

OPERATIONAL PHASE 8 (OP8)
SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY (CPS)

JAMAICA



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Table of Contents

Page

List of Acronyms	3
Executive Summary.....	4
1. INTRODUCTION	6
2. COUNTRY PROGRAMME SUMMARY: Key results and achievements	6
3. COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT	8
3.1 Alignment with national priorities	8
3.2 Gaps and Opportunities	9
3.3 OP8 Strategic Priorities of the SGP Country Programme	10
4. OP8 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	13
4.1 Grantmaking within the Priority Landscape/Seascape	13
4.2 CSO-Government-Private Sector Dialogue Platforms	16
4.3 Promoting Social Inclusion, including Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment	17
4.4 Knowledge Management	18
5. COMMUNICATION PLAN	19
6. RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN	19
7. PARTNERSHP OPPORTUNITIES	20
8. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN	21
9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN	22
9.1 Monitoring and Approaches at Project and Country Levels	22
9.2 CPS Results Framework	25
10. NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT	27

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
ABS	Access and Benefit-Sharing
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community-based Organization
CPD	Country Programme Document
CPMT	Central Programme Management Team
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
CRP	Community Renewal Programme
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EFJ	Environmental Foundation of Jamaica
GEF	Global Environment Facility
METT	Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement
MTF	Medium Term Socio-Economic Policy Framework
NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action
NAPA	National Adaptation Plans of Action
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NEPA	National Environment and Planning Agency
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NSC	National Steering Committee
PASMP	Protected Areas System Master Plan
PIOJ	Planning Institute of Jamaica
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PSOJ	Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica
SAP	Strategic Action Programmes
SDC	Social Development Commission
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
STATIN	Statistical Institute of Jamaica
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Country Programme Strategy (CPS) is the primary document which articulates the platform for the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF SGP) in Jamaica. It is a guide to programme and project development, lays the basis for project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation, and is a vehicle for developing and maintaining a results-oriented programme. The CPS identifies the project impacts, outcomes, and outputs for the Eighth Operational Phase (OP8) during the period 2024 - 2028 and gives a general idea of the types of projects that will be funded if the impacts are to be achieved. The CPS also identifies basic project eligibility criteria and demarcates the indicators that will be used to determine the success of the programme, and the lessons learned.

In addition, the CPS assists the GEF SGP in meeting its primary objectives of environmental sustainability, poverty alleviation and community empowerment and resilience. GEF SGP gives grants to locally registered Community-based Organisations (CBOs) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) to work towards these objectives. This CPS was updated and finalised by the National Steering Committee and the SGP staff (NC and PA) at an extra-ordinary meeting held on September 11, 2024.

Jamaica is party to several international environmental conventions and locally there is a plethora of legislation and several policy documents that target environmental protection. GEF SGP Jamaica will utilize several of these policies and plans in conjunction with the CPS to ensure that OP8 resources support the achievement of national priorities within the context of GEF-8 Strategic Priorities. Among the critical documents are:

- Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan - the Plan articulates the vision and the framework for national development to 2030.
- Global Biodiversity Framework
- National Energy Policy (2009-2030) - securing energy efficiency, advancing competitiveness and promoting sustainable prosperity
- Protected Areas System Master Plan Jamaica (PASMP) - addresses the conservation and sustainable use of Jamaica's Biodiversity within the protected areas system.
- National Policy for Gender Equality Jamaica - addresses gender issues that ensure women and men have equal access to opportunities, resources, and rewards, eliminate discrimination based on gender and promote sustainable human development.
- Jamaica's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) - outlines the country's proposed contribution to emission reduction based on the Paris Agreement, 2015 on climate change.
- Forest Policy for Jamaica and the National Forest Management and Conservation Plan – outline how to manage the forest areas.

These documents contain the advocated premises of the Government of Jamaica, and every effort is being made by the country to turn them into actions. As such, the GEF SGP positions itself to complement the initiatives of the Government and people of Jamaica to achieve global environmental benefits and the below Vision 2030 Jamaica outcomes and Sustainable Development Goals.

Outcomes of the country's Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan

- 10 - Energy Security and Efficiency
- 13 - Sustainable Management & Use of Environmental & Natural Resources
- 14 - Hazard Risk Reduction and Adaptation to Climate Change
- 15 - Sustainable Urban and Rural Development

Sustainable Development Goals

- 1 - End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
- 6 - Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- 7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all
- 10 - Reduce inequality within and among countries
- 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
- 14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development
- 15 - Protect, restore, and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss
- 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

The CPS will also focus on three other initiatives, namely CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy, and Planning Dialogue Platforms; Enhancing Social Inclusion (women, youth, and persons with disabilities); and Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management. All projects will contribute to achieving the Programme goals of environmental sustainability, poverty alleviation and community empowerment and capacity building. Also, the needs of youth, women, men, and persons with disabilities will be adequately considered. SGP Jamaica's main priority will be to fund projects that: -

- fit into the priority themes of the CPS which themselves fit into one or more of the GEF focal areas.
- are in keeping with national priorities as articulated in the Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)
- address environmental management, poverty alleviation and empowerment.
- include capacity building, public awareness and education, sustainable livelihoods, and gender equality.



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

Total SGP Grants to date since Country Programme start date (2005)	USD 5,557,078
OP8 GEF Core Funds	USD 500,000 TBC
OP8 GEF STAR Funds	USD 1,050,458
Other funds (secured) COMDEKS- (OP7 partnership)	USD 200,000
Other funds (expected/to be mobilized) – PROCARIBE- (OP7 partnership)	USD 150,000

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 are 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).

2. COUNTRY PROGRAMME SUMMARY: Key results and achievements

SGP Jamaica started financing projects in 2005. Since then, it has succeeded in funding and providing technical support to over 150 projects to over 100 CSO/CBO groups, delivering over US\$ 6.5 million in grant funds in addition to over US\$ 9.3 million in co-financing (cash and in-kind). Additionally, there were several very successful parallel funding partnerships which further generated funding of US\$260,000. The diverse portfolio of projects spanning all 14 parishes on the island, covers all five focal areas with capacity development a key cross-cutting area.

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.



Key Global Environmental Benefits by Focal Areas

SGP Jamaica has significantly contributed to the achievement of national and global environmental benefits through its over 150 projects, most of which were successfully completed and benefited over 2,000 households. Below is a summary of results and achievements by focal areas:

Biodiversity: Supported the conservation and sustainable management of 10,698 hectares of globally significant protected areas and sustainably managed reef systems, sea grass areas, turtle nesting beach at which over 200,000 hawksbill turtles were released, one estuarine area and one fish breeding lagoon. 268 hectares of target landscape under improved community conservation and sustainable use. Also, some 38 globally significant species are being protected, including the Jamaican Iguana which is currently on the IUCN Red List of threatened species, within the Critically Endangered category.

Land Degradation: Supported the restoration and sustainable management of 2,336 hectares of degraded land (bauxite mined-out lands) including forests, agricultural lands, and watersheds. Local farmers who are mostly affected by the negative impacts of climate change were able to invest in climate-smart agricultural practices. Some 7,863 community members have demonstrated improved actions and practices that reduced negative impacts on land uses.

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation: Supported renewable energy and energy efficient technologies in local/rural communities to save on energy cost and reduce emissions. Over 20 energy efficient and renewable energy technologies were installed in some of the most poor and vulnerable communities, some of which had no access to electricity. Meaningful empowerment and opportunities were created for youth, especially in the poor communities where several training courses in Solar PV and LED Technologies were developed and conducted.

International Waters: Supported initiatives resulted in 960 hectares of marine/coastal areas of fishing grounds brought under sustainable management due to improved community conservation and sustainable use management systems. Training and certification were provided in scuba diving, fish sanctuary wardens, reef survey techniques, governance, community engagement and facilitation skills. Fishing ground mapping and coral reef surveys in fishing areas were conducted with the participation of over 300 fishers. A manual was developed on the establishment and management of fish sanctuaries and marine protected areas which was endorsed by the Government of Jamaica. The activities were achieved through strategic partnerships including government, fisherfolks and private sector stakeholders.

Capacity Development: Strengthened capacities of some 270 CBOs/NGOs benefiting over 60,000 individuals. This was possible through strategic approaches and partnerships which included working with other international donor partners where synergies were identified. One key approach was conducting needs/capacity assessment of groups which would serve as baseline information for SGP to better engage these groups. Workshops and one-on-one sessions were held with CBOs/NGOs. Since 2015, the Government of Jamaica has been inviting SGP to put together a contingent of CBO/NGOs to be on its delegation to the UNFCCC Conference of Parties.

Key Achievements in Broader Adoption (scaling-up, replication and mainstreaming of SGP Projects)

One of the key achievements was the mainstreaming of the GEF SGP in national planning where the Programme reports (on a biannual basis) to the Planning Institute of Jamaica, on project activities.

This strategic move supports the upscaling/replication of SGP's initiatives at the national and regional levels. One example of a regional project is the Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP) – implemented by UNDP and funded by the People of Japan.

National and International Awards and Lessons Learnt

The programme has received national and global recognition for its excellent track record and its impactful results over the years. One such example is the prestigious Equator Prize Initiative Award in June 2014 (GEF, 2015), which was the first for Jamaica as well as the first in the English-speaking Caribbean. Projects funded by GEF SGP have made outstanding contributions to the implementation of Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan. Among the key factors which have contributed to SGP Jamaica's national and international success have been the strong emphasis placed on the capacity building of its grantees, a strong and active National Steering Committee (NSC) and local ownership of projects. Another key feature of the country programme is the forging of strategic partnerships with relevant stakeholders that have led to greater impact and the leveraging of additional resources. The vital and valuable role that partnerships play in efficient and effective implementation has been one of the key lessons learnt by the Programme. This past performance augurs well for the new operational phase, as most of these relationships can be leveraged for continued support in OP8.

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	Not yet done
Vision 2030 Jamaica – National Development Plan	June 2009
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)	Jan 6, 1995 / April 6, 1995
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	May 2003 and Dec 2015
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	Not yet done
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Jan 6, 1995 / April 6, 1995
UNFCCC National Communications 3 rd	Dec 2018
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA – water sector)	November 2019
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the Paris Accord	July 2020
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Nov. 12, 1997 / March 10, 1998
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	February 2006
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	June 1, 2007
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	August, 2011
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	Oct 10, 2013 / Jul 19, 2017
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Sept 25, 2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	June 2018
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies (IW)	June 2015
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance	7 February 1998
Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention)	April 1, 1987
Protocol to the Cartagena Convention concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities (LBS Protocol)	November 15, 2015
Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway	September 2014

3.2 Gaps and Opportunities

Jamaica's environment priorities are outlined in the country's National Constitution and in key planning and strategic documents such as the Vision 2030, the NBSAP and the Protected Areas System Master Plan. The country has also a suite of environmental policies and legislation. These policy prescriptions provide the basis and opportunity for all stakeholders including CSOs to actively participate in environmental protection and management.

Involvement of Communities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

Both the Vision 2030 and the NBSAP (2016-2021) highlight the critical role of enhancing public awareness on environmental protection, management, and the associated benefits of sustainably using the country's natural resources. This creates the entry point for CSOs to implement targeted and sustained information campaigns and partnerships with government and other stakeholders to highlight the environmental element of Section 13(3) (i) of Jamaica's Constitution when discussing constitutional reform. This ensures that public awareness and information sharing is embedded at the highest level. Also noted was the need to incorporate into legislation alternative policy and regulatory instruments, such as economic incentives or disincentives to promote sustainable use of biodiversity and mechanisms to empower and support NGOs involved in environmental projects. This is an area for strengthened partnership between SGP and the Government in having CSO's participation.

The policy and planning documents related to environmental management also highlighted the need for sustained capacity development. Given the flexibility, agility, and the crucial role they play in environmental protection, SGP has recognized that CSOs and NGOs can undertake a critical role in capacity development. Their capacity being built and in turn they build the capacity of other stakeholders, especially at the community level. Hence, SGP Jamaica engages Communities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in several meaningful ways, including (though not limited to) active dialogue, systematic feedback and planning, environmental conservation, and importantly capacity building. SGP ensures the voice and participation of NGOs in decision-making related to the environment as far as possible. One of the most successful efforts is the Grantee Exchange Network (GEN) where grantees (past and present) share best practices, etc. in ensuring the successful implementation of their projects, as well as to have a more coordinated way of making an impact at all levels.

Changes and alterations to the country programme strategy are based heavily on responses from key stakeholders (which included CSOs). Besides serving as a key dialogue forum, this approach has increased awareness of obligations under global treaties, enhanced ownership of the country programme, ensured harmony with national development priorities and provided opportunities for the formulation of community-led initiatives that directly contribute to national development while solving local problems. SGP will endeavor to find new and innovative ways for capacity development given the important need to manage and protect the country's biodiversity. Many communities in Jamaica are highly dependent on the natural resources for economic survival. Hence, it is important that sustainable livelihoods are promoted and implemented. In this regard, SGP helps CSOs to improve their environmental conservation and stewardship, generate alternative livelihoods and empower the communities in which they interact.

The country programme, through grant funding, has financed several community-led initiatives that have contributed to preservation of endangered species, raised awareness of conservation needs and the restoration of key terrestrial and marine ecosystems.

The livelihood components of projects have enabled CSOs to promote sustainable use of natural resources, while generating alternative income streams that would otherwise not exist. Capacity building sessions hosted by the SGP have exposed CSOs to all aspects of successful project implementation and covered the full gamut from project identification to post project impact assessment.

3.3 OP8 Strategic Priorities of the SGP Country Programme

Potential for Complementarities and Synergies

Table 2 below outlines (i) how SGP Jamaica intends to support the broader GEF mandate (global) based on the selected priorities within the strategic priorities and national context and (ii) the complementarity with GEF, UNDP (as outlined in its Country Programme Document (CPD) 2022-2026 and other projects and programmes. The UNDP and SGP Jamaica will pursue joint programming initiatives where opportunities and common interests exist, to work closely together and take advantage of any synergies. In addition, there are other worthy national initiatives to which SGP will make notable contributions. These include, but are not limited to the following:

- Government of Jamaica's community-based programmes, such as the Community Renewal Programme (CRP), which is being coordinated by the PIOJ.
- Additionally, the Social Development Commission (SDC), provides island wide support to community-based initiatives within its mandate for community development and is therefore positioned to partner with the SGP programme.

All opportunities for joint programmes and for utilizing the SGP modality for community implementation will be fully explored and pursued, where possible.

OP8 Priorities – Consultative Dialogues

To make the CPS revision process in Jamaica totally transparent, consultative dialogues with a wide cross section of stakeholders to identify and agree on the specific areas of focus for the SGP Jamaica Programme was conducted during July and August 2024. The primary objective of these dialogues was to identify the priority directions for programming in OP8 in line with the SGP OP8 project document, Jamaica's national priorities, GEF-8 programming directions and the potential for synergy with our key partner agencies. This will enable the SGP to deliver the strategic impact expected in OP8 directions and initiatives. In addition to these dialogues, an extra-ordinary meeting of the NSC was held on September 11, 2024, the decision was made that the entire country would remain as the landscape/seascape and four (4) strategic initiatives were prioritized, namely:

- Community-based Conservation of Threatened Ecosystems and Species
- Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries and Food Security
- Low carbon energy access co-benefits
- Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management

The prioritization is largely linked to the national development agenda (Vision 2030 Jamaica, and the Sustainable Development Goals. Social inclusion and knowledge management are cross-cutting themes that will be key aspects of all projects.

SGP Contribution to National Priorities/GEF-8 Corporate results

Table 2 below presents the SGP contribution to national priorities/GEF-8 corporate results for the strategic initiatives prioritized during the consultation process.

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

SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives - Global	SGP Country Programme's OP8 Priorities	SGP Country Programme's complementarity with GEF, UNDP, and other projects and
<i>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species</i> 1) Improve the effectiveness of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and management through equitable governance systems by recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. 2) Improve community-led biodiversity friendly practices and approaches, including promoting blue economy approaches (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, infrastructure, etc.). 3) Enhance community led actions for protection of threatened species.	Management and conservation of protected landscapes (e.g., Cockpit Country, Mason River Protected Area, Blue and John Crow Mountains) and Seascapes (Black River Morass, fish sanctuaries and livelihood generation through landscape/seascape conservation <u>National Priorities:</u> Vision 2030 Goal 4: Jamaica has a healthy natural environment; Environmental sustainability and Climate Change Response; and relevant national policies and plans relating to environmental protection and conservation.	UNDP CPD Programme Priorities and Partnerships: focusing on social resilience and inclusion, climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management, most of which are linked to Outcome 4. GEF 6 project: Community activities will include the replication/upscaling of SGP's activities. Eligible CBOs will be able to apply to SGP for small grants to complement mainly the community-focused activities. PROCARIBE+ Regional Project: The objective of the project is to protect, restore and harness the natural coastal and marine capital of the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems to catalyze investments in a climate-resilient, sustainable post-covid Blue Economy, through strengthened regional coordination and collaboration, and wide-ranging partnerships.SGP will support the implementation of <i>Outcome 3.1: Civil Society and MSME contributions to ocean conservation and ocean-based sustainable development & livelihoods/blue economies, upscaled.</i>

<i>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</i> 1) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of overall food production and value chain, including in vulnerable ecosystems (mountains, island ecosystems, etc.). 2) Increase diversification and livelihood improvement. 3) Remove deforestation from supply chain and expand restoration of degraded lands.	Climate-smart climate-resilient projects, with strong community participation, sustainable farming practices and systems (e.g., greenhouses, sustainable water use/reuse, rainwater harvesting, organic farming technology) and livelihood generation. Demonstration projects will include urban farming, aquaponics and agroponics. National Priorities: Vision 2030 Goals 3 and 4; relevant national policies and plans related to agriculture and forest management, and the related MTF 2018-2021 theme.	UNDP CPD Programme Priorities and Partnerships: focusing on social resilience and inclusion, climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management most of which are linked to Outcome 4.
<i>Low-carbon energy access co-benefits</i> Support implementation of Paris Agreement and the NDCs 1) Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies providing socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods. 2) Promote off-grid energy service needs in rural and urban areas	SGP will support national priorities linked to the Paris Agreement and the NDCs by focusing on renewable energy/energy efficiency projects that demonstrate the benefits of sustainable energy across sectors. <u>National Priorities:</u> Vision 2030 Goal 3 and related MTF theme; National Energy Policy and related sub-policies (Renewable Energy Policy, Biofuels Policy)	UNDP CPD Programme Priorities and Partnerships: focusing on social resilience and inclusion, climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management most of which are linked to Outcome 4.
<i>Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</i> 1) Promote plastics/solid waste management and circular economy. 2) Reduce use of chemicals in agriculture	SGP will support this initiative as stakeholders felt that there could be some capacity building and public education on proper disposal and non-use of mercury-added products (thermometers, pesticides, cosmetic, fluorescent light bulbs). This remains a national priority and will support Government's obligations under the relevant Conventions	SGP will partner with the CO to support Awareness and Capacity building at the community level.
<i>Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS Phase 4</i> (with Ministry of Environment, Japan and Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund funding) 1) Sustainable landscape and seascape management and restoration. 2) Knowledge Management for capacity building, replication, and up-scaling.	SGP will support national priorities that are linked to the Global Biodiversity Framework to achieve the four outcomes as outlined in the CPLS. These are: I. Landscape/seascape diversity, ecosystem integrity and resilience, II. Biodiversity, and sustainable management (agriculture and fisheries), III. Livelihoods and well-being and IV. Governance and social equity	UNDP CPD Programme Priorities and Partnerships: focusing on social resilience and inclusion, climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management most of which are linked to Outcome 4.

	Also, SGP will capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities, improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs and conduct South-South exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices.	
Enhancing social inclusion (mandatory) 1) Promote inclusive targeted initiatives. 2) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects. (e.g. women/girls, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities).	Social inclusion forms a critical part of SGP's project portfolio, and where relevant, the needs of youth, women, men, indigenous peoples, and vulnerable groups (based on physical, geographical or other vulnerability) will be adequately considered. This will be supported by the fact that SGP (NSC) is served by a gender/youth specialist.	UNDP CPD Programme Priorities and Partnerships: focusing on social resilience and inclusion, climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management most of which are linked to Outcome 4.
Knowledge Management (KM) (mandatory) 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.	SGP will promote/showcase success stories and lessons learnt; grantee knowledge sharing and exchange mechanisms; and facilitate dialogue between civil society and other key national partners. South-South exchanges will be organised as necessary not just to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices but also to ensure efficient utilization of funds by not reinventing the wheel.	SGP and UNDP will pursue joint awareness-raising initiatives, for example, working to develop and disseminate success stories of SGP projects.
Results Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) (mandatory) 1) Administer new M&E strategy in Country Programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms.	SGP Jamaica's CPS has outlined clearly the modality of how it will monitor, evaluate and manage project and programme results under section 9 <u>National Priorities:</u> Government also monitors results from SGP through contribution to the ESSJ and Programme reporting	UNDP and SGP will work together on a strategy that will best capture and share project results.

4. OP8 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

4.1 Grantmaking within the Priority Landscape/Seascapes

a) Process for Selecting Priority Landscapes and Seascapes

Prioritization of Strategic Initiatives

In consultation with the National Steering Committee (NSC), the decision was made to retain the OP7 priority landscape/seascape Community-based Conservation of Threatened Ecosystems and Species, Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries and Food Security, Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits and Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management were identified as the four (4) initiatives for focus and prioritization for Jamaica.

Specific Strategy for Grant-making

The specific strategy for grant-making is to focus on replicating and upscaling notable SGP initiatives. Based on responses from stakeholders, priority will be given to key biodiversity hotspots, watersheds, coral reefs, fish sanctuaries, forest areas and wetlands, with multifocal approaches and projects being encouraged, where possible. An additional strategy for project sustainability and greater project impact is increased (innovative) opportunities for livelihood/income generation. Based on the recent hurricane disasters, this has even become more important, as such focus will be on environmentally sustainable livelihood resilience to support green solutions to stabilize and recover livelihoods faster from the disaster by using eco-friendly materials and practices that help reduce future ecological impacts and promote long-term social and ecological resilience.

For OP8 SGP will bring forth its pre-existing community-based networks to help advance resilient communities and green solutions while ensuring sustainable livelihoods. This will build on decades of local community-based programming of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Jamaica, which advances environmental solutions and community resilience in line with the CPS. Initiatives as this present a unique opportunity for SGP to bring forth its role as an innovative, flexible, and relevant community-led programme by leading effective community-based solutions on the ground and initiating new strategic partnerships. SGP has been working closely with these target populations for many years as their trusted partner.

Cross-cutting (Mandatory) OP8 Grant-making Strategies

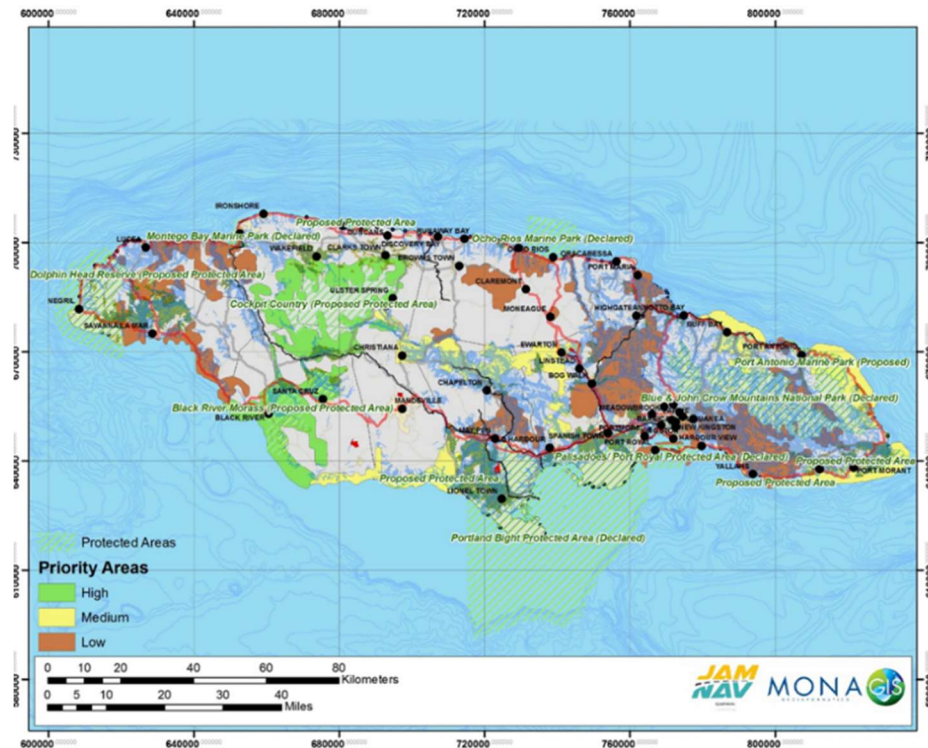
The multifocal nature of the OP8 priorities will be for projects to simultaneously address several areas, while incorporating cross-cutting themes such as social inclusion and gender. Specifically, projects will address, where possible, the needs of women, men, youth, local communities, and vulnerable groups (based on physical, geographical or other vulnerability). The capacity of CBOs/CSOs will be built through training to enable them to factor these cross-cutting issues within their projects.

b) Selected landscapes/seascapes for OP8

Baseline Assessment

The assessment of the 2016 baseline was done based on data collected via a comprehensive desk study and stakeholder consultations with representatives from implementing partner agencies and relevant stakeholder groups in the prioritized landscapes/seascapes, including past and potential grantees. Both quantitative and qualitative techniques were used to provide measurable indicators and detailed contextual information about the programme quality, performance, impact, and outcomes. The main methods of data collection were formal interviews (face to face, online, telephone), desk review of relevant project documents and semi-formal consultations with key stakeholders drawn mainly from the public and private sectors.

The entire island was considered as one landscape given its small geographic size and the complex interconnectedness between its land based and coastal environments. As such, under OP8, projects will be developed in any of Jamaica's 14 parishes with 100% of grants focusing on typologies mentioned above (under "*Specific Strategy for Grant-making*"), which could generate greater national and global environmental benefits and achieving greater impact and sustainability. SGP has been investing in the area since its started, but in different geographical locations and this will continue based on the needs of local communities and national priorities as outlined in the country's key document – Vision 2030 Jamaica. The map below reflects the protected areas with keys highlighting the areas of priority.



c) OP8 Strategic Initiatives in the landscapes/seascapes

Community-based Conservation of Threatened Ecosystems and Species: This is in alignment with current government initiatives to improve PA management and extent. Protection of forestry, flora, fauna in the protected areas (PA) (e.g. Cockpit Country, Mason River, sections of the Blue and John Crow Mountains) is critical. Establishment of new sanctuaries and improved management of existing ones are needed with a focus on knowledge-sharing exercises and training. The use of the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT) by CSOs could support the management capacities of protected areas which will result in better protection of these sensitive areas and better sharing of information (data).

CSOs engaging relevant government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to assist with activities to improve knowledge and awareness of the protection of endangered species (medicinal plants, animals, etc.) is needed, as are documenting, and legally protecting traditional knowledge on medicinal plants and ensuring equitable benefit sharing for communities. GEF-SGP is best suited based on their area of focus to address awareness and capacity building to change practices such as the use of dynamite for fishing which destroys coral reefs, and to promote an ecosystem-based approach. The National Strategy and Action Plan on Biological Diversity (NBSAP) identifies priorities.

Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries and Food Security: Focus will be on youth-led and women-led farming initiatives to promote the engagement of more young people and women in farming. Other potential areas for support are promoting climate smart technologies and practices (water harvesting, aquaponics, hydroponics, etc.), food preservation initiatives to include proper storage facilities, expanding the development and capacity of farmers groups to share resources and reach greater markets.



Establishment of Farmers' Parks (where farmers share resources and support the production and marketing of crops). Significant work has been done in the sector through SGP and other projects such as ACDI/VOCA, USAID Farmer -to- Farmer(F2F) Programme. There are opportunities for upscaling and replication of programmes linked to sustainable agriculture and fisheries.

Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits: Energy is a key component in the country's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement. Among the areas for support are - Use of renewable energy (wind, solar, biogas, biofuels) and more extensive production and use of energy efficient solutions (e.g. LED bulbs and solar panels) for community-led initiatives; Training in harvesting of alternative energy which will immensely benefit local communities, influence national policy and highly increase visibility of SGP nationally and regionally; Promotion of the use of LED technology for residential, community and commercial purposes; Training in maintenance and entrepreneurship in renewable energy technologies and energy efficiency. Strategic policy approaches are being developed to address local community energy sustainability. Regarding energy, local communities will be able to participate and engage in conservation - the Medium-Term Framework has this as a priority.

Local to Global Coalitions for Chemicals and Waste Management: This is now a national priority for the Government. SGP will support this initiative with focus on capacity building and public education on chemicals and waste management. This will include the development of awareness-raising materials, outreach activities and participation in peer to peer and South-South exchanges among CSOs. Focus will also be on engaging local communities to develop and implement actions to rethink, reuse, reduce, recycle, and environmentally dispose of waste. Initiatives done will support Government's obligations under the relevant Conventions.

d) Grantmaking Outside the Priority Landscapes/Seascapes

To enhance the synergy between different initiatives and to achieve greater impact from multifocal approaches, the following measures will be used:

- The SGP Country Team will advise potential grantees on possible synergistic opportunities within and external to the SGP Programme.
- The Country Team, in our interactions with other key national stakeholders and donors operating locally, will promote the SGP work programme and take advantage of collaborative opportunities, including those relating to resource mobilization.
- In addition to the SGP Grantee Exchange Network (GEN), there will be at least one structured grantee forum annually where grantees can share and learn from each other and explore ways in which there could be joint implementation to achieve greater impact.

4.2 CSO-Government-Private Sector Dialogue Platforms

SGP Jamaica has maintained active dialogue with civil society groups and, through regular forums and meetings of the NSC, has served as a critical node for CSO-government dialogue. There is need to strengthen this alliance, especially (though not exclusively) to ensure that there is: (i) Stronger local compliance with international treaties to which Jamaica is party; (ii) Improved linkages and communication between grassroots and high-level national planners and policymakers; and (iii) Enhanced uptake of good practices. To do this, SGP in collaboration with other national agencies, will facilitate a dialogue platform that will bring together important and pertinent stakeholders at regular intervals.



Dialogue will be facilitated through both face to face and virtual meetings and help to arrive at consensus for key environmental treaties and to monitor implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. There is precedent for SGP's role as such a facilitator. The SGP and grantees were invited by the Government to participate in the consultations for the preparation of Jamaica's sixth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity based on the implementation of national targets established in the second NBSAP and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

Grantees have represented Jamaica by way of their participation in the GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW) and Adaptation workshop between 11 -15 March 2024 held in the Dominican Republic, Plastics and Behavior Change Workshop held in Rwanda, Oct 23 - 28, 2023 and UNDESA workshop – “From Lisbon to Nice: Implementing SDG 14 with the Communities of Ocean Action” in Incheon, Republic of Korea, from 14 to 15 November 2023 to name a few. Since November 2015, SGP Jamaica has led several groups of NGOs as part of the Jamaican delegation to the Conference of Parties (CoP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2015, 2016 and 2017. There, the voices of local NGOs/CBOs were heard on the global stage and their concerns have been factored into the way forward for a most important global treaty that will doubtless affect all aspects of socio-economic development in Jamaica and well beyond.

4.3 Promoting Social Inclusion, including Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

With a large proportion of female-headed households in Jamaica, women play key roles in contributing to households' food and livelihood, managing climate sensitive resources and in community organizations and leadership. However, despite their resilient nature, women, particularly those in rural areas, have a greater burden of poverty and care for their families and have less access to land, credit and resources in comparison to their male counterparts. The agriculture and fisheries industry are largely male dominated with women traditionally playing a more supportive or perceived lesser role than men.

SGP Jamaica will ensure that project designs will address these and other gender sensitive issues existing in the selected communities. Mechanisms will be used to ensure that there is equitable participation and sharing of benefits by women and men. SGP Jamaica has already started the process of improving women's access to land ownership and this will continue in OP8. Additionally, the promotion of social inclusion will empower women as agents of change within their communities while addressing key strategies for a sustainable future. Mandatory gender awareness training will continue in all projects in partnership with the UNDP CO gender focal point, other gender specialists and our NSC gender focal point. SGP Jamaica will also partner with the Bureau of Gender Affairs for representation on our Technical Advisory Group (TAG) as well as to have SGP project activities incorporated in their work plan. As noted in the M & E section SGP Jamaica will target at least four (4) projects led by women and training workshops will be held at the project and the programme levels. Social inclusion will be promoted through:

- *Women's empowerment and gender equality:* All projects are encouraged to have the participation of both sexes, and currently, women play leading roles (and are signatory to SGP MoA) for at least 70% of projects, this insistence will continue. The inclusion of a gender expert on the NSC ensures that gender equality is always addressed.

- *Empowerment of local groups:* Based on the classification provided by the United Nations, there are no indigenous people in Jamaica. The closest group to this would be the Maroons, who still have very strong roots and strongholds in hilly areas of some rural parishes. The Blue and John Crow Mountains (UNESCO World Heritage site) spans four parishes, two of which have concentrations of the Maroons. There are numerous opportunities for landscape and seascape interventions under SGP that will enhance both the cultural and natural values of the Maroons in these areas. Efforts will be made to fully explore these opportunities.
- *Involvement of youth in country portfolio planning:* Projects involving CSO groups with strong youth representation (to include those at risk) and/or involvement will be targeted, where possible.
- *Participation of Persons with Disabilities:* Recognising the importance to educate, provide training and emergency preparedness tools and resources to people with disabilities, SGP will ensure these groups are included. The NSC has decided that a designated representative from the disabled community to be on the TAG group.

4.4 Knowledge Management

SGP Jamaica has a reporting template that bears a section for the capturing of lessons learnt and good/best practices. This is done at both the programme and project levels. At the project level, reports from grantees are carefully reviewed and field visits diligently carried out. This allows for the SGP team to easily identify and monitor progress made, offer solutions to problems that arise, and record lessons learnt and success stories for replication.

One of the hallmarks of SGP Jamaica is the development of case studies, videos, knowledge products such as brochures both at the programme and project levels. The digital archiving of pictures and video recording especially of projects featured in print media, will continue to expand the digital library of projects. At the programme level, the success stories and practices are aggregated to present a full account of overall impact in different thematic and programmatic areas. This is then used to give a more comprehensive picture of the effectiveness of the country programme at large through *inter alia* knowledge management documentaries or photo stories to showcase successful and impactful projects. The SGP team also partners with the UNDP CO in preparing success stories that are featured nationally and globally on UNDP's website. Further, brochures and policy briefs will form useful complements as quick reference materials which highlight the work of SGP. Taken collectively, these products serve critical functions:

- To highlight the large impact that a small grant can have.
- As compelling marketing tools for resource mobilization.
- To increase awareness among key stakeholders including government, civil society, academia, and media et al., of community-led solutions to national and global environmental challenges.
- Enhance the OP8 digital library and global South-South exchange through sharing of best practices and acting as possible stimuli for online (via Skype or other social media options) discussions.

For OP8, there will be greater focus on capturing, sharing, and disseminating the lessons learned and good practices of SGP Jamaica programme with key stakeholders (nationally and internationally). Some strategies for successfully implementing this include building grantee capacity as well as seeing to the assistance of key stakeholders with the promotion of SGP success stories (e.g., on their websites etc.).

5. COMMUNICATION PLAN

With the use of networking and well-established partnerships among all sectors, SGP has established itself as the hub for and voice of NGOs/CBOs working in relation to the focal areas of the programme. It has actively engaged stakeholders in community-led actions that have led to national, regional, and international solutions and have been recognized nationally as a preferred means to engage this sector in national development. The intention is to continue this active engagement through four main pillars as articulated below:

- **Research:** This entails getting the facts regarding civil society capacity needs, constraints, abilities, and interests, helping CSOs with project identification and proposal development, transparent and consistent project and programme monitoring and evaluation and change management - highlighting what does not work and helping to change the direction of projects and the programme if necessary
- **Information Sharing:** Getting the information to the target market and stakeholders using as many and most appropriate avenues. Ensure there are opportunities for face-to-face or interpersonal communication. This includes brochures, flyers, and meetings with the SGP Country Team.
- **Training:** In all the needed areas of project development/management including communications, team building, report writing. It will also include capacity building in other areas necessary to help the civil society groups to improve their skills, results, and capacity, especially for sustainability of the projects and the broader national SGP programme. These actions will be facilitated through one-on-one sessions and via group training and project development sessions.
- **Outreach:** Using the information to reach wider audiences and to ensure the programme is perceived as inclusive instead of exclusive and simultaneously to develop as many different vehicles of interactive communication as possible. Further, this will provide tangible evidence of how SGP (both at the project and programme levels) contributes to national sustainable development.

6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN

Over the years SGP Jamaica has established several strategic partnerships, which will serve to bolster its grant-making capabilities and overall project impact in OP8. SGP Jamaica has now developed a strategy that aims to ensure that funding is available for the implementation of the approved OP8 Country Programme Strategy (CPS) and work plans for 2024-2028. This will enable SGP Jamaica to continue to function as the “*delivery mechanism of choice*” for grant-making for CSOs/CBOs. The country team will collaborate with partners for global and national impact, and this will see SGP Jamaica strengthening its relationships with key entities such as the Inter-American Foundation (IAF), Australian Development Programme (Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), National Conservation Trust Fund of Jamaica (NCTFJ), Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) *et al.* As in the past, this will be done mainly through parallel funding arrangements.

Our engagement will focus on the value our partners will gain from working with us to have a greater impact. SGP Jamaica has been sought by government and donor partners to identify and work with community groups on environmental and developmental issues. SGP Jamaica will invest in communications that will excite our donors by developing great knowledge products, case studies, success stories to name a few. SGP Jamaica will engage the UNDP Country Office and the private sector to build partnerships that will include public-private partnerships and collaboration that support the implementation of the programme’s mandate.

SGP Jamaica will invest in new and improved ways to present our results on what we do, how we do it and why we do it. Importance will be placed on highlighting the impacts/results of our work in relation to local communities and in terms of contribution to the achievement of national and global sustainable development goals. The following processes will be considered to ensure successful achievement of the strategy:

- The country team (SGP staff and NSC) will be actively involved in RM activities.
- The efforts put into resource mobilisation will be recognized and acknowledged at all levels.
- The process of management of funds will be properly documented, including following the guidance note to be developed by CPMT.

a) Secured and Planned Cash and In-kind Co-financing

The resource mobilization plan which is to enhance the sustainability of the SGP Country Programme grantmaking and grant-makers+ roles will include enhancing/increasing cash and in-kind co-financing at:

- Project level: SGP strives for the required 1:1 co-financing of all projects. The programme provides templates and guides for grantee partners to account for and report on in-kind (mandatory) co-financing. Most grantees source some cash co-financing and use funds committed by SGP to leverage other sources of funding.
- Landscape/seascape level: SGP has carefully selected the landscape/seascape to coincide with areas where global environmental benefits can be secured and where other donors are operational. This has increased the likelihood for parallel/co-financing in these areas.
- Country level: SGP has been successful in negotiating funding from the National GEF STAR OP8 allocation (10%). In addition, SGP is pursuing opportunities for partnership in areas that relate to the SDGs, especially in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation at the community level. SGP continues to engage national development and planning agencies, in identifying potential areas of joint programming and sources of co-financing.

b) Co-financing Opportunities

- Diversifying funding sources to achieve greater impact: Several private sector entities have been approached and have approached SGP in establishing partnership to support project level activities.
- Recovering costs to co-finance a share of the SGP country programme non-grant costs (i.e. government contributions, bilateral donors): The SGP and UNDP will explore areas of synergy where joint programming can be mutually beneficial.
- Identifying opportunities for SGP to serve as a delivery mechanism: Under the PROCARIBE+ project, SGP was included to implement component 3.1 where Jamaica was allocated US\$150,000.

7. PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Activities include assisting communities and CSOs to develop proposals to access other donors and funding facilities. This role is being effectively performed with the NSC serving as a referral mechanism for additional funding for community-led initiatives. Several agencies represented on the NSC are often approached by private foundations for good environmental projects, which is a ready window of opportunity. Otherwise, the PIOJ, in its harmonizing role of national coordinator of donor funding, serves to refer projects to donors for funding consideration, as there is also increasing interest in the funding of environmental projects by private sector groups.

Entities are, however, keen to ensure that projects are in-synch with their funding priorities and are operational in their areas of interest. Provided that these conditions can be satisfied, options do exist and successful SGP project having established a track record of performance could stand to benefit.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Anticipated Risks

In determining the degree of risk, both the probability of the risk occurring, and the potential impacts were taken into consideration as seen in Table 3 below. The risks and potential impacts were considered at the programme level but would also be applicable at the project level. Furthermore, a risk range, e.g., “Low-Medium”, as opposed to a classification as “Low” or “Medium” was used, bearing in mind that the same type of risk could have different levels of impacts, depending on the specific local circumstances and the number of project(s) being considered.

Table 3. 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
Social Risks			
Limited Community buy-in/ownership	Low – Medium	Low - Medium	Seek community buy-in and stakeholder support in initial project stages. Enlist assistance of key stakeholders
Environmental Risks			
Lack of adherence to environmental guidelines and standards (while implementing projects)	Low- Medium	Low-Medium	The NC and NSC should advise grantees to investigate the national/local environmental standards and ensure that they are met during project implementation. As part of the review, monitoring and evaluation framework, the NC and NSC can verify that projects are complying with the relevant standards.
Limited data (e.g., environmental data) to support project development and implementation	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	In instances where data are not available, use assumptions, educated guesses, reference material best practice etc. to develop appropriate estimates
Financial Risks			
Mobilizing co-financing	Medium – High	Low-Medium	The NC and NSC can recommend/make available a list of possible co-financing partners to (potential) grantees.
Misappropriation of funds by grantees	Low-Medium	Low-Medium	Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting on project expenditure, along with supporting documentation.
Climate Risks			
Natural Disasters/Extreme Weather Events	Medium-High	Medium - High	Plan for climate risks will include pre-screening of projects by enhancing current project review sheet, especially in vulnerable areas based in accordance with guidance document and during

			project implementation, e.g., through protected agriculture, climate-resilient infrastructure and climate-related capacity building of CSOs/CBOs.
Institutional Risks			
Limited Capacity of community groups	Medium – High	Medium-High	Early training and orientation of CBOs in key areas (e.g., project management and financial reporting)
Limited Staffing of SGP Secretariat	Medium-High	Medium - High	Increase staff complement of SGP Secretariat by at least one

Strategy for Tracking Risks

Risks will be tracked throughout implementation at the project and programme levels. Grantees will identify risks at the proposal stage, along with relevant mitigation strategy.

Throughout implementation, grantees will update risks (modify existing risks or add new ones), risk probabilities and mitigation strategies accordingly. Risks will be reported upon in progress reports and other review and monitoring mechanisms put in place by the SGP Secretariat

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

9.1 Monitoring Approaches at Project and Country Levels

Programme Level

At this level, an annual work plan is drafted and submitted to the NSC for approval. The work plan gives details of activities that will be undertaken to achieve the expected results of the CPS. Timelines are set for achievement of the targets and milestones. Bi-annual programme updates/reports will be provided to the National Steering Committee (NSC) members, UNDP and CPMT. This report provides both a synthesis of project activities as well as progress made in the achievement of the broader national goals and those set by the GEF SGP project document. The overall progress and success of the country programme will be tracked based on indicators outlined in Table 5.

Project Level

For approved project concepts, pre-site visits will be conducted to verify and gather additional project information. Project impacts will be measured against the baseline data. Each project will select from a list of indicators linked to the expected results of the country programme, so that both the individual and cumulative contribution of projects can be ascertained. During implementation of projects, site visits will be undertaken at least twice during project implementation (providing there are no instances that may require visiting outside of the scheduled visits). Site visits will be conducted by the NC preferably halfway into the project and then a final visit close to the end of the project activities. The NC will be accompanied, at times, by the Programme Assistant and or members of the NSC.

Participatory evaluations of projects are undertaken and include the SGP Secretariat, NSC members, stakeholders, and grantees after completion. These visits, besides allowing for on site assessment of projects and resolution of challenges faced, also allow for the evaluation of project reports (both interim and final) submitted by grantees (NGOs/CBOs). No payments are approved by the NC until the reports are submitted and duly reviewed. At the end of the project, grantees must submit a detailed final report (with a detailed financial report) of results/lessons learnt. A digital photographic library is maintained of all projects, and this facilitates assessment of project impacts.

Strategy for Aggregating Project Results

The success of the SGP country programme is driven by the good performance of the portfolio of projects within each thematic area when aggregated over the operational phases. The numerical targets indicated in table 5 will be monitored against the sum of project level interventions in the corresponding component and reported on in the Annual Monitoring Report and via the SGP website that should be made current and should facilitate compatibility with other platforms. In cases where targets are not strictly quantitative the cumulative impacts of projects will be reported on to give a fulsome representation of the SGP country programme. Efforts will be made to partner with other agencies for monitoring and evaluation, especially where common interests exist and where lessons learnt could inform research and follow-on initiatives. Interest has also been expressed by potential co-financing partners to have SGP perform monitoring and evaluation of jointly funded projects. Among targeted collaborators are: The University of the West Indies, the University of Technology, Grace Kennedy Foundation, and the UNDP.

Local Community/Stakeholder Participation

SGP Jamaica facilitates capacity building among community stakeholders, in project identification and proposal writing, with a special focus on those with the least capacity. Project development sessions are hosted immediately after a call for proposal is issued. All grantees engaging in the development of projects will be asked to present written objectives and a scheduled work plan indicating how and when each output will be achieved, and the objectives met. These will be closely monitored usually on a quarterly basis or in synch with successive disbursements and evaluated (using standard templates already developed by the SGP secretariat and/or CPMT. Monitoring is carried out by the SGP staff and members of the NSC during field visits.

Table 4. 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	SGP Staff	Not applicable as CPS will be updated by the Country Team (NSC and SGP staff)	July – August 2024
As part of NSC meetings, ongoing review of project results and analysis. This includes an Annual CPS Review	Assess effectiveness of projects, country portfolio; learning; adaptive management	NC/PA, NSC, UNDP CO. Final deliberations shared/ analysed with CPMT colleagues	Staff time, Country Operating Budget	At least one annual CPS review to ensure OP8 CPS is on track to achieve its results and make timely and evidence-based modifications to CPS as may be needed ²

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.

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
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 development/ implementation of CPS	NC/PA, 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 and its implementation. Global technical M&E support can be expected	Once per operational phase
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 each year)
Audit	Ensure compliance with project implementation/manage ment standards and norms	External/independent auditors. NC/ PA to provide requisite support.	Global Operating Budget	Annually for selected countries on risk-assessment basis

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.

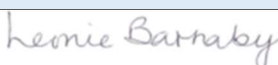
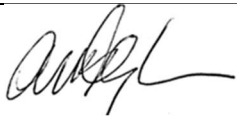
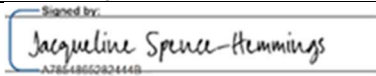
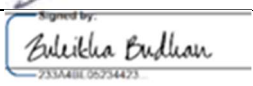
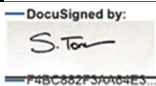
9.2 CPS Results Framework

Table 5: Results Framework of SGP OP8 Country Programme Strategy

Alignment with SDGs: Alignment with SDGs: SGP Jamaica will be aligned to SDGs 1, 5, 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 15 & 17		
Synergy with UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD) 2022 - 2026: Programme Priorities and Partnerships: focusing on social resilience and inclusion, climate change resilience and sustainable natural resource management most of which are linked to Outcome 4.		
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 Management and conservation of protected landscapes (e.g., Cockpit Country, Mason River Protected Area, Blue and John Crow Mountains) and Seascapes (Black River Morass, fish sanctuaries and livelihood generation through landscape/seascape conservation	320 hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (GEF core indicator 4.1 and 4.3) 150 hectares of marine protected areas created or under improved management (GEF core indicator 2) 25hectares of marine habitat under improved practices (GEF core indicator 5)	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
<u>Strategic Initiative 2:</u> Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security Climate-smart climate-resilient projects, with strong community participation, sustainable farming practices and systems (e.g., greenhouses, sustainable water use/reuse, rainwater harvesting, organic farming technology) and livelihood generation. Demonstration projects will include urban farming, aquaponics and agroponics.	200 hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration (GEF core indicator 3.1) 5 (number of) partnerships to advance sustainable agriculture and fisheries and/or food security (such as diversification, sustainable intensification, sustainable fisheries management, agroecological farming practices, climate-smart agriculture, certification programmes, local sourcing initiatives, waste reduction and circular economy, etc.)	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 SGP will support national priorities linked to the Paris Agreement and the NDCs by focusing on renewable energy/energy efficiency projects that demonstrate the benefits of sustainable energy across	800 tons of greenhouse gas emissions mitigated/avoided (GEF core indicator 6) 50 kW increase in installed renewable energy capacity from community-scale systems (biomass, micro-hydro, solar, etc.) 2 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.)	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 Stakeholders felt that there could be some capacity building and public education on chemicals and waste management. This is now a national priority and will support Government's obligations under the relevant Convention	2 local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management strengthened and/or established. 20 communities working on increasing awareness and outreach for sound chemicals and waste management. 5 projects working on increasing awareness and outreach for sound chemicals and waste management.	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database Country Programme Review
<u>Strategic Initiative 5:</u> Enhancing social inclusion Social inclusion forms a critical part of SGP's project portfolio, and where relevant, the needs of youth, women, men, indigenous peoples, and vulnerable groups (based on physical, geographical, or other vulnerability) will be adequately considered. This will be supported by the fact that SGP (NSC) is served by a gender/youth specialist.	10 projects with focused interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. 5 projects that demonstrate models of engaging (a) Indigenous Peoples, (b) youth, and (c) persons with disabilities. 10 SGP projects led by women and/or mainstream concrete mechanisms for increased participation of women	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review
<u>Strategic Initiative 6:</u> Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management SGP Jamaica's CPS has outlined clearly the modality of how it will monitor, evaluate and manage project and programme results under section 9	15 projects with meetings involving local CSOs/CBOs or communities to monitor project results, assess impacts, and identify lessons learned. 15 (number of) knowledge exchange/sharing events with participation of local communities 4 South-South exchanges between communities, NGOs/CSOs, or other partners within or across countries to transfer knowledge, replicate technology, tools or approaches on global environmental issues	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review

10. NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

NSC members involved in OP8 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
Leonie Barnaby - Chair	
Allison Rangolan – Deputy Chair	
Jacqueline Hemmings	
LeHome Johnson	
Shandy Scott	
Gillian Guthrie	
Zuleika Budhan	
Delores Wade	
Stacy-Ann Tomlinson-Knox	

ANNEXES (optional)

Annex 1: 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).



SGP JAM COMDEKS
Phase 4 CPLS - Aug 21