

**GEF-SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME
COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY
FOR UTILIZATION OF
OP6 GRANT FUNDS**

Country:

NIGERIA

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Acronyms

AAP	Africa Adaptation Programme
BD	Biodiversity
CBOs	Community-Based Organizations
CCA	Community Conservation Area
CC	Climate Change
CCD	Convention to Combat Desertification
CPMT	Central Programme Management Team (For the SGP)
CPS	Country Programme Strategy
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
IW	International Waters
KM	Knowledge Management
LD	Land Degradation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NAPA	National Action Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NC	National Coordinator
NGOs	Non-governmental Organizations
NSC	National Steering Committee
OP	Operational Programme
POPs	Persistent Organic Pollutants
SGP	Small Grants Programme
UNCBD	UN Convention on Biodiversity
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank

SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR OP6

COUNTRY NIGERIA

OP6 resources (estimated US\$)¹

- a. **Core funds: US\$700,000**
- b. **OP5 remaining balance: US\$80,000**
- c. **STAR funds: US\$1,350,000**
- d. **Other Funds to be mobilized: US\$200,000**

Background:

As a GEF corporate programme, SGP aligns its operational phase strategies to that of the GEF, and provides a series of demonstration projects for further scaling up, replication and mainstreaming. Action at the local level by civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities is deemed a vital component of the GEF 20/20 Strategy (i.e. convening multi-stakeholder alliances to deliver global environmental benefits and contribute to UNDP's Strategic Plan and focus on sustainable development).² At the global level, the SGP OP6 programme goal is to “effectively support the creation of global environmental benefits and the safeguarding of the global environment through community and local solutions that complement and add value to national and global level action.”

1. SGP country programme - summary background

1.1. In the last seven years of operation³, the GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) Nigeria has witnessed a progressive improvement in its approach to supporting development initiatives in communities and consequently, in achievements. SGP Nigeria has reached more remote, poor and marginalised communities, including the aged and the physically challenged than any other development assistance in Nigeria. The results of SGP projects have fed into states and national policy processes. For instance, after SGP has supported the popularization and promotion of the use of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in Lagos State, the government of Lagos State declared 2013 the year of adoption of LPG, with SGP grantee, Friends of the Environment (FOTE), which implemented the pilot project, taking the lead to ensure the success of the adoption policy. Since then there has been wide spread use of LPG in Lagos State and many have since changed to LPG use. This has seen a massive reduction on the use of firewood and increasing utilization of the hitherto flared LPG.

SGP Nigeria has worked with and built the capacity of over 100 Non-Government Organizations and Community Based Organization (NGOs/CBOs). Over 85% of NGOs/CBOs have attested to the fact that SGP has built their capacity for project conceptualization and design, community engagement, proposal writing,

¹ The level of SGP OP6 resources is an estimated total of: (i) the GEF6 core grant allocation (to be reviewed annually by CPMT on the basis of performance, co-financing and strategic partnerships, demonstrated NSC commitment rates, and UNOPS delivery); (ii) approved STAR resources; as well as (iii) other sources of third party cost sharing & co-financing (country, regional and/or global levels). Note that countries with remaining OP5 balances that have not been pipelined, will be expected to use these balances in line with the OP6 strategic approach in order to be coherent in terms of SGP programming and results expected.

² The initial SGP OP6 concept was incorporated into the strategic directions for the overall GEF-6 replenishment, and subsequently approved by the GEF Council paper “GEF Small Grants Programme: Implementation Arrangements for GEF-6” (GEF/C.46/13) in May 2014.

³ Nigeria secured the approval to participate in the GEF-Small Grants Programme in December 2006 and Country Programme started in Year 2 of Operational Phase 4 in 2009.

implementation strategy, report writing, knowledge management and mentoring⁴⁵. Also, three individuals, having undergone the training and implementation of SGP projects have been awarded the prestigious Ashoka Fellowship⁶. SGP Nigeria has also continued to enjoy the goodwill of the Nigerian media and have thus been supported by publicizing SGP in the media with no payment for the services provided, thus SGP has saved millions of money through innovative Knowledge Management strategy. SGP Nigeria is experiencing paradigm shift amongst the communities, which have been supported and this is impacting positively on the environment and the livelihood of the beneficiaries. SGP Nigeria has also empowered communities which either did not understand or could not help themselves about the effect of climate change they have been experiencing by creating awareness, providing them with skills and tools as well as providing alternative livelihood activities to address the changing climate especially with regards to the agricultural practices.

Start-up Year	2009
Total Number of Projects	117
National Coverage	25 states
Grant Amount	\$4,050,000
Total Co-financing	\$3,937,078

Over **400,000** poor rural dwellers, (**65%** women and **35%** men) have benefitted directly from the projects. About **50%** of communities have either never experienced or benefitted from any development support or participated in such a way as allowed by SGP.

SGP Nigeria has contributed to the Sustainable Development Goals and to many of Federal Government’s discussion on policy issues and international meetings by providing technical support and information materials, which have been used to showcase national efforts and achievements. Thus SGP Nigeria has been termed the “*flagship of GEF projects*”. SGP has also contributed information to intended and planned national efforts to contribute to and address international obligations to achieve global environmental benefits. Figure 1 and 2 below show the distribution of SGP supported projects in the different focal areas and the project sites respectively.

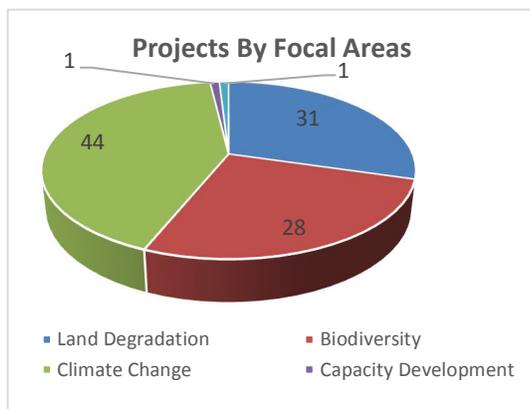


Figure 1: Distribution of SGP projects by Focal Areas

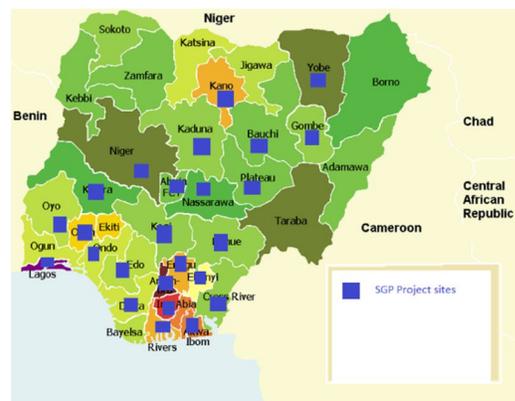


Figure 2: Distribution of SGP projects by States

⁴ Mentoring is an innovative way SGP Nigeria uses to engage SGP Grantees who have successfully implemented a project to coach other prospective grantees by providing them guidance using the knowledge they had gained through training and implementation of SGP projects.

⁵ A few of SGP beneficiaries of the training have requested SGP to start issuing them certificate for these achievement.

⁶ Ashoka Fellowship is a paid award to recognise people who have excelled as change makers The aim of the Fellowship is to find, select, and support the world’s leading social entrepreneurs

Strategically, the Country programme has supported CSO networking in various ways including meetings to share experiences and exchange information; mentorship programme where prospective grantees get tutored by old grantees on SGP grant making process; facilitation of CSOs participation at every meeting of the National Council on Environment and capacity building to leverage on project results for policy advocacy campaigns. SGP has supported CSOs' participation in relevant regional, national and international meetings. Thus SGP has positioned herself in the realm of major CSO network and has continued to build her own network of CSO Grantees and other interested groups.

SGP has enjoyed the support of the Federal Government since inception in 2009. The Federal Government promised an annual support to SGP and though only once has this financial support been redeemed, the government in collaboration with UNDP CO has supported SGP's annual capacity building workshops to acquaint CSOs with SGP Grant process. The Switzerland, Australian and Japan Embassies have supported replication and scaling up of projects supported by SGP. SGP also secured the support of UNDP CO for her Knowledge Fair Project to further increase SGP's visibility for more collaborations.

These achievements will be the basis for every bold steps to pursue the strategy of OP6, by harnessing the various linkages to secure more collaboration. Harnessing the support of the Federal Government. The strength of SGP Grantee Network would be harnessed to promote community engagement, empowerment and participation in advocacy programmes for policy input.

2. SGP country programme niche

2.1 Nigeria's Environment and Development Challenges

The underlying factors of environmental problems of Nigeria are more human induced and are evidently impacting adversely and severally on land and water resource productivity including agriculture, biodiversity and energy. The attendant effects of resource depletion, land degradation, pollution of land, marine and freshwater habitats, waste and unplanned urbanization are putting pressure on the limited material and infrastructure resources. Conflicts on resource use is increasing, reducing opportunities to insulate the poor from crisis is a major concern which have its deep roots in environmental degradation.

Unsustainable natural resource exploitation has affected almost all the vegetation types in the country. Farming, logging, hunting, road construction and other development activities due to rapidly expanding population have together, reduced the nation's natural plant cover to isolated remnants.

With her estimated 170 million human population, Nigeria has one of the highest growth rate (about 3% annually), there is need to build capacity for energy efficiency and to embrace a more diversified source of renewable energy. Fuelwood consumption and charcoal production is putting a high pressure on forest resources. Energy efficiency is also important to help Nigeria get over the problems of solid waste and farm residue misuse.

Pollution due to the activities of the extractive industries has caused long term conflicts on resource management, most particularly in oil and gas producing areas e.g the Niger Delta. With much of oil and gas reserves located in the Atlantic coastal areas, attention to support community conservation efforts and management of waste forms a crucial issue. The current oil spill clean –up exercise of Ogoni area in Rivers State Nigeria as a follow up to the UNEP Report on oil pollution in the Niger Delta is an example of the situation in oil producing areas in Nigeria.

In agricultural producing areas, communities are facing huge challenges arising from land degradation, low fertility, low knowledge on chemical application in agriculture, post-harvest loss management and attendant effects of climate change to agricultural planning in rain fed farm operations. It becomes very important for the GEF SGP Nigeria to work with communities to utilize the platform provided by the climate smart

agriculture intervention of the GEF SGP OP6 to address agro-ecosystem management issues and concern most especially in rural areas where small holder agriculture support millions of people for food security and livelihoods.

The savannas in the northern part of the country are constantly threatened by desert encroachment in addition to anthropogenic factors. Nigeria is currently embarking on an ambitious vegetation rehabilitation programme in the desert prone areas of northern Nigeria. The Great Green Wall project is Nigeria's strategic approach to check the menace of desert encroachment and reduce the negative impacts of drought in dryland northern Nigeria.

In all ramifications, Nigeria is highly vulnerable to the effects of unsustainable resource exploitation, loss of biodiversity and climate change and therefore deserves a wide range of climate mitigation and adaptation approaches to secure a formidable and sustainable future for the present and future generation of people through food security, environmental management and integrated national planning for sustainable development.

2.2 Relevance of OP6 to National Priorities

Nigeria has signed and ratified many of the major biodiversity, environment and natural resources conventions that foster the conservation and better management of forests, wildlife and biodiversity resources. Effective natural resources management in Nigeria also hinges on large scale environmental issues including climate change, desertification, persistent organic pollutants and others. A list of major biodiversity-related treaties that Nigeria is a party to as presented below.

Table 1: Nigeria International Treaties and conventions

Convention and National Planning Frameworks	Signature	Ratification
UN Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992	13 th June 1992	29 August 1994
CBD National Strategy and Action Plan (31 st December 2015)		
Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS)	2012	
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	13 th June 1992	August 1994
Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	16 th November 1972	1974
African Convention for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, 1968	15 th September 1968	2 nd April 1974
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), 1994	1995	8 th July 1997
UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAP)		2001
Ramsar Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance especially as Water Fowl Habitat, 1971	2 nd October 2000	Acceded 2005
The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, 2001	23 January 2001	24 May, 2004
SC National Implementation Plan (NIP)	August 2004	April 2009
GEF-5 National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE)		November 2011
World Bank Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP)		1 st Nov. 2005
UNFCCC National Communications (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd)		November 2003
Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer	-	1998
Convention on International Trade on Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), 1973	11 th February 1974	9 th May 1974
Convention on the conservation of migratory species of Wild Animals 1979	1987	Jan 22 nd 1987

Convention on the Law of the sea, 1982	10 th 1982	December	1986
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2.3 Policy and Institutional Linkages

Nigeria has a relatively sound institutional framework with a few gaps, for implementing policies and enforcing laws that relate to environment and natural resource conservation and management. There are agencies and various policy frameworks for biodiversity, forests, water resources and other biological resources at all levels of government. Nigeria participates in many international treaties and enacts relevant national, state, and local policies and legislation. The judiciary at the federal, state and local levels generally provides legal backing to the work of the public agencies involved with protection and conservation of biodiversity. However, the challenges of effective operation have been capacity building, institutional integration and resource availability. Weak institutional base caused by these limitations make enforcement of biodiversity legislation inefficient.

The Federal Ministry of Environment (FME) and its associated departments are the national reference point for all matters related to the environment. The departments most relevant to the conservation of biological resources are Environmental Assessment, Desertification Control, Forestry (encompassing biodiversity), Pollution Control and Environmental Health, Erosion, Flood Control and Coastal Zone Management, National Parks Service, National Environmental Standard Regulation and Enforcement Agency (NESREA), the Forest Research Institute of Nigeria, and the Department of Climate Change. Relationship with the National Park Service is also very critical, given the fact that the Parks holds Nigeria’s remaining wildlife and reliable high level of biodiversity. The Parks are also connected to critical wildlife corridors and protect major watersheds.

As highlighted in the Table 1 above, Nigeria has signed and ratified many of the major multilateral environmental treaties and conventions that foster the conservation and better management of forests, wildlife and biodiversity. Effective natural resources management in Nigeria also hinges on large scale environmental issues including climate change, desertification, persistent organic pollutants and management of the extensive marine and freshwater resources.

The SGP OP6 Nigeria will continue to build and sustain effective and cordial working relationship with relevant institutions, agencies, civil society groups and development projects. Such collaboration is required to secure the much needed co-funding and partnership for project implementation, replication and scaling up. Consultation with relevant State Government most especially on sustainable/climate smart agro-ecology and clean energy alternatives in rural areas will be given special attention. Grantees will be encouraged to utilize opportunity for partnership with relevant research and extension service based institutions such as the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and State based Agriculture Development Programmes (ADPs), most particularly on sustainable agriculture and phasing out of persistent organic chemicals.

Grantees will also be encouraged to share and learn from other projects such as the UNDP supported Niger Delta Sustainable Development Project, the on-going CBR+ project in Cross River State, the Wetland International Project in the Niger Delta, the World Bank supported Poverty Reduction Project across many States in Nigeria and varied form of environmental conservation initiatives in Nigeria.

SGP will explore further the already established linkages with all convention focal points and few other government initiatives that have relevance to SGP focal areas. This include the Rural Access Mobility Project (RAMP) of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture; the Ecological Funds Office and the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology with which discussion have already started with SGP during OP5.

With the support obtained from TRAC fund for SGP Knowledge Fair project, and the fact that SGP supplies the CO with various information materials and success stories that are used by CO for communication and knowledge management will be harnessed for further collaboration.

SGP and UNDP CO already identified the role of SGP in GEF Full Size Projects and have planned to further explore the opportunity for SGP to take active role during OP6. As an active member of the GEF National Steering Committee, SGP will also continue to make meaningful contributions to the National Portfolio Formulation Exercises (NPFs), ongoing and planned FSPs, MSPs, and Integrated Approach Pilots (IAPs) as relevant.

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 ⁷ relevant to national priorities/other agencies ⁸	4 Briefly describe the complementation between the SGP Country Programme UNDP CO strategic programming
Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society</i>	<p>Support community activities in the processes of integration of important habitats, species and ecosystems into a network of conservation landscapes</p> <p>Catalyze and support activities for the establishment and conservation of important Marine Protected Areas</p>	<p>United Nations REDD + Programme in Nigeria (Cross River State in particular)</p> <p>The UNDP Niger Delta Biodiversity Project</p> <p>Territorial Approach to Climate Change in Delta State</p>
Innovative climate-smart agro-ecology; Community landscape/seascape conservation	<i>Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)</i>	<p>Support Capacity building and empowerment of communities to engage in agro-ecological practices to reduce farm carbon emissions and enhance resilience</p> <p>Active participation of communities in effective land and resource use management through varied forms of strategies including community action planning and resource mapping</p>	UNDP-technical support to farmers through the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

⁷ “Niche” refers to the role or contribution that the Country Programme is best fitted to perform and for which the other stakeholders agree with

⁸ Describe only for those OP6 strategic initiatives which will be programmed by the SGP country programme.

<p>Community landscape/seascape conservation</p>	<p><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></p>	<p>Community conservation and agro-ecological innovation for best practices in maintaining ecological integrity of ecosystems along the courses of International waters</p> <p>.Promote outreach and cross fertilization of knowledge across varied groups along the course of the Niger River both within and outside Nigeria</p>	<p>UNDP- Federal Climate Change and Environmental Governance</p> <p>UNDP-Territorial Approach to Climate Change in Delta State, Nigeria</p>
<p>Energy access co-benefits</p>	<p><i>Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path</i></p>	<p>Support and facilitate communities action on efficient use, use of alternative energy and improved fuelwood management systems</p> <p>Provide support for investments in renewable energy and waste to wealth innovations in rural areas.</p>	<p>UNDP- Promoting Energy Efficiency in Residential and Public sector in Nigeria</p> <p>UNDP Access to Renewable Energy Project</p> <p>UNDP SE4ALL programme</p>
<p>Local to global chemicals coalitions</p>	<p><i>Increase in phase-out, disposal and reduction of releases of POPs, ODS, mercury and other chemicals of global concern</i></p>	<p>Support community initiatives to phase out use of POPs and chemicals of global concern, and efficient management of pesticides</p> <p>Support community initiatives to reduce the production of UPOPS from customary practices such as bush burning, cooking with firewood etc</p>	<p>UNDP- Mainstreaming Sound Management of chemicals into SDG Based Development policies</p>
<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>Establish and coordinate policy and action dialogue forum on community conservation and natural resource management and knowledge sharing on global environmental issues</p> <p>Identify conservation problems that need policy/legislative intervention and develop policy briefs/position statements to engage policy makers and legislators to influence positive change</p>	<p>UNDP- Federal Climate Change and Environmental Governance</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>Ensure projects are gender sensitive with sustainability plan in community project planning, management and evaluation.</p>	<p>UNDP Inclusive Growth initiative</p>

		Support women/vulnerable-headed initiatives	
Contribution to global knowledge management platforms	<i>Contribute to GEF KM efforts</i>	Facilitate outreach and knowledge innovation digitization and exchange for benefits of sustainability, adaptation of new ideas and knowledge development	UNDP CO Communication Strategy

3. OP6 strategies

3.1 Cross-cutting OP6 Grant-making Strategies:

Capacity Building and Skills Acquisition on Renewable Energy, Post-harvest Issues and Innovations in Sustainable Agriculture.

The major initiatives of the GEF-SGP OP6 will address the adoption of energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate smart agriculture to boost productivity demands through widespread citizen education and awareness; skills development and capacity building and across the entire nation. GEF-SGP OP6 will commit 30% of SGP OP6 Resources to mobilizing training and skills development on renewable energy, low carbon technologies and sustainable agricultural practices.

The Country programme will identify key Regional, States and Institutional capacity building activities to ensure linkage and collaboration. Training opportunities will be opened to selected CSOs members in and outside the focal Landscapes for a wider national impact. Gender consideration will be given to the selection process to reflect equity in male/female participation in the national capacity building programme. A component of the initiative will be used to boost the mobilization of women in agriculture programme which has recorded success in some of the initial activities of the SGP.

The result of this initiative will be linked to the GEF-SGP Knowledge Fair Initiative and beneficiaries will be recommended for relevant global opportunities. To promote active participation, GEF SGP will set up an Award of Excellence for two best performances on innovation and knowledge application.

This Initiative will seek collaboration with several Youth in Agriculture programme in different States of the Federation, the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture Agribusiness Initiative. Partnership will be sought with Financial Institutions on the scheme, most particularly those that are members of the UN Sustainable Banking Initiative. The Initiative will also tap into existing UNDP Projects e.g the Access to Renewable Energy Projects.

3.2 *Landscape/seascape-based OP6 grant-making strategies*

Consultation was carried out using a three-pronged approach to generate information for analysis on landscapes based on GEF-SGP area of focus and strategic objectives. Firstly, a questionnaire was developed for information gathering on-line. Direct semi-structured interviews were held with a total of six focal groups. Landscape/seascape discussions were organized on two occasions. This was supported with two other meetings on GIS/ Mapping analysis of the focal landscape/seascape areas of focus. As part of the Landscape/ Seascape analysis, there was a comprehensive review of community profile from 20 communities. Result of consultation helped to provide information into the draft strategy in the following ways:

- Underlying causes of deforestation and resource depletion
- Some elements of local knowledge on climate change identified
- The importance of focus on landscape as a measure of impact on environment and development was highlighted
- The critical need for renewable energy innovations in Nigeria identified
- The significance of social inclusion of gender in community governance and activities
- Concern on involvement and role of communities in natural resource conservation expressed

A six-man technical team was set up to discuss extensively the major environment issues in Nigeria with in-depth consideration of the major objectives of the GEF-SGP OP6 and the GEF Focal areas. The team assembled a number of materials to aid and provide background for baseline assessment e.g. policy documents, technical reports on national development projects, reports of biodiversity conservation projects, Environmental Agreements etc. The team also reviewed existing global environmental landscapes and ecoregions, and analyze the relevance of such to the Nigerian landscape/seascape of priority. Some of the focal global environmental landscapes instruments considered are the WWF Eco-regions, the area of focus of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and species related global reports e.g. IUCN Red Data Book on species of special importance to Nigeria and the Important Bird Area (IBA) report of the BirdLife International.

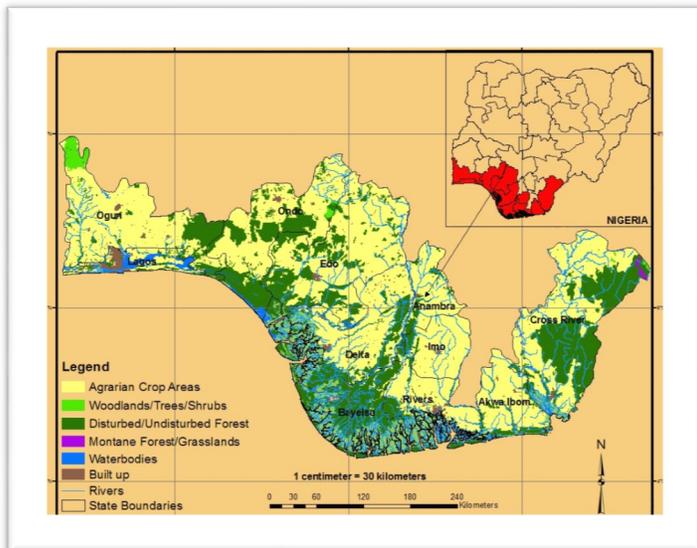
The team considers as a major section of the analysis the importance to various landscapes/seascapes to livelihoods and poverty reduction strategies in Nigeria. The support of natural resource to human populations for forests, water, agriculture and energy needs were considered in analysis. The Landscape/Seascape Analytical team considers the following parameters in further data collection.

Major wetlands and watershed, Protected Area Network, Main agricultural production zones, international water linkages within Nigeria, Critical sites for conservation and special unique habitats, waterfalls, mountains etc., major archeological sites of cultural importance.

A comprehensive analysis of the national priorities, the local and international perspectives on environment and biodiversity; and in-depth overview of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) enabled the focus of the country programme to two major Landscape/Seascape area with five critical sites located within the two landscapes. The result of the Landscape/Seascape Analysis resulted in the selection of two major areas Landscape/seascape area for focal actions in Nigeria.

Landscape 1: The Nigerian Atlantic coast, southern inland river basins and the Niger Delta

The Landscape is made up of the open seascape and beaches of the Atlantic Ocean and stretches to include the marine and brackish fringe the Atlantic Ocean. It extends inwards to contain the inner section of the freshwater swamps and the inner river basins e.g the Cross River, the Benin/Owena, Imo and the south west Ogun-Osun complex. The Landscape also includes the rainforests blocks of south eastern corner linking the Cameroon Republic. Politically, It covers nine States of the Federation of Nigeria i.e Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Cross River, Akwa-Ibom but partly Ondo, Ogun and Imo.



The landscape is made up of a coastal plain which stretches for about 857 km along the Atlantic from the Benin Republic border to the Niger Delta and Cross River estuaries. It falls entirely within the Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Environment. Much of this is

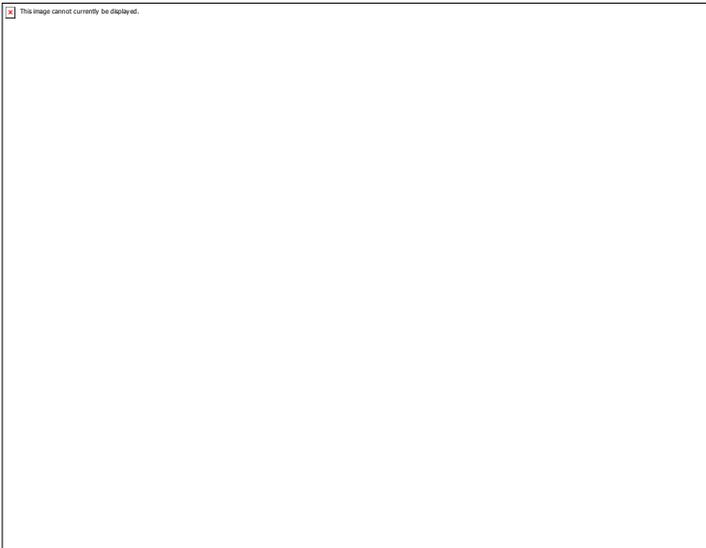
swampland, separated by numerous islands. The region is mostly urban and consists of most of the densely populated cities in Nigeria.

Deforestation is very high with heavy logging / timber extraction and large scale conversion of natural forests to farmlands. Major cash crops include cocoa, oil palm and rubber. Food crops are cassava, yam, plantain, banana, rice and cocoyam. Three main key areas of agro-ecological interests are identified and they include the Niger Delta, the Crossriver estuaries and forests; and the inland watersheds and forests of southwest Nigeria. (more information on landscape are provided in annex)

Landscape 2: The Nigerian North central woodlands, Benue Basin and the Mambilla

This landscape covers mainly the extensive guinea savanna woodlands of the north central region in Nigeria. It also comprises the mid-section of the Niger River and the main basin of River Benue, including its major tributaries. The Landscape is a major agricultural production zone and supports key biodiversity sites in Nigeria. The Landscape transverses seven States of the Federation and the Abuja Federal capital territory. The States are Niger, Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Kaduna, Nassarawa, the Abuja Federal capital territory and part of Taraba State on the Mambilla Plateau. The Landscape covers mainly the north central geo-political region and partly Taraba State in the north-east geo-political zone.

The River Niger and its tributaries constitute a major International water resource which involve four other countries – Guinea, Mali, Niger and Benin Republic. The Niger River supports hydro-electric power infrastructure and is a major resource for fisheries, agriculture and domestic water needs for thousands of Nigerian households and communities. Key biodiversity sites are Kainji Lake National Park in Niger and Kwara States, Kamuku in Kaduna and Gashaka-Gumti in Taraba and Adamawa States.



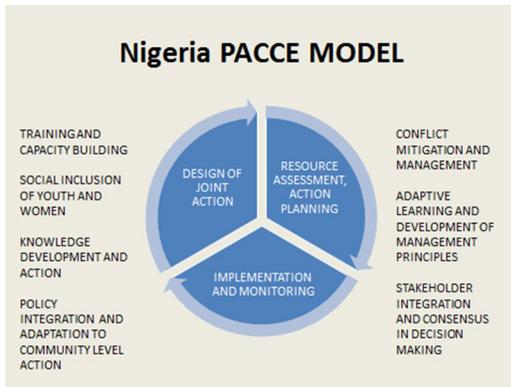
Agricultural production is very high. Major crops area Yam, cassava, maize, fruits and vegetables. Exploitation of the woodland for fuelwood is high and charcoal production is on the increase. Two major and critical sites of importance within the Landscape. They include the Niger River course and tributaries, associated Lakes and the Niger/Benue basin; the Gashaka forests/Mambilla plateau and the Kurmi/Donga River valleys. (more information on the landscape provided in annex)

3.3. Grant Maker Strategies - GEF-SGP OP6 Initiatives

Nigeria SGP will build on past and existing experience to harness best practices in achieving the

expected results of the OP6 aiming at positive impact of community actions in priority landscapes through the following initiatives:

3.3a Biodiversity Conservation – Promoting Landscape/Seascape conservation



Biodiversity conservation through community participation remains a major intervention strategy of the GEF SGP Nigeria. Protected Areas, major watersheds and wildlife corridors are among the critical landscapes which will receive the attention of the Programme. GEF SGP Nigeria identify Participatory Action on Conservation in Critical Environment (PACCE) as an intervention approach. PACCE involves support to communities to establish community protected forests and develop mechanism for effective management; promote community collaboration with government established protected areas on conflict

management; promote biodiversity enterprise and partnership development for wildlife protection.

3.3b Promotion of Climate- Smart Agro- Ecological Practices

Land degradation and deforestation are two major challenges confronting socio-economic development and livelihood in Nigeria. Pressure on land and water resources due to increasing population and human migration to resource rich areas clearly indicates the need for promotion of sustainable practices in agriculture to protect the integrity of critical ecosystems and reduce excessive land resource depletion. **Community Action for Resource Development through Innovation on Nature and Agricultural Land Use (CARDINAL)** will address land degradation and deforestation d which both constitutes a major threat to agro-ecological integrity and functioning of agro-ecosystems. CARDINAL also supports activities that build resilience against climate change effects mainly on agricultural production.

Nigerian CARDINAL is the SGP OP6 Initiative to provide support for communities on resource development innovation on natural ecosystems, agriculture and capacity building for communities on resource management. CARDINAL will focus on resource development activities such as Community woodlot development for amenity and sustainable harvesting, integrated Land Use including ecotourism, Non Timber Forest Resource, Bee Farming, Snail Farming; wetlands and watershed on and off season agriculture. Activities that improves soil fertility management, erosion control through farming methodology, renewable energy use in farms, multi cropping systems, urban agriculture, demonstration of optimal use of inorganic applications/chemicals etc.

3.3c Promoting Low Carbon Energy Co-benefits

GEF-SGP will support innovative climate change programmes and projects to demonstrate and enhance transfer of low carbon technologies. GEF-SGP will seek activities to support capacity building for energy efficiency and exploration of renewable energy.

The Programme will support community initiatives that promote compliance procedures in energy production, sustainable harvesting and value chain promotion of non-wood forest products, recyclable material sourcing and use of agricultural based residues such as smoke free briquettes. GEF-SGP Nigeria will support promotion of energy efficient low carbon production and processing systems transport especially among rural farmers to aid transportation of farm produce and other sustainably explored forest resources from farms to markets to reduce carbon emission.

3.3d Supporting Strategic Action Plans for managing International waters

The protection of International waters through climate resilience and community based actions is very pertinent within the scope of Nigeria’s GEF-SGP Strategy. The relevance lies on the connectivity of Nigeria’s drainage system within the context of a network of International waters, including marine and freshwater ecosystems. The GEF-SGP focal landscapes transverse major International waters such as the River Niger,



Figure 3: River Niger, an important international water resource in West Africa

West Africa’s longest river that flows across five countries with its extensive Delta in Nigeria and the Gulf of Guinea large marine ecosystem that includes the 857 km stretch of Atlantic coast in Nigeria. Outside the GEF-SGP landscape focal areas, there is also the Lake Chad which is shared between four countries including Nigeria.

GEF-SGP will explore and support initiatives for the protection of common marine natural resources to reduce the vulnerability of coastal communities to climate change. The Programme will support community activities on mangrove habitat restoration, capacity building of communities to control pollution and community efforts on biodiversity conservation, including protection of migratory species.

In line with national priorities of Nigeria’s National Council on Environment, the country programme will support activities to establish Marine Protected Areas by catalyzing government’s efforts and promoting community initiatives to achieve this goal. GEF-SGP Nigeria will seek collaboration and partnership with relevant agencies and groups such as the Niger Basin Authority, the Benue and Niger River Basin Authorities in Nigeria, the Niger Delta Development Commission, the Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Ecosystem Project and research institutions such as the Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR)

3.3e Supporting Local to Global Chemical Management Coalition

The country programme will promote citizen education on the role of chemicals in domestic and agriculture application. Attention will be given to initiatives that build capacity of communities and civil society groups on varied forms of persistent organic pollutants; the significance of using POPs and other chemical alternatives, efficient management of POP Stockpiles and wastes and elimination of UPOPs emission from customary practices.

The programme will also encourage community action that seeks partnerships with chemical manufacturing and marketing firms for information sharing on risks, hazards, benefit and threats of different type of chemicals.

The GEF-SGP will support community activities that demonstrate optimum and rational use of chemicals. The principle of sound management of chemicals (SMC) will be integrated into all GEF-SGP community projects on agriculture, watershed and biodiversity protection

3.3.1 Integration of CSO-Government Participatory Policy and Planning

Recognizing the role of policy integration in National Development, the GEF-SGP already has a very cordial working relation and partnership with the Federal Ministry of Environment and most of its agencies and parastatals. The country programme has effective working relationship with a network of civil society organizations in varied sectors of environment, livelihood and sustainable development. The activities of the GEF-SGP Nigeria have enabled the creation of an active CSO Grantee network which is growing and enabling sharing of ideas and innovations.

In line with the GEF-SGP OP6 initiatives, the country office will establish Landscape Level Policy and Action Interactive Forum. The forum will hold periodically to consider and provide common ground measures on policy issues regarding the environment and management of natural resources.

The Country programme will identify and consult with relevant civil society groups, government agencies, private-sector practitioners and the media to form the Landscape Level Policy and Action Interactive Forum. The country programme in alliance with the Forum will develop relevant Terms of Reference, dialogue on major sustainable development policy issues and prepare Forum report as advisory papers and/or submission for the attention of relevant institutions and or groups for integration.

The GEF-SGP will also develop or support the development of the Forum's Dialogue report into information sheets for citizen education and awareness on policy issues relevant to environment, livelihood and climate change within the GEF-SGP focal Landscape areas.

3.3.2. Policy Influence

The activities of the GEF-SGP are critical to influencing policy and providing opportunities for best practices in policy implementation and integration. Through Partnership building and collaboration, the GEF-SGP has linkages to participation in policy review and inputs. The activities of the country programme and the implementation partners add value to policy implementation an impacts on natural resource conservation and management as well as development of new innovations most especially in the area of renewable energy use

and its promotion. The OP6 Strategy development enabled the analysis of landscapes in Nigeria using the National development tools such as the NBSAP.

GEF-SGP Nigeria will continue to participate in relevant policy dialogues and fora and will build relationship with regional networks and projects that positively contribute to national development and environmental management. Through her Programme analysis, the country programme will share her experience on landscape focused approach with relevant Multilateral Agreement (MEA) desks and will also share information on the impacts of the GEF-SGP Nigeria efforts on landscape level. Lessons learnt from projects will be shared and analyzed in form of policy briefs for efficient communication with relevant stakeholders.

3.3.3 Promotion of Social Inclusion - Gender, Youth, Indigenous People and other Vulnerable Groups

The Nigeria GEF-SGP places high emphasis on the involvement of youth, elders, women and the physically challenged in projects and programme development and implementation. Project monitoring and evaluation already have the extent of gender consideration at varied level of project development and implementation.

With emphasis on community participatory planning and action, indicators for measuring the involvement on youths and women in project planning and idea development is paramount. In accordance with National development priorities, GEF-SGP will deploy its established mechanisms to promote gender representation in all committees and working groups that are playing roles in its activities.

The country programme recognizes, and respect the role of traditional authorities on community development and indigenous knowledge sharing and development. Mechanisms to further strengthen the rights and coalition of indigenous people to development planning will be embraced by the Country programme for the implementation of the GEF-SGP OP6.

3.3.4 Knowledge Management Plan

Information dissemination and effective communications are important element of the GEF-SGP Nigeria. Already the media and the social media are involved in public awareness packaging and branding of community based innovations. Through her CSO network, GEF-SGP has already generated a knowledge sharing framework and has developed plan for an annual Knowledge Fair to share innovations, promote outreach and influence cross sector influence.

Through varied forms of capturing the data and action efforts of the SGP projects, digitization of best practices and results will be shared widely and openly in Nigeria and will be integrated into media and social media platforms.

SGP Country programme will explore opportunities for outreach to other societies in the southern hemisphere which share tropical environment and have common experiences and knowledge on resource management, that is capable of impacting positive influence and adaptation by the communities in Nigeria.

Documentaries, video materials and radio clippings will be appropriately compiled and used and will form a database in a digitized library resource for the SGP Nigerian programme. As a follow up to the Knowledge

Fair, the GEF-SGP CSO network will be encouraged to build a resource Centre to serve as a domicile for existing and new community innovations in environment and development issues in Nigeria. The country programme will also learn and seek information from other GEF-SGP country officers in the West African sub-region and other parts of the world.

3.3.5 Communications Strategy

Strategically, the Country programme has supported CSO networking in various ways including its mentorship programme where prospective grantees get tutored by old grantees on SGP grant making process. This has thus positioned her in the realm of major CSO network and has continued to build her own network of CSO Grantees and other interested groups. The established relationship framework with relevant and major stakeholders will be followed diligently and consultation will continue with relevant Regional Development agencies that are springing up in Nigeria.

The country programme has also developed an effective on-line communication framework to enable access by varied groups. This is apart from sharing information with partners at workshops, seminars and conferences of relevance. The country Programme has a two-page flier, which is updated regularly to share at and with relevant meetings and stakeholders to share SGP's achievements whenever the opportunity arises. This would be reviewed and updated during OP6 in line with our strategic focus and continued to be shared at all relevant fora. Already SGP has just put together a flier to update CSO partners and the general public on the activities of the GEF-SGP OP6. The ongoing Knowledge Fair project will also be a critical avenue for open information sharing.

The Country Office has identified a number of multilateral, bilateral and local institutions to build partnership with, based on identified areas of possible collaboration. Through her CSO Partners, GEF-SGP Nigeria activities has created influence and working relationship with the Australian and the Canadian High Commissions. The country programme will build on existing experience on communication for better performance of the OP6. Through the Knowledge Fair project, SGP Nigeria has also identified a number of private sector partnership opportunity that would be pursued in line with OP6 strategy focus.

SGP Nigeria will also develop and emphasize on the Community Connect initiative in order to further disseminate information about achievements, best practices and lessons learnt through community efforts that may be shared with other.

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>1.1 SGP OP6 Nigeria Component 1:</u> Community Landscape and Seascape Conservation</p> <p>Using Participatory on Conservation in Critical Environment (PACCE), improve sustainability of Protected Areas and Community conservation areas in priority landscapes in Nigeria</p>	<p>Community conservation areas established in at least four sites both in the Nigerian Atlantic Coastal Landscapes; and the Middle belt woodlands and watersheds in central Nigeria</p> <p>Sustainable livelihood benefits community participation in natural resource use in at least six communities along the Nigerian Atlantic coast and the Middle belt central woodlands.</p>	<p>GEF-SGP will provide support to at least 6 community based conservation projects in the Atlantic coast landscape and the middle belt Nigeria landscape.</p> <p>Marine resource conservation/migratory species and or habitat restoration supported by the country offices in at least two locations along the Nigeria coastal landscape</p>	<p>Number of Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) Number of hectares of newly constituted community conservation areas Number of people aware of ecosystem conservation and engaged in alternative livelihood Number of marine resource related community conservation initiatives</p>	<p>GEF-SGP Database Report of Field Monitoring visits CSO reports on community projects to SGP GEF – SGP Annual reports GEF-SGP Nigeria Result Implementation Monitoring Forms</p>

<p><u>SGP Nigeria OP6 component 2</u> Climate Smart Innovative Agro-ecology:</p> <p>Through CARDINAL support the Integration of agro-ecological innovation into agricultural land use and management to mitigate climate change effects and boost productivity and ecosystem functioning in Nigeria's coastal and middle belt woodlands landscapes.</p>	<p>Integrated land use and planning, water harvesting and wetland on and off farming schemes, home garden intensification, urban agriculture, ecotourism promotion in farms, natural forest product value addition projects supported by GEF-SGP Nigeria in the Atlantic coast and the middle belt Nigeria woodlands.</p>	<p>Climate smart agriculture innovation supported in at least 4 locations in both Nigerian Atlantic coast and Middle belt woodlands and at least in one location outside the two focal landscapes</p>	<p>Number of successful agro-ecological type practices integrating GHG emission in farming systems</p> <p>Number of communities adapting to improved sustainable agro-ecological practices</p> <p>Number of hectares under improved farming systems</p>	<p>Regional Landscape report on agricultural innovation</p> <p>CSO Country report on climate smart agriculture</p> <p>GEF-SGP Database</p> <p>Report of Field Monitoring visits</p> <p>CSO reports on community projects to SGP</p>
<p><u>SGP OP6 Nigeria Component 3:</u> Low Carbon Energy Access Co-benefits:</p> <p>3.1 Low carbon community energy access solutions successfully deployed in 6 communities and or locations in the two GEF-SGP focal Landscapes and at least in 2 other locations outside the focal landscape</p>	<p>Low carbon energy and renewable energy sources provided for at least 5000 people in at least 10 locations in focal and non-focal landscapes in Nigeria</p>	<p>GEF-SGP Nigeria to support at least 10 low carbon energy access and improvement projects. 60% of such projects to be located within the two focal landscapes and 40% in non-focal areas.</p>	<p>Number of beneficiaries of low carbon technologies and improvement in renewable energy sources</p>	<p>GEF-SGP Database</p> <p>Report of Field Monitoring visits</p> <p>CSO reports on community projects to SGP</p>
<p><u>SGP OP6 Nigeria Component 4:</u> Local to Global Chemical Management Coalitions:</p> <p>One community based initiatives and actions to prevent, reduce and phase out POPs, harmful chemicals and or waste in one of the focal landscapes in Nigeria</p>	<p>Through community effort, demonstrate and activate one innovation on any of the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Solid waste reuse or recycling, -farm waste reuse or recycling, -pollution control and clean-up, -electronic waste 	<p>At least one project in any part of Nigeria, but preferably in the focal landscapes</p>	<p>One location of at least 100 people</p>	<p>Project implementation monitoring forms/reports</p> <p>GEF-SGP Annual Report</p>

	-phase out of chemicals in agricultural land use dialogue			CSO Country report on renewable energy
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 5:</u> CSO-Government Policy and Planning Dialogue Platforms (Grant-makers+):</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>SGP OP6 Niger-SGP Nigeria strengthens the existing CSO network and organize interactive forum for Government and CSOs in Nigeria</p>	<p>GEF-SGP Nigeria Country Office participates in at least two Government Agency interactive workshops</p> <p>One Government/CSO Interactive meeting organized</p> <p>One policy brief discussed, produced and disseminated as an output of Government/CSO Dialogue</p>	Capacity building on private public participation in national discuss for policy development	GEF SGP CSO network in Nigeria strengthened with more members and knowledge sharing experiences	SGP meeting report and GEF-SGP Nigeria Annual Reort
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 6:</u> Promoting Social Inclusion (Grant-makers+):</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>6.2 IP Fellowship programme awards at least 12 fellowships to build capacity of IPs; implementation of projects by IPs is supported in relevant countries</p> <p>6.3 Involvement of youth and disabled is further supported in SGP projects and guidelines and best practices are widely shared with countries</p>	<p>Deployment of SGP established mechanism to promote gender representation in all relevant meetings and processes.</p> <p>Emphasis on role of traditional authorities and indigenous knowledge.</p> <p>Promote mechanism to strengthen coalition of indigenous people in development SGP interventions</p>	<p>Emphasize increasing participation of women in GEF-SGP Nigeria projects</p> <p>Support partners’ fellowship programmes to build capacity within or outside of the country</p> <p>Continuous emphasis and support for active participation of vulnerable group.</p> <p>Support projects led by vulnerable groups Leadership capacity and participation of women and youth</p>	<p>One performance Award set up, administered and presented to the Best Gender focused IP in Nigeria</p>	<p>GEF-SGP Database</p> <p>Report of Field Monitoring visits</p> <p>CSO reports on community projects to SGP</p>

<p>One gender mainstreaming capacity building seminar organized with participation from CSOs in and outside the focal landscapes in Nigeria</p>		<p>recorded in all GEFSGP Nigeria projects</p>		
<p><u>SGP OP6 Component 7:</u> Global Reach for Citizen Practice-Based Knowledge program (Grant-makers+): 7.1 Digital library of community innovations is established and provides access to information to communities in at least 50 countries 7.2 South-South Community Innovation Exchange Platform promotes south-south exchanges on global environmental issues in at least 20 countries</p>	<p>SGP Nigeria is one of the countries selected by the Global Manager to start the CSO digital library initiative and this would be properly developed and publicized for CSOs to upload information accordingly.</p> <p>Facilitate participation of CSIs in global outreach programmes through participation in the sharing of output products in form of documentaries, videos etc</p> <p>Organize regional and National Knowledge Fair to share ideas and promote outreach</p>	<p>At least one Knowledge Fair organized in Nigeria to create a forum of presentation of GEF-SGP innovation and exchange of ideas with other groups and the public.</p>	<p>Knowledge Fair organized</p> <p>At least one Nigeria IP qualified for support to benefit from south-south outreach programme of the Global GEF-SGP</p>	<p>SGP Global Database</p> <p>Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)</p> <p>Country Programme Strategy Review</p> <p>Report and output of Nigeria GEF-SGP Knowledge Fair</p>
<p>SGP OP6 Nigeria Component 5 International Waters</p> <p>Develop at least one consultation, collaboration forum for understating the importance of community based actions on either the Atlantic marine environment or the Niger River ecosystem in West Africa</p>	<p>Consult with other Country Programmes on knowledge sharing of water resource use either in the coastal marine ecosystem or the Niger River basin of West Africa</p>	<p>At least one project in international water possibly working in collaboration with other SGP countries along the Niger river.</p>	<p>One strategic project that will address a wide range of international water and beneficiaries.</p>	<p>Project report implementation monitoring forms/reports</p> <p>GEF-SGP Annual Report</p> <p>CSO Country report on International water project</p>

5. Monitoring & Evaluation plan

Project and programme level planning for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is a crucial and compulsory component of the GEF-SGP. The GEF-SGP Nigeria programme already has a robust M&E framework incorporated into the Full Proposal Guideline and Template which is mandatory for all proposals to complete before approval. (see annex for the GEF-SGP Nigeria M and E Template)

The template for Project Monitoring and Evaluation is reviewed and developed for the implementation of the 6th Operational Plan of the GEF-SGP Nigeria. The process enables active participation of major stakeholders including implementing NGOs, the community participants and beneficiaries as well as the GEF-SGP Programme Office. PM&E tools are made simple and easy to apply for monitoring progress and results of activities. The PM&E also provide a platform for awareness and understanding of the connection of the GEF-SGP local actions to National and global priorities.

The template creates a platform for communities and project implementation teams to draw up activity-result linkages, rate level of success and or actions needed to succeed with specific rate/level of performance, monitoring of indicators for success and scenarios for lessons learnt and sharing of knowledge gained over specific period of time.

Components of the PM& E

Overview of the Project

Note to preparer: Performance monitoring is critical to GEF-SGP's ability to track progress toward the results identified in its OP6 National Strategy. This is in line with the GEF-SGP global principle of ensuring that the PM&E forms and integral part of the OP6. The Activity M&E Plan presents the details of the Implementing Partner (NGO) M&E systems, including how the Activity-level results contribute to the higher level Project M&E Plan and the GEF-SGP OP6 priorities. While the Activity M&E (AMEP) plan will include many more indicators that are necessary to inform performance monitoring of key results, it must also include performance indicators that are part of the Project M&E plan and GEF-SGP priorities, the GEF focal areas and Nigeria's national environment and development priorities.

Guidance: This document is designed to guide the GEF-SGP implementing partners (IPs) a template to follow when developing Project Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for SGP Projects at community level

Purpose of the PM&E Plan

The purpose of this Activity Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (AMEP) is to describe how implementing partner will monitor and evaluate < activity name. This AMEP proposes indicators against each of the expected results of the activity. It also describes the processes that we will use to perform M&E throughout the life of the activity. Each indicator has a Performance Indicator Reference Sheet (PIRS). There is also a Performance Indicator Table, which includes the indicators and targets for the activity.

The AMEP is a dynamic and flexible document that will be updated throughout the activity's implementation.

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 ⁹ 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) ¹⁰	Enable efficient reporting to NSC	NC presenting to NSC	Covered under country programme operating costs	Once per year in June
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) ¹¹ 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

Table 4: Project Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

M&E Activities	Responsible Party	Timeframe
Reconnaissance & Baseline Data Collection	Grantees, NC	Project planning stage, prior to NSC approval
Project Result Activity Form submission	Grantees, NC, PA	Prior to first disbursement
Project Progress and Financial Report (based on agreed disbursement schedules)	Grantees, NC, PA	At each disbursement request
Participatory project monitoring using Project Implementation monitoring forms	Grantees, beneficiaries and other relevant stakeholders	Continuous during project duration

⁹ The CPS is a living document, and should be reviewed and updated as deemed necessary by the NSC on a periodic basis as part of the annual strategy review.

¹⁰ The country programme should be reviewed in consultation with the NSC members, national Rio Convention focal points, and the associated reporting requirements. The Annual Country Report should be presented at a dedicated NSC meeting in June each year to review progress and results and take decisions on key adaptive measures and targets for the following year.

¹¹ The AMR Survey will essentially draw upon information presented by the country in the Annual Country Report (ACR) with few additional questions. It will enable aggregation of country inputs by CPMT for global reporting.

Project implementation assistance and coordination	NC, NSC, PA	Continuous during project duration
Collation and analysis of Project Implementation Report Forms	NCF, NSC	
Monitoring site visits	NC, NSC, PA	Twice during Project year and before final disbursement
Project Evaluation site visits	NC, NSC, Grantees	Just at the tail end of project
Project Completion report	Grantees	End of Project

6. Resource Mobilisation plan

6.1 GEF-SGP OP6 Resource Mobilization Plan

Nigeria enjoys the presence of many international donors and has various bilateral relationships. GEF-SGP Nigeria will thus establish collaboration with the relevant bodies in order to obtain more support both in-kind and cash in line with OP6 co-financing goals. The country programme and grantees will improve its capacity for effective calculation of in-kind contributions in order to adequately capture all the support received. The programme will also seek to deliver for other relevant donors and projects based on its established efficient and effective delivery mechanism in order to enhance and increase co-financing in line with OP6 requirements.

In kind contribution to Project provides a major input into project financing and resource development. Awareness on in-kind contribution is growing among communities and CSOs in Nigeria. GEF-SGP will continue to emphasize the role of in-kind co-financing in its OP6 implementation. Co-financing is expected to be up to a minimum of 30% of total project cost.

Resources are also mobilized at regional level to support major landscape initiatives. States and Local Government agencies and research institutions are key stakeholders for resource support. Linkages and partnership with relevant on-going UN projects also provides a major opportunity for resource mobilization to support GEF SGP initiatives.

The Federal Government of Nigeria through her Federal Ministry of Environment is a major Stakeholder of the GEF SGP Nigeria. Assistance both in-kind and in cash will be sought in support of the country programme. Relationship with the private sector mainly the Banking sector and larger International Non-Governmental Organizations e.g the IUCN, BirdLife International, RSPB, FFI are also available for the GEF-SGP Country Office to tap into.

Already some of the CSO Projects supported by GEF SGP have received scale up support from bilateral institutions through synergy of initiatives. More of these opportunities will be developed through the efforts and partnership development efforts of the GEF SGP Nigeria.

7. Risk Management Plan

7.1 At the proposal development level, all projects are expected to provide all information on risk assessment and management. SGP emphasizes thorough analysis of the all possible risks in order to reduce project failure rate to the barest minimum. One of the strong caution to proponents is not to make any government support a factor of project success because experience has shown that this doesn't always work.

While government support is desirable, it should not be made a factor of success so that the project does not suffer any feedback should government not be able to redeem its pledge.

At programme level, NSC is always very definite about risks that should and not should be taken. This has greatly helped in achieving desired outcome at programme level.

Table 5. Description of risks identified in OP6

Describe identified risk	Degree of risk (low, medium, high)	Probability of risk (low, medium, high)	Risk mitigation measure foreseen
Peace and Security	Medium	High	It had been the decision of the NSC that core activities of SGP projects not focused on crisis prone areas except where the possibility of monitoring and evaluation could be addressed without exposure.
Climate Change risks (Drought and Flooding)	Medium	High	Depending on the magnitude, SGP may be able to provide needed support and or mobilize technical and resource support from all relevant stakeholders.
Political Instability	low	medium	Early warning information sharing with CSOs on observed political crisis in specific areas of Nigeria
Natural Disasters	low	medium	Depending on the magnitude, SGP may be able to provide needed support and or mobilize technical and resource support from all relevant stakeholders.

7.2 At programme level, there is constant review of risk issues with regards to proposal approval and project management. General and continuous review of political and climatic issues are carried out at all strategic meetings and decision are taken based on reports and perceived situation of identified issues.

At project level, all progress reports are mandated to submit all risk issues for review and NSC decision in order to continuously monitor the probability of success of the project and make informed decision well before things could get bad.

8. National Steering Committee Endorsement

NSC members involved in OP6 CPS development, review and endorsement	Signatures
(Add more rows as necessary)	

Annex 1: OP6 landscape/seascape baseline assessment

Landscape Assessment Report

INTRODUCTION

The Global Environment Facility Small Grant Programme Nigeria (GEF-SGP Nigeria) engaged the Environment Management and Development Trust (EMADET) to facilitate the consultation, analysis and validation of the 6th Operational Plan in form of a Country Programme Strategy for Nigeria between April and June 2016. A team of facilitators led by Alade Adeleke, EMADET’s Director of Technical Programmes took charge of broad consultation, information sharing analysis of Nigeria’s most appropriate landscapes/seascapes based on national priorities and globally required attention and action. Stakeholders consulted range from communities through civil society organizations, relevant individuals, government agencies at varied levels, research institutions and the media.

A National workshop was held on 02 June 2016 to consider, review and validate the draft CPS. This narrative report provides comprehensive information on the process of the Country Programme Strategy development and finalization. It include the three major aspect of the strategy development which are Stakeholders consultation and information gathering, Landscape/Seascape Analysis and output of the National workshop on the GEF-S GP OP6

THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

Three major set of approaches were used by EMADET for the initial consultation process.

Firstly a questionnaire was developed for information gathering on-line. The questionnaire was administered directly to colleagues in the civil society sector, most especially those who have working experience in communities. We received response from 79 people of different backgrounds in the six geo-political zones.

Direct semi-structured interviews were held with a total of six focal groups . Such meetings were possible through telephone discussions and two face-to-face focal group discussions on major areas of focus of the OP6 main objectives.

Landscape/seascape discussions were organized on two occasions. This was supported with two other meetings on GIS/ Mapping analysis of the focal landscape/seascape areas of focus. As part of the Landscape/ Seascape analysis, we carried out a comprehensive review of community profile from 20 communities (10 each from the two selected landscape areas) Community profiles from recent field project reports and from the interview sessions of the questionnaires helped update the much needed information on the current environment and development issues in communities and also provided background information on social structures, gender issues, land use and water resource management issues.

❖ Activities	❖ Description of inputs
❖ Indirect interview through questionnaire	❖ 79 respondents
❖ Focal Group Discussion meetings	❖ 6
❖ Meetings on Landscape/ Seascape Analysis	❖ 2

❖ Number of community profile review/consultation	❖ 20
❖ National Stakeholder workshop	❖ 1

Result of consultation helped to provide information into the draft strategy in the following ways

- Underlying causes of deforestation and resource depletion further highlighted through community information sharing and profiling
- Some elements of local knowledge on climate change were clearly identified and the need for integration of climate smart agriculture to improve productivity and address land use
- The importance of focus on landscape as a measure of impact on environment and development was highlighted
- The critical need for renewable energy innovations in Nigeria identified as a measure to reduce environmental degradation and promote better living standard of communities
- The significance of social inclusion of gender in community governance and activities
- Concern on involvement and role of communities in natural resource conservation expressed

LANDSCAPE/SEASCAPE ANALYSIS

A six man technical team was set up to discuss extensively the major environment issues in Nigeria with in-depth consideration of the major objectives of the GEF-SGP OP6 and the GEF Focal areas. The team assembled a number of materials to aid and provide background for baseline assessment e.g policy documents, technical reports on national development projects, reports of biodiversity conservation projects, Environmental Agreements etc

The team also set reviewed existing global environmental landscapes and ecoregions and analyze the relevance of such to the Nigerian landscape/seascape of priority. Some of the focal global environmental landscapes instruments considered are the WWF Eco-regions, the area of focus of the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and species related global reports e.g IUCN Red Data Book on species of special importance to Nigeria and the Important Bird Area (IBA) report of the BirdLife International.

The team considers as a major section of the analysis the importance to various landscapes/seascapes to livelihoods and poverty reduction strategies in Nigeria. The support of natural resource to human populations for forests, water, agriculture and energy needs were highly considered in analysis. The team also collected data from literatures on climate change awareness and knowledge on climate smart agriculture in Nigeria. The Landscape/Seascape Analytical team considers the following parameters

- Major wetlands and watershed in Nigeria
- Nigeria's Protected Area Network
- Nigeria's main agricultural production zones
- International waters linkage within Nigeria
- Critical sites for conservation in Nigeria
- Special and unique habitats e.g Mountains, waterfalls, caves etc
- Major sites of archeological and cultural importance

A comprehensive analysis of the National priorities, the local and international perspectives on environment and biodiversity ; and in-depth overview of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) enabled the focus

of the country programme to two major Landscape/Seascape area with five critical sites located within the two landscapes while one critical site is located outside the two Landscapes. The Landscape baseline Assessment is in line with the principles and guidelines of the GEF SPG OP6.

The proposed focal landscapes are chosen to consolidate past effort, build opportunity for achieving impactful ecological outcomes while creating an ecosystem based approach for sustainable development.

The result of the Landscape/Seascape Analysis resulted in the selection of two major areas Landscape/seascape area for focal actions in Nigeria. the country programme will focus on the following landscapes and develop keen interest around the described critical areas/sites

A Landscape 1: The Nigerian Atlantic coast, southern inland river basins and the Niger Delta

The Landscape is made up of the open seascape and beaches of the Atlantic ocean and stretches to include the marine and brackish fringe the Atlantic Ocean. It extends inwards to contain the inner section of the freshwater swamps and the inner river basins e.g the Cross River, the Benin/Owena, Imo and the south west Ogun-Osun complex. The Landscape also includes the rainforests blocks of south eastern corner linking the Cameroon Republic. Politically, It covers nine States of the Federation of Nigeria i.e Rivers, Bayelsa, Delta, Edo, Cross River, Akwa-Ibom but partly Ondo, Ogun and Imo.

The landscape is made up of a coastal plain which stretches for about 857 km along the Atlantic from the Benin Republic border to the Niger Delta and Cross River estuaries. It falls entirely within the Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Environment and the coastal plain extends inland for about ten kilometers and rises to an elevation of forty to fifty meters above sea level at its northern boundary. Much of this is swampland, separated by numerous islands.. This region is gently undulating with elevation increasing northward and a mean elevation of about 150 meters above sea level.

The climate of the Landscape is seasonal tropical. Temperatures are up to 24° C during the coolest month (around January) and between 26° C in the Niger Delta and 27°C (Lagos) during the warmest month (March/April). The entire landscape has a dry and wet season with double maxima. Rainy season is between April and October/November while the dry season lasts for a short period between December and March. Much part of the landscape is seasonally flooded during the rainy season, most particularly around the coastal marshes, creeks and estuaries as well as the inland river basins. Rainfall is very heavy with an average record of 1695mm in Lagos and 1900mm/annum in the Niger Delta.

The region is mostly urban and consists of most of the densely populated cities in Nigeria. Lagos alone has an estimated population of about 17.5 million people and the population density in the Niger Delta is about 227 persons per square kilometer.

Deforestation is very high with heavy logging / timber extraction and large scale conversion of natural forests to farmlands. Major cash crops include cocoa, oil palm and rubber. Food crops are cassava, yam, plantain, banana, rice and cocoyam. A little amount of coconut is planted in the coast.

The Landscape within National and Global context

The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) recognizes the entire landscape as an area of priority. The WWF Global Ecoregion list comprises of four critical areas within the landscape. They include the Niger Delta, the Guinean coastal mangroves, the Congolian Coastal forests and the Cameroon Highland forests.

Three critical areas of biodiversity and natural resource importance are located within the landscape. They are

❖ **The Niger Delta**

The coastal mangrove ecosystem of the 70,000 square kilometers Niger Delta is the most extensive mangrove wetlands in Africa and the third largest wetland in the world. The Delta is populated with about 30 million people whose livelihoods depend directly on the Delta's natural resources. Oil and Gas exploitation which provides more than 85% foreign exchange for Nigeria's economy are based in the Niger Delta. Widespread pollution from oil spills, exploration and oil infrastructure work creates conflicts between oil companies and communities. Ecosystem degradation is rampant and human populations are highly vulnerable

The Delta has a very rich marine fishery resources (about 50% species composition of the Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Ecosystem), a wide range of primate species including the endangered Niger Delta colobus, the Nigerian-Cameroon chimpanzees, the endemic Sclaters guenon and others such as mona monkey, putty-nosed monkey and red capped mangabey. The Delta is also rich in bird species and it is a home to one of the largest roosts of the African grey parrots., Remnant populations of forest elephants are found in Okomu National Park in Edo State and Andoni forests in Rivers State.

Key conservation sites are Okomu National Park in Edo State, Taylor Creek and Apoi Creeks Forest Reserves in Bayelsa, Upper Orashi and Andoni Forests in Rivers States and Stubbs Creeks Forest Reserve in Akwa-Ibom State.

Most forest reserves are highly degraded due to deforestation. Wildlife populations are in fragmented habitats with minimal local conservation efforts in place. In the past five years, some of the current conservation and livelihood related projects include the UNDP Niger Delta Sustainable Development Project, the Biodiversity Action Plan Projects supported by Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC), the Wetland International (WI) Sustainable Livelihood Project, and the Finima Nature Centre established by Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) Company.

The GEF-SGP OP6 reviewed community profiles reflect the interest of communities on mangrove habitat restoration, fish stock management, village level home-garden enhancement and community participation in wildlife conservation. Communities also have interest in cleaner energy use.

❖ **The Crossriver Forests and Estuaries.**

Located in the extreme south eastern border of Nigeria with the Republic of Cameroon, the Forest and estuaries of Crossriver State are among the most bio-diverse tropical mangrove and rainforest areas in Nigeria. The Cross River Mangrove is over 258,000 sq. km in size and contains one of the important segments of the Nigerian coastal mangrove ecosystem.

The area is the extreme western extension of the Congolian tropical rainforests and the Cameroon Highlands. With a record of more than 4000 species of tropical flowering plants and one of the sites of

global importance for non-human primates, it has one of the highest diversity of primate populations in Africa which includes the highly endangered Crossriver Gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*), the Drill (*Mandrillus leucophaeus*), the Nigerian- Cameroon chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes ellioti*) and several long tailed monkey species.

Plantain and cocoa are leading crops and forest conversion to agriculture is very high. The GEF-SGP has a great opportunity to partner with on-going initiatives including the UN-REDD programme and the CBR+ component as well as building on the achievements of the former USAID sponsored Sustainable Practices in Agriculture for Critical Environment (SPACE), most especially on Sustainable cocoa agriculture in Tropical forests and the implication of chemical use on cocoa agroforests. The country programme also has an opportunity to support community initiatives on ecotourism and mangrove habitat restoration in the Crossriver estuaries

❖ **The South-west coast and tropical forests**

From the Nigerian/Benin Republic border to the coastal community forms the South west Atlantic coastal mangrove, lagoons, estuaries and an inner freshwater swamp forests. The northern border of the area has the south-west tropical forests and the Ogun/Osun/Owena watershed which all link the coastal lagoons.

One of Africa's most populated cities, Lagos is located in this area. It is commerce capital and West Africa's largest Market. Lagos receives a high percentage of rural-urban migration and urban slum with its attendant poverty is pronounced. High pressure on coastal resources for housing, fuelwood needs have degraded the natural vegetation. Urban pollution from waste burning and vehicular emission is critical. GEF-SGP will continue to promote efforts on low-carbon energy and other climate change innovation applicable to highly populated coastal environments. The forests and watersheds of south west Nigeria are highly degraded due to uncontrolled timber extraction and unsustainable agricultural practices. Forest fragmentation has caused serious wildlife depletion. Attention will be focused on community activities around the Omo-Oluwa-Shasha, Ifon-Idanre-Akure-Ohosu axis and the watersheds/wetlands of Ogun, Osun and Owena rivers.

❖ **B Landscape 2: The Nigerian North central woodlands, Benue Basin and the Mambilla**

This landscape covers mainly the extensive guinea savanna woodlands of the north central region in Nigeria. It also comprises the mid section of the Niger River and the main basin of River Benue, including its major tributaries. The Landscape is a major agricultural production zone and supports key biodiversity sites in Nigeria. The Landscape transverses seven States of the Federation and the Abuja Federal capital territory. The States are Niger, Benue, Kogi, Kwara, Kaduna, Nassarawa, the Abuja Federal capital territory and part of Taraba State on the Mambilla Plateau. The Landscape covers mainly the north central geo-political region and partly Taraba State in the north-east geo-political zone

The River Niger and its tributaries constitute an a major International water resource which involve four other countries – Guinea, Mali, Niger and Benin Republic.

The Niger river supports hydro-electric power infrastructure and is a major resource for fisheries, agriculture and domestic water needs for thousands of Nigerian households and communities. Key biodiversity sites are Kainji Lake National Park in Niger and Kwara States, Kamuku in Kaduna and Gashaka-Gumti in Taraba and Adamawa States.

Agricultural production is very high. Major crops area yam, cassava, maize, fruits and vegetables. Exploitation of the woodland for fuelwood is high and charcoal production is on the increase. Land degradation exerts pressure on agricultural productivity and use of chemicals require attention.

Two major and critical sites of importance within the Landscape are described below

❖ **The Niger River course, its tributaries, associated Lake and the Niger/Benue basin**

The area is a major agricultural production zone in Nigeria and is widely known as Nigeria's food basket. The Kainji Lake is major freshwater fish resource that feeds millions of Nigerians. Two Nigerian National Parks, the Kainji Lake and Kamuku are located in the area.

❖ **The Gashaka/Mambilla and Kurmi forests of Taraba**

Nigeria's most biodiverse ecosystem located along the northern section of Cameroon Highlands. It hosts the largest Park in Nigeria, where one of the most viable populations of chimpanzees in West Africa and the highest peak in Nigeria- the *Gangriwal* is located. The extensive Mambila Plateau with its semi temperate weather and cropping systems.

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP ON GEF-SGP OP6 NIGERIA

As a follow up to the initial consultative process and the Landscape analysis, a National workshop was organized on June 03, 2016 where the draft GEF-SGP-OP6 Strategy was presented to a wide spectrum representation of stakeholders . Participants were drawn from civil society organizations, SGP Grantees, Government Agencies, members of the National Steering Committees, the media and academic /research institutions. 42 participants took part in the National Stakeholders workshop/

The forum provided an opportunity for further awareness on the operations of the GEF-SGP in Nigeria and a further clarification of the unique features of the 6th Operational Plan. The forum also created an open platform for discussions on the priority landscape and seascape for Nigeria and enabled inputs and review of the draft activities and workplan provided by the draft strategy.

Apart from the review of the draft Strategy, the National Stakeholders workshop concluded with the following key recommendations

1. More work needs to be done in the area of energy efficiency in rural area because energy drives the economy. Renewable energy should be used to drive transport and business in the rural area.
2. Communication is an important part of GEF-SGP work especially on social media platforms. SGP should consciously put their work on social media in order to showcase project achievements and create more awareness for all their focal areas. NGOs should also create more media exposure for the SGP projects they are undertaking.
3. GEF-SGP did a great job with the landscape analysis approach. It is therefore important for the CPS document to be reviewed yearly.

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY – SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME NIGERIA
COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY (OPERATIONAL PLAN 6)**

PERSONAL/ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION

1. Name :
.....Sex.....
2. Location(Community/Village/LGA/State).....
.....
3. Name of Association/Organization

GENERAL ENVIRONMENT/LIVELIHOOD

1. Name two Special Environmental attributes of your area
 - a.....
 - b.....
 - c. Any other (s).....
2. List two main threats/challenges to environment and livelihoods in your area
 - a.
.....
 - b,
.....
 - c. Any other(s).....
3. List two major suggestions/better practices to address the environmental challenges/threats
 - a.....
 - b.....
 - c. Any other (s).....
4. List 4 key players/actors on development and environment issues in your area and their roles/efforts
 - a.....
.....
 - b.....
.....

c.....
.....

d.....
.....

SFP-OP6 INITIATIVES

Which of the following issues are relevant to your area/landscape and How

Community Conservation : YES NO

If Yes, How
.....
.....

Climate Change and Agriculture: YES NO

If Yes How:
.....
.....

Climate Change and Energy: YES NO

If Yes
How.....
.....

Environmental/Conservation Policy:

If Yes,
How.....
.....

Use of chemicals: YES NO

If Yes How:
.....
.....

Environmental Pollution YES NO

If Yes Which Type of
Pollution.....
.....

If No, Why is there none

List of communities with reviewed profiles, direct and indirect interviews and consultation

Kanyang - Cross River State, south eastern corner of Nigeria

Bamba - Cross River State at the Cameroon boarder

Obi-Oyagba - Delta State, southern Nigeria

Lambata – Niger State. North central Nigeria

Wawa – Niger State, at the boundary of Kainji Lake National Park

Abo Obisu – Cross River State, southern Nigeria

Abo Mkpang – Cross River State, Nigerian/Cameroon border

Ajido – Lagos State. South west Nigeria

Langbasa – Lagos State, south west Nigeria

Gashaka – Taraba State, very near Gashaka Gumti National Park

Buru – Taraba State, at the base of Mambilla Plateau

Yelwa – Tarab State on the Mambila Plateau

Ibi near Wukari, Taraba State – on the bank of Benue River, north central Nigeria

Dagona – Yobe State near the Lake Chad National Park

Aberu –Ogun State , south west Nigeria

Mbazambar – Benuw State, North central Nigeria

Nagi – Benue State, north central Nigeria

Ipapo – Oyo State south west Nigeria

Mokwa – Niger State, north-west Nigeria

Ogoru Magongo, Kogi State, north central Nigeria

WORKSHOP REPORT OF GEF-SGP COUNTRY PROGRAMME STRATEGY FOR UTILIZATION OF OP6 GRANT @ REIZ INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, ABUJA, 02/06/2016

Workshop objectives

The objective of the workshop was to review the country programme strategy for utilization of the operational phase 6 grants. The objective was achieved through lectures and plenary discussions. In addition, the GEF-SGP provided the participants with the scoping document material, brochures, and other publications containing detailed information about the programme.

Official opening of the workshop

The workshop was officially opened by the GEF-SGP national coordinator Mrs Ronke Oluwabamise. She outlined the objectives and perspectives of the workshop and then facilitated the introduction of all those present for the workshop. She gave a brief description of what GEF/SGP is about, the results achieved so far, the number of projects that has been implemented by the programme and the award winning projects. She also noted that the CPS workshop was the first of its kind since the inception of the programme in 2009. Thirty participants were present at the workshop.

OP5 results and achievements

The national coordinator gave a presentation about the achievements of the last operational phase 5. Her presentation included the objectives of the GEF/SGP which are:

1. Develop community-level strategies and implement technologies that could reduce threats to the global environment if they are replicated over time.
2. Gather lessons from community-level experience and initiate the sharing of successful community-level strategies and innovations among CBOs and NGOs, host governments, development aid agencies, GEF, and others working on a regional or global scale.
3. Build partnerships and networks of stakeholders to support and strengthen community, NGO and national capacities to address global environmental problems and promote sustainable development.
4. Ensure that conservation and sustainable development strategies and projects that protect the global environment are understood and practiced by communities and other key stakeholders

Also there was an overview of OP5 grant. The focal areas the grant covered are land degradation, biodiversity, climate change, international waters, capacity building and persistent organic pollutants. The data on project distribution by states was presented to the participants and the following questions were asked.

1. Why are there no projects on chemicals and wastes? Is it due to lack of awareness about that particular focal area or is it a problem of technical know-how?
2. Are there any reasons for the unequal distribution in the number of projects carried out by each state? Is there any explanation for low or no project turnout in states like Kogi, Ebonyi and Ogun state?
3. Could it be that the eligibility criteria are so high? Does the focal area witnessing no proposal submission involve some levels of technicality that obstruct NGOs from applying?
4. Do you need to be a grantee to apply for GEF/CSO network membership?
5. Is it the local NGOs that carry out projects in each state?

Concerning the first question asked, it was concluded that more work has to be done in creating awareness for this focal area. The national coordinator also reiterated the need for more awareness creation stating that this could explain why some states are not submitting proposals. Concerning strict eligibility criteria that are put place, she noted that NGOs that don't have enough experience can partner with experienced NGOs. Also experienced NGOs can mentor upcoming ones to deliver result-oriented projects. But some issues cannot be overlooked because of transparency and accountability. The participants opined that there is need to build capacity on purpose to ensure that a wholesome impact is made on the environment. There is need to be deliberately proactive to ensure that communities in need are reached.

Emphasis was placed on the need for community based organization to be registered as members on the GEF/CSO network. You don't need to be a GEF/SGP grantee to be registered but a recommendation from either GEF/SGP or another funder would be required. Also, a CSO member can recommend another NGO for membership.

Finally, concerning the last question raised, the national coordinator noted that local NGOs do not have to be resident in a state to apply to carry out projects in that state. But it is encouraged that local NGOs apply to work in the states they are located, but if not, they need to have a project officer resident in the community.

Presentation on the GEF-SGP OP6 Initiatives and the Landscape/Seascape approach

This session was facilitated by Mr. Adeleke; in his presentation he gave a thorough and in-depth analysis of the country programme strategy. Below is the summary of his presentation. The Nigerian OP6 is being designed to demonstrate best practices in climate smart approaches to agro-ecology, renewable energy resource management and strengthening of stakeholder participation in community conservation planning and management.

The GEF-SGPOP6 SGP identified with the need to consolidate on past successes and build a formidable platform that will enhance impacts in critical and most important landscapes or seascapes, promote ecosystem functioning for human benefits through practical community focused efforts which are sustainable and replicable in most forms for medium to long term period. The Landscape/Seascape approach provide opportunities for integrated community action in major and most important ecosystems to create medium to long term impacts, promote ecological resilience and build in stakeholder collaboration.

➤ GEF-SGP Country Programme Niche

Nigeria contains a rich series of climatic and vegetation zones across landscapes, leading to a diverse range of habitats and very rich biodiversity with an estimated 4,600 plant, 940 bird, 274 mammal, 19 amphibian and over 400 marine and freshwater fish species. The Gulf of Guinea's forests stretch into southern Nigeria: these forests are recognized as a global biodiversity hotspot. There are 22 primate species, including threatened and endangered species such as the Cross River Gorilla, and Drill and Preuss's Guenon monkey.

Nigeria is well drained firstly by the two major rivers – the Niger and the Benue both of which form a confluence in the middle of the country. Both rivers form a major section of International waters that links other countries such as Guinea, Mali, Niger, Benin Republic and Cameroon in West and Central Africa. Another large network of the river system is the Komadugu-Yobe river complex in the north eastern section where it enters into Lake Chad while on the Sokoto-Rima network of rivers drains the north western flank of the country. Lake Chad is also shared by other countries including Chad, Cameroon and Niger. Some smaller rivers e.g Osun, Ogun, Owena, Imo, Cross etc rose from inner highlands in the south before opening their waters into southern lagoons and estuaries.

There are three major high altitude areas in Nigeria. The Jos Plateau is the north central part of Nigeria. The two other peaks are located along the eastern border of the country (Obudu in the south and Mambilla in the north) both of them form the extension of the Cameroon Highlands.

Nigeria is quickly losing her forest, having lost more than 50% of its forest cover since 1990; currently, less than 10% of the country is forested. According to FAO's 2010 Forest Resource Assessment (FRA), Nigeria's deforestation rate has increased from 2.7 % for 1990-2000 to 4.0 % for 2005-2010. Average annual forest loss is estimated to about 350 000 hectares, driven by unsustainable land use practices and natural resource exploitation, as well as high demand for domestic energy. This affects livelihoods, increases the risk of climate change, threatens biodiversity, and is exacerbated by high population growth rate and poverty.

Poor resource management practices have exacerbated the influence and expansion of desert encroachment to Nigeria. This, coupled with effects of climate change has great implications on agriculture, pastoralism and water resource needs causing conflicts among resource users and inflicting damage to biodiversity of species and habitats.

➤ **Policy and Institutional Linkages**

The SGP OP6 Nigeria will build and sustain effective and cordial working relationship with relevant institutions, agencies, civil society groups and development projects. Such collaboration is required to secure the much needed co-funding and partnership for project implementation. Consultation with relevant State Government most especially on sustainable/climate smart agro-ecology and clean energy alternatives in rural areas will be given special attention. Grantees will be encouraged to utilize opportunity for partnership with relevant research and extension service based institutions such as the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and State based Agriculture Development Programmes (ADPs), most particularly on sustainable agriculture and rational use on chemicals. Grantees will also be encouraged to share and learn from other projects such as the UNDP supported Niger Delta Sustainable Development Project, the on-going CBR+ project in Cross river State, the Great Green Wall Project in northern Nigeria, the Wetland International Project in the Niger Delta, the World Bank supported Poverty Reduction Project across many States in Nigeria and varied form of biodiversity conservation initiatives in Nigeria.

➤ **GEF-SGP OP6 National Landscape/Seascape Analysis**

Two major broad spectrum landscapes are identified for the focus of the GEF-SGP OP6. Priority Landscapes were selected through desk based data analysis supported with available National Strategic documents e.g NBSAP, Nigeria IBA Report, Nigeria CBD Report etc. Data from relevant International and global study reports and assessments such as the World Wide for Nature, (WWF) Eco regions, the priority sites of Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) and Conservation International's Biodiversity hotspots were also useful in the baseline information assessments. The Landscape assessment also considers nationally important landscapes on agriculture, water resources and energy. More detailed analysis and information are provided in the full SGP OP6 Nigeria Report. Profile of 20 communities (10 from each of the Landscape) assisted in the enrichment of information for analysis of environment and socio-economic issues of each Landscape.

- ❖ Nigerian Atlantic coast and inner water Basins including the Niger Delta (Critical sites of importance within the landscapes are the Niger Delta, the Cross river Forests and estuaries, the lowland forests and coastal areas of south west Nigeria. The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) recognizes the entire landscape as an area of priority.
- ❖ The Nigerian Middle belt woodlands, The Niger and Benue basin and the Mambilla. Critical sites of importance are the woodlands around the Niger and Benue Rivers and their associated wetlands, the Gashaka Gumti/Mambilla and Kurmi Region along the Cameroon border.

One critical site of priority consideration but outside the two landscapes is the Komadugu-Yobe basin including the Hadeija- Nguru Wetlands with an extension to Lake Chad.

➤ **GEF-SGP OP6 Initiatives**

- ❖ **Biodiversity Conservation – Promoting Landscape/Seascape conservation:** Through Participatory Action on Conservation in Critical Environment (PACCE)
- ❖ **Promotion of Climate- Smart Agro- Ecological Practices.** Through Community Action for Resource Development through Innovation on Nature and Agricultural Land Use (CARDINAL). The facilitator noted here that climate smart agriculture should not be confused with Genetically Modified Organism (GMO). This initiative involves the integration of best practices in Agriculture to cushion the effect of climate change.
- ❖ **Promoting Low Carbon Energy Co-benefits:** The Programme will support community initiatives that promote compliance procedures in energy production e.g. charcoal, recyclable material sourcing and use of agricultural based residues e.g. smoke free briquettes.
- ❖ **Supporting Strategic Action Plans for managing International waters.** GEF-SGP will explore and support initiatives for the protection of common marine natural resources to reduce the vulnerability of coastal communities to climate change. The Programme will support community activities on mangrove habitat restoration, capacity building of communities to control pollution and community efforts on biodiversity conservation, including protection of migratory species.
- ❖ **Supporting Local to Global Chemical Management Coalition.** The GEF-SGP will support community activities that demonstrate optimum and rational use of chemicals. The principle of rational chemical use will be integrated into all GEF-SGP community projects on agriculture, watershed and biodiversity protection.
- ❖ **Promotion of Social Inclusion - Gender, Youth and Indigenous People:** The GEF-SGP will ensure gender mainstreaming and youth involvement in project planning, design and implementation. Promote and respect traditional authorities and indigenous people meetings/assembly and consensus on natural resource issues.

Plenary Discussion on Landscape/Seascape Approach and the OP6 Initiatives

Questions and answers on landscape/seascape approach

1. **Q.** Was there any lesson learnt in OP5 or OP4 that informed the design of OP6?
 - A.** Based on OP5, Nigeria had 90% deforestation which is the highest in the world. So, the approach is targeting tree planting at the critical deforestation sites and not just haphazard tree planting. There is need to change the way agriculture is practiced because we are getting to the brim of resource depletion. So our measures need to be more targeted and deliberate, especially with effect to climate change.
 - B.** Projects have been a reactive intervention in operational phase 4 and 5, but we need a more innovative approach in OP6. Models needs to be developed for need based regions.
2. **Q.** Wastes and chemicals are becoming issues that needs immediate attention and needs to be managed?
 - A.** The GEF-SGP recognizes the importance of major stakeholders in providing enabling policy environment for community actions and project implementation. Interaction among major stakeholders would ensure knowledge of climate smart agriculture practices in order to promote sustainable development.
3. **Q.** Every landscape has sociological features, was this put into cognizance when doing the landscape analysis?
 - A.** It is the sociological factors that informed the landscape analysis. All the factors would be made more explicit in the full draft of the country programme strategy.

4. **Q.** Media strategy engagement is missing in the country programme strategy? Communication would go a long way to enhance visibility and knowledge sharing.

A. It is included in the programme. A media expert is a member of the National Steering Committee.
5. **Q.** A more robust communication strategy needs to be in place for GEF-SGP. Are models of communication led intervention?

A. We have a communication framework but just 20% implemented. The problem is due to low resource mobilization. But now GEF has started incorporating knowledge fairs.
6. **Q.** Deserts areas are missing in the landscape analysis. Desertification is a major area that also needs to be addressed.

A. Great green wall is executing the desertification issue especially in the middle belt region. It is already a national priority.

RECOMMENDATIONS

4. More work needs to be done in the area of energy efficiency in rural area because energy drives the economy. Renewable energy should be used to drive transport and business in the rural area.
5. Communication is an important part of GEF-SGP work especially on social media platforms. SGP should consciously put their work on social media in order to showcase project achievements and create more awareness for all their focal areas. NGOs should also create more media exposure for the SGP projects they are undertaking.
6. GEF-SGP did a great job with the landscape analysis approach. It is therefore important for the CPS document to be reviewed yearly.

Questions and answers on the OP6 initiatives

Q. Is SGP going to focus on these initiatives?

A. They are inclusive initiatives that go hand in hand with SGP work; all the areas would be focused on.

Q. We need to know the carbon co-benefits and more light needs to be thrown on the national propriety table.

A. More information is provided in the full CPS document.

Q. Does SGP work with the private sector especially for sustainability?

A. Every area including the private sector is represented on the national steering committee, not only to for partnership and funding but so can they help with their expertise in translating community business into something big and commercial.

Q. The government CSO-network does not really capture policy intervention/effectiveness.

A. What we are talking about is more of a policy integration thing. It is to give the policy makers an understanding/idea of what is happening in the communities through the projects been carried out there i.e. case study based policy dialogue. This approach would influence positive actions and intervention from the policy makers.

Q. More science and research work is out there and it is important to policy formation. How is GEF-SGP making use of this?

A. Science and research is good, but it needs to be brought down to community level. It would be back-up information for community work. The purpose of GEF-SGP is to use science and research with community initiatives as evidence to inform policy formation.

Q. Under social inclusion can it be broadened to include internally displaced persons?

A. It can be re-phrased to include vulnerable groups/women headed initiative.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Concerning the Climate- Smart Agro- Ecological Practices, Ministry of Agriculture adopted a document called framework on climate resilient agriculture. This document can be used in consolidation with GEF-SGP initiatives.
2. GEF-SGP should be pro-active in scanning the horizon for emerging conservation problem that can come up in the next five years.

PLENARY SESSION ON OP6 NIGERIA COUNTRY OUTCOMES, INDICATORS AND ACTIVITIES

This session was facilitated by both the Mr. Adeleke and the national coordinator of GEF-SGP. All comments and corrections were effected immediately on the table. This session is described in more details in the full CPS draft.

CLOSING REMARKS AND VOTE OF THANKS

Representatives from the federal ministry of environment appreciated GEF-SGP especially the national coordinator for the great work that is going on in Nigeria. She has really made us proud both in Nigeria and all over the world. They stated further that the honorable minister of environment is particularly interested in SGP activities and will be willing to work with organizations that are ready to mitigate environmental problems. They encouraged SGP not to do all these environmental projects without the involvement of the ministry. Efforts should be harmonized and SGP can contact federal ministry of environment for coalition and also to provide information that would be of help to project activities.

The national coordinator thanked everyone for coming, she noted that their comments have really been impactful and of great help to SGP work. SGP would make sure to update participants on improvements made on the CPS and would not hesitate to share important information that would be of help to them. She said SGP would work on all FME has said and would send update to the ministry consistently about SGP environmental projects. SGP would also secure the help of the ministry for NGO training workshops. Finally Mr. Adeleke also thanked all participants and emphasized that working with people who are in the government would bring a lot of benefit to the work of SGP.

Annex 2: GEF-SGP Nigeria Partner Donor Strategy Annex

Name of Donor	Form/Value of Support
Community Based REDD+ (CBR+) with the UNREDD in Cross River State Nigeria	Cash/\$400,000
Federal Ministry of environment	Cash/ 50,000
UNDP CO	Cash/\$50,000
Ecological Funds Office	Cash/\$50,000
Bilateral Donors (CIDA etc)	Cash/Kind/\$150,000
National Development Foundations	Cash/Kind/\$50,000
Media Support	Kind/\$50,000

Annex 3: Brief on Nigeria

Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, has an estimated population of about 160 million. The country is bounded by the Atlantic Ocean in the South, the Republic of Benin to the West, the Republic of Cameroon to the East and the Republic of Niger and Chad to the North. The total land area of about 923,768 square km of tropical landscape is endowed with a wide spectrum of ecological biomes ranging from the 857 km stretch coastal marine ecosystem in the south, through a belt of the Guinean Rainforest zone, an extensive Guinea Savanna woodland, the Sudan Savanna grassland and a dry Sahel scrubland threatened with the fast expanding influence of the Sahara desert in the north. The country's two main rivers systems, the Benue and the Niger and their associated tributaries, form a huge network of hydrological systems and wetlands. The country also has a broad spectrum of socio-cultural diversity comprising of about 250 ethnic groups spread across the 774 Local Government areas in 36 States and a Federal capital territory located in Abuja in the central part.

Nigeria is well drained by two major rivers – the Niger and the Benue rivers both of which form a confluence in the middle of the country. Both rivers form a major section of international waters that links other countries such as Guinea, Mali, Niger, Benin Republic and Cameroon in West and Central Africa. The tributaries of these two rivers play a major function on drainage, watershed, agro-ecology and biodiversity features and protection, most especially from the middle belt to the Atlantic coast in the south. Another large network of the river system is the Komadugu-Yobe river complex in the north eastern section where it enters into the Lake Chad while the Sokoto-Rima network of rivers drains the north western flank of the country. Lake Chad is located at the north eastern border and is shared with other countries including Chad, Cameroon and Niger.

There are three major high altitude areas in Nigeria. The Jos Plateau in the north central part of Nigeria. The two other peaks are located along the eastern border of the country (Obudu in the south and Mambilla in the north). Both of them form the extension of the Cameroon Highlands.

Nigeria is quickly losing her forest, having lost more than 50% of its forest cover since 1990. Currently, less than 10% of the country is forested. According to FAO's 2010 Forest Resource Assessment (FRA), Nigeria's deforestation rate has increased from 2.7% for 1990-2000 to 4.0 % for 2005-2010. Average annual forest loss is estimated to about 350,000 hectares, driven by unsustainable land use practices and natural resource exploitation, as well as high demand for domestic energy. This affects livelihoods, increases the risk of climate change, threatens biodiversity, and is exacerbated by high population growth rate and poverty.

Nigeria's political administrative system, which comprises of three tiers of government, namely the Federal, the States and the Local governments, enabled the role of each tier of government on varied aspects of forest resource policy and regulatory framework, as well as forest resource use and management. Nigeria however has high hopes in economic diversification, increased industrialization and improvement in energy efficiency and agricultural transformation.