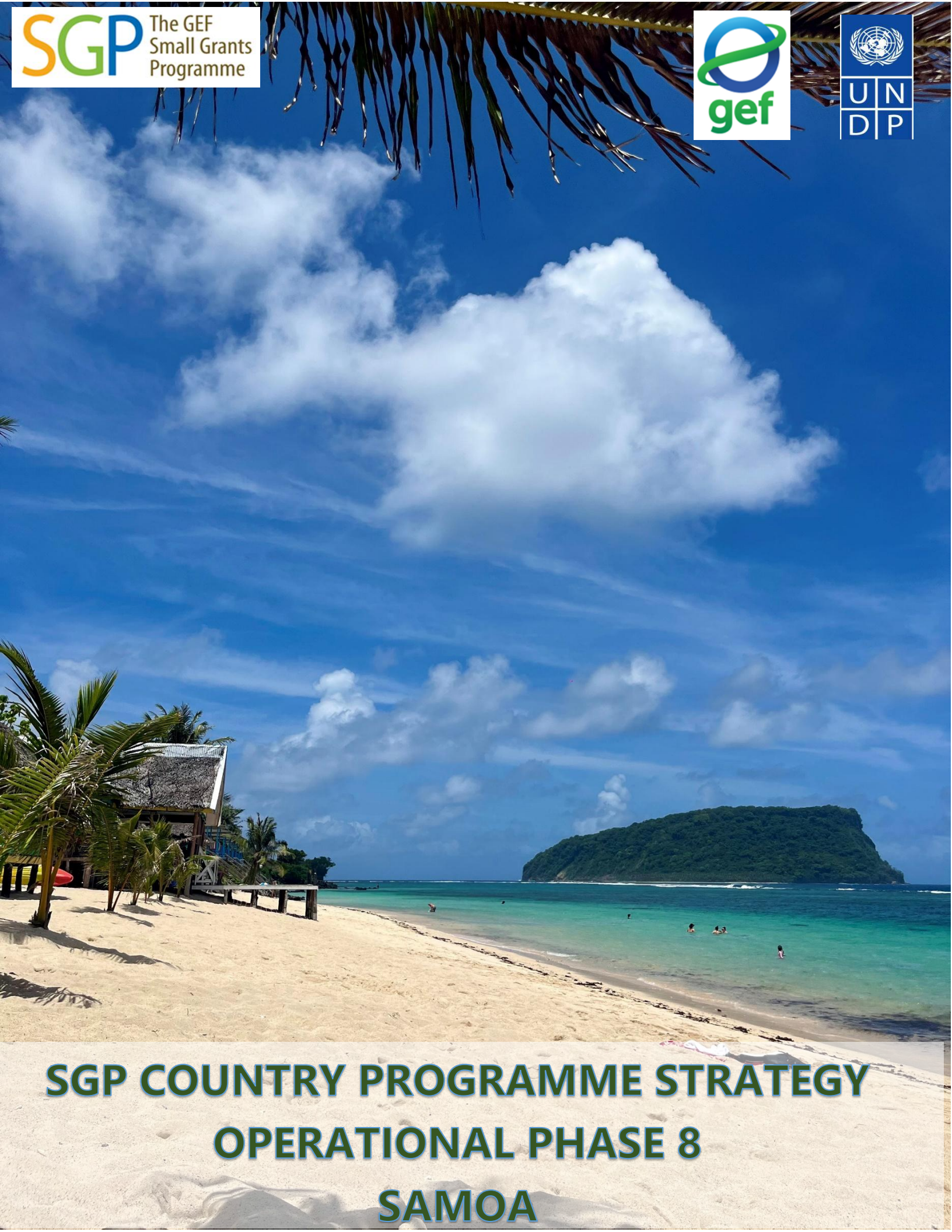


A tropical beach scene with a sandy shore, turquoise water, and a large green island in the background under a blue sky with white clouds. Palm trees and a thatched-roof building are on the left.

SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY OPERATIONAL PHASE 8 SAMOA

OPERATIONAL PHASE 8 (OP8)

SGP SAMOA COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY (CPS)

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OP8 Financial Resources - SGP Country Programme (estimated US\$)¹

Total SGP Grants to date since Country Programme start date (2025)	USD 6,156,632
OP8 GEF Core Funds	USD 456,818.18
OP8 GEF STAR Funds	USD 536,000
Other funds (secured) – DFAT	AUD 2,000,000
Other funds (expected/to be mobilized)	

1. INTRODUCTION

The Eighth Operational Phase of the Small Grants Programme (SGP OP8) builds on 30 years of successful experience in empowering local civil society organizations (CSOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) in designing and leading community driven initiatives that have enhanced household wellbeing, increased awareness and resilience regarding environmental threats, and generated global environmental benefits. With economic development pressures intensifying in many parts of the developing world and the associated rising inequalities, local communities, particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged groups are becoming more and more marginalized, unable to cope with threats associated with ecosystem degradation, biodiversity loss and climate change. Lessons learned and experience gained in previous SGP Operational Phases have demonstrated that integrated, landscape-seascape approaches are effective in mobilizing multiple stakeholder collaboration, linking local CSOs/CBOs with enabling partners and achieving mutually supportive livelihood and environmental outcomes at scale.

The objectives of the SGP OP8 is to engage local CSOs/CBOs in landscape-seascape approaches across the world, providing them access to knowledge and information, capacitating them through learning-by-doing, skills development, and delivering technical and grant assistance for interventions that enhance wellbeing and socioeconomic conditions and generate global environmental benefits.

The OP8 objectives reflect the key features of GEF Small Grants Programme 2.0, including new approaches to support youth, women and Indigenous Peoples, linking up with complementary mechanisms, such as the Microfinance Initiative and CSO Challenge Programme, cooperating with other GEF Agencies, and leveraging opportunities with GEF strategies, including the delivery of the GEF-8 Integrated Programmes. In addition, OP8 will facilitate opportunities for innovation and scaling up, catalyze multi-stakeholder alliances to test new approaches through CSOs, and leverage its dialogue platforms towards greater impact. OP8 will also align and contribute to the UNDP Strategic Plan (2022-2025).

¹ The level of SGP OP8 resources is an estimated total of: (a) the GEF8 core grant allocation; (b) approved STAR resources; as well as (c) other sources of cost sharing & co-financing (country, regional and/or global levels). SGP countries with remaining OP7 balances that have not been pipelined will be expected to use these balances in line with the OP8 strategic approach in order to be coherent in terms of SGP programming and results expected.

2. COUNTRY PROGRAMME SUMMARY: Key results and achievements

SAMOA

Samoa is the largest of the three country programmes within the Samoa Sub-Regional Programme (SSRP), and since 2003 approximately **USD6,156,632** grants has been approved and implemented across 285 projects, with a total in-cash co-financing of **USD 633,278** and in-kind co-financing of **USD6,619,777**. Being a Small Island Developing State (SIDS), a holistic approach to SGP implementation was adopted throughout OP7, with the whole country being selected as the landscape/seascape.

2.1. Key Results and Achievements:

During OP7, approximately 90% of grantmaking was targeted towards landscapes and seascapes GEF focal areas. The remaining 10% was spent on capacity- building projects and capacity development projects. NSC and TAG played a prominent role in achieving the overall objectives of OP7 and its target beneficiaries.

Key achievements from OP7 include:

- ❖ Implemented 40 home biogas systems in eight villages, turning organic waste into renewable energy to build a sustainable and resilient future. Many families received instant access to renewable biogas for clean cooking and bio- liquid fertilizer that enriches farm soil.
- ❖ Two grantees have been able to successfully bottle this bio-liquid fertilizer and sell it to other SGP sites to generate revenue. Bio- liquid fertilizer improves soil quality and increases the production of crops.
- ❖ **South-South Exchange:** An ongoing project in Saint Lucia allowed the country program and its partner Iyanola Apiculture Collective (IAC), to integrate a scientific approach into apiculture development. Based on the lessons learned, SGP Saint Lucia and IAC designed a strategic project involving Saint Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, and Samoa. A 17-module Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) apiculture training programme was designed to train over 140 people within and outside the Caribbean region. All participating countries, as well as Antigua and Barbuda, attended the online beekeeping course. Beekeeping associations in the participating countries were strengthened by training new beekeepers, increasing the number of hives for more honey production, establishing new queen rear facilities, and using mobile units for honey collection in remote areas. Materials and equipment have been ordered for six countries. Another cohort of 100 people has started another course in apiculture.
- ❖ Beneficiaries include over 5,000 women, 5,000 men and 5,000 children, with approximately 2,000 women, 2,000 men and 2,000 children being provided capacity building across the OP7 focal areas.
- ❖ SGP CBA funded project by the Fono Faavae Faleata 3 won the National Environment Award during the National Environment Week 2023 in recognition of outstanding service to the environment and climate resilience. Theme of the week: *"Louder actions to build back our Environment and Climate Resilience."*
- ❖ SGP NSC/TAG received the 2019 "National Environment Award" in recognition and appreciation of their service to the environment.
- ❖ Successful partnership achieved with the Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP) to co-fund the Moataa Mangrove Walkway, increasing the community's resilience to the adverse effects of

climate change. This Moataa Mangrove Walkway has become quite popular with overseas official delegation site visits. This included the Norwegian Crown Prince, [Norwegian Crown Prince visits Moataa mangroves \(youtube.com\)](#); and [His Majesty King Charles III Visits some of Samoa's Environmental Heritage Sites: Moata'a Mangrove Conservation Area and the O Le Pupū Pu'ē National Park — October 24, 2024 - MNRE- Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment](#)

- ❖ SGP supported the Savai'i Samoa Tourism Association (SSTA) to improve waste management of local communities. In some rural communities, people discarded rubbish in the forests and in key landscapes such as the Salelologa district, where the endangered national bird of Samoa, Manumea, was last seen. It has posed an increasing threat to the local environment, particularly the water system, as well as the health of community members. Local tourism was also being impacted by waste pollution. SSTA worked with at least 5 districts on the Savai'i Islands, the biggest island of Samoa and raised a national campaign. 250 waste stands were installed for household waste collection. Residents separated “light” waste from “heavy” one. Organic waste was also separated and used to feed animals.
- ❖ As most houses were located close to the shoreline, increased awareness and improved waste collection infrastructure have resulted in a significant reduction of waste entering the marine environment. In addition, waste management at local hospitals and local schools was supported by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Natural Resources. The by-laws of the village were amended and subsequently endorsed to properly manage waste throughout the sub-villages of Satupaitea. Nearly 2,000 people benefitted from the project, including 900 children. As a result, the waste management of the areas has improved drastically, with close to zero waste being dumped in the environment, eliminating the open burning of solid waste emitting POPs.

2.2. Lessons Learned:

During the OP8 Country Programme Strategy (CPS) Stakeholder Consultation that was carried out during 2023-2024 in Samoa, the following points were brought to the attention of the SGP Secretariat:

1. Knowledge Sharing – during OP7, there was sufficient opportunity for CSOs to exchange knowledge and experiences with one another. Through the collaborative efforts of the two project grantees, *Alii ma Faipule Vaimaga* and *Alii ma Faipule Lealaalii Faleasiu*, efforts were made in the domain of marine conservation and sustainable management of marine resources. The grantees conducted cross-visits to each other's locations during project implementation, facilitating the exchange of ideas, knowledge, and experiences, fostering mutual learning and enhancement of service delivery. The project committee from Alii ma Faipule Vaimaga in Savaii Island embarked on a journey to Upolu to connect with the Alii ma Faipule Lealaalii Faleasiu team. This collaborative visit allowed for a constructive exchange of perspectives on their project activities, enabling the sharing of lessons learned and best practices.

2. Project Sustainability – when the funding is utilized, completed projects lack the means to continue. An “exit strategy” is required to increase accessibility to future funding sources, along with a mechanism to assist CSOs/CBOs/NGOs when phasing out of a project cycle.

3. Monitoring and Evaluation – the current M&E process does not determine in detail the success/failures of projects, and data collected is often not validated by relevant stakeholders.

4. Social media – throughout OP7, many grantees have increased the reach of their projects using social media. With kind assistance from the GEF-Small Grants Programme and UNDP, the Tuaeufu and Ululoloa village committee allocated part of the signage budget to create this website which is a useful resource that will ensure more sustainable development and local collaboration for future projects <https://tuaefu-ululoloa-villages.org/>. As 78% of Samoa's population live in rural areas, this is a key mechanism to showcase project progress and can help knowledge sharing between different stakeholders involved.

5. Financial Capacity/Internal conflict – grantees often lack the capacity to effectively report and monitor the financial progress of their projects, which can often lead to the following issues. Few grantees experienced internal issues within their committees or wider communities resulting from the proper use of funds and who has financial control. With proper guidance and onsite training by the SGP team, grantees were able to resolve their concerns. Conflict management strategies were applied to specific cases mainly relating to land issues and lack of understanding of SGP processes and policies.

6. Home Biogas – Participants of the program have expressed their gratitude for the access to Home Biogas systems, which have transformed their lives and livelihoods. The introduction of these systems has proven to be a game-changer, enabling the villages to harness the power of biogas for cooking, heating, and lighting while also creating a sustainable waste management solution. These biogas systems have revolutionized the way they manage organic waste and provided them with an eco-friendly source of energy for their daily needs. Many participants have seen a much-improved crop performance, leading to increased farm yields and improved food security. The success of the program has not only spurred interest in neighboring communities. Still, it has also attracted attention from national authorities, who are looking to replicate the initiative on a larger scale to enhance energy security and sustainable agriculture across Samoa. <https://tuaefu-ululoloa-villages.org/>

3. COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

3.1 Alignment with national priorities

Table 1. List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
GEF-8 National Dialogues	2024
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)	1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	2001
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	2014
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1994
UNFCCC National Communications	2010
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	-
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	1994, 2005
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the Paris Accord	2015
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	1998
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	2007
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	2008
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	2006
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	2015

UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	2016,2020,2024
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies (IW)	1997
UN Sub-Regional Programme Document for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) 2018-2022	2018
Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) 2016-2030	2017
UN Pacific Strategy (UNPS) 2018-2022	2018
UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2023-2027	2023
SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway	2014
Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS) 2016-2020	2016
Pathway for Development of Samoa (PDS) FY2021/2022-FY2025/2026	2023
National Environment Sector Plan (NESP) 2022/2023-2027	2022,2023,2024
Community Integrated Management (CIM) Plans	2018

3.2 Gaps and opportunities

OP8 provides SGP Samoa with the opportunity to continue contributing towards achieving the environmental priorities set under the international conventions and national/regional plans and programmes in Table 1. In 2016, Samoa was among the first to undergo a Voluntary National Review (VNR) for the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which highlighted the cross-cutting issues of inclusivity and gender equality throughout sustainable development at the national level. Specific focus was placed on mainstreaming gender and empowering youth groups within communities to contribute to local and national decision-making and implementing activities. This provides an opportunity for OP8 grantmaking to address national priorities throughout project implementation whilst increasing the scope and sustainability of activities. The Government of Samoa have also set out a Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC - the heart of the Paris Agreement) to achieve a 100% transition to renewable energy by 2025. Civil society's reliance on fossil fuel alternatives can be reduced by increasing the local capacity to produce clean energy (home biogas project) through small-scale community-level action during OP8.

Throughout OP8, there is also a significant opportunity to continue to improve the sustainable management and development of Samoa's natural resources, a Long-Term Outcome (LTO) of the National Environment Sector Plan (NESP), similarly prioritized in the Strategy for Development of Samoa (SDS) 2016-2020 as well as international and regional conventions. Rural communities, which make up 72% of Samoa's population, rely heavily on the environment that surrounds them and through increasing meaningful civil society ownership and involvement within environmental protection and conservation practices, the potential for environmental and socio-economic development can be enhanced.

Building on the Strategy for the Development of Samoa 2016/2017 – 2019/2020, the Pathway for the Development of Samoa (PDS) FY2021/2022 – FY2025/2026 provides a new vision of Fostering social harmony, safety, and freedom for all. The Pathway for the Development of Samoa (PDS) provides the national framework to guide the nation and partners towards a sustainable and resilient future. With unprecedented challenges that are being forecast for our planet, it is pertinent that communities are empowered and supported to allow them to endure and thrive during disasters and disruptions. The PDS prioritizes human development to improve the socio-economic wellbeing of the nation. Through improved

prosperity and security of the people, the country can enhance and accelerate its efforts to nurture and protect the environment.

Whilst there has been a significant improvement throughout OP6/OP7, there remains the opportunity to strengthen coordination and to develop new partnerships between civil society, NGOs, the private sector, the Government of Samoa, and donor agencies – a cross-cutting factor in the development with the potential to ensure policy -making becomes increasingly inclusive and representative. Through improved dialogue, results and outcomes from SGP projects can be effectively utilized to inform national planning and decision - making, with OP8 creating an enabling environment at the community level to work in partnership with the Government of Samoa. As well as this, OP8 grantmaking has the potential to fill the funding gap from OP6/OP7 to improve knowledge management and south-south cooperation, promoting the exchange of knowledge and best practices which can be replicated and upscaled throughout the SSRP, Pacific region and SIDS across the globe.

3.3 OP8 strategic priorities of the SGP Country Programme

Table 2. SGP Country Programme's alignment with SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives and country priorities/projects/programmes

SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives - Global	SGP Samoa Programme's OP8 Priorities	SGP Samoa Programme's complementarity with GEF, UNDP, and other projects and programmes
Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species	1) <i>Improve community-led biodiversity friendly practices and approaches, that promote blue economy approaches such as agriculture, fisheries, forestry, eco-tourism, infrastructure that promotes and sustains natural resources whilst improving the livelihoods of the village communities.</i> 2) <i>Enhance community led actions for protection of threatened species such as turtles, manumea, and ocean species.</i>	Vaisigano Catchment Project: GCF/UNDP/MOF/MNRE/LTA/MWTI/ MOH/CSSP 6th National Report (6NR) – GEF/UNDP Economy Wide Adaptation to CC (EWACC) –GEF/UNDP/MNRE Ridge to Reef – GEF/EU/MNRE/MAF
Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security	1) <i>Increase efficiency and effectiveness of overall food production and value chain, including in vulnerable ecosystems low lying areas, coral reefs, forests, mountains, island ecosystems, etc.).</i> 2) <i>Increase diversification and livelihood improvement. Natural & regenerated farming, liquid fertilizer from home biogas.</i> 3) <i>Encourage reforestation by planting local trees to combat deforestation. Encourage and promote the national tree planting campaign of 3 million.</i>	Ridge to Reef – GEF/EU/MNRE/MAF Papapapa Tilapia Project – CSSP Other programmes - FAO/MAF/WIBDI/ METI/PTD/Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI)/SPREP National Tree Planting Campaign 3 million – MNRE SAO – Beekeeping project

Low-carbon energy access co-benefits Support implementation of Paris Agreement and the NDCs	1) Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies provide socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods. Home Biogas technology 2) Promote solar lights installation in rural areas where there is no electricity.	Improving Performance of Renewable Energy Power Systems Samoa. 3rd National Communications – GEF/ UNDP/MNRE
Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management	1) Reduce/remove plastics, promote solid waste management and circular economy. 2) Reduce/remove the use of chemicals in agriculture.	Ridge to Reef – GEF/EU/MNRE/MAF SSAB E-Waste – SSAB/MNRE/ILO Other Programmes – SWRMA/JICA/ CSSP/SPREP STAR – CERO Waste
Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions	1) Improve capacities to promote community-driven, socially inclusive and integrated solutions to address low-emission and resilient urban development. 2) Demonstrate innovative socially inclusive urban solutions/ approaches (including waste and chemical management, energy, transport, watershed protection, ecosystem services and biodiversity, natural & regenerative farming). 3) Implement public-private partnership approach for low carbon energy access for marginalized urban communities.	Vaisigano Catchment Project: GCF/UNDP/MOF/MNRE/LTA/ MWTI/ MOH/CSSP
Community-Based Adaptation (CBA Phase 3) (only applicable to CBA Phase 3 participating countries) (with DFAT funding) 1) Reduce vulnerability and improve the adaptive capacity of communities. 2) Provide countries with concrete ground-level experience on Climate Change Adaptation and CBA. 3) Provide clear policy lessons and mainstream CBA within national processes.	Reduce vulnerability and improve the adaptive capacity of communities in relation to climate change impacts on the environment and disaster risk management (DRM). 1) Soft solutions – replanting mangroves, coral replanting, invasive species, 2) Capacity building	MAP/SIDS-CBA – AusAID. Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) - GEF/AUSAID/UNDP/SPREP. Green Economy Initiative – ILO/MNRE/SWRWMA. Vaisigano Catchment Project: GCF/UNDP/MOF/MNRE/LTA/ MWTI/ MOH/CSSP Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) – CSSP; MOF EWACC - GEF/UNDP/MNRE
Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS Phase 4)	1) Sustainable landscape and seascape management and restoration. 2) Reduce vulnerability and improve adaptive capacity of communities. 3) Knowledge Management for capacity building, replication, and up-scaling.	MAP/SIDS-CBA – AusAID. Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change (PACC) - GEF/AUSAID/UNDP/SPREP. Green Economy Initiative – ILO/MNRE/SWRWMA. Vaisigano Catchment Project:

CSO-government-private sector policy and planning dialogue platforms	<i>Promote/enhance community voices and participation in global and national policy, strategy development related to global environment and sustainable development issues.</i> 1. <i>Enhanced dissemination of information to rural areas/grassroots</i> 2. <i>Village communities are well informed and encouraged by their participation.</i> 3. <i>Engagement of youth and women practitioners, people with disabilities.</i>	Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change (ERCC) – MNRE/UNDP/ Adaptation Fund Global ABS Project – UNDP/MNRE Other programmes – SUNGO/CSSP/ Samoa Business Hub/SSAB/SCS/CI Stockholm +50 – MNRE/UNDP
Enhancing social inclusion	1) <i>Promote inclusive targeted initiatives.</i> 2) <i>Mainstream social inclusion in all projects.</i> <i>(e.g. women/girls, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities).</i>	Women in Leadership Samoa (WILS) – UN Women/UNDP. Women in Climate Change – ILO/WICC Youth Employment Project – ILO; Youth Co:Lab – UNDP/MWCSD/UN Women; Social Protection Programme UNRCO/UNICEF/UNESCAP/UNDP/ UNESCO/ ILO;
Knowledge Management (KM)	1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities. 2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs. 3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices. 4) In-country exchanges between SGP project communities (Talanoa sessions)	Knowledge Society Programme (KSP) – UNRCO/UNESCO/UNDP; SPREP; NUS; USP; UNDP Guardians Campaign – SCS/Samoa Voyaging Society (SVS)/MNRE/MAF/ MWCSD/ YCAN/NUS/FAO/ MESC/SPREP ERCC – MNRE/UNDP/ Adaptation Fund
Results Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	1) Administer new M&E strategy in Country Programme, and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms.	ERCC – MNRE/UNDP/ Adaptation Fund Other programmes – World Bank/MNRE/MAF/MWCSD/UNDP/SPREP

4. OP8 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

4.1 Grant making within the priority landscape/seascapes

a) Process for selecting priority landscapes and seascapes

The approach taken to select the priority LS/SS was guided by key principles and concepts, including sustainability, empowerment, inclusion and multi-focal capacity, to strategically identify the most vulnerable areas in which at least 70% of funding would be allocated. Following the process below, the priority LS/SS was selected:

- ❖ Step 1: Review of OP7 CPS, ongoing and completed OP6 and OP7 projects, and collection of national policy documents and relevant project documents to support intended SGP implementation in OP8.
- ❖ Step 2: OP8 Stakeholders Consultation – with relevant project grantees, CSOs, NGOs, Government and private sector feedback.
- ❖ Step 3: NSC Consultation – to finalize and endorse the selected priority LS/SS

To accelerate development in Samoa, an integrated and inclusive approach is required, reflected in the Pathway for Development of Samoa (PDS) 2021-2025, the NESP 2023-2027, as well as in the UN 2030 SDGs unanimously adopted in September 2015. During the OP8 Consultations with the grantees, they acknowledged that challenges to achieving the Key Outcomes of the PDS, as well as the 17 SDGs are interrelated and interconnected, and therefore should be tackled in such a way as to:

1. Ensure a multi-sectoral approach to addressing environmental issues at the community level.
2. Reduce the potential risk of marginalization of certain CSOs/CBOs/NGOs to ensure that the most vulnerable in not just a rural, but also urban environment, are not left behind.
3. Increase the ability to engage and integrate a greater number of technical and financial partners, maximizing synergies whilst minimizing trade-offs and duplication.

b) Selected landscapes/seascapes for OP8

The topography of Samoa consists mainly of **coastal plains**, but the interior of Savai'i and Upolu have rugged volcanic mountains. The climate of Samoa is tropical and as such it has mild to warm temperatures year-round. Samoa also has a rainy season from November to April and a dry season from May to October. Covering an area of 2,842 sq.km (1,097 sq mi), Samoa is a Polynesian island nation comprising of two large islands of Savai'i and Upolu and 8 small islets namely, Manono Island, Apolima and Nu'ulopa; Nu'utele, Nu'ulua, Namua and Fanuatapu; and Nu'usafe'e; located in the South Pacific Ocean. Savai'i is Samoa's largest island occupying about 1,707 sq.km area. Upolu is the 2nd largest island occupying an area of about 1,119 sq.km and is uneven in shape and more elongated than Savai'i. As observed on the physical map of Samoa above, the two large islands are mountainous, volcanic in origin and covered with heavy forests. The highest point is Mt. Sisisili on Savai'i Island which peaks at an elevation of 6,070ft (1,857m) and is marked on the map above by a yellow triangle. The islands are ringed by coral reefs and shallow lagoons.



Samoa's environment continues to change, due to several drivers such as increasing population, climate change and economic inequity. Population growth, climate change and natural disasters, economic and technological development, global economics and geographic constraints, traditional and cultural value systems are environmental drivers that are causing changes to Samoa's environment. These drivers affect the environment directly, or interact together to cause immediate, but often long-term irreversible changes. Species extinction is one of the irreversible consequences of some of these driving forces. Internal migration from rural areas towards Apia urban centre is having an impact on sensitive sites such as coastal and upland areas. Settlement expansion is affecting natural water flows and wetland sites, which can lead to the degradation of coast and marine environment. Land and coastal erosion around new settlement areas are becoming increasingly common, especially during floods and heavy rainfall. The use of technology has improved lives, but also accelerated land clearing and over-harvesting of resources.

Through ensuring the above three additional criteria for LS/SS selection, all stakeholders agreed to the whole country being considered as the priority LS/SS, in which at least 70% of OP8 grant-making will be focused. The NSC endorsed this decision, as was carried out in the previous operational phase, and supports the GEF-8 Programming directions, which seek maximum impact across its focal areas through integrated programming under a multi-sectoral approach with joint-implementation from the Government of Samoa, the private sector, and local CSOs/CBOs/NGOs. The whole-of-country approach allows SGP to tackle drivers of environmental degradation in an integrated fashion, supporting country and sector priorities, whilst providing meaningful contribution to the SDGs.

c) OP8 Strategic Initiatives in the landscapes/seascapes

Strategic Initiative 1: Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species

- ❖ SGP Samoa will demonstrate the conservation and sustainable use of threatened ecosystems and species across coastal/marine/mangrove/forest habitats, integrating relevant government ministries for technical assistance as well as the private sector and NGOs where possible, to assist the capacity of civil society by adopting a ‘polycentric governance’ approach to community-based landscape/seascape conservation.

Strategic Initiative 2: Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security

- ❖ SGP Samoa will promote community-based climate -resilient sustainable agriculture, fisheries and food production whilst ensuring biodiversity- friendly practices and approaches are being adhered to, consolidating support to targeted sectors in previous operational cycles (e.g. supply chains to target biodiversity products, agrobiodiversity and small-hold farmers, natural and regenerative agriculture and fair trade).

Strategic Initiative 3: Low-carbon energy access co-benefits

- ❖ SGP Samoa will seek to support the NDC of Samoa to become 70% renewable by 2030 through low-cost bottom-up energy solutions, increasing the potential for carbon emissions reductions at the community level. An integrated approach will be taken beyond the energy sector, aiming at reducing poverty, and enhancing gender equality and social inclusion, whilst increasing climate resilience.

Strategic Initiative 4: Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management

- ❖ SGP Samoa will focus its support on communities at the forefront of threats related to waste and chemicals, either as users or consumers, supporting practical, affordable and innovative solutions to waste and chemicals management in a joint effort with partners, including government ministries, research institutions, international agencies and private sector.

Strategic Initiative 5: Catalysing sustainable urban solutions.

- ❖ SGP Samoa will pilot activities or replicate previously successful projects that have been carried out in an urban environment, such as natural and regenerative farming, promoting an integrated management approach to address urbanization challenges such as waste management, urban land use and access to clean water/energy.

Strategic Initiative 6: Community-based adaptation

- ❖ SGP Samoa will aim to reduce community vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change and improve their adaptive capacity whilst providing concrete ground-level climate change adaptation experience through integrating relevant local and regional stakeholders.

Coordination:

The SGP in Samoa is guided by the NSC, composed of government representatives and non-governmental members who reflect the programme's mandate for CSO/CBO/NGO capacity building. They provide the overall country guidance and ensure that at the country level, programmes and projects are fully coordinated with the relevant stakeholders. This government representation along with relevant regional bodies is instrumental in achieving a multi-focal and integrated approach in the LS/SS and proved successful during OP6 whereby at each stage of project development (proposal/implementing/completion), provision of advice and support was available to assist and develop CSO/CBO/NGO capacity, whilst ensuring that the community take the lead and overall responsibility. To further increase synergy and achieve greater impact from multi-focal approaches, the following are recommended throughout OP8:

- Upscaling projects from village to district initiatives or by adopting a Ridge to Reef (R2R) approach.
- Increasing collaboration with government, academic and research institutions in both capacity building and monitoring and evaluation processes.
- Identifying possible partnerships with other funding agencies to achieve co-financing, the harmonizing of criteria and the prevention of duplicating efforts to avoid inefficient utilization of resources.
- In partnership with the government District Development Project (DDP) to ensure complementarity. This is to avoid duplication of resources and “double dipping”.

d) Grantmaking outside the priority landscapes/seascapes

Up to 30% of resources can be allocated for projects outside of the LS/SS, and will be done so through innovative, inclusive, and impactful initiatives as both stand-alone projects through Grant Maker Plus initiatives below, or through direct project level integration in a strategic and supportive manner to initiatives within the selected LS/SS.

4.2 CSO-government-private sector dialogue platforms

During OP8, SGP will continue to strengthen its role as a CSO-led multi-stakeholder platform by working closely with the Government of Samoa, development partners, and with the private sector to leverage its potential to invest and support sustainability at the local level. SGP will be guided by the Community Integrated Management (CIM) Plans to identify areas requiring CSO-Government-Private Sector dialogue,



utilizing this existing “bridge” between the grassroots and local/national policy making. SGP will further contribute to the formation of durable partnerships as well as possible future CSO/Government/Private Sector dialogues through the following activities: (i) by promoting the inclusion of data/research findings (e.g. mangrove audits, MPAs, watersheds, land tenure/ use, environmental impact assessments (EIAs) etc.) in local/national/regional policy; and (ii) promoting the role of NSC, TAG members in disseminating information to relevant policy makers and promoting the inclusion of CSOs/CBOs/NGOs when updating national policy, such as but not limited to National Sector Plans / National Adaptation Plans of Action.

4.3 Promoting social Inclusion, including gender equality and women’s empowerment.

In Samoa, due to gender norms, men, women and youth have different opportunities for the management and sustainable use of natural resources. Women play a pivotal role in food production, whether through subsistence farming to feed their families or growing cash crops for income. In Samoa, women no longer face barriers to accessing agricultural land, training, credit and financial services. Equal opportunities do exist for men and women to engage in farming to feed their families, as well as earn income from the sale of their produce. SGP Samoa will continue to enhance women’s and youth’s participation and role in natural resources decision-making processes, with particular focus on women as “agents of change” at all levels by promoting their voice in partnerships and alliances with regional and national networks such as Women’s Committees, WIBDI, Samoa Umbrella of NGOs (SUNGO), Samoa Women’s Association of Growers (SWAG) SAO (Samoa Apiculture Organization) and Samoa National Youth Council (SNYC) housed under MWCSO. In addition, trainings, individual meetings and workshops will be conducted to enhance the technical capacity of women in environment-related issues. Grant-making under this strategic initiative will also aim to identify innovative and inclusive sustainable activities that offer women access to credit and finance for impact entrepreneurship whilst contributing to shaping policy and gender norms to improve women’s access to and control over natural resources.

The following approaches from OP7 will be continued (i) solid and inclusive partnerships and spaces to foster women/youth/people with disabilities (PWDs) engagement will be made accessible in order to assist dialogue with relevant CSOs/CBOs/NGOs and stakeholders; (ii) both voluntary bodies are key for SGP implementation, the TAG and NSC, will continue to have a representative specialized in gender/youth/PWD mainstreaming; (iii) all SGP projects shall be reviewed utilizing a checklist of criteria to screen projects for how they mainstream gender, youth and PWDs in the design, approval, implementation, and monitoring phases of the project (constructive feedback will be given to the proponents by the NSC after reviewing each full proposal); (iv) 80% of SGP projects will be led by women and youth organizations and/or directly addressing gender issues. These activities and procedures will promote the social inclusion of marginalized and vulnerable groups and allow the NSC to ensure that marginalized groups are not excluded from participation.

4.4 Knowledge Management

Strengthening knowledge management throughout OP8 can address gaps from OP7 highlighted in stakeholder consultations whilst ensuring informed decisions are made and a learning culture is promoted

across all sectors and stakeholders of development. SGP Samoa will aim to carry out the following to capture, share, and disseminate the lessons learned, best practices and success/failures identified throughout OP8:

(i) Talanoa Sessions – promote youth dialogues and knowledge sharing of best practices, efficient dissemination of useful/relevant info, packaged in an user friendly format for everyone to access. **(ii) Knowledge Fairs** – bringing together local CSOs/CBOs/NGOs related to their project focal area or strategic initiative to assist knowledge exchanges with the necessary stakeholders, generating a strengthened capacity to address environmental issues at the community level; **(iii) Demonstration Sites** – selecting completed projects to showcase their achievements and to provide information, and the transfer of knowledge/experience to new CSOs/CBOs/NGOs ; **(iv) Digital Library of Community Innovations for the Global Environment** – updating the digital library with publications, fact sheets, reports and how-to-manuals, capturing and distilling useful solutions to environmental and sustainable development initiatives, and disseminating relevant information to all stakeholders; **(v) Communities Connect/South-South Community Innovation Exchange Platform** – promoting knowledge exchange between SGP Samoa, the sub-region and globally, to encourage replication of best practices.

5. COMMUNICATION PLAN

In OP8, we will continue to ensure that with an inclusive communication strategy engaging with key stakeholders and CSOs/CBOs/NGOs, new partnerships will be fostered, promoting participation, knowledge sharing and a bottom-up approach to local, regional and global environmentally sustainable development, whilst articulating the contribution of the SGP to national priorities, GEF programming, and UNDP strategies. Throughout OP8, the SGP will target the following:

- ❖ Strengthened direct engagement and communication with the private sector and other potential co-financing stakeholders (*in-cash and in-kind*) to increase resource mobilization as well as technical capacity throughout all stages of a project. SGP Samoa will continue to engage with government bodies and UN agencies who have been pivotal in previous operational phases.
- ❖ Meaningful emphasis will be placed on mainstreaming social inclusion to ensure no one is left behind.
- ❖ Successful communication of project results through storytelling, visual media, social media, events, reports, and publications (Secretariat quarterly newsletter). It will also be emphasized in project implementation that CSO/CBO/NGO increase their capacity to utilize social media, document and disseminate project activities, and provide an open knowledge- sharing platform among stakeholders.
- ❖ Identifying opportunities for Secretariat or CSO/CBO/NGO participation in key national events, consultations and workshops hosted by the stakeholders from both the public and private sectors.
- ❖ Continued durable and successful partnership with the GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP) to ensure that results and lessons learned from the country portfolio of SGP projects are accessible and visible to the Government of Samoa.

- ❖ Ensured synchronization of messaging from all stakeholders, in particular CSOs/CBOs/NGOs. The NSC, as well as the TAG, are key to the synchronization of the SGP's objectives, whose members can seek to deepen the engagement of relevant stakeholders.

6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN

During OP8, SGP Samoa will actively strengthen relationships and synergy with key bilateral partners such as DFAT, NZ, Japan, EU, and USAid with a key focus on building durable relationships with the private sector to (i) effectively and efficiently support the delivery of community-level interventions, (ii) increase the sustainability of the SGP Country Programme grant- making and Grant Makers Plus roles, and (iii) generate cost-savings to the GEF by mobilizing financial and capacity building resources. This is fundamental to allow for the scaling up of successful and sustainable local enterprises through GEF and non-GEF resources to district/national levels.

a) Secured and planned cash and in-kind co-financing

Project Level - implementation at the local level requires in-kind and/or in-cash support from the CSOs/CBOs/NGOs themselves and the wider community. Throughout OP8, grantees will be expected to continue providing in-kind co-financing to enhance project implementing capacities, inclusion and impact, and where possible, in-cash co-financing through donations from relevant sources to further mobilize financial resources. For SGP- funded projects, the co-financing requirement is 1:1, i.e. for every dollar approved, the applicant should be able to raise an additional dollar (either in-kind or in-cash).

LS/SS & Country Level – at the LS/SS and country level, there are established mechanisms to attract potential cash and in-kind co-financing opportunities with local foundations as well as multilateral and bilateral donors described below, encouraging partnerships to reduce duplication of both initiatives and resources. SGP Samoa will also seek to receive further support through existing co-financing arrangements with local stakeholders, such as the CSSP in line with the Adaptation Fund/PPCR World Bank.

b) Co-financing opportunities

In OP8, SGP Samoa will continue to support the delivery of cash and in-kind co-financing from the multilateral and bilateral donors, Government of Samoa, CSO/CBO/NGO and private sector stakeholders present at the local, country and regional levels (see Table 4). SGP will continue to seek support from the regional initiative led by AusAID – Mekong and Asia Pacific (MAP) Community-Based Adaptation (CBA), helping to address the UN 2030 SDGs by building community resilience to the adverse effects of climate change. SGP Samoa will also aim to build partnerships with both public and private stakeholders to support impact entrepreneurship and circular economic activities, shifting away from the conventional supply chains adopted by the linear economy, and will seek to source technical assistance, continuing the durable partnerships already created with the ministries of the Government of Samoa, to support effective delivery and further contribute to the GEF mandate for environmental benefits.

Table 3: Potential cash and in-kind co-financing stakeholders.

#	Multilateral	Bilateral	Government	NGOs/CSOs	Private	Other
1. C A S H	Adaptation Fund; World Bank; European Union Aid (EU AID); Global Climate Fund (GCF); UNDP; UN Women; UNCDF; UN FAO; UNICEF; UNEP; ILO; UNFPA; WHO; SPREP	AusAID; NZAID Programme, United States AID (USAID); Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA); China AID	Civil Society Support Programme (CSSP); MNRE; Samoa Tourism Authority (STA), SROS	Samoa Umbrella for NGOs (SUNGO); SAO (Samoa Apiculture Organization) Conservation International (CI); Samoa Conservation Society (SCS); Samoa National Youth Council (SNYC); Samoa Women's Association of Growers (SWAG); Samoa Red Cross; Caritas; Samoa Waste Recycling Management Association (SWRMA)	Samoa Business Hub (SBH); Local businesses	National University of Samoa (NUS); University of the South Pacific (USP);
2. I N K I N D	UNDP; UN Women; UNCDF; UN FAO; UNICEF; UNEP; ILO; UNFPA; WHO; SPREP	AusAID; NZAID; USAID; JICA; China Aid	MNRE; MAF; MWCSO; MCIT; MCIL; MESC; SBH; CSSP; Samoa Tourism Authority (STA), SROS	SUNGO; CI; SCS; SAO; Poutasi Development Trust (PDT); Mutuaileoo Environment Trust Inc. (METI); Samoa Voyaging Society (SVS); SNYC; SWAG; Samoa Red Cross; Caritas; WIBDI; SWRMA, STAR.	SSAB; Local companies	NUS; USP

7. PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

An 'exit strategy' will be formalized to ensure CSOs/CBOs/NGOs have access to other multilateral donors, bilateral donors and local funding facilities to increase the flow of resources to SGP stakeholders whilst ensuring the sustainability of community projects initiated by SGP. The Secretariat, as well as the NSC and TAG will be leveraged to assist communities and CSOs/CBOs/NGOs in developing proposals to access these additional resources, either through providing support during workshops or site visits. Projects will be selected where successful up-scaling has been achieved through co-financing to provide guidance and key information to both CSOs/CBOs/NGOs and the Secretariat for future project developments.

7.2.1 To develop strategic partnerships with national government agencies,

NSC recognizes the importance of building and strengthening strategic partnerships with national government agencies to enhance impact and achieve a broader environmental goal. It will encourage the following actions:

- ❖ Seek technical support from the technical officers of government departments (MAF, MNRE, MWCSO) to utilize their knowledge and expertise during grantee project implementation.
- ❖ Seek technical support from experienced field officers and other extension staff as resource persons to work with grantees during project implementation of activities to contribute their valuable knowledge and skills for the successful implementation of the project.
- ❖ Engage technical staff during participatory project design, implementation and monitoring missions, ensure government buy-in and alignment with national development priorities.
- ❖ Encourage NGOs/CSOs/CBOs to solicit funding support from other government programmes like CSSP, MNRE, and others. This will help diversify funding sources and ensure project sustainability.

7.2.2 Partnerships with Bilateral and Multilateral Agencies

- ❖ SGP team will strive to establish and strengthen linkages with other Small Grants Programs that are supported by multilateral and bilateral agencies in Samoa.
- ❖ Include staff of multilateral agencies (DFAT for CBA) in the NSC for better integration and strategic decision-making.
- ❖ Seek potential opportunities for co-financing and joint project implementation to avoid duplication of efforts, save resources and share expertise.
- ❖ Solicit funding support from other bilateral partners (*DFAT additional AUD\$2million to SGP*) for SGP to disburse and benefit the local communities.

7.2.3 Partnerships with Private Sector

- ❖ Share success stories and case studies with relevant private companies highlighting projects that align with their environmental or social responsibility objectives. Explore co-funding opportunities for radio or TV programs that the companies can sponsor if they have similar corporate objectives. For example, tourist companies can be requested to fund advocacy campaigns for biodiversity and international water projects. Big companies like Digicel, Vodafone, Farmer Joes, Bluebird Lumber can fund promotional ads for SGP call for proposal workshops.
- ❖ Invite private companies to attend or participate in knowledge fairs, exhibitions, and meetings such as the National Environment Week. This creates better networking and collaboration with the private sector.
- ❖ Invite staff of private companies to join site visits of SGP as observers so they can understand the GEF-SGP focal areas as well as share their environmental corporate responsibility.
- ❖ Secure active and successful “environmental champions” from the private sector, individuals who are passionate about the green economy. We can collaborate with them to feature environmental

issues aligned with GEF focal areas on TV & radio programs. These “environmental champions” can also share data and information on potential GEF-SGP eligible projects.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Samoa’s environment continues to change due to several drivers, such as increasing population, climate change and economic inequity. Most prominent of these challenges are the threats of the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution to vulnerable economies of small island states such as Samoa. We have experienced over the years many severe tropical cyclones, floods and other disasters that can set our progress back. Disaster recovery programmes are costly and can take years to implement, and more so, the COVID-19 global pandemic delayed development progress even further. The impacts of climate change are enormous and are a ‘priority policy determinant’ for Samoa in which all of us have a role to play - citizens, institutions and government. Species extinction is one of the irreversible consequences of some of these driving forces. External migration of RSE workers to Australia and New Zealand has affected the labour force in rural/urban areas. Internal migration from rural areas towards Apia urban centre is having an impact on sensitive sites such as coastal and upland areas. Settlement expansion is affecting natural water flows and wetland sites, which can lead to the degradation of the coast and marine environment. Land and coastal erosions around new settlement areas are becoming increasingly common, especially during floods and heavy rainfall. The use of technology has improved lives but also accelerated land-clearing and over-harvesting of resources.

Table 4. Description of risks identified in OP8

Describe identified risk	Degree of risk (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Risk mitigation measure foreseen
Environmental			
Natural disasters and extreme climatic events (e.g. cyclone, tsunami, low rainfall);	HIGH	HIGH	This is season -dependent, so it must be ensured that projects mainstream DRM into implementation plans.
Social			
Misuse of funds and unclear financial reporting;	HIGH	HIGH	Early involvement of the whole community throughout each phase of the project and inclusion of capacity- building workshops across projects on financial reporting.
Political/Religious interference;	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	Regular consultations/dialogue / mediation.
Lack of trust from the wider community of CSO/CBO;	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	Early involvement of the whole community at the start of the project highlighting CSO/CBO objectives and interventions.

Protected areas created limits access to previously available natural resources;	LOW	LOW	Ensure that the creation of alternative livelihoods and more environmentally sustainable livelihoods are integrated in project proposals.
Project sustainability;	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	Ensure an “exit strategy” is incorporated into project proposals and that the project objective will provide substantial benefits to the community.
Other			
Slow remittance of disbursement from SGP;	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	Suggest to grantees to guarantee alternative sources of financing (in-kind/in-cash).
Land use issues (due to competing mandates and lack of coordination between Govt. Departments);	MEDIUM	HIGH	Improved project coordination and dialogue with and between the relevant ministries.
Grantees require continued management and support from the SGP Office	HIGH	HIGH	SGP Office and technical ground partners will continue to manage activities and funding to maintain efficiency and effectiveness.

The stated risks will be tracked during implementation of the OP8 CPS and reviewed during annual CPS reviews and AMR preparation. Upon submission of new project proposals, any potential risks should be raised with the National Coordinator (NC) and the NSC for consideration during project assessments. Capacity- building workshops and consultations may be planned to raise awareness of approaches to reduce both the degree and probability of controllable risks arising.

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

9.1 Monitoring approaches at project and country levels

Strengthening both monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and results management will generate a deeper understanding of ‘what’ works and ‘why’ in the communities the SGP serve, generating an evidential basis for broader adoption and potential developmental change as a result. The following proposes an agile M&E system integrated across project, country and sub-regional levels to address accountability, adaptive management with informed decisions and actions, and learning from both success and failure. The key focus will be placed on ensuring M&E is both inclusive and representative of all local stakeholders and community members, particularly women, youth and PWDs. Project management and implementation tend to be separate at the project level, creating an obstacle to reliable and inclusive evidence-based reporting. Therefore, the following approaches will be taken to guarantee both qualitative and quantitative data are reported and validated:

- ❖ Progress will be tracked from the conception of a proposal, whereby a perception of the baseline and a subsequent aim should be present.
- ❖ Each project can invest 5-6% of the total grant amount on project level M&E, which can be utilized towards submission of project progress report, including monitoring of GEF-8 indicators.
- ❖ Clear reporting guidelines with well-defined deadlines for progress/final reports will be implemented.

- ❖ M&E workshops will be carried out upon initiation of OP8 to provide the opportunity for all CSOs to build technical and analytical M&E capacity (this should be carried out on the two main islands (Upolu and Savai'i) to increase the accessibility for all CSOs and other stakeholders to be present.
- ❖ Quarterly site visits will be carried out by the Secretariat alongside relevant NSC members, public and private stakeholders, providing opportunities to verify the data being reported. The Secretariat will carry out additional site visits to ensure projects are on schedule to be completed within the planned timeframe (if necessary, relevant ministries will be present for these to provide technical assistance to CSOs regarding implementation), as well as to ensure data being reported is representative of the entire community through carrying out interviews of not just those managing or implementing the projects, but expected direct and indirect beneficiaries as well.
- ❖ Site visits will be clustered by specific focal area to reduce operational costs and increase the level of expertise through the presence of necessary stakeholders.
- ❖ Upon completion of a project, results (in the form of a final report or fact sheet) will be circulated to the NSC, TAG and other relevant stakeholders, importantly the local government, to receive their feedback and overall validation of the stated outcomes and achievements (Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) may be required between SGP/UNDP/Government).
- ❖ Only once there is validation that the quality of information reported and collated is representative and inclusive, will the SGP database be updated with completed projects.
- ❖ All remaining updates to the SGP database will be carried out as an important ongoing task throughout OP8 by the Secretariat.

Partnerships for M&E:

Creating durable, genuine partnerships with local stakeholders not only increases monitoring capacity but can also lead to cost-sharing through joint monitoring partnerships with other public or private grant-makers, foundations, agencies and academic institutions. During OP8, partnerships created in previous operational phases (CSSP/SUNGO) will be built upon, with a particular focus on the private sector, where SGP has the potential to provide on- the- ground value as an '*M&E broker*', whose key contribution in the potential partnership is the M&E capacities and approaches. SGP will also seek similar partnerships with research agencies, such as SPREP, NUS and USP, to support the M&E process, which will receive continued involvement from MNRE, MAF, CSSP, MWCS, and other government agencies.

Table 5. M&E Plan at the Country Programme level

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
Country Programme Strategy elaboration	Framework for action including identification of community projects	NC, NSC, country stakeholders, grantees	A SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to update OP8 CPS	At start of OP8
As part of NSC TAG meetings, ongoing	Assess effectiveness of projects, country	NC, NSC, UNDP Country	Staff time, Country	At least one annual CPS review to ensure OP8 CPS is on track to achieve its results and evidence-based

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
review of project results and analysis. This includes an Annual CPS Review	portfolio; learning; adaptive management	Office. Final deliberations shared/ analyzed with CPMT colleagues	Operating Budget	modifications to CPS as may be needed ²
Annual Monitoring Report Survey ³	Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF. It serves as the primary tools to record and analytically present results to donors	NC/PA in close collaboration with NSC. CPMT provides technical guidance support and receives final country submission for further action	Staff time	Once per year in June- July
Country Portfolio Review	Methodological results capture of the portfolio at a given point to note impact level change as well as broader adoption. The goal is to support reporting to stakeholders, learning, and support to strategic	NC, NSC	SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to undertake previous operational cycles impact review and utilize lessons for both OP8 CPS development	Once per operational phase

² It is recommended that the Annual CPS review is done close to AMR submissions for both processes to benefit from each other (suggested timeframe is May- July). Note that OP8 CPS will be regarded as a dynamic document and can be updated by the SGP country team and NSC on a periodic basis to reflect any necessary adjustments to ensure maximum impact.

³ Timely and quality country level submissions to Annual Monitoring Process are mandatory. As a Global Programme, it enables aggregated reporting by CPMT to GEF, UNDP and other stakeholders.

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
	development/ implementation of CPS		and its implementation Global technical M&E support can be expected	
SGP Database	Ensure recording of all Project and Country Programme inputs in SGP database	NCs, PAs,	Staff time	Throughout the operational phase. Ensure quality assurance and completion of data prior to annual monitoring cycle (May- June of every year)
Audit	Ensure compliance with project implementation/ management standards and norms	External/inde pendent auditors. NC/ PA to provide requisite support.	Global Operating Budget	Annually for selected countries on risk-assessment basis

9.2 CPS Results Framework

Table 6: Results Framework of SGP OP8 Country Programme Strategy

Alignment with SDGs

Synergy with UNDP Sub-Regional Programme Document for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories:

Outcome 1. *Climate change, disaster resilience and environmental protection*

Output 1.1. Scaled-up action on CC adaptation and mitigation across sectors which is funded and implemented.

Output 1.3. Solutions developed at national and subnational levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem service and waste.

Outcome 3. *Sustainable and inclusive economic development*

Output 3.2. Green/blue economic policies in place to support private sector initiatives that create sustainable and environmentally friendly jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities for women and youth.

Outcome 5. Effective governance for service delivery

Output 5.1. Increased voice and more inclusive participation by women, youth and marginalized groups in national and subnational decision-making bodies that are more representative.

OP8 SGP Programme Goal: Engage local CSOs/CBOs in landscape-seascape approaches across the world, providing them access to knowledge and information, capacitating them through learning-by-doing, skills development, and delivering technical and grant assistance for interventions that enhance wellbeing and socioeconomic conditions and generate global environmental benefits.

1 OP8 SGP CPS Strategic Initiatives	2 CPS Indicators and Targets	3 Means of Verification
<u>Strategic Initiative 1:</u> Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species	Indicator: hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (GEF core indicator 4.1 and 4.3) Target: 50 Indicator: hectares of marine protected areas created or under improved management (GEF core indicator 2) Target: 50 Indicator: hectares of marine habitat under improved practices (GEF core indicator 5) Target: 50 Indicator: <i>hectares of community-based protected area/ conserved area designations and/or networks strengthened; Target: 50</i>	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Baseline assessment comparison variables (use of conceptual models and partner data as appropriate) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review
<u>Strategic Initiative 2:</u> Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security <i>Increase diversification and livelihood improvement.</i>	Indicator: hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration (GEF core indicator 3.1) Target: 50 Indicator: <i>hectares of degraded agricultural lands restored (GEF core indicator 3.1); Target: 50</i> Indicator: <i># small-holder farmers supported towards the achievement of national Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) targets; Target: 500</i>	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review Socio-ecological resilience indicators for production landscapes (SEPLs)

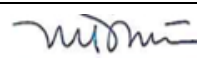
<u>Strategic Initiative 3:</u> Low-carbon energy access co-benefits <i>Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies providing socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods.</i>	Indicator: # of home biogas ovens installed Target: 150 Indicator: locally adapted solutions promoting low-carbon technologies (such as new/modified biogas technology, locally developed energy-efficient stoves, innovative uses of solar/wind energy, etc.). Target: 100	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Strategy Review (NSC inputs)
<u>Strategic Initiative 4:</u> Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management - <i>Promote plastics/solid waste management and circular economy. Reduce/remove use of chemicals in agriculture.</i>	Indicator: the number of village communities and families benefited from the installation of rubbish bins and rubbish stands. Target: 20 Indicator: number of males, females, women and children benefiting from the waste management bins, rubbish stands being installed. Target: 4000	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Strategic partnership with IPEN and Mercury GOLD country partners Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database Country Programme Review
<u>Strategic Initiative 5:</u> Catalysing sustainable urban solutions	Indicator: # (number of) community-based sustainable solutions in urban landscapes (e.g., transport, biodiversity conservation, chemical and waste management, energy efficiency, watershed protection, etc.) Target: 10 Indicator: # (number of) projects with targeted urban solutions focus. Target: 15	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review
<u>Strategic Initiative 6:</u> CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms	Indicator: number of CSO-government-private sector dialogues formed or strengthened. Target: 2 Indicator: number of high-level policy changes associated with increased community participation in multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms Indicator: number of representatives from social inclusion group (Indigenous Peoples, women, youth, persons with disability, farmers, other	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database Country Programme Review

	marginalized groups) meaningfully engaged in multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms	
<u>Strategic Initiative 7:</u> Enhancing social inclusion	Indicator: number of people benefitting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (GEF core indicator 11) Indicator: number of projects with focused interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. Target: 50 Indicator: number of projects that demonstrate models of engaging (a) Indigenous Peoples, (b) youth, and (c) persons with disabilities. Indicator: number of grants with targeted support for 1) women or women groups; 2) youth or youth-led groups; 3) Indigenous Peoples' groups. Target: 50 Indicator: amount of grant funding) of total grant portfolio accessed by 1) women or women groups; 2) youth or youth-led groups; 3) indigenous peoples' groups. Target: USD250,000	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review
<u>Strategic Initiative 8:</u> Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management	Indicator: number of projects with meetings involving local CSOs/CBOs or communities to monitor project results, assess impacts, and identify lessons learned. Target: 50 Indicator: number of knowledge exchange/sharing events with participation of local communities. Target: 10 Indicator: number of online knowledge repository developed as a result of SGP project. Target: 20 Indicator: number of country/cross-country impact reviews conducted with evidence of SGP impact and lessons learned. Indicator: number of South-South exchanges between communities, NGOs/CSOs, or other partners within or across countries to transfer knowledge, replicate technology, tools or	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review

	approaches on global environmental issues. Target: 10	
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10. NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

Note: The signatures of NSC members are required as endorsement of the complete final CPS duly reviewed and agreed at the National Steering Committee meeting.

NSC members involved in OP8 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
Lemalu Nynette Sass – Chairperson	
Faleafaga Toni Tipamaa – SUNGO Rep	
Tauaefa Autalavou Tauaefa – Community Rep	
Fata Tommy Tuuamaalii – Head of TAG	
Amituanai Moira Faletutulu – GEF/OFP & MNRE Rep	
Lepale Aussie Simanu – UNDP Rep	

ANNEXES (optional)

Annex 1: Landscape baseline assessment process (i.e. supporting materials, including updates from OP7)

Annex 2: Supporting details for specific country co-financing partnerships and delivery mechanisms

Annex 3: Country strategy description for participation in the global co-financing partnership with the Global ICCA Support Initiative (GSI) Phase 2 funded by the German BMUV IKI in line with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Targets 3, 21, 22 and 23 (2023-2028).

Annex 4: Landscape strategy description for participation in the global co-financing partnership with Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS) Phase 4 funded by the Government of Japan (2023-2027).

Annex 5: Country strategy description for participation in the global co-financing partnership with Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) programme Phase 3 funded by the Government of Australia DFAT (2022-2027).