



# Innovation, Scale up, Transformation

THE WORLD BANK GROUP AND  
THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY



WORLD BANK GROUP



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## partnership for people and planet

The health of the Earth is vital for economic growth and global wellbeing. When managed well, natural resources, watersheds, and productive landscapes and seascapes can provide the foundation for boosting shared prosperity and eliminating extreme poverty around the world.

The World Bank Group provides financing, technical assistance, and knowledge to help governments, businesses, and people better manage their natural resources—creating sustainable economic growth, improving livelihoods, and building resilience to climate change and other shocks that can roll back decades of progress.

The World Bank Group draws upon trust funds to complement its own resources and expand the range of financing options available to help clients tackle their development challenges and increase investment in global public goods. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is one of the largest and longest standing multilateral trust funds, established on the eve of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to help address the planet's most pressing environmental problems.

Over the last 26 years, the World Bank Group's work with the GEF has pioneered many important, long-lasting partnerships, new technologies, and investment models, through a portfolio of 788 projects in 123 countries.

The World Bank Group uses GEF grants to lay the groundwork for scaled-up environmental action, supporting foundational activities, like studies and policy work, and pilots to demonstrate value and boost political and investor buy-in. The World Bank Group GEF Program helps governments and the private sector overcome investment barriers and take full advantage of the World Bank Group's in-house expertise and global convening power to unlock even greater financing from other sources for projects across key sectors.

**“ The World Bank considers the GEF as a crucial contributor to innovative and risk-sharing approaches, and the GEF perceives the World Bank as having a key comparative advantage in leveraging GEF funding to generate global environmental benefits in large projects.**

— World Bank Independent Evaluation Group, 2013

The following pages offer a snapshot of how countries and communities worldwide have benefited from the World Bank Group's strategic use of GEF grants to foster innovation, scale up, and transformation to tackle complex environmental challenges.

As the GEF enters its seventh replenishment cycle, the World Bank Group looks to strengthen its partnership with the GEF and its clients to ensure activities make substantial, durable contributions toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

From oceans to cities to forests—and everywhere in between—the World Bank Group will continue to innovate in the technologies it supports, the instruments it uses, the partnerships it pursues, and the environmental challenges it takes on. It will be selective in the use of GEF grants to optimize investment and bring in the private sector. Above all, the World Bank Group will work to ensure the benefits of projects accrue to the global environment to achieve meaningful, long-lasting impact for people and the planet.

### The Global Environment Facility (GEF)

brings together in partnership 183 countries with multilateral institutions, civil society organizations, and the private sector to address global environmental issues that also support national sustainable development initiatives. The World Bank is one of the three founding partners of the GEF and is one of 18 current GEF agencies.

Since it was established in 1992, the GEF has provided over \$20 billion in grants and mobilized an additional \$88 billion in financing for more than 4,000 projects in 170 countries. The GEF is a financial mechanism to five multilateral environmental conventions and provides grant funding for activities that address biodiversity, climate change, international waters, land degradation, and chemicals and waste.

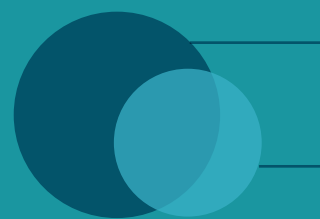
*World Bank Group entities that utilize GEF funding are the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), including International Development Association (IDA), and International Finance Corporation (IFC).*

## Innovating around the world

- Supporting first-of-a-kind investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable transport
- Testing new financing mechanisms for biodiversity conservation
- Pioneered IFC's use of blended finance—blending GEF grants with commercial funds—to create private markets with strong development impact

## Scaling up ambition and impact

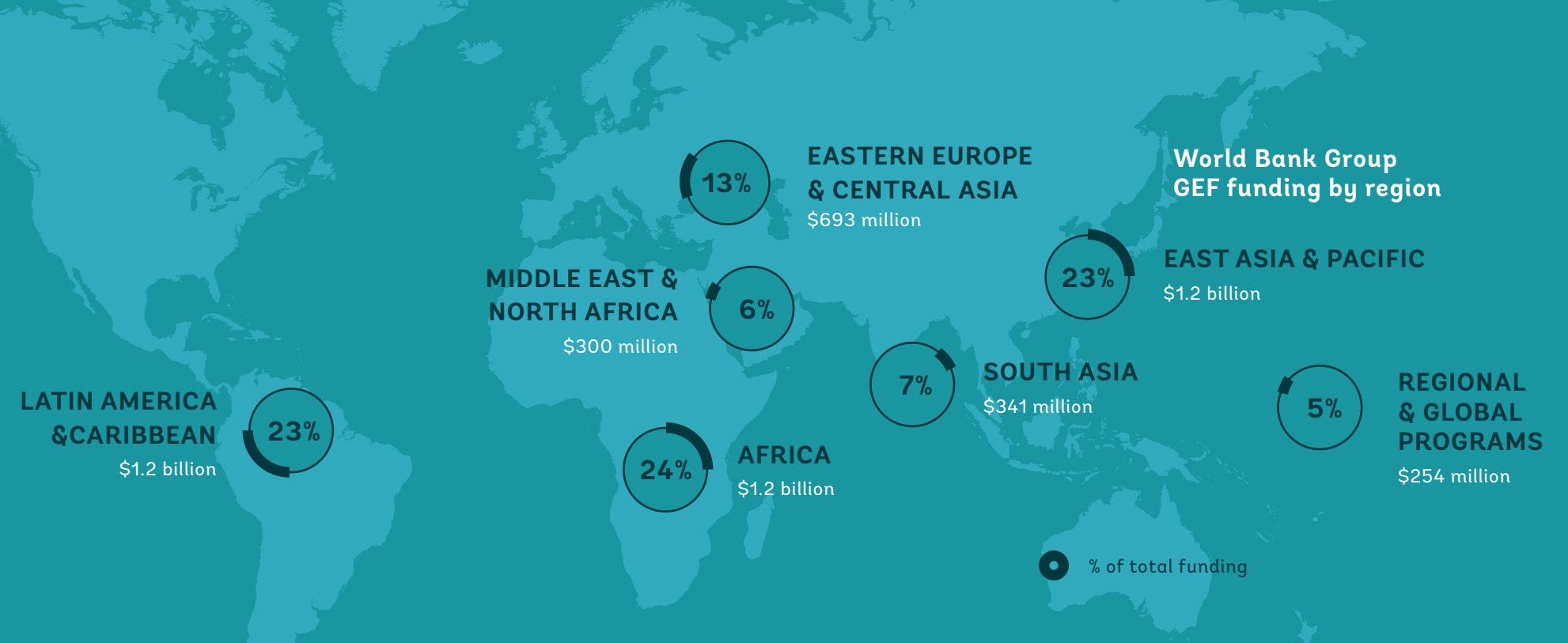
- Buying down the cost of investment and mobilizing other financing for global environmental action



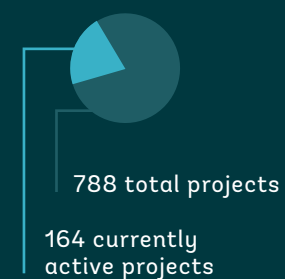
**IFC**  
\$1.4 billion in commercial financing leveraged for clean energy and technologies worldwide

**GEF**  
\$76 million foundational support

- Laying the ground work for long-term, large-scale engagement by the World Bank Group and other investors
  - Supported the first use of concentrated solar power in Morocco in 1999—demonstration project has led to +530 MW installed capacity today
- Tapping World Bank Group technical expertise and convening power to crowd in partners and amplify impact
  - Supporting a unique public-private partnership in the Brazilian Amazon for the world's largest tropical forest conservation effort—over 60 million hectares (or twice the size of Germany)



## 788 projects in 123 countries



\*1991-2018

\$40 BILLION CO-FINANCING MOBILIZED

WORLD BANK GROUP  
\$15.8 billion

GEF  
\$5.1 billion\*

# World Bank Group GEF PROGRAM

+25 years generating solutions to the world's most complex environmental challenges



## Catalyzing transformation in key sectors

### Forests (pg. 6)

Piloted a biodiversity management project in Mexico that informed a large-scale, \$460 million forests and climate change program

### Landscapes (pg. 8)

Financing a 12-country partnership for food security and climate resilience in the African Sahel, leveraging over \$1 billion

### Wildlife (pg. 10)

Leading the Global Wildlife Program to combat illegal wildlife trade across 19 countries in Africa and Asia

### Blue economy (pg. 12)

Helping coastal West Africa from Mauritania to Ghana better manage fisheries and curb illegal fishing

### Water (pg. 14)

Mobilized \$7.6 billion to clean up the Danube River and Black Sea across 11 countries

### Clean energy (pg. 16)

Supported the legal, policy, and regulatory framework that is driving China's renewable energy revolution

### Sustainable cities (pg. 18)

Leading the Global Platform for Sustainable Cities to strengthen networking, knowledge sharing, and investment on urban sustainability

### Transport (pg. 20)

Provided technical assistance and pilot investments to kickstart sustainable urban mobility in cities across Latin America

### Pollution (pg. 22)

Helped Vietnam build capacity and regulations to safely manage and phase out hazardous PCB chemicals

# forests

## CONTEXT

Nearly one-fifth of the global population looks to forests for employment, food, fuel, and other goods to support their livelihoods and incomes. The formal timber sector alone contributes \$600 billion to the global economy and employs some 50 million people. Yet 2017 recorded the highest levels of deforestation since global recording began in 2000. Deforestation in South America, Africa, and Asia contribute more than 20 percent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

## WORLD BANK & SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

The World Bank supports countries in their efforts to balance the environmental and economic role forests play and harness their potential to reduce poverty. The World Bank's Forest Action Plan focuses on two priority areas: investments in sustainable forest management and "forest-smart" interventions. These take a holistic look at forest landscapes to ensure work in sectors like agriculture, transport, and energy does not erode forest capital but generates positive forest outcomes. The World Bank strives to combine multiple financing instruments for larger, more integrated forest programs that enhance impacts on the ground.



**THE WORLD BANK COMMITTED \$1.3 BILLION IN IDA, IBRD, AND TRUST FUND FINANCING TO FORESTS AND IFC INVESTED \$1 BILLION IN FOREST PRODUCT COMPANIES IN THE FIVE YEARS FROM FY2012 TO 2017.**

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## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

The World Bank and more than 60 client countries have utilized GEF grants to pilot and advance efforts to ensure the sustainable management of forests by creating protected areas, strengthening their management, and integrating protected areas into productive landscapes. Investments have also helped establish conservation trust funds and support community-based forestry initiatives. Many GEF-financed projects have built the capacity of local beneficiaries, including indigenous peoples, to better manage their forest resources and improve their livelihoods. GEF-financed projects have often been catalysts for scaled up action in the forestry sector.

## MEXICO MESOAMERICAN BIOLOGICAL CORRIDOR PROGRAM

In Mexico, where some 80 percent of forests are owned by indigenous and other communities, the World Bank has been supporting the Government with a series of projects that have increased sustainable forest management, forest-related jobs, and the net value of forest goods and services.

In 2000, with support from the World Bank and GEF, Mexico launched the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor Program to promote conservation and economic alternatives based on the sustainable use of biodiversity in important biological corridors of its southeast region. Lessons and experience from this project informed the design of a \$460-million package that brought together multiple sources of financing. It includes an additional GEF grant, results-based payments, and a \$350 million IBRD loan to strengthen community institutions and knowledge of forest management and conservation while also developing alternative sustainable sources of income, including through REDD+.

# landscapes

## CONTEXT

Land degradation, exacerbated by climate change, perpetuates poverty and costs the world an estimated \$11 trillion annually. About 42 percent of the world's poorest live on degraded lands, which continue to expand by 12 million hectares (ha) every year due to desertification and drought. This compromises efforts to end global hunger. Landscape restoration techniques can improve crop yields, reduce erosion, and restore critical ecosystem services, such as water provisioning, to boost development prospects and help both people and planet mitigate the impacts of climate change.

## WORLD BANK & LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

For over two decades, the World Bank has helped client countries overcome barriers—technological, financial, and institutional—to design and implement landscape restoration programs that connect fragmented habitats,

such as protected areas, forest reserves, woodlands, agroforestry land, rangelands, and croplands. Using its convening powers and global experience, the World Bank brings together international, national, and local stakeholders around a shared vision to pilot programs and then take them to scale.

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

Competing fiscal demands mean client countries may not be willing or able to invest their own domestic resources for landscape restoration. The World Bank strategically uses GEF resources to complement its own investment programs to finance project components that do not generate direct returns on investment, such as institutional capacity building. World Bank GEF funding also helps pilot new interventions that demonstrate the economic benefits of landscape restoration on agricultural and ecosystem productivity and their potential for scale up.

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THE WORLD BANK'S LANDSCAPE PORTFOLIO CONSISTS OF 118 PROJECTS WORTH \$5.9 BILLION (\$3.3 BILLION IDA AND IBRD FINANCING AND \$2.6 BILLION TRUST FUNDS) AS OF SEPTEMBER 2017.



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## SAHEL & WEST AFRICA PROGRAM

Healthy ecosystems sustain life and livelihoods in the African Sahel, but expanding human settlement and the impacts of climate change are taking a heavy toll. In 2011, the World Bank partnered with 12 African countries and the GEF to launch the Sahel and West Africa Program (SAWAP) in support of the African Union's Great Green Wall Initiative to improve management of natural resources, land, and water in Africa's drylands. This multi-country program represents an investment of \$1.1 billion financed by IDA, the GEF, TerrAfrica, and other trust funds.

SAWAP focuses on natural resource management at the landscape level to strengthen food security, agribusiness development, disaster risk management, environmental management, and livelihoods. It has brought more than 750,000 ha of land under sustainable land management and has reached nearly 15 million people.

Ethiopia's investment under SAWAP combines a financing package of over \$100 million from the GEF, IDA, and the Government of Norway to support the national Sustainable Land Management Program. It has restored more than 577,000 ha of degraded land in 135 watersheds. Vegetation cover and agricultural yields have increased, water sources have revived, and an estimated 2.7 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> have been sequestered by the new trees and plants. The World Bank and Government of Ethiopia plan to expand the program to additional watersheds anchored by a \$100 million IDA investment.



# wildlife

## CONTEXT

The illegal wildlife trade is a global threat. Criminal activity is particularly acute in Africa, where iconic species—the African elephant, white and black rhinos, and pangolins—are being poached to extinction. The presence of wildlife in protected areas helps ecosystems function and maintain their natural capital, such as soil, forests, and water. As natural resource crime like poaching increases, so does environmental degradation, threatening the survival of communities that live close to the land. The cost of environmental crime to developing countries is more than \$70 billion a year.

“ The current crisis in illegal trade of wildlife reflects the poor governance and value of wildlife, the lucrative benefits of illegal trade, and the rise in demand of wildlife products. GWP will combat wildlife crime, engage communities in sustainable livelihood alternatives, and improve the governance of natural resources.

— Claudia Sobrevila, *Global Wildlife Program Manager, World Bank*

## WORLD BANK & WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

For over 30 years, the World Bank has supported client countries in tackling global threats against wildlife through investments, training, capacity building, and analytical work. It is a founding partner of the International Consortium for Combating Wildlife Crime launched in 2012 to strengthen criminal justice systems and law enforcement agencies.

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

As the financial mechanism to the Convention on Biodiversity, the GEF is a crucial partner to the World Bank and its clients in supporting biodiversity conservation and crime prevention. The World Bank has utilized GEF grants to finance a range of activities, including support to protected areas, institution building, and integrating biodiversity conservation into productive landscapes. This partnership also supports designing sustainable financing schemes for conservation capital, promoting nature tourism, and fighting wildlife crime. The GEF has financed several global initiatives convened by the World Bank to protect wildlife, including the Global Tiger Initiative and the Global Wildlife Program.

## GLOBAL WILDLIFE PROGRAM

The Global Wildlife Program (GWP) is a GEF-financed and World Bank-led global partnership that promotes wildlife conservation and sustainable development by combatting illegal wildlife trade. This seven-year, \$131 million grant program is expected to leverage an additional \$704 million in co-financing from a wide range of partners

to promote investments across 19 countries in Africa and Asia. By approaching the poaching crisis holistically through various country projects and a global knowledge-sharing platform, it seeks to reduce both the supply and demand that drives the illegal wildlife trade and protect species and habitats through integrated landscape planning.



**THE WORLD BANK IS ONE OF THE LARGEST INTERNATIONAL FINANCIERS OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE WITH A PORTFOLIO OF 241 PROJECTS WORTH OVER \$1.25 BILLION IN THE 10 YEARS FROM FY2006 TO 2016.**

# blue economy

## CONTEXT

Oceans contribute an estimated \$1.5 trillion annually to the global economy, with billions of people worldwide—especially the world's poorest—relying on them for jobs and food. For many countries, sustainably developing their marine and coastal “blue economy” is a national priority. Balancing economic growth and ocean health is key. Unregulated and over-fishing costs the world \$83 billion a year. Environmentally important coastal ecosystems, like mangroves and reefs, are also under threat from unchecked coastal development, pollution, and ocean warming and acidification.

## WORLD BANK & THE BLUE ECONOMY

The World Bank helps countries promote strong governance of marine and coastal resources to improve their contribution to sustainable and inclusive economies. World Bank blue economy investments span the globe and a wide range of activities, including supporting sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, making coastlines more resilient, establishing coastal and marine protected areas, reducing pollution—including marine plastic debris—and developing knowledge and capacity around ocean health.

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## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

The World Bank GEF partnership has pioneered many of the blue economy investments that are now commonplace in client countries, such as sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, marine conservation, integrated coastal zone management, and pollution management from source to sea. World Bank GEF grants have helped countries to invest in physical and natural infrastructure and habitat protection, as well as to strengthen the institutional, legal, and regulatory frameworks that underpin blue economic growth.

In 2017, the World Bank and GEF partnered with the Seychelles to achieve another first: \$5 million GEF non-grant resources are providing risk coverage to support the issuance of the world's first “blue bond” to finance the country's transition to sustainable fisheries.



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THE WORLD BANK'S  
ACTIVE BLUE ECONOMY  
PORTFOLIO IS WORTH  
\$3.7 BILLION AS  
OF APRIL 2018.

## WEST AFRICA REGIONAL FISHERIES PROGRAM

The West Africa Regional Fisheries Program is helping to increase the economic contribution of marine resources through improved fisheries governance, reduced illegal fishing, and strengthening the fisheries value chain. Launched in 2010 in four countries, the program now encompasses 10 countries, supported by \$40 million GEF and \$163 million IDA investments.

In Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Senegal, and Sierra Leone illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing has significantly decreased. This has positively impacted livelihoods in coastal communities of Liberia and Sierra Leone. In all countries, the legal frameworks for fisheries are better aligned to international standards and 37,000 canoes have been registered.

Senegal has successfully piloted community-led fisheries management. The new Senegalese Fisheries Code was enacted in 2015 and eight fishing communities have since been formally recognized, with the oldest one reporting a 133 percent increase in catch productivity and more resources allocated to education and health.

# water

## CONTEXT

Nearly half of the global population lives near international river basins through which about 60 percent of the planet's freshwater flows. Agriculture consumes about 70 percent of water from surface and underground resources, and by 2030, the demand for freshwater may double due to rising temperatures, increased crop water requirements, and increased evaporation. Transboundary waters are increasingly becoming a focus for cooperation. Massive investment is needed to increase water storage for all and promote water efficiency, watershed management, and pollution reduction.



**THE WORLD BANK HAS OVER 30 ACTIVE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS ON TRANSBOUNDARY WATER MANAGEMENT TOTALING \$1.4 BILLION IN INVESTMENTS, INCLUDING \$242 MILLION IN TRUST FUND SUPPORT.**

## WORLD BANK & TRANSBOUNDARY FRESH WATERS

The World Bank has been engaged in the transboundary waters agenda since facilitating the signing of the Indus Treaty between India and Pakistan in 1960. The World Bank focuses on four broad areas of support:

- Building transboundary knowledge and information systems, including leveraging partnerships with agencies such as NASA, ESA, and Google
- Building effective and sustainable institutions at transboundary and national levels
- Planning and investment for water infrastructure, resource management, freshwater fisheries, navigation, pollution management, land management and land use, power, ecosystem services and climate resilience, and disaster risk management
- Promoting novel financing mechanisms, such as nutrient reduction facilities, and policies to strengthen investment

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

The World Bank is able to deploy a range of financing, so GEF resources can be used effectively to finance complimentary activities at global and regional scales. This includes strengthening cooperation and governance of transboundary basins and watersheds to address climate change resilience, reduce nutrient loads, and manage competing uses.

In drought-prone areas, GEF grant financing has been used effectively to support groundwater management. Worldwide, the World Bank GEF program fosters global engagements and partnerships with data providers to support modernizing information systems and building institutional capacity. Initial GEF grants helped catalyze World Bank investment programs in several important waterways in Africa, including the Nile, Lake Victoria, the Niger River, and the Zambezi.

## DANUBE BLACK SEA PARTNERSHIP

Nutrient funds have proven to be effective in catalyzing investment to reduce riverine pollution loads in hotspots, such as the Danube and Black Sea, Mediterranean, and East Asia Pacific. The Danube Black Sea Partnership typifies the approach, serving as a model for the international cooperation so urgently needed to reduce land-based pollution and the growing threat of marine dead zones.

In the 1970s and 1980s, growing levels of nutrient pollution from wastewater and agricultural activities had a severe impact on the health of the Danube River and Black Sea. World Bank GEF investments of \$70 million have acted as a vital catalyst for nutrient reduction activities in the Danube Black Sea Basin, spurring over \$7 billion in investments from other sources.

Through integrated land and water management programs across 11 countries, nitrogen and phosphorus emissions have decreased by 20 percent and 50 percent, respectively in the Danube Black Sea Basin in the last 15 years. Industries like tourism have been revitalized, and countries continue to invest in the program, such as Romania with a \$60 million IBRD loan (2017-2022).



# clean energy

## CONTEXT

The world is witnessing a clean energy revolution. Renewable energy costs have dropped dramatically in the last ten years, and energy storage technologies are starting to do the same. Around the globe, more new energy capacity comes on line each year from renewable resources than from all fossil fuels combined. Disruptive technologies, including smart grids, smart meters, and geospatial data systems, are starting to be widely deployed and are transforming energy planning.

## WORLD BANK & CLEAN ENERGY

The World Bank is one of the largest financiers of clean energy projects in developing and middle-income countries. In addition to direct investments in generation, the World Bank helps countries scale up renewable energy penetration by supporting policy and institutional reforms and by crowding in private investments through enhanced grid integration and stability and improved transmission and

distribution. Under its Climate Change Action Plan, the World Bank aims to support countries in adding 30 gigawatts (GW) of renewable energy and mobilizing \$25 billion in commercial financing for clean energy over the period 2016-2020.

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

As the first major multilateral provider of climate finance, GEF support has been instrumental in piloting and laying the groundwork for scaling up renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies worldwide. World Bank GEF grants have helped clients in a range of countries demonstrate the first applications of concentrated solar power, rooftop solar photovoltaics (PV), geothermal, and solar home systems. These grants have fueled the deployment of energy efficiency programs through energy savings companies (ESCOs) in China, India, and elsewhere. GEF-financed support for World Bank policy engagement has provided the legal and regulatory foundation for large-scale clean energy deployment.



© Dana Smillie / World Bank

## CHINA RENEWABLE ENERGY SCALE UP PROGRAM

The China Renewable Energy Scale Up Program (CRESUP) was a strategic, long-term partnership between the Government of China, World Bank, and GEF to enable commercial renewable energy providers to supply the electricity market efficiently, cost-effectively, and on a large scale. CRESUP Phase I (2006-2011) included a \$40 million GEF grant for the development of a policy, regulatory, and legal framework for renewable energy and capacity building for the renewable energy manufacturing industry. GEF financing was blended with \$189 million in IBRD loans for pilot investments.

This combination made a substantial contribution to the transformation of China's renewable energy sector from an early piloting and demonstration stage to its emergence as a global leader in renewable energy generation. As of 2017, China's installed wind and solar PV power capacity had reached 164 and 130 GW, respectively.

CRESUP I also played an essential role in the rapid growth of China's solar and wind manufacturing industry, improving quality and lowering prices that have benefited China and the world.



**THE WORLD BANK AND IFC HAVE PROVIDED MORE THAN \$12.7 BILLION IN FINANCING FOR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENTS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN THE FOUR YEARS FROM FY2014 TO 2017.**

© Jutta Bengenberg / World Bank

# sustainable cities

## CONTEXT

Over half of the world's population—nearly 4 billion people—lives in urban areas, which consume close to two-thirds of the world's energy and account for more than 70 percent of GHG emissions. With global urban population expected to swell to 6 billion people by 2045, particularly in Africa and Asia, cities around the world are in urgent need of integrated urban planning and financing strategies to meet mounting challenges in areas like water supply, sanitation, transport infrastructure, and climate change.

## WORLD BANK & SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The World Bank works in partnership with the private sector, governments, and civil society to help cities meet the critical demands of urbanization. Through a combination of investment project financing, development policy loans, program-for-results funding, technical assistance, and knowledge services, the World Bank supports many areas, including:

- Strengthening city finances, planning, and governance systems
- Improving living conditions for people, including infrastructure services, tenure, housing, and neighborhoods
- Improving urban and land use planning and city management

 IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS, THE WORLD BANK HAS WORKED IN MORE THAN 7,000 CITIES AND TOWNS ACROSS 130 COUNTRIES, INVESTING AN AVERAGE OF \$6 BILLION PER YEAR IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE WORLDWIDE.



© Dominic Chavez / World Bank

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

In 2014 the GEF launched its Sustainable Cities Program, which provides \$151 million in grants for cities to advance their sustainability and resilience agendas and achieve global environmental benefits. The program is implemented through eight GEF partner agencies and engages 28 cities in 11 countries through an integrated approach that supports analytical work, improved tools for planning and decision making, knowledge sharing and coordination, and financing for low carbon infrastructure investments. The World Bank leads the Global Platform for Sustainable Cities, the program's knowledge component, as well as investments in China and Senegal.

“ Linking knowledge to finance is critical to directing investment flows to quality and sustainability. We see this platform as a great opportunity to connect cities not only to cutting-edge knowledge, but also to development banks and financial institutions.

— Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director of the World Bank's Social, Urban, Rural, and Resilience Global Practice

## GLOBAL PLATFORM FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The Global Platform for Sustainable Cities (GPSC) is a World Bank-led, GEF-financed knowledge sharing program that brings together practitioners and thought leaders from around the world to develop solutions for sustainable urban growth. Benefiting from a network of global expertise, including 28 partner cities, United Nations agencies, multilateral development banks and other financial and research institutions, the platform offers broad support:

- Provides data, indicators, and tools for decision making
- Promotes the application of best practices in urban design, planning, and implementation
- Assists cities in identifying sources of funding and bolstering creditworthiness
- Strengthens global networking and coordination on urban sustainability

As the Sustainable Cities Program enters its second phase, the platform will add 500 more cities to its network by 2020. The expansion will build on the investments and knowledge gained by cities in the initial phase of the program and encourage scale up of urban solutions.

# transport

## CONTEXT

Transport is a crucial driver of economic and social development, connecting people and opportunities and enabling economies to be more competitive. Worldwide, countries invest nearly \$2 trillion per year in transport infrastructure to meet mobility and connectivity demands. It is at the heart of critical development challenges, including climate change, rapid urbanization, accessibility and affordability, road safety, and air pollution.

© Hendri Lombard / World Bank



WORLD BANK TRANSPORT COMMITMENTS AMOUNTED TO \$9.9 BILLION (IBRD AND IDA) IN FY2017.

## WORLD BANK & TRANSPORT

The World Bank is working to promote sustainable mobility around the world, focusing on four priority goals:

- Improve the access of all to economic and social opportunities through greater mobility
- Increase the efficiency of mobility solutions
- Improve the safety of mobility
- Respond to the climate imperative by reducing the sector's carbon footprint and enhancing climate resilience

“ GEF is catalyst financing that increases positive public acceptance and receptivity to new, cutting-edge initiatives that would otherwise not be as well received.

— Veronica Raffo, World Bank Team Leader, Argentina STAQ

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

Although transport is a relatively small part of the World Bank GEF portfolio—\$149 million in GEF grants delivered through 22 projects—GEF financing has helped countries lay the groundwork for larger-scale shifts toward low carbon urban transport. GEF grants have supported a range of activities to integrate sustainable transport into urban and land use planning. This includes analytical work, feasibility studies, policy development, institutional capacity building, knowledge exchange, and pilot investments in bus rapid transit, bike lanes, and infrastructure to support nonmotorized transport.

## LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND AIR QUALITY PROGRAM

In the late 2000s, the transportation sector was responsible for more than one-third of the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in Latin America. To reduce this growing threat, the Sustainable Transport and Air Quality Program (STAQ) was launched. Comprising an overarching regional project and country projects in Mexico, Brazil, and Argentina, STAQ linked directly with other World Bank sustainable transport initiatives in key Latin American cities. The GEF provided \$23 million for technical assistance and pilot investments to support comprehensive urban transport and land use policies and plans.

In Mexico, STAQ was part of a coordinated effort by the World Bank to support Mexico's transport transformation. The GEF financed analytical

work and preparatory studies for introducing bus rapid transit and nonmotorized transport in Ciudad Juárez, Monterrey, León, and Puebla. This informed a \$400 million package from IBRD, trust funds, and carbon-based payments to finance new infrastructure works and vehicles for new mass transit corridors.

In Brazil, more than 400 kilometers of bicycle lanes were created in São Paulo between 2010 and 2015. In Argentina, STAQ supported urban mobility master plans in four cities, bus rapid transit lanes and bikeways in two cities, and a bike sharing system in Rosario, where 8 percent of trips are now made by bicycle.

# pollution

## CONTEXT

Industrialization and urbanization have intensified environmental health risks and pollution worldwide. Air pollution, lead poisoning, inadequate water supply, and hazardous waste create harmful living conditions, destroy ecosystems, and cause debilitating and fatal illnesses. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), an estimated 12.6 million people die from environmental health risks annually. While the challenge is global, pollution impacts the poor most. About 95 percent of adults and children affected by pollution-related illnesses live in developing countries, where pollution stunts economic growth and exacerbates poverty and inequality.

## WORLD BANK & POLLUTION

The World Bank works with developing countries and development partners to reduce pollution, implement proper waste management, improve water and air quality, and promote clean development for healthier lives and better economic opportunity.

## ROLE OF WORLD BANK GEF FINANCING

Building on foundational support from the Canadian Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Trust Fund established in 2000, the World Bank was one of the first GEF agencies to develop projects addressing POPs, a dangerous class of chemicals subject to reduction or elimination under the Stockholm Convention.

The World Bank's partnership with the GEF has brought some notable successes, with GEF grant financing of nearly \$240 million mobilizing over \$650 million in financing from the World Bank and other sources to help client countries eliminate some of the world's most hazardous chemicals. The partnership has built long-term capacity for hazardous waste management and stimulated broader and sustained World Bank engagement to address the ongoing management and disposal of hazardous chemicals and waste.



© Gustavo Mahoque



**THE WORLD BANK HAS COMMITTED OVER \$8.3 BILLION (IBRD AND IDA) TO POLLUTION MANAGEMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AS OF APRIL 2018.**

## VIETNAM PCB MANAGEMENT PROJECT

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are one of the 12 classes of POPs targeted for elimination by the Stockholm Convention. Vietnam turned to the World Bank for help in managing its inventory of PCBs primarily contained in oils used in electrical transformers and capacitors. With the support of a \$17.5 million project, including a \$7 million World Bank GEF grant, Vietnam was able to strengthen its institutional capacity and regulatory framework to manage PCBs and safely store significant amounts in anticipation of future disposal.

EVN, the country's state-owned power utility and largest owner of electrical equipment, was closely involved in the project. Its commitment to PCB phase-out was evidenced by its own resource allocation to support upgrading existing PCB storage facilities and increasing technical capacity to manage its PCB inventory. EVN also led dialogue on PCB disposal options.



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