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GEF SGP JORDAN NEWSLETTER- ISSUE #1- 2017, Q3

GEF SGP in Jordan

The Small Grants Program (SGP) in Jordan was initiated in 1992 as part of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and is being managed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The main goal of GEF/SGP is to provide financial and technical support to projects and initiatives that conserve and restore the environment while enhancing people's well-being and livelihoods. The five previous cycles of SGP made several accomplishments in the five GEF focal areas i.e. biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, land degradation and sustainable forest management, international waters and chemicals.

The philosophy of GEF/SGP is based on addressing the global environmental challenges through integration of local communities in designing and implementing the development projects that would, in turn, serve their needs and enhance the sense of ownership. One of the main concerns of GEF/SGP is to provide successful local solutions to chronic environmental problems, particularly the scarcity of natural resources, and to support local communities by sustainable use of natural resources.

GEF/SGP programme in Jordan is characterized by the following features:

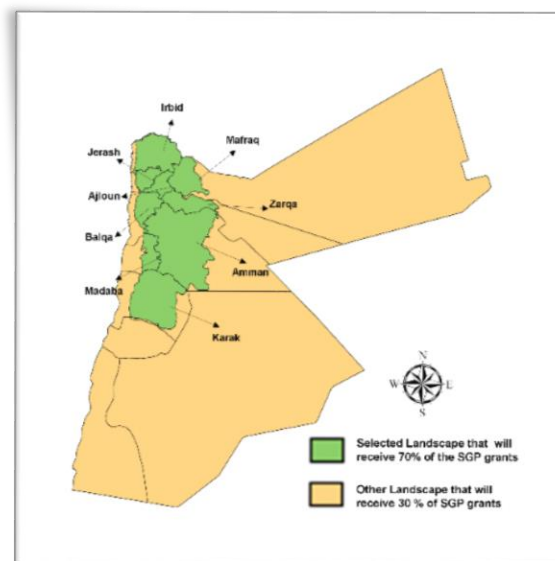
- Direct impact on capacity building of the local institutions.
- Documenting and disseminating practical experiences over the sustainable use of natural resources at local level.
- Reducing the obstacles and problems that are encountered by the local communities when applying to environmental funding programs.
- Encouraging partnerships between communities and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Governmental Authorities.
- Taking gender equality into consideration in the development projects.
- Providing feasible and community-based solutions to address various environmental challenges which can be applied in other areas.

COUNTRY PROGRAMME SNAPSHOT

- ✓ Start date: 1992
- ✓ Total funded projects: 205 project
- ✓ 40% of which were led by women
- ✓ Total grant amount: 6.5 Million USD
- ✓ Total Co-financing: ~12 Million USD
- ✓ Six Operational Phases

SGP Sixth Operational Phase (2015-2018)

- SGP current operational phase, Operational Phase Six (OP6), focuses on a certain natural landscape selected based on specific social, economic, environmental and topographic criteria.
- One of the key elements of SGP's implementation in OP6 is the development of landscape/seascape approaches within countries to better focus grant-making and promoting strategic programming and clustering of small grant projects with the aim to achieve greater impact and lead to synergies and opportunities for scaling up.
- Selected landscape in OP6 is the "The Northern Mountainous Terrain" represented by governorates of Irbid, Ajloun, Jerash, Balqa, Madaba and Karak.
- Six projects were approved with total budget of 225,000 USD during the second call for proposals.



SGP JORDAN OP6 LANDSCAPE MAP

For more information on SGP Jordan OP6 strategy, please visit:

https://sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_countrypages&view=testimonials&country=59&Itemid=271



Thyme is one of the herbs planted and irrigated using the "Groasis Waterbox" technique.



400 Waterboxes were installed to plant several species of medicinal herbs.

Our Stories

Sustainable Agriculture for Better Environment

Soldiers Families Welfare Society is one of GEF Small Grants Programme beneficiaries who's promoting the use of an efficient new irrigation technology called "Groasis Waterbox" which remarkably reduces water used for irrigation, in the same time focusing on using of this technology for producing native plants species mainly herbs used for medicinal purposes.

The society has installed 400 water boxes used to plant Thyme, Sage and Melissa (*Lemon verbena*), Basel, Cherry tomato and Bell pepper in the CBOs greenhouses in Yadodeh area located in south of Amman capital. Currently, they are packing these products, after processing them and sell them in different local markets. More than 12 women are directly benefited from this project with more than ~ 67,000.00 USD revenues generated in 2016 from the plantation of thymes only.

Groasis waterbox is an integrated planting technology designed to help the trees and plants to grow in extremely arid areas, preserving 17 L of water on period of 3-6 months (zero evaporation). The single waterbox can last up to 10 years with the possibility of planting two plant species in a single box at the same time.

In addition to saving water, it is worth mentioning that this technology preserves the modest temperature of water thus prevents the growth of weed and protects the plant from damage by rodents.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit: https://www.sgp.undp.org/index.php?option=com_sgpprojects&view=projectdetail&id=24490&Itemid=272

Or contact:

Head of Soldiers Families Welfare Society, Mrs. Suhad Al 'Toum
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Releasing SGP New Brand Identity

The GEF Small Grants Programme is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year!

As part of this celebration, GEF SGP released an updated logo as the new brand identity of the program. The logo symbolizes a renewed commitment to supporting the innovative solutions of communities and civil society organizations on global environment and sustainable development issues.

As a brand with strong recognition, the elements of the logo remain the same but have an updated look and feel, with the introduction of new colors and font.



SGP Regular Logo

To be used starting June 1st, 2018.



SGP 25th Anniversary Logo

SGP developed a special version of the logo to be used starting June 1st, 2017 until May 31st, 2018.

WELCOMING OUR NEW NATIONAL COORDINATOR, ENG. ANAS KHASAWNEH



Anas joined SGP Jordan in June 2017. Anas is highly committed to advocating sustainable development through integrating social, economic and environmental aspects, coupling knowledge and practical experience, networking with peer experts to create linkages as key elements of success.

Anas previous work experience includes development of economic and environmental fields, more specifically SMEs development, energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate change, Anas worked on local, national and regional projects. He has experience with different international organization including EU, USAID and UNDP, in addition he has experience working with local and national agencies including governmental, NGOs and CBOs.

Anas holds a Master's Degree in Sustainability Management, Columbia University, NYC, he also holds another Master's degree in Computer Information Systems, University of Sunderland, UK. His BSc. Is in industrial Engineering, University of Jordan. He is excited to join the SGP family and looks forward to develop linkages and synergies with all the team members all over the world. Anas hopes to be an asset in supporting NGOs as well as local communities to strengthen their capacities to lead projects that will contribute to sustainability endeavor.

Anas can be reached at: anas.khasawneh@undp.org

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