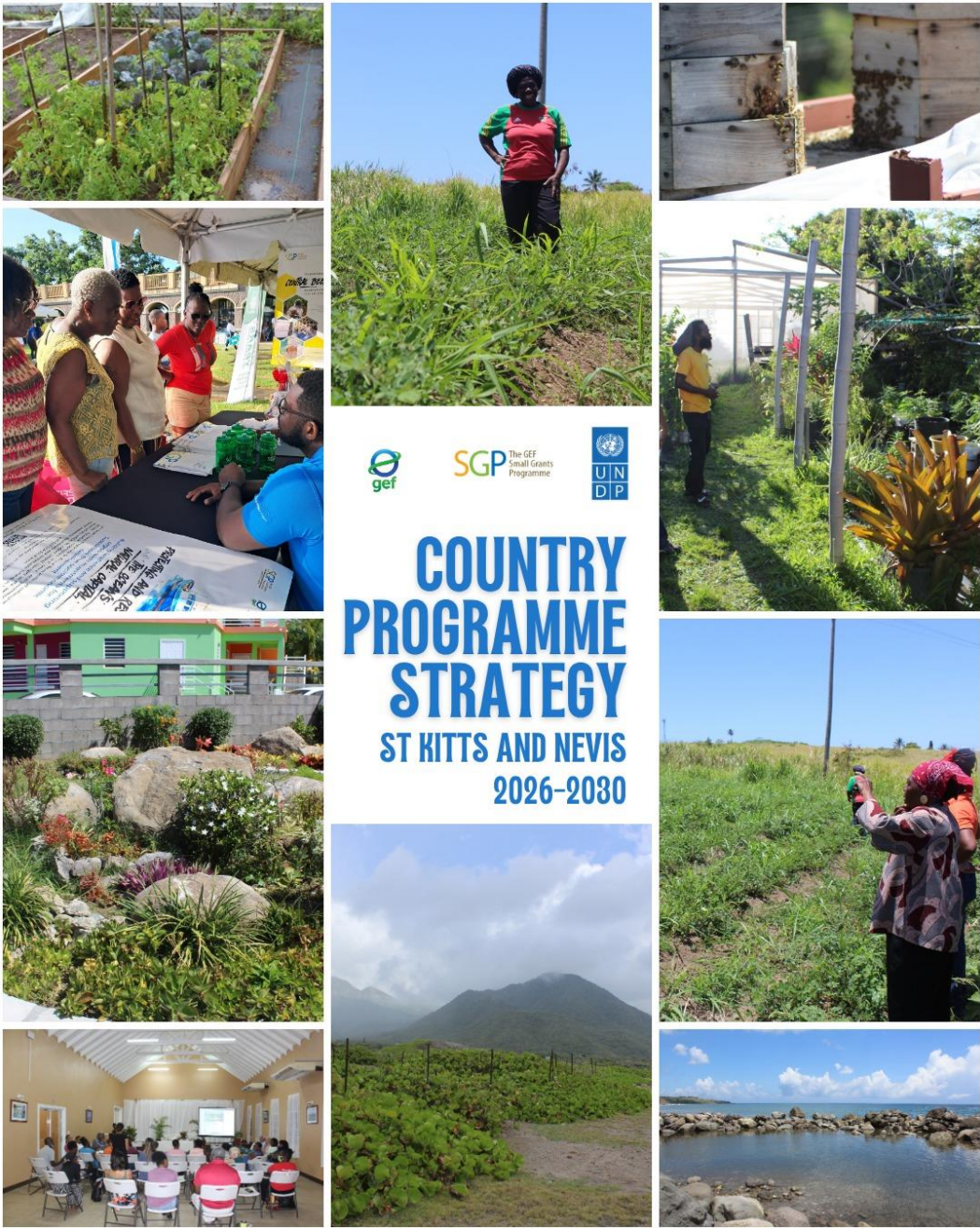




OPERATIONAL PHASE 8 (OP8)





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

Total SGP Grants to date since Country Programme start date (2014)	USD 2.78 million
OP8 GEF Core Funds	USD 694,867
OP8 GEF STAR Funds	USD 288,000

1. INTRODUCTION

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

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

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

2. COUNTRY PROGRAMME SUMMARY: Key results and achievements

The Small Grants Programme (SGP) started in St. Kitts and Nevis in 1994 and became a stand-alone country programme in 2013, with a lifetime distribution of 82 projects focused on biodiversity, climate change

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



mitigation and community-based adaptation, international waters, land degradation, sustainable forest management, sustainable fishing and farming for food security, chemicals, multifocal areas, and capacity development. The total disbursement of funds over the period of operation is USD2.85 million with additional in-kind contributions of USD3.34 million. Co-financing partners included GEF STAR, AusAid, and allocation of funds from the IWECO and PROCARIBE+ projects.

There is an excellent rate of 75% project completion; 17% are still under execution, and 8% terminated before completion. The implemented projects address the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as well as current issues impacting national development of St. Kitts-Nevis. They comprehensively encompass dimensions of landscapes and seascapes with social, economic, and environmental objectives.

3. COUNTRY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

3.1 Alignment with national priorities

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

Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
St Kitts and Nevis Agricultural Transformation and Growth Strategy 2022-2031	2022
Aquaculture Development Strategy (2013-2023)	2013
Cartegena Convention (SPAW)	1983
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	2004
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	1994
GEF-7 National Dialogues	2019
Minamata Convention (MC) on Mercury	2017
Montreal Protocol	1992
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	2018
National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBSAP)	2014
National Implementation Plan (NIP) 2014-2020	2014
Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for Paris Accord	2016
National Development Planning Framework of St. Kitts and Nevis (2023-2037)	2024
Pesticide and Toxic Chemicals Control Act	1999
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) (2013-2016)	2012
St. Christopher and Nevis Social Protection Bill	2018
Solid Waste Management Corporation Act	2001
St. George's Declaration of Principles on Environmental Sustainability	2000
The Saint Kitts and Nevis Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (GEPAP) 2022-2027	2022
St. Kitts and Nevis National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy	2018
St. Kitts and Nevis National Climate Change Policy (Revised)	2025
St. Kitts and Nevis Sustainable Island State Agenda	2024
St. Kitts and Nevis 6 th National Report to the CBD	2019
St. Kitts Nevis Tourism Sector Plan	2006
Stockholm Convention (SC) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	2004



Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international waterbodies (IW) ²	2015
Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Control) Regulations No. 06	2004
UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	2015
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	1993
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	2007
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	2015
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	2018
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	2001, 2016

3.2 Gaps and Opportunities

The SGP Saint Kitts and Nevis Country Programme has made notable progress in advancing community-based environmental and livelihood initiatives. To date, 82 projects have been successfully implemented, contributing to food security, biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation, and sustainable livelihoods. These achievements demonstrate that civil society and community-based organizations (CSOs and CBOs) are capable partners in advancing national priorities when provided with appropriate grants, training, and technical support.

Despite these successes, several gaps remain that limit the potential for scaling up and sustaining impact. Market linkages for agriculture and fisheries are underdeveloped, access to water and energy remains uneven, and invasive species continue to threaten local production systems. Biodiversity conservation is constrained by limited enforcement capacity, and community perspectives are not always fully reflected in national policy development. Many CSOs also face challenges in sustaining or expanding their initiatives due to gaps in technical skills, access to technology, and long-term resource mobilization.

The OP8 Country Programme Strategy aligns closely with the National Development Planning Framework (2023–2037) and the Sustainable Island State Agenda (SISA, 2024), which together articulate the country's long-term vision for resilience, sustainability, and inclusive growth. The SISA identifies persistent gaps in food and water security, waste management, and access to clean energy, areas that closely align with SGP's mission and comparative advantage. This alignment presents opportunities for the SGP to mobilize CSOs and CBOs to address these gaps and demonstrate community-based models that can be scaled up within the national framework.

The revised National Climate Change Policy further reinforces these opportunities by emphasizing ecosystem-based adaptation, water security, sustainable land management, and climate-resilient development planning as key components of long-term national resilience. These priorities are closely aligned with SGP's community-based approach and provide additional opportunities for local action that

² Please also identify existing IW regional projects and the regional SAPs adopted by countries sharing international waterbodies so as to align SGP local interventions. Please check this website to find some of the SAPs: <http://iwlearn.net/publications/SAP>



contributes to national climate objectives. Emerging regional and international discussions on Loss and Damage readiness further underscore the importance of building community resilience through ecosystem-based adaptation and locally driven risk reduction measures, which are reflected across the CPS strategic priorities.

The Agriculture Transformation Growth and Strategy (2022–2031) similarly identifies integrated water management, climate-resilient agricultural systems, and sustainable resource use as critical priorities for strengthening national food security and rural livelihoods.

The passage of the **National Conservation and Environmental Management Act (NCEMA, 2025)** further strengthens this enabling environment. Replacing the 1987 National Conservation and Environment Protection Act, the NCEMA establishes a modern, science-based framework for environmental governance, biodiversity protection, pollution control, and sustainable development. It directly supports the implementation of the Sustainable Island State Agenda and the National Development Planning Framework by integrating climate resilience, ecosystem management, and intergenerational equity into national planning. The SGP Country Programme aligns closely with the NCEMA’s objectives by supporting community-based initiatives that conserve biodiversity, protect coastal and terrestrial ecosystems, promote sustainable livelihoods, and build local capacity for environmental stewardship. Through these synergies, the SGP will continue to serve as an implementing partner in operationalizing the NCEMA at the community level, translating national policy into tangible local action.

Complementary policies such as the Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (2022–2027) provide additional opportunities for deepening community engagement. Building on its achievements, the SGP can continue to empower CSOs and CBOs to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions in food security, biodiversity management, and climate resilience. Strengthening knowledge-sharing platforms, enhancing capacity development, and aligning community action with international commitments will ensure that local initiatives remain integral to national and global environmental objectives.

Feedback from grantees, collected through surveys and in-person consultations, confirms the continued value of SGP’s support while identifying several operational challenges. Respondents highlighted delays in fund disbursements, rigid phased releases, and increased implementation costs linked to inflation. They also noted the administrative burden of paperwork, limited networking opportunities, and insufficient visibility of SGP achievements at the national level. Participants further emphasized the importance of stronger inclusion of persons with disabilities and improved coordination with government agencies to address environmental and livelihood challenges.

These insights highlight practical opportunities for improvement under OP8. Streamlining administrative procedures, enhancing communication and outreach, and increasing flexibility in financial management can make the programme more responsive and accessible, particularly for smaller organizations. Expanding peer-to-peer learning and capacity development initiatives will strengthen local leadership and facilitate replication of successful models. Ensuring inclusive participation of women, youth, and marginalized groups



will enhance equity in environmental and social outcomes. Finally, deepening policy engagement and institutional partnerships will allow successful community-based models to inform and scale through the NCEMA, the Sustainable Island State Agenda, and national development frameworks.

The CPS will remain responsive to emerging national policy processes, including the ongoing review of the National Climate Change Policy, development of the Climate Change Bill, and implementation of future NDC and NAP priorities and mandates.

The CPS will also seek complementarity with emerging GEF-9 programming and investments as these are developed, ensuring alignment with relevant pillars and priorities of the Sustainable Island State Agenda (SISA) and maximizing synergies between community-led initiatives and national sustainable development programmes.

The forthcoming GEF Independent Evaluation Office Country Evaluation may also provide valuable lessons and recommendations that can inform adaptive management and strategic learning during OP8 implementation.

In summary, the SGP is well positioned to consolidate its achievements and expand its impact under OP8. By addressing operational gaps, enhancing inclusivity, and aligning community innovation with national and global priorities, the programme can continue to serve as a catalyst for sustainable, community-driven transformation across the Federation.

3.3 OP8 strategic priorities of the SGP Country Programme

In alignment with the global OP8 Strategic Initiatives, the SGP Country Programme for St. Kitts and Nevis will pursue seven priority areas, reflecting the small size of the islands and the decision to treat the entire nation and its waters as one integrated landscape/seascape. The programme will support community-based action on ecosystems, sustainable livelihoods, food security, renewable energy, waste management, urban solutions, and policy dialogue, while mainstreaming gender equality, youth engagement, knowledge management, and monitoring and evaluation. Implementation will build on national priorities and create synergies with government, UNDP and GEF-supported projects, and regional partners such as the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) and other regional platforms.



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

SGP OP8 Strategic Initiatives - Global	SGP Country Programme's OP8 Priorities	SGP Country Programme's complementarity with GEF, UNDP, and other projects and programmes
<i>Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species</i> 1) Improve the effectiveness of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation and management through equitable governance systems by recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. 2) Improve community-led biodiversity friendly practices and approaches, including promoting blue economy approaches (e.g. agriculture, fisheries, forestry, tourism, infrastructure, etc.). 3) Enhance community led actions for protection of threatened species.	Strengthen community stewardship of the St. Kitts and Nevis Marine Management Area (SKNMMA) and other critical coastal and marine zones. Support restoration and protection of mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass beds, consistent with national blue economy priorities. Enhance biodiversity-friendly livelihoods (fisheries, agro-ecology, eco-tourism) while protecting threatened species such as sea turtles and coral reef fish.	Ministry of Environment and Department of Marine Resources (aligned with NDPF priorities on biodiversity and marine resource management). GEF biodiversity and land degradation projects in-country. Regional financing through the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF). Regional blue economy initiatives.
<i>Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security</i> 1) Increase efficiency and effectiveness of overall food production and value chain, including in vulnerable ecosystems (mountains, island ecosystems, etc.). 2) Increase diversification and livelihood improvement. 3) Remove deforestation from supply chain and expand restoration of degraded lands.	Support sustainable agricultural practices, including agro-ecology, organic production, and soil conservation, to enhance productivity while safeguarding ecosystems. Strengthen sustainable fisheries management and community-based aquaculture to improve food security and reduce reliance on imports. Promote value-added agro-processing and diversification of livelihoods, with a focus on women and youth participation. Support community initiatives that strengthen food safety, quality	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Marine Resources (aligned with NDPF actions on food security and sustainable production). FAO and UNDP-supported food security programmes. National school feeding and community farming initiatives. Private sector partners in agro-processing and agri-tourism.



	assurance, value addition, and local food systems while promoting sustainable production practices. Encourage reforestation and land restoration initiatives in degraded areas to improve ecosystem services and resilience.	
Low-carbon energy access co-benefits Support implementation of Paris Agreement and the NDCs 1) Promote renewable and energy efficient technologies providing socio-economic benefits and improving livelihoods. 2) Promote off-grid energy service needs in rural and urban areas.	Promote community-based renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions (e.g., solar, biogas) to reduce energy costs and support local livelihoods. Support small-scale off-grid and hybrid energy systems to improve energy access for vulnerable households and community facilities. Encourage energy-smart practices in agriculture, fisheries, and agro-processing to enhance productivity and reduce emissions. Monitor emerging Just Transition initiatives to identify opportunities that support equitable low-carbon development while safeguarding livelihoods and promoting social inclusion.	Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities (aligned with SKN's Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement). UNDP/GEF projects on renewable energy and climate resilience. Private sector renewable energy providers and regional clean energy initiatives.
Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management 1) Reduce and promote alternative to mercury use in artisanal and small-scale gold mining. 2) Promote plastics/solid waste management and circular economy. 3) Reduce/remove use of chemicals in agriculture. 4) Enhance local to global coalitions on chemicals, waste and mercury management.	Support community-led initiatives to reduce plastic use, strengthen recycling, and promote circular economy approaches. Promote safe alternatives and reduced use of chemicals in agriculture, aligned with sustainable food and health priorities. Enhance community awareness and partnerships for waste reduction and improved solid waste management.	Ministry of Health and Environment; Solid Waste Management Corporation. Alignment with NDPF goals on waste management and pollution reduction. Complementarity with UNDP/GEF chemicals and waste projects. Partnerships with local NGOs, schools, and private sector waste reduction initiatives.
Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions	Support community-led projects that promote resilient, low-emission development in towns and villages, with	Ministry of Sustainable Development, Ministry of Energy, and Solid Waste Management Corporation.



1) Improve capacities to promote community-driven, socially inclusive and integrated solutions to address low-emission and resilient urban development. 2) Demonstrate innovative socially inclusive urban solutions/ approaches (including waste and chemical management, energy, transport, watershed protection, ecosystem services and biodiversity). 3) Implement public-private partnership approach for low carbon energy access for marginalized urban communities.	attention to drainage, waste, and energy use. Pilot innovative, socially inclusive approaches to urban waste management, renewable energy, and green infrastructure. Strengthen partnerships with government and private sector to scale sustainable solutions in urban and peri-urban communities.	Alignment with NDPF priorities on resilient infrastructure, waste reduction, and energy efficiency. Potential partnerships with the private sector for renewable energy and green infrastructure in urban areas.
Community-Based Adaptation (CBA Phase 3) (only applicable to CBA Phase 3 participating countries) (with DFAT funding) 1) Reduce vulnerability and improve the adaptive capacity of communities. 2) Provide countries with concrete ground-level experience on Climate Change Adaptation and CBA. 3) Provide clear policy lessons and mainstream CBA within national processes.		
Global ICCA Support Initiative (ICCA GSI Phase 2) (only applicable to ICCA GSI Phase 2 participating countries) (with BMUV IKI funding) 1) Work Package 1: Provide national level ICCA small grants. 2) Work Package 2: Provide legal and governance assistance to ICCAs.		



3) Work Package 3: Network exchange and knowledge management for ICCAs.		
<i>Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS Phase 4) (only applicable to COMDEKS Phase 4 participating countries)</i> (with Ministry of Environment, Japan and Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund funding) 1) Sustainable landscape and seascape management and restoration. 2) Knowledge Management for capacity building, replication, and up-scaling.		
<i>CSO-government-private sector policy and planning dialogue platforms</i> 1) Promote/enhance community voices and participation in global and national policy, strategy development related to global environment and sustainable development issues.	Facilitate inclusive policy dialogue among CSOs, government, and private sector on biodiversity, climate change, and sustainable development. Strengthen the role of CSOs, youth, and women in shaping and monitoring environmental and climate-related strategies. Support platforms for communities to share experiences and influence national and regional decision-making processes.	National Council for Sustainable Development; Ministry of Sustainable Development. Alignment with NDPF goals for participatory and inclusive governance. Synergies with regional policy forums on climate change and biodiversity. Potential support from UNDP and other partners for multi-stakeholder platforms.
<i>Enhancing social inclusion</i> 1) Promote inclusive targeted initiatives. 2) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects. (e.g. women/girls, Indigenous Peoples, youth, and persons with disabilities).	<i>Enhancing social inclusion</i> 1) Promote targeted inclusive initiatives. 2) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects. Promote inclusive, targeted initiatives that empower women, youth, and persons with disabilities in	Department of Gender Affairs and Department of Youth Empowerment. Alignment with the National Gender Equality Action Plan (NGEAP) and the NDPF Implementation Plan. Synergies with regional youth and gender platforms; opportunities to partner with CSOs and CBOs working on social inclusion.



	environmental management and sustainable livelihoods. Mainstream gender equality and social inclusion across all SGP projects, from design to monitoring. Strengthen women- and youth-led organizations to take leadership roles in biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods.	
Knowledge Management (KM) 1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities. 2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs. 3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices.	Knowledge Management 1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities. 2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs. 3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices. Capture and document knowledge and lessons from community projects to inform future initiatives and national policy. Strengthen the capacity of CSOs, CBOs, and local leaders to generate, manage, and share knowledge effectively. Facilitate South-South and regional exchanges to promote replication of best practices in biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and climate resilience. Use digital platforms, community radio, and local events to make knowledge accessible to wider audiences, particularly youth and women.	Alignment with the NDPF Implementation Plan's focus on institutional strengthening and knowledge-sharing. Partnerships with regional knowledge platforms, UNDP, and CBF learning networks. Collaboration with local media, schools, and colleges to promote community-driven solutions.
Results Management, Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) 1) Administer new M&E strategy in Country	Results Management, Monitoring & Evaluation Administer new M&E strategy in Country Programme and project design,	Ministry of Sustainable Development and National Statistics Systems.



Programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms.	implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms. Apply the SGP M&E strategy at project and programme levels, using participatory approaches with CSOs, women, and youth. Track progress through Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs), site visits, and NSC reviews. Align results monitoring with NDPF reporting and GEF-8 core indicators to ensure national and global relevance.	NSC oversight and knowledge-sharing with UNDP, GEF, and other relevant platforms.
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4. OP8 PRIORITY LANDSCAPES/SEASCAPES & STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

4.1 Grantmaking within the priority landscape/seascapes

a) Process for Selecting Priority Landscapes and Seascapes

The selection of landscapes and seascapes for OP8 in St. Kitts and Nevis was informed by the principles of the Green Economy and Blue Economy, which emphasize sustainable use of natural resources for economic development, employment, and improved livelihoods while safeguarding ecosystem health. In a small island context such as St. Kitts and Nevis, terrestrial and marine systems are closely connected since activities in upland areas quickly affect lowland and coastal ecosystems.

The selection process therefore recognized the ecological interlinkages between forests, farmlands, towns, villages, aquifers, and coastal and marine ecosystems. It also considered the importance of conserving biodiversity, reducing pollution from surface and groundwater flows, addressing invasive species, and safeguarding vulnerable communities. Equally important was the presence of community actors with the interest and capacity to participate in project implementation, ensuring that conservation and development outcomes are locally owned and sustained.

b) Selected Landscape/Seascape for OP8

Given the relatively small geographic size of the Federation, the entire twin-island state of St. Kitts and Nevis, along with its surrounding marine environment, has been designated as the priority landscape/seascape for OP8. This integrated approach ensures that all terrestrial and coastal ecosystems and the communities that depend on them are addressed within the Country Programme Strategy.

The designation of the entire twin-island state as the OP8 landscape/seascape is consistent with the SISA's call for integrated, island-wide approaches to sustainability. This alignment ensures that community projects supported by SGP contribute not only to local benefits but also to the broader implementation of national priorities under the SISA pillars.



4.2 CSO-government-private sector dialogue platforms

In OP8, the SGP Country Programme in St. Kitts and Nevis will support practical dialogue spaces that connect CSOs, CBOs, government agencies, and where relevant, private sector actors. The focus will be on strengthening communication, ensuring that lessons from community projects are shared, and creating modest opportunities for grassroots voices to inform policies and programmes. Rather than establishing large new structures, the programme will work through existing mechanisms such as the CSO networks, government consultations, and thematic discussions on priority issues.

Planned activities include small dialogue meetings with CSOs and CBOs to capture local perspectives, and the preparation of short policy notes or case studies drawn from project experiences. These will be shared with ministries and other partners to inform processes such as the review of the NBSAP, the NDC update, and implementation of the SISA. Where possible, the programme will link with regional mechanisms such as the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) to amplify successful practices.

Expected outcomes will include opportunities for CSOs and CBOs to engage in national consultations; local project lessons documented and shared in short briefs; and contributions to at least one or two policy processes during OP8.

4.3 Promoting social inclusion, including gender equality and women's empowerment

St. Kitts and Nevis has made significant strides in advancing gender equality, as reflected in the **National Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (GEPAP) 2022–2027**, which sets a vision for a society where women and men contribute equally to social, political, economic, and environmental development. However, disparities remain in terms of access to resources, decision-making, and resilience to climate and environmental challenges.

Women play a critical role in agriculture, fisheries, small-scale entrepreneurship, and community-based conservation, yet they often face limited access to land tenure, financing, and technical training. Men continue to dominate leadership in natural resource governance structures, while women are underrepresented in local decision-making bodies. At the same time, youth and women-headed households are disproportionately vulnerable to climate-related risks such as storms, droughts, and flooding.

In OP8, the SGP Country Programme will continue to ensure that women, youth, persons with disabilities, and other marginalized groups play a meaningful role in environmental and livelihood projects. Social inclusion will be treated as both a stand-alone focus area and a cross-cutting principle, integrated into project design, monitoring, and evaluation. The CPS will align with national frameworks such as the Gender Equality Policy and Action Plan (GEPAP) and the Sustainable Island State Agenda (SISA), which emphasize equity,



empowerment, and participation. Community-based projects will be encouraged to provide leadership opportunities for women and youth, expand livelihood options for vulnerable households, and create safe spaces for participation in decision-making.

4.4 Knowledge Management

In OP8, the SGP Country Programme will prioritize documenting and sharing lessons from community-led projects in ways that are practical and accessible. Grantee experiences will be captured through case studies, photos, short videos, and project briefs. These knowledge products will be validated by the NSC and where necessary, the UNDP Multi-Country Office (UNDP MCO), to ensure accuracy and quality before dissemination. Demonstration sites supported by SGP will also serve as living classrooms, where schools, community groups, and policymakers can observe and replicate successful practices. In addition, peer-to-peer learning exchanges among CBOs and occasional participation in regional South-South exchanges will help spread innovations and strengthen networks of practice.

Knowledge-sharing efforts will include promoting practical tools and methodologies relevant to sustainable development, including the SISA-Based Circular Economy Toolkit developed in partnership with TUHH/Helmut Schmidt University, where appropriate for community learning and replication.

Annual synthesis reports will be prepared to consolidate lessons learned, identify opportunities for replication, and support policy dialogue at the national level.

5.0 COMMUNICATION PLAN

The Communication Plan will ensure that SGP knowledge and results reach the right audiences at the local, national, and regional levels. Outreach will focus on simple, clear messages highlighting community achievements and their contribution to national and global environmental goals. Communication channels will include short policy briefs, social media posts, and community radio, tailored to different stakeholders. Coordination with the UNDP Country Office and the Sustainable Island State Agenda (SISA) communications mechanisms will help integrate SGP lessons into national dialogues and public awareness campaigns. Dialogue meetings and stakeholder consultations will also be used to present results, ensuring that community perspectives are visible in policy processes. This targeted communication approach will complement KM activities by expanding their reach and influence, while avoiding duplication. Communication and visibility efforts will be monitored through indicators such as media coverage, social media engagement, participation in outreach events, and dissemination of knowledge products to assess the reach and effectiveness of programme communications.



6.0 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN

The SGP Country Programme will adopt a strategic approach to resource mobilization in OP8 to strengthen the impact and sustainability of its grant-making. Co-financing will remain a requirement at the project level, with contributions in cash or in-kind from grantees, local communities, and technical partners. To date, SGP has leveraged over USD 2.9 million in co-financing, and this model will continue in OP8.

At the landscape and country levels, opportunities will be pursued through collaboration with relevant regional and national initiatives and financing mechanisms, including the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF), the SISA, and future large scale GEF-supported projects, to ensure complementarity and resource pooling.

Building on the NDPF's institutional arrangements, the SGP will engage with the Department of Environment, Ministry of Agriculture, and other agencies through inter-ministerial working groups to align projects with national priorities and mobilize technical and financial support. The programme will also explore partnerships with the private sector, particularly in tourism, renewable energy, agro-processing, and eco-enterprise development, where the NDPF identifies growth opportunities. Public-private partnerships will be promoted to support innovation, knowledge transfer, and small-scale green businesses.

The programme will also monitor the development of the national Public-Private Partnership Framework as a potential mechanism for strengthening future collaboration between communities, government, and private sector partners.

At the donor level, the SGP will seek to support NGOS to attract financing from bilateral and multilateral donors, philanthropic foundations, and climate financing facilities, including opportunities under the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Facility. The programme will also monitor opportunities emerging through the OECS Climate Finance Action Platform (CFAP), recognizing its potential role as a regional mechanism for climate and environmental finance mobilization and coordination

The SGP can also serve as a delivery mechanism for components of larger national or regional programmes, offering a grassroots channel for implementation. Together, these measures will ensure that the programme not only mobilizes resources but also fosters long-term partnerships that embed community-led action within the broader Sustainable Island State Agenda and the NDPF.

7.0 PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The success of the SGP Country Programme in St. Kitts and Nevis under OP8 will rely on strong partnerships. At the national level, the programme will work with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Action and Natural Resources, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Marine Resources, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Creative Economy, the Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, and the Departments of Gender Affairs and Youth Empowerment. These agencies will help ensure that the programme is aligned with national policies



and priorities. The programme will also explore opportunities for coordination with the Department of Constituency Empowerment as community development initiatives evolve.

In addition, SGP will coordinate, where appropriate, with complementary grant-making and community financing initiatives operating in Saint Kitts and Nevis to promote synergies, facilitate knowledge exchange, and reduce duplication of effort among community-level projects.

Civil society organizations, community-based groups, and past and current SGP grantees will play a central role in piloting and scaling innovative, community-led solutions.

The private sector will be important partners, especially eco-tourism operators, agro-processors, renewable energy providers, and fisher cooperatives. They can contribute as co-financing partners and help drive sustainable livelihoods.

At the regional and international level, the programme will build partnerships with the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) and align with national and regional GEF-funded large-scale projects. Through these partnerships, SGP will deepen community engagement, mobilize resources, facilitate knowledge sharing, strengthen technical support, and help scale up successful practices. Together, they will strengthen the sustainability and long-term impact of the programme.

8.0 RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN

All SGP projects in St. Kitts and Nevis under OP8 will be subject to environmental and social safeguard screening, consistent with the UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES). Where applicable, projects will conduct an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (EISA) to identify risks and propose mitigation measures. Safeguard considerations will include protecting biodiversity and ecosystems, promoting gender equality and social inclusion, and ensuring that vulnerable groups benefit equitably from project outcomes. Grantees will monitor key implementation risks and mitigation measures throughout project execution and report significant changes through regular progress reporting.

Risks will be reviewed annually during the CPS review and AMR preparation, adjusted as needed, and monitored by the NSC through meetings and site visits.

Table 3. Description of risks identified in OP8



Describe identified risk	Degree of risk (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Risk mitigation measure foreseen
Climate-related risks	High	High	Prioritize climate-resilient and nature-based solutions. Support disaster preparedness and early warning systems. Build flexibility into project timelines.
Environmental and social risks	Medium	Medium	Apply safeguard screening consistent with UNDP SES. Use EISA where relevant. Require gender and inclusion criteria in project proposals. Monitor participation data.
Institutional/political risks	Medium	Medium	Align CPS with the National Development Plan and Gender Equality Action Plan. Maintain strong partnerships with ministries, CSOs, and UNDP. Use NSC as a multi-stakeholder platform.
Natural disaster risks	High	Medium	Integrate disaster risk reduction into project design. Promote resilient construction and ecosystem-based adaptation. Establish contingency measures where possible.
Financial/resource mobilization risks	Medium	Medium	Strengthen partnerships with the Caribbean Biodiversity Fund (CBF) and SISA; encourage in-kind contributions from communities and the private sector; and, where possible, position SGP as a delivery mechanism for larger GEF and UNDP-supported initiatives.
Capacity/technical risks	Medium	Medium	Provide training on project design, financial management, and monitoring; encourage partnerships with technical agencies and academic institutions; and use NSC guidance to strengthen capacity.



9.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

9.1 Monitoring approaches at project and country levels

Monitoring and evaluation in OP8 will be fully aligned with the SGP Country Programme M&E Guidelines (2019) and will operate at both the project and country levels. At the project level, each grantee will select a minimum of three indicators from the SGP indicator roster, including at least one GEF-8 global environmental benefit (GEB) indicator and two socio-economic benefit indicators. These will be agreed at the project commitment stage and tracked through mid-term and final progress reports. All projects will also report on social inclusion by disaggregating beneficiaries by gender, youth, and other relevant groups. Each project will allocate 4–6% of its budget to M&E activities, including data collection, participatory monitoring, and preparation of reports.

To ensure data quality, the National Coordinator (NC) and Programme Assistant (PA) will provide technical support to grantees and maintain all project information in the global SGP database. Site visits will be conducted at least once per project cycle to validate reported results, verify financial accountability, and provide hands-on capacity building. Where feasible, joint monitoring missions will be organized with government agencies, foundations, or academic institutions to ensure cost-effectiveness and broaden technical inputs.

At the country level, the SGP team will aggregate project results to track progress against CPS targets. The National Steering Committee (NSC) will review results during its regular meetings, and findings will be compiled in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) submitted to CPMT each June–July. Final project reports will document project achievements, lessons learned, sustainability considerations, and opportunities for replication and scaling.

An Annual CPS Review will be convened to assess portfolio performance, identify challenges, and make adaptive adjustments. A Country Portfolio Review will be undertaken once during OP8 to capture evidence of impact, replication, and policy influence.

Participatory monitoring will be emphasized throughout. Communities and vulnerable groups will be involved in defining project outcomes, validating results, and sharing feedback during site visits and review meetings. Ethical principles, including free, prior, and informed consent, will guide all monitoring processes.

In addition, an Impact Review is planned for OP8 to document broader adoption of SGP approaches, assess contributions to national priorities such as the NDPF, NBSAP, and NDCs, and highlight good practices in areas such as social inclusion, gender equality, and climate resilience.



Table 4. M&E Plan at the Country Programme level

M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
Country Programme Strategy elaboration	Framework for action including identification of community projects	NC, NSC, country stakeholders, grantees	A SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be used to update OP8 CPS	At start of OP8
As part of NSC meetings, ongoing review of project results and analysis. This includes an Annual CPS Review	Assess effectiveness of projects, country portfolio; learning; adaptive management	NC, NSC, UNDP Country Office. Final deliberations shared/ analyzed with CPMT colleagues	Staff time, Country Operating Budget	At least one annual CPS review to ensure OP8 CPS is on track to achieve its results and make timely and evidence-based modifications to CPS as may be needed ³
Annual Monitoring Report Survey ⁴	Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF. It serves as the primary tools to record and analytically present results to donors	NC in close collaboration with NSC. CPMT provides technical guidance support and receives final country submission for further action	Staff time	Once per year in June- July
Country Portfolio Review	Methodological results capture of the portfolio at a	NC, NSC	SGP planning grant to engage consultants may be	Once per operational phase

³ It is recommended that the Annual CPS review is done close to AMR submissions for both processes to benefit from each other (suggested timeframe is May- July). Note that OP8 CPS will be regarded as a dynamic document and can be updated by the SGP country team and NSC on a periodic basis to reflect any necessary adjustments to ensure maximum impact.

⁴ Timely and quality country level submissions to Annual Monitoring Process are mandatory. As a Global Programme, it enables aggregated reporting by CPMT to GEF, UNDP and other stakeholders.



M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
	given point to note impact level change as well as broader adoption. The goal is to support reporting to stakeholders, learning, and support to strategic development/ implementation of CPS		used to undertake previous operational cycles impact review and utilize lessons for both OP8 CPS development and its implementation Global technical M&E support can be expected	
Project Monitoring Visits	Verify implementation progress, achievement of results, compliance with safeguards, financial accountability, and provide technical support and capacity-building to grantees.	NC, NSC members (where feasible)	Staff time, Country Operating Budget	At least once per project cycle and as needed based on project risk and performance.
SGP Database	Ensure recording of all Project and Country Programme inputs in SGP database	NC	Staff time	Throughout the operational phase. Ensure quality assurance and completion of data prior to annual monitoring cycle (May- June of every year)
Audit	Ensure compliance with project implementation/ management	External/independent auditors. NC to provide requisite support.	Global Operating Budget	Annually for selected countries on risk-assessment basis



M&E Activity	Purpose	Responsible Parties	Budget Source	Timing
	standards and norms			



9.2 CPS Results Framework

Table 5: Results Framework of SGP OP8 Country Programme Strategy

Alignment with SDGs SDG 2: Zero Hunger SDG 5: Gender Equality SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production SDG 13: Climate Action SDG 14: Life Below Water SDG 15: Life on Land		
Synergy with UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD): 1. Strengthening resilience to climate change and natural hazards through inclusive and sustainable development. 2. Restoring ecosystems and conserving biodiversity to support sustainable livelihoods. 3. Improving governance systems and community participation to advance sustainable development.		
OP8 SGP Programme Goal: Engage local CSOs/CBOs in landscape-seascape approaches across the world, providing them access to knowledge and information, capacitating them through learning-by-doing, skills development, and delivering technical and grant assistance for interventions that enhance wellbeing and socioeconomic conditions and generate global environmental benefits.		
1 OP8 SGP CPS Strategic Initiatives	2 CPS Indicators and Targets	3 Means of Verification
<u>Strategic Initiative 1:</u> Community-based conservation of threatened ecosystems and species Strengthen community stewardship of the St. Kitts and Nevis Marine Management Area (SKNMMA) and other critical coastal and marine zones. Support restoration and protection of mangroves, coral reefs, and seagrass beds,	5 hectares of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (GEF core indicator 4.1 and 4.3) 20 hectares of marine protected areas created or under improved management (GEF core indicator 2) mangrove, seagrass, reef	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Baseline assessment comparison variables (use of conceptual models and partner data as appropriate)



consistent with national blue economy priorities. Enhance biodiversity-friendly livelihoods (fisheries, agro-ecology, eco-tourism) while protecting threatened species such as sea turtles and coral reef fish.	10 - 20 hectares of marine habitat under improved practices (GEF core indicator 5) 3 - 5 projects community conservation projects supported	Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review SKNMMA monitoring records
<u>Strategic Initiative 2:</u> Sustainable agriculture and fisheries, and food security Support sustainable agricultural practices, including agro-ecology, organic production, and soil conservation, to enhance productivity while safeguarding ecosystems. Strengthen sustainable fisheries management and community-based aquaculture to improve food security and reduce reliance on imports. Promote value-added agro-processing and diversification of livelihoods, with a focus on women and youth participation. Encourage reforestation and land restoration initiatives in degraded areas to improve ecosystem services and resilience.	3 - 5 hectares of land and ecosystems under restoration (GEF core indicator 3.1) 4 - 6 partnerships to advance sustainable agriculture and fisheries and/or food security (such as diversification, sustainable intensification, sustainable fisheries management, agroecological farming practices, climate-smart agriculture, certification programmes, local sourcing initiatives, waste reduction and circular economy, etc.)	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review Socio-ecological resilience indicators for production landscapes (SEPLs) Ministry of Agriculture/fisheries data



<u>Strategic Initiative 3:</u> Low-carbon energy access co-benefits Promote community-based renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions (e.g., solar, biogas) to reduce energy costs and support local livelihoods. Support small-scale off-grid and hybrid energy systems to improve energy access for vulnerable households and community facilities. Encourage energy-smart practices in agriculture, fisheries, and agro-processing to enhance productivity and reduce emissions.	50 - 100 tons of greenhouse gas emissions mitigated/avoided (GEF core indicator 6) 10 - 15 kW increase in installed renewable energy capacity from community-scale systems (e.g., biomass, micro-hydro, solar, etc.) 1 - 2 locally adapted solutions promoting low-carbon technologies (such as new/modified biogas technology, locally developed energy-efficient stoves, innovative uses of solar/wind energy, etc.)	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Strategy Review (NSC inputs)
<u>Strategic Initiative 4:</u> Local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management Support community-led initiatives to reduce plastic use, strengthen recycling, and promote circular economy approaches.	2 - 3 policy recommendations or advocacy initiatives related to land-based pollution because of SGP projects 1 - 2 local to global coalitions for chemicals and waste management strengthened and/or established	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams (as part of midterm and final Progress reports) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database



Promote safe alternatives and reduced use of chemicals in agriculture, aligned with sustainable food and health priorities. Enhance community awareness and partnerships for waste reduction and improved solid waste management.		Country Programme Review Solid Waste Management records
<u>Strategic Initiative 5:</u> Catalyzing sustainable urban solutions Support community-led projects that promote resilient, low-emission development in towns and villages, with attention to drainage, waste, and energy use. Pilot innovative, socially inclusive approaches to urban waste management, renewable energy, and green infrastructure. Strengthen partnerships with government and private sector to scale sustainable solutions in urban and peri-urban communities.	2 - 4 community-based sustainable solutions in urban landscapes (e.g., transport, biodiversity conservation, chemical and waste management, energy efficiency, watershed protection, etc.) 2 - 3 projects with targeted urban solutions focus	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review



<u>Strategic Initiative 6:</u> CSO-Government-Private Sector Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms Facilitate inclusive policy dialogue among CSOs, government, and private sector on biodiversity, climate change, and sustainable development. Strengthen the role of CSOs, youth, and women in shaping and monitoring environmental and climate-related strategies. Support platforms for communities to share experiences and influence national and regional decision-making processes.	2 - 3 CSO-government-private sector dialogues formed or strengthened 1 - 2 high-level policy changes associated with increased community participation in multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms 15 - 25 representatives from social inclusion groups; women, youth, persons with disability, farmers, other marginalized groups) meaningfully engaged in multi-stakeholder dialogue platforms	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), global database Country Programme Review Policy briefs
<u>Strategic Initiative 7:</u> Enhancing social inclusion Enhancing social inclusion 1) Promote targeted inclusive initiatives. 2) Mainstream social inclusion in all projects.	100 - 150 people benefitting from GEF-financed investments disaggregated by sex (GEF core indicator 11) 2 - 4 projects with focused interventions promoting gender equality and women's empowerment 3 - 5 projects that demonstrate models of engaging (a) Indigenous Peoples, (b) youth, and (c) persons with disabilities.	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review



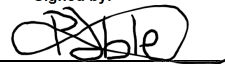
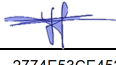
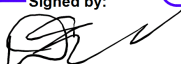
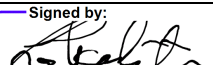
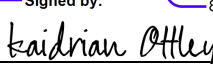
Promote inclusive, targeted initiatives that empower women, youth, and persons with disabilities in environmental management and sustainable livelihoods. Mainstream gender equality and social inclusion across all SGP projects, from design to monitoring. Strengthen women- and youth-led organizations to take leadership roles in biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, and sustainable livelihoods.	5 - 7 grants with targeted support for 1) women or women groups; 2) youth or youth-led groups; 3) Indigenous Peoples' groups 40 - 60% of total grant portfolio accessed by 1) women or women groups; 2) youth or youth-led groups; 3) indigenous peoples' groups	
Strategic Initiative 8: Monitoring and Evaluation and Knowledge Management Knowledge Management 1) Capture knowledge and lessons from projects and activities. 2) Improve capacities of CSOs/CBOs. 3) Conduct South-South Exchanges to promote technology transfer and replication of good practices. Capture and document knowledge and lessons from community projects to inform future initiatives and national policy.	100% projects with meetings involving local CSOs/CBOs or communities to monitor project results, assess impacts, and identify lessons learned 4 - 6 knowledge exchange/sharing events with participation of local communities 1 - 2 online knowledge repository developed because of SGP project 1 - 2 country/cross-country impact reviews conducted with evidence of SGP impact and lessons learned. 1 - 2 South-South exchanges between communities, NGOs/CSOs, or other partners within or across countries to	Individual project reporting by SGP country teams Annual Monitoring Report (AMR), SGP global database Country Programme Review KM products (case studies)



Strengthen the capacity of CSOs, CBOs, and local leaders to generate, manage, and share knowledge effectively. Facilitate South-South and regional exchanges to promote replication of best practices in biodiversity conservation, sustainable livelihoods, and climate resilience. Use digital platforms, community radio, and local events to make knowledge accessible to wider audiences, particularly youth and women. Monitoring and Evaluation 1) Administer new M&E strategy in Country Programme and project design, implementation and overall decision making using participatory mechanisms. Apply the SGP M&E strategy at project and programme levels, using participatory approaches with CSOs, women, and youth. Track progress through Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs), site visits, and NSC reviews. Align results monitoring with NDPF reporting and GEF-8 core indicators to ensure national and global relevance.	transfer knowledge, replicate technology, tools or approaches on global environmental issues	
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80. NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT

NSC members involved in OP8 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
Phynora Ible, Ms.	Signed by:  DC5642E5B165479...
YuShaner Jeffers, Ms.	Signed by:  2774E53CE452465...
Nyoka Bailey, Ms.	Signed by:  AA3B2E743C07482...
Derionne Edmeade, Mr.	Signed by:  1695FF92AC2146B...
Laughton Pemberton, Mr.	Signed by:  8CD61A80AF7A45F...
Kaidrian Ottley, Mr.	Signed by:  A59C2816121843F...

81. GEF Operational Focal Point Endorsement:

Signed by: Colincia Levine

 9B4BB418DCDD431...
 Mrs

82. UNDP Endorsement:

DocuSigned by: Olivier Guillot Hidalgo

 BA32FDEF0015458...
 Country Specialist