by developing biodiversity-friendly alternative economic activities, such as ecotourism, sustainable use of natural resources and payments for environmental services. Because of this, the project is considered a model of success for combating poverty in natural protected areas. The achievements in this project and, beyond that, in the operation of more than 20 years of the Grupo Ecologico Sierra Gorda in the Sierra Gorda Biosphere Reserve, constitutes an example of how a locally-organized civil society can generate important processes of

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over 40 countries to assist with meeting the short-term requirements of the Convention on Biological Diversity PoWPA. Part of the ECIS portfolio, this project alone is effectively strengthening 6,614 PAs extending across nearly 200 million ha.

conservation with national and global impacts, and how a process of continuous environmental education can develop sensitivity towards environmental issues in the population.

Key lessons learned include:

1. Incentive based biodiversity conservation is vital to ensure meaningful and lasting impacts at the site level.
2. Decentralization of PA management responsibilities is important, but the devolution process should take into account the capacities of local governments and communities.
3. PA management should anticipate emerging problems such as climate change in order to institute adaptation measures.
4. Management plans are important outputs for any site-based PA project however planning should not be an end in itself but should be an instrument to deliver and measure the outcomes or impacts of the project.
5. Constructive dialogue is important to contain threats from illegal activities within protected areas.
6. Achieving financial sustainability in PA management should be a key focus of exit strategies.
7. It is not always appropriate to look for “recipes for replication” since their application could actually lead to serious problems in other sites and instead of supporting conservation might even cause further deterioration. Any model for management must be tailored to the specific context of the area.
8. Informed decision making should be based on the latest science and technical information. Sharing of expertise across projects through South-South exchanges can be useful to ensure the more effective design of PA information and decision making systems.
9. The spheres of influence of projects can expand beyond originally intended boundaries and should be carefully managed and considered during project design.

***Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Production Land/Seascapes and Sectors***

Most biodiversity in the world resides outside Protected Areas in lands dedicated to various production activities, including agriculture, forestry, fisheries, mining and tourism. The mainstreaming of biodiversity-friendly objectives into these production sectors constitutes a key vehicle for achieving biodiversity conservation.

50 countries are mainstreaming biodiversity objectives into economic sector activities to ensure production practices maintain essential ecosystem functions. The 48 biodiversity UNDP supported GEF funded projects have contributed to the following reported aggregated results:

- Approximately 81 million hectares directly covered by projects activities (includes demonstration activities). Direct coverage includes demonstration activities, whereas indirect coverage includes the reform of policies, strategies and institutional structures.
- Approximately 375.5 million hectares indirectly covered by project activities (includes the reform of policies, strategies and institutional structures).
- 108 set asides and easements are in the process of being established.
- 46 PAs were established and 296 PAs were strengthened by 33 projects, which are targeting PAs as part of their mainstreaming strategy.
- Changes to encourage more biodiversity-friendly practices have reportedly resulted in a growth in the market or profitability for many biodiversity-based types of products, including medicinal plants, coffee, legumes, meat, dairy, fish, and livestock brought about through the supported of 31 projects.
- Certification systems for biodiversity-based products including coffee, timber and other forestry products, handicrafts, flax oil, mangrove duck eggs, honey, fruits and herbal tea have been supported and/or developed through 12 projects.

UNDP’s strategy is to address barriers at the systemic, institutional, individual, market and investment levels. Key systemic level interventions aim to influence the policy framework governing production sectors, and institutional level interventions are designed to enhance capacity to address biodiversity management needs in economic sectors. For example, in South Africa the project *Conservation of Globally Important Grasslands (PIMS#2929)* is working with the forestry, agriculture, coal mining and urban development sectors (in public, private and civil society agencies of these sectors) to achieve two primary anticipated changes. First, is that where development takes place, it will avoid wherever possible critical biodiversity areas. If avoidance is not possible and

minimization and mitigation fail to achieve the desired biodiversity gains, the sector will implement offsets where development affects biodiversity in order to secure biodiversity gains. Second, development carried out by these sectors will make use of policy and practices that reduce the overall footprint of development that takes place. Bioregional plans will cover a substantial portion of the grasslands biome. Changes have been also made to the institutional arrangements and mandates in those production sectors, including forestry (a conservation planning tool and GIS-based screening tool have been developed); the urban sector; and agriculture (*veld* management guidelines are under development).

To address barriers at the market and investment levels, the projects assist financial managers to realize investment opportunities offered by eco-friendly businesses and empowers communities by building their capacity, often through cooperatives, so that they can apply to credit institutions for funding or establish their own micro-credit facilities. The project also stimulates the development of Payment for Environment Services (PES) schemes, to compensate resource managers for the costs they incur in protecting biodiversity. Such schemes aim to internalize the benefits derived from better biodiversity management in production practices to provide an incentive for sound stewardship. At the same time, it assists communities and entrepreneurs to access 'green' markets that value commodities that have been produced in a biodiversity-friendly manner.

For example, in Cambodia, supported by the project *Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management (CALM) in the Northern Plains (PIMS#2177)*, Ibis Rice was developed to benefit communities that agree to land use plans within protected areas. Farmers that follow agreements sell rice at preferential prices to a marketing association, which sells directly to national markets and hotels. The association also provides start-up capital and training. Payments are linked to monitoring by village committees of farmers' compliance with agreements. Protection activities are also monitored using the Management Information System (MIST) which provides data on patrols and threats to wildlife. As women make up the majority of small-scale farmers, improving community land tenure directly contributes their empowerment by giving them control over the land they require to feed themselves and their families.

In Bulgaria, the project *Rhodope Mountains (PIMS#1966)* promotes forest certification practices, which have opened the market for Forestry Stewardship Council (FSC) certified timber. By June 2009, over 20,000 hectares of forests were certified. While providing opportunities to achieve higher timber prices, forest certification requires the application of sustainable forestry practices which are expected to lead to the conservation of important species and habitats, and the maintenance of ecosystem services. Similarly, in the agricultural sector, the project has promoted organic farming certification; by June 2009, 17 farms had converted to organic farming as a result of project interventions. Based on a survey implemented by the project aimed at identifying ways to integrate biodiversity conservation into the activities of SMEs, the project engaged in a dialogue with the private sector to find ways in which business can support biodiversity conservation. This dialogue has also been part of the UN Global Compact Initiative which promotes environmental corporate social responsibility. Ultimately, this is expected to have implications for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources globally. The first visible effects are in the tourism sector, where close-to nature tourism is being promoted.

Key lessons learned include:

1. Mainstreaming actions need to be predicated on the needs of specific sectors. Harnessing market forces – including for example environmental certification, fair trade systems - may provide an impetus for business engagement. International markets can be a potent agent for change.
2. The key challenge is to identify 'win-win' solutions in which production enterprises benefit and biodiversity is maintained. Where the costs of the maintenance of biodiversity exceed the benefits – or where that perception thrives – the land will likely be converted by the production sector in ways that cause the degradation of biodiversity.
3. Ensuring financial sustainability through alternative mechanisms for continued revenue generation and expansion is important.
4. Local capacity to facilitate the development of biodiversity markets is important. Projects introducing new financial instruments require realistic approaches and planning, as they often entail complex procedures. The

incorporation of key institutional personnel is important to facilitate knowledge of new financial instruments and internal approval processes.

### **Climate Change Mitigation**

UNDP climate change mitigation interventions focus on the creation of sustainable markets by addressing technical, awareness, capacity and policy barriers to environmentally and climate friendly technologies and practices. 44 countries<sup>21</sup> are, with the support of UNDP, implementing 59 climate change mitigation GEF funded projects. This represents US\$ 225.10 million of GEF funding and US\$ 930.96 million in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – ratio of 1:4.1 – and a combined investment of US\$ 1,156 million.

The aggregate figures reported in this section are based on estimates reported by 59 very different projects and measured according to the tracking tool developed by the GEF and applied by the project teams. While some margin of error is inevitable, the quality of the reported data is improving each year. In addition, progress made toward creating an enabling policy environment for climate change mitigation measures is rated on a scale of 0 to 4 with 0 being no achievement and 4 being complete achievement. Contributing to the creation of an enabling environment is typically achieved through a series of steps including building institutional and individual capacity, and the drafting, adoption and enforcement of policies and legislative measures.

Across 44 countries, approximately 25.9 million tonnes (Mt) of CO<sub>2</sub> was avoided this reporting period through market transformation made in 93 different sectors. Cumulatively, an estimated minimum of 87.3 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have been avoided over the lifetime of the projects in this portfolio. To provide some context for these total values, noting that comparisons are not appropriate, the total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reported by Norway in 2004 for example was 87.5 Mt<sup>22</sup>

### **Removal of Barriers to Energy Efficiency and Energy Conservation**

Using less energy saves money and reduces greenhouse gas emissions. UNDP promotes energy efficiency by removing barriers to the large-scale application, implementation and dissemination of cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies and practices. UNDP also supports the market transformation of energy-efficient appliances and the widespread adoption of energy-efficient technologies in industry and building sectors.

19 projects estimated that 20.4 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions were avoided this reporting period. Cumulative estimated emission reductions over the lifetime of the energy efficiency portfolio of UNDP supported GEF funded projects has reached approximately 72.3 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>.

21 projects rated progress made toward creating an enabling policy environment for energy efficient buildings and appliances at 2.5/4 indicating that policies have been drafted and in certain cases adopted, though enforcement efforts are still required. These projects also reported a combined energy savings of 131,145,000 MWh.

5 projects reported that US\$ 78 million has been made in energy efficiency in industry which led to an approximate energy savings of 63,594,000 MWh. Over the course of the reporting period, 17 local institutions expressed interest or were involved in the financing of energy efficiency measures in the countries implementing the GEF funded projects which resulted in 713,458 MWh in energy savings.

For example in Croatia, the climate change mitigation project *Removing barriers to improving energy efficiency of the residential and service sectors (PIMS#715)* works with two thirds of the cities, counties and ministries in Croatia to introduce systematic energy management in buildings; educate civil servants; and to establish systems for monitoring and reporting on energy consumption, end-use efficiency and GHG emissions reduction. This has led to

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<sup>21</sup> This figure does not include those countries involved in regional and/or global projects.

<sup>22</sup> UNDP Human Development Report 2007/2008, Fighting Climate Change: Human solidarity in a divided world. UNDP <http://hdrstats.undp.org/indicators/232.html>

a 15% increase in household CFL use, nearly 8% increase in energy efficient home appliance adoption and over 10% increase in EE-glass windows. The project has also leveraged over US\$ 23 million in new investments.

### ***Promoting the Adoption of Renewable Energy by Removing Barriers and Reducing Implementation Costs***

Renewable energy is one of the most promising substitutes for fossil fuels. UNDP helps countries remove barriers to developing markets for renewable energies where this is cost-effective, and helps to create enabling policy frameworks, build the capacity for understanding and using the technologies, and establish financial mechanisms to make renewable energy more affordable.

31 projects estimated that 5.4 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub> were avoided this reporting period. Cumulative estimated emission reductions over the lifetime of the renewable energy portfolio of UNDP supported GEF funded projects has reached approximately 14.7 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub>.

20 projects rated the progress made toward creating an enabling policy environment for renewable energy. An average rating of 2.8/4 was reported indicating that policies have been drafted and in certain cases adopted, though enforcement efforts are still required.

10 projects reported electricity generated from on-grid renewable sources of 8,440,429 (MWh/year). The vast majority of this (7,924,329 MWh) was reported by the *Biomass Power Generation and Co-generation project in Thailand (PIMS#762)* which demonstrated flexibility in extending its focus from biomass alone to a broader set of renewable energy technologies to meet the changing market circumstances by covering waste-to-energy projects.

14 projects reported that 88,299 businesses and households are being served by renewable energy beyond those receiving service at time of project inception, and 13 projects reported that 140,217 MWh/Year of electricity was generated from renewable sources.

For example, in Uruguay, through the project *Uruguay Wind Energy Programme (UWEP) (PIMS#2292)* the government is supporting the development of wind energy in the country. A state owned 10 MW wind farm has already been constructed and is in operation. During 2009, the project contributed to national capacity building, and provided technical support to public authorities (in technological, legal, policy and regulatory aspects). In the I.R. of Iran, the project *Carbon Sequestration (PIMS#899)* includes a focus on alternative sustainable livelihoods involving the development of solar cookers, bathhouse and water purification in rural areas, and tree plantation activities with the intention of reducing the communities' dependence on firewood.

In Montenegro, the project *Power Sector Policy Reform to Promote Small Hydropower Development in the Republic of Montenegro (PIMS#3813)* achieved excellent progress due in part to the good practice of establishing a strong partnership between the national Government, private sector and local governments. The project offered expertise in the field of small hydro that contributed to reforming the regulatory framework on small hydropower, while simultaneously collecting and providing needed data for making investment decisions.

### ***Promoting Low GHG Emitting Technologies***

In India, the objective of the project *Coal bed Methane (CBM) Recovery and Commercial Utilization (PIMS#744)* was to demonstrate the commercial feasibility of utilizing methane recovered during coal mining activities. Methane is a very potent GHG, and controlling its emission to the atmosphere and utilizing it as fuel could be of major relevance to climate change. The project has generated international and national interest as it has successfully demonstrated CBM recovery from vertical wells and has been generating power since June 2008 using the recovered gas at one location in India - Moonidih. The final evaluation of the project reported that currently Moonidih is generating 500 KW of power, consuming on an average 2000m<sup>3</sup> per day - saving 10,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. It also uses 4500 m<sup>3</sup> per day of CMM gas for power generation which results in a saving of 4,292 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year. Thus, in one year of operation about 14,290 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per year has been saved. By increasing the power generation to 1 MW, this could double to about 28, 500 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>. Considering a value of US\$20 per tonne of CO<sub>2</sub>, total amount of CO<sub>2</sub> saved, and were the project in a position to secure carbon credits

under CDM, a total of US\$280,580 would already have been earned and could reach US\$ 561,060 per year when upgraded to 1 MW power generation capacity.

In Malaysia, the project *Building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) technology application (PIMS#2754)* reported an annual CO<sub>2</sub> reduction of 937 tonnes and a cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> reduction of 1703 tonnes. In total, 94 stakeholders (public or private enterprises) indicated an interest in procuring or supplying this technology, and 1,487 MWh/year of electricity were generated from on-grid renewable sources that were installed by the project. In addition, the project has also contributed to the development of other renewable energy and energy efficiency policy formulation activities of the government, including the application of feed-in tariffs for on-grid BIPV systems.

### **Promoting Environmentally Sustainable Transport**

The transportation sector is the fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions. UNDP promotes a long-term shift towards low emission and sustainable forms of transportation. In South Africa, the project *Sustainable Transport and Sport, a 2010 opportunity (PIMS#3276)* has made significant progress in improving transportation systems before the 2010 World Cup. All project objectives are expected to be achieved. In Brazil, the project *Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses for Urban Transport (PIMS#543)* rated progress made toward creating an enabling policy environment for sustainable transport as 3/4 indicating that policies have been drafted and adopted, and enforcement efforts are underway. In China, the project *Demonstration for Fuel Cell Bus Commercialization in China (Phase II) (PIMS#2933)* reported 93,600 person trips taken per year on the sustainable transport options promoted under the project. This project encountered a serious financial problem in late 2008 when the available budget for the purchase of fuel cell buses (FCB) was not sufficient due to the increase in the unit price of a FCB. Instead of 6 units, the budget allows only for the purchase of 4 units. The Shanghai local government has agreed to cover the shortfall in project budget to help purchase two more buses.

#### Key lessons learned include:

1. Create links with other initiatives to promote and reproduce Renewable Energy technologies. In Mexico, for example, the linkage to other related initiatives has allowed the project to contribute to the technical norms for the technology and increase the level of outreach and capacity building which results in more PV systems on the grid.
2. Enhancing a project's relationships with external stakeholders can enhance the long-term impact of the project.
3. Projects must focus on economical viability to ensure sustainability. In order to attract additional investment, gain the interest of financial institutions, companies, and even the general public, there must be a focus on the economic viability of projects.

### **International Waters**

UNDP's Water Governance Strategy and the strategic objectives of the GEF International Waters focal area both aim to enhance regional and global cooperation, peace, security and economic development by helping countries to achieve adaptive governance of shared water resources. These interventions focus on transboundary water systems, such as river basins where water flows from one country to another; multi-country lake basins; groundwater resources shared by several countries; or large marine ecosystems (LME) bounded by more than one country. With the support of UNDP, countries work with their neighbours to modify human activities – including agriculture, industry, mining, water and other resource extraction, fishing and wastewater management – that place ecological stress on the water systems and degrade them, often affecting their downstream use by another country or community. In this way, water use conflicts can be prevented, security and livelihoods improved, habitats protected, health risks minimized and water resources used sustainably for the benefit of all.

Countries identify priority issues through Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) or joint fact finding which outlines the issues, their impacts, and immediate and root causes. The TDA forms the basis of regional strategic action programmes (SAP). The SAPs include agreed regional and national legal, policy and institutional reforms and investments that aim at the long-term sustainable management of the waterbodies in question. UNDP supports the implementation of these SAPs and/or national action plans (NAPs) through awareness raising, demonstrations, legal/policy reform, institutional strengthening and other mechanisms. In many cases, markets

are transformed. Forging and sustaining effective partnerships continues to be a key strategic focus and a vital component towards effective delivery and sustainability of project results.

The 21 international waters UNDP supported GEF funded projects are regional or global projects. This represents US\$ 129.23 million of GEF funding and US\$ 422.10 million in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – ratio of 1:3.3 – and a combined investment of US\$ 551 million.

### **Africa**

*Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem Program: Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystem Project (ASLME: WIOME) (PIMS#205)* 120 days of oceanographic cruises were completed and through these cruises LME information gaps required for a science-based TDA are being filled. Baseline information was collected for the east coast of Madagascar, the Mozambique Channel, the Mascarene Plateau and Basin, and around Mauritius and Seychelles. Original plans for 2009 were to undertake a gap-filling survey off Kenyan and Tanzanian coasts but this has been blocked due to increasing incidents of piracy and refusal of research vessels to work in these dangerous waters. Plans are being made to capture information through other means (use of local vessels, coastal studies, remote sensing from air and through use of underwater autonomous robotic vehicles). Marine Environmental Diagnostic Analyses (MEDA) Teams have been formed in each country to begin national level work leading to TDA formulation.

*Okavango River Basin (PIMS#65):* the final TDA is scheduled to be complete by October 2009. In this reporting period Integrated Flow Assessment (IFA) was carried out as part of the TDA exercise which analyzed the impacts of various water resources development options on the river's ecosystem health and socio-economic status of those who live in the basin. Draft NAPs have been prepared and a comprehensive, in-depth legal, policy and institutional review are underway to inform the SAP process. Significant progress has been made in identifying and compiling GIS data in all three countries. *Reversing land and water degradation trends in the Niger Basin (PIMS#260):* the TDA was finalized and approved. Two major studies about the management of data and knowledge were finalized and approved during this reporting period.

*Combating living resource depletion and coastal area degradation in the Guinea Current LME through ecosystem-based regional actions (PIMS#858):* Following serious management problems and a UNIDO investigation, project funds were frozen and the project management team was replaced. The SAP has now been endorsed by all 16 GCLME countries (compared to 13 one year ago), widely disseminated and a process to prepare NAPs for the implementation of the SAP launched. A Regional Task Force and a Road Map for Ballast Water Management was established and a Port Based Biological Survey Training Course was conducted in 2009. *Reversal of land and water degradation trends/Lake Chad basin ecosystem (PIMS#31):* Implementation of the action plan for the institutional reform of the LCBC commenced, staff recruited and recommendations arising from the legal, institutional, financial and economic studies have been validated by the Member States.

The project *Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool for the Benguela Coastal Areas (DLIST-Benguela)(PIMS#3153)* was designed to fill a gap observed between vast scientific knowledge generated for the management of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME) and the then very limited information made available to coastal communities whose livelihood depends on the resources of the BCLME. The project was completed in 2008 and received highly satisfactory/satisfactory ratings in the Final Evaluation. As a mechanism to ensure coastal community involvement, the DLIST approach was replicated in the BCLME SAP implementation process and in the TDA/SAP development process for the Agulhas and Somali Currents LMEs. During its implementation, DLIST not only filled the information gap but also empowered coastal communities to meaningfully participate policy discussions, as witnessed in the Coastal Policy development process in Namibia.

### **Latin America and the Caribbean**

*Demonstration of innovative approaches to the rehabilitation of heavily contaminated bays in the wider Caribbean (PIMS#1443):* A strategic planning proposal for the final phase of the project was formulated with the participation of all involved stakeholders. The construction of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Zero

Emissions facility progressed well. *Sustainable Management of the Shared Living Marine Resources of the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) and Adjacent Regions (PIMS#2193)* formed the project team and prepared the first year annual work plan and budget.

*Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) in the Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean (PIMS#2195)* has successfully set the foundation for broad adoption and replication of IWCAM approaches and practices in the Caribbean SIDS. With regard to the demonstration projects, considerable progress was made in Bahamas (Andros), Cuba, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, and St Lucia where stress reduction can already be demonstrated as a result of specific activities undertaken including the installation of improved Rainwater Harvesting Systems (RWH), and the construction of wetland filtration systems. Antigua and Barbuda has made progress in the development of a national sewage and wastewater strategy, though it has not yet been approved by Cabinet. Trinidad and Tobago has progressed but the diversion of a drainage system into a wetland to reduce siltation in Buccoo Bay has been put on hold indefinitely. Exuma, Bahamas, has made no tangible progress and thus the future of this project is under discussion.

### **Arab States**

*Formulation of an Action Programme for the Integrated Management of the Shared Nubian Aquifer (PIMS#1528)* developed a regional groundwater model to analyze potential transboundary issues. The findings will shape the approach to strategic action planning as it is now recognized that responding to immediate issues of water ownership and cross-border contamination may be less important than minimizing local environmental impacts and building cooperative frameworks for monitoring and modeling aquifer conditions at national and regional levels to prevent transboundary problems in the long term. *Nile Basin Trust Fund Co-financing for the Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project (NTEAP), Phase II (PIMS#3999)*: focused on the consolidation of project activities, documentation and packaging of various project products.

### **Asia and the Pacific**

*Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project (PIMS#2992)* has improved the availability of fish stock status measures and completed the successful first phase of the regional 'Pacific Tuna Tagging Programme'. The adoption of a significant conservation and management measure to address the serious scientific concerns for the state of the regions stocks of yellowfin and bigeye tunas was done on the initiative of a group of Pacific SIDS who introduced conservation and management measures within their area of competence to regulate fishing in high seas areas adjacent to their zones.

*Yellow Sea (PIMS#994)*: the SAP was adopted and applies an ecosystem-based approach which will maintain and improve the "ecosystem carrying capacity" of the Yellow Sea. During the course of the SAP development, co-operative cruises were undertaken to collect data and information on the Yellow Sea ecosystem. The project has also successfully initiated national and regional priority actions, including moratorium on fisheries during certain seasons in certain areas, protection of seagrass beds, and the establishment of marine protected area networks.

*East Asian Seas Region: Development and Implementation of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in Environmental Investments (PIMS#2711)* submitted the final APR/PIR. Overall the project experienced some delays that required extension of the project but was able to achieve its target outputs. Five PPP initiatives were completed (Puerto Galera, Philippines; Danang, Vietnam; Haikou, China; Bali, Indonesia; and Sihanoukville, Cambodia which validated that PPP is a viable process.

### **Global Learning Projects**

*Good Practices and Portfolio Learning in GEF Transboundary Freshwater and Marine Legal and Institutional Frameworks (PIMS#3799)* began this reporting period. The Steering Committee met, all personnel have been contracted and research and outreach are ongoing. *Regional Dialogue and Twinning to improve transboundary water resources governance in Africa (PIMS#3930)* reported a (self-assessed) increase in confidence, knowledge, and skills needed to enact water governance reform in the context of a changing climate evident in the active role taken by government ministry and parliamentarian participants in challenging the scientific community to make vital information accessible and understandable during the Groundwater and Climate in Africa conference.



*Strengthening capacity building for global knowledge sharing in International Waters – TRAIN-SEA-COAST Programme (PIMS#2196)* reported that two new courses were developed "Developing and implementing an ecosystem approach to the management of ocean related activities"(TSC/CSU) and a revised, updated and adapted shorter course on "Managing Marine Pollution". In total, the TSC network has supported 93 deliveries of 16 courses, resulting in training of 2,262 trainees, including 41% female trainees (this doesn't include the highly successful 'upscaling' of the GPA Wastewater TSC course which has now reached over 1,800 trainees with support from GEF and EU-ACP).

## **Land Degradation**

UNDP land degradation interventions focus on integrating sustainable land management (SLM) principles into national development priorities; strengthening human, technical, and institutional capacities; and the scaling-up of sustainable land management practices that generate mutual benefits for the environment and local livelihoods. On-the-ground SLM investments included: (i) sustainable cropping, enhancement of vegetation and soil cover and sustainable dryland management in Africa; (ii) SLM capacity development and mainstreaming in Asia and the Pacific, (iii) controlled irrigation, prevention of erosion and shifting sand and sustainable pasture and rangeland management in Central Asia; and (iv) erosion control, afforestation and sustainable watershed and rangeland management in Latin America and the Caribbean.

12 countries<sup>23</sup> are, with the support of UNDP, implementing 17 land degradation GEF funded projects - almost double compared to 2008. This portfolio represents US\$69.45 million of GEF funding and US\$ 175.32 million in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – ratio of 1:2.5 – and a combined investment of US\$ 245 million. This portfolio includes 3 global projects of which 1 – *LDC – SIDS Targeted Umbrella Project for Sustainable Land Management (PIMS#3130)* is comprised of 45 medium sized projects (MSPs).

In this reporting period, a new tracking tool was used to measure both qualitative results – for SLM measures, land and water rights, and land use challenges – as well as quantitative results –for area measurement and SLM impacts. Based on the pilot testing of this tool, a total of 5 million hectares of agricultural land was reported to be applying SLM techniques and approaches. This is a considerable amount given that approximately 6 million hectares of global agricultural land is lost each year.

Significant on-the-ground impacts of SLM on agricultural production, farm income, ecosystem functions and services were reported but may require further verification in particular through mid-term evaluations as many of these project have just begun implementation. These include:

- Approximately 30 to 40% of the projects managed to increase crop yields and fodder production by 20 to 50%, and 60% of the projects managed to diversify farm income sources by 20 to 50%, while reducing agricultural workloads.
- Approximately 60 to 85% of the projects reported a medium to high increase in soil moisture, plant diversity, above ground biomass/carbon and soil cover, and a medium to high decrease in soil evaporation, surface runoff and natural disaster risks (drought, floods, fire etc).
- More than 70% of the projects contributed to a 20 to 50% increase in national institutional capacity, while 30% of the projects also contributed to a slightly lesser increase in capacity of community institutions.
- Approximately 20 to 40% of the projects managed to improve conservation and land degradation knowledge at local and national levels and situations of socially and economically disadvantaged groups including women and minorities by more than 50%.
- The majority of the projects reported to have improved food security and self-sufficiency levels by 20 to 50%.

A separate tracking tool was developed to measure the performance of the *Targeted Umbrella Project for Sustainable Land Management (PIMS#3130)* which, through a programmatic approach, is comprised of 45 MSPs being implemented in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Development States (SIDS). This project

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<sup>23</sup> This figure does not include those countries involved in regional and/or global projects.

reported that SLM capacity development and mainstreaming efforts were generally successful particularly in the context of local-level capacity development, multi-sectoral planning and private sector involvement although some challenges remain in terms of securing stronger national commitment and more inclusive processes to involve socially and economically disadvantaged groups, and to incorporate traditional knowledge into SLM in order to make SLM interventions nationally and locally more appropriate and sustainable.

Key lessons learned include:

1. Efforts to mainstream environmental conservation into poverty reduction can be strengthened through the provision of grants and capacity development of community institutions to support livelihood diversification.
2. Working with non-traditional land management sectors, such as Planning, Finance and Transport, can help aligning conflicting land-use plans and raising more co-financing to sustainable land management, which in turn will lead to greater impacts on-the-ground.
3. It is essential to establish vertical linkages between community conservation efforts and national government planning and policy making processes to create enabling conditions for sustainable land management at both local and national levels.
4. Adaptive management should be encouraged to meet new demands and emerging priorities – such as adaptation to climate change and variability of land-management systems - that arise during implementation - i.e. floods and droughts.

### **Other Focal Areas**

Relatively few projects in the 2009 cohort address Climate Change Adaptation (10 projects), Persistent Organic Pollutants (6 projects), and Integrated Ecosystem Management (4 projects). In addition, the 2009 cohort includes 10 multi-focal area projects. The impact results from these portfolios are difficult to aggregate due to a small sample size, and the GEF tracking tools or indicators sets are either very new or remain under development. As such the aggregated impact results for these portfolios are not included in this report. The management performance results are however included in the aggregate figures for the 2009 cohort.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**

UNDP climate change adaptation interventions focus on supporting developing countries to reduce vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change, including climate variability, as well as increasing the adaptive capacity to respond to the impacts of climate change and variability. 8 countries<sup>24</sup>, with the support of UNDP, are implementing 10 climate change adaptation projects. This portfolio represents US\$ 19.56 million of GEF funding and US\$ 31.35 in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – a ratio of 1:1.6 – and a combined investment of US\$ 51 million. Most of these projects have just begun implementation.

In Bhutan, the project *Reducing Climate Change-induced Risks and Vulnerabilities from Glacial Lake Outburst Floods in the Punakha-Wangdi and Chamkhar Valleys (PIMS#3722)* has completed an “Engineering and Safety Plan” for artificial lowering of Thorthormi lake, an Environment Impact Assessment was prepared and approved by the government and work started in May 2009. The Disaster Management Bill is finalized and is awaiting endorsement by parliament. Several rounds of awareness and advocacy programs have been conducted in vulnerable communities. A community-based disaster risk reduction curriculum was formulated and tested through a Training of Trainers program and District Disaster Management Committee members have been trained in disaster management planning processes.

In Hungary, the project *Lake Balaton integrated vulnerability assessment, early warning and adaptation strategies (PIMS#3334)* has produced a vulnerability assessment, and climate scenarios and models were finalized. The SWAT database and tool was presented to local water authorities. Adaptation indicators have been incorporated into environmental management programmes and waste management plans. The elaboration of a municipal-level climate change strategy is in progress. Shoreline rehabilitation programmes and sewage treatment projects have

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<sup>24</sup> This figure does not include those countries involved in regional and/or global projects.

been granted, and adaptation aspects have been incorporated into the evaluation process of proposals through the scoring system of regional tourism development grants.

### **PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs)**

UNDP POP interventions focus on providing support to countries to phase out the production and use of POPs, and to reduce releases of POPs to the environment. In addition, POP waste is prevented, managed and disposed of and POPs contaminated sites are managed in an environmentally sustainable manner. 13 countries, with the support of UNDP, are implementing 6 POP projects. This portfolio represents US\$ 35.30 million of GEF funding and US\$ 32.63 in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – a ratio of 1:0.9 – and a combined investment of US\$ 68 million.

One project, *Demonstrating and Promoting Best Techniques and Practices for Reducing Health-Care Waste to Avoid Environmental Releases of Dioxins and Mercury (PIMS# 2596)* has begun implementation in Argentina, India, Latvia, Lebanon, Philippines, Senegal, Tanzania and Vietnam. Highlights of project results include partnerships with national training institutes and universities with the objective of establishing or enhancing nation-wide Health Care Waste Management (HCWM) training programmes have been initiated in Argentina, India, Latvia, Philippines and Tanzania. To showcase the deployment of commercially available, non-incineration technologies, the project has supported the selection, procurement, installation, testing and monitoring of non-incineration technologies for a project model facility in Tanzania. In collaboration with local and international NGOs the hospital's waste management system has been enhanced, hospital staff has been trained in waste management practices, technology maintenance and operation, while training elements on the newly installed non-incineration technology have been incorporated in the facility's enhanced waste management training. For the design, testing, manufacturing and replication of affordable, small-scale non-incineration technologies, currently not commercially available, that meet the needs of small and medium size facilities in Sub-Saharan countries, the project has launched a partnership with the University of Dar-es-Salaam (USDM) - School of Engineering and the local NGO.

### **INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT**

UNDP interventions focus on the adoption of nationally appropriate IEM techniques and approaches with an aim to derive both global environmental and local livelihood benefits such as (a) conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, as well as equitable sharing of benefits arising from biodiversity use; (b) reduction of net emissions and increased storage of greenhouse gasses in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems; (c) conservation and sustainable use of water bodies, including watersheds, river basins, and coastal zones; and (d) prevention of the pollution of globally important terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.

4 countries<sup>25</sup> and 1 regional project in Europe and CIS are implementing 4 integrated ecosystem management projects. This portfolio represents US\$ 9.70 million of GEF funding and US\$ 19.50 in committed co-financing not including additional resources committed during project implementation – a ratio of 1:2 – and a combined investment of US\$ 29 million. Most of these projects have just begun implementation.

All the projects generated multiple global environmental benefits through IEM, although in varying combinations. For instance, integrated watershed management successfully contributed to the restoration of aquatic ecosystems of transboundary lakes. Local farmers and authorities were successfully trained to reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides through combined application of new technologies and alternative means including traditional methods to improve agro-ecosystem productivity and biodiversity, as well as to reduce pollution in terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Forest management plans, incorporating integrated watershed and natural resources management principles at the municipal level, effectively promoted practical and cost-effective measures to restore the integrity of local forest ecosystems, also resulting in improved forest connectivity and enhanced carbon stocks.

The majority of the IEM projects reported the delivery of both global environmental and local livelihood benefits in a highly integrated manner although to varying degrees. The IEM approach to support the development of

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<sup>25</sup> This figure does not include those countries involved in regional and/or global projects.

enabling policies, regulations, institutional structures and capacities in a highly crosscutting way effectively contributed to the delivery of multiple global environmental benefits. However, greater efforts are required in the future to address potential tradeoffs between global environmental and local livelihood benefits.

## 5 Management Performance

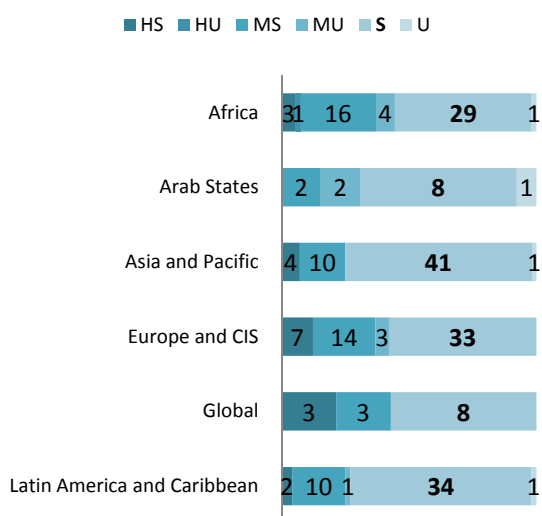
All UNDP supported GEF funded projects follow a common project cycle and practice sound project management while allowing for flexibility and adaptive management to facilitate the delivery of results on the ground. Project cycle targets can be set for the time it takes to move from one project cycle milestone to the next and measuring against these targets can help UNDP improve its delivery of support services. However, it should be noted that the accountability for each step in the project cycle is often shared between different parties and many staff – i.e. between UNDP and GEF, or UNDP and the implementing partners (i.e. government) and/or other partners, and between various staff within UNDP, thus delays are often not within the control of one person or one party.

### Project Ratings

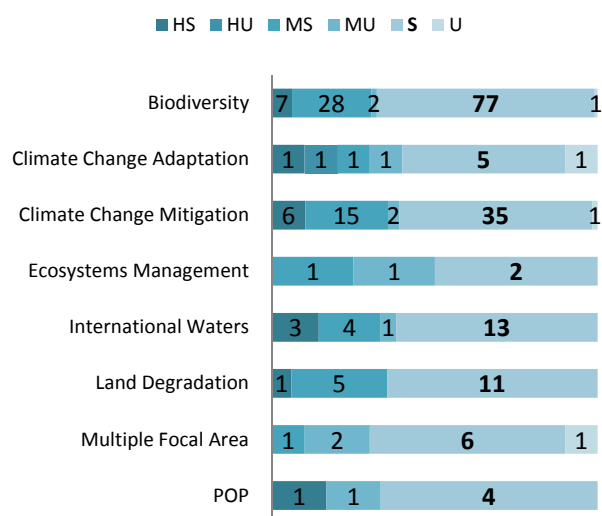
The 2009 cohort of projects were rated on their performance towards meeting the project objectives and in implementation progress. These self-ratings are made by the project management in the field, the UNDP Country Officer, the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor, and in some cases the GEF operational focal point and Executing Agency. These are averaged using a conservative formula to arrive at the overall rating for the project. As in 2008, 94% of the 2009 cohort were rated marginally satisfactory or above in likelihood **of achieving project objectives**. Of this, 63% were rated satisfactory (S), 23% marginally satisfactory (MS) and 8% highly satisfactory (HS). This exceeds the GEF target of 70% rated as MS or above.

Notably, this year one project received the lowest rating of highly unsatisfactory (HU): the Climate Change Adaptation project *Coping with Drought and Climate Change in Mozambique* (PIMS 3786). The project reported that as currently implemented, the project will fail to deliver its objective, unless the project results framework is better designed and focused. At the project inception workshop held this reporting period, stakeholders agreed to prioritise and reduce the activities. This reformulation should be completed by the end of 2009.

Progress Toward Development Objective by Region 2009

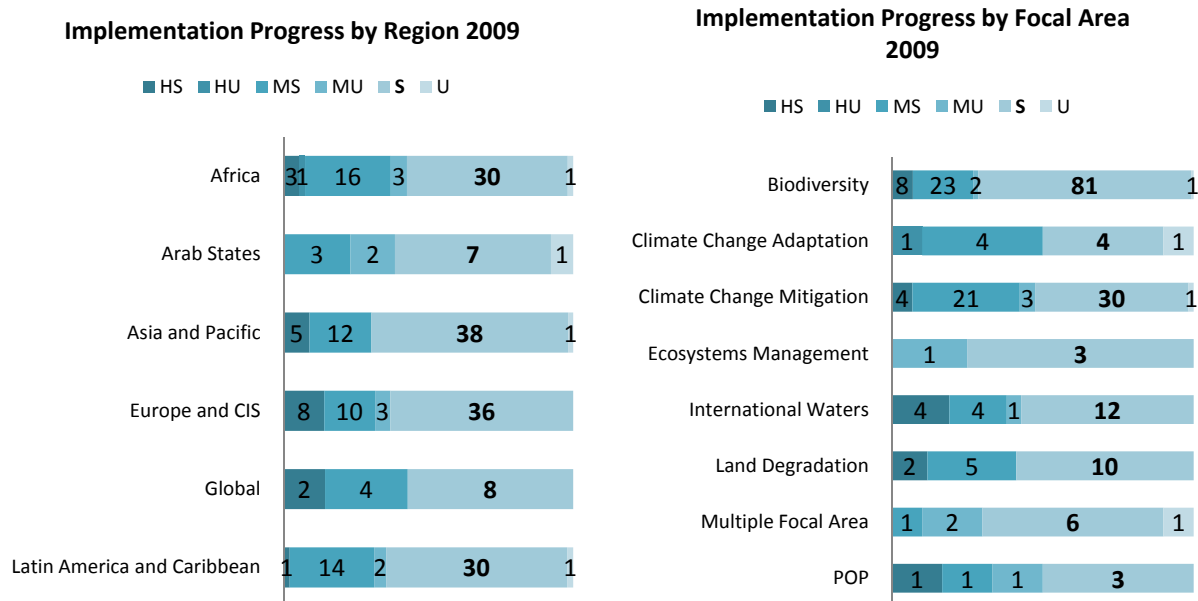


2009 Progress Toward Development Objective by Focal Area



94% of the 2009 cohort were also rated marginally satisfactory or above in **implementation progress** with a similar break down between rating categories. This also exceeds the GEF target of 70% rated as MS or above. As in

previous years, these 2 rating schemes overlap considerably.



12 (5%) UNDP supported GEF funded projects were rated as highly satisfactory in both rating categories. Some highlights of best practice from these projects include:

In Kazakhstan, the biodiversity project *Integrated conservation of priority globally significant migratory bird wetland habitat (PIMS#650)* is acknowledged as a leading example of complex wetland biodiversity conservation. In continuation of the efforts made by the project in assisting the government with ratification of a number of critical international conventions for wetland conservation, the project provided technical support in the preparation of the nomination for the Korgalzhyn Reserve as a UNESCO World Heritage site and for the Ural River Delta as a Ramsar site. As a result, the 32nd session of UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Quebec, Canada on 7 July 2008 issued a decision according to which the Korgalzhyn and Naurzum Reserves became the first UNESCO World Heritage site in Central Asia. More recently, on 1 April 2009, the Ural River Delta and adjacent Caspian coast became the second Ramsar site in Kazakhstan.

The expansion efforts at each of the project sites deserve special recognition. The project has added 395,708 hectares of critical wetland and associated habitats to the protected area system of Kazakhstan – from 278,736 to 674,444 hectares - by establishing a new PA and by expanding the Korghalzyn nature reserve. One of the most significant achievements of this reporting period is the amendment of the Water Code to include definition of wetlands and hydrological regime observation. However, there is still no conclusion to the status of the draft law with amendments on fisheries, which has been repeatedly submitted to the Parliament. In addition, a micro-crediting programme has been established for local communities. Microcredits will be allocated both with and without security lending. The programme provides for conditions for obtaining preferential credit of up to US\$50,000 at low interest (10 % per annum) without security under joint liability (for local residents who have no property to be pledged). Eleven projects for alternative livelihoods development have been financed in the amount US\$ 260,000.

In Romania, the biodiversity project *Strengthening Romania's Protected Area System by Demonstrating Public-Private Partnership in Romania's Maramures Nature Park (PIMS#1969)* the number of hectares under a strict protection regime has increased from the planned 7,800 to 18,769 ha. The management effectiveness of the Park as measured by METT has increased from 19 (baseline level) to 70 (an increase of 8 points compared to the last year's PIR). The project has contributed to strengthening the protected area system of Romania and the Carpathians. In this respect, the first letter of intent was signed together with the representatives of the

Carpathian Biosphere Reserve in Ukraine in order to set up the new Transboundary Biosphere Reserve in Maramures Mountains. The project team has been extremely proactive in reaching out and creating partnerships that have contributed to threat reduction. For example, one of the major threats at the beginning of the project was the accumulation of sawdust from a large number of sawmills in the river systems. The initial project interventions of piloting a technology of creating briquettes out of the sawdust and using it as biomass in boilers used for municipal heating has proven very successful. These interventions create a double dividend in terms of biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation.

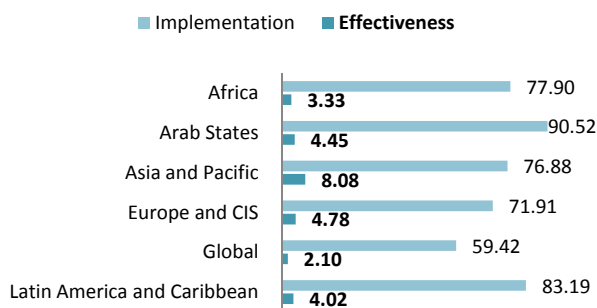
### Portfolio development

For the cohort of 160 full size projects, the average time taken in months between GEF CEO Endorsement of the project document and the project document signature date – otherwise known as effectiveness - is 5 months. This measure is becoming progressively shorter each year particularly since FY 2005 when the effectiveness was measured at 14 months. However, 6 of the 160 (0.04%) projects took over 18 months to begin implementation, 5 of these were in Asia and the Pacific<sup>26</sup>, and of these 4 were approved during GEF-2 some time ago and importantly before the improvements were made in the GEF project cycle. If these 6 projects are discounted, the average effectiveness time is 3.9 months. In general, recent projects do not suffer from serious effectiveness delays.

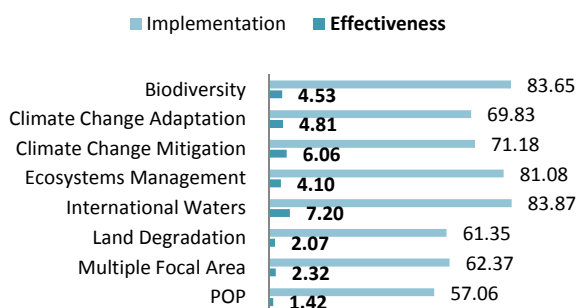
The average implementation time measure from project start to closure is 77 month. On average, projects are extended – at no cost- by 16 months similar to the overall performance of all GEF Implementing Agencies<sup>27</sup>. UNDP records the project start date as the day when the project document is signed. However, it can take many months to begin project activities as project personnel need to be recruited (and retained) and changes in government and/or political issues that arose since the project was prepared need to be addressed. In addition, when the time between project preparation and approval is long, updating the project situation and finalizing management arrangements can also delay project start. As projects are typically planned for four years, and have ambitious targets, should the time required to initiate implementation take longer than estimated, by the third year of implementation many projects have barely reached mid-point and therefore require extensions.

Some projects also report that achieving agreement on implementation arrangements can take considerably longer when there is also a non-governmental implementing partner. In addition, regional projects generally tend to be more complex than national ones. As such, where not done already, work is underway to address the management arrangements during project preparation. In addition, it is important to bear in mind that many regions are not politically stable. For example in Africa and certain Asia countries, most delays are caused by the eruption of debilitating conflicts.

Portfolio development by region 2009



Portfolio development by focal area 2009



### Project Risk

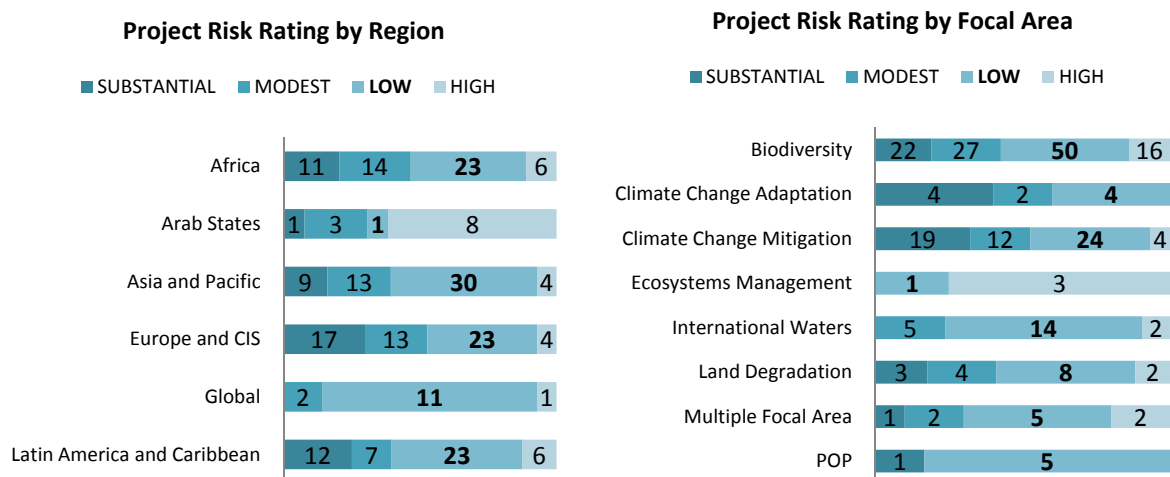
Since 2007, UNDP has used a conservative approach to calculate risk ratings by taking into account the progress toward achieving the project objective and the implementation progress ratings in addition to the number of

<sup>26</sup> Yellow Sea Project in China (PIMS# 994), Biomass Power Generation Project in Malaysia (PIMS# 1030) and the Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management Project in Bangladesh (PIMS 461) and Removal of Barriers to Biomass Power Generation in India (PIMS #740)

<sup>27</sup> World Bank, UNDP, UNDP. As noted in the GEF Evaluation Office Annual Performance Report 2008.

critical risks as reported in the UNDP Atlas risk log. This calculation means for example that a project with zero critical risks would still be classified as having substantial risk if it received an unsatisfactory rating. Likewise, a project that received a satisfactory rating could be classified as at-risk if it had three or more critical risks.

Using this conservative calculation, 12 % of the cohort of 242 projects is rated as high risk, 21% as substantial, 21% as moderate and 46% as low risk. The risk ratings in 2008 were very much the same, with in general 70% of the portfolio with low to moderate risk and 30% at substantial or high risk. Political risks are the most frequently reported critical risk, followed by financial, environmental and operational risks.



### Co-financing and leveraging

Co-financing can be a measure of commitment to national, regional and global environmental and sustainable development goals and can assist in sustaining the long term results of the project. Co-financers include the Government that has primary ownership over the project results, UNDP resources allocated to the development priorities identified in the country programme (TRAC resources), and other stakeholders including NGOs, the private sector, bilateral donors and development banks. The co-financing contributions can be cash, including grants, credits, loans, equity, and/or in-kind resources. Co-financing commitments are outlined in the project document and the actual co-financing realised is evaluated during the mid-term and final project evaluations. Additional co-financing can also be leveraged after the project document has been finalized thus during project implementation.

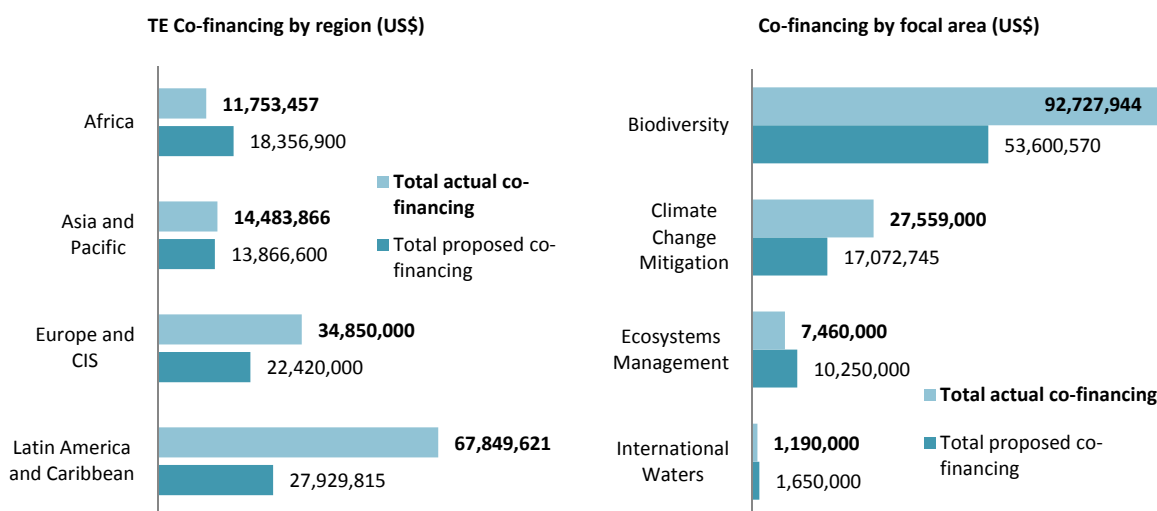
Of the 16 UNDP supported GEF funded projects (7% of the 2009 cohort) that undertook a final evaluation this reporting period, 11 reported on proposed and actual co-financing. These projects reported a total commitment of co-financing of US\$ 83 million and an actual realised co-financing of US\$ 129 million. Therefore, for every dollar of co-financing committed in the project document, 1.6 has been realised. This additional amount was leveraged during project implementation.

Latin America and the Caribbean, Europe and CIS, and Asia and the Pacific regions all reported higher amounts of co-financing than originally planned – ratios of 1: 2.4, 1:1.6 and 1:1.1 respectively. Africa raised 63 % of proposed co-financing. This is in large measure due to 2 projects in Africa where the international waters project *Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool for the Benguela Coastal Areas (DLIST- Benguela) (PIMS# 3153)* reportedly raised 71% of the proposed co-financing as the Governments provided less grant resources than originally planned. In Tanzania, the biodiversity project *Development and Management of the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor in Tanzania (PIMS #1135)* has yet to determine the contributed of co-financing credits.

The 7 Biodiversity projects that completed a terminal evaluation this reporting period reported significantly higher amounts of actual co-financing over proposed amounts - ratio of 1: 1.7. This is due in particular to 3 projects that were able to raise significant amounts of co-financing during project implementation:

- In the I.R. of Iran, the project *Conservation of Asiatic Cheetah its Natural Habitat and the Associated Biota (PIMS #1027)* reported that UNDP and the Government contributed additional grant resources.
- In Mexico, the project *Biodiversity Conservation in the Sierra Gorda Biosphere reserve (PIMS#2189)* reported that UNDP, the Government and other stakeholders contributed additional in-kind resources.
- In the Russian Federation, the project *Conservation and Management of Wild Salmonid Diversity in Kamchatka (PIMS#1288)* reported that the Government contributed additional in-kind resources, and other stakeholders contributed additional grant resources.

The 5 Climate Change Mitigation projects that completed a terminal evaluation this reporting period also reported higher actual co-financing than committed co-financing- a ratio of 1: 1.6, due in large measure to the success of the project in Nicaragua *Small Scale Hydro-electricity for Productive Uses (PIMS #2146)* that reported that UNDP and other stakeholders contributed additional grant resources and credits.



Of the 29 projects (12% of the 2009 cohort) that undertook a mid-term evaluation this reporting period, 21 reported on proposed and actual co-financing. These projects reported a total commitment of co-financing of US\$ 246 million and an actual co-financing of US\$ 240 million at the mid-term of project implementation. Therefore, 98% of the committed co-financing has already been realised at the mid-term of the project cycle.

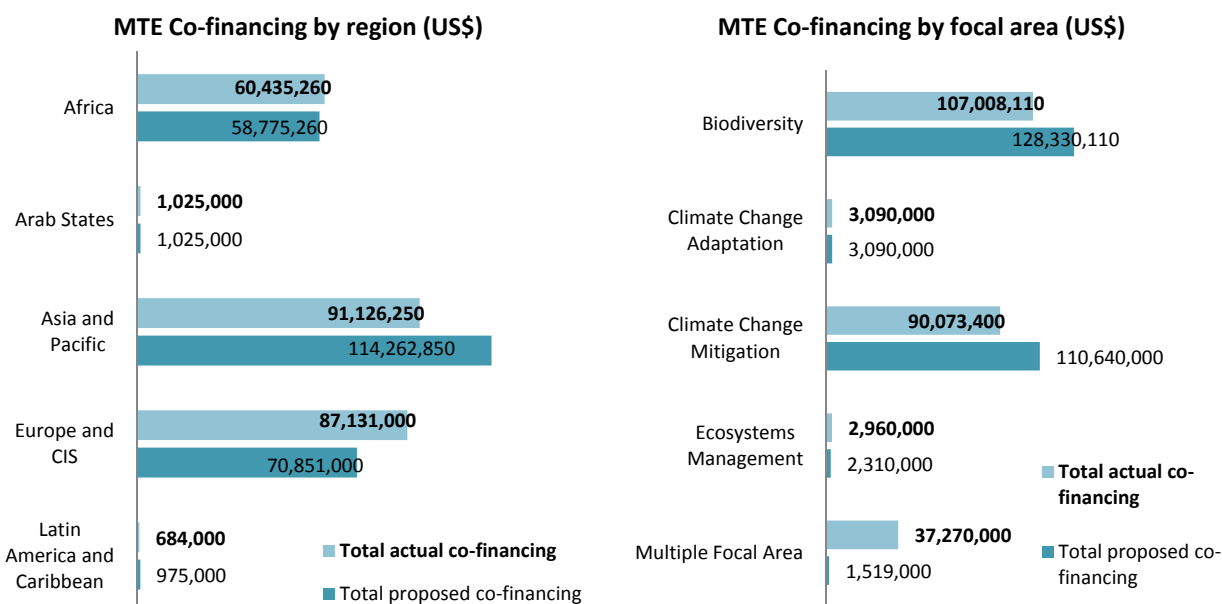
Europe and CIS, and Africa reported higher amounts of co-financing received than originally planned – ratios of 1:23 and 1:1.03 respectively. Arab States received the planned amount of co-financing at mid-term, and the other regions are well on track to receive the planned co-financing if not additional resources.

Of the 14 Biodiversity projects that completed a mid-term evaluation this reporting period, 3 projects reported higher amounts of actual co-financing over proposed amounts:

- In Zambia, the project *Effective Management of the National Protected Areas System in Zambia (PIMS #1937)* reported that other stakeholders contributed additional grant resources.
- In Botswana, the project *Building Local Capacity for Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in the Okavango Delta in Botswana (PIMS#2028)* reported that the Government and other stakeholders contributed additional in-kind resources.



- In Uzbekistan, the project *Conservation of Tugai Forest and Sustainable Land Use Development in the Amu Darya Delta of Karakalpakstan (PIMS#2109)* reported that other stakeholders contributed additional resources.



In Bulgaria, the Multi-Focal Area project *Integrating Global Environmental Issues into Bulgaria's Regional Development Process (PIMS #3333)* reported higher amounts of actual co-financing over proposed amounts at the mid-term of project implementation as the Government has contributed US\$ 36 million in grant resources over the planned US\$ 1 million.

### **Key lessons learned that apply to all projects in the 2009 cohort:**

1. Partnerships are pivotal to project success. Detailed agreements among all project partners should be elaborated in advance during the project preparation phase and between the key partners of the project. These should be added as an annex to the project document. Clear agreements with local community representatives are particularly essential.
2. Inclusive and participatory management should be encouraged especially when dealing with politically sensitive issues (such as indigenous land rights) but should not overburden the project management structures.
3. A slow start to a project affects overall implementation. Given that there is often a considerable delay between finalization of the project document and initiation of a project, greater importance should be attached to ensuring that an adequate inception report is produced.
4. Risks and uncertainty pervade multi-year, multi-stakeholder and geographically expansive projects. As part of risk analysis and prudent management, the likelihood of factors and events that could delay completion of project activities should be assessed regularly.
5. A good and feasible exit strategy is important for securing continuity and sustainability of a project's achievements. The sustainability and continuity of project results should be secured during design and implementation processes. The absence of an adequate exit strategy for a project can lead to degradation of results and even adverse impacts following termination.
6. The transmission of "lessons learned" helps. The benefits of sharing lessons learned have been experienced by a number of projects and now seem to be embedded in the GEF process in most countries and regions. Projects are actively transmitting lessons that they have learned to other projects. It is recommended that the

culture of sharing lessons learned should be established more widely by UNDP country offices and form part of the inception period of all UNDP supported GEF funded projects.

## 6 Progress in projects that received sub-optimal ratings in 2008

Of the 12 projects that received sub-optimal ratings (MU or U, none received HU) in 2008 and are still under implementation this reporting period, 10 received higher ratings in 2009. 2 projects received the same sub-optimal ratings in 2009 as in 2008 and corrective action is underway as noted in bold in the table below.

PIMS #	Project	Country	FA	Rating in 2008		Rating in 2009		Progress made in 2009
				DO	U	DO	MS	
1437	Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme (CREDP)	Regional	CC M	DO	U	DO	MS	The project has improved its implementation since the reformulation exercise however due to delays the project's GHG reductions will not be fully achieved. In this reporting period, the following has been achieved: a) most of CRETAF funds have been allocated and assistance has been provided to 7 countries in the Caribbean; b) the project's RE Information Portal (CIPORE) was successfully launched and in its first month received over 100,000 hits; c) the baseline study on the status of Energy Policy in selected countries is on-going and will provide useful information to the Energy Programme of the CARICOM Secretariat; and d) policy development assistance has also been provided to three participating countries (Jamaica, Belize and Guyana).
				IP	MU	IP	MS	
2131	Renewable Energy Technology Development and Application Project (RETDAP)	Maldives	CC M	DO	MU	DO	MS	Implementation has been lagging behind schedule and has suffered from an over-designed project document. It is unreasonable to expect that an MSP with a GEF budget of only \$750,000 can achieve at least six major outcomes over a four-year period. The project has however still made some important achievements while some - especially the financing scheme - are not in substantial compliance with the original work plan. With only six months remaining, it appears that the project will not fully achieve its global environmental objective. However, RETDAP has played an important role as catalyst in jumpstarting the renewable energy market from almost zero applications to the first application of six solar/wind/diesel hybrid systems, the first indigenous production of household biogas digesters and raising the interest of various governmental and private sector entities as well as some of the resorts.
				IP	MU	IP	MS	
2144	Removing Barriers to the reconstruction of public lighting (PL) Systems in Slovakia	Slovakia	CC M	DO	<b>MU</b>	DO	<b>MU</b>	No emission savings have been achieved yet through Energy Performance Contract (EPC) approach. Potential clients have been identified and claimed interest, but they consider the EPC as "second option". For public lighting reconstruction projects municipalities have applied for EU grants. In consequence, they are waiting for results of EU grant calls and do not want to enter EPC scheme. EPC contracts are prepared (legally, financially) and increased interest in EPC is expected in autumn 2009/beginning 2010, when the results of grant calls will be known. In general municipalities perceive the project positively, and show significant interest in IFD's services. The Steering Committee meeting in June 2009 considered the recommendation of the MTE and approved the extension of the project by 1 year, till end of 2010.
				IP	<b>MS</b>	IP	<b>MS</b>	
1443	Demonstration of innovative approaches to the rehabilitation of heavily contaminated bays in the wider Caribbean	Regional	IW	DO	MU	DO	S	Despite the destruction Cuba suffered in 2008 during the hurricane season, GoC continue to prioritize work on the Wastewater treatment plant resulting in almost 30% completion of the construction work. In addition, steady progress is being made in the installation of the collector system - which in 2009 included a particularly difficult tranche through a heavily populated sector of Havana. There is therefore now confidence that the project objective will be achieved. However, it is noted that although there is a proposed finalization date of December 2010, a further extension into the first semester of 2011 will probably be necessary given that the finalization of the project includes the installation and start up of the Plant.
				IP	U	IP	S	
1528	Formulation of an Action Programme for the Integrated Management of the Shared Nubian	Chad	IW	DO	MU	DO	MS	The project is still behind the approved schedule, the project team and the Executing Agency must speed up the development of the SADA and SAP and initiate the legal component of the project. The project also has a very low disbursement rate. A meeting between IA and EA is planned for October 2009 to address all these issues.
				IP	MU	IP	MS	

	Aquifer							
2836	Sustainable Land Management for Mitigating Land Degradation, Enhancing Agricultural Biodiversity and Reducing Poverty (SLaM) in Ghana	Ghana	LD	DO	MU	DO	MS	Several of the expected results of these activities need at minimum two years before the impact can be accurately measured. The project has implemented some successful awareness raising, capacity building and training activities which led to the increase of the awareness about SLM at population and policy levels and the strengthening of the capacities of main SLM actors. But these achievements are still far from the targeted level at this point of the project. The final evaluation planned for November 2009 will help in assessing the real performances of the overall project activities.
				IP	MS	IP	MS	
2762	Third Environment Programme, Support to the Protected Area Network and Strategic Zones, Phase I	Madagascar	BD	DO	U	DO	MS	The reporting period has been characterised by a sharp increase in political risk and consequently several changes in the applied project management arrangements. On 22 April 2009, UN Country Team in Madagascar, composed of heads of UN agencies, declared the country under "special development situation". Development and humanitarian aid is currently being delivered either directly by UN Agencies or through NGOs (national and international) and, when possible, through local authorities. In spite of this, the project continued to develop activities on the ground in 2009, although with some delays, as there are security restrictions in place for field visits. The project underwent a MTE exercise in 2008 and a management response has been prepared. If we isolate the exogenous factors affecting the project, it is notable that the project is making progress towards meeting its objective. Still performance could be improved in some areas: a stronger collaboration with the WB/GEF project that is now resuming activities, a more effective monitoring of service providers, wider and more effective communication of results and, not least also linkages to other UNDP/GEF projects.
				IP	U	IP	S	
864	The Management and Protection of the Endangered Marine Environment of the Republic of Mauritius	Mauritius	BD	DO	MU	DO	HS	The project addresses the issue of capacity for the management of Marine Protected Areas in the whole of the Mauritius Republic as a means to address threats to the country's rich coastal and marine biodiversity. During the reporting period the project has made a 180-degree turn with respect to implementation departing from a critical mid-term evaluation. Key issues with respect to the management of the project (new crucial recruitments, assets management, government co-financing) were addressed and the project is showing very impressive and results progressing much faster towards its objective. The MTE recommended that the project logframe be streamlined and this was done in June 2009. The project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as "good practice".
				IP	MU	IP	S	
1929	1929 - Community-based Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Mountain Landscapes of Mongolia's Altai Sayan Eco-region	Mongolia	BD	DO	U	DO	S	The project created a new log frame which marks a significant milestone. This updated and improved logframe is more focused and easier to work with. Based on the best practices of our project sites, Khovd and Bayan-Ulgii provinces have officially created environmental units consisting of local rangers, inspectors and agricultural staff. This has ensured cohesion in conservation efforts and the adaption of participatory approach through the project training and guaranteed inclusion of communities as well. Another important milestone is the Huvsgul PIU's success in taking the areas north of 50th latitude under local protection. Based on local people and the government's request, the project had organized the scientific research for the basis of protected areas which had stopped the unregulated licensing in this fragile ecosystem.
				IP	U	IP	S	
2983	Restoring the environmental functions, ecological integrity and socioeconomic services of forest landscapes in the Middle Atlas	Morocco	IEM	DO	MU	DO	MU	Since its approval and initiation, the project has witnessed a difficult start, in particular with the rotation of 2 project coordinators. Furthermore, the change in National Project Directors (3 to date), each with a different understanding and view of the project's value, have impeded progress and required extensive negotiations. Despite this situation, the project has made notable progress in (i) identifying target communes for the implementation of activities; (ii) launching 6 highly focused technical studies that will support decision making, policy reform and the identification of the most suitable practices in
				IP	MU	IP	MU	

								terms of co-management and maximization of financial benefits and benefit sharing. Despite the recognition of intrinsic complexities associated with such projects and despite the small steps made in terms of progress, the project is rated MU, due to the lack of visibility at this stage on commitment from the national counterpart to the objective and approach of the project. It is expected that, with the proposed corrective measures implemented and with the gradual building of trust, next year's performance and progress towards meeting project objectives will be enhanced. Several risks have been identified that are fully justified and relevant; their impacts on the project's ability to meet its objective are significant and the overall high risk rating is justified. Therefore close supervision of project progress, by the UNDP CO and RCU will be maintained to enable quick decision with regards to the fate of the project and to avoid the loss of GEF funding in case there are no signs of progress.
1824	Conservation of Dry Forest and Coastal Biodiversity of the Pacific South of Nicaragua: Building Private-Public Partnerships	Nicaragua	BD	DO	MU	DO	MS	It was not until this PIR reporting period when the project team and MARENA agreed on a collaborative management model for PAs that is supposed to involve the participation of all local stakeholders found in the PAs. While this project was able to adapt to the current government policy, it did not do it soon enough to demonstrate the effectiveness of the "collaborative model" for the management of the Chacocente PA as the project will finish activities in December 2009. Furthermore, the financial strategy developed by the project for Chacocente is weak as it identifies only entry fees as the main source of income for a PA that receives very few visitors as it has poor access (i.e., for six months of the year it is only possible to reach the PA by foot or horseback). The key conservation successes in Chacocente have been possible through a combination of efforts that include: a) a nation-wide environmental education campaign against the consumption of turtle eggs that has raised awareness amongst different sectors of government and society; b) government authorities banned all consumption of turtle eggs and harvesting quotas are no longer legal; and c) the project's livelihood program. It should be noted that when government authorities banned the consumption of turtle eggs, this impacted the incomes of local communities and the project has addressed this situation through its livelihood program which improved the livelihoods of over 50% of the families living in the protected area and its buffer zone. Without the project there would be few activities to enhance local livelihoods and reduce poverty, the main root cause behind biodiversity losses in Chacocente. The project has also generated global environmental benefits through reforestation efforts that have restored the dry forest of the reserve and contributed to global climate change mitigation. The state of the forest is likely to be positive due to the project's efforts to reduce the human pressure on the forest through environmentally sound initiatives that include ecotourism ventures and honey bee businesses.
				IP	MU	IP	S	
1767	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity on the South African Wild Coast	South Africa	BD	DO	MU	DO	MS	The project is designed to address the gap in conservation action on communal lands—through developing a representative PA system on state land and communal land, under co-management systems involving the State and local communities. The project has seen two project managers/coordinators come and go. The third manager/coordinator has been in place since late 2008. The major challenge for the project relates to capacity. The project envisages the development of co-management agreements between the relevant authorities (primarily the Eastern Cape Parks Board) and local communities to address the management of the protected areas. It was initially expected that the biggest challenge would lie in developing the capacity of the local community representatives to engage and participate meaningfully with the authorities. The progress being made at community level has exceeded expectations. The challenge for the project lies more with the authorities. Current illegal and uncontrolled 'sand mining' for construction is posing a more immediate threat. The project has recognized that, with the limited government institutional capacity in the area, the way to address this threat is through the enlistment of local community members to ensure that these activities are stopped. This is also true for illegal hunting and the
				IP	MU	IP	S	

								<p>illegal harvesting of indigenous hardwoods from the forests. The Eastern Cape Parks Board is in the process of appointing, training and deploying Community Forest Guards to address this threat. This intervention will not only serve as a response to the threat, but will also generate local goodwill through employment creation in an area of high unemployment. One of the indicators of the project is to show that the economic returns from conservation related enterprises are compatible with other enterprises incompatible with conservation needs. The Project document sets a target for returns/ hectare of ZAR 110/ha/ annum (approximately US\$ 14). This will only realistically be achieved through private investment into private sector-community partnerships (in part, because weak business management capacities within local communities has led to the failure of past efforts to build local eco-enterprises, despite significant donor investments). This figure is already being exceeded in several reserves, providing confidence that, if the afore-mentioned institutional complications can be resolved, the project can achieve sustainable impacts.</p>
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## 7 Administrative Costs

UNDP, GEF Fiscal Year (July 08-June 09)	Staff time	Consultant time	Staff cost (i)	Consultant cost (i)	Travel costs (ii)	Overhead costs (iii)	Total Cost
<b>Estimated actual administrative costs</b>	(days)	(days)	(US\$)	(US\$)	(US\$)	(US\$)	(US\$)
<b>1. GEF Corporate activities:</b>							
a) Policy support	1,786	0	1,082,194	0	45,304	236,197	1,363,696
b) Portfolio Management	810	0	427,434	0	25,611	119,115	572,159
c) Reporting	360	0	220,406	0	11,370	52,880	284,655
d) Outreach and knowledge sharing	1,331	52	637,724	14,866	102,299	114,092	868,981
e) Support to the GEF Evaluations Office	1,331	57	354,674	2,808	33,319	62,953	453,754
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>5,617</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>2,722,431</b>	<b>17,674</b>	<b>217,903</b>	<b>585,238</b>	<b>3,543,245</b>
<b>2. UNDP-GEF Project Cycle management:</b>							
a) Project preparation and approval	16,958	4,671	6,971,909	1,516,888	1,124,434	1,346,769	10,960,000
b) Project supervision, monitoring & evaluation	37,215	2,934	11,029,114	1,084,843	1,089,364	2,232,861	15,436,183
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>54,173</b>	<b>7,606</b>	<b>18,001,024</b>	<b>2,601,732</b>	<b>2,213,798</b>	<b>3,579,631</b>	<b>26,396,184</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>59,790</b>	<b>7,715</b>	<b>20,723,455</b>	<b>2,619,405</b>	<b>2,431,701</b>	<b>4,164,868</b>	<b>29,939,429</b>

(i) Staff time multiplied by total salary costs (per staff day) to the agency, excluding overhead costs (see column H), e.g. using average costs per category of staff.

(ii) Includes tickets and per diem

(iii) Overhead costs include office space, utilities, IT, HR, etc.

Notes: UNDP's dedicated GEF trust fund unit directly records the staff time and costs associated with servicing GEF activity. However, UNDP does not use an agency wide time reporting system and therefore the staff time and costs of the more than 1,000 staff in UNDP country and central office teams involved in delivering support to the GEF are more difficult to verify. While country offices were asked to provide their time and costs for the year, not all offices reported. In consequence the total time and costs are calculated based on the proportion of country offices reporting. Similarly, the list of meetings attached is not comprehensive, however, it covers the major GEF related meetings in which UNDP was involved.

<p>UNDP, GEF Fiscal Year (July 08-June 09)</p> <p><b>List of meetings attended</b></p>	<p><b>Venue</b></p>	<p><b>Month</b></p>	<p><b>Year</b></p>	<p><b>Categories</b></p> <p>(i)</p>	<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p>GEF National Dialogue</p>	<p>Anapoima, Colombia</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d</p>	
<p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - Caribbean</p>	<p>Havana, Cuba</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d, a</p>	
<p>Meeting with GEF Trustee</p>	<p>New York, US</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>b, c</p>	
<p>GEF South Asia Constituency meeting</p>	<p>Thimphu, Bhutan</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>a</p>	
<p>GEF National Dialogue</p>	<p>Quito, Ecuador</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d</p>	
<p>Meeting with GEF EO</p>	<p>Washington DC, US</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>e</p>	
<p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - Pacific SIDS</p>	<p>Auckland, New Zealand</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d, a</p>	
<p>Meeting with GEF EO</p>	<p>Mexico City, Mexico</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>e</p>	
<p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - Latin America</p>	<p>Mexico City, Mexico</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d, a</p>	
<p>GEF NGO and Council Meetings</p>	<p>Washington DC, US</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>a</p>	
<p>GEF National Dialogue</p>	<p>Monrovia, Liberia</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d</p>	
<p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - Middle East &amp; North Africa</p>	<p>Casablanca, Morocco</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d, a</p>	
<p>GEF National Dialogue</p>	<p>Cairo, Egypt</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>2008</p>	<p>d</p>	
<p>GEF Portfolio Evaluation Meeting</p>	<p>Cairo, Egypt</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>e</p>	
<p>Meeting with GEF Trustee</p>	<p>New York, US</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>b, c</p>	
<p>GEF Climate Investment Funds TF and Sub-Committee Meetings</p>	<p>Washington DC, US</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>a</p>	
<p>GEF National Dialogue</p>	<p>Lahore, Pakistan</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>d</p>	
<p>GEF CEO's visit to Bhutan</p>	<p>Thimphu, Bhutan</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>a</p>	
<p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for</p>	<p>Dubrovnik, Croatia</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>2009</p>	<p>d</p>	

<p>UNDP, GEF Fiscal Year (July 08-June 09)</p> <p><b>List of meetings attended</b></p>	<p><b>Venue</b></p>	<p><b>Month</b></p>	<p><b>Year</b></p>	<p><b>Categories</b></p> <p>(i)</p>	<p><b>Comments</b></p>
<p>GEF Focal Points Europe and the CIS</p> <p>GEF Replenishment Meeting</p> <p>Country Portfolio Evaluation</p> <p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - Asia</p> <p>GEF – OPS 4 Country Case Evaluation</p> <p>Meeting with C. Volante (Evaluation OPS-4)</p> <p>GEF National Dialogue</p> <p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - S&amp;E Africa</p> <p>GEF NGO and Council Meetings</p> <p>GEF Country Support Programme - Sub-Regional WS for GEF Focal Points - Caribbean</p> <p>Task Force Meetings/STAP</p> <p>(Add rows as needed)</p>	<p>Paris, France</p> <p>Damascus, Syria</p> <p>Bangkok, Thailand</p> <p>Thimphu, Bhutan</p> <p>Santiago, Chile</p> <p>Ankara, Turkey</p> <p>Nairobi, Kenya</p> <p>Washington DC, US</p> <p>Bridgetown, Barbados</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p> <p>4</p> <p>4</p> <p>4</p> <p>5</p> <p>5</p> <p>6</p> <p>6</p>	<p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p> <p>2009</p>	<p>a</p> <p>e</p> <p>d, a</p> <p>e</p> <p>e</p> <p>d</p> <p>e</p> <p>a</p> <p>d, a</p> <p>a</p>	<p>several throughout the year, some via telecon</p>