



SGP Country Programme Strategy for utilization of OP5 grant funds

Country: ALBANIA
Resources to be invested: US\$ 1,600,000¹

1. SGP country programme - summary background

1.1 Albania has entered the SGP programme in 1996. With 176 projects and a total of 1,949,694\$ allocated, in GEF – 5 Albania has been classified as Category IIc. From its inception the programme has increased the diversity of project portfolio as well as the average grant size. Distribution of grants according to focal areas represents a “typical” pattern with the majority of grants falling under the biodiversity (BD). In the more recent years there has been a steady increase in the grants awarded under climate change (CC). During GEF-4 the programme committed to work under geographic focusing. At the end of GEF-4 there was weak geographic focusing although grant distribution over a longer time frame that extends beyond GEF- 4 shows relevant geographic focusing. SGP has been one of the main sources of funding for environmental projects of NGOs in Albania and recently it contends the first place. So far the programme has operated under CORE funds only. The major source of co-financing has come as parallel co-financing from donors on a project basis.

1.2 Based on “Category IIC” ranking, SGP Albania will get 200,000\$ from GEF core funds over the GEF-5 period. The STAR allocation for the SGP from the country share has been 600,000\$ of which 450,000\$ on CC and the remaining 150,000\$ on BD. On the first year, UNDP Albania has allocated to SGP 150,000\$ to be disbursed in environmental projects as part of the One-UN-fund. It is likely that based on good performance, this allocation will be repeated in the rest of GEF-5 for a total of 600,000\$ although there is no such formal commitment by UNDP in doing such.

¹ The level of SGP OP5 resources is an estimated total of the GEF core grant allocation, anticipated STAR resources, as well as other sources of third party co-financing.

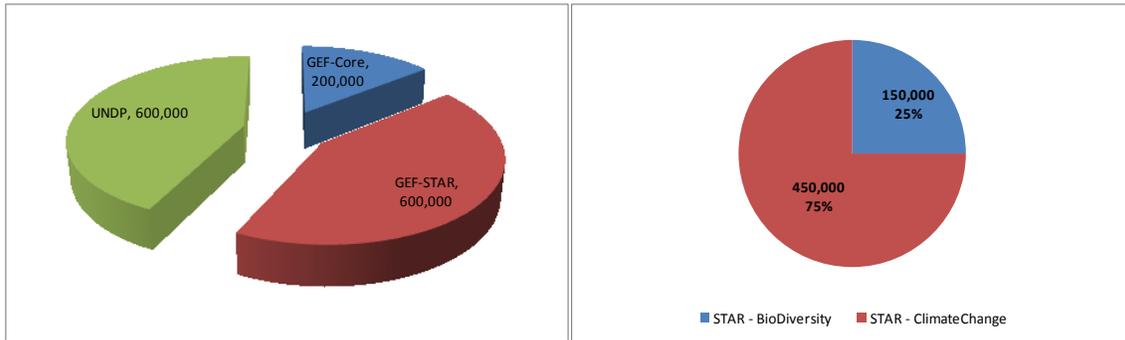


Fig. 1 Left: Expected SGP Albania fund available for OP5 including STAR, Core and UNDP. Right: Distribution of STAR funds allocated to SGP

The above scenario should allow SGP Albania to function during the OP5 with a reduced staff consisting of the NC only and stay within the required Admin – to – Grant ratio of 10%.

One of the requirements of OP5 is the raising at least 1:1 cash and in-kind co-financing. Based on the above there is already 1:1 in cash co-financing for the STAR funds. The remaining 200,000 \$ is expected to be matched at least 1:1 by an agreement with Heifer foundation (www.heifer.org/).

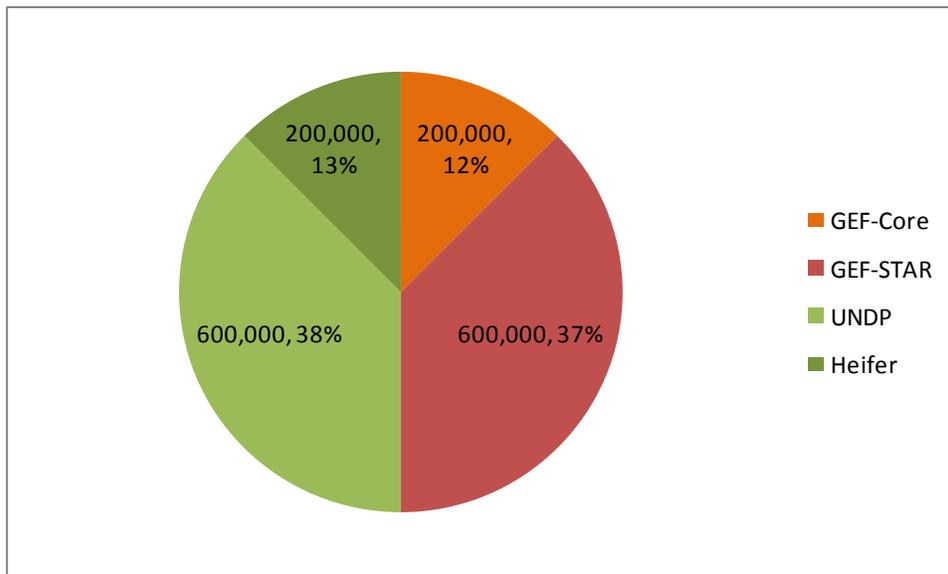


Fig. 2 Expected co-financing situation over the OP5. Chart shows an expected 1:1 in-cash matching for the funds.

Other co-financing it is likely to be brought in by GIZ (<http://www.giz.de/en/home.html>), but at the time of writing of this document we do not have enough information that would allow us to include monetary figures of their contribution in our future prediction.

We do not expect the co-financing ratio of 1:1 to be met on every single project. Instead SGP- Albania will be aiming on an overall co-financing ratio of 1:1 for the entire OP5 period.

2. SGP country programme niche

The term “programme niche” used in this chapter refers to:

1. Eventual thematic and/or geographic focusing of GEF and non-GEF funds

2. Positioning of SGP in relation to national GEF priorities
3. Positioning of SGP in relation to FSP GEF projects

Following the reduction of core funds, the SGP programme thematic niche is strongly pre-determined by the earmarking of the current sources of funding. Up to 70% of STAR funds allocated to SGP Albania are earmarked to climate change hence it is expected that SGP Albania will focus mainly on projects in the area of CC.

The programme will make use of the allowed flexibility of using 20% of STAR funds in focal areas other than the ones specified in the STAR allocation document.

At the present there is a critical need for coupling environmental protection and restoration with economical development so that the locals can perceive and sense these two as an undivided part of the improved quality of living. For the first time, SGP Albania is having access to non-GEF funds. Strategically we expect to use these funds mostly in co-financing non-incremental part/costs of SGP projects.

2.1 A list of the dates of the country ratification of the relevant Rio Conventions and relevant national planning framework documents is listed here under.

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

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	January 1994
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	November 1999
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1995
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	October 2010 (2 nd)
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	----
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	April 2000
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	----
Stockholm Convention (SC)	October 2004 ®
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	December 2006
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	March 2008
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	September 2006
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	----
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	Prespa 2005, Shkodra 2007

Ideally this strategic document would have relied heavily on the GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE). Such document it is not available at this time. Nevertheless, we are allowed to assume that national priorities stated in other available documents as listed in the Table 1 would be at a great extent transposed in the future NPFE. At the same time, as dictated by the thematic focusing, SGP Albania will “fine

tune” its strategy with relevant national strategic priorities related to (1) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and (2) Biodiversity Convention.

In relation to CC, SGP will work in the direction of *creating a favorable environmental for absorption of the investments that promote the transfer of climate friendly technologies through incentive systems and market instruments.*

Based on the past experiences, SGP Albania has focused on solar thermal, solar photovoltaic and recently in use of biomass as carbon-neutral fuel. The steady increase of the electricity tariffs has improved the efficiency of these technologies. There are two target groups that we have identified over the past years that are the most appropriate for the support of SGP. The first group is that of low income communities in remote areas that have a good potential for the development of small scale guest-house tourism. In this group, provision of hot water and lighting by solar technologies improves significantly the hosting conditions and as the result the income generated. The benefits are at the maximum when the location is not connected to the electricity grid as well when the reliability of the grid is low.

The second group consists of small farmers and/or farmer associations that are very interested in cost sharing up to 1:1 in adopting solar technologies. This group represents a good potential for replication and scaling up of the SGP projects due to a greater investing power and market driven mechanisms. Mixed biomass burners used in heating of green houses

SGP Albania perceives a risk that large schemes supplying renewable energy to the national grid can be of little appreciation and benefit to the local communities. SGP will focus in assuring that their full benefits are known and reach communities by exposing and informing communities to the benefits of using such climate friendly technologies. Grants will be made available to small schemes to demonstrate the potential for energy self-sufficiency for local communities.

In relation to BD, SGP will work mostly in the direction of the protection and preservation of farm biodiversity. SGP will continue to use a proven successful practice used during OP4 that involves incentive systems and market instruments to secure sustainable gene pools. Direct involving of farmers and small communities and the economic benefits that can be directly perceived by them makes these projects viable and their results sustainable.

International waters: SGP will focus its funding and activities in sites and issues identified by TDA undertaking actions agreed by SAP aiming at achieving indirect global environmental benefits, i.e. innovating, testing, and demonstrating approaches, modalities, and management processes that, through upscaling, replication, and mainstreaming, will eventually lead to direct global environmental benefits.

Currently Albania has 2 active FSP targeting the transboundary waters of Prespa Lake (Albania + FYROM + Greece) and the Shkodra Lake (Albania + Monte Negro). SGP is expected to fill in the gaps left by full-sized projects by supporting the implementation of SAPs, and use TDA as scientific foundations for actions.

Activities will include:

- Fresh water resource use and management;
- Land-based pollution prevention and reduction;
- Sustainable fisheries management;
- Protection and sustainably use of ecosystem services and goods;

- Protection of forests and reforestation in river basins;
- Creation of alternative livelihoods to reduce pressure on fisheries and other natural resources;
- Capacity building and knowledge sharing among communities on water management

Chemicals: So far, based on the National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention on POPs for Albania, 2006, the most significant contributors for dioxin and furan emissions in Albania are landfill/dumpsite fires and open burning of domestic wastes.

Under the current broader focus of GEF focal area of chemicals, SGP Albania will target also the historical pollution at the oil field of Patoz Marinza. Unregulated extraction and waste water disposal practices have contaminated large areas of soil, making them economically useless as well as dangerous to the health of organisms living in and around them. Removing or treating soil contaminated by petroleum is especially urgent because the hydrocarbons (PAHs) can leach into the underlying groundwater and move into human residential areas.

Activities will include:

- Promotion of environmentally friendly waste management to avoid open burning of waste to avoid unintentional releases of POPs
- Small-scale project that helps marginalized group of Roma to use the plastic waste and generate income
- Improve communities' awareness and understanding of POPs/PAHs toxicity and impact on human and ecological health;
- Develop civil society organizations (CSOs) and communities capacity addressing POPs

Land Degradation: SGP Albania will concentrate on LD1: Maintaining or improving the flow of agro-ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities. Efforts will be made to link the activities with other GEF focal areas to benefit from the synergies with the existing forest investment programmes and partnerships facilities.

Activities will include:

- Sustainable pasture management
- Small scale irrigation schemes

Biodiversity: SGP Albania will not give high priority to the protection of biodiversity within protected areas unless such areas are already involved in GEF - FSPs. SGP agrees with the fact that PA are national hot - spots of biodiversity, but is of the opinion that unless there is an enabling atmosphere such as the ones created by the implementation of FSPs, there is very little likelihood that the SGP funds can have a significant impact. At the present there is little capacity do design and manage properly new protected areas without external financial and technical support. These facts make very difficult for SGP to work with wildlife biodiversity until good management practices are put in place.

The use of SGP country programme as a delivery mechanism for a small grants component of the FSPs, so far, has been a missed opportunity. It is crucial that SGP is asked by FSP and MSP project developers in early project design to participate in crafting the goals, objectives, activities, target outcomes and budget of such projects.

SGP Albania will have to keep key people such as GEF focal point and environmental portfolio managers at UNDP and WB aware of SGP potential.

SGP Albania is acting as a delivery mechanism for non-GEF funds coming from UNDP as part of the One –UN- Fund. It is going to be very important that SGP proves itself as a qualitative and fast track delivery mechanism for this fund. The nature of the fund, coming from several international donors, will represent a unique opportunity for exposing the SGP programme and its performance to the international donor community in Albania.

2.4 The table below details the target OP5 global project objectives described in the GEF CEO endorsement documents.

Table 2. Consistency with national priorities

OP5 project objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1:</u> Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions	CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	SGP will invest in projects that bring together environmental protection and restoration with economical development so that the locals can perceive and sense these two as an undivided part of the improved quality of living
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions	CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	By Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Production Landscapes and Sectors, the SGP interventions will address biodiversity concerns in tourism, forestry and pasture management plans and will support the creation of new employment and revenue-generating activities for local people based on sustainable habitat management.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	UNFCCC National Communication (1&2)	SGP will support ACs to continue replicating the successful Climate Change results (Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Sources – solar thermal and PVI) of past projects
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	UNFCCC National Communication (1&2)	SGP will focus mainly on promoting bicycle use and rent-a-bike service in cities in partnership with local government
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5:</u> Support the conservation and	UNFCCC National Communication (1&2)	SGP does not have plans to get involved in forestry projects aiming at the

enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry		increasing the carbon storage capacity these ecosystems
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	UNFCCC National Communications	SGP will be involved in revenue-generating activities for local people based on sustainable habitat management
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)		N/A
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8:</u> Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives		SGP will support local NGOs to prevent water pollution by reducing chemical fertilizers
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	N/A This focal area is will not have priority during OP5
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10:</u> Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends		SGP will continue to strengthen (absorptive and performing) capacities of the citizens by supporting knowledge management and its exchange, and their participation in policy creation and implementation, both on local and national level. NC and NSC will assist and guide the community in identifying and formulating the proposals
<u>Cross-Cutting Results:</u> Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender		SGP will support the creation of new employment and revenue-generating activities for local people based on sustainable habitat management.

3.1 Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results for SGP (1 page max)

3.1 The term referred by SGP Albania to capacity development is the following: *Capacity is the ability of people, organizations and society as a whole to manage their affairs successfully* (OECD, 2006). In this context, local communities typically targeted by SGP

grants, cannot be seen as closed systems that do not get influenced by broader trends working at national level or wider. The performance of indicators relevant to SGP is expected to correlate with the overall performance of the Albanian society as a whole.

In order to develop the capacity and maximize its sustainability SGP, Albania will focus on the improving of social cohesion of the targeted communities. Due to forced cooperativism in the past, the Albanian society, especially in the rural areas, still shows little cohesion that impairs the results of capacity development efforts and its sustainability.

In order to fight poverty and secure sustainability of results, SGP Albania recognizes the fact that at the present there is a critical need for coupling environmental protection and restoration with economical development so that the locals can perceive and sense these two as an undivided part of the improved quality of living. SGP will maximize the use of GEF funds as well as no-GEF funds in coupling of the above mentioned goals as the best perceived strategy for achieving: 1. Poverty reduction; and 2. building and accumulating capacity within the communities in their activities aiming at achieving global environmental benefits.

Regarding gender, SGP will ensure that potential gender-related aspects are sufficiently taken into consideration in the development and approval of projects. This means ensuring that:

- a) men and women will be able to equally contribute to and benefit from direct outputs of UNDP projects and
- b) the overall project will not contribute to perpetuate inequalities (e.g. increasing unpaid work burden of women or increasing social isolation of men, etc.).

1. OP5 country outcomes, indicators and activities (3 pages max)

Table 3. Results Framework

Biological Diversity (BD)			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1: Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas (ICCAs) through community-based actions			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2: Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Improved sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hectares of protected areas influenced - Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) - Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US \$equivalent) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Official documents for cooperation and relevant responsibilities for management - M&E carried out during and 2 years after project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> App 8 projects CORE funds = 2 STAR funds = 6
Climate Change (CC)			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities

Climate Change (CC)			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Demonstration, development and transfer of low- GHG technologies set and operational at the community level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tonnes of CO₂ avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: solar heater and PV, bicycle use, energy saving - Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) - Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US \$equivalent) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installed PV and thermal power, 'km' of human transport with bicycles, US \$ saved in energy - M&E carried out during and 2 years after project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means 	<p>App 10 projects CORE funds = 2 STAR funds = 8</p>
Increased energy efficient, low-GHG transport at the community level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total value of energy, technology and transport services provided (US \$ equivalent) - Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) - Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US \$equivalent) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local urban traffic management documents in place, 'km' of human transport with bicycles US \$ and CO₂ saved - M&E carried out during and 2 years after project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means 	<p>App 3 projects CORE funds = 0 STAR funds = 3</p>

International Waters (IW)			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8: Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Sustainable transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided - Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) - Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US \$equivalent) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual report on fertilizers and pesticides sold versus pre-project baseline - M&E carried out during and 2 years after project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means 	<p>App 2 projects from STAR funds</p>

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9: Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tonnes of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal. - Tonnes of PAHs prevented from release in the environment. - Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) - Increase in purchasing power 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kilograms of chlorine based plastic waste recycled instead of being open space burned. - Tonnes of PAHs prevented from release in the environment - M&E carried out during and 2 years after 	<p>App 2 projects from STAR funds</p>

	by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US \$equivalent)	project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means	
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Land Degradation (LD)			
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain communities			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Improved community-level actions and practices and reduced negative impacts on agro-, and forest ecosystems and ecosystem services demonstrated to sustain ecosystem functionality	Hectares under improved agricultural, land and water management practices	- GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits - M&E carried out during and 2 years after project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means	App 2 projects from STAR & CORE funds

Capacity Building - Cross Cutting Focal Area			
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 10:</u> Enhance and strengthen capacities of CSOs (particularly community-based organizations and those of indigenous peoples) to engage in consultative processes, apply knowledge management to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
Enhance and strengthen capacities of CBOs and NGOs to engage in consultative processes, apply KM to ensure adequate information flows, implement convention guidelines, and enhance capacities of CBOs and CSOs to M&E environmental impacts and trends	- Number of women-led projects directly supported - Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) - Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US \$equivalent)	- Number of women based NGOs included or leading projects - Number of high level decision / policy makers meetings on certain convention - M&E carried out during and 2 years after project completion - Invoices, bills and other written means	- App 3 projects from CORE funds - Mandatory (sub)-activities in ALL 40 PROJECTS above to address local and national convention guidelines, environmental impacts

2. Monitoring & Evaluation plan (3 pages max)

5.1 SGP projects will be visited at 1 or 2 times at least during their implementation. Progress will be evaluated against indicators and targets identified on the project proposal.

Due to low capacities among grantees and receiving communities, we expect the SGP office and NSC to be actively involved in M&E. Availability in the right time and place/location of capacities among grantees and local communities are a desired situation, but seldom a reality. This is a reality that the programme cannot ignore and it influences on the success of timely delivery of grant funds as well as on the final results of the grants on the ground. Due to the 10% cap on the administrative fund the programme will have to find ways of minimizing the impact this restriction has on resources used in the past for a closer monitoring of the projects by SGP staff and NSC.

We expect grantees to take greater role in the monitoring of project activities during the OP5. In order to do this, grantees will be entitled to report monitoring costs as separate budget line in their project proposal. Since planning is the basis of an M&E system, the

local office will carefully review the project objectives as they are formulated in the project proposal. To the extent that it is practical, the local office will insist that all the project objectives formulated are measurable either quantitative or qualitative. At the same time, SGP will take care that the progress indicators reported by the grantees are coherent with the global SGP database in order to facilitate the uploading of the information.

Table 4. M&E Plan at the Project Level

SGP Individual Project Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Participatory Project Monitoring	Grantees	Duration of project
Baseline Data Collection ²	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage
Two or Three Project Progress and Financial Reports (<i>depending on agreed disbursement schedule</i>)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request
Project Workplans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i> ³)	NC	Before project approval, as appropriate
NC Project Monitoring Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i>)	NC	On average once per year, as appropriate
NC Project Evaluation Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i>)	NC	At end of project, as appropriate
Project Final Report	Grantees	Following completion of project activities
Project Evaluation Report (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i>)	NC, NSC, External party	Following completion of project activities
Prepare project description to be incorporated into global project database	PA, NC	At start of project, and ongoing as appropriate

5.3 Please describe the strategy for how the results of SGP individual projects will be aggregated at the country programme portfolio level. Please describe the target indicators for focal area and multi-focal area outcomes.

Table 5. M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level

² Capacity-development workshops and M&E trainings may be organized in relation to innovative techniques for community monitoring, including new technologies (i.e. GPS-enabled cameras, aerial photos, participatory GIS, etc.); as well as in response to guidelines for “climate proofing” of GEF focal area interventions; REDD+ standards; and/or other specific donor/co-financing requirements.

³ To ensure cost-effectiveness, project level M&E activities, including project site visits, will be conducted on a discretionary basis, based on internally assessed criteria including (but not limited to) project size and complexity, potential and realized risks, and security parameters.

M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	Start of OP5
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	NSC, NC	Once during OP5
NSC Meetings	NSC, NC, UNDP CO	Minimum twice per year
Performance and Results Assessment (PRA) of NC Performance	NC, NSC, UNDP CO, CPMT, UNOPS	Once per year
Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ⁴	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

6 Knowledge Management Plan (1 page max)

6.1. SGP, as part of the monitoring and evaluation of the project, will formalize to the extent possible a clear definition of objectives in the project proposal. Based on project proposal and periodic progress report SGP will oversee the collection of the formal information that was produced during the project. Collection of information regarding lessons learned will not be a onetime event at the end of the project instead it will be a continuous process throughout the project. SGP will also obtain and include informal information from relevant participants in the project such as local stakeholders.

SGP will use grant funds for the production of high quality print editions of the results and lessons learned of the SGP projects. We expect 2-3 such products during the OP5 period. During the first year of OP5, SGP will establish the local website in Albanian providing project data base for OP5 projects only. Based on availability of administrative resources, the local office will gradually transpose OP4 projects into the website.

6.2 SGP can influence policy by promoting through grants its objectives among local people, creating a positive opinion among locals and rely on a functional democracy that will intercept and include the expectations of the locals into the local policies and development plans.

To the greatest extent possible SGP will include in its priorities activities and areas of interest highlighted in the relevant national strategic documents.

SGP will work also promote its results and lessons learned through participation in high level events focusing at policy making at national level.

6.3 SGP will promote its approach among other donors and in special cases it will try to include and replicate its practice into FSPs. Replication and up-scaling will be sought through creation of revolving funds especially in the context of agrarian NGOs.

⁴ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.
NCSA Albania

7 Resource Mobilization Plan

7.1. At this moment the only other source of non-GEF resource is the UNDP. We are looking forward to receive at least the same amount each year. This fund has a multi donor origin and it will provide a good chance for SGP to be visible to the donor community in Albania. The fund allows for 10% administration fee that brings much needed cash into the administrative budget of SGP Albania. If the UNDP funding is replenished in the coming years, the financial sustainability of SGP programme in Albania during OP5 is secured.

7.2. SGP will have a strategic partnership with HEIFER foundation registered as local NGO for parallel co-financing for an amount of at least 200,000\$ in projects of common interest.

Based on past positive experience, SGP is likely to have similar co-financing agreements with GIZ. Details are not available at this moment due to the fact that GIZ is still in the process of clarifying its priority areas of intervention.

The involvement of SGP as a delivery mechanism for FSP is another potential. At the moment Albanian Government has not committed its STAR allocation. Once the implementing agencies are defined, SGP will approach them aiming at the involvement of SGP in the delivery of suitable activities.

ANNEX 1: GEF SGP OP 5 PROJECT LEVEL INDICATORS

The following represent the core set of project level indicators for OP5:

Biodiversity (BD)

- Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced
- Hectares of protected areas influenced
- Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status
- Hectares of production landscapes/seascapes applying sustainable use practices
- Total value of biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced (US dollar equivalent)

Climate Change (CC)

- Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies
 - Renewable energy measures: kW power installed
 - Low carbon transport practices number of bike – hours of rented bikes
 - Energy efficiency measures – none -
 - Other (*please specify*)
- Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies
- Total value of energy, technology and transport services provided (US dollar equivalent)
- Hectares of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices
- Tonnes of CO2 avoided through improved land use and climate proofing practices

Land degradation (LD) & Sustainable Forest Management (SFM)

- Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices
- Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated
- Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices

International Waters (IW)

- Hectares of river/lake basins applying sustainable management practices and contributing to implementation of SAPs
- Hectares of marine/coastal areas or fishing grounds managed sustainably
- Tonnes of land-based pollution avoided

Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)

- Tonnes of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal
- Kilograms of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately
- Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release

Policy Influence, Capacity Development & Innovations (all focal areas)

- Number of community-based environmental monitoring systems demonstrated

please specify (1) Monitoring of vulture population)

- Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks

please specify (0)

- Number of innovations or new technologies developed/applied

please specify (4: Use of olive oil pomace as carbon zero fuel, Use of PV for providing electricity in remote communities, Use of plastic tubing in green houses, Use of reeds as source of zero carbon fuel in Prespa Park)

- Number of local or regional policies influenced (*level of influence 0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4*)

please specify (2-Regional policy on Tourism)

- Number of national policies influenced (*level of influence 0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4*)

please specify (2- National policy on renewable energy)

Livelihoods & Sustainable Development (all projects)

- Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) * *mandatory for all projects*

- Number of days of food shortage period reduced
- Number of increased student days participating in schools
- Number of households who get access to clean drinking water
- Increase in purchasing power by reduced spending, increased income, and/or other means (US dollar equivalent)

Empowerment (all projects)

- Number of NGOs/CBOs formed or registered
- Number of indigenous peoples directly supported
- Number of women-led projects directly supported
- Number of quality standards/labels achieved or innovative financial mechanisms put in place