

## **Statement of Commitments of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**

*The Global Environment Facility, with its mandate initiated at the 1992 Earth Summit to act as a financial mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, and as a major source of funding for other areas, including the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, International Waters, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, and the strategy for Sustainable Forest Management/Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, together as the manager of the Least Developed Countries Fund, the Special Climate Change Fund, and the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund, commits to undertake the following:----*

1. Reinforce the GEF's dedication to being a results-oriented organization, committed to working with its vast network of partners in helping countries achieve their sustainable development goals.
2. Seek to expand opportunities for joint implementation of the Rio Conventions through GEF-funded projects and programs by promoting synergies in the generation of global environmental benefits.
3. Commit to promptly act on guidance from the conferences of the parties of the Rio Conventions to promote joint reporting, particularly of Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries.
4. Continue to streamline the project cycle, with the support of GEF Agencies, so as to enhance the access of countries to GEF resources in a more expedient manner.
5. Continue to support capacity development in recipient countries as well as addressing their needs through funding of enabling activities and the GEF Country Support Program, together with other national and regional consultation processes.
6. Further expand access to GEF funds through the accreditation of additional national, regional, and international institutions.
7. Reaffirm the GEF's commitment to the principles of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, in particular enhancing country ownership and improving coordination among funding institutions.
8. Enhance the participation of Indigenous Peoples in GEF policies, processes, programs, and projects through timely implementation of the recently approved *Principles and Guidelines for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples*.
9. Enhance the engagement of Civil Society Organizations in GEF operations, including GEF -funded projects and programs on the ground.
10. Commit to attain and promote the goal of gender equality, equal treatment of women and men, including equal access to resources and services through its operations under the *GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming*.
11. Ensure that Agencies receiving GEF resources meet and are able to apply minimum standards on environmental and social safeguards to GEF projects in a timely manner as required by the *GEF Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards*.
12. To continue to provide the greatest possible public access to information and to become a global model of dissemination of information and learning with regard GEF priorities, programs, and projects.

