



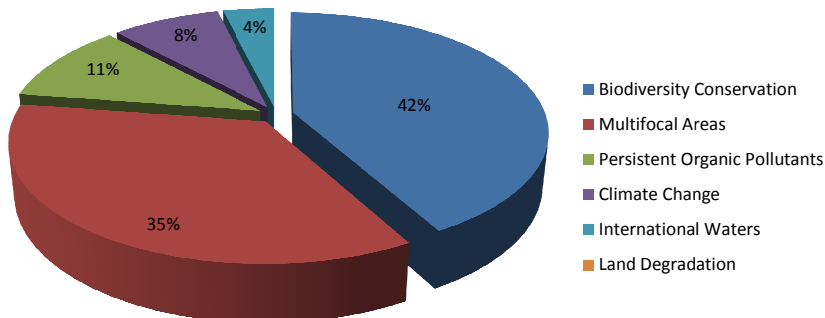
Country Programme Strategy OP5 Grant Funds SGP Lao PDR (2011 – 2014)

1) SGP Country Programme - Summary Background

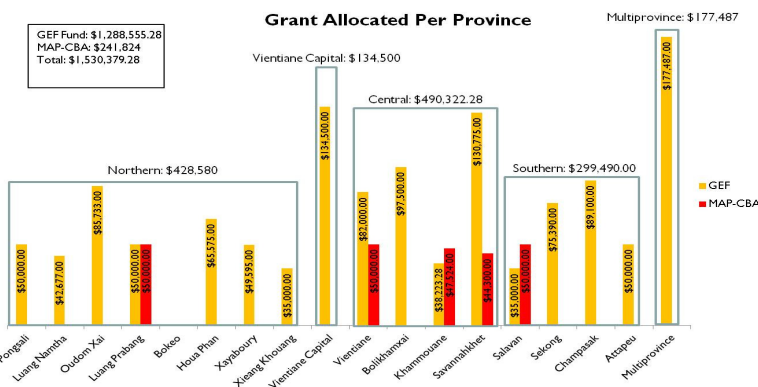
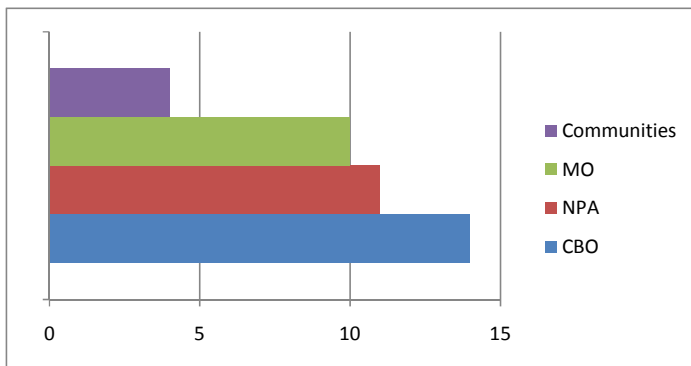
Central Programme Management Team conducted an appraisal for start-up GEF-SGP in Lao PDR in July 2008. SGP Lao PDR had officially launched in late 2009, with the nomination of the National Coordinator, Steering Committee and Development of the Country Programme Strategy which adapted to the SGP global strategic framework in the context of Laos - the national environmental priorities. The initiation of grant making has been processing since then. SGP Lao puts its special focus upon the 47 poorest and 25 poor districts which were identified and selected by the National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (2004) for priority investments.

Targeted audience ownership of and commitments to projects was ensured throughout the project by maintaining their leaderships in project planning, design and implementation. Even though they do not belong to those poor and poorest, if are marginalized from the public services and ending up with environmental issues received priority attentions from SGP Lao.

A total of 62 projects awarded across the country since its launching; they are now putting in place at different stages. The projects are especially recognized as the benchmarks for community-based



initiatives to deal with global environmental concerns in the context of Lao PDR. Most of them are directed towards biodiversity conservation, but also aiming to bring comparable benefits in other GEF focal areas.



2) Existing Sources of co-financing

In the environment sector, a substantial legal and policy framework has been developed. Legislation regarding the environment has been passed (and/or enacted). Lao PDR has established a national strategy on climate change and is taking part in international initiatives on climate change and global warming. The country has adopted an environmental action plan regarding transport, energy-mining, and tourism in the Greater Mekong Sub-region. Strong efforts have been made with regard to the sustainable management of natural resources, biodiversity and forest preservation.

Harnessing and combining the respective skills, resources and experience of the development organizations can enable SGP Lao PDR to achieve results that could not be achieved alone. It also ensure the localities and institutions, especially those of, or engaging pro-poor, drive development processes in an act of self-determination to natural resource management to display solidarity with

marginalized and impoverished peoples in addressing the causes of biodiversity loss, climate change and poverty. Such SGP Lao PDR will stand on the effective partnership with CSOs, academic institutions, development agencies.

SGP Lao will seek to work with projects that have co-financing for greater effectiveness and sustainability.

3) SGP Country Programme Niche and the country ratification of the relevant Rio Conventions

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	1996
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	2004
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	1995
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	1 st October 2000, 2 nd ongoing
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	Under preparation
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	1996
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	September 2009
Stockholm Convention (SC)	June 28 th 2006
SC National Implementations Plan (NIP)	Nov. 11 th 2010
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	December 2008
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	May 9 th 2011
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies	2006

4) Operational Phase Five (OP5) Resources

SGP Lao PDR; under the GEF5, has been classifying under Category I (*all SIDS and LDC country programmes and country programmes that have been in operation for fewer than 5 years*). At the end of Year 3 of OP5, SGP Lao PDR expects to have demonstrated as efficient grant-making model in the country. SGP Lao PDR is proud of an active National Steering Committees, and had initiated grantee networks through stakeholder workshops and Learning House (the only civil society network at national level).

Corresponding to the expectations of becoming simple, faster and efficient grant-making instrument; SGP Lao PDR necessitate to reach poorer and more vulnerable communities and go on support the capacity building of CSOs. However, reconciling global environmental benefits with local community needs is a long-term challenge to SGP Lao PDR. Taking into account the two years experience and learning; SGP Lao PDR keep strongly remaining a country-wide focus with

slightly heavier in the north region and put most of its attempts to reconcile GEF5 obligations, as well as the country's environment concerns.

Participating of local people are viewed not simply as a target group but rather as partners equipped with valuable knowledge which has been passed down from their ancestors as well as acquired through their own experiences in managing natural resources. The targeted audience ownership of and commitments to projects will be ensured throughout the project by maintaining their leaderships in project planning, design and implementation. Building on these principles, in addition, SGP Lao PDR will go on the capacity building for local community members and community-based organizations will focus on easier accessibility to necessary resources (*financial in particular*) and will also be complemented by demonstration of environmentally sound technologies and practices in combination with indigenous knowledge. Alternative livelihoods such as sustainable utilization of non-timber forest products (NTFPs), secondary professions will be also emphasized in order to alleviate their high dependency on rapidly depleting natural resources.

The GEF-SGP Lao PDR will fund projects that are taking into account the community-centered approach and based upon environment priorities, designed to support sustainable poor livelihood improvement, which is strong link to GEF's focal areas. The projects will need to provide the measurement that proved the consultation with, and participation as appropriate of, the beneficiaries and affected groups of people. At the project level, grantees must ensure that its projects are monitored and evaluated on a regular basis. In addition, working closely with local communities, SGP Lao PDR has its unique ability to reach the poorest and most distant communities to develop capacity for sustainable natural resources management and is better positioned to effectively translate national environmental strategies and priorities into community-level initiatives.

Partnerships, which include both public-private partnerships and partnerships with INGOs, CSOs, NPAs, local authorities, and research institutions, will be promoted with the aim of increasing the long-term sustainability of each SGP intervention. The effective delivery of the technical assistance will be evaluated by the SGP committee to ensure that adequate information, knowledge, and skills are transferred.

Geographically, SGP Lao puts its special focus upon the 47 poorest and 25 poor districts which were identified and selected by the National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (2004) for priority investments. Even though they do not belong to those poor and poorest, if are marginalized from the public services and ending up with environmental issues will also receive priority attentions from SGP Lao.

5) Capacity development, Poverty reduction and Gender Mainstreaming

The core of the GEF SGP is grant-making to eligible NGOs, CBOs and communities. The SGP recognizes the essential role that households, communities, and NPAs, applying locally appropriate solutions, can play in conserving biodiversity, reducing the likelihood of adverse climate change, preventing land degradation and phasing out POPs. However, in Laos, civil society's ability to contribute to the development process has been constrained by unclear legal frameworks and a corresponding less support to the sector. April 2009, the Prime Minister approved the Decree on Associations, drafted with support from UNDP through this project. This Decree provides the legal framework by which local CSOs will be able to interact with government and international partners, helping Laos in its effort to achieve the MDGs through creating more local solutions to poverty.

In line with the above decree, SGP Lao PDR will focus on empowering small and rural CSOs to play a role in finding local solutions to environmental issues, provides a critical source of financing, as an opportunity to strengthen the capacity of existing and emerging CSOs (Mass Org., Not-for Profit Association (NPA), Community-based Org. (CBO)). SGP Lao PDR will initially aim to allocate its grants equally to each of these categories of organizations with possibly more for MOs due to its strengths and experience in project cycle management, whereas over the longer term, increasingly support CBOs and NPAs.

SGP Lao PDR will work closely with multiple stakeholders (e.g. local governments, INGOs, academic institutions, etc) to identify CBOs and NPAs who are able to manage small grants to address pressing livelihood problems stimulating from environmental degradation. Taking into account the infancy of CSOs in Laos, SGP will attempt to simplify project related templates as making them local specific as well as flexi manner but keeping the donors' requirements; which will be one of capacity development mechanisms, thereby enabling small and inexperienced CBOs to become successful grant recipients.

SGP Lao PDR produces local and global environmental impacts, livelihoods and empowerment. **Environmental impacts** cover the four GEF focal areas as oblige by OP5 Prodoc: (i) biodiversity, (ii) climate change, (iii) land degradation, (iv) Persistent organic pollutants (POPs). **Livelihood impacts** are those that address aspects linked to meeting basic needs; improving socio-economic conditions, health, information sharing as to contributing towards poverty reduction and increased resilience of rural livelihoods. **Empowerment impacts** involve greater participation in decision making, better organization, improved capacities of representation and advocacy, improved legal and political environments for vulnerable and marginalized groups. The impacts can be achieved both through individual projects and the synergy between or among projects that form the Country Program portfolio. SGP in Lao PDR achievements will definitely contribute to the global SGP's impacts and achievements as entirely.

Communities will reduce their risk of abject poverty by strengthening the social safety nets provided by healthy well managed natural ecosystems. Targeted beneficiaries will experience reduced financial poverty by having increased levels of income from the sustainable use of biodiversity, improved agriculture, sustainable forestry and fisheries management, and ecotourism through community-based conservation, innovative approaches and efficient market mechanisms.

Gender-sensitive approach is one of key obligations for SGP partners/grantees. Ensuring gender-sensitive as a priority (*identifying women needs, incorporating their concerns into the project design*) and a key crosscutting issue in all projects at the earliest stages of the project cycle will promote and make possible for women to have access to necessary resources, opportunities for technical training and represent households' income generation gears and finally voicing their concerns in livelihood improvement. Encouraging the involvement of female-headed CSOs in applying for grants and implementation projects (*Provide grants to CSOs, that are sensitively considering a gender issue in terms of the position of women within the community and their needs relating to the depletion of natural resources and degradation of the environmental quality*) will be a vehicle for promoting gender equality at community levels

6) Monitoring & Evaluation plan

An essential component for the implementation of the Country Programme Strategy is the development of a suitable system for the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the progress and performance toward attaining the objectives and outcomes expressed in this document. It provides a better means of learning from past experience, improving service delivery, planning and allocating resources, and demonstrating results as part of accountability to key stakeholders. Practical methodology for developing an appropriate M&E system exists and to be consulted.

Similarly, it is important that the grantees/partners arrange for a monitoring and evaluation of the performance of project implementation on a regular basis, because it assists projects maintaining accountability, achieve sustainability, allow for reproducing and provides opportunities for eliciting and communicating lessons learned. Ideally, the results or lessons learned from monitoring and evaluation will be used to improve project design and implementation, and more specifically, will enable GEF SGP Lao PDR grant recipients to carry on project activities well after the grant period is over. Thus, the monitoring and evaluation of SGP Lao PDR's involves monitoring and evaluation at the level of individual projects, monitoring and evaluation at the programmatic level, and contributions to monitoring of the SGP at the global level.

It is requirement for SGP funded projects to have clear defined baseline indicators and targets when developing project proposals and understanding well the focal areas set indicators provided. These baselines will be comparative measurement of the improvement after performances in particular on environmental, livelihood and empowerment of target beneficiaries, project personnel and stakeholders. The projects progress reports are scheduled (normally, reporting is depending on the request of next payment; which is scheduled in chapter IV in Memo Random of Agreement - MOA). These reports are an effective tool to reflect the timely progress of the project and indicated the identified needs of assistance in the form of technical, or managerial, that was not foreseen at the time of project submission. The final or projects completion reports is an adding value tool of reflection the achievements of the project at the end. The above progresses and achievements will be drawn by project final evaluation.

7) Local stakeholders participate in monitoring

Given the limited diversification of the Lao economy, forests, while being a critical component of the ecosystem, also remain an important source of livelihoods. Lao PDR's forest resources, which once covered about 70 percent of total land area had declined to 42 percent by 2002. The loss of forest cover has caused widespread soil erosion, especially in the uplands. The degradation and loss of habitat, excessive hunting and illegal trade, is having a detrimental effect on Lao PDR's wildlife.

SGP Lao PDR has strong belief that the success of the projects depend on community participations in particular on the development and implementation of environmental protection and strategies. Local participation views as crucial for the projects' success, because localities are both end-users and stakeholders in the project. Prior to any kind of intervention, a consultation phase to be taken place with the targeted communities prior to concept paper development and right through the project proposal development process. Stakeholders and targeted localities consultation process is foundation (cores) referring to project concept papers acceptance. It is necessary to indicate a series of communities and or stakeholders' meetings to discuss the projects from this initial project formulation stage.

SGP Individual Project Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Participatory Project Monitoring	Grantees	Duration of project

Baseline Data Collection ¹	Grantees, NC	At project concept planning and proposal stage
Two or Three Project Progress and Financial Reports (<i>depending on agreed disbursement schedule</i>)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request
Project Work plans	Grantees, NC, PA	Duration of project
NC Project Proposal Site Visit (<i>as necessary / cost effective</i> ²)	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

The country programme is closely monitored and evaluated in relation to achievements towards the outcomes through various mechanisms, a). Uploading projects results and achievement at the atlas, SGP Lao PDR annual progress review and prepare an annual report each reporting year, b). Regular updating country programme database in order to have current information on projects at any given time for the continued release of grant allocations and c). SGP as a global programme is subject to overall programme evaluation every four years (in line with the GEF replenishment cycle).

Each project requires the development of baseline data against indicators designated for each GEF Focal Areas allocated within proposal template. Project will need to estimate the targets for each indicator, description of impact and elaborate the methods for indicators calculated and derived. Each project subject to a final evaluation in a participatory manner by an external resource person and or organization selected for the purpose. The project team will work with an external resource person and or the designated organization to facilitate the process and to record lessons learned (both positive and negative). The NC will be responsible for regular assessments of all programmatic indicators included in the logical framework analysis, and reporting to the NSC. Progress against these indicators will be reviewed at least once every year, and modifications to the programme strategy will be considered if it seems likely that indicator targets will not be met. The annual reports to the NSCs at the country level and CPMT at the global level, which detail the cumulative results achieved through GEF-SGP projects. The reports are building on reports provided by partners/grantees, monitoring visits and global indicators to be keyed into the online database.

SGP Lao PDR will assess the effectiveness of community participation activities in the project's design and implementation plan; subsequent monitoring of community participation activities through the six monthly project implementation review; and evaluating the impacts of community participation in terms of improving projects;

¹ 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.

² 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.

Operational phase review based on the CPS will be submitted at the end of OP5. The above report is part of the ongoing process when reviewing the CPS. The 5th operational phase (PO5) review will allow the Country Programme to assess how and to what extent the CPS has been implemented, what the general programme tendencies are, if grant-making and the projects funded are effective, and whether major course corrections will be necessary. A likely outcome of the OP5 would be a modification of the CPS in order to make the Country Programme more strategic and responsive to emerging needs at the country level.

M&E Plan at the Programme Level

SGP Country Programme Level		
M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Timeframe
Country Programme Strategy Review	NSC, NC, CPMT	Start of OP5
Strategic Country Portfolio Review	NSC, NC	Once during OP5
NSC Meetings	NSC, NC, UNDP CO	Minimum twice per year
Performance and Results Assessment (PRA) of NC Performance	NC, NSC, UNDP CO, CPMT, UNOPS	Once per year
Country Programme Review resulting in Annual Country Report ³	NC presenting to NSC and CPMT	Once per year
Financial 4-in-1 Report	NC/PA, UNOPS	Quarterly

8) Knowledge Management

Knowledge management has two key purposes. Firstly, accumulated knowledge generated through the projects themselves, is used to improve the design and implementation of subsequent projects. This constitutes knowledge management for programme improvement. The second purpose of knowledge management is to communicate information about the programme to others. Such communication is undertaken for two reasons – to increase support to the programme and to influence natural resource managers and decision makers so as to improve the policies and practice of natural resource management, thus securing additional global environmental benefits.

The first purpose, i.e., knowledge management for programme improvement, can be considered to represent “horizontal” knowledge management, in which projects and project proponents learn from each other. Several tools to achieve horizontal knowledge management have been a feature of the SGP Lao PDR for some time. These include:

- SGP Lao PDR has made a renewed commitment to build partners/grantees capacities to effectively manage the projects. In this sense, the SGP Lao PDR has organized biannual progress review meetings and established the SGP electronic exchange (*Six monthly meetings of projects implementation teams, through which teams working on similar focal area in different parts of the country have the opportunity to meet at one or more and directly exchange experiences and accumulated knowledge. Although such meetings are organized by the National Coordinator, the exchange of knowledge occurs directly from one project team to another, and can be considered as direct horizontal knowledge exchange*). These processes will in addition encourage

³ The annual Country Programme Review exercise should be carried out in consultation with the national Rio Convention focal points and the associated reporting requirements.

partners/grantees to avail of relevant opportunities. Moreover, this can also promote the visibility of the project results/learning as part of the communications strategy, partners/grantees can also profit from the experience and advice of seasoned project managers, and more intensive mutual exchange is made possible.

- The project visits of the NC and NSCs accumulate knowledge which is then passed on to others through direct meetings, information on the WebPages of the SGP Laos: www.sgplaopdr.org and UNDP CO: www.undplao.org , and the Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment: currently under WREA: www.wrea.gov.la, SGP Global WebPage: www.sgp.undp.org, media publications and broadcasts, etc. Year-end summaries of activities and lessons are also published in a form of booklets. This constitutes mediated horizontal knowledge exchange.
- The second purpose, i.e., to influence other actors so as to increase support for the programme and to influence policy makers, can be considered to represent “vertical” knowledge management. Tools which have been used to achieve this result include: Dissemination of information through Knowledge Management (KM) and Capacity Development (CD) small grants projects, local and national GEF SGP inception meetings, grantees/partners individual network, the presence of GEF SGP Lao PDR at non-governmental organization networks, web pages (as above), media publications and broadcasts, etc.

9) Policy Advocacy

Participation of the National Coordinator and/or members of the National Steering Committee in planning meetings and other forum, giving presentations on the SGP, the Site visits for planners and policy makers both horizontal and vertical learning activities will be supported through KM/CD projects and by the maintenance and continued development of a national SGP database, and the creation of linkages to the global SGP database. SGP Lao PDR recognizes that the performance of the nation state, civil society and private sector, and the degree and quality of the interaction between them has large implications for the prospects of sustaining natural ecosystems and human development. The relationship and networking with agencies like Mekong River Commission (MRC), GEF Agencies, UN family activities and those of other conservation and development organizations/partners can create an enabling environment that allows others to more effectively pursue conservation and development objectives in line with national priorities.

Advocacy is a strategy to influence policy makers when they make laws and regulations, distribute resources, and make other decisions that affect peoples’ lives. Advocacy works have been supporting by SGP’s grantees/partners are of key importance in effecting necessary changes in policies and practices which affect the lives of the poor. It should be non-confrontational and use innovative mechanisms to influence the attitudes and behavior of key people in key positions.

10) Use knowledge to replicate and up-scale

Based on the delivery, successes and achievements of the SGP so far plus the commitment to promote the role of CBOs and civil society in environmental management, the Government of Lao PDR has allocated a substantial and increasing portion of its GEF STAR (5) allocation to the SGP. AusAIDS has also renewed its commitment to fund additional grants through the MAP-CBA programme. While developing the Country Program Strategy (CPS), the SGP Lao PDR took into account two years of previous project experiences and learning and retains a country-wide focus, fully in line with GEF5 obligations, as well as the country’s development priorities.

11) Resource Mobilization

SGP Lao will seek to work with projects that have at least parallel co-financing for greater effectiveness and sustainability. Synergies and collaboration will be sought with the probable agencies. The Government of Lao PDR through its many line agencies has experience in many fields – technically (kind contribution) from Department of Forest Resource Conservation is responsible for protected area and biodiversity management, the Department of Forestry for timber resources, and Department of Agriculture for agricultural resources. Some of these departments have received GEF funding for enabling activities, medium and large-size projects. Natural resource management, WWF, IUCN and WCS have on the ground community-based natural resource management and protected area strengthening projects. They work closely with the GoL to implement best practices for National Biodiversity Conservation Area (BDCA) and Provincial Protected Area management. This includes planning, wildlife, aquatic and Non Timber Forest Product (NTFPs) monitoring, patrolling and enforcement, constituency building and outreach and administrative accountability. Some of these projects receive GEF medium size project support.

Poverty Environment Initiative: joint UNDP/UNEP initiative that supports national and local authorities to mainstream environment issues into planning and financing processes. Wetland management: UNDP currently supports the Lao PDR Water and Wetland Policy Project in Southern Lao, in close cooperation with WWF and others who provide broader and longer-term support to the development of community based wetland and fisheries management.

In previous phase (OP4), SGP Lao PDR had great achievement in mobilizing contribution/co-financing both at project level (in kind and in cash) and country programme management costs, in particular UNDP CO. At project level, SGP Lao PDR has joint (in cash) project with WCS, SNV, and Grantee Orgs. Similar efforts, will have been investing.

12) Potential partners

Effective implementation of the SGP Lao PDR projects will require greater harmonization among environment supports schemes by different agencies *(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*, and its engagement with local government will be regular and strong.

Effective partnership with the above agencies and others can enable SGP Lao PDR to achieve results that could not be achieved alone, by harnessing and combining the respective skills, resources and experience of the partnering organizations. Partnership aims to ensure that local people and institutions, especially those of, or supporting, the poor, drive development processes in an act of self-determination. SGP Lao PDRs role is to support natural resource management by engaging pro-poor, local institutions in their own efforts and to display solidarity with marginalized and impoverished

Consistency with National Priorities

SGP OP5 Immediate Objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
<u>Objective 1:</u> Improve sustainability of protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas through community-based actions	Conservation of threatened and endangered species and their habitats	Conservation of endangered species that are locally and globally biological significance, and increase hectares of indigenous and community conserved/protected areas
<u>Objective 2:</u> Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, seascapes and sectors through community initiatives and actions	Conservation of biodiversity through sustainable resources management in forestry, agriculture, and fisheries Promotion of ecologically sustainable management practices for eco-tourism	Conservation of biodiversity through community-based natural resources management approaches, sustainable use and management of NTFPs and eco-tourism
<u>Objective 3:</u> Promote the demonstration, development and transfer of low carbon technologies at the community level	Development of renewable energy sources and cleaner energy	Promotion of renewable energy particularly in - location that outside the national grid system - support models for managing the town environment to become green and clean through low-C public transport
<u>Objective 4:</u> Promote and support energy efficient, low carbon transport at the community level	Promotion of energy-efficient technologies and low carbon transport	Promotion of energy efficient technologies particularly in urban and dense of population and promote private partnership investment on the topic
<u>Objective 5:</u> Support the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks through sustainable management and climate proofing of land use, land use change and forestry	Ecologically sustainable agriculture Production Forest management	Promotion of sustainable land management through tree planting, alternative cash crops, and improvement of farm productivity and soil quality
<u>Objective 6:</u> Maintain or improve flow of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem services to sustain livelihoods of local communities	Participatory land use planning	Active participation of local communities and farmers in participatory land use planning Promotion of alternative cash crops and farming practices to improve productivity and sustainability of upland shifting cultivation
<u>Objective 7:</u> Reduce pressures at community level from competing land uses (in the wider landscapes)	Establish a land use system, and protect and develop land and other natural resources in a sustainable, integrated and efficient manner in order to secure land for the Lao people for housing, subsistence and agricultural and non-agricultural commercial production.	Encourage community participation in land legislation formulation, management and administration

Comment [b1]: All kinds of natural resources, not only forests but also rivers, wetlands, etc.)

SGP OP5 Immediate Objectives	National priorities	SGP niche
<p><u>Objective 8:</u> Support trans-boundary water body management with community-based initiatives</p>	<p>Promote and support coordinated, sustainable, and pro-poor development</p>	<p>Water resources are limited and becoming more and more polluted, rendering them unfits the populations' consumption (particularly those are living surrounding the wetland) and also unfits to sustain the ecosystem. Taking this into account, SGP Lao PDR will focus the interventions on communities important wetland management, rehabilitation, and the principal tributaries of the Mekong River in order to balancing overuse and conflicting uses of water resources</p>
<p><u>Objective 9:</u> Promote and support phase out of POPs and chemicals of global concern at community level</p>	<p>Strengthening of the management on the import and use of hazardous chemicals</p>	<p>Reduced use of chemicals especially through organic farming and natural dying</p>
<p><u>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</p>	<p>Human resource development through training and research</p> <p>Promotion of people's participation and Civil Society development</p>	<p>Focus on empowering exist and new emerging CSOs by supporting them to play a role in finding local solutions to environmental issues, provides a critical source of financing, as an opportunity to strengthen the capacity.</p> <p>Provide inputs to policy makers to improve legal and policy frameworks based on successful pilots and approaches developed with CSO and CBOs</p>
<p><u>Cross-Cutting Results:</u> Poverty reduction, livelihoods and gender</p>	<p>Greening the country, linking agricultural production with processing and service industries, and establishing model villages and groups of development villages (Kumbans), among others.</p> <p>Focus on food programmes and commercial production programmes to ensure sufficient supply to the domestic market</p>	<p>Promotion of sustainable livelihoods and community empowerment particularly for the poor and marginalized communities</p>

Country Outcomes, Indicators and Activities

Outcomes	Indicators	Target	Means of verification	Activities
Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts on biodiversity resources in and around protected areas, and indigenous and community conservation areas	Hectares of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs) influenced Hectares of protected areas influenced Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status	At least 4,500 hectares of significant ICCAs and PAs Positively influenced through SGP support More than 500 indigenous plants and at least 50 endangered species benefited	MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation SGP Database and project Case Study Baseline information collected by proponent prior to project implementation. Community land use mapping.	18 community and civil-society based projects funded on - sustainable use of biodiversity products, Safeguarding of indigenous and community conservation areas and conservation through reforestation and sustainable management of NTFPs and eco-tourism promotion of alternative cash crops - supporting biodiversity mainstreaming in production landscapes
Benefits generated at the community level from conservation of biodiversity in and around protected areas and indigenous and community conservation areas	Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices Total value of biodiversity products/ ecosystem services produced (US dollar equivalent)	8,000 community members with improved livelihoods related to benefits from ICCAs and PAs	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	
Improved community-level sustainable use of biodiversity in production landscapes through community-based initiatives, frameworks and market mechanisms, including recognized environmental standards that incorporate biodiversity considerations	Sustainable use and management of biodiversity in 7,500 hectares of production landscapes	300 hectares of production landscapes improved sustainable use practices	Statistic report on significant community biodiversity areas sustainably managed. NTFPs that are potentially for local economic development identified and published	
Innovative low-GHG technologies deployed and successfully demonstrated at the community level	Number of communities demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies Tones of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies	At least 40 communities with Demonstrations addressing community-level barriers to deployment of low-GHG technologies	Energy efficient and renewable energy technologies introduced by SGP Project	
GHG emissions avoided	Number of national and international partners are aware of SGP practices and lessons	At least 10 national and 5 international partners or agencies are aware of SGP practices and lessons	Innovative low carbon technologies demonstrated by SGP beneficiaries/project partners	

Outcomes	Indicators	Target	Means of verification	Activities
Low-GHG transport options demonstrated at the community level	Number of low-GHG transport options have been demonstrated	At 300 poor households at community-level used low-GHG transportation means	Total monetary value (US dollars) of ecosystem goods sustainably produced and providing benefit to project participants and/or community as a whole	14 community and civil-society based projects funded - to promote energy efficient, chemical wastes reduction and use of renewable energy for the provision of rural energy service (off-grid) - promote of sustainable forests and non-forest land management through integrated farming, tree planting, alternative cash crops and improvement of farm productivity and soil quality - demonstrate of low-carbon technologies and least 3 of those community and civil-society based projects supporting the transfer at local level.
Increased investment in less-GHG intensive transport and urban systems	Number of policy makers having been informed by SGP demonstration practices	At least 100 policy makers (local or national) having been influenced in policy development and implementation		
GHG emissions avoided	Tones of solid waste prevented from burning by alternative disposal			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kilograms of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately - Kilograms of harmful chemicals avoided from utilization or release - Hectares of land under improved land use and climate proofing practices - Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated - Hectares of integrated farming and agro-forestry land was established 	10,000 hectares under improved sustainable land management and climate proofing practices	Individual project database, project reports and monitoring visits that indicated a total kg of organic fertilizer and or liters of organic solution produced by the community with the support of SGP project Project case studies	
Restoration and enhancement of carbon stocks in forests and non-forest lands, including peat land		Restoration and enhancement of 500 hectares of forests and non-forest lands initiated		
GHG emissions avoided and carbon sequestered				
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	16,000 hectares under improved agricultural, land and water management practices.	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	15 community and civil-society based projects funded on - promotion of alternative cash crops for upland shifting cultivation and improvement of farm productivity and soil quality - prevention of land degradation through community-based initiatives.
Community-based models of sustainable forestry management developed, and tested, linked to carbon sequestration for possible up-scaling and replication where appropriate, to reduce GHG emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and enhance	Hectares of degraded land area reduced and with sustained managed as well as increased productivity of communities	At least 100 national partners have learned of SGP demonstrations and innovative approaches		
	Number of national and international agencies or partners are aware of successful SGP demonstrations and innovative approaches	At least 10 policymakers having been influenced by successful SGP demonstration practices		

Outcomes	Indicators	Target	Means of verification	Activities
carbon sinks from land use, land use change, and forestry activities				
Improved community-level actions and practices, and reduced negative impacts in land use frontiers of agro-ecosystems and forest ecosystems (rural/urban, agriculture/forest)	Number of community members with improved actions and practices that reduce negative impacts on land uses	At least 40 communities having improved actions and practices that have reduced pressure on land uses	Project database, project MOA scheduled reports and monitoring visits Projects case studies	- supporting reduction of pressures from competing land uses
Effective and climate resilient community-based actions and practices supporting implementation of SAP regional priority actions demonstrated	Number of community-based water used action plans developed and to which SGP is providing implementation support	At least 500 local and national government members have learned of SGP demonstrations and innovative of Mekong River basin approaches	Project database, project MOA scheduled reports and monitoring visits	11 community and civil-society based projects funded catalyzing communities cooperation to balance conflicting water uses, local important wetland ecosystems areas; which generate important livelihood opportunities and the post-harvest economic sector; supporting foundational capacity building, portfolio learning, and targeted research needs for ecosystem-based, joint management of important tributaries of transboundary water systems while considering climatic variability and change
Innovative solutions implemented for reduced pollution, improved water use efficiency, sustainable fisheries with rights-based management, IWRM, water supply protection in SIDS, and aquifer and catchment protection	At least three community and CSOs based projects have been replicating of SGP Lao PDR experience along the Mekong River basin and important community wetland ecosystem area, where as classified by the Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment the Projects' agreed actions adopted based on IWRM principle and project's evaluations show effectiveness monitoring of water use efficiency	At least 100 national policymakers having been influenced by successful SGP demonstration practices	Projects' accomplishment reports indicate the protection the environment and prevention of conflict and effective use of the important communities' wetland and water related resources according to integrated water resource management principle (IWRM): <i>the potential areas for cooperative development include irrigation, flood management and mitigation and drought preparedness, fisheries, domestic water supply, and tourism.</i>	
Synergistic partnerships developed between SGP stakeholders and trans-boundary water management institutions and structures supporting implementation of SAP regional priority actions	Number of regional trans-boundary water management processes to which SGP is contributing good practices and lessons	5 regional trans-boundary Water management processes to which SGP is contributing good practices and lessons	Project database, project MOA scheduled reports and monitoring visits	
Improved community-level initiatives and actions to prevent, reduce and phase out POPs, harmful chemicals and other pollutants, manage contaminated	Tons of obsolete pesticides disposed of appropriately Number of countries where SGP is contributing to the implementation of	More than 3,000 of community members have been understood of harmful of pesticides to environment and initiated for decreasing and or used with know how	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits	8 community and civil-society based projects funded supporting clean technology and clean products, which lets to the phase out of POPs and

Outcomes	Indicators	Target	Means of verification	Activities
sites in an environmentally sound manner, and mitigate environmental contamination	national plans and policies to address POPs, harmful chemicals and other pollutants total Kg of organic fertilizer and or liters of organic solution produced by the community with the support of SGP project Hectares of integrated farming and agro-forestry land was established	At least 500 farmers have been receiving training on the production of bio-fertilizer and sustainable agriculture and more than 10,000 people received information on the negative impact of POPs At least 1,000 tons of bio-fertilizer produced due to projects At least 100 hectares adapted as integrated farming and agro-forestry	NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	chemicals of global concern, through supporting the organic farming: reduced use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides and herbicides in agriculture sector and reduced use of chemical dyes under handicraft products, and goods and services
Active participation of NSCs and project grantees/partners in GEF focal areas discussion and consultation meetings/conference at different levels	Number of projects' proponent representatives participating in consultation meetings/conference at different levels	National Steering Committees membership are revised, get approved by CPMT and National Technical Advisor Group established, which are including all country ratified environmental conventions	List of NSCs ratified by CPMT and Appointed Letter Issue by UNDP CO and Conventional Technical Focal Point add as Technical Advisors Group (TAG)	7 Specific community and civil-society based projects funded Capacity development, livelihood and gender is mandatory of all project funded by SGP Lao PDR. With SGP's support, civil society and community-based organizations will develop the capacity to improve conservation and sustainable use efforts and ensure benefits for community livelihoods, contributing to long-term sustainability.
Improved information flows to/from CBOs and CSOs in SGP countries regarding good practices and lessons learned, and application of such practices	Quantity and quality of SGP knowledge base, and use of knowledge base; Quantity and quality of contributions to knowledge fairs, conferences, publications and research.	All environmental conventions focal point (FPs) engaged with local awareness raising and or consultative meetings	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	
Increased public awareness and education at the community-level regarding global environmental issues	Learning and knowledge management platform established to share lessons learned among CBOs and NPAs	At least 5 consultation meeting are organized including individual meeting with Environmental Conventional Focal Point	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	

Outcomes	Indicators	Target	Means of verification	Activities
Capacity of CBOs and CSOs strengthened to support implementation of global conventions	Public understand and transform complex dynamic nature of global environmental problems and develop local solutions	5 civil-society based projects funded for enhancement of capacity development in managing of environmental issues and implement global conventions	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	
Increased application of community-based environmental monitoring	Number of demonstrations of community-based environmental monitoring systems developed and used in all awarded projects		GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	
Evaluation of projects against set projects' expected results strengthened through increased capacity of SGP project grantees/partners to apply relevant evaluation methodologies	Number of SGP project grantees/partners demonstrate understanding of the role of evaluation through application of relevant evaluation methodologies		GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation Grantees/partners staff are better able to monitor the progress of small grants projects and their impact on the target group	
Improved livelihoods through increasing local benefits generated from environmental resources, and mainstream gender considerations in community-based environmental initiatives.	Percentage of projects that include gender analysis or incorporate gender relevant elements in a positive manner	100% of projects that include gender analysis or incorporate gender relevant elements in a positive manner	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	
	Percentage of projects with appropriate gender balance of participants and target beneficiaries	100% of projects with appropriate gender balance of participants and target beneficiaries	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies	

Outcomes	Indicators	Target	Means of verification	Activities
	Percentage of projects that include socioeconomic analysis	100% of projects that include Socioeconomic analysis	MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	
	Number of community members with sustained livelihood improvement resulting from SGP support	55,000 project beneficiaries with sustained livelihood improvement resulting from SGP support	GEF SGP database, project reports and monitoring visits SGP case studies MOA scheduled Project Reports and monitoring visits NC and NSCs ongoing monitoring and project final evaluation	

ANNEX 1: GEF SGP OP 5 PROJECT LEVEL INDICATORS

GEF SGP project indicators in the focal areas of biodiversity, climate change, land degradation and sustainable forest management, international waters, and chemicals are presented below. Proponents are advised to select relevant focal area indicators from the table below. In addition, proponents (if necessary in consultation with the NC), should identify and include indicators within the areas of impact pertaining to “Capacity Development, Policy Influence & Innovation”, “Livelihoods & Sustainable Development, Community Based Adaptation and Empowerment”.

GEF SGP OP5 results indicators	
Biodiversity (BD)	
BD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of indigenous and community conserved areas (ICCAs) influenced ○ Hectares of protected areas influenced ○ Hectares of significant ecosystems with improved conservation status
BD2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of production landscapes / seascapes applying sustainable use practices ○ Number of significant species with maintained or improved conservation status ○ Total value of biodiversity products/ecosystem services produced (US dollar equivalent)
Climate Change (CC)	
CCM1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Renewable energy measures (please specify) ▪ Energy efficiency measures (please specify) ▪ Other (please specify) ○ Number of community members demonstrating or deploying low-GHG technologies ○ Total value of energy or technology services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tonnes of CO2 avoided by implementing low carbon technologies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low carbon transport practices (please specify) ○ Total value of transport services provided (US dollar equivalent)
CCM5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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)	
LD1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Hectares of land applying sustainable forest, agricultural and water management practices ○ Hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated
LD3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of communities demonstrating sustainable land and forest management practices
International Waters (IW)	
IW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 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
Chemicals (POPs)	
POPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tons 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
Capacity Development, Policy and Innovation (all focal areas)	
CD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of consultative mechanisms established for Rio convention frameworks (please specify)

GEF SGP OP5 results indicators	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of community-based monitoring systems demonstrated (please specify) ○ Number of new technologies developed /applied (please specify) ○ Number of local or regional policies influenced (level of influence 0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5) ○ Number of national policies influenced (level of influence 0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5) ○ Number of people trained on: project development, monitoring, evaluation etc. (to be specified according to type of training)
Livelihoods, Sustainable Development, and Empowerment (all focal areas)	
Cross-cutting	<p>Livelihoods & Sustainable Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of participating community members (gender disaggregated) (Note: mandatory for all projects) ○ Number of days of food shortage 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) ○ Total value of investments (e.g. infrastructure, equipment, supplies) in US Dollars (Note: estimated economic impact of investments to be determined by multiplying infrastructure investments by 5, all others by 3). <p>Empowerment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of NGOs/CBOs formed or registered ○ Number of indigenous peoples directly supported ○ Number of women-led projects supported ○ Number of quality standards/labels achieved or innovative financial mechanisms put in place

B. SGP Community Based Adaption (CBA) Project Indicators

These indicators are to be used only in SGP Projects which have access to Aus-Aid co-funded CBA programmes for grant-making in the area of Community Based Adaption to Climate Change.

Community Based Adaption (CBA)	
CBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of households, businesses engaged in vulnerability reduction or adaptive capacity development activities, as a proportion of households in the community or region targeted by the project. ○ Percent change in stakeholders’ behaviors utilizing adjusted practices or resources for managing climate change risks. ○ Number of beneficiaries of project receiving training in implementation of specific adaptation measures or decision-support tools ○ Number of CBA “lessons learned” from the project