

SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR UTILIZATION OF OP6 GRANT FUNDS THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS



**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME
UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
BEST	Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission
BNT	Bahamas National Trust
BPAF	Bahamas Protected Areas Fund
BREEF	Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDP	Committee for Development Policy
COB	College of The Bahamas
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
CSO	Civil Society Organization
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FSP	Full-sized Project
GEF	Global Environmental Fund
GoB	Government of The Bahamas
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IWEco	Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystem Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MSP	Medium-sized Project
NAMA	UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHI	National Host Institution
NSC	National Steering Committee
OP5	Operational Phase 5
OP6	Operational Phase 6
SGP	Small Grants Programme
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UWICED	University of the West Indies Center for Environment and Development

SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR OP6

COUNTRY: THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

OP6 resources (estimated US\$)

- a. Core funds: \$400,000
- b. OP5 remaining balance: \$38,317

1. SGP Country Programme - Summary Background

1.1. Key Results of OP5

The Bahamas Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) Country Programme was established in 2009. Since its inception, GEF SGP Bahamas has completed a total of 31 projects, dispersing US\$947k of grant funding and engaging with over 28 civil society organizations (CSOs). As seen in Table 1, there has been a strong thematic focus on climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation. Key lessons learnt during Operational Phase 5 (OP5) is the need for additional capacity development of CSOs including a mentorship programme in grant management and additional training on grant management, including monitoring and evaluation and reporting.

Table 1: Key Results of OP5

Focal Area/ % of OP5 Grant Funds	Key Results/Global Environmental Benefits/International Awards	Upscaling, Replication and Mainstreaming of Demonstration Projects
Climate Change 46%	Projects have successfully demonstrated the usage of renewable energy technology solutions in communities and schools and have been recognized by GEF as innovative project models ¹ . Students and scientists from overseas have used the model. Reducing impacts through recycling project trained 16 community members in monitoring and evaluation, project management and applied trades, and educated over 750 students in recycling.	Demonstration model seeks to be replicated in other Family Islands and to share innovative solutions.
Biodiversity Conservation 23%	Project in The Elizabeth Harbour focused on mitigating impacts from tourism on reefs from anchoring. Promoting sustainable fishing practices across family islands as well as the project to conserve Abaco's juvenile lobster populations focused on training of fishermen and protection of fishing stocks with global environmental benefits, in line with WWF initiatives and over 200 fishermen received sustainable catch certifications.	Use of moorings and engagement of local community in monitoring is replicable across the country. The project collected data on stocks which was used by the Department of Marine Resources to establish baseline stock assessments and assisted the country in qualifying for MSC certification. They are designed to be replicated as workshops across other Family Islands.
International Waters 16%	Encouraging sustainable use of coral reef ecosystems through increasing awareness and engagement of public and tourists in protecting, rehabilitating and	Production and dissemination of outreach and educational resources including climate tool kit that can be used to train

¹ GEF Small Grants Programme: Climate Change-Low Carbon Energy Access Co-Benefits Strategic Initiative Technical Guidance Note

	mitigating coral reef loss	community members and educators on all islands. Grantee to scale up to larger project during OP6. Influential in designating a new Marine Protected Area
Land Degradation 5%	Removal of invasive species from vulnerable coastlines and planting of native coastal vegetation, including coconuts, to aid in stabilization of the coastline and decrease levels of erosion. Workshops on coconut harvesting, agro-processing and small business management provided.	Development of new agro-processing industry that provides opportunities for development of sustainable livelihoods and can be replicated in other Family Islands.
Capacity Development 11%	Three grant writing and training and information exchange workshops were successful in building capacity within local CSOs. Project in the historic community of Gambier focused on community building initiatives around waste management.	These workshops were over-subscribed so the aim is to replicate them on more family islands, including Grand Bahama, Abaco, Andros and Exuma.

1.2 Partnerships and Co-financing

During OP5, there were a number of major partnerships that can be built upon for OP6. These include partnerships with Government of The Bahamas (GoB), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), The Nature Conservancy and Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture. Co-financing of US\$1.1M was achieved through both cash and in-kind contributions. While a minority of CSOs provided in-kind co-financing only, these were mainly smaller CSOs with less access to donors and in-cash co-financing available.

The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund was established in 2015 as a result of a GEF Full-sized Project (FSP), and is designed to attract and providing funding for projects carried out in protected areas. While the fund is not yet at the stage where it can provide grants, within the OP6 cycle it may become a source of co-financing for GEF SGP projects carried out in protected areas.

In addition to existing partnerships and sources of co-financing, there are a number of active bilateral donors that may be engaged during OP6 including the US Embassy and Peoples Republic of China. Also operating within the Caribbean are a number of multilaterals including UWICED, FAO, CDB, UNDP and other UN agencies and foundations where partnerships can be forged. The Disney Reverse the Decline project is also focused on protecting and restoring vulnerable marine habitats and can be a potential partner during OP6, as well as the Gerace Research Foundation which has expressed an interest in helping the country implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

1.3 Foundation for OP6

The experience and resources gained during OP5 allow for the continued effectiveness of The Bahamas GEF SGP during OP6. Partnerships forged between CSOs in OP5 projects have provided the basis for a requested CSO network and mentorship programme that can be explored in OP6 which addresses the strategic initiatives of CSO-Government dialogue platforms and global knowledge management platforms.

The strong focus on climate change mitigation projects in OP5, such as the renewable energy pilot projects carried out by schools in New Providence, provide a basis for the energy access co-benefits strategic initiative in OP6. The completion of model projects such as the Increasing Accessibility of Abaco to Sustainable Living project which established the ACRE demonstration site provide examples for further development in OP6.

The commitment of the GoB and CSOs to biodiversity conservation exhibited during OP5, including projects focused on protecting important seagrass and coral reef habitats, has built a strong foundation for continued work in the landscape/seascape conservation strategic initiative in OP6.

Baseline training activities, such as the Reducing Waste Impacts to the Environment project which trained 16 community members and educated at least 750 students in recycling, can serve as a model for replicating training and upscaling projects in OP6.

A number of the projects were carried out in schools and the Ministry of Education was a partner in those projects. The BREEF project Eco-Schools Bahamas supported the establishment of the Eco-Schools initiative which has been replicated in a number of schools to date. The grant writing projects carried out by The College of The Bahamas and the South Andros Chamber of Commerce have been over-subscribed, and can provide useful models for capacity building projects in OP6. These will help CSOs who engaged in the programs to develop and access grants in OP6.

2. SGP Country Programme Niche

2.1. Alignment with National Priorities

The targeted outcomes set out in the Results Framework below and the strategic initiatives selected by stakeholders are logically aligned with national priorities and have synergies with existing national projects and programmes as well as existing partnerships follows:

Table 1.1 List of Relevant Conventions and National/Regional Plans or Programmes

Rio Conventions + national planning frameworks	Date of ratification / completion
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	2 September 1993
CBD National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)	30 June 1999
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)	Not a signatory ²
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	29 March 1994
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)	1 st April 2001/2 nd November 2015
UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA)	Not available
UNFCCC National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPA)	Not available (National Policy for the Adaptation to Climate Change is dated March 2005)
UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)	10 November 2000
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)	April 2006
Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	3 October 2005
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	In progress (National Coordinating Committee established and series of workshops and validation of the National Chemical Profile in progress)
Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)	Not Available
GEF National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)	August 2005
GEF-6 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)	26 February 2016
Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs) for shared international water-bodies ³	Not Available

² While The Bahamas is not a signatory to this Protocol yet, a GEF MSP ‘Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing’ has been initiated which is designed to create enabling conditions for fair and equitable access and benefit sharing, and lay the groundwork for accession to the Protocol.

³ Although The Bahamas has not prepared an SAP or specifically endorsed the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystem (16 April 2013), it does participate in the regional project for protecting shared international waters such as the Integrated Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) Project, the new Development of a model of integrated land, water and

Minamata Convention on Mercury	Not a signatory
Paris Agreement on Climate Change	22 April 2016
Intended Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement	December 2015

2.2 Opportunities for CSO and Community Engagement in International Conventions

Opportunities are available for the meaningful involvement of communities and CSOs in climate change mitigation and adaptation. The focus on climate change mitigation in OP5 including a number of renewable energy projects provide a basis for the involvement of CSOs in meeting national goals. Partnerships forged in climate change mitigation OP5 projects such as between CSOs, Ministry of the Environment and BEST Commission allow for continued collaboration in OP6.

Additional opportunities for CSOs and community involvement are in the area of landscape/seascape conservation and local to global chemicals coalitions. While The Bahamas is not yet a signatory to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS), there is a GEF MSP that has been initiated to create enabling conditions to facilitate accession to the Protocol. The National Chemical Profile and Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plan are also in the relatively early stages of implementation. As a signatory to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and with a recently submitted INDC, communities and CSOs can be involved in the preparation and implementation of national plans to meet intended nationally determined contributions to greenhouse gas emission reductions. These initiatives provide an opportunity for CSOs and communities to be involved from the onset and provide feedback on the approach that the nation should take in implementing these conventions, and opportunities for CSO involvement in other multilateral agreement negotiations should be encouraged.

The development of a CSO-Government dialogue platform would be beneficial for CSOs and communities to have more meaningful and active engagement in national implementation of international conventions including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2.3 Synergy of OP6 Strategic Initiatives With:

2.3.1 Government Funded Projects and Programmes

The National Development Plan (NDP): one of its four pillars is conservation of the built and natural environment. This project will align well with all four strategic initiatives of OP6, but particularly, in order of priority, the first three selected initiatives: community landscape/seascape conservation, local to global chemical management, and low-carbon energy access co-benefits. As it is a national plan, it will also align with the entire country approach, chosen as the landscape/seascape approach. In addition, the NDP focuses on stakeholder consultation and monitoring and evaluation, creating synergies with the CSO-government dialogue, social inclusion, capacity building and knowledge management strategic initiatives. This project is currently ongoing. COB is expected to have a role in the monitoring and evaluation of this project.

The Caribbean Challenge and The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund: the Caribbean Challenge is a policy initiative among a number of Caribbean states to protect 20% of the nearshore environment by 2020. A GEF FSP focused on marine protected areas led to the creation of The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund, which is designed to be a sustainable financing mechanism for protected areas. This project is currently ongoing. CSO's sit on the board of directors of BPAF.

2.3.2 UNDP CO/UN System Projects and Programmes

National Development Plan (see bullet point one above): the stakeholder-driven process promotes CSO-government dialogue, social inclusion, capacity building and aligns with the UNDP CDP thematic

ecosystem management for The Bahamas and Other SIDS project (IWECO), and the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem (CLME) Project (see: www.clmeproject.org).

focus of strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda. This project is currently ongoing. COB is expected to have a role in the monitoring and evaluation of this project;

GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative: Urban Design Lab Nassau: this project is designed to identify, organize and prioritize urban interventions. It aligns with the UNDP CDP thematic focus of strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda. This project is currently ongoing;

ITU Bahamas Declaration: Powering Smart Sustainable Cities, Nations & Islands: the transformation of Nassau into a ‘smart city’ with heavy reliance on information and communications technology (ICT) aligns with the UNDP CDP thematic focus of strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda. This project is currently ongoing.

While these projects may not have specific CSO engagement requirements, SGP can facilitate involvement through the CSO network and the CSO-Government dialogue platform.

2.3.3 GEF Funded Projects

GEF FSP: Building a Sustainable National Marine Protected Area Network: although this project closed in 2015, it led to the expansion of Marine Protected Areas in The Bahamas (see above) and the establishment of The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund. Strengthening protected areas is also a major component of NPFE 6 priorities, and aligns well with the landscape/seascape conservation strategic initiative chosen by stakeholders. This project closed in 2015 and involved several CSOs.

GEF FSP: Pine Islands – Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration (Grand Bahama, New Providence, Abaco and Andros): this project establishes forestry assessment and monitoring systems, integrated land-use planning and sustainable forestry management principles. It aligns well with the landscape/seascape conservation and local to global chemical management coalition initiatives, and has led to stakeholder engagement by forest users and so complements CSO-government dialogue and social inclusion initiatives. This project is currently ongoing.

GEF MSP: Integrating Water, Land and Ecosystem Management in Caribbean Small Island Developing States (IWEco): Developing a model of integrated land, water and ecosystem management for The Bahamas and Other SIDS: this project is designed to monitor biodiversity in East Grand Bahama, focus on ecosystem monitoring and evaluation and watershed management plans. It creates synergies with the landscape/seascape initiative prioritized by stakeholders, as well as CSO-government dialogue, social inclusion and knowledge management in the stakeholder consultations, citizen science and developing a model that can be scaled up for other SIDS. This project has not officially begun yet.

GEF MSP: Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing in The Bahamas: the first phase of this project produced a baseline assessment for access and benefit sharing in The Bahamas, including a legal and institutional review. The second phase of the project is designed to produce a National Strategy, and lead to the signature and ratification of The Nagoya Protocol. The project aligns well with all of the three strategic initiatives selected by stakeholder, and in particular landscape/seascape conservation, as well as social inclusion and knowledge management. This project is currently ongoing. COB and BNT have been involved in this project.

GEF FSP: Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas: this project has several components which include improving the sustainability of protected areas system, the sustainable use of biodiversity (including maintaining the integrity of coral reef ecosystems), reducing pressures on natural resources from competing uses, promoting innovation, technology transfer, and demonstrating the systemic impacts of mitigation. The project aligns well with all three strategic initiatives selected by stakeholders, and in particular the landscape/seascape conservation initiatives. This project has not officially begun yet.

2.3.4 Major Donor Projects and Programmes

IDB/GoB Feasibility Studies for a Climate-Resilient Coastal Zone Management Investment Programme: this project is designed in two components: Component 1 to support to policy framework and institutional sustainability for risk-resilient integrated coastal zone management (ICZM); and Component 2 to design and feasibility analysis of a risk-resilient ICZM investment program. The project

will complement the landscape/seascape conservation approach, chosen as the top priority of the strategic initiatives by stakeholders. This project is currently ongoing. CSO's sit on the Technical Advisory Committee for this project.

IDB/GoB Ecosystem Based Development for Andros Island: this project is designed to develop a masterplan incorporating island's natural resources, guide future development and physical planning and mainstream natural capital into development plan. It is designed to become a replicable model of stakeholder-based development of land use plans in the family islands. The project can create synergies with the top priority of the strategic initiatives of landscape/seascape conservation, as well as a model for CSO-government dialogue, social inclusion, capacity building and knowledge management. This project is currently ongoing. CSO's sit on the Technical Advisory Committee for this project.

2.3.5 Other NGO-led/funded Projects and Programs

NGO-led Youth Education Programs: Several NGOs, including Young Marine Explorers, Earth Care, Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation (BREEF) and Bahamas National Trust (BNT), focus on youth education and have ongoing programs that align with the social inclusion strategic initiative.

Conchervation Campaign: a national campaign- led by the BNT in partnership with other NGOs including BREEF- to develop a sustainable queen conch industry through public education and bringing together researchers, government agencies, NGO's, private entities and general public to share information, give and receive feedback on best practices. This aligns with the landscape/seascape conservation, CSO-government dialogue platforms, social inclusion and knowledge management strategic initiatives. This project is currently ongoing.

Disney Reverse the Decline Project: a project led by BNT that aims to protect and restore vulnerable marine habitats. This project aligns with the landscape/seascape conservation, CSO-government dialogue platforms and knowledge management strategic initiatives. This project is currently ongoing.

Table 2. SGP Contribution to National Priorities / GEF-6 corporate results

1 SGP OP6 strategic initiatives	2 GEF-6 corporate results by focal area	3 Briefly describe the SGP Country Programme niche relevant to national priorities/other agencies	4 Briefly describe the complementation between the SGP Country Programme and GEF Country Projects
Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society</i>	The SGP Country Programme will support community CSO initiatives that focus on the development and co-management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs); inclusive of the strengthening of national policies that enhance environmental benefits to services provided by the communities within proximity to the MPAs.	GEF FSP: Building a Sustainable National Marine Protected Area Network; GEF FSP: Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas; GEF MSP: Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing in The Bahamas; The Caribbean Challenge and The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund; National Development Plan: 3 phases – diagnoses (complete), national conservation (ongoing), plan development (ongoing); GoB/IDB Feasibility Studies for a Climate-Resilient Coastal Zone Management Investment

			Programme; GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development for Andros Island; GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative: Urban Design Lab Nassau; Conchservation Campaign; Disney Reverse the Decline Project.
Innovative climate-smart agro-ecology; Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)</i>	The GEF SGP will support initiatives by community CSOs that will seek to assist in the conservation of significant forest landscapes within communities. Priority areas will include Pine Forest and Mangrove Forest ecosystems.	GEF FSP: Pine Islands – Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration (Grand Bahama, New Providence, Abaco and Andros); GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development for Andros Island.
Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Promotion of collective management of trans-boundary water systems and implementation of the full range of policy, legal, and institutional reforms and investments contributing to sustainable use and maintenance of ecosystem services</i>	GEF SGP will support the initiatives that seek to improve the community coastal zones ensuring that they are more resilient to climate change.	GEF FSP: Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas; GEF MSP: IWECO: Developing a model of integrated land, water and ecosystem management for The Bahamas and Other SIDS; GoB/IDB Feasibility Studies for a Climate-Resilient Coastal Zone Management Investment Programme; GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development for Andros Island; GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative: Urban Design Lab Nassau.
Energy access co-benefits	<i>Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path</i>	At the community level GEF SGP will seek to support community projects that may pilot innovative ways to increase the use of renewable energy sources and technology that will allow for more energy efficiency in the current ways by which the energy is used.	GEF MSP: Promoting Sustainable Energy in The Bahamas; GEF FSP: Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas; GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative: Urban Design Lab Nassau.
Local to global chemicals coalitions	<i>Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern</i>	GEF SGP will support smaller community initiatives that will seek to properly handle, manage and dispose of the chemicals of POPs, ODS, and mercury.	GEF Regional Project: Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides including POPs, Promotion of Alternatives and Strengthening Pesticides Management in the Caribbean

<p>CSO-Government dialogue platforms</p>	<p><i>Enhance capacity of civil society to contribute to implementation of MEAs (multilateral environmental agreements) and national and sub-national policy, planning and legal frameworks</i></p>	<p>The GEF SGP will support in the ongoing initiatives to produce the National Development Plan: 3 phases – diagnoses (complete), national conservation (ongoing), plan development (ongoing); GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development for Andros Island; ITU Bahamas Declaration: Powering Smart Sustainable Cities, Nations & Islands; Conchervation Campaign; Disney Reverse the Decline Project; Freedom of Information Bill 2015.</p>	<p>Contribution to UNDP CDP Declaration 2015/101 49th Session Theme: Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda; Contribution to UNDP CDP Declaration 2015/101 49th Session Theme: Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda;</p>
<p>Social inclusion (gender, youth, indigenous peoples)</p>	<p><i>GEF Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Gender Equality Action Plan and GEF Principles for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples</i></p>	<p>The GEF SGP will support in the ongoing initiatives to produce the National Development Plan: 3 phases – diagnoses (complete), national conservation (ongoing), plan development (ongoing); GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development for Andros Island; GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative: Urban Design Lab Nassau; ITU Bahamas Declaration: Powering Smart Sustainable Cities, Nations & Islands; NGO-led Youth Education Programmes; BNT Conchervation Campaign.</p>	<p>Contribution to UNDP CDP Declaration 2015/101 49th Session Theme: Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda; Contribution to UNDP CDP Declaration 2015/101 49th Session Theme: Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda;</p>
<p>Contribution to global knowledge management platforms</p>	<p><i>Contribute to GEF KM efforts</i></p>	<p>The GEF SGP will support in the ongoing initiatives to produce the GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative: Urban Design Lab Nassau; ITU Bahamas Declaration: Powering Smart Sustainable Cities, Nations & Islands; BNT Conchervation Campaign; Disney Reverse the Decline Project.</p>	<p>Contribution to UNDP CDP Declaration 2015/101 49th Session Theme: Strengthening the demographic evidence base for the post-2015 development agenda;</p>

3. OP6 Strategies

3.1 Cross-cutting OP6 Grant-making Strategies

3.1.1 Capacity Development

The majority of CSOs during stakeholder consultations cited capacity constraints as a major issue within their organization. These were echoed by government stakeholders as well, with limited capacity to carry out CSO-government dialogues. Significant concerns were voiced at the lack of capacity within CSOs to manage grant projects. While the grant writing workshops in OP5 were over-subscribed, CSOs

voiced a concern to focus on grant management and fundraising as opposed to grant writing. OP6 projects could include the replication of grant writing workshops in the Family Islands, and well as workshops focused on specific issues organizations were having around grant management and fundraising. These could include how to budget for a project, time-management in reporting obligations, reporting training, and training on monitoring and evaluating. Grant ‘mentorships’ were also mentioned as a useful tool which could allow larger and more experienced CSOs to train smaller CSOs in grant management. The strategic priorities for GEF SGP OP6 are new, and will require training for key government stakeholders as well as CSOs. The initial workshop carried out for the development of the CPS led to the creation of presentations which will be hosted on the GEF SGP national website. The NSC can use these materials to roll out training workshops on the new strategic priorities chosen. Some of this training can be electronically recorded in webinars.

The grant writing workshops carried out in OP5 were oversubscribed and it can be repeated in OP6 with an emphasis on project management, including training on report writing and grant budgeting. This training can include training on the strategic priorities selected by CSOs. Ongoing workshops will be held on existing national projects, including the development of the National Development Plan, GoB/IDB Integrated Coastal Zone Management, GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development Plan for Andros, Disney’s Reserve the Decline, GEF MSP IWeco Model of Integrated Land, Water and Ecosystem Management for The Bahamas and other SIDS, GEF MSP Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing, GEF FSP Pine Islands – Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration, GEF FSP Meeting the Challenge of 2020 in The Bahamas, GoB/IDB Sustainable Cities Initiative, ITU Bahamas Declaration: Powering Smart Sustainable Cities, Nations and Islands. Many of the same CSOs who will be proposing grants in GEF SGP OP6 will be invited to these workshops. GEF SGP NSC can use the materials developed already to explain the synergy of these projects with the strategic priorities selected by stakeholders, and provide information on these strategic initiatives and the GEF SGP grant process. This can serve as in-kind co-financing by GEF SGP NSC and avoid duplication of effort and travel costs which are particularly acute in an archipelagic nation. Where GEF SGP NSC members cannot travel to specific islands, the electronic training developed can be played at these workshops at no cost.

Once the Bahamas Protected Areas Fund is fully up and running, workshops will be held to familiarize stakeholders with its granting processes. It is likely that many CSOs which will apply for grants from Bahamas Protected Areas Fund (BPAF) will also apply for them from GEF SGP in OP6. Training on GEF SGP strategic initiatives can also be carried out at the same time, and materials regarding them hosted on the BPAF website.

The development of a discrete CSO network as part of the GEF SGP OP6 grantmaker + can lead to sustainable training by CSOs of CSOs. This can lead to knowledge sharing and management. The strategy should aim to align with GEF training at the national level, and to target a broad set of CSOs at the national level with project management training, as well as provision of the materials developed during this project on the strategic initiatives selected by stakeholders by the end of OP6. The development of a CSO network, and a train-the-trainer approach can assist in rolling out further training to other CSOs on project management. Expansion of existing knowledge management tools such as the video on the knowledge management fair held at COB in OP5, and marketing materials developed, as part of the OP5 projects should be continued.

3.1.2 CSO-government Dialogue Platforms

A lack of cohesion amongst CSOs and lack of transparency from Government were cited as major barriers to CSO-government dialogue. In addition, the tight time constraints in obtaining input from CSOs in government initiatives as well as an approach taken by the Government of mostly providing information about projects at later stages of initiatives rather than soliciting input from CSOs in early planning stages was also cited as a barrier to effective CSO-government dialogue. A project which focuses the dialogue through one particular mechanism, and which builds on the NDP and Andros masterplan stakeholder consultation processes could help tackle these barriers. The development of an

effective CSO-government dialogue platform may be beneficial to promoting CSO and community engagement in the national implementation of international conventions.

3.1.3 Knowledge Management

CSOs mostly rely on hosting knowledge gained from projects on individual CSO websites. Many of the databases used by CSOs are membership only databases as well. Due to this compartmentalization, there is a lack of sharing of knowledge among CSOs or awareness of what knowledge other CSOs hold that could be helpful. The development of an integrated knowledge management network that incorporates knowledge from individual CSOs would be beneficial in sharing experiences gained across the archipelago and assist in replication and scaling up of projects. Extended use of social media and international outreach would also be beneficial.

3.2 Landscape/seascape-based OP6 Grant-making Strategies

3.2.1 Strategy Development Process

The Bahamas GEF SGP CPS consultation and scoping exercises consisted of a number of steps in order to gain feedback from stakeholders to decide upon the landscape/seascape approach to be utilized in the country along with the priorities and planning for delivering OP6 outcomes. The steps are found in greater detail in Annex 1: Baseline Study of Landscape/Seascape and are summarized here.

A comprehensive list of stakeholders was identified with input from the National Coordinator (NC) that included over 30 CSOs and governmental agencies. Using GEF SGP OP6 technical reports and other resources, questionnaires aimed at soliciting OP6 specific feedback from stakeholders were developed. All identified stakeholders were invited to participate in a workshop that presented the strategic initiatives of OP6. The workshop focused on discussion, guided by the questionnaires, in order to facilitate a collaborative consensus on the priorities and planning for OP6. Stakeholders that were unable to attend the workshop were invited to complete the questionnaire remotely in order to include their feedback in the CPS. Sixteen stakeholders attended with a mixture of both CSO and governmental representatives, accounting for over 50% of stakeholders invited. 3 CSO stakeholders opted to complete and return the questionnaire. Details can be found in Annex 1 and a list of attendees in Appendix 3. A meeting of the National Steering Committee (NSC) was also held to gain feedback regarding planning and prioritization of activities in OP6.

3.2.2 Selection of Landscape/Seascape

As a small island developing state, The Bahamas was able to identify either the entire country as one landscape/seascape or to identify particular landscapes/seascapes within the country. Feedback from stakeholders strongly supported the classification of the entire country as one landscape/seascape rather than isolating particular areas. This was largely due to the archipelagic geography of the country and the dispersal of CSOs on different islands making the identification of particular landscapes/seascapes an unsuitable approach for the nation.

Considering the entire country as one landscape/seascape is important to the country given the wide geographical scope of national priorities as identified in Table 2. As detailed in Section 2.3, there are a number of government, GEF and NGO funded projects and programmes that take place across the archipelago and that can be built upon for SGP OP6. Selecting the entire country as one landscape/seascape allows for OP6 funded projects to build upon existing national priorities that span the nation.

Figure 1: Map of The Bahamas
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3.2.3 Strategic Initiatives Prioritized

The consultation and scoping exercises allowed stakeholders to identify the strategic initiatives to be prioritized for OP6. SGP OP6 Component 1: *Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation* was identified as the number one priority for OP6. Stakeholders opined that both governmental agencies and CSOs were already committed to the management and protection of landscapes and seascapes and that there were greater possibilities to obtain co-financing for conservation projects. The other two initiatives identified for prioritization in OP6 were SGP OP6 Component 3: *Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits* and SGP OP6 Component 4: *Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions*. Both of these initiatives were thought to be relevant to national priorities as The Bahamas addresses climate change and the impacts of waste management on ecosystems and human health.

The Baseline Study of Landscape/Seascape details critical issues and needs of The Bahamas which include addressing impacts from climate change, deterioration of major ecosystems, decline of ecological resources, increased energy insecurity, loss of biodiversity, inadequate waste management and unregulated development. The selected strategic initiatives for OP6 align with these critical issues and needs through a focus on conservation, low-carbon energy access and chemical management.

3.2.4 Four Year Strategy

With the selection of the entire country as one landscape/seascape, the strategy for grantmaking in the three selected strategic initiatives was prioritized according to input from stakeholders. The targets, activities and indicators of what the CPS will accomplish during OP6 are detailed in Table 3. Given the decrease in funding from OP5 to OP6, it is expected that there will also be a decrease in the number of projects funded. With a budget of \$1M in OP5, 37 projects were funded. With a budget of \$400,000 in OP6, it is expected that 15 projects will be funded.

SGP OP6 Component 1: *Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation*

Stakeholders identified the need to focus conservation on ecosystems that provide critical ecosystem services including coastal protection. An emphasis on providing support for projects related to protected areas within the country was also articulated. Projects should afford economic, ecological and social benefits and allow for the active involvement of communities. Outcomes for this initiative include funding for 5-10 projects focused on (i) increasing coastal protection through conservation, (ii) restoration of coastal ecosystems and (iii) maintaining and restoring critical ecosystem services. Indicators for these outcomes are (i) number of hectares of land and/or sea protected, actively managed or restored, (ii) measurable increase in coastal protection provided by coastal ecosystems, and (iii) measurable increase in critical services provided by ecosystems.

SGP OP6 Component 3: *Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits*

Building on the successes of OP5 projects that focused on climate change mitigation, stakeholders identified the need to increase the usage of renewable energy through identification of innovative projects that are community-oriented and adapted to local conditions. Projects that provide additional benefits in addition to climate change mitigation such as increased income, improved health or positive ecosystem effects shall be prioritized. Outcomes for this initiative include funding for 4-9 projects focused on (i) community oriented and locally adapted renewable energy and energy conservation projects, (ii) successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication, and (iii) provision of co-benefits in addition to reduction of GHG. Indicators for these outcomes are (i) decrease in energy generated by fossil fuels, (ii) number of community members involved in renewable energy or energy conservation projects, (iii) number of successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication, and (iv) co-benefits achieved in addition to GHG reduction.

SGP OP6 Component 4: *Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions*

Stakeholders identified the need for projects to address waste management across the country in order to decrease harmful effects to ecosystems, particularly damage to water tables. Projects that also address the linkages between waste management and human health were identified as particularly important. Outcomes for this initiative include funding for 2-5 projects focused on (i) sustainable waste management practices, and (ii) decreasing detrimental effects of waste management on ecosystems and human health. Indicators for these outcomes are (i) percentage of waste sustainably managed.

3.2.5 Synergy between Initiatives

SGP grants will align with the outcomes of the NPFE 6 which has resulted in the proposed project for OP6, 'Meeting the Challenge of 2020'. This project focuses on improving the sustainability of protected areas, sustainable use of biodiversity, reducing pressures on natural resources, promoting innovative, technology transfer and systemic impacts of mitigation. These themes fit in well with the strategic priorities chosen by stakeholders: landscape/seascape conservation, low-carbon energy access co-benefits and local to global chemical management coalitions. Conservation of ecosystems, including coastal protection also aligns with several other ongoing national projects: GoB/IDB Integrated Coastal Zone Management, GoB/IDB Ecosystem Based Development Plan for Andros, Disney's Reserve the Decline, GEF MSP IWECO developing a model of integrated land, water and ecosystem management for The Bahamas and other SIDS, GEF MSP Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing, GEF FSP Pine Islands – Forest/Mangrove Innovation and Integration.

3.2.6 Mobilization of Additional Funds

If synergies can be developed between SGP projects in OP6 and the above nationally scaled projects, co-financing from these projects could possibly be used as additional funds and resources to support the SGP projects. These could be on the basis of both cash and in-kind resources, in particular training on the outcome of these projects and lessons that can be learned and pilot projects that can be employed as SGPs. The bilateral donors identified below can also be additional sources of financing.

3.2.7 Projects outside the Landscape/seascape

CSOs have expressed concern over capacity constraints regarding project management. Further workshops on grant project management, including training on reporting and grant budgeting, would be a useful use of funds outside of the three strategic priority areas. Training on the strategic initiatives could take place at the same time. CSOs also expressed a desire for a more cohesive mechanism for CSO-government dialogue. The creation of a CSO network, where grant mentorship as well as co-ordinated recommendations on policy could be made, would also be a useful use of grant funds. This would increase citizen participation in environmental issues in a formal capacity, increase involvement of CSOs in the development and implementation of national priorities, as well as contribute to the promotion of the National Development Plan.

3.3. Grant-maker+ Strategies

3.3.1. CSO-government Dialogue Platform

The NDP Secretariat has identified the Ecosystem Based Development Plan for Andros as a model for further development of land use plans in the country. The process was stakeholder consultation heavy, and is designed to allow residents to contribute to the development of a masterplan for their island, incorporating the island's natural resources. This model should be replicated nationally, with CSOs involved in the consultations.

Several CSOs, including The College of The Bahamas, The Bahamas National Trust, and Save the Bays were involved in national preparations to attend UNFCCC COP 21 as members of the national delegation and observers. They were also involved in post-Paris stakeholder workshop to brief stakeholders on the outcome of the negotiations. Involvement of interested CSOs such as these should be maintained in future preparations for UNFCCC/Paris Agreement negotiations. Involvement in south-south development exchanges by these CSOs on climate change should also be encouraged. CSOs should also be involved in national preparations for other international agreements such as the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing.

CSOs have recommended the development of a cohesive CSO network in order to streamline access to policy makers and also to serve as a knowledge-sharing platform among CSOs of similar concerns, where synergies could be built, and also to pass on grant project management knowledge. In addition, the passage of a Freedom of Information Act would significantly improve the transparency barriers that have been identified by CSOs at a national level.

GEF SGP can facilitate the development of this cohesive CSO network by providing assistance and support either in funds for projects or in kind contributions. The CSO network will take into account gender equality and youth participation. The CSO network can also inform and assist with the work of the GEF SGP in OP6.

3.3.2. Policy Influence

The Bahamas will be submitting regular Nationally Determined Contributions, NAMAs and undergo a Technology Review pursuant to the Paris Agreement and UNFCCC, and should update its Climate Change Adaptation Policy. Stakeholders should be included in the development of these plans. The Green Climate Fund, UNFCCC and other relevant climate funds can be accessed to assist in their development.

The Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plan is in the process of being developed. CSOs carrying out projects in the local to global chemical coalitions should form a CSO network, and should

also be invited to help develop this NIP. The BEST Commission is the lead agency nationally and would be a natural partner in this endeavor.

Stakeholder consultation was carried out as part of the baseline activities for the Strengthening Access and Benefit Sharing project, and if national legislation is drafted and enabling conditions created, CSOs should be further consulted on the drafting of national legislation and the implementation of enabling conditions. Extending these efforts of CSO participation in MEA negotiations and formulation of national positions is recommended.

GEF SGP can facilitate the involvement of stakeholders into the development of plans and the formation of national policy through development of the CSO-Government dialogue platform. In addition, GEF SGP can analyze the projects completed under OP6 to determine whether and how they can contribute to informing national policy.

3.3.3. Promoting Social Inclusion

Gender Analysis

Social inclusion is a cross-cutting theme for OP6 and should be implemented in all strategic initiatives at all stages of project cycles. The SGP CPS for OP6 is committed to promoting women's empowerment, gender equality and the involvement of youth in country portfolio programming. The Bahamas SGP will continue to provide support to women-led projects in OP6. While gender equality is often focused on increasing the participation of females in projects, in the Bahamian context there is often significantly more involvement by females. To address the need for gender equality, the SGP will require projects to track the percentage of males and females that were involved or benefitted from projects. There may be a need to specifically encourage the participation of males in potential projects.

Youth Analysis

To include youth in country portfolio programming, GEF SGP will also require projects to track the percentage of youth involved or benefitting from projects. GEF SGP may propose partnerships with CSOs specifically focused on youth engagement in order to increase the number of youth involved in programming. CSOs are already identifying and in some cases implementing projects which attract young males in particular. For example, BNT has a dive certification programme which is proving to be popular among young men. Examples such as these projects should be shared within the CSO network and with the GEF SGP.

3.3.4. Knowledge Management Plan

Knowledge management is a critical component of effective projects and is a cross-cutting theme for OP6. All projects and project proposals shall include a plan for knowledge management and include a specific budget for knowledge management. While CSOs have identified existing methods of knowledge management, these methods are mostly reliant on individual CSO websites or membership based databases. During OP6, the development of an integrated knowledge management network that incorporates knowledge from individual CSOs will be developed. This will aid CSOs in peer to peer exchanges and assist in the replication and scaling up of projects. This comprehensive knowledge management network can be integrated with the OP6 digital library and facilitate South-South exchange.

3.3.5. Communications Strategy

The Communications Strategy for the GEF SGP OP6 will be part of the larger national communications strategy on OP6, and will include both CSOs and government stakeholders. Improving the awareness of the GEF SGP initiatives will be achieved through the hosting of a Knowledge Management and Best Practice Fair. It will also include the use of a quarterly e-newsletter provided free of charge to all stakeholders, the use of seminar and awareness raising presentations made by the NC and NSC members whenever the opportunity presents itself. Further the launch of each project will do its best to receive local media coverage to highlight the work and involvement of the GEF SGP throughout. Finally each project will seek the opportunity to appear on local radio to share their stories with the broadcasting listeners.

4. Expected Results Framework

Table 3. Consistency with SGP OP6 Global Programme Components

1 OP6 project components	2 CPS targets	3 Activities	4 Indicators	5 Means of verification
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 1:</u> <i>Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation:</i></p> <p>1.1 SGP country programmes improve conservation and sustainable use, and management of important terrestrial and coastal/marine ecosystems through implementation of community based landscape/seascape approaches in approximately 50 countries.</p>	<p>-Entire country identified as landscape/seascape; -Increased coastal protection; -Maintenance and restoration of critical ecosystem services.</p>	<p>5-10 projects focused on: -Increasing coastal protection through conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems; -Maintaining and restoring critical ecosystem services.</p>	<p>-Number of hectares of land and/or sea protected, actively managed or restored; -Increase in coastal protection provided by coastal ecosystems; -Increase in critical services provided by ecosystems.</p>	<p>-Individual project reporting by SGP country teams -Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) -Country Programme Strategy Review</p>
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 3:</u> <i>Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits:</i></p> <p>3.1 Low carbon community energy access solutions successfully deployed in 50 countries with alignment and integration of these approaches within larger frameworks such as SE4ALL initiated in at least 12 countries.</p>	<p>-Increased energy generation from renewable sources; -Reduction of GHG along with other community benefits including increased income, improved health or positive ecosystem effects.</p>	<p>4-9 projects focused on: -Community oriented and locally adapted renewable energy and energy conservation projects; -Successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication; -Provision of co-benefits in addition to reduction of GHG.</p>	<p>- decrease in energy generated by fossil fuels; -Number of community members involved in renewable energy or energy conservation projects; -Number of successful demonstrations for scaling up and replication; -Co-benefits achieved in addition to GHG reduction.</p>	<p>-Individual project reporting by SGP country teams -Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) -Country Programme Strategy Review</p>
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 4:</u> <i>Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions:</i></p> <p>4.1 Innovative community-based tools and approaches</p>	<p>-Improved water security; -Improved waste management; -Decreased detrimental effects of waste management on human health.</p>	<p>2-5 projects focused on: -Sustainable waste management practices; -Decreasing detrimental effects of waste management on ecosystems and human health.</p>	<p>-Percentage of waste sustainably managed;</p>	<p>-Individual project reporting by SGP country teams -Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) -Country Programme Strategy Review</p>

<p>demonstrated, deployed and transferred, with support from newly organized or existing coalitions in at least 20 countries for managing harmful chemicals and waste in a sound manner.</p>				
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 5:</u> <i>CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms (Grant-makers+):</i></p> <p>5.1 SGP supports establishment of “CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms”, leveraging existing and potential partnerships, in at least 50 countries</p>	<p>- CSO network to be formed; -Increased citizen participation in environmental issues in a formal capacity; -Increased involvement of CSOs in development and implementation of national priorities; -Promotion of National Development Plan (NDP).</p>	<p>1-4 projects focused on: -Development of effective CSO-Government dialogues platforms; -Increasing citizen participation in environmental issues; -Public education and engagement in environmental issues and NDP; -Establishing a CSO network.</p>	<p>-Number of CSO-government dialogue platforms developed; -Number of CSOs and government agencies that participate in platform; -Effect of platform on policy and practice; -Number of community members educated on environmental issues and NDP; -Number of community members that engage with environmental issues and NDP; -Impact of public engagement on environmental issues and NDP; -Establishment of CSO network.</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams on number of CSOs including knowledge management in project proposals;</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p>
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 6:</u> <i>Promoting Social Inclusion (Grant-makers+):</i></p> <p>6.1 Gender mainstreaming considerations applied by all SGP country programmes; Gender training utilized by SGP staff, grantees, NSC members, partners</p> <p>6.3 Involvement of youth and disabled is further supported in SGP projects and guidelines and best practices are widely</p>	<p>-Gender equality in project participants and beneficiaries (may include the need to actively engage males); -Increased youth engagement in projects.</p>	<p>1-4 projects aimed at: -increasing gender equality at the project level; -increasing youth engagement.</p> <p><i>Cross-cutting priority for the CPS at the national level</i></p>	<p>-Percentage of males and females impacted and involved in projects; -Percentage of youth impacted and involved in projects.</p>	<p>Individual project reporting by SGP country teams</p> <p>SGP Global Database</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p>

shared with countries				
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 7:</u> <i>Global Reach for Citizen Practice-Based Knowledge program (Grant-makers+):</i></p> <p>7.1 Digital library of community innovations is established and provides access to information to communities in at least 50 countries</p> <p>7.2 South-South Community Innovation Exchange Platform promotes south-south exchanges on global environmental issues in at least 20 countries</p>	<p>-Sustainable livelihoods; -Improved knowledge management systems.</p>	<p>1-4 projects focused on: -Identification and promotion of areas with the opportunity to support sustainable livelihoods across all strategic initiatives; -Training for CSOs on knowledge management; -Development of integrated knowledge management system for CSOs.</p>	<p>-Number of areas where opportunities for sustainable livelihoods are identified; -Number of community members informed about sustainable livelihood opportunities; -Number of CSOs trained on knowledge management; -Development of integrated knowledge management system; -Number of CSOs participating in integrated knowledge management system.</p>	<p>SGP Global Database</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p>

5. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

5.1. Country Level M&E of CPS

M&E of the CPS is imperative to ensure that the goals and outcomes of OP6 are met. In order to ensure that the CPS is implemented, there are a number of activities that will take place. The SGP database will be updated to track progress of funded projects. The Annual Country Programme Strategy Review will take place in collaboration with the NC and the NSC to track the progress of the CPS throughout OP6. The NSC will continue to meet bi-annually. An Annual Country Report and Annual Monitoring Report will also be completed to assess the effectiveness of the SGP and identify areas for improvement. Finally, at the end of OP6, a strategic CPS review will take place. It may also be helpful to review and categorize indicators for projects using a sub-regional grouping such as northern, central and southern Bahamas to ensure that impacts are evenly spread throughout the country.

5.2 M&E of Individual SGP Grantee Partners

During the implementation of projects, a pre-visit will take place in order to collect baseline data. During the implementation of the project, a minimum of two visits by the NC will take place. Interim and final reports submitted by CSOs will be reviewed to ensure compliance with project goals. To reduce costs of M&E, the NC will collaborate with grantee partners and academic institutions, where feasible, to share M&E costs and responsibilities.

5.3 Local Stakeholder Participation

The involvement of local stakeholders is imperative to project success in OP6. To encourage the participation of local stakeholders, project workplans must include the ways that stakeholders have taken

part in setting the objectives and outputs of the project and detail how stakeholders will participate in monitoring the project. Interim and final reports of projects should also include an evaluation of stakeholder participation.

5.4 Aggregation of SGP Individual Projects

Results of individual projects will be aggregated at the national level through usage of the SGP database. The Annual Country Programme Strategy Review, Annual Country Report and Annual Monitoring Report will also aggregate results of individual projects and provide a basis for assessing the efficacy of the CPS for OP6.

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 identification of community projects	NC, NSC, country stakeholders, grantee	Covered under preparatory grant	At start of operational phase
Annual Country Programme Strategy Review	Learning; adaptive management	NC, NSC, CPMT	Covered under country programme operating costs	Reviews will be conducted on annual basis to ensure CPS is on track in achieving its outcomes and targets, and to take decisions on any revisions or adaptive management needs
NSC Meetings for ongoing review of project results and analysis	Assess effectiveness of projects, portfolios, approaches; learning; adaptive management	NC, NSC, UNDP	Covered under country programme operating costs	Minimum twice per year, one dedicated to M&E and adaptive management at end of grant year
Annual Country Report (ACR)	Enable efficient reporting to NSC	NC presenting to NSC	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per year in June
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) Survey (based on ACR)	Enable efficient reporting to CPMT and GEF; presentation of results to donor	NC submission to CPMT	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per year in July

Strategic Country Portfolio Review	Learning; adaptive management for strategic development of Country Programme	NSC	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per operational phase
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6. Resource Mobilization Plan

6.1 OP6 Resource Mobilization

6.1.1 Project Level Co-financing

Synergies with ongoing national plans should create opportunities for in-kind as well as cash co-financing for projects in the selected strategic initiatives. These donors include The Government of The Bahamas, Inter-American Development Bank, The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund, Disney's Reverse the Decline, The Nature Conservancy, BAMSI, and IICA. Only a small number of CSOs were able to contribute cash co-financing, but the donors used in OP5 should be engaged again for OP6 projects.

Table 5. Potential Targeted Donors for Projects

Donor	Project	Strategic Initiative(s)
Government of The Bahamas	Implementation of environmental pillar of the National Development Plan	All three strategic initiatives
	Freedom of Information Bill 2015	Grantmaker +: Social inclusion, CSO-Government Dialogue
Inter-American Development Bank and GoB	Integrated Coastal Zone Management	Community landscape/seascape conservation; Local to global chemicals coalitions
	Ecosystem based Andros masterplan	All three strategic initiatives, as well as Grantmaker+: social inclusion and CSO-Government Dialogue
The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund	Sustainable financing for protected areas	Community landscape/seascape conservation; Local to global chemicals coalitions; Grantmaker+: social inclusion and CSO-Government Dialogue
Disney's Reserve the Decline	Restore vulnerable marine habitats	Community landscape/seascape conservation; Local to global chemicals coalitions; Grantmaker+: social inclusion and CSO-Government Dialogue

6.1.2 Landscape/seascape Level Co-financing

Bilateral opportunities should be explored using existing relationships such as with the US Embassy, People’s Republic of China, UWICED, FAO, CDB, UNDP and other UN agencies, and these efforts should be expanded. The Bahamas Protected Areas Fund is also anticipated to be a large donor for landscape/seascape conservation projects. The Gerace Research Foundation has expressed an interest in assisting the GoB in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

6.1.3 Diversify Funding Sources

Non-GEF sources of funding can include the UNFCCC as well as bilateral agencies such as the US Embassy, People’s Republic of China, UWICED, FAO, CDB, UNDP and other UN agencies. The Gerace Research Centre has also approached the GoB about potential funding for achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

6.1.4 Recover Costs to Co-finance

Synergies in training needs can be supplied as set out in paragraph 3.3.5 above, fulfilled by the NSC. A train-the-trainer approach and development of a CSO network means that inter-CSO training can also take place, with successful grant case studies highlighted by CSOs themselves.

6.1.5 SGP Delivery Mechanism

If SGP projects are aligned with national priorities and projects, SGP can serve as a delivery mechanism for achievement of national goals and objective, the inclusion of stakeholders in national planning processes for MEAs, as well as further strengthening CSO engagement and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

6.1.6 “Grantmaker+” Role

The SGP team including the NSC and NC can be tapped to help communities and CSOs develop proposals to access other donors and funding facilities. The NSC can provide training on the strategic priorities selected in OP6. This training can be part of existing workshops already planned for ongoing national projects. In addition, electronic resources can be recorded and accessed by CSOs through the NSC and GEF SGP national website. Additional workshops on project management as well as reporting writing and grant budgeting can also be held.

Funding for stakeholder engagement in the development of UNFCCC Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), updating the Climate Change Adaptation Policy, and a Technology Needs Assessment can be accessed through the UNFCCC and the Green Climate Fund. Projects which address the strategic low-carbon energy priority can also be addressed to the Green Climate Fund. The Government of The Bahamas either itself or through other donors should also be accessing funds to implement priorities agreed under the National Development Plan, and these can also serve as potential donors. BPAF should also serve as a significant donor for projects in the landscape/seascape conservation area.

Significant national projects are being carried out through funding from GEF STAR allocations, as well as through the Inter-American Development Bank and the Disney Corporation. These private donors could act as sources of financing for projects which align with these projects.

<p>3. Environmental sustainability: many CSOs identified problems with lack of transparency in government projects and no precautionary approach being taken at the national level. It is likely that these barriers between CSO-government dialogue may persist in OP6. While OP6 SGP projects are likely to include environmental sustainability, lack of access to policy formation fora may preclude environmental sustainability being included at the national level.</p>	<p>Low</p>	<p>Low</p>	
<p>Climate Risks: Climate change is the most pressing environmental challenge for The Bahamas. Despite this, there is a risk that climate resilience will not be included into OP6 projects or at the national level.</p>	<p>OP6 projects: Low National level: Medium</p>	<p>Low Medium</p>	<p>Several successful OP5 projects were based on climate mitigation, and it is expected that these will continue in OP6 and be replicated across the family islands.</p> <p>There is a lack of localized data on the impacts of climate change at the national level, and the issue of climate change is complex. It is possible that these two factors may serve as a barrier to stakeholder training on climate risk.</p> <p>At the national level, much work needs to be done on climate change adaptation. The recent NDP project as well as the GoB/IDB Integrated Coastal Zone Management is a</p>

			mitigating factor.
Significant cuts in GEF SGP funding for OP6 could lead to grant applications exceeding resources. Too many administrative requirements may mean that CSOs may not apply for or complete projects.	High	High	Training on synergies between projects and CSO collaboration.

7.2 Risk Tracking

UNDP social and environmental safeguards: it is recommended that the NSC continues to provide training to CSOs which includes these safeguards.

Climate risk: it is recommended that the NSC continues to provide training to CSOs which includes climate risk. The NSC should also work closely with existing institutions that are working on climate risk issues, including the Public Education and Outreach Subcommittee of the National Climate Change Committee, the IDB Integrated Coastal Zone Management team, and the Climate Change Initiative at The College of The Bahamas, as well as CSOs who participated in the preparation of national positions for The Paris Agreement.

Number of projects: the NSC will track the number of projects applied for and completed.

8. National Steering Committee Endorsement

Note: The signature of endorsement at this point is for the complete and final CPS duly reviewed by the NSC and agreed as the guide to the implementation of OP6 by the SGP Country Programme.

NSC members involved in OP6 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures

Annex 1: OP6 Landscape/seascape Baseline Assessment