

SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR OP7

LEBANON



Organic farming in Baskinta- Sannine, Entraide (LEB/SGP/OP5/Y1/CORE/BD/12/04)



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Acronyms

AFDC	Association for Forest Development and Conservation
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBO	Community-Based organization
CDR	Council for Development and Reconstruction
CDW	Construction and Demolition Waste
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CPS	Country Program Strategy
ENPI SEIS	European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument - Shared Environmental Information System
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Development Cooperation)
IBAs	Important Bird Areas
IPEN	International POPs Elimination Network
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
NC	National Coordinator
NDCs	Nationally Determined Contributions
NEEAP	National Energy Efficiency Action Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NREAP	National Renewable Energy Action Plan
NSC	National Steering Committee
OP	Operational Programme
Pro Mare	Protection and Sustainable Development of Maritime Resources in Lebanon
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SGP	Small Grants Programme
STAR	System of Transparent Allocation of Resources
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USAID	United States Agency for International Development



OP7 Financial Resources - SGP Country Programme (estimated US\$)¹

Total SGP Grants to date since (2005):	3,615,188 USD
OP7 GEF Core Funds:	USD \$500,000
OP7 GEF STAR Funds:	USD \$500,000
Other funds (secured)	USD \$100,000
Other funds (expected/to be mobilized)	USD \$200,000

1. BACKGROUND

As a corporate programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP), implemented by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) aligns its Operational Phase strategies with those of the GEF and co-financing partners, and provides a global portfolio of *innovative, inclusive, and impactful* projects that address global environmental and sustainable development issues.

Action at the local level by civil society and community-based organizations, including women groups, indigenous peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities is recognized essential to form multi-stakeholder alliances to deliver global environmental benefits and contribute to the GEF-7 Programming Directions, UNDP’s Strategic Plan 2018-2021, and national priorities to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals and other international commitments.²

Building on its over 26 years of successful operations in total over 133 countries, the 7th Operational Phase of the SGP aims *“to promote and support innovative, inclusive and scalable initiatives, and foster multi stakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes.”*

2. SUMMARY: Key Results/Accomplishments

GEF Small Grant Programme Lebanon started in 2005, and since then more than 95 small projects were supported with a total Amount of grants 3,615,188 US Dollars for NGOs and local associations to implement projects focusing on biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation/mitigation, land degradation reduction and chemicals and Persistent Organic Pollutants, and conservation of International Water in addition to capacity development for civil society organizations (CSOs) at the community level.

¹ The level of SGP OP7 resources is an estimated total of: (i) the GEF7 core grant allocation (to be reviewed annually by CPMT on the basis of performance, co-financing and strategic partnerships, demonstrated NSC commitment rates, and UNOPS delivery); (ii) approved STAR resources; as well as (iii) other sources of third party cost sharing & co-financing (country, regional and/or global levels). SGP countries with remaining OP6 balances that have not been pipelined will be expected to use these balances in line with the OP7 strategic approach in order to be coherent in terms of SGP programming and results expected.

² The initial SGP OP7 concept was incorporated into the strategic directions for the overall GEF-7 replenishment negotiations in 2017, and subsequently approved by the GEF Council paper “GEF Small Grants Programme: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-7” (GEF/C.54/05.rev) in June 2018.

Table 1: GEF SGP grants during different operational phases in Lebanon

Operational Phase	Period	Number of funded project	Total grant amount (USD)
OP3	2006-2008	21	549,302
OP4	2008-2010	19	700,000
OP5	2012-2015	41	1,749,506
OP6	2016-2018	13	616,380

With regards to focal area distribution during GEF-5 and GEF-6, biodiversity focal area remained as the largest portfolio (40%), due to the effectiveness and operational role of the civil society in this sector, followed by climate change mitigation (17%), land degradation (17%), capacity development (13%), chemicals and wastes (6%), and international waters (6%), as shown in the pie chart below:

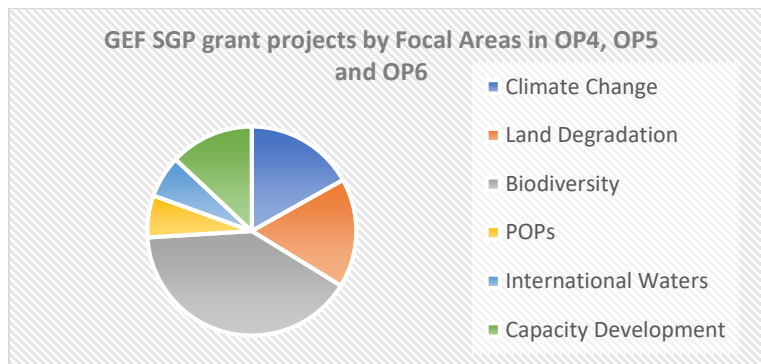


Chart 1: GEF SGP grant projects by Focal Areas in OP4, OP5 and OP6

In Lebanon, all SGP projects were implemented in partnership with the proponent NGOs and other stakeholders such as civil society institutions and governmental bodies. In some projects, the international agencies were partners also and this led to more than 100% of co-financing.

Projects implemented in Lebanon through the SGP interventions, have improved biodiversity conservation and contributed to the global Sustainable Development Goals relating to combating climate change (Goal 13), conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and marine resources (Goal 14), and sustainable land management (Goal 14) and many other goals that highlighted many achievements accomplished in each focal area by the country programme and grantees at both local and national levels such as:

- Protecting natural areas and creating protected area
- Approving legislations
- Strengthening capacity of NGOs
- Establishing new networks and planning dialogue platforms
- Developing job opportunities
- Enhancing socio economic livelihood
- Generating communications material and green products
- Involving communities and different stakeholders (CSO-government policy and dialogue)
- Promoting gender equality and social inclusion.
- Promoting women, children and youth participation
- Management of coastal and marine resources.

Below illustrates some of the key results and achievements through the SGP projects that were completed:

Table 2: Accomplishments of projects with high potential for expansion and/or replication

focal area	Shortened name of project	Grantee	Accomplishments/expansion and/or replication
BIODIVERSITY	Enhance the Economic Conditions of Farmers in Sanine Area	Entraide liban	30 farms producing 8 different indigenous crops were totally converted to organic agriculture. 150 du of lands producing up to 400 T of organic products for marketing and increasing 35% of income for each farmer involved in the project.
	Rehabilitation of degraded lands in Anjar-Bekaa and enabling of economic development	Lebanese appropriate technology association – LATA	First herbal and tree nursery of its kind in eastern Bekaa region of Lebanon, providing more than 200,000 herbal seedlings (zaatar/ thyme, sage, etc.) and more than 20,000 tree seedlings for plantation and afforestation.
	Providing technical support for hunting in Lebanon	Environment for life	More than 175 from internal security forces and forest guardians on responsible hunting and game birds. Organizing the Hunting licenses at the MoE.
	13 Revive the cultivation of figs and cactus in Jabal Amel	Jamyat jabal amel al inmaiya	9,500 white figs tree were distributed in 23 villages in South Lebanon, benefiting 612 farmers and 1200 cactus plants were produced
CLIMATE CHANGE	Solid Waste Management for Baskinta and Surrounding	Baskinta Baytouna Organisation BBSO	Solution for the Lebanese garbage crisis in the village of Baskinta, that succeeded to cover 150 households, 15 restaurants and 3 schools by collecting and selling recyclables
	Establishing a rainwater harvesting pond for "Ferzol" farmers	Insanouna	Establishing a rainwater harvesting pond in "Ferzol" village for irrigation and against water scarcity and erosion increasing socio-economic benefits,
	Integrated Solid Waste Management in a Rural Community in Mount Lebanon: Berbara Municipality - Jbail	Byblos Ecologia	A pilot project for sustainable decentralized ISWM programme in Berbara, first initiative in Mount Lebanon to be replicated in surrounding communities and villages. Awareness was spread through training sessions, roundtable meetings and Door-to-Door visits. Citizen's behavior has been changed for sorting at the source and empowering municipality to continue with this project.
LAND DEGRADATION	Conservation of Almond Trees	Feghal Environment Association	7 hectares (ha) planted of 3,400 almond trees giving benefits to 91 households for sustainable production. Training of 27 producers, repair of processing machines, and revival of marzipan production by training of 24 women.
	Stopping/decreasing the «avalanches» at Arid El Joura - Becharre	Association of Environmental Conservation – Becharre	Establishing a natural barrier of fast growing trees within a mountainous reforested area in Cedar trees endangered by the avalanches. Area planted of Cedar trees "Cedrus Libani" in SGP funded project was 13 Hectares up scaling now to more than 500 Hectares attracting grants of 4 million US dollars.
	Establishing of a water tank to provide water for fire engines of civil	Sanabel el ataa	Land degradation is reduced in 7 villages mainly resulting from forest fires by establishing 5 water tanks to provide water for

focal area	Shortened name of project	Grantee	Accomplishments/expansion and/or replication
	defense for Nabha and neighborhood		fire engines of civil defense for to reduce forest fires Nabha villages and neighborhood.
INTERNATIONAL WATER	A pilot project for the protection of running water and Mediterranean Sea water from waste frying oil	MerTerre	Containers distributed and fixed in different locations in the Chiyah and .in collaboration with female community members, restaurants and fast food facilities managers and students, fried oils collected from houses and restaurants and given to the recycling plant.
	Filter organic waste from the Litani River at shhour Village, before downstream in the Mediterranean Sea	Shhour Social Development Comity	Filter organic waste from the Litani River at shhour Village, before downstream in the Mediterranean Sea. Shhour Social Development Comity
POPS	Solid Waste Management in Aitaroun	Jameiyat sayf	12-15 tons per day of wastes are recycled thanks to a pilot project implemented in Aytaroun through developing a solid waste management by establishing a sorting plant with a waste pressing machine and organic waste chopper. Reduction of the quantity of non-recyclable wastes, production of organic fertilizers and artisanal products from re-use of waste.
	Combatting burning of tires to reduce emissions of pollutants and gases	Human rights information & training center	Collecting and recycling more than 230,000 tires from tires shop owners and dumps into material for public spaces, playgrounds and pools. Consensus on danger of burning tires was raised.
CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT	Reopening of Horsh Beirut	Nahnoo organization	Reopening of Horsh Beirut, largest public space in the Capital after 24 years of closure, by advocacy and through involving 60 volunteers and 400 people from NGOs, youth, in corporation with the Governor of Beirut, and hundreds of residents were aware. A map for Horsh visitors was developed.

Lessons learned:

- Maintain communication and continuous follow up with grantee even after the completion of the funded project to ensure its sustainability and measure its impact and up scaling impacts results and spread its replication.
- Projects that have social and economic impacts like generating incomes could secure their sustainability and provide long term support to the NGO after SGP grant.
- Encouraging partnerships and involvement of different stakeholders lead to a successful implementation for project activities and could have major enhancement on the policy level.
- Incorporating economic interests and addressing policy gap of the local communities alongside with the GEF focal areas is necessary to achieve success and ensuring sustainability of the project outcomes.

- Participation of NGOs and corporation of the different stakeholders such as local communities and other government and non-government stakeholders is crucial for successful implementation and sustainability of the SGP projects.
- Up-scaling and replicating successful SGP funded projects;
- Promoting sustainable livelihood initiatives

In relation to the SGP process:

- Advertising call for project proposals through institutions websites of different NSC members, SGP network and Daleel Madani website of the NHI with no cost, also changes in guidelines for the CFP by the NSC in the OP6 in terms of the non-mandatory conditions for the co-financing for applicants has generate an increased number of proposals received.
- Training should be more provided for applicants especially during the call for proposal on conditions, topics, eligibility of applicants, costs, activities and proposal writing.
- SGP Lebanon will support NGOs and CSOs in accessing other donor funding and to link up and network with other development programmes and projects that have common or complementary interest.

3. COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

3.1. Alignment with National Priorities

Table 3: List of relevant conventions and national/regional plans or programmes

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
GEF-7 National Dialogues	
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Ratification 11/8/1994 Law No. 360
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	First NBSAP developed by the MoE in November 1998
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	N/A
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Ratification 11/8/1994 Law No.359
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	Ratification 01/08/94 (Law No. 359) 1st in 1999 2nd in March 2011 3rd in November 2016
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	N/A
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	N/A
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	Signature April 2016
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Ratification 21/12/1994 Law No. 469
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	N/A
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Signature and adhesion Law No. 432 08/08/2002
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	Signature May 22, 2001

Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	Ratification, Accession 13/10/2017
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	September 2015
Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) for the UN SDGs	Submission July 2018
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies (IW) ³	N/A
Others	
The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Adhesion Law No.31, 16/10/2008
Amendments to Barcelona Convention	Adhesion Law No.34 , 16/10/2008
The Kyoto Protocol on climate change	Signature 15/5/2006
The Rotterdam Convention on the prior approval of the transfer of hazardous chemicals	Adhesion Law No.728 (15/5/2006)
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic pollutants for adoption by the conference of plenipotentiaries.	Signature 22/5/2001
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat. Ramsar	Accession Law No. 23, 1/3/1999
Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer. Copenhagen	Accession:3/11/1999 Law No. 120
Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer. London	Accession:31/3/1993 Law No. 253
Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer. Vienna	Accession:30/3/1993 Law No. 253
Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. Basel	Ratification:21/12/1994 Law No. 387
Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas.	Accession:27/12/1994
Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-based Sources. Athens	Signature:17/5/1980 Accession:27/12/1994
Convention on the Prohibition of Military or any other hostile use of Environmental Modification Techniques. Geneva	Signature:18/5/1977
Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency. Barcelona	Signature:16/2/1976 Accession:30/6/1977 Law No. 126
Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution. Barcelona	Signature:16/2/1976 Accession:30/6/1977 Law No. 126
Protocol for the Prevention and Elimination of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft. Barcelona	Signature:16/2/1976 Accession:30/6/1977 Law No.126
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships. London.	Accession:24/11/1993
Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter. London-Mexico city-Moscow-Washington	Signature:15/5/1973

³ Please also identify existing IW regional projects and the regional SAPs adopted by countries sharing international waterbodies so as to align SGP local interventions. Please check this website to find some of the SAPs: <http://iwlearn.net/publications/SAP>

Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Seabed and the Ocean floor and in the Subsoil. London-Moscow-Washington	Ratification:7/10/1974 Law No. 9133
International Convention relating to Intervention on the High Seas in cases of Oil Pollution Casualties. Brussels	Ratification:12/10/1974 Law No. 9226
International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage. Brussels	Ratification:12/10/1973 Law No. 28/73
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil. London	Accession:16/11/1966 Law No. 68/66

3.2. Gaps and Opportunities

Environmental issues in Lebanon are not considered as priority since the country has several economic, political, and social challenges within critical region. Despite all these challenges, several initiatives by the public and private sectors, civil society and international organizations remain central to tackle environmental problems in Lebanon towards the implementation of sustainable development goals. Lebanon achieved at least seven MDG targets, mainly in health, primary education and gender equality in education, and major footsteps has been taken towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, through its contribution to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. This emphasizes Lebanon’s commitment in tackling issues related to poverty, health, education, growth, inequality, environment protection, governance, and women’s empowerment. (Lebanon SDGs VNR, 2018)

Gender equality and women’s empowerment for example are set as priorities in SGP Work and projects as it also provides women and men equal opportunities to participate, work together and benefit from SGP project results.

Also, Lebanon has shown its commitment towards international multilateral environmental treaties, protocols and conventions and set out its National and sectoral legislation, policies and strategies and agendas on natural resource management and protection, in land management, water and air pollution and solid waste management, i.e. update environment protection law, national water sector strategy, national action plans for biodiversity, climate change and water resources...etc (Lebanon SDGs VNR, 2018)

SGP tends to address gaps in the spectrum of financing solutions available to NGOs within all these national legislations strategies and international conventions and aim to provide models or examples for designing larger national efforts as well as filling in important national policy gaps especially in innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

The extensive knowledge gained from GEF SGP provides the opportunity to build on best practices and lessons learned through replication and up-scaling, which in turn expands the impact of its portfolio.

To add that most of the environmental problems like biodiversity, land degradation, climate change, energy, issues with food security are all interconnected and interdependent and require an integrated approach with good policies and SGP cannot achieve success in combating these threats without concerted actions between governments, civil society actors and the private sector. Therefore, the NSC, the decision-making body of the SGP, is a multi-stakeholder committee that comprises multidisciplinary members from CBOs and NGOs civil society, academic and scientific institutions, from UNDP Country Office and the government, making representation on the NSC crucial to combine efforts for lobbying to approve policies.

Therefore, SGP will seek to develop coordination mechanism with the relevant programs at the global and country levels and continue to identify opportunities and share successful approaches.

3.3. OP7 Strategic Priorities of the SGP Country Programme

Table 4: SGP Country Programme’s alignment with SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives

1	2	3
<p>SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives - Global</p>	<p>SGP Country Programme’s OP7 Priorities (choose priorities among the SGP OP7 Strategic Initiatives on the left column. Some are mandatory and already included.)</p>	<p>SGP Country Programme’s complementarity with GEF, UNDP, and other projects and programmes (identify related projects/ programmes for cooperation)</p>
<p><i>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species</i></p> <p>Key objectives/focus:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Improve management effectiveness of protected areas through ICCAs and shared governance with private sector and government. 2) Improve community-led biodiversity friendly practices and approaches, including promoting blue economy (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, infrastructure, etc.) 3) Enhance community led actions for protection of threatened species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of important KBAs, protected areas, forest ecosystems, and threatened species. - Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in economic and ecotourism sector with active involvement of communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alignment with Aichi Targets and national actions as mentioned in the 6th National report of Lebanon to the convention on biological diversity by prepared by the Ministry of Environment and UNDP.

<p><i>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of overall food production and value chain, including in vulnerable ecosystems (mountains, SIDS, etc). 2) Increase diversification and livelihood improvement 3) Remove deforestation from supply chain and expanded restoration of degraded lands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote community-based biodiversity friendly practices and approaches in agriculture and forestry. - Provide support to supply chains to target biodiversity-based products. - Supporting projects that aim reducing land degradation and deforestation, biodiversity loss... 	<p>In complementarity with the 2015-2019 Strategy of the MOA, “Smart Adaptation of Forest Landscape and Mountains areas- SALMA” project implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and FAO for reforestation. and Land Degradation Neutrality LDN report by Ministry of Agriculture, UNEP, UNDP, UNCCD and AFDC in Lebanon</p>
<p><i>Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Reduce and promote alternative to mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining 2) Promote plastics/solid waste management and circular economy 3) Reduce/remove use of chemicals in agriculture 4) Enhance local to global coalitions on chemicals, waste and mercury management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support chemical and waste management plans in joint effort with partners including with government agencies, research institutions, private sector and international agencies. - Support local initiatives from raising awareness on waste management to reduce waste and reuse and sorting at the source, and composting and recycling and reduce the use of pesticides <p>Networking with decisions makers and coalitions of NGOs and academics to lobby with the decision makers in the government and the intervention communities and coalitions with donors and other international institutions.</p>	<p>In complimentary with global coalitions and networks such as IPEN and Zero Mercury Working Group of European Environment Bureau GOLD. And other programs by other donors (PROMARE for combatting marine plastic pollution by European Union Delegation in Lebanon)</p> <p>And according to Law 444/2002 - Framework for the protection of the environment and the national legislation related to ISWM Law #80/2018</p>
<p><i>Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Improved capacities to promote community-driven, socially inclusive and integrated solutions to address low-emission and resilient urban development 2) Demonstrated innovative socially-inclusive urban solutions/ approaches (including waste and chemical management, energy, transport, watershed protection, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving capacities local authorities to address low-emission development. - Encourage sustainable agricultural land and water management practices - Improve collaboration and partnership of NGOs/CBOs with private sector and governmental institutions. 	<p>In line with the National Water Sector Strategy by Ministry of Energy and Water (2014-2018), and NDCs commitments of Lebanon.</p>

<p>ecosystem services and biodiversity)</p> <p>3) Implement public-private partnership approach for low carbon energy access for marginalized urban communities</p>		
<p>CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms</p> <p>1) Promote/enhance community voices and participation in global and national policy, strategy development related to global environment and sustainable development issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging community participation in global and national policies and good governance - Promoting CSO-government dialogue platforms on environment (and with the local authorities) 	<p>Complementarity with GEF, UNDP, projects implemented by CSOs and CSOs campaigns.</p>
<p>Enhancing social inclusion (mandatory)</p> <p>1) Promote targeted initiatives</p> <p>2) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects (e.g. women/girls, indigenous peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities)</p>	<p>Enhancing social inclusion</p> <p>3) Promote targeted initiatives</p> <p>4) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging projects that promote gender equality women’s empowerment, youth engagement. - Supporting job opportunities to enhance livelihoods and reduce poverty. 	<p>In complementarity with GEF and UNDP and the Gender strategy of Lebanon (updated in October 2019). And others initiatives implemented by Lebanese women and youth movements.</p>
<p>Knowledge Management (mandatory)</p> <p>1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities</p> <p>2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs</p> <p>3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices</p>	<p>Knowledge Management</p> <p>4) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities</p> <p>5) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs</p> <p>6) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging raising of awareness, and communication material production. - Sharing and exchanging info on projects and lessons between projects and grantees and between 	<p>Collaboration with the GEF CSO Network</p>

	<p>grantees and other bodies/parties.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Platforms created by communities to be supported and shared. - Supporting communities to have an active role in knowledge management. 	
<p>Results Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (mandatory)</p> <p>1) <i>Administer new M&E strategy in country programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms</i></p>	<p>Results Management, Monitoring & Evaluation</p> <p>1) <i>Administer new M&E strategy in country programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve tools and activities that measure the capacity of local CSOs 	<p>Complementarity with GEF and SGP/SOPs.</p>

4. OP7 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

4.1. Grant making Within the Priority Landscape/Seascapes⁴

a) Process for selecting priority landscapes and seascapes

In Lebanon, It is estimated that Lebanon produces approximately 6,500 tons of municipal solid waste (MSW) per day across the country, which is composed of about 52.5% organic matter, 16% paper/cardboard, 11.5% plastics, 5.5% metal, 3.5% glass, and 11% inert and other materials⁵. The incremental quantity of MSW attributed to displaced population is about 887 ton flow of the displaced population, accounting for 13.6% of the total MSW generated in Lebanon. In addition, there has been a 40 percent increase in municipal spending on waste management since the beginning of the war in Syria in 2011⁶. MSW is currently disposed of as follows: about 50% in uncontrolled dumpsites (about 940 dumpsites); about 35% in sanitary landfills; and the remaining 15% of MSW is streamed into recycling process, where recyclable or reusable materials (paper, cardboard, plastic, metal, glass, etc.) are sorted, and organic matter is converted into compost in approximately 50 facilities in Lebanon. Lebanese rivers convey large amounts of solid waste into the Mediterranean, with large and disproportionate direct dumps of solid waste and landfills on its coast (GIZ, 2014)⁷ with poor enforcement of the law and despite all civil society efforts, the solid waste management crisis remains an issue that requires attention in Lebanon.

⁴ Refer to the various guidance documents on landscape/seascape selection and assessments.

⁵ MoE & UNDP (2015). Lebanon Environmental Assessment of the Syrian Conflict & Priority Interventions: Updated Fact Sheet – December 2015.

⁶ Government of Lebanon & United Nations (2018 Updated). Lebanon Crisis Response Plan 2017-2020

⁷ Country report on the solid waste management in Lebanon, GIZ April 2014

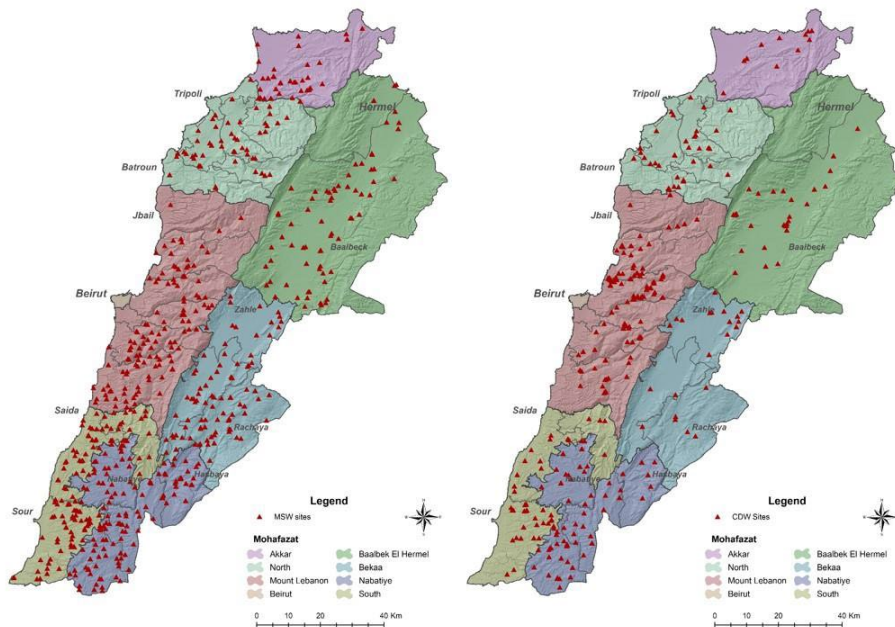


Figure 1: MSW and CDW Dumpsites (UNDP/MoE/ELARD, 2016)⁸

On the other hand, the Syrian crisis has profoundly affected Lebanon, impacting political, social, economic, and security situations. As per the United Nations Country Strategic Analysis for Lebanon (2015-2019), the addition of more than 1.5 million Syrian refugees registered with the UNHCR, as well as many not registered – all concentrated in poor areas - to a large community of Palestinian refugees (LCRP 2019)⁹, has increased demand on services and resources,

Many programmes of UN and others adopted strategies to respond to the Syrian crisis using sustainable development practices that will improve the long-term resilience of Lebanese systems and communities and address poverty, inequality and social inclusion.

It is crucial to stop the environmental degradation that has been intensified by the crisis and negatively influenced Lebanon’s chances of securing long-term sustainable development.

The Environmental Assessment of the Syrian Conflict in 2014 also covered four key environmental sectors, namely: i) Solid Waste Management, ii) Water and Wastewater Management, iii) Air Quality, and iv) Land Use and Ecosystem Management (MoE/EU/UNDP 2014).

Lebanon’s forests are increasingly exposed to a suite of stresses linked to urbanization, climate warming, and misguided management and especially wildfire. Fires that occurred in October 2019 in several regions in Lebanon, reduced forest cover, putting biodiversity and natural water supply areas at risk.

⁸ UNDP Gender Strategy Lebanon January 2016 (Updated October 2019) UNDP/MoE/ELARD, 2016

⁹ USAID Lebanon gender assessment 2019, Final Assessment Report Performance Management and Support Program for Lebanon (PMSPL II)

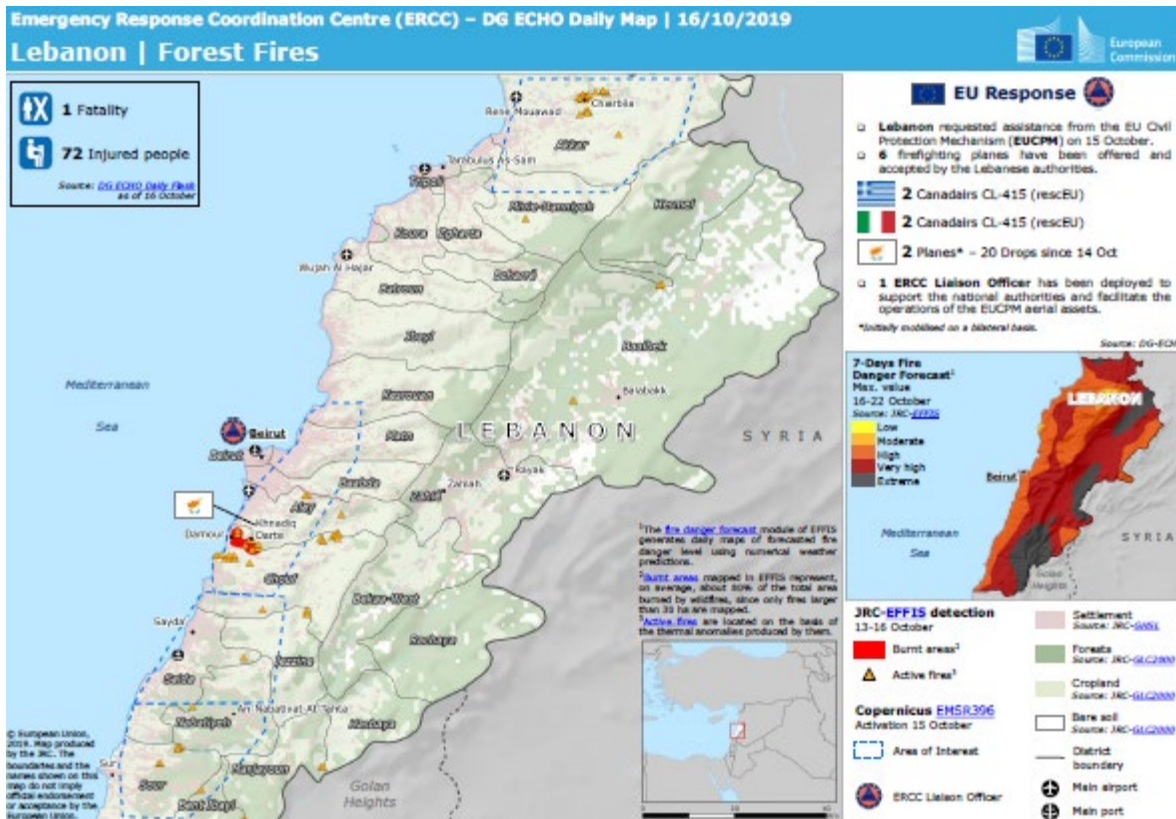


Figure 2: forest fire Forecast from 13 to 16 October 2019 in Lebanon

(Source: European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations. October 2019)

According to Lebanon country report developed within the framework of the ENPI SEIS project 2010-2014¹⁰, environmental priority issues in Lebanon can be summarized as follows:

- Continuous monitoring of air and water quality
- Groundwater depletion, and pollution seawater intrusion in coastal areas
- Rate and impact of soil erosion on ecosystem health and productivity
- Deforestation
- Coastal and marine environment/pollution
- Municipal wastes, Radioactive waste, hazardous waste and medical waste

Lebanon has updated its NBSAP in 2016 and endorsed it April 4, 2018 by the Lebanese Council of Ministers (CoM) - Decision 62, with the selection of thirteen (13) Priority areas such as:

Threatened Species, Genetic Diversity, Protected Areas, Sustainable Management and use of Natural, Ecosystems and Resources, Ecosystem Restoration, Access and Benefit Sharing, Invasive Alien Species, Education and Public Awareness, Mainstreaming Biodiversity into National Policies and Plans, Climate Change, Research and Knowledge Transfer, Institutional and Legal Framework and Resource Mobilization.

¹⁰ ENPI SEIS Lebanon country report 2010-2014

As part of the “Third Lebanon’s National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) several related reports were drafted entitled ” National Greenhouse Gas Inventory Report and Mitigation Analysis” for different sectors, we mention principally:

- Agriculture Sector in Lebanon
- Land Use, Land-Use change and Forestry in Lebanon
- Waste Sector
- Energy Sector

b) Selected Landscapes/Seascapes for OP7

Lebanon SGP Programme is considering the whole country as the landscape/seascape. Here is below a map of Lebanon

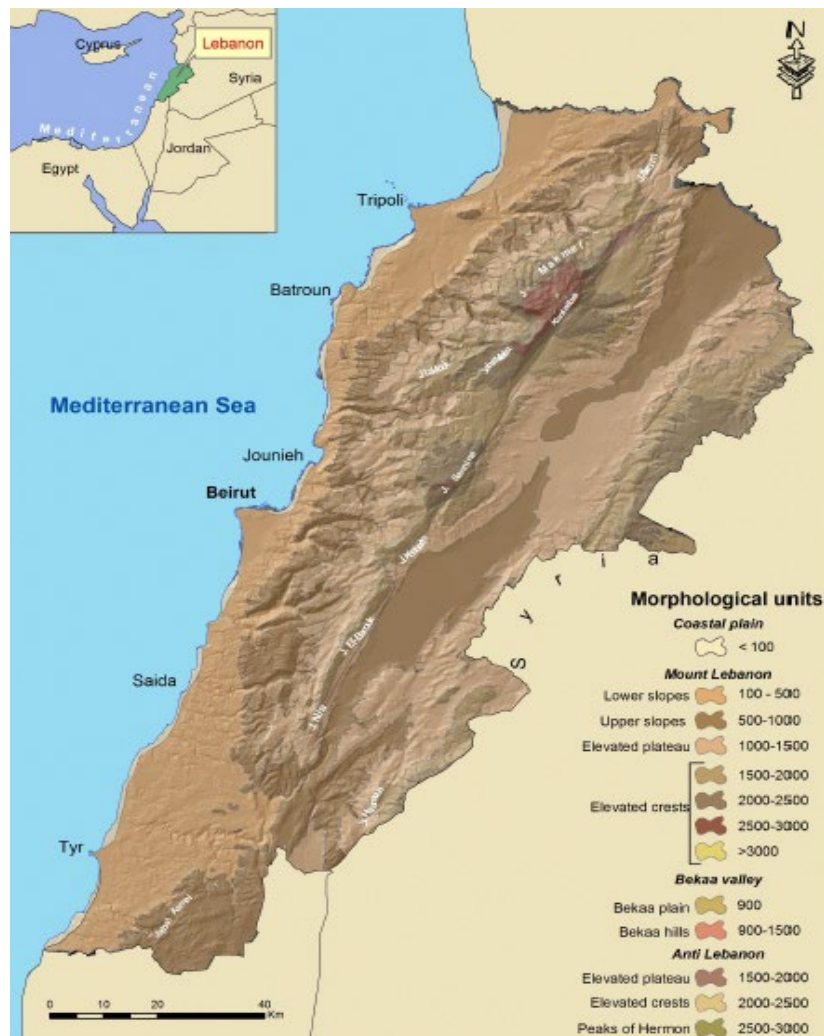


Figure 3: Lebanon geomorphological map. CNRS (2015):

Lebanon is a small and mountainous country in Western Asia covering an area of only 10,452 km².

It contains coastal plains along the Mediterranean Sea from the east, the eastern and western mountain range, and the Bekaa valley where agriculture is mainly concentrated. Lebanon contains many rivers and streams, most of which having their origin in springs.

Lebanon is a bio-diverse country with a great distribution of the floral and faunal species across habitats (marine, terrestrial and freshwater) and comprises 5 distinct geo-morphological regions: the Coastal Zone represents 13% of the territory, and expands over 210 km in length. It comprises 33% of the total built-up area in the country and hosts 55% of the total population. Within a stretch of 500 m all along the coast, the urbanization occupies 40% of the total area, the agriculture 41% and the natural areas (beaches, dunes, etc.) constitute 19% (CAMP 2003)¹¹. The Mount Lebanon Range (or chain) with 47% of the territory, includes middle-and high-elevation zones, rises from Akkar in the north to extends south to the hills of Jabal Amel with the highest peak Qornet el-Sawda (3,087 meters). The Bekaa Valley (14% of the territory) is a fertile land corridor separating the Mount Lebanon and Anti- Lebanon ranges, and drained to the north by the Aassi River and to the South by the Litani River. The Anti-Lebanon Range, (19% of the territory) which extends across the Lebanese-Syrian borders along the eastern part of the country and includes Jabal el Cheikh (2,814 meters), and distributes rainfall and snowmelt into at least three main watersheds across Lebanon, Syria and Palestine. In addition to South Lebanon which represents 7% of the territory. (SOER 2011)

The NC conducted several meetings with NGOs, local networks, concerned groups and other UN agencies to define the selection of priorities. Thus, experiences and resources of the past projects could serve as a foundation for an effective implementation of SGP initiatives in OP7.

SGP country programme built its credibility and maintains a one distance from all civil society organizations regardless their region, area of work...etc.

SGP country programme works to maintain good relationships and partnerships through continuous meetings and coordination with government and different ministries such as Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Interior, CDR, and local authorities mainly municipalities that could be participating in the implementation of projects as co-financing agent, and partners.

Several consultation meetings held by SGP Office to discuss OP7 strategy (CPS) engaging different stakeholders from Lebanon including the three main environmental NGOs networks (the Lebanese Environment Forum, Lebanese Eco movement and Zero waste coalition).

They all solidly proposed that it is more strategic to consider Lebanon as one landscape/seascape in order to achieve greater impact.

The whole country was considered the same land/seascapes from OP6 as the concerns and hot topics remains urgent for intervention and there is a bigger need to maintain sustainability in order to get measurable changes and achievements.

Heads of CSOs have identified the following:

¹¹ CAMP Lebanon Final Integrated Report 2003

Main environmental problems:

- Solid Waste management- and extension of landfills
- Water pollution, and lack of a proper network and water management of domestic waste water, industrial waste including pollution of rivers and water for irrigation (by pesticides) and for home use.
- Air pollution from cemeteries emissions especially in Chekka North Lebanon and Aindara that leads to high levels of cancers and death in the surrounding region; transportation especially in Beirut district and with a big need for an organized public transportation and other emissions from electric generators.
- Threats on Mediterranean Sea that is exposed to pollution caused by marine litter and especially plastics; to invasive species due to climate change and all anthropogenic factors could impact the environment marine biodiversity, and therefore decrease incomes of fisheries and tourism sector. Therefore, an integrated coastal zone management is very much needed.
- Land degradation leading to desertification mainly caused by forest fires in the absence of national planning for forest fire fighting and building dams with no prior correct studies. Cleaning forest is important as reforestation that requires financial and technical resources (irrigation, maintenance...) to help combatting forest fires.
- Bad Urban planning where chaotic buildings that increase pressure on natural resources.

Interventions and role:

- NGOs can react by policy change and advocacy, and needs relying on pilot and successful project could help NGOs to advocate and convince government, hence the importance of SGP small projects that is characterized by innovation and replication.
- NGOs and other civil society organizations has an important role in intervention in raising awareness, training and capacity building for public and for decisions makers as well. Education on schools levels (Changes on curriculum should be introduced in schools and maintaining these programs for years to ensure sustainability)

Main Challenges

- Corruption and lacks in democracy system
- People are passive therefore is very important to choose speaker /expert with good communication skills to raise awareness and convince public especially in changing communities' behavior in environment.
- There is no trust between the community and the government
- The bureaucratic system in Lebanon could delay every initiative
- Access to information is restricted to decision makers and politician parties. No response from relevant governmental institutions that could delay and could lead to more corruption

An open and objective discussion was carried out to encourage the different stakeholders to identify the potential projects which could be integrated SGP OP7 and which are of national priorities:

A quick survey was done through emails to all NGOs grantees to give their feedback on priorities to be included in the OP7 Strategy of SGP, and 19 associations/institutions out of 86 replied as shown in the chart 2 below.

5 thematic areas were acknowledged to be environmental priority sectors in Lebanon which are in terms of importance: waste management, water (fresh and marine waters), forest/land degradation, biodiversity and air quality as shown.

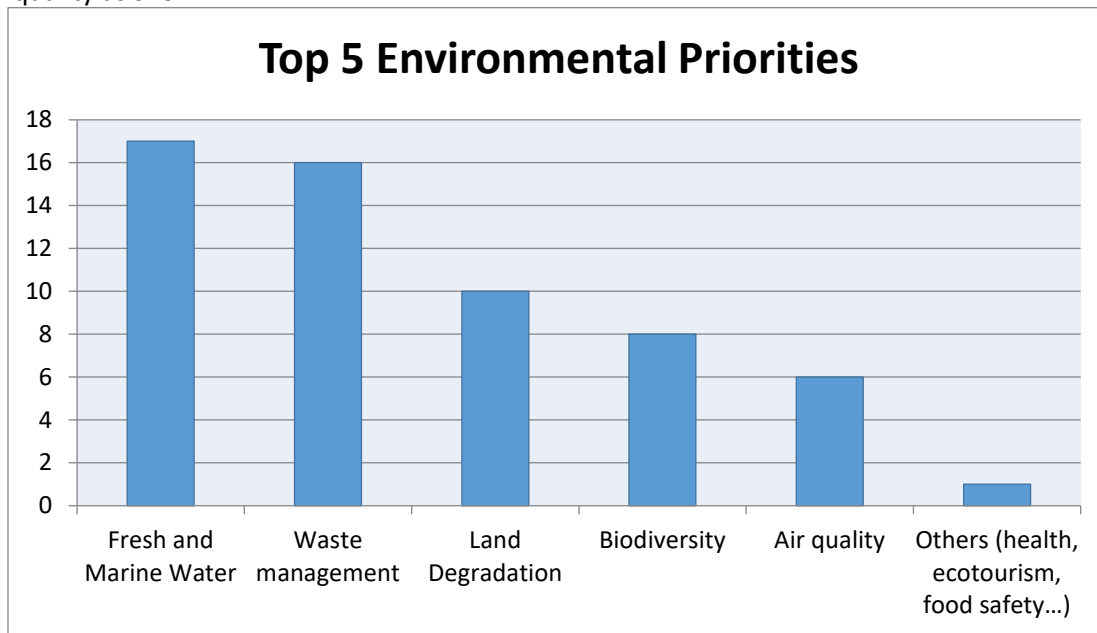


Chart 2: Top 5 Environmental Priorities according to NGOs /CSOs

c) OP7 Strategic Initiatives in the landscapes/seascapes

Beside the five thematic priorities mentioned above, and in light with environmental challenges and problems, we could summarize the environmental priorities in Lebanon:

- Water management (protection and sustainable use of water resources, encouraging rain water harvesting techniques and water ponds, water saving techniques, waste water treatment)
- Coastal management against threats and violations from or private sector and touristic resorts.
- Waste management (encourage sustainable projects on Source reduction, reuse, sorting, recycling and composting) and support parties that work on sorting and waste treatment.
- Natural reserves and building capacities of NGOs to manage protected areas. NGOs could play an important role in declaring protected areas and adoption from the local community.
- Environmental awareness for decisions makers and the community.
- Responsible hunting and bird/biodiversity conservation through law enforcement.
- Environmental Policies and law implementation - Advocacy and accountability, adaptation of national laws according to international conventions for better implementation.
- Forest management (firefighting and prevention).



4.2. Grant making Outside the Priority Landscapes/Seascapes

a) CSO-Government-Private Sector Dialogue Platform

SGP has a wide network with the concerned parties including civil society actors, governmental bodies (ministries and municipalities), private sectors (including universities), international society (international donors, international networks), and seeks to keeping a strong CSO government dialogue platform for national policies, strategies, and development plans.

SGP promote communications and capacity building for NGOs and individuals to encourage environmental awareness projects at community level while targeting at the same time woman and youth to address strategic initiatives under OP7.

Allowing sharing of experiences and lessons learned from SGP projects among grantees and among different stakeholders and this will play a great role in influencing policy on both local and regional level. SGP platforms enhance existing and potential partnerships, as well as built trust and bring up networking relationships between civil society and government partners. These platforms will assist governments in establishing and institutionalizing the link of SGP communities to development plans and policy reforms that may affect them. The NSC will be a platform that ensure continuous coordination and communication among active civil society representatives, UNDP, and different governmental representatives. These dialogues will promote the role of CSOs and NGOs to create a bridge to link grassroots to enhance policy dialogue projects and implementation of conventions on the national level and thus policy influence.

b) Promoting Social Inclusion, including gender equality and women's empowerment

It is known that despite many advantages and acquired rights, Lebanese women continue to face discrimination at numerous levels, keeping gender equality in Lebanon an elusive objective (UNDP 2019¹²; USAID 2012¹³). The inequitable distribution of household assets, resources, and decision making—resulting from Lebanon's 15 distinct, sectarian personal-status laws—creates a ripple effect for women who need these resources to fully leverage political and economic opportunities. Where laws are more supportive of gender equality, they are not consistently understood or enforced. (USAID 2019) The unequal access to and control of natural resources or to socio-economic benefits and services, as well as the unfair participation and decision making in environmental planning and governance at all levels continue to be the main issue for gender gaps. According to the USAID gender assessment 2019 for Lebanon, women are responsible for managing water resources and making decisions about water consumption at the household level, while they are seen as less engaged in reforestation activities due to the perceived physical demands. In environmental committees, men are more likely to be perceived as holding leadership positions, whereas women are seen as fulfilling roles in planning and administration (USAID 2019). There an increased need for financial incentives, awareness, education, and job opportunities to boost participation in environmental activities

¹² UNDP Gender Strategy Lebanon January 2016 (Updated October 2019)

¹³ gender assessment for USAID/Lebanon- July 2012



The improvement of livelihoods remains a key strategy of the SGP, since the sustainable management of land, biodiversity, and other ecosystem resources directly affects the generation of global environmental benefits that contribute to the wellbeing of local communities. On average, during GEF-6 period, 69% of ongoing and/or completed projects in Lebanon are led by women, 30% focused on women's empowerment. 18 out of 90 projects were contributing to closing gender gaps related to access to and control over natural resources.

OP7 resource allocation to projects will consider gender equality and women empowerment.

The SGP continues to increase integration of women in environment and development initiatives, through encouraging projects involving women participation and empowerment, in addition to youth, and persons with disabilities.

Priorities will be given for SGP projects that include income-generating activities, social development, and educational and technical assistance to empower women, youth and vulnerable sections of society by building capacity and empowering their participation in decision making and natural resources (land, forests, water...) and thus, promoting the creation of sustainable livelihoods and income-generation opportunities such as conservation, rehabilitation and restoration actions for women.

The NSC includes representatives from different categories of civil society and SGP office put lot of efforts to engage representatives from coalitions of women and youth. The Union of Lebanese Women is a representing member in the NSC. SGP is promoting the creation of employment and enhancing livelihoods, the reduction of gender inequality in promoting women's empowerment, involvement of youth and encourage sustainable economic development and will ensure that gender is well considered in approving projects in line with the CPS and other national processes. (NSC Project Review Sheet be referred to in all NSC meetings). Also highlighting gender equality aspect in the evaluation process of the proposals for the NSC, should be clearly explained in the proposal template and therefore could encourage applicants to include it in their projects.

Thus, SGP will work on promoting and supporting the approval of women-led projects, enhancing capacities of women and supporting women's improved access, use, and control of natural resources, and providing targeted support to raise awareness and assist women in exercising their legal rights and role, including establishing partnerships and training workshops.

c) Knowledge Management

SGP is a unique mechanism to bring the voices and knowledge of civil society to national and international platforms. The main objective of the knowledge management for SGP Lebanon to the cycle OP7 will be to ensure the proper dealing with the information, it is about capturing the knowledge and ensuring the dissemination of the voice of the civil society for improvement of policies, capacities and practices and scale up. SGP will aim at sharing lessons learned, best practices, success and challenges of all stakeholders involved through:

- Several Knowledge Fairs, and Stakeholder workshops, to foster knowledge exchanges among SGP grantees and among different key stakeholders for replication, upscaling, and policy influence, as well as technical support on both local and regional level. Creating or strengthening networks will generate a strengthened capacity and unify efforts to address environmental issues at the community level;



- Demonstration Sites to showcase the achievements of completed projects and transfer experience to new NOGs;
- National Steering Committees (NSC) that includes representatives from civil society organizations, government, UNDP, the academia, the private sector, play a fundamental role in knowledge exchange of community practices among their environment and key stakeholders. Each party in the NSC of Lebanon share on their websites and among their network news of SGP (i.e. Advertising call for project proposals with no cost).
- Updating digital platforms and tools and disseminating through digital media. (mailing list, social media of grantees and NGOS networks)
- How-to Manuals- to document and disseminate the know-how of an environmental practices and techniques.
- SGP Lebanon as always will act as a broker between grantees and other key partners such as governmental institutions, other NGOS, universities and donors.
- Peer-to-peer learning and dialogues conducted by NC through exchange visits, training workshops, with communities and other key stakeholders.

SGP will support many training sessions on varied themes relating to global environment and project management. SGP support the knowledge flow and technology transfer among CSOs and other partners across countries by facilitating South-South exchanges.

To mention that for OP7, SGP will be tracking the following indicators on Number of individuals/NGOs whose capacities were developed, Number of training sessions/workshops organized, networks strengthened, number of How-to-toolkits and knowledge products developed and Number and type of technology/solution exchanged and replicated.

5. COMMUNICATION PLAN

According to the target audience, SGP communicates its results with appropriate key messages through all forms of media –TV, radio, print and digital, to raise awareness about environmental problems and highlight about SGP work and contributions.

Grantees share their stories with local and national news media organizations about their accomplishments and role of SGP in supporting these projects that could be replicated thanks to sharing and communication.

The website of SGP has a page for Lebanon showing information on grantees and promotes awarded projects and their contribution in decreasing environmental degradation (project portfolio, key results, stories, pictures... as well as the CPS and contact information.

Lebanon SGP is regularly invited to several conferences and workshop as speaker or participant and this could contribute in sharing knowledge about the program and recognition on both national and international level.

Grantees are subject to use SGP guidelines (related to SGP logo and others...) that facilitate the production of communication products shared across the country and worldwide, with all partners and stakeholders and this will enhance the visibility of the SGP on publications, letters, banners, fact sheets, videos, brochures and newsletters, business cards, among other communication products.

SGP supports the creation spaces and opportunities where different stakeholders could establish a good dialogue by developing the capacities of women and youth; supporting coalitions and platforms for knowledge sharing and diffusion, and working with the media to promote environment and sustainable development.



The lessons learnt are shared to be integrated or replicated for new projects towards more environmental, social and economic benefits.

6. RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN

6.1. Secured and planned cash and in-kind co-financing

At all levels, the SGP and NSC will be encouraging the in-kind contribution from the grantee and while not considering the in-cash co-financing as a condition to accept the proposal.

This decision was previously mentioned in the OP6 strategy and endorsed by the NSC in Lebanon.

6.2. Cofinancing Opportunities

The success of the SGP and how it operates in Lebanon allows its replication in different programs by other donors, such as the EU funded project entitled “Lebanese civil society combatting for a plastic free Mediterranean sea” that consist in providing small grants (up to 60,000 euros) for civil society organizations taking into consideration GEF SGP guidelines and operation system as a model to provide support for small initiatives to protect the environment in Lebanon and the coast in particularly. It is a two-year project implemented by the Lebanese Environment Forum in partnership with Lebanon Eco-Movement. (June 2018-June 2020)

- Private sector plays an important role in supporting SGP funded projects by providing funding and/or loans for grantees to implement project activities as well as capacity building for these small organizations at the administrative level (proposal writing, reporting, accounting...etc.) such as the case of Blawza Water Pumping Project from OP5 executed by the grantee “Najmat Lebanon” with the support of Acemco Company.
The private sector coordinates with NGOs and helps them in implementing some activities through their expertise, equipment, and human/ financial resources for example in the project for “Reduction of dioxin emissions from burning tires” by the human rights and information center - LEB/SGP/OP6/Y3/CORE/CC/2018/03) who coordinates with a private company “Al Ola” to receive tires and thus contributing with their cost transportation.
- Local authorities (municipalities) play an important role in financing SGP Lebanon projects at the ground especially Solid Waste management and reforestation projects whereby the municipalities have a major role in sustaining these projects after the project ends.
- International donor agencies played a major role in financially supporting the projects done by the SGP Lebanon. The match from other international donors sometimes exceeded the SGP portion. There is no reason to believe that this might change in OP7.

7. Grantmaker Plus & Partnership Opportunities

8. RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

Table 5. Description of risks identified in OP7

Describe identified risk	Degree of risk (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Risk mitigation measure foreseen
Funds provided by other partners	High	Medium	enhancing partnerships with other donor funded programs and projects
Operational risks Such as Funds not provided by SGP to grantees on time	Medium	High	MOAs are prepared where dates of payments are set within a marge of 1 or 2 months.
Operational risks such as reporting and proper implementation of activities	High	Medium	Continuous follow up with NC to help grantees in different stages of project implementation and reporting
Social and political/security risks	High	High	SGP NSCs that review project proposals take into consideration gender and women empowerment, and youth, to ensure that key concerns and needs of these sectors are fully considered
Climate risks	Medium	medium	To integrate the protected area system into the country's evolving climate change adaptation strategy

The NC, and the National Steering Committee will provide necessary strategic guidance and oversight and for addressing key any programmatic issues as required. The risks will be tracked by NSC members who are tasked to manage the appropriate conflicts with more frequent visits to projects during the implementation of the OP7 CPS and relevant actions and measures could be taken in order to monitor, mitigate, anticipate or prevent if possible, these risks.

9. MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

9.1. Monitoring Approaches at Project and Country Levels

The NSC will review and improve the M&E plan since the stage of call for proposals preparation. Results will be gathered in a regular way and reported continually to the NSC for needed enhancement and continuous support.

Preliminary visits to grantees upon grant approval by the NSC of SGP and prior to the signing of the MoAs. Once the project’s approval is committed, a time table with disbursement schedules timed up with activities and budgets will be included in the MOA.

Progress report (including annexes) will be addressed on the achievements, lessons learned, opportunities, and best practices and it will be the main tool to monitor outcomes with corresponding indicators on project level.

The NC (sometimes NSC members) will conduct field monitoring visits before payments of disbursements to check against the progress reports received from the grantee. The visit could also include local stakeholders and community members for their active role in defining project results.

The grantee will be the primary and responsible person for the Monitoring and Evaluation process. A maximum grant of US \$ 2,000 is recommended within the guidelines of SGP Lebanon to support planning and participation of the community and in determining the actual situation and developing plans to improve it.

Final project evaluation report should include benefits, results achieved, and lessons learned with a final financial statement.

M&E plan includes also impact reviews, even after completion of the project, through the monitoring of evidence-based knowledge production of results more specifically on social inclusion, scaling up, replication, mainstreaming and policy influence...etc.

Grantees will be continuously followed up and supported by SGP Office to strengthen their capacity in the monitoring process, to assess results, implement activities and ensure credible data in reporting.

In some cases, some modifications might be needed; the grantee will request some changes with relevant clarifications and reasons. The NSC review these changes and when approved, the MOA will be amended accordingly.

SGP office including the NSC would facilitate a successful implementation of the assigned projects and will intervene if there is any specific issue or challenge through communication and field visit.

Table 6. 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 OP7 CPS.	At start of OP7
As part of NSC meetings,	Assess effectiveness of	NC, NSC, UNDP Country Office.	Staff time, Country Operating Budget	At least annual review ¹⁴ to ensure OP7 CPS is on track to

¹⁴ 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).

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
ongoing review of project results and analysis. This includes an Annual CPS Review.	projects, country portfolio; learning; adaptive management.	Final deliberations shared/ analyzed with CPMT colleagues.		achieve its results and make timely and evidence-based modifications to CPS as may be needed ¹⁵ .
Annual Monitoring Report Survey ¹⁶	Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF. It serves as the primary tools to record and analytically present results to donors.	NC 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, NSC	SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to undertake previous operational cycles impact review and utilize lessons for both OP7 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	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	UNOPS / External Contractor. NC	Global Operating Budget	Annually for selected countries on risk-assessment basis

¹⁵ Please note OP7 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. This CPS update process should be part of the Annual CPS Review.

¹⁶ 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
	implementation/ management standards and norms.	to provide requisite support.		

9.2. CPS Results Framework

Table 7 Results Framework of SGP OP7 Country Programme Strategy

Alignment with SDGs CPS will be in line with SDGs 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.		
Synergy with UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD):		
OP7 SGP Programme Goal: <i>Promote and support innovative, inclusive and impactful initiatives, and foster multi-stakeholder partnerships at the local level to tackle global environmental issues in priority landscapes and seascapes.</i>		
1 OP7 SGP CPS Strategic Initiatives	2 OP7 CPS Indicators and Targets (Identify relevant targets for the	3 Means of verification
Strategic Initiative 1: Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conservation of important KBAs, protected areas, forest ecosystems, and threatened species. - Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in economic and ecotourism sector with active involvement of communities 	<i>Minimum of 3 projects that support sustainable management of biodiversity resources in important biodiversity areas</i> <i>At least one Marine protected area in Lebanon under improved management effectiveness (GEF core indicator 2.2)</i> <i>At least 3 projects targeting local communities to enhance economic condition and generate incomes.</i> <i>Number of species conserved</i> <i>Number of youths, women and individuals engaged in nature conservation activities.</i>	<i>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports)</i> <i>Baseline assessment comparison variables (use of partner data as appropriate)</i> <i>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</i> <i>Country Programme Review</i>

<p><u>Strategic Initiative 2:</u> Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote community-based biodiversity friendly practices and approaches in agriculture and forestry. - Provide support to supply chains to target biodiversity-based products. - Supporting projects that aim reducing land degradation and deforestation, biodiversity loss... 	<p><i>At least 2 projects supporting linkages and partnerships for sustainable food production practices (such as diversification and sustainable intensification) and supply chain management</i></p> <p><i>At least 3 projects that support farmers group and cooperatives in sustainable agriculture and crop production.</i></p> <p><i>Number of NGOs, COOPs and farmers, engaged in food production and marketing.</i></p>	<p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Project progress and final reports from grantees</p> <p>Field visits</p>
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 3:</u> Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support chemical and waste management plans in joint effort with partners including with government agencies, research institutions, private sector and international agencies. - Support local initiatives from raising awareness on waste management to reduce waste and reuse and sorting ant the source, and composting and recycling and reduce the use of pesticides - Networking with decisions makers and coalitions of NGOS and academics to lobby with the decision makers in the government and the intervention communities and coalitions with donors and other internationals institutions. 	<p><i>Several initiatives targeting harmful chemicals, POPs and mercury containing materials and products.</i></p> <p><i>Number of awareness sessions and bigger outreach for sound chemicals, waste and mercury management.</i></p> <p><i>Number of local to global coalitions and networks established and/or strengthened (under the umbrella of IPEN and Zero Mercury Working Group) through an increased number of national members in IPEN and consultations with other regional members to join efforts.</i></p>	<p>Project progress and final reports from grantees</p> <p>Strategic partnership with IPEN and Mercury GOLD country partners</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database</p> <p>Field visits and grantee consultations</p>
<p><u>Strategic Initiative 4:</u> Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving capacities local authorities to address low-emission development. - Encourage sustainable agricultural land and water management practices - Improve collaboration and partnership of NGOs/CBOs with private sector and governmental institutions 	<p><i>At least two projects/interventions promoting community-driven integrated solutions for low-emission and resilient urban development (including chemical and waste management, energy, transport, watershed protection, ecosystem services and biodiversity).</i></p> <p><i>Number of awareness and education activities in relation to climate change.</i></p>	<p>Project progress and final reports from grantees</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Field visits and grantee consultations</p>

<p>Strategic Initiative 5: CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging community participation in global and national policies and good governance - Promoting CSO-government dialogue platforms on environment (and with the local authorities) 	<p><i>Number of CSO-government-private sector dialogues convened to support community voice and representation in national/ sub-national policy development.</i></p> <p><i>Number of capacity building (events, training etc.) supported.</i></p> <p><i>Number of high-level policy changes attributed to increased community representation through the CSO-government-private sector dialogues.</i></p>	<p>Project progress and final reports from grantees</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p>
<p>Strategic Initiative 6: Enhancing social inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging projects that promote gender equality women's empowerment, youth engagement. - Supporting job opportunities to enhance livelihoods and reduce poverty. 	<p><i>Number of approved project proposals focusing on gender equality/youth issue.</i></p> <p><i>More than the half number of projects awarded contributing to closing gender gaps related to access to and control over natural resources</i></p> <p><i>Number of projects that improve the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance and in managing environmental projects.</i></p>	<p>Project progress and final reports from grantees</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p>
<p>Strategic Initiative 7: Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging raising of awareness, and communication material production. - Sharing and exchanging info on projects and lessons between projects and grantees and between grantees and other bodies/parties. - Platforms created by communities to be supported and shared. - Supporting communities to have an active role in knowledge management 	<p><i>Number of country/cross-country impact reviews undertaken that generate evidence of SGP impact and lessons learnt</i></p> <p><i>Number of projects using citizen-based knowledge platform (digital library of community innovations) to document and curate community-based solutions to environment issues</i></p> <p><i>Number of knowledge fairs and workshops</i></p> <p><i>Number of projects reporting adoption of improved practices or approaches as a result of South- South exchanges between communities, CSOs and other partners across countries.</i></p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database</p> <p>Country Programme Review</p> <p>Field visits and grantee consultations</p>



Therefore, SGP Lebanon will be working on the following GEF-7 Core Indicators:

- Area of landscapes under improved management to benefit biodiversity (hectares) (GEF core indicator 4.1)
- Marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness (hectares) (GEF core indicator 2.2)
- Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (hectares; excluding protected areas) (GEF core indicator 5)
- Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems (hectares) (GEF core indicator 4.3)
- Area of degraded agricultural lands restored (hectares) (GEF core indicator 3.1)
- Solid and liquid Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and POPs containing materials and products removed or disposed (tons; indicator 9.6 which is contextual) (GEF core indicator 9.6)
- Number of direct beneficiaries as co-benefit of SGP intervention (GEF core indicator 11)



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10. National Steering Committee Endorsement

NSC members involved in OP7 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
Jawdat Abou Jawdeh	
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