



SGP Country Programme Strategy for utilization of OP5 grant funds

THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS



**Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme
United Nations Development Programme**



SGP The GEF
Small Grants
Programme



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
List of Acronyms	3
Executive Summary	5
SGP Country Programme: Summary Background	
1. SGP Country Programme Niche	
1.1 Background	7
1.2 Situational Analysis	8
1.2.2 Relevant environmental conventions and treaties.....	9
1.2.3 Institutional and Governance Framework.....	9
1.2.4 Major partnerships and sources of co-financing.....	9
2. SGP Country Programme Strategy Niche	
2.1 Table 1 – List of relevant conventions	11
2.2 Table 2 – OP5 Global Objectives	13
3. Capacity Development, Poverty Reduction and Gender Results for SGP	
3.1 Capacity Development of Civil Society Organisations	16
3.2 Poverty Reduction	16
3.3 Gender and Indigenous Peoples	17
4. OP5 Country Outcomes, Indicators and Activities – Table 3	18
5. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting	
5.1 Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan	22
5.2 Stakeholder Participation	24
5.3 CPS Results: Impacts and Outcomes	25
Table 5	
6. Knowledge Management Plan	
6.1 Utilisation of Lessons Learnt and Good Practices	27
6.2 Policy Impact	27
7. Resource Mobilization Plan	
7.1 Sustainability Strategy	29
7.2 Strategic Partnerships	30
Annex I	
GEF OP5 Project Level Indicators.....	31

Acronyms

BMMRO	Bahamas Marine Mammal Research Organisation
BNT	Bahamas National Trust
BREEF	Bahamas Reef Environmental Educational Foundation
CARICOM	Caribbean Community and Common Market
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CPMT	Central Programme Management Team
CPS	County Programme Strategy
CSME	Caribbean Single Market and Economy
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DEHS	Department of Environmental Health Services
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation
FRIENDS	Friends of the Environment
FSPs	Full Size Projects
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GHG	Green House Gases
GOB	Government of The Bahamas
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IICA	Inter American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
MEA	Multilateral Environment Agreement
MDCs	More Developed Countries
MSPs	Medium Size Projects
NC	National Programme Coordinator
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NCWRI	National Creeks and Wetland Restoration Initiative

NEMAP	National Environmental Management Strategy and Action Plan
NFP	National Focal Point
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPFE	National Portfolio Formulation Exercise
NPFD	National Portfolio Formulation Document
NSC	National Steering Committee
OAS	Organisation of American States
OP	Operational Phase
RM	Resource Mobilisation
SGP	Small Grants Programme
SIDS	Small Islands Developing States
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UN	United Nations
UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Executive Summary

The purpose of the Country Programme Strategy (CPS) is to focus and to achieve impacts in a dynamic environment of competing needs. The CPS is the primary document which articulates the platform for programming in each SGP country. It is a guide to programme and project development, lays the basis for project implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and is a vehicle for developing and maintaining a results oriented programme.

The CPS identifies the project impacts, outcomes and outputs. The CPS also identifies project eligibility criteria and delineates the indicators that will be used in determining the success of the programme and the lessons learned. The CPS in summary is an impact driven and results oriented document, developed through a participatory process for operations of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) in any country for a minimum period of three years.

The CPS must also assist the GEF SGP in meeting its primary objectives of environmental sustainability; poverty alleviation; and community empowerment. The GEF SGP gives grants to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) to work towards these objectives in the five GEF Focal Areas of Biodiversity Conservation; Climate Change Mitigation; Protection of International Waters; Prevention of Land Degradation; and Elimination of Persistent Organic Pollutants. This CPS was based on the review of existing documentation, discussion among National Steering Committee members and subsequent comments from other stakeholders.

The Bahamas is party to numerous Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to which it continues to meet its obligations. In addition, the Government of the Bahamas (GOB) continues to commit to improving the environment through the development, passage and enforcement of relevant legislation and implementation of national policies that result in environmental benefits both nationally and globally. The Bahamas will employ the use of the following national tools to support the utilization of OP5 resources through the implementation of the CPS ensuring that national priorities are achieved in the context of GEF 5 Strategic Priorities and Outcomes.

- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) 1999 – this strategy addresses the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity within The Bahamas
- National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) 2005 – this assessment provides a baseline on the status of the environment at the national level, and through the resulting National Environmental Management and Action Plan (NEMAP) specific objectives to ensure that national priorities to be addressed.
- National Action Programme to Combat (NAP) 2006 Land Degradation – this action programme provides strategic goals and objectives at the national level to mitigate, and where possible reverse land degradation within The Bahamas.

- National Energy Policy – Second Report (NEP) 2010 – this report outlines specific objectives that the GOB has set for short, medium and long term to promote energy conservation, energy efficiency, and low carbon transport within The Bahamas.
- National Portfolio Formulation Exercise Document (NPFED) 2011 – this document provides the strategic objectives and national priorities for the utilization of GEF 5 resources under the STAR.

The CPS will have four cross cutting themes based on the assessed needs and national priorities identified for The Bahamas in OP5. These thematic areas include Capacity Building of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Public Awareness, Outreach and Education, Sustainable Livelihoods and Gender Equality. All projects contribute to achieving the programme goals of environmental sustainability, poverty alleviation and community empowerment and capacity building.

Although the GEF SGP in The Bahamas will seek to fund projects in local communities that meet and address national priorities while addressing one or more of the GEF Focal Areas and Strategic Objectives for OP5, projects should seek to include the aforementioned cross cutting themes. Priority will be given to projects submitted by grass-root community groups, community based women’s groups, and community youth groups.

Resources to be invested: US\$1,250,000.00

SGP Country Programme Niche

1.1 Please describe the length of time the SGP country programme has been active within the global SGP and results achieved (i.e. GEF-5 status as a Category 1, 2a, 2b or 2c country programme).

1.1 Background

The Bahamas Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) Country Programme was established in 2009 and a National Coordinator (NC) was recruited. Subsequently, the National Steering Committee was established by the recruitment of local experts that consent to volunteer to serve as a member of the NSC. Due to the absence of an established United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Office facility within country, the GEF SGP Bahamas is hosted by Sojourner-Douglass College which functions as the National Host Institution (NHI).

Though the GEF SGP is relatively new to the Bahamas, the country has an excellent track record in accessing GEF resources to successfully execute and implement local projects that directly benefit the environment. As such extending these activities to reach a greater part of Civil Society in the form of NGOs and Community groups, was a natural fit through the establishment of the GEF SGP Bahamas Office. The Bahamas has received a GEF 5 status as a category 1 country programme.

Since its establishment the programme has provided support to two grantees conducting projects in the biodiversity thematic area. With both projects currently under execution, the implementation to date speaks to their relevance on achieving global environment benefits starting with the local action.

The Bahamas within OP5 will increase its portfolio and diversity of GEF SGP projects to add to the initial two projects granted earlier this year. As a new country programme the Bahamas has created a solid foundation on which it will build a successful GEF SGP.

Since establishment the GEF SGP office has begun working with local CSOs to bring awareness of the GEF and the GEF SGP to local communities. Further, it has provided presentations to local NGOs on the GEF SGP and the potential for partnering with other agencies to meet common objectives that result in various global environmental benefits.

The GEF SGP participate in the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) for the government of The Bahamas subsequent to which the Bahamas indicated that it would provide some additional support to the GEF SGP from the STAR indicative allocation to be provided by the GEF. Looking into the coming future, it is anticipated that the GEF SGP will have a great and positive impact on the country through its community action projects.

1.2 Situational Analysis

1.2 Please update key baseline considerations for the SGP country programme Strategy, major partnerships, and existing sources of co-financing (including from government, bilateral and other sources).

The Bahamas comprises an archipelago of over 700 low-lying islands with more than 2000 cays, islets and rocks, covering approximately 100,000 mi² (260, 000 km²) that include the area of the country's Exclusive Economic Zone in the Atlantic Ocean. The total land area is approximately 5,380 mi² (13,934 km²). Very little of the total area of The Bahamas is land. About 40% is shallow water bank easily accessible to the population, and the remainder is deep oceanic water and seabed.

The Bahamas is a Small Island Developing State with an economy mostly dependent on tourism and offshore banking. Tourism accounts for more than 50% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and directly or indirectly employs about 40% of the labour force. About 60% of the visitors arrive by sea and the rest by air, contributing about \$1.5 billion to the Bahamian economy annually.

The Constitution of The Bahamas is based on the Westminster Model of a Parliamentary Democracy. Its Parliament is bicameral with the government being lead by the Executive Branch or Cabinet. The Bahamas is well known for its political stability within the region and is considered as one of the oldest organized democracies in the new world dating back more than 281 years.

1.2.1 Environmental Situation

The Bahamas is a large low-lying archipelago within the Atlantic Ocean and is therefore considered extremely vulnerable to changes in the environment. The entire country is effectively a coastal zone as no part of any island is sufficiently distant from the sea as to be totally free of its influence. The majority of the population lives within a short distance from the sea, so the vulnerability of its livelihood to adverse environmental impacts continues to be of great concern for the country.

Natural resources are limited and the Bahamas' size, complexity and ecological isolation have important implications for biodiversity, and sustainable development. In addition, water pollution, land degradation, destruction of wetlands, and introduction of invasive species are all issues of growing concern for the country.

The coastal zone includes many diverse and interconnected ecosystems and communities. If one is degraded, it directly affects other ecosystems to which it is connected. Far ranging species such as seabirds, sea turtles, and marine mammals connect coastal zone ecosystems of The Bahamas with those of other islands in the Caribbean and beyond resulting in environmental benefits to the regional marine ecosystem.

1.2.2 Relevant Environmental Conventions and Treaties

The Bahamas is committed to the conservation and sustainable use of its biological diversity having become party to the most significant Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) (see **table 1**) relating to sustainable development.

During OP5 GEF SGP will continue to provide support that will aid the Government's efforts to achieve the objectives of the MEAs. The GEF SGP will also seek to provide support to projects meeting the National Priorities while simultaneously meeting the objectives set by the GEF under OP5. The GEF SGP initiatives will be undertaken in areas linked to the climate change, land degradation and biodiversity focal areas. The details will be taken from the first and second National Communications to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the draft Energy Policy Report, The National Action Programme of the UNCCD and the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP).

1.2.3 Institutional and Governance Framework

There are environmental laws and regulations in The Bahamas relevant to the implementation of the MEAs. Some of the principle laws and regulations concerning the environmental governance are summarized in a comprehensive listing found in Appendix II. The Government of the Bahamas (GOB) continues to strengthen environmental legislation in all areas having just enacted the following:

- Conservation and Protection of the Physical Landscape of The Bahamas Act 1997
- The Town Planning and Subdivision Act 2010
- The Forestry Act 2010
- The Amendments to the Bahamas National Trust Act 2010

Challenges associated with the implementation and effectiveness of the listed legislation varies significantly. Lack of financial resources acts as a significant constraint to getting more immediate actions and the realization of more tangible results. Delays in review processes have also impeded speedy amendment where necessary in a few cases.

1.2.4 Major Partnerships and Sources of Co-financing

During OP5 the NSC and NC/PA will seek every opportunity to engage discussions with potential partners who may provide sources of co-financing to the operations of the GEF SGP. This would be facilitated by participation in donor roundtable discussions organized by the GEF SGP as appropriate. Further the NSC and NC/PA will make every effort to attend workshops where feasible which may lead to more direct discussions with potential partners.

There are several bi-lateral and multilateral donors in the Caribbean that can provide eligible funding to programmes and projects. These include the United States of America, Peoples Republic of China, and Canada amongst others. A major bi-lateral funder is the European Union whose funding is dedicated to addressing poverty and building

economic resilience. Other multilaterals include CARICOM, U.W.I. Centre for Environment and Development (UWICED), FAO, IICA/OAS; UNDP and the other UN agencies and foundations. Though some of these organisations may not have a permanent presence in The Bahamas, funding may still be made available through their representatives to the Caribbean Community.

In recent years, the primary sources of technical assistance are the IDB, the GEF, European Union, UNEP, OAS, PAHO and CFTC and CDB. In addition, The Bahamas benefits from technical assistance offered by UNESCO, ILO, UNCTAD, IMO, ICAO, and WMO. Throughout the Caribbean in the past the Italian Government looked to develop programmes which focus on youth entrepreneurship and expansion of protected areas. Other multilateral sources are the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) both of which can provide technical assistance and in certain instances grants. In addition the Government of The Bahamas offer grants through its various programmes to assist youths.

The private sector part of which has established local foundations and trusts can be considered for co-financing of projects from CBOs and NGOs. Other established international NGOs like The Nature Conservancy also promote support of local environment programmes of mutual interest to local communities. The Bahamas National Trust continues to attract international partnerships that undertake significant local projects in the area of Biodiversity, many of which are synergistic to the goals of the GEF SGP and therefore some strategic project alliances can be formed with co-funding agreements.

Further, the country has an indicative allocation from the GEF during the Fifth replenishment exercise. Funding allocated to the country through the STAR completed the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise led by the GEF Country Focal Point. The NPFE resulted in USD\$ 250,000.00 additional support to the local SGP that will continue to implement the programme nationwide through relevant project activities at the local community level.

2.1 SGP Country Programme Strategy

2.1 Please list the dates of the country ratification of the relevant Rio Conventions and relevant national planning frameworks:

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)	2 September 1993
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	30 June 1999
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	29 March 1994
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	April 2001 / 2 nd In-Progress
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	Not Available to Date
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	10 November 2000
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	April 2006
Stockholm Convention (SC)	3 October 2005
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	In-Progress
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	Not Available
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	August 2005
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	June 2011
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	*Not Applicable

* Although The Bahamas has not prepared any SAPs, the country has participated in regional projects for protecting shared international waters, such as the Integrated Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) Project and the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project.

2.2 Please describe how the SGP country programme will use OP5 resources to support implementation of national priorities in relation to GEF-5 Strategic Priorities. How will civil society and community-based projects be facilitated and coordinated to help the country achieve its priorities and achieve the objectives of the global conventions?

In determining the programme niche or priorities for The Bahamas CPS, four principle sources were used, *id est*, the extensive literature on the environment and policy, data collected from public consultations with several stakeholders representing various NGOs, CBOs, government and private sector, and discussions with professionals in the various fields as well as the representatives of the National Steering Committee. The review of the National Capacity Self Assessment (NCSA) provided the records of numerous comprehensive public consultations on all major islands within the archipelago. Most recently the country completed its National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) of the GEF. Coincidentally the results of these consultations focused on the strategic thematic focal areas which The Bahamas GEF SGP will focus on during OP5.

It has been noted that The Bahamas, is vulnerable to loss of biodiversity. The islands are also vulnerable to potential sea level rises associated with climate change and the degradation of its lands, in particular wetlands. Through the aforementioned enabling activity NSCA funded by the GEF, the GOB undertook broad-based public consultations in New Providence and on a number of the major Family Islands during January to March 2004. The consultations included some 64 town hall meetings and discussions with students, the general public and Local Island District Councils on each island in the major population areas.¹

The consultations proved invaluable in identifying issues and concerns related to four thematic areas of the GEF as well as to highlighting other key environmental issues and concerns among the public. The consultations also provided an opportunity to solicit opinions on the possible solutions to issues and concerns raised at the meetings.

In a review of the literature, the main environmental problems identified which could qualify for GEF SGP funding were²:

- Threats to biodiversity resulting from habitat damage, overfishing, deforestation, species destruction
- Land degradation, in particular coastal and beach erosion and soil erosion, sand mining
- Destruction of coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs and sea grass beds;
- Destruction of wetlands through filling in, and discharge of contaminants
- Threats to endangered species such as marine turtles, and other wildlife;
- Increasing outputs of CO₂ and CO which are due primarily to energy production and road transportation; also emissions from open burning of garbage in Family Islands
- Waste management impacts and disposal of solid, sewage, chemical, medical
- Pollution of groundwater, and marine waters from land based sources

Given the existing information and national concerns repeatedly raised over the years concerning the environment, the NSC recognised that much broad consultation had taken place and suggested that the current CPS focused on the areas of Biodiversity, Climate Change Mitigation, International Waters Management and Land Degradation. Hence projects in these areas will be given the highest priority for SGP support during the current Operational Phase.

¹ (BEST SENES, August 2005)

² (BEST SENES, August 2005)

2.4 Please fill in the table below detailing the target OP5 global project objectives described in the GEF CEO endorsement documents. SGP country programmes are invited to establish the SGP niche for grant-making in relation to the national priorities as applicable, outlined above, and the OP5 project objectives for the focal areas, as relevant.

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	<u>Bahamas NBSAP</u> Protection or rehabilitation of threatened or degraded ecosystems and of threatened Species. Planning for a system of national parks and protected areas. Create areas for research and monitoring of freshwater resources while duly protecting plant and animal habitats; Recharge of freshwater resource areas	Provide key support to projects focusing on restoration of tidal creeks and wetlands within protected areas. Improve the management of protected area systems in both marine and terrestrial areas.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions	<u>Bahamas NBSAP</u> National Consultative Process was to determine the specifics of which species, ecosystems and locations are targeted for conservation activities and to create an awareness among citizens and residents of The Bahamas of the value of biodiversity to the economy and to societal well-being, and of their individual and collective responsibilities under the CBD;	Implement multifocal area projects that seek to better manage the use of production landscapes and seascapes promoting a sustainable livelihood for rural communities.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	<u>NEPC Report</u> Deploy renewable energy technologies in all communities aiming at having more that 50% energy generated by renewable.	Implement Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency projects in the south-eastern Bahamas rural communities, integrating Public Outreach, Education and Awareness about climate change Mitigation in the rural communities.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	<u>NEPC Report</u> Encouraging efficient use of energy, reduce dependency on imported fossil fuels and develop the use of renewable energy (RE) sources	Increase use and knowledge in communities on the use of more efficient low carbon transport technologies.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5:</u> Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and	<u>Bahamas UNCCD NAP</u> Fostering the development of plans, processes and strategies to avoid, minimize, adapt to or mitigate the negative impacts	Increase sustainable management and use of local mangrove and pine forested areas resulting in an expansion of the

climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	of climate change on The Bahamas' natural environment and economic activities; Fostering the development of appropriate institutional systems and management mechanisms to ensure effective planning for and responses to climate change.	protected area network.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	<u>Bahamas NPDF</u> Preparation of bioregional guidelines, position papers and policy statements with respect to bioregions, major ecosystems, and critical species in The Bahamas and the role of the agriculture, fisheries and forestry sectors in conservation biodiversity;	Strengthening protected areas by supporting eco-tourism and other revenue generating activities for the communities in buffer zones. Promote sustainable harvest of non-timber forest resources, eco-tourism services, and use of public education and awareness to assist communities with a sustainable livelihood.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	<u>Bahamas UNCCD NAP</u> Development of projects and programmes (public awareness programmes, reforestation, land use planning, water resource management, cultivation techniques, innovative technological applications, etc.);	Enhance support to local communities to provide education, awareness and outreach with reference to land use will be considered.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 8:</u> Support transboundary water body management with community-based initiatives	<u>Bahamas NPDF</u> Expansion of the Integrated Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) project to other demonstration sites. Past project involved development of a land and sea use plan for the island with large fresh water reserves and construction of a sewage treatment plant at a degraded harbour.	Initiate creek restoration, public awareness and education activities in the local communities. Implement technologies that will result in improved coastal water quality and ground water quality by the reduction of land based sources of pollution to these water bodies in the rural communities.
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level	<u>Bahamas NIP on POPs</u> Implement the recommendations of the NIP for the Stockholm Convention on POPs once completed in 2012.	Provide public education and awareness, through various media and actions that may prevent the introduction of new POPs into the environment.
<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,	<u>Bahamas FNCC</u> Public education and outreach activities on climate change. Promotion of awareness of the causes and effects of land degradation	Establish partnerships with the established CSO community to build greater capacity in new CSOs and Communities that would act as stakeholders in the implementation of local actions under the various thematic areas of the

and monitor and evaluate environmental impacts and trends		GEF.
<u>Cross-Cutting Results:</u> Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender	Reduction of poverty to less than 1% through the empowerment of local communities through the development of an integrated approach to poverty reduction, increased sustainable livelihoods and mainstreaming gender into sustainable development.	Promote sustainable livelihoods in remote rural areas will be given consideration. Promote gender equality while addressing environmental issues resulting in global environmental benefits.

3.1 Capacity development, poverty reduction and gender results for SGP

3.1 Please describe how the SGP country programme in the preparation and review of projects, and later in their implementation, will produce positive results in the development of capacity of civil society organizations (i.e. national NGOs, CBOs, or indigenous peoples organizations); improving livelihoods and local benefits; as well as addressing gender and indigenous peoples' considerations so as to achieve global environmental benefits.³ Please also provide details how the capacity developed will be retained within different organizations and communities.

3.1.1 Capacity development of Civil Society Organisations

Civil Society Organisations, Local Communities, Non-Government Organisations, Community Based Organizations, Associations and Local Government Councils provides the most effective channels for people to express their concerns and take action to create sustainable societies throughout the archipelago. GEF SGP projects throughout OP5 will seek to strengthen the capacity of CSOs by supporting project activities that will provide direct training opportunities to CSOs.

The Bahamas Government continues to move towards creating a national forum in which businesses and others in the environmental movement can have an ongoing dialogue that would achieve environmental sustainability. This has been shown in the new Planning and Subdivisions Act 2010 which supports public participation in proposed projects that may impact environmentally sensitive areas of the country.

While some technical competence in the GEF focal areas exists within the NGO/CBO sector, there is need for capacity building and training, especially in the areas of gathering of baseline data, reporting, monitoring and evaluation. The SGP will use at least five percent (5%) of its OP5 grant allocation for training CSOs in areas where weaknesses are identified.

3.1.2 Poverty Reduction

The archipelagic nature of The Bahamas makes it difficult to develop community services which address social programmes that serve everyone equally. Uneven distribution of population and transportation— within and between islands—exacerbates the difficulty. In recent times, successive governments have implemented strategies within the capital to assist persons living near or at the poverty line.

Poverty reduction is specifically addressed by the Government through programmes of public assistance and old age pensions and a temporary works programme for the unemployed. The GEF SGP will give priority to supporting projects in the areas of producing sustainable livelihoods, training and education that will result in reduction of

³ During OP5, the SGP capacity development outcome is cross-cutting and relates to interventions corresponding with each of the relevant GEF focal areas.

poverty within the inner-city and family island communities. In particular the GEF SGP will ensure that all projects considered in OP5 give significant focus to education, public awareness and outreach activities.

3.1.3 Gender and Indigenous

There are no indigenous people in The Bahamas. However, there are some marginalised women, the elderly, persons with disabilities and young people in some areas. The government continues to look for innovative ways to eliminate discrimination against persons with disabilities and other marginalised peoples.

From the current data one can deduce that many women are still marginalized, suffering from a higher rate of unemployment, and have a higher tendency to be poor than men as many women struggle as single parent households. The country is still in the process of ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child so it should be noted that in this area there is still much to be achieved. The Department of Social Services is understaffed and underfunded and the level of crime/violence against women and children remains a concern.

The GEF SGP will give priority to support for projects for women and other marginalised persons within the communities. The SGP will increase the awareness of opportunities for women and youth lead project to receive support and funding for activities that promote women and gender. More specifically projects that address sustainable livelihoods, community empowerment, education, and capacity building for such marginalised persons will be given the highest priority.

4.0 OP5 country outcomes, indicators and activities

Table 3. Results Framework

<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 1:</u> Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas (ICCAs) through community-based actions			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP BD Outcome 1.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts on biodiversity resources in and around protected areas, and indigenous and community conservation areas	Number and hectares of ICCAs and other PAs positively influenced through SGP support	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>2-3 projects developed operational phase.</i>
SGP BD Outcome 1.2: Benefits generated at the community level from conservation of biodiversity in and around protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas	Number of community members with improved livelihoods related to benefits from protected areas		
SGP BD Outcome 1.3: Increased recognition and integration of indigenous and community conservation areas in national protected area systems	Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status		
SGP BD Outcome 1.4: Increased understanding and awareness at the community-level of the importance and value of biodiversity	Number and hectares of significant ecosystems with maintained or improved conservation status		
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP BD Outcome 2.1: Improved community-level sustainable use of	Hectares of production landscapes / seascapes under	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>2-3 projects developed per operational phase.</i>

<p>biodiversity in production landscapes / seascapes through community-based initiatives, frameworks and market mechanisms, including recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations</p> <p>SGP BD Outcome 2.2: Increased understanding and awareness of sustainable use of biodiversity</p>	<p>improved sustainable use practices, leading, where possible, to certification through recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations (supported by SGP)</p> <p>Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status</p> <p>Number and hectares of significant ecosystems with maintained or improved conservation status</p>		
<p>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 3: Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level</p>			
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Means of verification</p>	<p>Activities</p>
<p>SGP CC Outcome 3.1: Innovative low-GHG technologies deployed and successfully demonstrated at the community level</p>	<p>Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low- GHG technologies</p>	<p><i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i></p>	<p><i>2-3 projects developed per operational phase.</i></p>
<p>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 4: Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level</p>			
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>Indicators</p>	<p>Means of verification</p>	<p>Activities</p>
<p>SGP CC Outcome 4.1: Low-GHG transport options demonstrated at the community level</p> <p>SGP CC Outcome 4.2: Increased investment in community-level energy</p>	<p>Number of communities where community-level low-GHG transport options have been demonstrated</p>	<p><i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i></p>	<p><i>1 project developed per operational phase.</i></p>

efficient, low-GHG transport systems			
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 5: Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CC Outcome 5.1: Sustainable land use, land use change, and forestry management and climate proofing practices adopted at the community level for forest and non-forest land-use types	Hectares under improved sustainable land management and climate proofing practices	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>2-3 projects developed per operational phase.</i>
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 6: Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem ⁴ and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP LD Outcome 6.1: 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 (by management practice)	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>2-3 projects developed per operational phase.</i>
SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 7: Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP LD Outcome 7.1: Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts in land use frontiers of agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems (rural/urban,	Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>1-2 projects developed per operational phase.</i>

⁴ Agro-ecosystems including grasslands and rangelands

agriculture/forest)			
<u>SGP OP5 Immediate Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level			
Outcomes	Indicators	Means of verification	Activities
SGP CH Outcome 9.1: Improved community-level initiatives and actions to prevent, reduce and phase out POPs, harmful chemicals and other pollutants, manage contaminated sites in an environmentally sound manner, and mitigate environmental contamination	Tons of POPs waste avoided from burning emissions. Tons of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately Number of countries where SGP is contributing to the implementation of national plans and policies to address POPs, harmful chemicals and other pollutants	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>1-2 projects developed per operational phase.</i>
<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
SGP CD Outcome 10.1: Active participation of NSCs and NFGs in GEF focal areas at the national level SGP CD Outcome 10.2: Improved information flows to/from CBOs and CSOs in SGP countries regarding good practices and lessons learned, and application of such practices SGP CD Outcome 10.3: Increased public awareness and education at the community-level regarding global environmental issues	Number of SGP representatives participating in national GEF coordination meetings Quantity and quality of SGP knowledge base, and use of knowledge base; Quantity and quality of contributions to knowledge fairs, conferences, publications and research. Percentage of projects that include gender analysis or incorporate gender relevant elements in	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>2-3 projects developed per operational phase.</i>

SGP CD Outcome 10.4: Capacity of CBOs and CSOs strengthened to support implementation of global conventions	a positive manner Percentage of projects with appropriate gender balance of participants and target beneficiaries		
<u>SGP OP5 Cross-Cutting Results: Livelihoods and Gender</u>			
SGP's Results Framework for OP5, as approved by the SGP Steering Committee, does not include specific objectives on livelihoods and gender. Generally, SGP seeks to improve livelihoods through increasing local benefits generated from environmental resources, and mainstream gender considerations in community-based environmental initiatives.	Percentage of projects that include socioeconomic analysis Number of community members with sustained livelihood improvement resulting from SGP support	<i>Progress reports and site visit reports coupled with the GEF SGP Database</i>	<i>1-2 projects developed per operational phase.</i>

5.1 Monitoring & Evaluation plan

5.1 Please describe the Monitoring & Evaluation plan for the portfolio of individual SGP projects working with civil society organizations (i.e. national NGOs, CBOs, or indigenous peoples' organizations). Details on the frequency of monitoring visits and evaluations of projects should be provided.

The activities, responsible parties and timeframe are listed in table 4 below. These will form the basis for monitoring the portfolio of individual SGP projects. At the project level, a pre-site visit will be conducted to gather baseline data. Project impacts will be measured against the base-line data. Each project will select from a list of indicators linked to the expected results of the country programme, so that both the individual and cumulative contribution of projects can be ascertained.

During implementation of projects, site visits will be undertaken at least twice during project implementation (providing there are no instances that may require visiting outside of the scheduled visits). Site visits will be conducted by the NC preferably halfway into

the project and then a final visit close to the end of the project activities. The NC will be accompanied, at times, by the Programme Assistant and or members of the NSC. Participatory evaluations of projects are undertaken and include the SGP Secretariat, NSC members, stakeholders and grantees after completion.

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

Programme Level

At this level, an annual work plan is drafted and submitted to the NSC for approval. The work plan gives details of activities that will be undertaken in order to achieve the expected results of the CPS. Timelines are set for achievement of the targets and milestones. Quarterly programme updates/reports will also be provided to the National Steering Committee (NSC) members, UNOPS and CPMT. This report will provide both a synthesis of project activities as well as progress made in achievement of the broader national goals and those set by the GEF SGP project document.

Where delays are foreseen for any reason, revised timelines will be proposed by the NC and approved by the NSC. Lessons learnt and best practices will be documented and shared with Government and CSOs. These and other SGP initiatives will be used to guide future initiatives. As customary, a photo library of both video and still images will be kept of all projects activities from pre-inception to conclusion.

Further, regular data updating of the SGP database is done on all projects to give the most current details. This is especially useful for global tracking of progress and for grant allocation determination by CPMT. Moreover, a report on the overall country achievements is presented as part of the Annual Performance and Assessment Process undertaken by the country team and CPMT each year. This information informs CPMT about the progress being achieved in the results based management chain and can help to identify programming weaknesses to enable early corrective action.

Reporting Plan

Quarterly financial reports (4-in-1 table) of grant disbursements, administrative and other programme expenditure will be prepared and sent to UNOPS. An annual country programme report is submitted to CPMT/UNOPS each year. These reports will incorporate information extracted from reports submitted by grantees. They will also provide details on monitoring visits, global indicators uploaded to the SGP Global database, lessons learnt and co-financing partnerships.

At the end of the operational phase, an overall report will be presented to CPMT on the country programme. It will include details on the changing political, environmental and socio-economic national circumstances. It will also indicate how the programme

responded to shifts in thematic and geographic focus to meet local and national demands. (see table 5 below).

Please see tables 4 and 5 below.

5.2 Stakeholder Participation

5.2 Please describe how local stakeholders will participate in setting project objectives and outputs; how they will participate in monitoring with what kind of method and periodicity; and how progress will be documented and reported.

GEF SGP Bahamas has as a key priority during OP5 the capacity building within CSOs and other stakeholders participating or partnering with the GEF SGP. Training in the area of project proposal writing and grant writing is badly needed in local CSOs and therefore will be a focus activity during OP5. As a result, at least one project development session is conducted annually. This gives all prospective grantees firsthand knowledge of how to develop good project proposals utilizing the GEF SGP Project Proposal Template and Guidelines.

All grantees engaging in the development of projects will be asked to present written objectives and a scheduled work plan indicating how and when each output will be achieved and the objectives met. These will be closely monitored and evaluated (using standard templates already developed by CPMT under OP5) by the National Coordinator and members of the NSC during field visits.

During project implementation, interim reports will be submitted by the grantees to the SGP country team and these will be carefully reviewed. A final participatory evaluation of all projects will be undertaken by the SGP Secretariat, NSC members and other key stakeholders. Moreover, interim results will be shared with all grantees so that both good management practices and technical expertise can be shared for the benefit of all.

Please see tables 4 and 5 below.

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 ⁵	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage

⁵ 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.

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> ⁶)	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 CPS Results: Impacts and Outcomes

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.

For GEF SGP Bahamas the CPS expected results for impacts and outcomes will vary on an annual basis as the project portfolio changes. As such, there will be need for constant revision, at least on a semi-annual basis to ensure that all results are captured and reported accurately.

Table 5. M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	Once per year
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

⁶ 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.

Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ⁷	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

6.1 Knowledge Management Plan

6.1. Please describe your plans for capturing, sharing, and disseminating the lessons learned and good practices identified through the country portfolio of SGP projects with civil society, government, and other relevant stakeholders (i.e. process for generating knowledge; type of knowledge products; knowledge fairs; peer to peer exchanges; use of demonstration sites; knowledge centres etc.).

Through the reporting mechanisms in place, all grantees are required to report on lessons learnt and best practices used during the project implementation. Once this information is received, the GEF SGP office will upload these lessons to the SGP Database which will make the information available via the internet to the general public. Further, the information will be used to create materials that can be shared during public awareness and outreach fairs and talks given to stakeholders by the GEF SGP team.

The information will also be disseminated via the local NGO network and Civil Society Networks. Posters, brochures, T-Shirts, flyers, bumper stickers will be produced to assist in sharing the information on projects. Further, an official website dedicated to the local SGP Programme will be developed with links to the global website, allowing for greater access to the information via the World Wide Web.

During OP5 partnerships will be formed with the media and community weekly news papers and bulletins to highlight the work of the SGP and to influence adoption of best practice and patterns of community development. Annual training and sensitization sessions will be held to share lessons learnt and to inform pertinent stakeholders of the targeted goals of the programme and of opportunities that exist for partnerships.

6.2 SGP country programme Policy Impact

6.2 Please describe how the SGP country programme will use this knowledge to inform and influence policy at the local, regional and national levels (i.e. identify key policy processes and relevant networks).

SGP Bahamas has been a key partner with Government agencies involved in environmental management in The Bahamas. These include the Ministry of the Environment, the BEST Commission, the Department of Marine Resources, and the Department of Environmental Health Services.

⁷ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.

The SGP Secretariat has participated in policy and project reviews and related activities of environmental governance at the national level. During the past year the secretariat was invited to several workshops, meetings and project reviews hosted by Government departments to present the work of SGP, impart lessons learnt and submit reports through the GEF Operational Focal Point that aid decision-making at the national level.

Through the Bahamas GEF Operational and Political Focal Points, the SGP provides timely and relevant information on programme implementation and on-going project activities to the Minister of the Environment for further use and dissemination to the relevant policy makers. In addition, the SGP will work closely with the local government councils within all the remote communities to ensure that such policy makers are kept informed about the activities of the GEF SGP in their local communities.

NSC members play a key role in assisting the local GEF SGP in making the government aware of the lessons learned by accomplishments community based projects. NSC members also participate in other forums by which information would be channelled to the government through recommendations. An example of this is that NSC members participate on the National Committee on Biodiversity, National Committee on Climate Change, National Committee on Energy Policy, and the National Committee on Wetlands. All of these National Committees on the various environmental thematic areas functions to assist the government policy makers by providing examples of best practices, demonstration projects, and lessons learned in such areas that help to shape the development of environmental policy. Policy on Energy, Biodiversity, and Climate Change are directly impacted by the input of the NSC members and their experiences from the GEF SGP.

You know the situation better, but perhaps it's worthwhile to mention the role of NSC in bringing lessons learned to the government and translating them into policies.

6.3 Please describe how the SGP country programme will use this knowledge to replicate and up-scale good practices and lessons learned from SGP projects.

This knowledge will be shared with the NSC and made available to local CSOs who may have opportunities to implement projects on a larger scale using those that have seen success through the demonstration projects facilitated by the GEF SGP. Since project completed can be replicated, once the programme matures and the portfolio increases, the GEF SGP will seek to find instances in communities where the project can be up-scale and replicated.

7.1 Resource Mobilization Plan

7.1. Please describe the resource mobilization plan to enhance the sustainability of the SGP country programme with reference to: (i) the diversification of funding sources to achieve greater impact (i.e. non-GEF resources that help address sustainable development concerns); and (ii) the cost recovery policy to co-finance a share of the SGP country programme management costs.

Resource mobilization (RM) is indispensable for the continued survival of the SGP programme in any country and is a basic requirement to help SGP in meeting the 1:1 co-financing ratio required by the GEF Council. The main objectives of the CPS resource mobilisation strategy during OP5 shall be to:

- cover the cost of project activities not fully funded by the SGP as in the case of baseline studies and alternative livelihoods activities;
- cover part of the administrative and operational costs associated with managing the programme;
- develop projects at scales which will ensure their viability and sustainability; and
- meet the project and programme co-financing ratios as required by the GEF regulations

7.1.1 Diversification of funding sources to achieve greater impact

The SGP will target local partners like the OAS and TNC who may be undertaking synergistic programmes in the thematic areas of the GEF in order to build partnerships in projects that can be co-financed by these entities. Such resource mobilisation will result in Cash and In-kind contributions and take place at several levels targeting the GOB and its various Ministries, the Private Sector, Foundations and Endowments, Bi-lateral and Multilateral donors and where possible wealthy persons living in the country. The new GEF STAR under GEF 5 is also a major avenue through which the GOB has allocated funds to local projects in the Biodiversity, Land Degradation and Climate Change Focal Areas.

The GEF SGP will continue to seek public and private sector partnerships that will provide the added support necessary to maintain a sustainable level of co-financing for the programme. Locally, there is also the opportunity to approach international businesses operating in The Bahamas for some additional support to the activities of the programme. As the SGP Bahamas develops during OP5 and expands its portfolio with successful projects, and greater programme awareness, resource mobilization will be a key activity. It is anticipated that members of the NSC will support the NC and PA in all resource mobilization related activities.

7.2 Strategic Partnerships

7.2. Please outline possibilities to develop strategic partnerships (identifying their objectives and possible synergies with SGP) with the following potential partners: (i) national government agencies; (ii) multilateral agencies or financial institutions (such as the World Bank, regional development banks, and/or other international organizations); (iii) bilateral agencies; (iv) non-governmental organizations and foundations; and (v) private sector.

The NSC and NC/PA will seek to engage partners at the following levels through direct discussion and participation in national meetings and workshops. Further, at each level and as far as possible the GEF SGP will facilitate roundtable discussions with potential partners at the following levels. The NC/PA will seek to make informative presentations at each Bilateral Agency represented in The Bahamas during OP5.

7.2.1 Bilateral Agencies

There are several bi-lateral and multilateral donors in the Caribbean that can provide eligible funding to programmes and projects. These include the United States of America, Peoples Republic of China, and Canada amongst others. A major bi-lateral funder is the European Union whose funding is dedicated to addressing poverty and building economic resilience. Other multilaterals include CARICOM, U.W.I. Centre for Environment and Development (UWICED), FAO, IICA/OAS; UNDP and the other UN agencies and foundations. Though some of these organisations may not have a permanent presence in The Bahamas, funding may still be made available through their representatives to the Caribbean Community.

7.2.2 Multilateral Agencies and Financial Institutions

In recent years, the primary sources of technical assistance are the IDB, the GEF, European Union, UNEP, OAS, PAHO and CFTC and CDB. In addition, The Bahamas benefits from technical assistance offered by UNESCO, ILO, UNCTAD, IMO, ICAO, and WMO. Throughout the Caribbean in the past the Italian Government looked to develop programmes which focus on youth entrepreneurship and expansion of protected areas. Other multilateral sources are the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) both of which can provide technical assistance and in certain instances grants. In addition the Government of The Bahamas offer grants through its various programmes to assist youths. The private sector part of which has established local foundations and trusts can be considered for co-financing of projects from CBOs and NGOs.

7.2.3 Non-Governmental Organizations and Foundations

Other established international NGOs like The Nature Conservancy also promote support of local environment programmes of mutual interest to local communities. The Bahamas National Trust continues to attract international partnerships that undertake significant local projects in the area of Biodiversity, many of which are synergistic to the goals of the GEF SGP and therefore some strategic project alliances can be formed with co-

funding agreements.

7.2.4 National Government Agencies

Further, the country has been considered for an indicative allocation from the GEF during the fifth replenishment exercise. Funding allocated to the country through the STAR will undergo the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise led by the GEF Country Focal Point. It is anticipated that this exercise will result in additional support to the local SGP that will continue to implement the programme nationwide through relevant project activities at the local community level.

7.2.5 Private Sector

The Bahamas has a large tourism sector that enjoys the benefits of the use of the environment. Through the Bahamas Hotel Association (BHA), support will be sort for projects of mutual benefit that will enhance the sector while protecting the global environment. In addition, there are other private sector grants made available from the Lyford Cay Foundation and Cable Bahamas Cable Cares foundations that grantees can apply as co-financing to the SGP grants. During OP5 various entities in the local private sector will be approached to form strategic partnerships with the GEF SGP Bahamas.

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 (*please specify*)
 - Low carbon transport practices (*please specify*)
 - Energy efficiency measures (*please specify*)
 - 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 example per entry)

- Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks

please specify (1 example per entry)

- Number of innovations or new technologies developed/applied

please specify (1 example per entry)

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

please specify (1 example per entry)

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

please specify (1 example per entry)

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