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Item 11 of the provisional agenda**

Resource mobilization and financial mechanism

Report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention

Note by the Secretariat

1. In accordance with the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) contained in the annex to decision III/8, the Council is to prepare and submit a report for each ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Conference of the Parties provided further guidance to GEF, pertinent to the report, in paragraph 8 (e) of decision XII/30 and paragraphs 5, 15 and 23 of decision XIII/21.
2. At its fourth meeting, in May 2024, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, considered the preliminary report of the GEF Council¹ and adopted recommendation 4/4 on the financial mechanism.
3. Pursuant to the above, the Secretariat is circulating herewith the report of the GEF Council for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The report is reproduced as received by the Secretariat in English, French and Spanish and will also be made available in Arabic, Chinese and Russian.²

* Revised to replace the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility with a corrected version sent by the Council on 15 October 2024, with changes to paragraphs 5, 75 and 129 and table 9.

** CBD/COP/16/1.

¹ CBD/SBI/4/6/Add.1.

² The annexes to the report are circulated in the language of submission only (English).



**REPORT OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY PRESENTED TO THE SIXTEENTH
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

JULY 1, 2024

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report to the sixteenth Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provides information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the Biodiversity Focal Area in response to the COP 15 guidance to the GEF received in December 2022. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the dates of COP 15 and 16 and in turn on GEF's reporting periods to the COP, this COP 16 report covers the time from January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024, including the last six months of GEF-7 and the first two years of GEF-8.
2. By January 1, 2022, most GEF-7 resources in the Biodiversity Focal Area had been programmed and this was fully reported on in the GEF report to COP 15.³ During the last 6 months of GEF-7, 63 projects were approved using biodiversity resources, including 57 Biodiversity Focal Area projects and 6 multi focal area projects, amounting to \$145.13 million in GEF resources from the Biodiversity Focal Area. A full list of these projects can be found in Annex 1.
3. The total value of GEF-7 investments towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets was \$2.04 billion, which leveraged co-financing of \$16.51 billion for a total investment of \$18.55 billion. This represents a co-financing ratio of each GEF dollar leveraging 8 dollars.
4. The GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area investments and associated programming through the Integrated Programs (IPs) and relevant GEF focal areas support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).
5. The cumulative direct programming contributions during the first two years of GEF-8 to the KMGBF from all the relevant programming lines in GEF-8 (Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, GEF-8 Integrated Programs, International Waters Focal Area, Non-grant Instrument, Small Grants Programme, Least Developed Countries Fund and Special Climate Change Fund for climate change adaptation, , and Global Biodiversity Framework Fund) was \$2.42 billion, which leveraged co-financing of \$19.12 billion for a total investment of more than \$21.54 billion. This represents a co-financing ratio of 7 dollars being leveraged for each "GEF dollar" during the reporting period.
6. For the GEF-8 period, a total of \$1.92 billion was allocated to the Biodiversity Focal Area, of which \$1.45 billion is provided to countries through the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) for biodiversity, out of which \$641 million is notionally allocated to support Integrated Programs. Sixty-nine percent (or \$1.32 billion) resource usage has been achieved in the Biodiversity Focal Area during the reporting period. In other words, 69 percent of the biodiversity resources were programmed in only 50 percent of the time duration of GEF-8, demonstrating timeliness in programming.
7. These GEF-8 resources supported 22 biodiversity focal-area projects and 32 multi-focal area projects, 17 programmatic approaches including 11 Integrated Programs (IPs). The IPs have

³ GEF, 2022, [Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity](#), CBD COP 15 website.

included 217 child projects. One hundred and forty (140) countries have benefitted from these investments. A complete list of these projects is provided in Annex 2 to this report.

8. Two major global programs to support enabling activities were approved during the reporting period. First, the “Umbrella Programme to support the revision and updating of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and the production of the seventh National Reports” was approved during the reporting period through one project with UNEP as the GEF agency (GEF Project Financing: \$36,435,000) and one with UNDP as the GEF Agency (GEF Project Financing: \$35,600,000). A total of 139 countries are supported by this Umbrella Programme, which builds on the GEF-7 Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support project, which kick-started work to align national frameworks with the KMGBF in 138 countries.

9. In addition, the “Umbrella Programme to Support Development of Biodiversity Finance Plans” (GEF Project Financing: \$38,190,000) supports 91 countries to develop national biodiversity finance plans was approved during the reporting period. The global programme supports countries that have not yet benefited from the UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN). The main output of the project will be a national biodiversity finance plan produced by each participating country.

10. In the GEF-8 Programming Directions, the descriptions of IPs noted their potential contributions to the implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which was to be agreed at COP 15 as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF). Section III of this report provides a summary of the 11 IPs that were approved during the reporting period which contributed to the implementation of all the targets of the KMGBF.

11. The GEF-8 Programming Directions recognized the importance of blended finance and increased the commitment to innovative blended finance solutions. Five blended finance projects were approved during the reporting period that make direct contributions to the KMGBF. They were supported with \$80 million of GEF financing which is leveraging \$1.534 billion.

12. During the reporting period, according to the recent Small Grants Programme (SGP) Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) published by UNDP and covering the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023 (FY23), GEF funding supported 1,179 new SGP projects, for a total amount of \$38.22 million. The number of SGP projects under implementation during FY23 is 2,443 projects, with a grant value of \$83.68 million and a total co-financing value of \$88.90 million. From July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, 338 SGP biodiversity projects completed implementation and were closed. These projects improved the management, both directly and indirectly, of 154 protected areas and 260 Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), covering a total of 9.1 million hectares. 189 target landscapes/seascapes were under improved community-based conservation and sustainable use. SGP also helped to maintain or improve the conservation status of at least 873 species. With regards to the sustainable use of biodiversity, a total of 892 biodiversity-based products, with a positive impact on the sustainable use of biodiversity, have been supported by SGP projects.

13. The GEF-7 Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI; GEF Project Financing: \$22,535,780) dedicated to strengthening Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' stewardship of biodiversity has moved forward during the reporting period. The first meeting of the Project Steering Committee, which is comprised entirely of indigenous leaders selected by their communities, was hosted by Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations members at the Naa'Waya'Sum Gardens in Canada before the seventh GEF Assembly in August 2023. While the project overall is being implemented by two GEF agencies (CI and IUCN) selected through a competitive process, direction from and governance by IPLCs is a key feature of the ICI, which is made up of subprojects managed by indigenous organizations. Thirteen subprojects are currently under implementation in the Americas, Africa, and Asia. A second tranche of the Inclusive Conservation Initiative will be supported in GEF-8, and the call for implementing agency proposal is expected to be advertised no later than the second quarter of 2024.

14. Section V of the report provides a summary of GEF's response to COP 15 guidance.

15. Among the key COP decisions, the CBD COP 15 requested the Global Environment Facility, in paragraphs 29 and 30 of COP decision 15/7 on resource mobilization and in paragraphs 19 and 20 of COP decision 15/15 on financial mechanism, to establish a dedicated and accessible Global Biodiversity Framework Fund in 2023 that can quickly mobilize and disburse new and additional resources from all sources, commensurate with the ambition of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

16. In response to this request, the GEF Council in June 2023 approved the establishment⁴ of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) and its Programming Directions⁵. The Seventh GEF Assembly ratified the GBFF establishment decision in August 2024, and launched the fund.

17. In the period between COP 15 and the June 2023 GEF Council, the GEF Secretariat led an intensive consultative process, including multiple consultations with the GEF Council, with Multilateral Development Banks and International Financial Institutions, with the private sector and with the CBD Secretariat, as well as briefings for civil society representatives, the GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group and GEF Agencies. CBD focal points were closely associated to the process through multiple joint notifications.

18. The decisions of the first two GBFF Council, convened on February 8 and 9, 2024 and June 19, 2024, respectively, fully operationalized the fund and enabled the start of programming.

19. In response to COP guidance and based on feedback received through the consultative process, the GBFF has been set up with governance arrangements, project cycle, and resource allocation that differ from the GEF Trust Fund.

⁴ GEF, 2023, [*Establishment of a New Trust Fund: The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/05/Rev.01.

⁵ GEF, 2023, [*Programming Directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/06/Rev.02.

20. The governance of the GBFF includes the GBFF Council, with expanded observer representation (Conservation and philanthropic organization, IPLCs, private sector, women, and youth), the Advisory Group of Non-Sovereign Participants, and the Auxiliary Body.⁶

21. The GBFF Council decided to allocate resources through discrete programming tranches to improve predictability for recipient countries, while accommodating financial contributions on a rolling basis. The adoption of the GBFF Resource Allocation Policy triggered the opening of the first GBFF programming tranche, which is making \$211 million available for programming. This amount corresponds to all pledges confirmed by the Trustee at the date of Policy approval, including the pledges from Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Japan, and Spain, minus corporate budget needs. Luxembourg has also confirmed contributions to the GBFF since the launch of the first tranche.

22. Within programming tranches, all GBFF resources are allocated in a country-driven manner to projects through consecutive selection rounds open to all eligible countries.

23. 70 PPG Requests were submitted in the two selection rounds carried out over February to April 2024. Out of the 70, 22 PPG requests involving 24 countries, including 13 SIDS and LDCs, were approved by the CEO based on resource availability, and the selection criteria and portfolio-level targets agreed by the GBFF Council. In the reporting period, three projects, out of the 22 approved PPG requests, were fully developed in time for inclusion in a Work Program in the reporting period. They were approved by the GBFF Council at its second meeting on June 19, 2024, for a total of \$37.82 million.

24. As of June 30, 2024, \$110.4 million of GBFF resources were approved or set-aside for projects with approved PPG requests, pending Council/CEO approval of the fully developed projects. The report provides further detail on each of the selection rounds, the first GBFF Work Program and the portfolio to date.

25. As at end of June 2024, the portfolio of biodiversity-financed projects across GEF funds and programming lines under implementation was valued at \$2.70 billion. It includes close to 508 projects, of which 262 are financed exclusively by the Biodiversity Focal Area for an amount of \$746 million.

26. Within the biodiversity portfolio under implementation, 85 percent of the projects were rated in the satisfactory range in achieving implementation progress and 89 percent were rated in the satisfactory range for the likelihood to achieve their Development Objective. This is higher than the GEF average. Further, 85 percent of multi-focal area projects, which often include biodiversity resources, have been rated in the satisfactory range in achieving implementation progress and 88 percent have been rated in the satisfactory range for the likelihood to achieve their Development Objective.

⁶ GEF, 2024, [*Terms of Reference for Advisory Group\(s\) and Auxiliary Body for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*](#), Council Document GEF/GBFF.02/04.

27. The GEF continues to mobilize financing from all sources to meet project and program objectives. The GEF-8 co-financing target of mobilizing seven dollars for every “GEF dollar” spent is being surpassed two years into this programming cycle, reaching a ratio of 8.5 to 1 for the entire GEF portfolio. The investment mobilized ratio has also increased, now standing at 6.3 dollars for every GEF dollar invested, above the 5 to 1 ratio targeted in Upper Middle-Income Countries and High-Income Countries that are not small island developing States (SIDS) or least developed countries (LDCs).

28. Consistent with global aspirations in Multilateral Environmental Agreements and relevant forums, the GEF set ambitious, yet achievable targets for Global Environmental Benefits to be generated through GEF-8 programming.

29. After two years of GEF-8, much progress is taking place toward meeting the four targets related to conserving and sustainably using biodiversity. Expected results from approved projects and programs already exceed half of the target “150 million hectares of terrestrial protected area created or under improved management”, the full target “100 million hectares of marine protected area created or under improved management” and, two-thirds and half of the targeted value for terrestrial (195 million hectares) and marine (70 million hectares) areas under improved practices to benefit biodiversity, respectively.

30. During the reporting period, the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF (IEO) conducted four evaluations that are of relevance to the Biodiversity Focal Area: a) Evaluation of GEF Support to Sustainable Forest Management; b) Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin Ecosystem; c) Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation: GEF Support to Drylands Countries; d) Evaluation of Community Based Approaches at the GEF; and f) Evaluation of the Global Wildlife Program. The key messages from these evaluations and the GEF Secretariat management responses endorsed by the GEF Council are summarized in the report.

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PROJECT ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CBD

1. This report to the Sixteenth Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) provides information on the activities of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the Biodiversity Focal Area in response to the COP 15 guidance to the GEF received in December 2022. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the COP 15 dates and in turn on GEF's reporting periods to the COP, this COP 16 report covers the time from January 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, including the last six months of GEF-7 and the first two years of GEF-8.
2. This section of the report will provide a summary of the following: a) the last six months of GEF-7 programming; b) a brief overall synthesis of GEF-7 programming during the entire GEF-7 phase, and c) and a summary of the first two years of GEF-8 programming.

Programming in the Biodiversity Focal Area from January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 (last 6 months of GEF-7)

3. By January 1, 2022, the vast majority of resources in the Biodiversity Focal Area had been programmed and this was fully reported on in the GEF report to COP 15.⁷ During the last six months of GEF-7, 63 projects were approved using biodiversity resources, including 57 Biodiversity Focal Area projects and six multi focal area projects, amounting to \$145.13 million in GEF resources from the Biodiversity Focal Area. A full list of these projects can be found in Annex 1.

Synthesis of GEF-7 Biodiversity Programming to Support CBD Implementation

4. The goal of the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area strategy is to maintain globally significant biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes. To achieve this goal, GEF investments help countries meet the three objectives identified in the COP 13 guidance to the GEF, from December 2016, as presented in the Four-Year Framework on Program Priorities:

- (1) Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes;
- (2) Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species; and
- (3) Further develop biodiversity policy and institutional frameworks.

5. Table 1 below presents the collective contribution of the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy and the focal area programming lines, the Food Systems, Land Use, and Restoration Impact Program, the Sustainable Cities Impact Program, the Sustainable Forest Management Impact

⁷ GEF, 2022, [Report of the Global Environment Facility to the Fifteenth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity](#), CBD COP 15 website.

Program, and the International Waters Focal Area Investments to achieving this GEF-7 goal and the three objectives.

Table 1. CBD Guidance and Delivery Mechanism in GEF-7

CBD COP 13 Guidance: Four-Year Framework of Program Priorities	Delivery Mechanism
<p>I. Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes</p> <p>A) Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values</p> <p>B) Manage biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes</p> <p>C) Harness biodiversity for sustainable agriculture</p>	<p>Biodiversity Focal Area Investments and Programming Lines</p> <p>Biodiversity Mainstreaming in Priority Sectors</p> <p>Global Wildlife Program (preventing the extinction of known threatened species, and wildlife for sustainable development)</p> <p>Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting</p> <p>Sustainable Use of Plant and Animal Genetic Resources</p> <p>Inclusive Conservation Initiative</p> <p>Impact Programs</p> <p>Food systems, Land Use, and Restoration Impact Program</p> <p>Sustainable Cities Impact Program</p> <p>Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program (Amazon, Congo Basin, Dryland Sustainable Landscapes)</p> <p>Other Focal Areas</p> <p>International Waters/Sustainable Fisheries</p>
<p>II. Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species</p> <p>D) Prevent and control invasive alien species</p> <p>E) Reduce pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems</p> <p>F) Enhance the effectiveness of protected area systems</p> <p>G) Combat illegal and unsustainable use of species, with priority action on threatened species</p>	<p>Biodiversity Focal Area Investments and Programming Lines</p> <p>Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species (focus on islands)</p> <p>Improving Financial Sustainability, Effective Management, and Ecosystem Coverage of the Global Protected Area Estate</p> <p>Other Focal Areas</p> <p>International Waters/Coastal and Marine Protected Areas</p>
<p>III. Further develop biodiversity policy and institutional frameworks</p> <p>H) Implement the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety</p> <p>I) Implement the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing</p> <p>J) Improve biodiversity policy, planning, and review</p>	<p>Biodiversity Focal Area Investments and Programming Lines</p> <p>Implementing the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety</p> <p>Implementing the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing</p> <p>Support for national reporting and NBSAP development</p>

GEF-7 PROGRAMMING USAGE

6. A total of \$1.29 billion was allocated to the Biodiversity Focal Area in the GEF-7 period, of which \$1.03 billion was provided to countries through the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR). Table 2 below provides a summary of resource usage from the Biodiversity Focal Area during GEF-7.

**Table 2. Summary of Programming Usage of the GEF-7 Biodiversity Focal Area
(July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022)⁸**

Biodiversity Focal Area	GEF-7 Programming Targets (\$ million)	GEF-7 Programming (\$ million)	GEF-7 Programming (%)
STAR Country Allocations	1,031	965.69	94%
STAR Set-aside			
Enabling activities	46	44.37	96%
Global and Regional Biodiversity Projects and Programs	55	86.95	158%
Integrated Programming Incentive	160		
Food, Land Use and Restoration	92	75.34	82%
SFM Major Biomes	53	49.84	94%
Sustainable Cities	15	15.30	102%
Total Resources	1,292	1,237.48	96%

7. Table 3 below presents the totality of cumulative direct programming contributions from all GEF resources to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets from all the relevant programming lines in GEF-7 (Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, GEF-7 Impact Programs, the International Waters Focal Area, the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) for climate change adaptation, the Non-grant Instrument, and the Small Grants Programme. The total value of the GEF investment in GEF-7 from all these programming contributions towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets was \$2.04 billion, which leveraged co-financing of \$16.51 billion for a total investment of more than \$18.55 billion. This represents a co-financing ratio of each GEF dollar leveraging 8 dollars.

⁸ These figures include agency fees and project preparation grants.

Table 3. GEF-7 Direct Programming Contribution across all GEF Resources and Programming Lines to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022)⁹

Funding Source	GEF Project Financing (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)¹⁰	Total (GEF Project Financing and Co-financing) (\$ million)	% of Total (GEF Project Financing and Co-financing)
Biodiversity STAR programmed outside of Impact Programs (IP)¹¹	631.92	4,890	5,521	25%
Food, Land Use, Restoration Impact Program (IP)	306.44 ¹² (\$105.96 of biodiversity STAR)	2,734	3,042.50	14%
Sustainable Forest Management IP	241.35 ¹³ (\$92.03 of biodiversity STAR)	1,706	1,947.40	9%
Sustainable Cities IP	146.74 ¹⁴ (\$33.32 of biodiversity STAR)	1,690	1,836.50	8%
Biodiversity Set Aside	119.16	922	1,041.20	5%
Least Developed Countries Fund	29.80	149.60	179.40	1%
International Waters Focal Area	374.70	2,960.40	3,335.10	18%
Non-grant Instrument	64.90	1,332	1,396.90	8%
Small Grants Programme	123.08	128	251.08	1%
Totals (\$ Billion, %)	2.04	16.51	18.55	100%

⁹ These figures do not include agency fees and PPGs.

¹⁰ Co-financing for each IP is total co-financing for the IP as it is not feasible to account for shares of co-financing for different focal area contributions for the IPs. As such, the total figures provided in this table should not be used for co-financing ratio calculations.

¹¹ The STAR allocations reported in this row represent Biodiversity Focal Area projects and multi-focal area projects using biodiversity resources that are not part of the IP.

¹² These are only the biodiversity resources allocated to the IP.

¹³ These are only the biodiversity resources allocated to the IP.

¹⁴ These are only the biodiversity resources allocated to the IP.

Support for the Implementation the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity

In GEF-7, the seven projects, including two multi-country projects, submitted to the GEF Trust Fund requesting support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol were approved for a total GEF financing of \$13.1 million. These projects involve 11 countries, including Bangladesh, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kyrgyz Republic, Madagascar, Moldova, Mongolia, Namibia, India, and the Philippines.

Support to Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity

In GEF-7, 14 projects submitted to the GEF Trust Fund requesting support for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol were approved for a total GEF financing of \$32.2 million. These projects involve 14 countries, including Botswana, Cameroon, Cuba, the Gambia, Indonesia, Jamaica, Madagascar, Morocco, Niger, Panama, the Philippines, South Sudan, St. Lucia, and Venezuela.

GEF-8 PROGRAMMING USAGE

Programming in the Biodiversity Focal Area from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024

8. The GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area investments and associated programming through the Integrated Programs (IPs) and relevant GEF focal areas support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Biodiversity Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF).
9. The GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area strategy responds to the objectives of the CBD and its Protocols and to GEF-relevant objectives of biodiversity-related conventions. The goal of the GEF-8 Biodiversity focal area strategy is *globally significant biodiversity conserved, sustainably used, and restored*.
10. To achieve this goal, the strategy supports the following three objectives:
 - (1) To improve conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of natural ecosystems;
 - (2) To effectively implement the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols; and
 - (3) To increase mobilization of domestic resources for biodiversity.
11. For the GEF-8 period, a total of \$1.92 billion is allocated to the Biodiversity Focal Area, of which \$1.45 billion is provided to countries through the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) for biodiversity, out of which, \$641 million is notionally allocated to support Integrated Programs. Table 4 below provides a summary of the 69 percent (or \$1.32 billion) of the GEF-8 resource usage that has been achieved from the Biodiversity Focal Area during the reporting period. In other words, 69 percent of the biodiversity resources were programmed in the first two years of the GEF-8 period (50 percent), demonstrating timeliness of programming, particularly through the IPs. All the 11 IPs have been approved by the GEF Council for programming.
12. These resources supported 22 Biodiversity Focal Area projects and 32 multi-focal area projects, 17 programmatic approaches including 11 IPs. The IPs have included 217 child projects. One hundred and forty (140) countries have benefitted from these investments. These figures include agency fees and Project Preparation Grants (PPGs). A complete list of these projects is provided in Annex 2 to this report.

Table 4. Summary of Programming Usage of the GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area Resources in the Reporting Period (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024)¹⁵

Biodiversity Focal Area			GEF-8 Programming Targets (\$ million)	GEF-8 Programming in the reporting period (\$ million)	GEF-8 Programming (%)
STAR	Country	Allocations			
<i>programmed outside of Integrated Programs (IP)¹⁶</i>			811.89	279.95	34%
<i>STAR Set-aside</i>			182.85	120.88	66%
Enabling activities			145.56	120.15	83%
Global and Regional Biodiversity Projects and Programs			37.29	0.74	2%
<i>Integrated Programming¹⁷</i>			924.06	923.16	99.9%
Food Systems				161.50	
Ecosystem Restoration				135.08	
Sustainable Cities				85.80	
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes				216.72	
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution				23.87	
Blue and Green Islands				75.27	
Clean and Healthy Oceans				38.88	
Net-Zero Accelerator				43.78	
Wildlife Conservation for Development				124.47	
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development				17.79	
Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains				-	
Total Resources			1,918.80	1,323.99	69%

¹⁵ The figures include agency fees and project preparation grants.¹⁶ The figure includes country BD STAR in stand-alone projects and non-IP programs only.¹⁷ Programming funding for IPs shown in this table include only the contribution of the Biodiversity Focal Area Resources (i.e., country BD STAR for IPs, BD IP Global Platforms and BD IP Matching Incentive). IPs are also funded by other Focal Areas.

Project Preparation Grants

13. As a first step in project development for the GEF Trust Fund, the GEF provides financing as Project Preparation Grants (PPGs) to assist recipient countries to develop a project concept (PIF) into a project proposal for CEO endorsement. Three hundred thirty-five (335) PPGs were approved in the reporting period amounting to \$63.34 million.¹⁸

Support for the Implementation the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity

14. During the reporting period, no GEF-8 projects were submitted by eligible Parties to support implementation of the Cartagena Protocol.

Support to Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity

15. During the reporting period, one project to support national implementation and associated capacity building was submitted for funding by Burkina Faso "Operationalizing the Nagoya Protocol Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Burkina Faso (ONATRAB)" and this project was reviewed and sent back to the GEF agency for revision. In addition, another project was submitted and approved in Brazil, entitled, *"Empowering Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) to manage biodiversity data and information as a strategy to conserve their territories, safeguard traditional knowledge, and promote integrated biodiversity management"*. (GEF Project Financing: \$6,192,695; Co-financing: \$49,450,000). The objective of this project is to strengthen the capacity of IPLCs in the Amazon and Cerrado biomes to produce and manage biodiversity data and information as a strategy to effectively protect their territories, safeguard traditional knowledge, and promote integrated biodiversity management. The biodiversity of IPLC territories remains relatively unknown, so this project seeks to strengthen IPLC capacity to effectively manage their territories and safeguard their traditional knowledge systems. IPLC-led biodiversity surveys will systematize information on the use of species and strengthen sustainable use and conservation, which will facilitate more systematic biodiversity management by IPLCs for conservation outcomes. Activities include co-designing data and information sharing protocols and building IPLC capacity to use innovative data sharing technologies and traceability tools. Activities will be under the auspices of the Brazilian Biodiversity Information System (SiBBR) and will involve collaboration between three Ministries. This represents an innovative and pioneering effort to systematize IPLC scientific knowledge for conservation, including further empowering IPLCs by generating the knowledge base for them to claim the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of genetic resources occurring in their territories while enhancing the management effectiveness of these protected areas. The project will support the improved management for biodiversity of 1.5 million ha of indigenous territories. The project will directly benefit 3,000 women and 2,000 men.

¹⁸ These include the full amount of the PPGs and PPG fees for programmatic approaches that include biodiversity resources.

16. During the reporting period, two GBFF Project Preparation Grant (PPG) requests dedicated to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Belize and were approved for a total GBFF funding request of \$2.5 million.

Enabling Activities

17. Two major global programs to support enabling were approved during the reporting period.

18. The Umbrella Programme to support the revision and updating of the NBSAP and the production of the 7th National Reports was approved during the reporting period through one project with UNEP as the GEF agency (GEF Project Financing: \$36,435,000) and one with UNDP as the GEF Agency (GEF Project Financing: \$35,600,000). Each project has three components: *Component 1*) Updating the NBSAP: This component includes revising and updating the existing NBSAP to align with the KMGBF. This will build on the work started under the GEF-7 Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (EAS) project and is complementary to it; *Component 2*) National Reporting: This component aims to support countries in completing their 7th National Report. The component notably supports countries in the use of the indicators of the KMGBF monitoring framework, building on the work started under component “Assessment of monitoring system” of the GEF-7 Global Biodiversity Framework EAS project dedicated to promoting alignment of national monitoring systems with the KMGBF; and *Component 3*) Global knowledge exchange and technical support: This component includes global knowledge support and exchange to all parties. The program will have two main outputs per country: National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan (revised) and the CBD National Report. The Umbrella Programme supports a total of 139 countries.

19. In addition, the “Umbrella Programme to Support Development of Biodiversity Finance Plans (GEF Project Financing: \$ 38,190,000) supports 91 countries to develop national biodiversity finance plans of Biodiversity Finance Plans aims to enable countries to mobilize resources at scale to implement the KMGBF by supporting the development of national biodiversity financing plans, including baseline diagnostics, capacity, and institutional arrangements. The activity responds to Objective Three of the GEF biodiversity strategy to support domestic resource mobilization. The global programme support countries that have not yet benefited from the UNDP Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN). The main output of the project will be a national biodiversity finance plan produced by each participating country. A global knowledge sharing, and technical support platform will also be established under the program to share knowledge and experiences across participating countries and with the participation of partner organizations. The platform will offer dedicated expert technical advice to support national processes and address technical financial issues.

Contribution of the GEF Integrated Programs (IPs) During the Reporting Period to the Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Context

20. In the GEF-8 Programming Directions, the eleven IPs noted their potential contributions to the implementation of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework which was adopted as

the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF). It is important to note that the actual outcome indicators measured through the GEF core indicators may change once the child projects for the IPs are presented for CEO endorsement.

21. Each of the eleven IPs approved by the GEF Council during the reporting period will make contributions to the achievement of Targets 20 (capacity building) and 21 (data/information/knowledge management). While not specifically measured by the GEF core indicators, most child projects and each IP's global coordination project embed support to these targets as relevant to achieve the IP goals and objectives. Similarly, Targets 22 and 23 refer to the way the KMGBF is implemented at national level with Target 22 focusing on equitable, inclusive, and gender-responsive participation and Target 23 focusing on gender equality. GEF's policy framework on IPLCs and gender ensures that all GEF investments under the GEF Trust Fund will be contributing to these targets.

22. Collectively, many of the IPs that are contributing to area-based conservation/sustainable use/biodiversity mainstreaming and alignment of policies supporting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use will produce biodiversity outcomes at scale which will all contribute to the achievement of Target 11 (Restore, Maintain and Enhance Nature's Contributions to People)¹⁹.

23. Table 5 presents a summary of the contributions of each IP to the 23 KMGBF Targets indicating a broad advancing of the Targets with the GEF-8 Integrated Programs. The following section also describes the KMGBF links of each Integrated Program in a more detailed manner along with their expected contributions to the GEF Core Indicator targets for GEF-8.

¹⁹ <https://www.cbd.int/gbf/targets>

Table 5. Mapping of Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Action Targets to the Integrated Programs

	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework 23 Targets ²⁰																						
Integrated Programs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Ecosystem Restoration	X	X						X		X	X			X	X					X	X	X	X
Blue and Green Islands		X	X				X	X		X	X			X					X	X	X	X	X
Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator		X	X					X		X	X			X				X	X	X	X	X	X
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution							X	X		X	X			X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X
Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains							X	X		X	X			X	X				X	X	X	X	X
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Wildlife Conservation for Development		X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X									X	X	X	X
Food Systems	X	X					X	X	X	X	X				X			X	X	X	X	X	X
Clean and Healthy Oceans		X	X				X	X		X	X	X								X	X	X	X
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X			X		X			X	X	X	X	X
Sustainable Cities	X	X	X				X				X	X		X						X	X	X	X

²⁰ This table depicts the direct contributions of these IPs to the achievement of the 23 Targets of KMGBF. The IPs cover almost all the 23 targets of the GBF apart from Targets 6, 12 and 17. Target 6 is not directly addressed by any IP although the Blue Green Islands IP may make indirect contributions to this target. Target 17 on biosafety is also not addressed through these IPs.

Ecosystem Restoration IP (Participating countries: Angola, Brazil, Cambodia, Chad, Congo DR, Cote d'Ivoire, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Peru, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam)

24. The objective of the Ecosystem Restoration IP is to generate multiple durable global environmental and socioeconomic benefits by applying integrated and innovative approaches to restore degraded ecosystems. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 2,228,334 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 7,698,005 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 10
- 132,083,839 metric tons (direct) and 924,631 metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (mtCO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- One shared water freshwater ecosystem under improved management: Target 1 and Target 10
- 1,824,397.00 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (896,788 women and 927,609 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

25. In addition, the IP will make contributions to advance policy coherence with regards to ecosystem restoration at the national level through policy changes to overcome restoration barriers and/or disincentives to enable more private sector participation (Targets 14 and 15). The IP will also support integrated, spatially analyzed plans supporting the restoration of targeted ecosystems (Target 1).

Blue and Green Islands IP (Participating countries: Belize, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Cuba, Maldives, Mauritius, Micronesia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Seychelles, St. Lucia, Timor Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, and Vanuatu)

26. The objective of the Blue and Green Islands IP is to facilitate nature-positive development and reduce ecosystem degradation in SIDS by valuing nature and applying nature-based solutions with specific application to the food, tourism, and urban sectors. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 20,057 ha. of new terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 1,453,483 ha. of new marine protected areas created: Target 3
- 243,712 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 2,284,348 ha. of marine protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 77,356 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 178,540 ha of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 10

- 398,005 ha. of marine habitat under improved practices: Target 10
- 2 fisheries under third-party certification incorporating biodiversity considerations: Target 10
- 51,324,458 metric tons (direct) and 892,793 metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (mtCO₂ e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 2 shared water systems under improved management: Target 10
- 237,019 metric tons of globally over-exploited marine fisheries moved to more sustainable levels: Target 10
- 2,701 metric tons of chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced: Target 7
- 734,422 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (351,024 women and 383,398): Target 22 and Target 23.

27. In addition, the IP aims to advance policy coherence through strengthening capacity to incorporate the value of nature into key economic sectors at the national level including in sectoral planning (Target 14); as well as national finance planning and domestic resource mobilization (Target 19).

Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator IP (Participating Countries: Chile, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Tanzania, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Viet Nam)

28. The objective of the Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator IP is to strengthen institutions and catalyze investments for accelerated nature-positive, net-zero pathways. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 346,956 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 645,600 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 10
- 29,029,617 (direct) and 45,704,117 (indirect) metric tons of GHG emissions mitigated (mtCO₂ e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 1,917,354 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (952,154 women and 965,200 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

29. While these numerical targets may appear modest, the IP has its greatest potential to contribute to the implementation of the KMGBF through its focus on strengthening the institutional, regulatory, fiscal, and financial environment to allow for implementation of NZNP strategies while aligning national budgets with national development and environmental sustainability objectives. This could have significant knock-on effects towards more robust implementation of the Targets listed above and greater long-term contributions to their achievement as well as potential contributions to Targets 3, 8, 14, 18 and 19.

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP (Participating countries: Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, India, Jordan, Lao PDR, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, and South Africa)

30. The objective of the Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution IP is to transition towards a circular economy of plastics in the food and beverage sector to prevent plastic pollution. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:²¹

- 6,033,020 (indirect) metric tons of GHG emissions mitigated (mtCO₂ e): Target 8 and Target 11
- One (1) shared water system under improved management: Target 10
- 1,538,486 metric tons avoided residual plastic waste: Target 7 and Target 16
- 41,960 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (21,400 women and 20,560 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

31. In addition, the IP aims to advance policy coherence through development of national regulatory and policy frameworks for circular economy of plastics (Target 14). In addition, through engagement with the food and beverage sector, the IP aims to help businesses be more transparent on biodiversity impacts and promote sustainable consumption patterns (Target 15). The IP places a strong emphasis on supporting upstream activities around consumption and waste reduction (Target 16). Finally, the IP will help create the enabling policy environment for circular solutions by establishing regulations and incentives that foster circular economy best practices for the plastic industry while strengthening coherence across government agencies to ensure plastic pollution reducing measures are not negated by contradictory policies (Target 18).

Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains IP (Participating countries: Cambodia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, India, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, and Trinidad and Tobago)

32. The objective of the Eliminating Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains IP is to transition fashion and construction supply chains toward “green by design” approaches and strengthen the enabling environment necessary to support this transformation. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 62,520 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 10
- 2,620,627 (direct) and 5,291,189 (indirect) metric tons of GHG emissions mitigated (mtCO₂ e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 34,589 metric tons of chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced: Target 7

²¹ For the estimation of the targets for the core indicators a high-level methodology and calculator was applied to estimate the contributions for the entire Program, including its national child projects. This is based on a top-down approach for fast-track estimation due to lack of intervention details presented in the concept note of national child projects. A more detailed and elaborated methodology and calculator will be developed during the PPG phase.

- 107.16 grams of toxic equivalent of persistent organic pollutants to air reduced: Target 7
- 1,528,866 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (859,380 women and 699,486 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

33. In addition, within each child project the program aims to leverage finance to support sustainable supply chains or influence financial flows, procurement, subsidies and incentives (Target 19). The IP aims to strengthen the regulatory environment for the creation and scale-up of markets for innovative products as well as the accompanying economic and fiscal policy, subsidy reforms and import regulations (Target 14). Finally, the IP will monitor through its program level indicators the legal, administrative or policy measures instated that encourage and enable business and ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions, monitor, assess and disclose risk and dependencies on biodiversity; provide information to promote sustainable consumption and ensure sustainable consumption patterns (Target 15).

Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes IP

Amazon Sustainable Landscapes IP (Participating countries: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela)

34. The objective of the Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program's third phase (ASL3) is to improve regional collaboration and national investments towards integrated landscape conservation and sustainable management in targeted areas, including primary forests, in the Amazon region. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 78,000 ha. of terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 36,033,577 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 104,500 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 11,463,923 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 76,779,193 metric tons (direct) of GHG emissions mitigated (metric ton of CO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 403,517 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (201,963 women and 201,554 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

Congo Critical Forest Biome IP (Participating countries: Angola, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo DR, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe)

35. The objective of the Congo IP is to improve the conservation and effective governance of critical landscapes in the Congo Basin Forest Biome. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 12,384 ha. of terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 1,044,410 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3

- 917 ha. of marine protected areas created: Target 3
- 99,423 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 2,102,608 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 1 shared water system under improved management: Target 10
- 111,719,431 metric tons (direct) of GHG emissions mitigated (metric ton of CO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 207,000 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (106,000 women and 101,000 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

36. The IP will also strengthen policies and regulatory frameworks that enhance conservation, forest carbon sequestration and effective forest governance in critical landscapes including addressing subsidies to forest-impacting sectors that are harmful to biodiversity (Target 14 and Target 18). Finally, the IP will mobilize additional resources to sustain conservation and forest carbon sequestration efforts in the Congo Basin, including through partnerships with the private sector (Target 19).

Guinean Forests Critical Forest Biome IP (Participating countries: Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone)

37. The objective of the Guinean Forests IP is to protect and improve the effective governance of the Guinean Forests to maximize global environmental benefits, contribute to the health of the planet and the flow of vital ecosystem services that underpin human well-being. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 347,875 ha. of new terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 814,281 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 44,433 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 378,075 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 30,851,413 metric tons (direct) and 3,500,000 metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (metric ton of CO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 185,667 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (88,290 women and 97,377): Target 22 and Target 23.

38. The IP will also support the development of integrated, participatory land-use and spatial plans and update the necessary data and information to do so effectively (Target 1). In addition, the IP aims to improve the policy framework and enabling conditions for forest conservation and management including addressing incentives and subsidies harmful to biodiversity (Target 14 and Target 18). Finally, a key outcome of the program will be the development of sustainable financing strategies for protected areas management and forest conservation (Target 19).

Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome IP (Participating Countries: Lao PDR, Papua New Guinea, Thailand)

39. The objective of the Indo-Malaya IP is the integrity of globally important primary forests of Indo-Malaya is maintained to maximize multiple global environment benefits related to carbon and biodiversity, as well as human well-being. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 865,335 ha. of new terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 2,316,723 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 8,500 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 7,120,000 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 217,224,041 metric tons (direct) of GHG emissions mitigated (metric ton of CO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 13,400 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (7,200 women and 6,200 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

40. The IP will also support the development and strengthening of the enabling environment for forest conservation at multiple scales (Target 14 and Target 18). In addition, sustainable financing strategies for protected areas management and forest conservation will be developed (Target 19).

Mesoamerica Critical Forest Biome IP (Participating countries: El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama)

41. The objective of the Mesoamerica IP is to conserve Mesoamerica primary forests through strengthened governance, protection, restoration, regional cooperation, and the mobilization of stable long-term funding, ensuring a sustainable flow of ecosystem services for people and planet. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 5,329,143 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 63,600 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 178,382 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 1 shared water system under improved management: Target 10
- 81,294,163 metric tons (direct) and 2,678,551 metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (metric ton of CO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 182,350 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (82,210 women and 100,230 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

42. The IP will provide technical assistance and support participatory processes to review, update or develop instruments that foster the protection and conservation of primary forests using intersectoral processes to encourage policy coherence. These instruments will include, among other, land use plans, forest harvesting regulations, policies and regulations for granting mining concessions, indigenous peoples life plans, procedures for consultations with indigenous peoples. (Target 1, Target 14, and Target 18). In addition, the IP aims to mobilize investments from a range of sources to support long-term primary forest conservation and sustainable use. (Target 19).

Wildlife Conservation for Development IP (Participating countries: Colombia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Guinea, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Mozambique, Nepal, Paraguay, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, and Zambia)

43. The objective of the Wildlife Conservation for Development IP is to conserve wildlife and landscapes to maximize global environmental benefits and ensure that countries and communities are benefiting from these natural assets. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 206,300 ha. of new terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 19,336,738 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 307,400 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 5,681,030 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 61,694,190 metric tons (direct) and metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (tCO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 1,068,489 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (544,942 women and 523,547 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

44. The Wildlife Conservation for Development IP is structured to contribute directly to achieving the GBF, with Targets 3, 4 and 5 of central importance. Support to representative and well-managed protected area networks (Target 3) will flow mainly from site-based conservation, threat reduction and community engagement, with contributions also from expanded conservation financing, improved governance and strengthened community livelihoods. Extinction of threatened species (Target 4) will be prevented through a range of management actions, including site-based conservation and improved financing and benefit-sharing. Reduction of human-wildlife conflict (Target 4) is included as a specific outcome in the IP. Sustainable, safe and legal trade of wild species (Target 5) will particularly be supported by efforts across wildlife trade supply chains, and also by anti-poaching interventions in key landscapes and sustainable use value chains. Zoonotic spillover risk arising from certain wildlife trade and use (Target 5) is captured under targeted activities and associated outcomes in the IP.

Food Systems IP (Participating countries: Angola, Argentina, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Chad, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, India, Indonesia,

Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nauru, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Türkiye, Uganda)

45. The objective of the Food Systems IP is to catalyze the transformation to sustainable and regenerative food systems that are nature positive, climate resilient, and pollution-free. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 16,500 ha. of forest, woodlands, and natural grassland under restoration: Target 2
- 8,142,528 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 4,220 ha. of marine habitat under improved practices: Target 10
- 174,017,500 metric tons (direct) and metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (tCO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 3,356,681 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (1,649,341 women and 1,707,340 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

46. The IP will also support integrated spatial planning (Target 1); promote improved management practices along the length of the value chain to reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution (Target 7); enable business to disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity and provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns (Target 15); address food consumption and waste issues related to food (Target 18); engage a spectrum of financiers to shift investment screening practices toward environmental sustainability and mobilize additional and larger scale financing, including through blended finance mechanisms (Target 19).

Clean and Healthy Ocean IP (Participating countries: Grenada, Jordan, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Moldova, Panama, Peru, Sri Lanka, St. Kitts and Nevis, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela, and Viet Nam)

47. The objective of the Clean and Healthy Ocean IP is to curb coastal pollution from agriculture, industrial and municipal sources through policy and regulatory measures and infrastructure investments combined with nature-based solutions. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 3,320 ha. of new terrestrial protected areas created: Target 3
- 58,000 ha. of new marine protected areas created: Target 3
- 516,873 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 423,250 ha. of marine protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 96,011 ha. of forest, woodland, grasslands, and wetlands under restoration: Target 2
- 274,397 ha of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 10

- 6,629,347 ha. of marine habitat under improved practices: Target 10
- 9,170,093 metric tons (direct) and 18,000 metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (tCO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- Three (3) shared water systems under improved management: Target 10
- 120 metric tons of chemicals of global concern and their waste reduced: Target 7
- 616,752 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (318,880 women and 297,872): Target 22 and Target 23.

48. The IP will also support activities that will contribute to the achievement of Target 12 (sustainable urban and densely populated areas).

Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development IP (Participating countries: Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Suriname, and Ukraine)

49. The objective of the Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development IP is to advance the transition towards sustainable transportation infrastructure that safeguard and enhance key coastal, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 259,469 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 30,740 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2
- 582,200 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 5, Target 9 and Target 10
- 71,976 ha. of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 10
- 8,115,017 metric tons (direct) of GHG emissions mitigated (tCO₂e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 267,858 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (143,101 women and 124,757 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

Sustainable Cities IP (Participating countries: Algeria, Belize, Benin, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Gabon, Guatemala, Kenya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Peru, Philippines, Serbia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, and Zimbabwe)

50. The objective of the Sustainable Cities IP is to support cities and local governments to undertake integrated urban planning, implement policies and invest in nature-positive, climate-resilient, and carbon-neutral urban development. The IP aims to achieve the following outcomes which contribute to the KMGBF:

- 500 ha. of terrestrial protected areas under improved management: Target 3
- 367,802 ha. of land and ecosystems under restoration: Target 2

- 2,397,945 ha. of landscapes under improved practices to benefit biodiversity: Target 1 and 3
- 300,061 ha. of marine habitat under improved practices: Target 1
- 39,113,415 metric tons (direct) and 87,130,689 metric tons (indirect) of GHG emissions mitigated (mtCO₂ e): Target 8 and Target 11
- 110,804 metric tons avoided of residual plastic waste: Target 7
- 26,896,611 people benefitting from GEF finance investments benefitted (13,399,495 women and 13,497,116 men): Target 22 and Target 23.

Other GEF Contributions to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Climate Change Adaptation

51. The GEF manages two separate trust funds with a focus on climate change adaptation, namely the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF). These funds were established to address the special needs of developing countries under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Some of the LDCF and SCCF projects approved during the reporting period contribute to the KMGBF. Table 6 below depicts the contributions of LDCF resources and those from SCCF window A for SIDS to the KMGBF achievements during the reporting period.

Table 6. Contributions from LDCF and SCCF to Achieving the KMGBF Targets (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024)²²

KMGBF Targets	LDCF/SCCF Project Financing (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total Resources (\$ million)
2, 3, 10, and 11	31.18	164.09	195.27

International Waters Focal Area

52. The integrity of transboundary water ecosystems can only be achieved through cooperation across political borders and between sectors. The GEF through its International Waters focal area is supporting cooperation in shared marine and freshwater ecosystems, to achieve long term benefits. This will be achieved through the following three key objectives in GEF-8 International Waters strategy: 1) accelerate joint action to support Blue Economic Development; 2) advance management in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ), and 3) enhance water security in freshwater ecosystems.

53. Table 7 below depicts the contribution of IW resources to achieving the KMGBF Targets as prioritized by countries during the reporting period.

²² These figures do not include agency fees or PPGs.

Table 7. Distribution of GEF Resources by International Waters Focal Area Objectives and Contributions to Achieving the KMGBF Targets (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024)²³

International Waters Objective	KMGBF Targets	GEF Project Financing (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total Resources (\$ million)
Objective 1: Blue economy	1, 2, 3, 10, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23	74.29	682.98	757.27
Objective 2²⁴: ABNJ	3, 13, 14, 20, 21 ²⁵	0.7	0	0.7
Objective 3: Freshwater Ecosystems	2, 8, 10, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23	68.00	714.20	782.20
Totals		142.99	1,397.18	1,540.17

54. Notable projects in the IW focal area supporting KMGBF implementation are presented below:

- **Beyond 30x30: Securing resilience in the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP) through enhanced transboundary cooperation** (Ecuador, Costa Rica, Colombia, and Panama) (GEF Financing: \$15,673,000, Co-financing: \$53,383,037). The project is expected to strengthen the connectivity, protection, and management of at least 31,250,000 hectares in the ETP, improve cooperative management in one shared water ecosystem, improve management of over-exploited marine fisheries (to be determined during PPG), and benefit at least 150,000 people (at least 30 percent women) from GEF-financed investment.
- **Mainstreaming Climate-Resilient Blue Economy in the BCLME Region** (BCLME IV Project) (Angola, Namibia, South Africa) (GEF Financing: \$11,428,376, Co-financing: 25,000,000). The project aims to place nearly 2 million hectares of marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness, over 2 million hectares of other effective area-based conservation measures will be supported, one shared water ecosystem (BCLME) will be under improved cooperative management, 50,000 metric tons of globally over-exploited fisheries will be moved to more sustainable levels, and over 1,500 people will benefit (50 percent women).

²³ These figures do not include agency fees or PPGs.

²⁴ Following GEF Council Decision 14/2023, which authorized the use of up to \$34 million for the funding of ratification support and early action activities for the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) to be programmed during GEF-8, the entirety of the funding notionally allocated to GEF IW Objective 2 will be dedicated to such support, which is detailed in [Council Document GEF/C.66/07](#).

²⁵ The KMGBF targets mapped to Objective 2 in this table are the targets to which the entry into force and implementation of the BBNJ Agreement are anticipated to make the strongest and most complementary contributions, given the Agreement's scope and mandate on biodiversity of the ABNJ. GEF support to BBNJ ratification and early action is thus expected to indirectly contribute to the achievement of these targets.

- **Enhancing transboundary fisheries management in the Lower Mekong Basin** (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam) (GEF Financing: \$11,673,000, Co-financing: \$77,600,000). The project targets to stabilize fish stocks at 2020 levels, putting 10,000 ha of protected wetlands/Ramsar sites under improved management, bringing an estimated 350,000 ha of landscape under improved management, bringing one shared freshwater ecosystem under improved management, and directly benefitting 20,000 people.
- Strengthening integrated transboundary source-to-sea management of the Ruvuma River Basin and its coastal zones to ensure ecosystem health and livelihood security (Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, GEF Financing: \$7,763,000, Co-financing: \$48,365,000). The project aims to bring 200,000 hectares of terrestrial and 700,000 hectares of marine protected areas under improved management effectiveness, improve the management of 2,000 ha of terrestrial areas to protect biodiversity, bring one shared ecosystem under improved cooperative management and directly benefit 20,00 people.
- **Program for improving sustainable marine fisheries opportunities in SADC – The Case of the Mozambique Channel** (Comoros, Madagascar, Mozambique, GEF Financing: \$5,748,750, Co-financing: \$14,200,000). The project is expected to contribute to the improved management of 8,000 ha of new or existing marine protected areas, 4,000 ha of marine habitat under improved practices, one shared marine ecosystem under improved management, and 1.2 million metric tons of globally over-exploited fisheries more sustainably harvested and benefitting about 3,000 direct beneficiaries.

Non-grant Instrument

55. The GEF-8 Programming Directions recognized the importance of blended finance and increased the commitment to innovative blended finance solutions. With a four-year funding level of \$196 million, the GEF has identified priorities for blended finance that cover convention requirements and aim for multi-focal benefits including nature-based solutions. GEF is accelerating the use of non-grant instruments for blended finance in support of delivering Global Environmental Benefits aligned with focal area objectives with a focus on projects that can reach scale and mobilize financing through capital markets at global and national levels.

56. The new GEF Blended Finance Program and Non-Grant Instrument policy approved by the GEF Council in December 2022, added new financial instruments and policy requirements that encourages GEF agencies to submit high quality and innovative proposals in competitive call for proposals on a semi-annual basis. Since 2023, the call for proposals yielded several innovative proposals addressing multiple environmental challenges, and five of the selected projects have biodiversity benefits as highlighted in the table and descriptions below.

57. The five blended finance projects that have been approved during the reporting period that make direct contributions to the KMGBF are presented in Table 8. For the five projects, \$80 million of GEF financing is leveraging \$1.614 billion.

Table 8. Distribution of GEF Resources by the NGI and Contributions to Achieving the KMGBF Targets (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024)²⁶

NGI Project	KMGBF Targets	GEF Project Financing (\$ million)	Co-financing (\$ million)	Total Resources (\$ million)
Natural Capital Fund (NCF): Investing in Nature-Positive Agri-Food Enterprises in Asia and the Pacific	2, 7, 10, 19	13.80	646.40	660.20
Yield Lab Opportunity Fund I: Accelerating technology and local innovation for sustainable and decarbonized food systems in Latin America and the Caribbean	7, 10, 19	6.00	44.00	50.00
Innovative use of financial instruments for Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration in Latin America and the Caribbean	2, 3, 19	40.20	641.30	681.50
Brazil Living Amazon Mechanism	3, 10, 19	6.20	46.60	52.80
Indonesia Coral Bond	3, 8, 9, 10, 20, 21, 22, 23	13.80	156.00	169.80
Totals		80.00	1,534.20	1,614.20

58. A summary of these projects, four of which are implemented by development banks, is provided below along with their expected outcomes.

- **Natural Capital Fund (NCF): Investing in Nature-Positive Agri-Food Enterprises in Asia and the Pacific** (Regional Asia and Pacific; Agency: Asian Development Bank; GEF project financing: \$13,761,469; Co-financing: \$646,350,000). This project will establish GEF as an anchor investor for a comprehensive fund that is focused on climate smart agriculture, food enterprises, and small holders. The Natural Capital Fund (NCF) is a \$650 million plus catalytic natural capital blended finance fund designed to support the transformation of agri-food systems (increased productivity, enhanced resilience and reduced GHG emissions). The project will restore 1.6 million ha of land and improved practices in 1 million ha of land with over 1,000 metric tons of chemical and agricultural plastics avoided. The project will benefit 300,000 people (51 percent female).
- **Yield Lab Opportunity Fund I: Accelerating technology and local innovation for sustainable and decarbonized food systems in Latin America and the Caribbean** (Regional Latin America and Caribbean; Agency: Inter-American Development Bank; GEF project financing: \$6,000,000; Co-financing: \$27,275,000). The project

²⁶These figures do not include agency fees or PPGs.

will finance and mentor a portfolio of up to 30 early stage “Ag Tech” companies that will receive equity and specialized support. The executing partner, Yield Lab Latam, is an investment fund supporting early-stage startups working on intensive crops in Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean as well as livestock, agriculture and aquaculture in South America and the Andean Region. GEF funds will be invested as an equity partner. The project aims to improve practices of 13.6 million ha of land, mitigating 12.6 million tCO₂e over 20 years and reducing over 5,000 metric tons of globally concerning chemicals. The project will benefit 270,000 people (30 percent female).

- **Innovative use of financial instruments for Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration in Latin America and the Caribbean** (Regional Latin America and Caribbean; GEF Agency: Inter-American Development Bank; GEF project financing: \$40,180,000; Co-financing: \$641,280,000). The goal of this project is to establish a regional facility to support biodiversity conservation and restoration in line with the KMGBF in at least three LAC countries. This blended finance structure offers an innovative solution to acute conservation challenges by combining credit enhancement from IDB and GEF guarantees with a powerful incentive for conservation efforts: The GEF guarantee can convert to a grant targeted at conservation efforts if certain conservation milestones are met. Reflows from the GEF non-grant investment are from the premium of the guarantee on a yearly basis and uncalled guarantees that do not have a convertibility event. The project is expected to improve management of 2.1 million ha of terrestrial protected areas and 40.6 million ha of marine protected areas, as well as restore 200,000 ha of land and benefit 310,000 people (50 percent female).
- **Brazil Living Amazon Mechanism** (GEF Agency: FUNBIO; GEF Project Financing: \$6,200,000; Co-financing: \$46,600,000). The project goal is to protect the Amazon rainforest by strengthening sociobiodiversity organizations, businesses, and supply chains in the Brazilian Protected Areas System. Living Amazon Mechanism is a new business model that leverages on a capital markets product called CRA (Agribusiness Receivable Certificate) to finance conservation activities of Amazon stewards (ILPCs) and SMEs in the value chain of Natura, a major player in Bioeconomy and a cosmetic company. The project is expected to improve management effectiveness of 1.8 million ha of Protected Areas in the Amazon and benefit 20,000 people of which 50 percent are women.
- **Indonesia Coral Bond** (GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$13,761,468; Co-financing: \$156,100,000). The proposed Indonesia “Coral Bond” is the world’s first outcome-based bond for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) delivering independently verified GEBs in 5.3 million hectares of the most biodiverse coral reefs and associated ecosystems on the planet. Building on the lessons learned and experience from the GEF Rhino Bond, this instrument will generate needed resources to improve the management effectiveness and

biodiversity outcomes at ecosystem-level in four priority MPAs in Indonesia. In addition to the GEBs delivered in the 5.3 million ha mentioned above, the project is expected to move 371,188 tons of over-exploited fisheries to more sustainable levels, mitigate 86,460 tCO₂e of GHG and will benefit almost half a million of people around the four MPAs in the country.

Support to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

59. During the reporting period, the GEF Council has approved several projects and programs focused on supporting actions by IPLCs for the protection of biodiversity as well as goals of other conventions. For example, the GEF-8 project in Colombia “BioSouth: The Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Ecological and Cultural Connectivity Corridor” (ID: 11432) will be supporting the revision of protected area management plans to incorporate perspectives and needs of IPLCs, women and youth as well as the registration of OECMs managed by IPLCs and developing participatory management plans and financial mechanisms for them. In Timor Leste, the project “Improving wetlands management for biodiversity and improved human-wildlife coexistence” (ID: 11435) will be supporting indigenous communities to sustainably manage their wetlands while addressing human-wildlife conflict and increasing incomes. All six of the projects in the GEF-8 Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program in the Congo Basin (ID: 11241) include a component on empowering IPLCs, women and youth, building upon the strong emphasis on supporting IPLCs in the GEF-7 program.

60. In addition, the GEF-7 Inclusive Conservation Initiative (\$25 million total GEF financing) has moved forward during the reporting period. The first meeting of the Project Steering Committee, which is comprised entirely of indigenous leaders selected by their communities, was hosted by Tla-o-qui-aht First Nations members at the Naa'Waya'Sum Gardens in Canada before the Seventh GEF Assembly in August 2023. While the project overall is being implemented by two GEF agencies (CI and IUCN) selected through a competitive process, direction from and governance by IPLCs is a key feature of the ICI. The ICI is made up of subprojects managed by indigenous organizations and global activities. Over 400 applications were received for subprojects and the following are currently under implementation:

(a) Asia and Pacific

- House of Ariki – Cook Islands
- The Bose Vanua o Lau – Fiji
- The Indigenous Peoples’ Foundation for Education and Environment (IPF) – Thailand
- Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN) – Nepal

(b) Americas

- Sotz’il – Guatemala

- Indigenous Peoples' Federation of Madre de Dios (FENAMAD) – Peru
- Fundacion Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN) – Argentina
- Observatorio Ciudadano – Chile

(c) Africa

- Association Nationale d'Appui et de Promotion des Aires du Patrimoine Autochtone et Communautaire en République Démocratique du Congo (ANAPAC) – DR Congo
- The Indigenous Movement for Peace Advancement and Conflict Transformation (IMPACT) – Kenya
- Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT) – Tanzania

61. The areas managed by these groups are part of seven Global Biodiversity Hotspots and one High Biodiversity Wilderness Area; 35 Important Bird Areas; 29 Key Biodiversity Areas; and four World Heritage Sites and five Biosphere Reserves. Together, these IPLC-led subprojects will enhance their stewardship of at least 7.5 million hectares of landscapes, seascapes and/or territories with high biodiversity and irreplaceable ecosystems. In addition, the project will work globally to: support IPLCs to strengthen and scale impact towards improved management of lands, territories, waters and natural resources and increased access to public and long-term sustainable financing mechanisms; build a pathway from local action to global impact through targeted IPLC engagement in international environmental policy and relevant international platforms; and expand support and advance the field of IPLC-led conservation by generating and disseminating ICI learning and results.

62. Over the life of the project at least 80 percent of resources will go to IPLCs either through the subprojects listed above or through global activities such as fellowships and knowledge exchange. A new Inclusive Conservation Initiative project will be funded in GEF-8, and the call for implementing agency proposals is currently being advertised.

Small Grants Programme

SGP Portfolio Current Status

63. During the reporting period, according to the recent SGP Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)²⁷, published by UNDP and covering the period July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023 (FY23), GEF funding supported 1,179 new projects, for a total amount of \$38.22 million. The number of grant projects under implementation during FY23 is 2,443 projects, with a grant value of \$83.68 million and a total co-financing value of \$88.90 million.

²⁷ [https://sgp.undp.org/innovation-library/item/2458-gef-small-grants-programme-annual-monitoring-report-2022---2023-\(summary-infographic\).html](https://sgp.undp.org/innovation-library/item/2458-gef-small-grants-programme-annual-monitoring-report-2022---2023-(summary-infographic).html)

64. Since its inception, the cumulative total of SGP-supported projects has now reached a total of 28,675 projects with a total GEF and other donor funds of \$795.29 million. In addition, close to \$955.91 million have been mobilized to co-finance these community based SGP projects. Of these, cash co-financing constituted a total of \$416.50 million and was mobilized from multilateral and bilateral donors, foundations, NGOs, and other partners at the country level.

65. In terms of country coverage, SGP is now operational in 127 countries, with 112 countries supported by the SGP Global Program and 15 supported under the SGP Upgraded Country Programs (UCP). During GEF-7, Malaysia transitioned to UCP status, and Eswatini, Bangladesh, and Gabon have joined as new country programs under the SGP Global Programs to date. LDCs and SIDS currently account for 63 percent of SGP Global country programs, with support provided to CSOs in 40 LDCs and 37 SIDS.

66. The focal area distribution of all SGP projects under implementation continued to remain strongly focused on biodiversity as the primary focal area, accounting for 40 percent, the largest share of the SGP global portfolio. This is followed by Climate Change Mitigation (21 percent) and Land Degradation (20 percent).

67. From July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, 338 SGP biodiversity projects completed implementation and were closed. These projects improved the management, both directly and indirectly, of 154 protected areas and 260 Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), covering a total of 9.1 million hectares. One-hundred eighty-nine (189) target landscapes/seascapes were under improved community-based conservation and sustainable use. SGP also helped to maintain or improve the conservation status of at least 873 species. With regards to the sustainable use of biodiversity, a total of 892 biodiversity-based products, with a positive impact on the sustainable use of biodiversity, have been supported by SGP projects.

68. SGP's Biodiversity Focal Area portfolio has focused its support on improvements in management effectiveness of protected areas, and mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes/seascapes and sectors.

Progress in the Operationalization of the SGP 2.0 in GEF-8

69. The reporting period also witnessed significant progress in the roll out of an ambitious process of reform and the modernization of the SGP, known as the SGP 2.0, which had been agreed upon during the eighth GEF Replenishment. Against this background, the GEF Secretariat has taken the lead on operationalizing the Implementation Arrangements for GEF -8, which were endorsed at the 63rd GEF Council Meeting and which set out a broad agenda for change to the size, objectives, governance structures and implementation of the SGP.

Progress to date is as follows:

70. In line with SGP 2.0 Implementation Arrangements, \$135 million of Core resources have been allocated to the SGP to be equally accessed by the 144 GEF-eligible countries. These resources are expected to be complemented by STAR resources when requested by countries. Access to SGP Core has been divided into two tranches, each capped at \$67.5 million each.

71. The Project Identification Form (PIF), which included 99 countries, was presented by UNDP for Tranche 1 and approved as part of the Work Program of the 64th Council meeting. In January 2023, UNDP presented the respective Full-Sized Project Document for CEO Endorsement, which is currently under review.

72. The selection process of two additional SGP Implementing Agencies culminated in December 2023 with the selection of FAO and CI as the two additional SGP implementing agencies. These agencies, along with UNDP, and with the support of the GEF Secretariat, have begun to collaborate closely and pool together their wide-ranging experience and technical knowhow in benefit of the SGP, supporting its continued expansion and evolution as a flagship GEF program, furthering the generation of positive, inclusive, innovative, and impactful global environmental benefits and livelihood outcomes.

73. The selection cleared the way for the development of each agency's PIF and the Project Framework Document for CEO endorsement in Tranche 2 (\$67.5 million), a process underway at the end of the reporting period.

74. In the second semester of 2024, the GEF Secretariat will launch two new CSO Initiatives, building on the need to further support civil society actors and local environmental solutions to generate global environmental benefits. The two CSO Initiatives are: (i) a CSO Challenge Program, and (ii) a Microfinance Initiative, with \$10 million allocated to each for GEF-8.

Summary of Programming in GEF-8 to Support KMGBF

75. Table 9 below presents the totality of cumulative direct programming contributions during the first two years of GEF-8 from all GEF resources to the KMGBF from all the relevant programming lines in GEF-8 (Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, GEF-8 Integrated Programs, the International Waters Focal Area, the Non-grant Instrument, the Small Grants Programme, the LDCF and SCCF for climate change adaptation, and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund). The total value of the GEF investment from all these programming contributions towards the KMGBF was \$2.42 billion, which leveraged co-financing of \$19.12 billion for a total investment of more than \$21.54 billion.

Table 9. GEF-8 Programming Contribution of Biodiversity and Other GEF Resources and Programming Lines to the KMGBF (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024)²⁸

	GEF-8 Programming (\$ million)	Co-finance (\$ million)	Total /percent
<i>Biodiversity STAR Country Allocations programmed outside of Integrated Programs</i> ²⁹	279.95	4,441.28³⁰	4,721.23/21.9%

²⁸ These figures include agency fees and PPGs.

²⁹ The figure includes country BD STAR in stand-alone projects and non-IPs programs only.

³⁰ This figure reflects the total co-financing for all standalone and non-IP programs that were partially or fully funded by BD STAR.

STAR Set-aside	120.88	11.73	132.61/0.6%
Enabling activities	120.15	-	120.15/0.6%
Global and Regional Biodiversity Projects and Programs	0.74	11.73	12.47/0.1%
Integrated Programming³¹	1,656.97	11,312.81	12,969.78/60.2%
Food Systems	281.51	2,201.65	2,483.15/11.5%
Ecosystem Restoration	205.04	1,698.63	1,903.67/8.8%
Sustainable Cities	169.48	1,308.38	1,477.87/6.9%
Amazon, Congo, and Critical Forest Biomes	306.57	1,736.20	2,042.77/9.5%
Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	107.94	595.78	703.72/3.3%
Blue and Green Islands	135.63	733.79	869.42/4.0%
Clean and Healthy Oceans	112.37	748.06	860.43/4.0%
Net-Zero Accelerator	109.97	695.18	805.15/3.7%
Wildlife Conservation for Development	150.31	892.10	1,042.41/4.8%
Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	26.84	408.92	435.75/2.0%
Elimination of Hazardous Chemicals from Supply Chains	51.31	294.13	345.44/1.6%
LDCF/SCCF-A	31.18	164.09	195.27/0.9%
International Waters Focal Area	142.99	1,397.18	1,540.17/7.1%
Small Grants Programme (Core)	67.50	126.19	193.69/0.9%
NGI	80.00	1,534.20	1,614.2/7.5%
GBFF	42.01	133.87	175.88/0.8%
Total Resources	2,421.48	19,121.35	21,542.83/100%

³¹ Programming funding for IPs including all funding sources. Of this amount \$640.29 million is from country BD STAR for IPs, and \$282.86 million from BD IP Global Platforms and BD IP Matching Incentive.

GEF RESPONSE TO GUIDANCE FROM CBD COP 15

76. At COP 15, Parties provided guidance on GEF operations and on specific biodiversity thematic topics GEF's response is provided in Table 10 below.

Table 10. Decision Adopted by CBD COP 15 (Decision 15/15) and GEF Responses³²

COP 15 Guidance	GEF's Response
<p><i>Preambular paragraphs</i></p> <p><i>The Conference of the Parties,</i></p> <p><i>Reaffirming</i> the importance of the full application of the provisions of Article 21 and of access to the financial mechanism for all eligible Parties for the full implementation of the Convention, and welcoming the valuable role of the Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism of the Convention on an interim and ongoing basis,</p> <p><i>Emphasizing</i> the importance for the Global Environment Facility, as appropriate, to ensure that its policies and procedures related to the consideration and review of funding proposals be duly followed in an efficient and transparent manner,</p> <p><i>Recalling</i> Article 21, paragraph 3, of the Convention, providing that the Conference of the Parties shall review the effectiveness of the financial mechanism,</p> <p><i>Reaffirming</i> the commitment of the Conference of the Parties to periodically review the effectiveness of the financial mechanism in implementing the Convention in the memorandum of understanding with the Council of the Global Environment Facility contained in decision III/8,</p> <p><i>Reaffirming also</i> decision XI/5, paragraph 7, on the quadrennial arrangement for the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism,</p> <p><i>Recalling</i> decision 14/23, paragraph 13, regarding the terms of reference for the sixth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting,</p> <p><i>Reaffirming</i> the importance of the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism in the</p>	<p>Noted.</p>

³² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-15-en.pdf>

COP 15 Guidance	GEF's Response
implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, strategies and programmes,	
1. <i>Welcomes</i> the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;	Appreciate the welcoming of the report.
2. <i>Takes note</i> of the importance of realistic assessment of funding necessary and available for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols for the eighth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility, aligned with the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the time of the decision of the eighth replenishment; ³³	Noted.
3. <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to include in its report to the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols an explanation of how the eighth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility, ³⁴ through the elements of its programming directions is contributing to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and to the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ³⁵ and its monitoring framework; ³⁶	This COP report explains how GEF-8 Programming Directions have contributed to implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and the goals and targets of the KMGBF. The report also explains how the GEF is supporting implementation of the monitoring framework through the GEF-7 Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support and the GEF-8 Umbrella Programme to support the revision and updating of the NBSAP and the production of the 7th National Reports.
4. <i>Urges</i> the Global Environment Facility to support Parties in their effort to enhance policy coherence as part of biodiversity mainstreaming to facilitate the effective and efficient implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;	Elements of the GEF-8 Programming Directions support policy coherence and a progress update is provided in this report after the table of responses.
5. <i>Adopts</i> the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the eighth replenishment period (July 2022 to June 2026) of the Global Environment Facility, aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, contained in annex I to the present decision;	Noted.
6. <i>Welcomes</i> the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility and notes that its associated programming directions and strategy, including for the biodiversity focal area, have taken into account the draft	Appreciate the welcoming of the record GEF-8 replenishment and strategic alignment with the post-2020 GBF.

³³ The executive summary is available in CBD/SBI/3/6/Add.2/Rev.1 and the full report is available in CBD/SBI/3/INF/44.

³⁴ Replenishment of the Global Environment Facility refers to replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund

³⁵ Decision 15/4, annex.

³⁶ Decision 15/5, annex I.

COP 15 Guidance	GEF's Response
post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the time of the decision of the eighth replenishment;	
7. <i>Urges</i> relevant Parties to make prompt and full use of the programming directions and resource allocation for the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility;	This guidance is for Parties.
8. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the Global Environment Facility and related agencies, as appropriate, in: The fast-tracking of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular for the intermediate phase (2023-2024) of the Resource Mobilization Strategy and in the reporting of progress of the mobilization of new and additional resources to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting; and The development and implementation of the relevant integrated programmes and the country engagement strategy for the eighth replenishment period, promoting the involvement of biodiversity-related conventions and instruments at national level, and to promote synergies and complementarities with other relevant financial instruments, such as the Green Climate Fund, towards the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	GEF has collaborated with the Executive Secretary on these issues and is an active member of the Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization, providing information and inputs to the Committee and attending its virtual and in-person meetings.
9. <i>Adopts</i> the consolidated previous guidance to the Global Environment Facility contained in annex II A to the present decision, decides to retire the previous decisions and elements of decisions, as related to the financial mechanism and limited only to those provisions related to the financial mechanism and <i>also adopts</i> additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility contained in annex II B to the present decision;	Noted.
10. <i>Decides</i> to adopt, at its sixteenth meeting, a four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols aligned with Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to inform the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026-2030);	Noted.
11. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to prepare elements of a draft four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols aligned with Kunming-	This guidance is for the Executive Secretary.

COP 15 Guidance	GEF's Response
Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in anticipation of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026-2030), for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting;	
<i>12. Requests</i> the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting to prepare proposals for a draft four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in anticipation of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026-2030), for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;	This is for the SBI.
<i>13. Adopts</i> the terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds that are necessary to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in accordance with the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties, in fulfilling their commitments under the Convention for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility, as contained in annex III to the present decision;	GEF stands ready to participate in the assessment as requested.
<i>14. Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to ensure completion of the assessment according to the terms of reference as contained in annex III, in time for consideration by the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, and subsequently by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;	This is for the Executive Secretary.
<i>15. Invites</i> developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to identify related national funding priorities, including nationally prioritized funding needs that could be considered as eligible for funding under the financial mechanism specifically for the period July 2026 to June 2030, and submit the results to the Executive Secretary for inclusion in the funding needs assessment;	This is for recipient Parties.
<i>16. Invites</i> the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions, further to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of decision XII/30 and paragraph 10 of decision XIII/21, to repeat the exercise described therein for the development of strategic guidance for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixteenth meeting;	This invites action by the governing bodies of various biodiversity-related conventions, to be considered by CBD COP 16.

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<p>17. <i>Adopts</i> the terms of reference for the sixth quadrennial review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism contained in annex III to the present decision, and requests the Executive Secretary to ensure the report on the sixth quadrennial review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism to be prepared three months in advance in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.</p>	<p>GEF provided all requested information and stands ready to further participate in the review of effectiveness as requested.</p>
<p>18. <i>Calls upon</i> the Global Environment Facility to further reform its operations to ensure adequacy, predictability, and the timely flow of funds by establishing easy and effective access modalities, including by scaling fast-track systems, and by facilitating new contributors.</p>	<p>This is consistent with the GEF-8 policy recommendation on streamlining and a process is underway to address this issue. The 66th GEF Council, having considered <i>Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle</i>³⁷, approved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * An increase in the cap for Medium-Sized Projects from \$2 million to \$5 million, and; * Requested the Secretariat and an ad hoc working group of interested Council Members and Alternates equally representing donors and recipient countries, to elaborate additional measures for streamlining the GEF project cycle, taking into account ongoing efforts to enhance coordination and harmonization across the climate and environment funds, in consultation with GEF Agencies, GEF Focal Points and others as appropriate, for consideration by Council at its 67th and 68th meetings. <p>Two additional processes are also underway: harmonization of processes and practices with the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and implementing a simplified project and program cycle for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF). These processes will also inform additional measures and further potential actions on streamlining.</p> <p>Further, the 67th GEF Council took the following decision on Streamlining the GEF</p>

³⁷ GEF, 2024, [Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.03.

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	<p>Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process:³⁸</p> <p>a) Appreciates the work of the Council Working Group and supports its continued work up to the next Council meeting in December 2024;</p> <p>b) Endorses continued work by the Secretariat as outlined in this report, with support from Agencies and others as appropriate;</p> <p>c) Encourages Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes and communicate these to the Secretariat and Working Group;</p> <p>d) Endorses further development of proposals for decision in December 2024, considering advance consultation requirements for any proposals requiring changes to policy and guidelines.</p>
<p>Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)</p> <p>19. <i>Recognizes</i> the urgency to increase international biodiversity finance, and to establish a dedicated and accessible fund in 2023 for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework that can quickly mobilize and disburse new and additional resources from all sources, commensurate with the ambition of the Framework;</p> <p>20. <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to establish, in 2023, and until 2030 unless the Conference of the Parties decides otherwise, a Special Trust Fund to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to complement existing support and scale up financing to ensure its timely implementation, taking into account the need for adequacy, predictability, and the timely flow of funds;</p> <p>21. <i>Also requests</i> the Global Environmental Facility to prepare a decision to be considered by the Council on the approval of a GBF Fund, with its own equitable governing body, to be dedicated exclusively to supporting the</p>	<p>This guidance in paragraphs 20-28 has been addressed through the following consultation process and Council decisions. A further update on GBFF programming progress since these decisions were taken follows after this table of responses to the COP guidance.</p> <p>In response to the COP guidance, the GEF Secretariat led an extensive consultation process in the first half of 2023 towards the establishment of the GBFF. The process included multiple consultations with the GEF Council, with Multilateral Development Banks and International Financial Institutions, with the private sector and with the CBD Secretariat, as well as briefings for civil society representatives, the GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group and GEF Agencies.</p>

³⁸ GEF Council Decision 24/2024, *Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process*.

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<p>implementation of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;</p> <p>22. <i>Further requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to advance the necessary institutional and governance arrangements, to allow for this GBF Fund to receive, in addition to ODA, financing from all sources;</p> <p>23. <i>Requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to design and implement a project cycle with a simple and effective application and approval process, providing easy and efficient access to resources of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund;</p> <p>24. <i>Calls upon</i> the Global Environment Facility to approve these decisions at the next possible session of the Council and its ratification at the next possible session of the Assembly in 2023;</p> <p>25. <i>Calls for</i> immediate substantive contributions from all sources, in line with target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;</p> <p>26. <i>Requests</i> the Global Environmental Facility to engage all Multilateral Development Banks and International Financial Institutions in the design and operationalization action of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, with the view of leveraging additional resources from and for the Fund and channel them through new and existing biodiversity portfolios, which need to be aligned with the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;</p> <p>27. <i>Also requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to report on the progress in establishing, and the operations and performance of, the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, to future meetings of the Conference of the Parties;</p> <p>28. <i>Decides</i> to assess the progress made in establishing, and the operations and performance of, the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, and to consider and adopt further guidance to the Global Environment Facility and to the governing body referred to paragraph 21 above, on</p>	<p>CBD focal points were closely associated through regular joint notifications with the CBD Secretariat.^{39,40,41}</p> <p>At the 64th GEF Council meeting held in Brazil from June 26-29, 2023, the GEF Council, approved the arrangements proposed for the establishment of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GEF/C.64/05/Rev.01), with the aim to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework⁴². In response to COP guidance, the GBFF was established with its own equitable governing body, the GBFF Council, with observers representing key stakeholders, an Auxiliary Body, along with the possibility for Council to consider establishing Advisory Group(s). The GBFF was also set up to receive financing from all sources, including non-sovereign contributions.</p> <p>In addition, the 64th GEF Council, approved the Programming Directions of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GEF/C.64/06/Rev/02), with the aim to support the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the principles set forth therein by which resources will be allocated.⁴³ The Programming Directions include height Action Areas designed to complement existing support and enable the scaling up of finance in support to KMGBF implementation.</p>

³⁹ CBD, 2023, [Consultations on the establishment of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by the Global Environment Facility](#), Notification 2023-041 (SCBD/IMS/NP/YX/GT/90953).

⁴⁰ CBD, 2023, [Updated draft documents on the establishment of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by the Global Environment Facility](#), Notification 2023-056 (SCBD/IMS/NP/YX/GT/90953).

⁴¹ CBD, 2023, [Council documents on the establishment of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by the Global Environment Facility](#), Notification 2023-062 (SCBD/IMS/NP/YX/GT/90953).

⁴² GEF, 2023, [Establishment of a New Trust Fund: The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/05/Rev.01.

⁴³ GEF, 2023, [Programming Directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council Document GEF/C.64/06/Rev.02.

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<p>the modalities and operation of the GBF Fund, at its future meetings;</p> <p>28. <i>Decides</i> to undertake and act upon, at its eighteenth meeting, a stocktake review on the operations and performance of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund regarding its scale, speed, accessibility, and future arrangements.</p>	<p>At the Seventh GEF Assembly, held in Vancouver, Canada from August 22 to 26, 2023, the GEF Assembly ratified the establishment of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund.</p> <p>The First Council meeting of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) took place in Washington, DC from February 8-9, 2024. The GBFF Council approved the GBFF Resource Allocation Policy (GEF/GBFF.01/03/Rev.03).⁴⁴</p> <p>In addition, during the same meeting, the Council approved the GBFF Project Cycle Policy (GEF/GBFF.01/04/Rev.02), which applies to all GBFF projects as of the effective date of its approval. The Council delegated the authority to the GEF CEO to approve projects up to \$5 million. Streamlined from the GEF Project and Program Cycle Policy, the GBFF project cycle policy is designed to increase efficiency through a simplified single project modality, while preserving the GEF principles of accountability, transparency, and compliance.</p> <p>At the same meeting, the Council considered document GEF/GBFF.01/06, Terms of Reference for Advisory Group(s) and Auxiliary Body for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund. As Council member shared various views, this agenda item was further discussed at the Second Council meeting of the GBFF held in Washington, DC from June 17-21, 2024, and approved in Decision GBFF 05/2024 Terms of Reference for Advisory Group(s) and Auxiliary Body: "The Council, having considered document GEF/GBFF.02/04,</p>

⁴⁴ GEF, 2024, [Policy on Allocation of Resources for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council Document GEF/GBFF.01/03/Rev.03.

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	<p>Terms of Reference for Advisory Group(s) and Auxiliary Body for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, approves the document and requests the Secretariat to: a) Make provisions to establish the Advisory Group of Non-Sovereign Participants; b) Make provisions to establish the Auxiliary Body; and c) Report to the Third GBF Fund Council on progress made on their establishment.”</p>
<p>Annex I</p> <p>FOUR-YEAR OUTCOME-ORIENTED FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMME PRIORITIES OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY FOR THE EIGHTH REPLENISHMENT PERIOD (2022-2026) OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY TRUST FUND</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Objective</p> <p>1. The present four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities provides guidance to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the eighth replenishment period (GEF-8), 2022–2026, and is within the context of the GEF mandate to provide resources to achieve global environmental benefits and the mandate provided to GEF by the Conference of the Parties. It utilizes the Convention and its Protocols, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to set priorities for the financial mechanism. In particular, the goals and targets of the Framework provide direction for the outcomes of this four-year framework, bearing in mind that GEF-8 and GEF-9 will together cover the expected eight years to the 2030 deadlines of the targets, while recognizing that the three objectives of the Convention should be considered by GEF when designing and implementing biodiversity strategy and programming directions.</p> <p>2. In that regard, it is envisaged that following the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the conclusion of the GEF-8 replenishment under their respective processes, GEF will include in its report to the Conference of the Parties an explanation on how GEF-8, through the elements of its programming directions, is contributing to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, and</p>	<p>This report demonstrates how the GEF-8 Programming Directions have contributed to implementation of the KMGBF.</p>

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<p>to each goal and target of the Framework and its monitoring framework.</p> <p>3. This four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities recognizes that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is an overarching framework of high relevance to all biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, and seeks to promote the implementation of complementary measures that may enhance programmatic synergies and efficiencies, among the Convention, its Protocols and other biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, relevant to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the mandate of the Global Environment Facility.</p>	
<p>B. Elements</p> <p>4. The four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the period 2022–2026 consists of the following elements to which effective implementation support is to be provided:</p>	
<p>(a) The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including its goals and targets which define the outcomes being sought;</p>	<p>GEF-8 Programming Directions is geared towards providing support to the KMGBF. In addition, the GBFF supports the implementation of the KMGBF. The GEF Trust Fund and the GBFF each has its own focused support to the KMGBF with clear complementarity, as articulated in the GBFF Programming Directions.</p>
<p>(b) National biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs);</p>	<p>The GEF approved \$72.04 million of financial support (exclusive of agency fees) for NBSAP revisions in 139 countries in GEF-8. This support follows on to the GEF-7 Early Action Grants which supported 138 countries with a total of \$38.2 million to undertake initial activities to, among others, revise their NBSAPs.</p>
<p>c) National biodiversity finance plans;</p>	<p>A global program of support to fund national biodiversity finance plans was approved in November 2022 at the 63rd GEF Council and all remaining eligible countries were added to this program in</p>

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	the first quarter of 2023. A total of 91 countries are being supported with a total of \$38.2 million in project financing (excluding Agency fee).
d) The implementation of the three objectives of the Convention;	The GEF Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, in combination with the 11 Integrated Programs, provides a comprehensive level of support to the implementation of the three objectives of the CBD. This is demonstrated in this report.
<p>(e) The implementation support mechanisms adopted under the Convention associated with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework related to: mobilizing sufficient resources from all sources towards implementing the Framework and achieving its goals and targets; mainstreaming; capacity-building and development; generation, management and sharing of knowledge for effective biodiversity planning, policy development and coherence, decision-making and implementation; and technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovation. Examples include:</p> <p>(i) The strategy for resource mobilization, including the establishment of a global biodiversity framework fund by GEF;⁴⁵</p> <p>(ii) The long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development;⁴⁶</p> <p>(iii) The Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity (2023–2030);⁴⁷</p> <p>(iv) The Gender Plan of Action (2023-2030).⁴⁸</p>	<p>As noted above, the development of biodiversity finance plans is being funded in 91 countries. Objective 3 of the GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy is dedicated to domestic resource mobilization, and the GEF-8 blended finance program is advancing innovative finance for biodiversity, such as a regional facility for sovereign Debt for Nature Conversions, as detailed in the dedicated section. The GBFF has been established with the first two selection rounds announced in February 2024.</p> <p>All GEF investments provide significant support to capacity building and contribute to the long-term capacity building framework.</p> <p>Mainstreaming of biodiversity remains a significant priority within the Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, and the 11 IPs that have been approved by the GEF Council will make significant contributions to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, often through mainstreaming actions.</p> <p>In support of the Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity, the GEF-8 Sustainable Cities Integrated Program</p>

⁴⁵ Decision 15/7.

⁴⁶ Decision 15/8, annex I.

⁴⁷ Decision 15/12, annex.

⁴⁸ Decision 15/11, annex.

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	aims to catalyze urban system transformation by supporting cities and local governments to scale up their political commitment, undertake integrated urban planning, implement policies, and invest in nature-positive, climate-resilient, and carbon-neutral urban development. GEF projects are all required to address gender in their design as part of the GEF Policy on Gender Equality ⁴⁹ and the Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards ⁵⁰ . All GEF projects are notably required to conduct a gender analysis or equivalent socio-economic assessment, and to develop a gender action plan or equivalent. Therefore, the entire GEF portfolio is contributing to the Gender Plan of Action.
(f) The mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review; ⁵¹	As part of the Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, resources have been set aside outside of the STAR to support NBSAP revision and national reporting for the CBD, the Cartagena Protocol and the Nagoya Protocol. In GEF-8, the GEF approved \$72 million of financial support (exclusive of agency fees) for NBSAP revisions and the preparation of the 7 th national reports to the CBD in 139 countries. This support follows on to the GEF-7 Early Action Grants which supported 138 countries with a total of \$38.2 million to undertake initial activities to, among others, revise their NBSAPs and/or align their national monitoring framework with the KMGBF.
(g) The enabling conditions outlined in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework required for its implementation;	The section on enabling conditions required for implementation focuses on "Support mechanisms and strategies under the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols" and "provision of adequate, predictable and easily accessible financial resources from all sources on a needs basis." It further requires cooperation and

⁴⁹ GEF, 2018, [Policy on Gender Equality](#), GEF Policy SD/PL/02.

⁵⁰ GEF, 2024, [Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards](#), GEF Policy SD/PL/03.

⁵¹ Decision 15/6

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	collaboration in building the necessary "capacity and transfer of technologies to allow Parties, especially developing country Parties, to fully implement the framework." GEF projects and programs embed the strengthening of these enabling conditions in their project design particularly as it relates to cooperation and collaboration for capacity building.
(h) The Implementation Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety ⁵² and the Capacity-building Action Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; ⁵³	Objective Two of the GEF Biodiversity Focal Area strategy supports capacity building for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol. In the reporting period, no countries have requested GEF-8 support under this objective of the GEF strategy.
(i) The guidance to the Global Environment Facility on programme priorities to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fourth meeting, contained in appendix I.	Objective Two of the GEF Biodiversity Focal Area strategy supports capacity building and priorities for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. In the reporting period, one GEF-8 project in Brazil was approved under this objective of the GEF strategy and is described in the report. In addition, one GEF-8 project to support national implementation and associated capacity building was submitted for funding by Burkina Faso and this project is under review. Finally, two GBFF Project Preparation Grant requests dedicated to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Belize and were approved.
<p><i>Additional strategic considerations</i></p> <p>5. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should support the rapid and effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by contributing to resource mobilization from all sources, including through increased GEF funding, which is adequate, predictable, sustainable, timely and accessible and through allocations dedicated to the Biodiversity Focal Area and co-benefits for biodiversity across other focal areas and</p>	Resource mobilization will be facilitated through GEF support to the development of national biodiversity finance plans, through the GBFF, and through co-financing leveraged through the 11 IPs and the relevant focal area supported projects and programs. In addition, GEF's blended finance program is designed specifically to attract private sector investment and has reached very high co-financing ratios historically with high participation of the private sector. An analysis of this co-

⁵² Decision CP-10/3, annex.⁵³ Decision CP-10/4, annex.

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global programmes, including integrated programmes, recognizing the need for streamlined programming and approval process to enable timely disbursement of resources.	finance leveraged so far is provided in this report.
6. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should recognize the contribution of multi-country, regional, transboundary and global projects, to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including to the implementation of global initiatives adopted under the Convention and its Protocols, and multi-country, regional, transboundary and global initiatives that leverage contributions from biodiversity-related conventions and agreements.	Regional, transboundary, and global projects are eligible for support in GEF-8 from the GEF Trust Fund to help implement the KMGBF. All 11 Integrated Programs include global or regional coordination projects.
7. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should recognize that the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions and agreements in the context of national biodiversity priorities and strategies will contribute to the three objectives of the Convention and its Protocols and the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	GEF-8 biodiversity and programming directions responded to GEF-eligible guidance suggested through the CBD COP to GEF from the biodiversity-related conventions and agreements. The biodiversity related conventions also provided feedback and comments on the programming directions and Biodiversity Focal Area strategy as it was being developed during the GEF-8 replenishment process.
8. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should take into account coherence with, and synergies among, country-driven programmes and priorities set out in national biodiversity strategies and action plans to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.	GEF-8 supported biodiversity-relevant projects and programs must demonstrate how they are supporting country NBSAP priorities.
9. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should be developed in a fully transparent and inclusive manner, with a view to ensuring that projects to be funded by the GEF during its 8th replenishment in recipient Parties are to be developed on a context-specific and country-driven basis, addressing the priority needs of recipient countries.	The development of the GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions was a fully participatory and inclusive process.
10. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote agreed global environmental benefits and development pathways that benefit biodiversity and are also, carbon-neutral and pollution-free, including through coherence and synergies among	GEF-8 programming directions, including the 11 IPs, the Biodiversity Focal Area strategy, and other relevant strategies have emphasized synergies across all focal areas and in particular biodiversity

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the GEF integrated programmes and focal areas of biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, climate change (both mitigation and adaptation), and chemicals and waste, and within the context of country driven programmes and priorities.	benefits. A target of 60 percent of total GEF resources advancing the objectives of the CDB has been set for GEF-8, as measured by the Rio Markers methodology. As detailed in this report, 81 percent of GEF-8 approved funding up to June 2024 had benefits for biodiversity.
11. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote and implement, as appropriate, the ecosystem approach, and/or nature-based solutions as defined by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session.	The ecosystem approach is central to the Biodiversity Focal Area strategy and Nature-based solutions are identified as priority areas of support in numerous integrated programs of the GEF-8 programming directions including Blue and Green Islands, Ecosystem Restoration, Healthy Oceans, Net Zero Nature Based Accelerator, Wildlife Conservation for Development, as well as the biodiversity and international waters focal area strategies.
12. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote, synergies, cooperation and complementarity in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity with those of the other conventions served by GEF, as well as with other biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, recognizing the important contributions that these instruments can make to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols and the, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and vice versa.	GEF-8 biodiversity and programming directions responded to GEF-eligible guidance suggested through the CBD COP to GEF from the biodiversity-related conventions and agreements. The biodiversity related conventions also provided feedback and comments on the programming directions and the Biodiversity Focal Area strategy as it was being developed during the GEF-8 replenishment process. The integrated nature of GEF programming in the biodiversity strategy in GEF-8 will also provide co-benefits to other conventions served by GEF.
13. During the GEF-8 period, GEF should further interact and cooperate with multilateral development banks and other public and private financial institutions to integrate the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as the contributions of the other biodiversity-related conventions within their activities and report on funding contributing to their implementation.	<p>GEF is proactively working with the multilateral development banks that are GEF agencies to secure their engagement in GEF-8 programming that is consistent with their respective comparative advantage.</p> <p>For example, four of the five blended finance projects supporting the implementation of the KMGBF approved during the reporting period are</p>

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	<p>implemented by multilateral development banks.</p> <p>During the development of the GBFF, GEF undertook numerous consultations with the multilateral development banks to solicit their input to the formation of the GBFF. The GBFF has a portfolio level target of 25 percent to be programmed by multilateral development banks and international financial institutions.</p> <p>With the first selection rounds of the GBFF, two PPG requests from multilateral development banks have been approved, for approximately seven percent of total resources set aside from the two selection rounds.</p> <p>In the reporting period, multilateral development banks have strengthened their commitments to integrate the objectives of the CBD into their own programming, as manifested in the UNFCCC COP 26 Joint MDB Statement on Nature, People and Planet⁵⁴, and the launch, at UNFCCC COP 28, of the MDB Common Principles for Tracking Nature-Positive Finance⁵⁵.</p>
<p>14. The GEF-8 outcome and impact indicators and associated monitoring processes should be effectively used to assess the contribution of the GEF-8 to the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, the Protocols of the Convention, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including through measuring the co-benefits for biodiversity across all relevant GEF activities.</p>	<p>The COP report provides information on how GEF has performed with regards to the GEF core indicators and notes their linkage to the relevant KMGBF targets. In addition, co-benefits to biodiversity are presented in the report including GEF reporting on the Rio Markers.</p>
<p>15. The GEF in its eighth replenishment period should explore ways to significantly improve the access to funding for all recipient countries.</p>	<p>This is consistent with the GEF-8 policy recommendation on streamlining and a process is underway to address this issue. The 66th GEF Council, having considered document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.03</p>

⁵⁴ <https://ukcop26.org/mdb-joint-statement/>

⁵⁵ <https://www.ebrd.com/documents/environment/mdb-common-principles-to-nature-positive-finance-tracking.pdf>

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	<p><i>Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle</i>⁵⁶, notably: a) approved an increase in the cap for Medium-Sized Projects from \$2 million to \$5 million, and; b) requested the Secretariat and an ad hoc working group of interested Council Members and Alternates equally representing donors and recipient countries, to elaborate additional measures for streamlining the GEF project cycle, taking into account ongoing efforts to enhance coordination and harmonization across the climate and environment funds, in consultation with GEF Agencies, GEF Focal Points and others as appropriate, for consideration by Council at its 67th and 68th meetings.</p> <p>At the 67th GEF Council took the following decision on Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process:⁵⁷</p> <p>a) Appreciates the work of the Council Working Group and supports its continued work up to the next Council meeting in December 2024;</p> <p>b) Endorses continued work by the Secretariat as outlined in this report, with support from Agencies and others as appropriate;</p> <p>c) Encourages Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes and communicate these to the Secretariat and Working Group;</p> <p>d) Endorses further development of proposals for decision in December 2024, considering advance consultation requirements for any proposals requiring changes to policy and guidelines.</p> <p>Two additional processes are also underway: 1. the joint action plan</p>

⁵⁶ GEF, 2024, [Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/08/Rev.03.

⁵⁷ GEF Council Decision 24/2024, *Streamlining the GEF Project Cycle: Report from the Working Group on the Streamlining Process*.

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	development by the multilateral climate funds, including the GCF, Climate Investment Funds, Adaptation Fund, and the GEF, including assessment of harmonization of processes and practices among the funds, and 2. implementing a simplified project and program cycle for the GBFF. These processes will also inform additional measures and further potential actions on streamlining.
16. The GEF in its eighth replenishment period should explore ways to improve the access to funding for indigenous peoples and local communities.	<p>GEF-8 Biodiversity Focal Area strategy includes additional funding of \$25 million for the Inclusive Conservation Initiative which provides access to GEF funds for IPLCs. (\$25 million was also allocated to this initiative in GEF-7).</p> <p>Within the GBFF Programming Directions, Action Area 2, "Support to IPLC Stewardship and Governance of Lands, Territories, and Waters" focuses on providing support to IPLC-led stewardship and governance in accordance with national legislation. In addition, an aspirational programming share of 20 percent to support IPLC stewardship at the portfolio level by 2030 from the total resources allocated under the GBFF.</p> <p>The first and second selection rounds of the GBFF have approved 22 PPG requests totaling \$110.4 million in GEF Project financing, of which 35 percent is expected to support actions by IPLCs.</p>
17. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy and programming directions should promote engagement with recipient countries to support national resource mobilization and the development and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans.	A global program of support to fund national biodiversity finance plans was approved in November 2022 by the Council and all remaining eligible countries were added to this program in the first quarter of 2023.
18. The GEF-8 biodiversity strategy, programming directions and policy recommendations should reinforce the GEF's efforts to mobilize and engage with different stakeholders including the private sector.	Stakeholder engagement is required of all GEF projects, and a stakeholder participation plan is a requirement for all CEO endorsements. In GEF-8, each of the 11 Integrated Programs has its own set of

COP 15 Guidance	GEF's Response
	private sector objectives, identifying the major platforms for engagement, key entry points, and expected modalities of engagement that can optimize the contributions of the private sector.
19. To improve its efficiency and effectiveness in delivering sustainable results during the GEF 8 replenishment period, the GEF should continue to improve its policies regarding governance and the standards its implementing partners are held to.	The GEF's governance includes mechanisms to hold implementing partners to GEF policy and standards, including the four key GEF minimum standards: fiduciary, environmental and social safeguards, gender equality and stakeholder engagement. In 2023, a review of implementing partners' adherence to these standards was undertaken and submitted to Council (GEF/C.64/Inf.09). Agencies with identified gaps were required to develop action plans and reports on action plan progress are provided to Council (e.g. see: GEF/C.66/Inf.10) In addition, gap analyses on social inclusion (GEF/C.66/10) and in fragility, conflict and violence-affected situations (GEF/C.66/09) were prepared and deliberated by Council in February 2024. At its 67 th meeting The Council, having considered document GEF/C.67/06, Gap Analysis of GEF Policies and Key Social Inclusion Issues – Timetable for Policy Actions, took note of the timetable presented and requests the Secretariat to proceed in accordance with the timetable and approach presented.

GEF Support to Policy Coherence

77. In recognition of the growing importance of the policy coherence agenda and the potential role of the GEF, at its 65th Session in October 2023, the GEF Council endorsed a set of action areas aimed at [enhancing policy coherence through GEF operations](#). These include mainstreaming of policy coherence in current programming, dedicated programming on policy coherence, engagement with countries and agencies on the topic, continued analysis of policy coherence of the active GEF portfolio, development of tools to track and assess progress, and investigation of the potential for development of policy-relevant indicators.

78. While dimensions of policy coherence have had a consistent and progressive presence in GEF programming throughout the different replenishment cycles, GEF-8 is the first programming phase (2022 – 2026) that has explicitly identified policy coherence as one of its foundational elements. Policy Coherence is integrated as a cross-cutting underlying principle in [GEF-8 programming design, implementation, and country engagement activities](#), particularly through the flagship investments of GEF-8, the Integrated Programs.

79. In anticipation of the GEF-8 focus on policy coherence, the GEF funded a Medium-Sized Project at the end of the GEF-7 cycle, entitled “Policy Coherence for Global Environmental Benefits”, which aims to identify approaches and promote mutually reinforcing legal frameworks and alignment of financial resources for global biodiversity benefits. Working directly with the Members of the Conservation Caucuses in Colombia, Mongolia and Zambia, this project aims to identify and tackle the inconsistencies in the legal framework that are impeding or slowing down the delivery of Global Environmental Benefits. This project is now under implementation.

80. Given the mainstreaming of policy coherence in GEF-8 programming, the GEF Secretariat has started to explicitly assess the proposed policy coherence impacts of GEF-8 projects and programs at the design stage. As such, every GEF-8 Work Program Cover Note now contains a dedicated cross-cutting section on policy coherence that gives summary examples of how various projects and programs of the proposed Work Program aim to address policy coherence. To that end, the cover note of the [Work Program](#) to the 66th Council in February 2024 included a section on policy coherence. Several programs and projects in this work program, including from the Biodiversity Focal Area, aim to address elements of policy coherence. For example, the Integrated Program *Wildlife Conservation for Development* will support better aligned and strengthened policy and legal frameworks across sectors to support the development of protected areas and integrated landscape management plans, national strategies for Human Wildlife Coexistence, national wildlife-based economy strategies and nature-based tourism strategies. Additional standalone projects in the Biodiversity Focal Area included components focused on enhancing policy coherence or its elements, such as strengthening and harmonizing governance, supporting transboundary management, and strengthening policy environments. In addition, the cover note of the [Work Program](#) to the 67th Council Meeting in June 2024 included a section on policy coherence. Several biodiversity-relevant projects advanced policy coherence consistent with the ambition of the KMGBF. For example, a multi-focal area project in Yemen, *Integrated Conservation and Sustainable Development in Socotra Archipelago and Aden Wetlands*, aims to strengthen policy and governance frameworks for the protected areas and wetlands. The intervention pathway for the *Introducing Nature Based Solutions to Ensure Resilient Ecosystems, Green Recovery, and Sustainable Livelihoods* project in Bosnia and Herzegovina entails improved governance, policies and capacities of institutions, and the promotion of Integrated Spatial and Land Use Planning.

81. The GEF Secretariat will continue to develop its work on policy coherence along the lines of the Council Paper approved during the 65th Council Meeting and will report its progress to the GEF Council and the COP accordingly.

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FUND

Background

82. Recognizing the urgency to increase international biodiversity finance, the CBD COP 15 requested the Global Environment Facility, in paragraphs 29 and 30 of COP decision 15/7 on resource mobilization and in paragraphs 19 and 20 of COP decision 15/15 on financial mechanism, to establish a dedicated and accessible Global Biodiversity Framework Fund in 2023 that can quickly mobilize and disburse new and additional resources from all sources, commensurate with the ambition of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.^{58,59}

GBFF Establishment and Operationalization

83. In response to this request to establish a dedicated and accessible Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), the GEF Council in June 2023 approved the GBFF establishment⁶⁰ and its Programming Directions.⁶¹ The Seventh GEF Assembly ratified the GBFF establishment decision in August 2024, and launched the fund.

84. The governance of the GBFF includes the GBFF Council, with observers representing key stakeholder groups of conservation and philanthropic organization, IPLCs, private sector, women, and youth. Furthermore, the Advisory Group of Non-Sovereign Participants and the Auxiliary Body will be established.⁶²

85. The GEF Secretariat led an intensive consultative process in the GBFF establishment and operationalization, including multiple consultations with the GEF Council, with Multilateral Development Banks and International Financial Institutions, with the private sector and with the CBD Secretariat, as well as briefings for civil society representatives, the GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group and GEF Agencies. CBD focal points were closely associated to the process through multiple joint notifications.^{63,64,65}

86. Building on the consultation process, GEF Council and GEF Assembly decisions referenced in Table 10 above in the response to COP 15 guidance, the first GBFF Council was held on February 8 and 9, 2024. Key decisions taken at this Council, including on project cycle policy and resource

⁵⁸ CBD, 2022, Decision Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 15/7. Resource mobilization, CBD/COP/DEC/15/7.

⁵⁹ CBD, 2022, Decision Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 15/15. Financial Mechanism, CBD/COP/DEC/15/15.

⁶⁰ GEF, 2023, *Establishment of a New Trust Fund: The Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*, Council Document GEF/C.64/05/Rev.01.

⁶¹ GEF, 2023, *Programming Directions for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*, Council Document GEF/C.64/06/Rev.02.

⁶² GEF, 2024, *Terms of Reference for Advisory Group(s) and Auxiliary Body for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*, Council Document GEF/GBFF.02/04.

⁶³ CBD, 2023, *Consultations on the establishment of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by the Global Environment Facility*, Notification 2023-041 (SCBD/IMS/NP/YX/GT/90953).

⁶⁴ CBD, 2023, *Updated draft documents on the establishment of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by the Global Environment Facility*, Notification 2023-056 (SCBD/IMS/NP/YX/GT/90953).

⁶⁵ CBD, 2023, *Council documents on the establishment of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by the Global Environment Facility*, Notification 2023-062 (SCBD/IMS/NP/YX/GT/90953).

allocation policy, enabled the start of GBFF programming in a timely manner, 14 months after the COP decision on the GBFF establishment.

87. The GBFF Resource Allocation Policy is based on programming tranches to improve predictability for recipient countries, while accommodating financial contributions on a rolling basis.⁶⁶ The GBFF Resource Allocation Policy also introduces country-specific ceilings to reflect the fact that biodiversity is not evenly distributed across the globe. Country-specific ceilings are translated into maximum dollar amount of new funding request(s) that countries can respectively make during each programming tranche.

88. The GBFF Project Cycle Policy, approved at the first GBFF Council, is streamlined from the GEF Project Cycle Policy.⁶⁷ Notably, agencies submit PPG requests on behalf and with the endorsement of eligible countries. The funding request embedded in a PPG request must be equal to, or smaller than, the country's maximum total dollar value of new funding request(s) at the time of submission. For the first tranche, the maximum total dollar value table document has been posted on the GEF website, and also circulated to all GEF Operational Focal Points (OFPs) and Agencies on February 16, 2024.⁶⁸

89. The CEO approves PPG requests based on Council-approved selection criteria and portfolio-level targets, as well as resource availability. After the CEO approval of selected PPG requests, documentations for the fully prepared projects are to be submitted to the GEF Secretariat within nine months of PPG request approval. Projects above \$5 million are included in a Work Program, reviewed and discussed by the GBFF Council. Projects up to \$5 million cleared by the Secretariat can be endorsed by the CEO based on the delegated authority provided by the GBFF Council.

90. Following the first GBFF Council, the Secretariat has organized several briefing sessions, both virtually and in person, to provide information on the GBFF project cycle, resource allocation, and to respond to questions from the GEF Operational Focal Points, CBD Focal Points, GEF Agencies, Council members, alternates, and advisors, and other partners upon request. The briefing sessions and materials used are made available on the GEF or CBD websites to enable others to access.

Provision of GBFF Support

First Programming Tranche

91. The adoption of the GBFF Resource Allocation Policy triggered the opening of the first GBFF programming tranche, which is making \$211 million available for programming. This

⁶⁶ GEF, 2024, [*Policy on Allocation of Resources for the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund \(GBFF\)*](#), Council Document GEF/GBFF.01/03/Rev.03.

⁶⁷ GEF, 2024, [*Global Biodiversity Framework Fund \(GBFF\) Project Cycle Policy*](#), Council Document GEF/GBFF.01/04/Rev.02.

⁶⁸ GEF, 2024, [*Country Maximum Dollar Value of Funding Request\(s\) for the First Programming Tranche of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund*](#), Council Document GEF/GBFF.02/Inf.01.

amount corresponds to all pledges confirmed by the Trustee at the date of Policy approval, including the pledges from Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Germany, Japan, and Spain, minus corporate budget needs. Luxembourg has subsequently announced contributions to the GBFF.

92. Within programming tranches, all GBFF resources are allocated in a country-driven manner to projects through consecutive, competitive selection rounds open to all eligible countries. The first two selection rounds were carried out from February to April 2024.

First Selection Round

93. A special first round was organized to fast-track the first GBFF projects approvals in line with the urgency to implement the KMGBF and the ambition set forth by the GBFF Council to have a first work program at the Second GBFF Council, held on June 19, 2024. Four PPG requests were approved by the CEO in the first round, out of the four eligible PPG requests received during the submission window of February 21 to March 1, 2024. The total request from the four projects was \$39.80 million.

First GBFF Work Program

94. At the Second GBFF Council, three fully developed projects from the first selection round totaling \$37.82 million, including GEF project financing and Agency fees, were approved.⁶⁹ These projects are summarized as follows:

- **Mexico.** Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican biodiversity through communities and their protected areas. (GEF Agency: CI, GEF Project Financing \$16,672,477). This project aims to help Mexico advance toward the 30x30 target through long-term sustainable financing for the existing national protected areas (national parks and Areas Voluntarily Designated for Conservation (ADVCS). The project will strengthen the capacity of the National Commission for Protected Areas (CONANP) to pursue diverse financing options; use the Project Finance for Permanence (PFP) approach; and invest in conservation, restoration, and sustainable management with the engagement of IPLC, who will receive support to enhance their governance capacity.
- **Brazil.** *Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands.* (GEF Agency: Funbio, GEF Project Financing \$9,064,221). This project aims to restore, protect and maintain the biodiversity of indigenous lands. The project's focus is entirely on assisting the indigenous communities and their lands. The project's strategy and innovation hinge on the role played by indigenous communities as primary project executors in the field, in addition as primary beneficiaries.

⁶⁹ GEF, 2024, GEF/GBFF.02/03, [Work Program for Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](#), Council Document GEF/GBFF.02/03.

- **Brazil. Caatinga Protected Areas Program – ARCA.** (GEF Agency: WWF-US, GEF Project Financing \$8,964,220). This project seeks to enhance the conservation of the Caatinga biome through the expansion and improved management effectiveness of Brazil's National System of Protected Areas and endangered species conservation, based on science-based and participative approaches, as well as the engagement of Indigenous People, Traditional Peoples and Local Communities in protected area governance, management, and sustainable natural resources use.

95. In total, these projects contribute to about half of KMGBF targets, namely targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 and 23. Anticipated impacts from the projects included in the first GBFF Work Program include:

- 8.2 million ha of terrestrial and 22.2 million ha of marine protected areas under improved management
- 6.4 million ha of landscapes under improved practices
- 54.5 million tCO_{2eq} mitigated
- 228,700 direct beneficiaries (51% women)
- 62 percent resources allocated to support action by IPLC

96. The fourth project from the first selection round, due to its budget size being less than \$5 million, was circulated to Council for four-week review. Once Council comments, if any, are addressed, the CEO will endorse it under the delegated authority provided to the CEO in the project cycle of the GBFF.

Second Selection Round

97. The PPG request submission window for the second selection round was from March 4, 202, to April 1, 2024. Sixty-six PPG requests were submitted from 63 countries for the second selection round of the first tranche. They included 32 submissions from LDCs and SIDS.

98. In total, 18 PPG requests from 21 countries were approved for the second selection round on May 9, 2024, including 11 PPG requests from 13 LDCs/SIDS. The Secretariat applied the technical criteria agreed by GEF Council to review and select these PPG requests for a total \$70 million.

GBFF Portfolio

99. The GBFF PPG requests approved to date are presented in Annexes 1 and 3.

100. The provision of GBFF support by June 30, 2024, based on the two selection rounds from the first programming tranche is summarized as follows:

- A total of 70 PPG requests submitted, 32 of which from LDCs and SIDS
- 22 PPG requests have been approved, of which 11 are from LDCs and SIDS

- Biodiversity priorities in 24 countries, including 13 LDCs and SIDS, are addressed
- \$110.4 million, or 52.3 percent, of the \$211 million of the first programming tranche has been approved or set-aside pending Council/CEO approval.

101. The GBFF portfolio level targets and progress made based on 20 approved PPG requests from the two selection rounds are as follows:

- 36 percent + 3 percent allocated to SIDS/LDCs:⁷⁰ 26 percent of the resources from the 22 PPG requests approved is for SIDS and LDCs
- 25 percent to be programmed through IFIs: 6 percent is programmed through IFIs
- Aspirational share of 20 percent by 2030 to support actions by IPLCs: 35 percent is to support actions by IPLC.

102. Additional selection rounds will be carried out within the first programming tranche until all funds have been allocated. The third selection is expected to be organized in the course of 2024, at dates to be determined by the timing of upcoming financial deposits to the GBF Trust Fund.

103. The second programming tranche will open when an additional \$250 million has been pledged to the GBFF, or 18 months have passed since the opening of the first tranche, whichever comes first.

⁷⁰ As stated in the Council-approved Programming Directions, the 3 percent portion to SIDS and LDCs will be reviewed after 3 years of the date of the Fund ratification at the Assembly. If unused, the 3 percent will be reprogrammed to other countries.

PORTFOLIO IMPLEMENTATION

Portfolio Implementation

104. The GEF works to continuously improve its portfolio of investments in countries made through Agencies to generate greater and more lasting environmental outcomes. Most recently, the GEF has been embarking on an ongoing streamlining agenda to facilitate access to financing and the delivery of results. Latest progress updates on biodiversity investments point to quality and impactful projects and programs.

Strengthening Country Capacity

105. The Country Engagement Strategy (CES) introduced in GEF-8 empowers countries to improve portfolio progress and maximize the impact of GEF resources, including through capacity strengthening activities, upstream country engagement and country-specific knowledge activities.

106. Since the beginning of GEF-8, 13 Regional GEF-8 roll-out workshops and 41 Upstream Technical and National Dialogues helped countries identify programming priorities for GEF-8 (GEF/C.66/Inf.04). Each delegation that participated in Expanded Constituency Workshops included the GEF Political and Operational Focal Points, national focal points of Multilateral Environmental Agreements the GEF serves, including the CBD, and CSO and private sector representatives.

Streamlining Measures

107. Delivering on GEF-8 Replenishment Policy Recommendations, the GEF is exploring areas for streamlining the GEF project cycle, with an objective of reducing transaction costs and facilitating faster access to GEF resources by countries. This comes in the context of harmonization of process and practices with the Green Climate Fund and the establishment of a simplified project and program cycle for the GBFF.

108. First measures have been identified including an increase in the cap for MSPs from \$2 million to \$5 million. This comes with the requirement for any MSP above \$2 million to conduct Mid-Term Reviews for enhanced accountability on progress and learning, and to promote course correction.

109. The Council also decided to establish a Working Group to further elaborate options to streamline the GEF project cycle. In June 2024, the Council encouraged Agencies to also identify areas for further streamlining and efficiencies within their own processes, and endorsed further development of proposals for decision in December 2024.

Enhanced Transparency and Accountability

110. The GEF is committed to transparency and accountability to monitor and facilitate the use of its financing. It makes available Country Factsheets to countries, allowing them to track the

use and implementation of resources, and publishes on its public website Agency Factsheets to facilitate the choice of Agencies for countries.

111. The GEF Corporate Scorecard, upon which some of the GEF's COP report is based, serves as the accountability mechanism to ensure resources of the ongoing GEF phase are appropriately and effectively used in regions and country groups. In addition, the Annual Monitoring Report tracks the results, performance, and quality of the portfolio of projects under implementation against the GEF-8 Results Measurement Framework (RMF). The 2022 and 2023 editions of the Monitoring Report innovated by aligning reporting along the GEF-8 RMF structured in two tiers of metrics, with Tier 1 assessing achieved environmental outcomes and Tier 2 measuring progress along effectiveness and efficiency measures.

112. The GEF continued to report in a transparent way on project progress through regular publication on the [International Aid Transparency Initiative](#) standard. This work is underpinned by the GEF Policy on Access to Information (GEF/C.55/06).

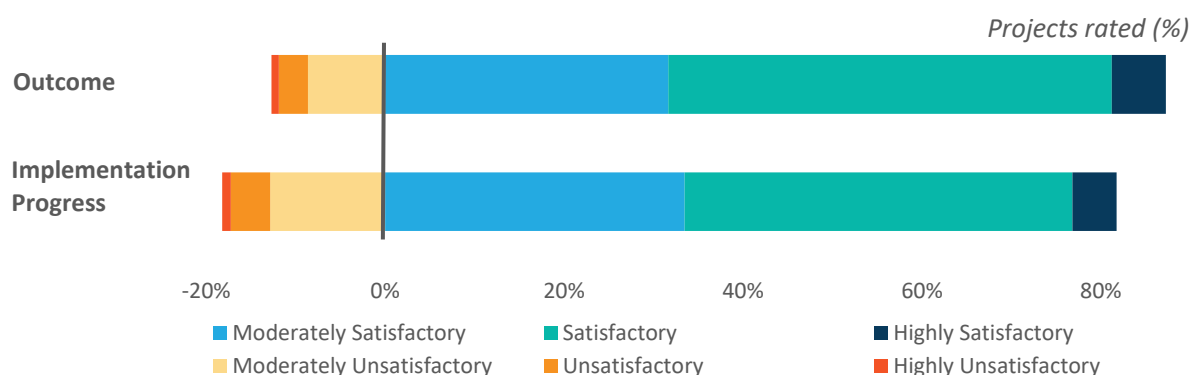
Achieving Project Development Objectives and Implementation Progress

113. As at end of June 2024, the portfolio of biodiversity-financed projects under implementation was valued at \$2.70 billion. It includes close to 508 projects, of which 262 are financed exclusively by the Biodiversity Focal Area for an amount of \$746 million. This section provides an update on the progress made by this portfolio as reported in the 2023 GEF Monitoring Report (GEF/C.66/03).

114. In fiscal year 2023, a comprehensive progress update was provided for the entire portfolio of GEF projects under implementation, that is a total of 891 projects collectively representing a net commitment of \$5.1 billion. Self-ratings provided each year by Agencies provide an indication of the quality of implementation progress and likelihood of achieving project outcomes⁷¹. Figure 1 indicates that 82 percent of projects were rated in the satisfactory range for Implementation Progress in fiscal 2021, on par with 84 percent a year earlier. Separately, 87 percent of projects were rated in the satisfactory range for the likelihood to achieve their Development Objective.

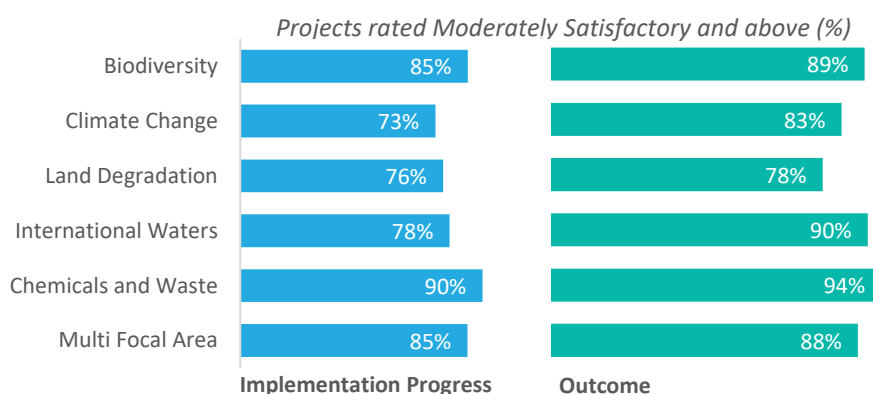
Figure 1. Distribution of Outcome and Implementation Progress Ratings of Ongoing GEF Projects across All Focal Areas as of June 30, 2023

⁷¹ GEF, 2019, [GEF Policy on Monitoring](#), Council Document GEF/C.56/03/Rev.01.



115. In this context, 85 percent of the biodiversity portfolio under implementation were rated in the satisfactory range in achieving implementation progress and 89 percent were rated in the satisfactory range for the likelihood to achieve their Development Objective. This is higher than the GEF average. Further, 85 percent of multi-focal area projects, which often include biodiversity resources, have been rated in the satisfactory range in achieving implementation progress and 88 percent have been rated in the satisfactory range for the likelihood to achieve their Development Objective.

Figure 2. Projects Rated in the Satisfactory Range by Focal Area as of June 30, 2023



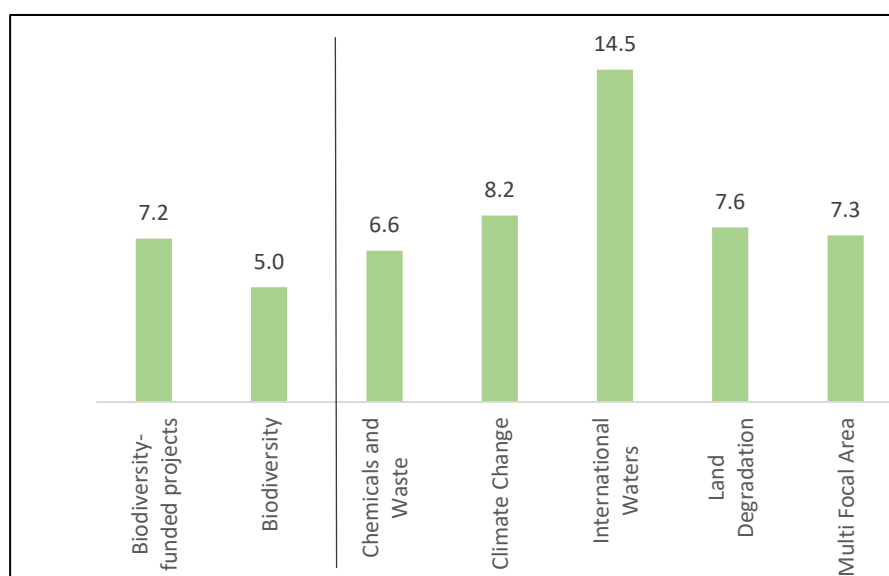
Increasing Co-Financing across the Portfolio as of June 2023

116. Co-financing enhances the effectiveness, impacts, and sustainability of GEF projects and programs, notably by facilitating the attainment of broader and more durable global environmental benefits, while also fostering stronger partnerships. GEF projects under implementation as at the end of 2023 reached on average a co-financing ratio of 7.6 to 1, meaning that 7.6 dollars of co-financing are mobilized for every dollar invested by the GEF.

117. Figure 3 indicates that projects funded only by the Biodiversity Focal Area reach a 5.0 to 1 co-financing ratio, against a 7.2 to 1 co-financing ratio for any project funded at least in part by biodiversity resources. Hence, multi-focal area projects and projects that are part of impact programs have successfully leveraged more resources for CBD implementation.

118. The GEF continues to mobilize financing from all sources to meet project and program objectives. The GEF-8 co-financing target of mobilizing seven dollars for every “GEF dollar” spent is being surpassed two years into this programming cycle, reaching a ratio of 8.5 to 1. The investment mobilized ratio has also increased, now standing at 6.3 dollars for every GEF dollar invested, above the 5 to 1 ratio targeted in Upper Middle-Income Countries and High-Income Countries that are not SIDS or LDCs.

Figure 3. Co-financing Ratio by Focal Area for projects under implementation (2023)^{72 73}



⁷² This covers projects under implementation as of the end of June 2024.

⁷³ Biodiversity-funded projects include single focal area biodiversity projects and multi-focal area projects that have received funding from the Biodiversity Focal Area.

PROGRESS REPORT ON GEF-7 CORPORATE RESULTS AND TARGETS

119. As part of the GEF-7 Replenishment Agreement, robust and ambitious Core Indicator targets aligned with allocated resources were introduced.⁷⁴ GEF-7 introduced an upgraded results framework with eleven core indicators that span all five focal areas. Seven of the core indicators (CI) are relevant to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 as presented in Figure 5 below. The core indicators, along with associated sub-indicators and methodologies, significantly enhance the GEF's ability to capture, monitor, analyze and report on results. At the same time, by replacing focal area-specific tracking tools and results frameworks, the core indicators enable a substantial simplification of the GEF's results architecture, and significantly reduce the monitoring and reporting burden at the project and program level.

120. Figure 5 below provides the cumulative targets presented in GEF Council approved project concepts (PIFs) and programs from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022, that are related to the CBD and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2010-2020. The cumulative targets represent key expected outcomes from these projects when these projects are first conceptualized. It also includes the relative contribution of Impact Programs to target achievements.

121. Targets for GEF-7 were developed based on historical trends of country priorities and results from projects. In GEF-7, countries have decided to use a higher proportion of their allocation than previously for ecosystem restoration and support to marine protected areas and biodiversity mainstreaming in marine habitat. Hence corresponding targets have achieved over 100 percent (core indicators 2, 3 and 5) while other terrestrial targets have not been fully met (core indicators 1 and 4).

122. The target for marine protected areas has been surpassed with over 1,390 million hectares expected to be protected or sustainably managed, against a target of 8 million hectares. Meanwhile, a little more than half of the target for terrestrial protected areas had been achieved.

123. However, when looking at GEF-7 projects that have already been CEO-endorsed, 84 percent of the 200 million hectare of terrestrial protected area target has been achieved (169 million hectares), at a time when most projects have now reached implementation stage. This progress points to the fact that during advanced preparation stages, projects have increased the level of ambition as reflected in results. This observation indicates the GEF has come close to meeting all the GEF-7 biodiversity targets.

Figure 4. Progress in Reaching GEF-7 Core Indicator Targets as of June 2022⁷⁵

⁷⁴ GEF, 2018, [Updated Results Architecture for GEF-7](#), Council document GEF/C.54/11/Rev.02.

⁷⁵ GEF, 2022, [GEF-7 Corporate Scorecard June 2022](#), GEF/C.62/Inf.04.



124. As presented in the GEF-7 Programming Directions and Results Framework, the Impact Programs deliver results on indicators 1 (terrestrial protected areas), 3 (area of land restored), 4 (landscapes with improved practices), and 6 greenhouse gas emissions mitigated).

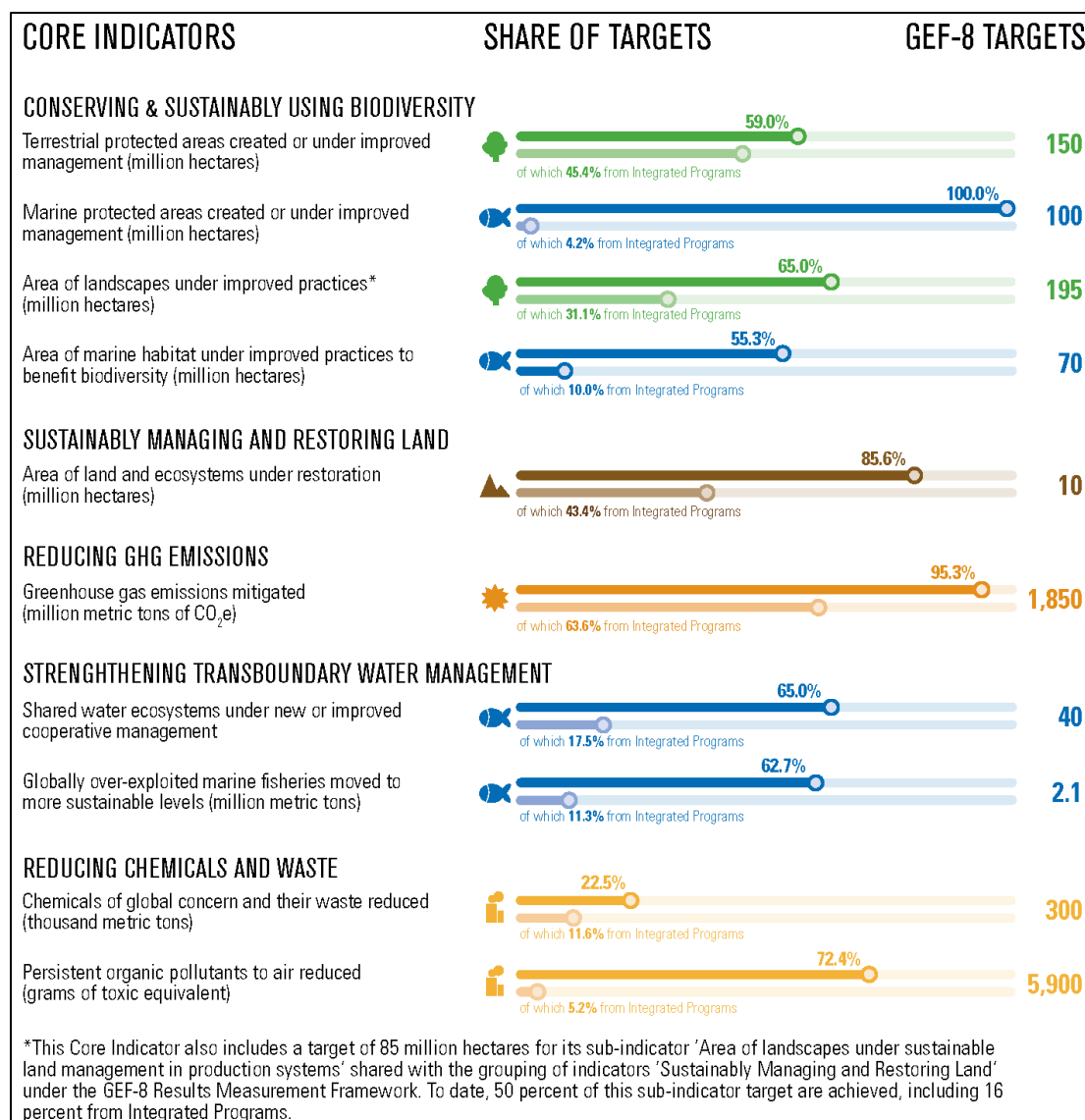
125. To date, the contribution of all Impact Programs to these 4 core indicators varies from 21 percent to close to 70 percent of the entire GEF-7 targets (Figure 5), whereas the total STAR resources programmed in the IPs only represent 23 percent of GEF-7 STAR target allocations.

Progress Report on GEF-8 Corporate Results and Targets

126. Building on the evidence and experience garnered during recent Replenishments and the strategic plan set out in programming directions, new targets have been set for the GEF-8 cycle. Consistent with global aspirations in Multilateral Environmental Agreements and relevant

forums, the GEF set ambitious, yet achievable targets for GEF-8 that exceed those agreed for GEF-7. Figure 6 provides an update against GEF-8 targets across the ten core indicators focused on global environmental benefits, as of June 2024.

Figure 5. Progress in Reaching GEF-8 Core Indicator Targets as of June 2024⁷⁶



127. After two years of GEF-8, much progress is taking place toward meeting the four targets related to conserving and sustainably using biodiversity. Expected results from approved projects and programs already exceed half of the targeted “150 million hectares of terrestrial protected area created or under improved management”, the full targeted “100 million hectares of marine

⁷⁶ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard June 2024](#), GEF/C.67/Inf.04.

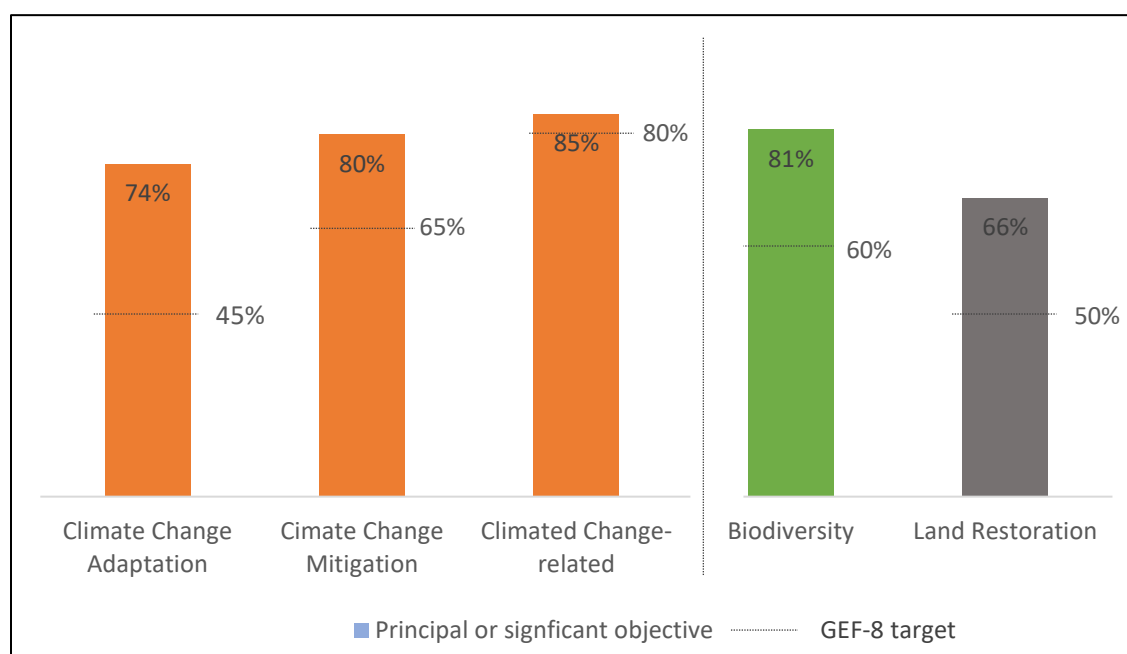
protected area created or under improved management” and, two-thirds and one-half of the targeted value for terrestrial (195 million hectares) and marine (70 million hectares) areas under improved practices to benefit biodiversity, respectively. This places the GEF well on its way toward achieving these targets in GEF-8.

Progress Against GEF-8 Rio Marker Targets

128. GEF financing contributing toward Biodiversity, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change Mitigation and Land Degradation as a principal or significant objective is tracked against indicative targets set for GEF-8, consistent with the OECD DAC Rio marker methodology.

129. In this context, 81 percent of the GEF-8 financing approved as of June 2024 contributes to biodiversity objectives, i.e., was marked as having a principal or significant objective supporting biodiversity benefits, which exceeds the target share of 60 percent set by the GEF-8 replenishment participants⁷⁷.

Figure 6. Progress against GEF-8 Rio Marker Targets as of June 2024



⁷⁷ GEF, 2024, [GEF-8 Corporate Scorecard June 2024](#), GEF/C.67/Inf.04.

RESULTS FROM THE GEF INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE

130. During the reporting period, the Independent Evaluation Office of the GEF (IEO) conducted four evaluations that are of relevance to the Biodiversity Focal Area. The key messages from these evaluations are summarized below.

Evaluation of GEF Support to Sustainable Forest Management⁷⁸

131. The GEF has supported sustainable forest management (SFM) from the GEF pilot onwards. The evaluation was the first comprehensive evaluation of GEF support to SFM, and it assessed the outcomes and performance of GEF's diverse portfolio of SFM activities. The evaluation covered the entire span from GEF-Pilot to GEF-7 and offered useful pointers for GEF-8. The evaluation portfolio included 640 SFM projects with a value of \$3.65 billion. After building on an initial strong focus on biodiversity, the GEF SFM portfolio has progressively transitioned toward multifocal area projects, which now constitute 44 percent of the SFM portfolio. The remaining 56 percent of the portfolio addresses single-focal areas, and it remains skewed toward the Biodiversity Focal Area.

132. The evaluation reported that routinely assessed performance ratings of GEF SFM projects was very similar to the entire GEF project portfolio average across all GEF replenishment periods. The outcomes of 81.2 percent of SFM projects are rated in the satisfactory range, with 57.6 percent of projects rated as likely to sustain their outcomes. The evaluation identified aggregate positive contributions of the GEF SFM portfolio in the following areas: protecting forests; restoring forest landscapes; environmental security; economic gains; empowerment and equity; and policy, institutions, and capacity.

133. The evaluation concluded that continued support, a substantial and diverse portfolio, and extensive scope of SFM activities call for articulating a clear and visible long-term vision and theory of change for SFM. In the GEF's three decades of support to SFM, there has been an evolution of approaches which has adapted to the GEF's programming directions, the context of global policies, and donor and country priorities. Although the GEF's SFM activities and modalities have tended to become more complex and ambitious in scale, there is not yet a clear and long-term vision for SFM.

134. While there have been new developments in design, scope for improving M&E remained. This evaluation demonstrated the challenges in creating an SFM portfolio post hoc and assessing its performance. Good provisions for monitoring, evaluation, and learning at the project level were identified by terminal evaluations as a positive factor in achieving SFM outcomes. But evidence showed that M&E systems often lack standardized outcome and impact indicators, with data along key SFM dimensions—including on trade-offs and benefits that are either unavailable or not collected.

⁷⁸ <https://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/documents/council-documents/c-62-e-02.pdf>

135. The evaluation concluded that managing trade-offs and maintaining benefits of SFM interventions in the longer term remains a challenge. Evidence-based frameworks to guide trade-off diagnostics, dialogues, and decision making among country stakeholders remained a rarity. Evidence showed that even when many interventions deliver short-term benefits, these suffered from weak sustainability due to both factors internal to the projects and broader contextual factors.

136. The evaluation made three recommendations: 1) Develop a comprehensive, clearly articulated long-term vision and strategy for SFM; 2) Strengthen monitoring of socioeconomic co-benefits and promote learning; 3) Support specific national and local priorities to manage trade-offs and maintain benefits.

137. The GEF Council endorsed GEF Secretariat management responses to these recommendations⁷⁹. Responses highlighted that the findings and recommendations from this evaluation are useful in continuing GEF's efforts to support SFM to ensure the critical role that forests play for the global environment and reflecting the global ambition and calls for greater support to forests at the level of the MEAs. Together with STAP and GEF Agencies, the Secretariat will continue to strengthen its work on SFM and forest related issues, including enhanced visibility, knowledge management and exchange of best practices, and monitoring of SFM in GEF projects. In addition, the Secretariat will strengthen elements of policy coherence, good governance, including forest rights and land tenure, as well as ensuring adequate funding levels for IPLCs in the cross-cutting SFM strategy and its implementation. The GEF Secretariat will track progress on the implementation of each of the recommendations, and report this progress to Council, through the IEO's standard Management Action Record.

Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin Ecosystem, June 2023⁸⁰

138. Since its inception, the GEF has provided financial support to protect and conserve terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecosystems; adapt to and mitigate climate change; reduce land degradation; and reduce chemical waste throughout the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). The strategic country cluster evaluation of the Lower Mekong River Basin was conducted to understand the impact of the GEF's support for and approach to addressing the challenges across the Mekong River basin's international waters. The evaluation portfolio covered 28 projects in GEF-4 through GEF-7 with a value of \$109.9 million. The selected projects addressed four of GEF's specific focal area strategies—biodiversity, climate change, international waters, and land degradation—as well projects that were designed to address issues that were best addressed by the multifocal area (MFA) framework.

139. The evaluation found that GEF projects in the LMRB have addressed the loss of globally and regionally important biodiversity by integrating conservation with sustainable agriculture,

⁷⁹ GEF, 2022, *Management response to: Evaluation of GEF support to Sustainable Forest Management*, Council Document GEF/C.62/14/Rev.01

⁸⁰ <https://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/documents/council-documents/c-64-e-02-rev-01.pdf>

aquaculture, forestry, and improved environmental management. Most projects addressed specific vulnerabilities at local (community) levels by targeting the four main LMRB challenges identified in the evaluation: a) promotion of ecosystem-based solutions; b) strengthening biodiversity; c) promoting climate-resilient measures at community level; and d) strengthening institutional and community capacities, especially engaging and empowering women in specific areas of ecosystem management and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA). However, project designs lacked guidelines for applying conceptual management tools such as EbA, ecosystem-based management (EbM), and failed to provide appropriate indicators to measure their effectiveness.

140. The most effective interventions were those that were designed and implemented to couple long-term resilience building (e.g., ecosystem restoration), sustainable irrigation infrastructure, governance that engaged women and other marginalized groups, and enhanced capacities to implement new conceptual planning and operational tools (e.g., EbA, EbM) delivering immediate social and economic benefits (e.g., improved communal and family well-being, more equitable sharing of ecosystem services under substantial future environmental changes, improved family incomes). Packaging short-term benefits with longer-term interventions also enabled the inclusion of vulnerable households.

141. The evaluation concluded that the GEF is well positioned to continue contributing to transformative changes in collaboration with partner countries and regional organizations and to scale-up solutions that address the major challenges within the LMRB. More work needs to be done to achieve triple bottom-line impacts (social, economic, and environmental) and link them to improve policy coherence. Considerable knowledge is available for addressing ecological, economic, and social drivers that affect the MRB's resilience. However, with some exceptions, many of the good outcomes and lessons produced by multilateral, bilateral, and regional entities, as well as lessons from almost three decades of GEF support, remain compartmentalized. This impedes the collective action required for testing and scaling up good approaches for addressing the most urgent LMRB challenges effectively.

142. The evaluation made three recommendations: 1) The GEF should coordinate with partner LMRB countries, other multilaterals, bilaterals, and regional bodies (e.g., the Mekong River Commission [MRC], the Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN]) on the strategic regional priorities of the MRC's basin development strategy; 2) To support longer-term sustainability, the GEF Secretariat and agencies should design and implement mechanisms for testing, replicating, and scaling up successful local outcomes and mainstream them at the national level; 3) The Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP), in consultation with the GEF, should provide technical advice on internationally agreed-upon definitions and guidelines for implementation of ecosystem-based conceptual approaches and management tools (e.g., ecosystem based adaptation, ecosystem-based management, nature-based solutions, ridge to river basin) to support consistent understanding and implementation on the ground.

143. The GEF Council endorsed GEF Secretariat management responses to these recommendations⁸¹. The GEF Secretariat noted the recommendations of this evaluation and will continue to seek opportunities to work with the STAP, GEF Agencies and countries to support strategic regional priorities; increased sustainability, and implementation, via TOC-based project design, implementation and monitoring of ecosystem based conceptual approaches and management tools in the Lower Mekong River Basin. Progress on each of these recommendations will be tracked through the IEO's standard Management Action Record.

Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation: GEF Support to Drylands Countries, January 2024⁸²

144. Covering over 40 percent of the Earth's land surface and serving as home to more than two billion people, drylands are areas where environmental and social trade-offs can be quite consequential. The strategic country cluster evaluation (SCCE) examines responses of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) to environmental challenges under acute circumstances—complementing and building on previous evaluations by the GEF Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) on land degradation, sustainable land and forest management, and biodiversity issues. The evaluation looks at GEF relevance and coherence as well as results and sustainability. The evaluation portfolio of 195 projects amounts to approximately \$1.1 billion of GEF funding since the start of GEF-4, representing 5.2 percent of total GEF funding during that period.

145. The evaluation concluded that GEF support has been highly relevant to key environmental challenges in drylands apart from water scarcity and, to some degree, drought and has largely embedded resilience as an essential co-benefit. GEF projects have targeted countries and areas that are highly relevant for specific environmental challenges in dryland geographies, most notably land degradation and desertification, climate change, and deforestation, with increasing attention to biodiversity over time. Threats to biodiversity are being considered in a larger proportion of GEF-6/GEF-7 projects, compared to earlier ones, and 90 percent of country stakeholders perceive that threats to biodiversity have been adequately considered in GEF programming in drylands areas. At the same time, Agencies and Secretariat interviewees reported that they have struggled to secure Biodiversity Focal Area funding in MFA drylands projects, given perceptions of drylands hosting less globally significant biodiversity to protect.

146. GEF drylands projects often identified policy misalignments at design but had limited success in addressing them or mitigating their impact on project effectiveness and sustainability; national policy coherence at design has not automatically translated into local policy coherence during implementation. Drylands projects assessed policy context in design and identified activities to address policy distortions and leakage effects, or to foster synergies, even in earlier projects.

⁸¹ GEF, 2023, *Management response to: Evaluation of the GEF's approach in interventions in Water Security*, Council Document GEF/C.64/14.

⁸² <https://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/documents/council-documents/c-66-e-01-a.pdf>

147. The GEF's reliance on area-based indicators limits its ability to fully track changes in environmental status. Environmental outcomes in GEF dryland projects are mostly reported in hectare terms, with fewer cases of robustly measured improvements in biophysical indicators that would verify relevant changes in environmental status, such as analysis of vegetation cover or soil organic carbon.

148. Working at the nexus of environment and socioeconomic development is even more crucial in drylands than in many other developing regions; the GEF has succeeded in fostering synergies but has not yet paid enough attention to mitigating trade-offs. Synergies between socioeconomic and global environmental benefits have been widely referenced in drylands projects, and reinforcing linkages between these benefits has been effective for delivering impact and strengthening resilience. When interventions were responsive to local socioeconomic priorities—often linked with addressing water scarcity—community buy-in and adoption of environmental practices in drylands was stronger.

149. Considering natural resource governance in the design of GEF drylands projects has not fully translated into results; similarly, attention to conflict and land tenure in GEF programming directions has not sufficiently conveyed to project design. GEF projects developed capacity at local levels for decentralized and inclusive decision making and planning, though projects often put in place multistakeholder governance platforms that were not self-sustaining after project closure.

150. The evaluation made four recommendations: 1) As the GEF prepares to design and implement an official policy coherence framework for GEF-8, the Secretariat should ensure that guidance to enhance policy coherence through GEF operations includes a focus on subnational and local levels; 2) The GEF Secretariat and its partner agencies should ensure that increased attention is devoted to the inclusion of land tenure security and conflict resolution for resource management within project and program designs and the underlying theories of change; 3) The GEF Secretariat and Agencies should ensure that equal consideration is given in project and program design to both fostering synergies and mitigating trade-offs between environment and socioeconomic development, with due attention to distributional impacts; 4) The GEF Secretariat should encourage Agencies to provide project-level monitoring data showing associated biophysical changes for relevant area-based core indicators.

151. The GEF Council endorsed GEF Secretariat management responses to these recommendations⁸³. The GEF Secretariat was confident that the valuable lessons learned and recommendations of the evaluation will contribute to GEF's continued and focused support of drylands in an integrated way through GEF's strategies in GEF-8 and beyond, in line with countries priorities and the international ambition expressed under the relevant MEAs. Work in dryland countries will remain at the core of the Land Degradation Focal Area strategy and increasing synergies with other GEF focal areas as well as the strategies under the LDCF and SCCF. Progress on all recommendations will be tracked through the IEO's standard Management Action Record.

⁸³ GEF, 2024, [*Management response to the EIO Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation: GEF support to Drylands Countries*](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/14.

The GEF Secretariat will also mainstream the findings and recommendations of this evaluation into the preparation of the Land Degradation Focal Area Strategy for the GEF-9 replenishment negotiations.

Evaluation of Community Based Approaches at the GEF, January 2024⁸⁴

152. Community-based approaches (CBAs) involve communities and people in projects with both social and environmental objectives, giving voice and decision-making authority to project stakeholders, making them active participants rather than passive targets. The evaluation assessed whether CBAs are present in GEF projects and programs, their characteristics, and how these approaches influence the effectiveness and sustainability of GEF interventions to provide evidenced-based lessons on their best use. The evaluation portfolio of 190 projects applying a community-based approach from GEF-4 through GEF-7 amounted to \$1.02 billion in GEF funding, covering GEF-4 to GEF-7. The evaluation portfolio included projects from the biodiversity, climate change adaptation and land degradation focal areas as well as multifocal area projects with components from these focal areas. Biodiversity projects comprised the second largest share in the portfolio by number of projects (22 percent) and had a greater share of the evaluation portfolio relative to its representation in the overall GEF portfolio for the same time period.

153. The evaluation stated that CBAs are relevant for the GEF as reflected in their presence in the multilateral environmental agreements; GEF projects, programs, and policies; and national priorities. Although the approach is not mandated in the GEF, there is language that reflects key dimensions of CBAs (including active participation in project design and implementation) in the conventions the GEF serves, especially the UNCCD, the CBD, and the UNFCCC. Consistent with convention guidance, GEF focal area strategies—especially those for biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change adaptation—contain references to key CBA concepts, and in some instances directly reference the application of CBAs.

154. The evaluation found that GEF CBA projects were associated with better performance ratings. Projects that adopt a community-based approach are associated with higher outcome ratings than the overall GEF portfolio. CBA projects are also associated with more frequent achievement of improved environmental conditions—such as improved land management, land restoration, carbon sequestration, reduction of wildlife poaching and illegal logging, endangered species protection, and water quality improvement—as well as broader adoption and socioeconomic co-benefits related to resilience, livelihoods improvement, poverty reduction, governance, and empowerment.

155. The sustainability of CBA project outcomes post completion was frequently associated with behavior change, and to some extent alternative livelihoods. Livelihoods activities were more likely to continue past project close if the activity was relevant for the local context; linked to local markets; and received continued support from the private sector, civil society, or another

⁸⁴ <https://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/documents/council-documents/c-66-e-02.pdf>

project. The processes associated with CBAs are best supported with continued engagement to ensure that targeted environmental and socioeconomic co-benefits are sustained.

156. The evaluation found that GEF CBA projects are in partial alignment with good practice, with some improvements in recently designed projects relative to older projects. Only a minority of the CBA projects identified are considered to be “comprehensive,” with above-average ratings along the six dimensions of good practice identified by the evaluation. Areas of improvement include going beyond consultations to actively involving communities in decision-making, incorporation of local institutions and customs, ensuring the accountability of implementers to users, and recognition of human rights and equality. The devolution of financial and technical resources to communities—an important aspect of CBAs—has declined in recent projects.

157. The GEF project cycle presents some challenges for implementing CBA projects, both in terms of involving local stakeholders in design, and in allowing enough time to see results before project close. The amount of time and resources allocated during project preparation can limit the ability to conduct the outreach, engagement, and analysis that would allow projects to reflect the needs of communities as identified by the communities themselves. The three- to five-year project cycle does not always allow enough time for conducting all these activities before project close.

158. The evaluation made three recommendations: 1) The GEF Secretariat should ensure that co-design of projects with communities is possible under the suite of GEF policies and guidelines, for projects where community partnership is a critical element; 2) : Building on earlier guidance, the GEF Secretariat, together with the GEF STAP, should provide more clarity and guidance on when and how CBAs can be used in GEF projects; 3) The GEF Secretariat should develop an approach for tracking of devolved responsibility and/or financial resources to the local level for GEF projects as appropriate.

159. The GEF Council endorsed GEF Secretariat management responses to these recommendations⁸⁵. The GEF Secretariat welcomed and agreed with the important findings of this evaluation in the context of the early implementation of the GEF-8 Programming Strategy, which places increased focus on social inclusion and a “whole of the society” approach. The GEF Secretariat broadly agreed with the three recommendations and importance of ensuring key stakeholders’ active participation in the design and implementation of GEF financed activities and promoting community-centered approaches for natural resource management. Progress on the three recommendations will be tracked through the IEO’s standard Management Action Record. The GEF Secretariat will also consider the findings and recommendations of the Evaluation in lead up to the GEF-9 replenishment and the associated GEF-9 programming directions and policy agenda.

⁸⁵ GEF, 2024, [*Management response to: Evaluation of Community-Based approaches at the GEF*](#), Council Document GEF/C.66/15.

Evaluation of the Global Wildlife Program (GWP), June 2024⁸⁶

160. The evaluation was undertaken to assess the overall performance and effectiveness of the Global Wildlife Program (GWP). The Program was launched in 2015 to address the supply and demand for illegal wildlife products through a coordinated effort. The evaluation noted how GWP evolved through different phases, starting with the GEF-6 pilot phase, which included 21 projects in 19 countries across Asia and Africa. The pilot phase focused on reducing poaching, preventing trafficking, and reducing demand for illegal wildlife products. The GEF-7 phase expanded to include Latin America and introduced wildlife-based enterprises (WBE) such as ecotourism to empower local communities. The GEF-8 phase evolved into the Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program (WCD IP), addressing broader issues like human-wildlife conflict, zoonotic diseases, and sustainable trade alongside IWT.

161. At the time of the evaluation, the GWP portfolio comprised 39 child projects and has mobilized more than \$1.5 billion in GEF financing, co-financing, and in-kind contributions across three phases aimed at fostering coordination and knowledge exchange among national projects, stakeholders, and partners. Nearly 60 percent of GWP child projects are biodiversity single focal area projects.

162. The evaluation observed that the GWP's knowledge platform has contributed to develop knowledge products and guidance materials while providing technical support and training on relevant and emerging topics that align with its thematic focus and project priorities. It has also worked to improve collaboration with key partners on issues with customs, police, and the judiciary. The evaluation noted that the Program portfolio appropriately focuses on addressing illegal wildlife trade but reducing demand across the illegal wildlife trade supply chain faces challenges. GWP projects also leveraged advanced technologies such as e-CITES, Wildlife Management Information System (W-MIS), and Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) to combat IWT and support biodiversity conservation. Various countries have implemented technologies like drones, camera traps, and AI tools for monitoring and law enforcement to combat IWT.

163. Despite the progress, the evaluation identified challenges related to knowledge management, results monitoring, and coordination. Valuable insights and lessons on the program's additionality are not systematically collected or shared, which is crucial given the dynamic nature of the program. Although financial incentives introduced in the GEF-8 phase have helped maintain anti-IWT actions as a priority, reducing demand for illegally traded wildlife products remains challenging due to political and cultural sensitivities, and the specific nature of child projects. Additionally, the evaluation observed that conflict and fragility, COVID-19 and other zoonotic diseases, insufficient human rights considerations for Indigenous Peoples, and climate change are consistently identified as key risks for GWP projects.

⁸⁶ GEF IEO, 2024, Evaluation of the Global Wildlife Program (GWP); <https://www.gefio.org/sites/default/files/documents/council-documents/C.67-ME-02-Rev.01.pdf>

164. The GEF Council endorsed GEF Secretariat management responses to the evaluation⁸⁷. The GEF Secretariat welcomed the report and was in partial agreement with the findings, conclusions, and recommendations. The GEF Secretariat welcomed the findings that the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) has grown and evolved both “thematically and geographically to address the global complexity of illegal wildlife trade (IWT),” and other drivers of wildlife loss. The Secretariat also welcomed the observations that “the multifaceted approach reflected in the GEF-8 design of the WCD-IP reflects a growing recognition of the interconnected challenges in wildlife conservation,” such as ongoing efforts and innovations to address consumer demand, including the mainstreaming and application of innovative behavior change and social science methodologies to be mainstreamed throughout the GEF-8 wildlife program. Furthermore, the GEF Secretariat is pleased that the Evaluation highlights the progress GWP has made in supporting coordination knowledge exchange, and learning among national child projects, stakeholders, and partners. The Evaluation notes that GWP global coordination project continues to develop knowledge products and guidance materials while providing essential technical support and training on critical topics that align with its thematic focus and national child project priorities. It has also improved collaboration and mainstreaming of wildlife with customs, police, and the judiciary. The Program has adapted and addressed challenges by implementing practical solutions. Finally, the Secretariat values that the Evaluation highlights the creative and timely adaptive management, resilience, and responsiveness of the GWP global coordination and national child projects to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The human health, economic and logistical impacts of this global shock were felt throughout the GWP partnership, and the GEF-8 WCD IP design reflects the interconnectedness of human-wildlife-ecosystem health, the need for increased diversification of livelihoods, and the important role of the global coordination project as a flexible and durable platform to connect and support country projects for increased and sustained impact. These strengths are not only demonstrated through the consistent satisfactory ratings of GWP national child projects and continued contribution and achievement to GEF core indicator targets but also in the constant innovation, strong and prolific network, and leadership of GWP globally. Progress on the recommendations will be tracked through the IEO’s standard Management Action Record.

⁸⁷ GEF, 2024, [Management Response to: Evaluation of the Global Wildlife Program](#), Council Document GEF/C.67/08.

ANNEX 1: LIST OF GEF-7 BIODIVERSITY AND MULTI FOCAL AREA PROJECTS APPROVED FROM JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 30, 2022

This table lists all the projects approved during the last 6 months of GEF-7 from January 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022. During that time, a total of \$135.5 million resources from the BD focal area were allocated to 57 BDFA projects. In addition, a total of \$9.63 million resources from the BDFA were used in 6 MFA projects.

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11041	Transforming policy and investment through mainstreaming rapid approaches for natural capital assessment and accounting	GEF - 7	IADB	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	2.17	87.80	89.97
11039	Technical Support for the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support project	GEF - 7	UNEP	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	1.64	-	1.64
11037	Developing the potential of <i>Thalassia testudinum</i> in the health sector in Cuba in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol and Biodiversity Conservation	GEF - 7	UNDP	Cuba	Biodiversity	MSP	1.00	1.20	2.20
11036	Technical Support for the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support project	GEF - 7	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	1.70	-	1.70
11035	Promoting Beneficiation and Value Addition from Genetic Resources through Enhanced Capacity for Research and Development and the Protection of Traditional Knowledge in Botswana	GEF - 7	UNDP	Botswana	Biodiversity	MSP	1.88	10.17	12.04
11034	Environmental routes to incorporate communities in good conservation practices and nature-based businesses that promote human development in ecosystems of high environmental and social vulnerability in the Regional Corridor El Palmar – Tariquia	GEF - 7	CAF	Bolivia	Biodiversity	MSP	2.08	14.57	16.64
11032	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Global 10)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	1.80	-	1.80
11031	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Global 9)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11030	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Asia Pacific 8)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11029	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Asia Pacific 7)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11028	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Global 6)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11027	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Arab States 5)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11026	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (LAC-4)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11025	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (LAC 3)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11024	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (LAC-2)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11023	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (LAC 1)	GEF - 7	UNDP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
11022	Support to the scientific panel for the Amazon	GEF - 7	World Bank	Regional	Biodiversity	MSP	2.00	7.25	9.25
11020	Global Biodiversity Data and Analytics	GEF - 7	World Bank	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	1.97	11.00	12.97
11019	Effective Management of Mchinji Ecosystems for Restoration of Upper Bua River Catchment	GEF - 7	UNEP	Malawi	Biodiversity	MSP	1.06	8.20	9.26
11018	Strengthening of Biosphere Reserves of Ecuador, as a Strategy for Conservation and Sustainable Development	GEF - 7	UNDP	Ecuador	Biodiversity	MSP	2.00	11.24	13.24
11016	Conservation and Sustainable Management of the Dry Forest Landscape	GEF - 7	IADB	Guatemala	Biodiversity	MSP	1.12	4.95	6.07
11014	Enduring Earth: Accelerating Sustainable Finance Solutions to Achieve Durable Conservation	GEF - 7	WWF-US	Regional	Biodiversity	FSP	25.00	98.96	123.96
11007	Strengthening the Sustainable and inclusive management of the marine protected area of Grand-Bereby, recognized as particularly important for the conservation of biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire	GEF - 7	UNEP	Cote d'Ivoire	Biodiversity	MSP	1.48	10.00	11.48
10991	Promoting the safe application of biotechnology through Multi country Cooperation in the implementation of National Biosafety Frameworks in Asia	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	MSP	1.25	5.15	6.40
10990	Conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of a lowland forest mosaic landscape in Ogun, Edo, Delta and Ondo States	GEF - 7	FAO	Nigeria	Biodiversity	FSP	4.00	33.53	37.53
10984	Implementation of National Biosecurity Framework of Ethiopia	GEF - 7	UNEP	Ethiopia	Biodiversity	MSP	2.04	4.00	6.04
10982	Biosecurity Implementation Framework for the Management of Biological Resources in Moldova	GEF - 7	UNEP	Moldova	Biodiversity	MSP	1.01	1.40	2.41
10981	Implementation and institutionalization of a National Monitoring and Management Frameworks for Living Modified Organisms and Invasive Alien Species	GEF - 7	UNEP	Cameroon	Multi Focal Area	MSP	1.60	6.83	8.43
10979	Integration of Natural Capital Accounting Into Lesotho's Policy And Decision Making For Sustainable Development	GEF - 7	UNEP	Lesotho	Biodiversity	MSP	1.40	3.40	4.80
10971	Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in the Caroni river basin of Bolivar state	GEF - 7	FAO	Venezuela	Biodiversity	FSP	9.82	52.59	62.41
10966	Unlocking a sustainable and an inclusive Wildlife Economy potential in Tsholotsho District of the Hwange-Kazuma Landscape in Zimbabwe	GEF - 7	UNEP	Zimbabwe	Biodiversity	MSP	0.55	2.57	3.12
10952	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (AFRICA 5)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
10951	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (ASIA-PACIFIC 1)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10950	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (ASIA-PACIFIC 2)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10948	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (GLOBAL 2)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10947	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (AFRICA 2)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10946	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (AFRICA 3)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10945	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (AFRICA 4)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10944	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (Central and Eastern Europe)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	1.80	-	1.80
10943	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (GLOBAL 1)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10942	Reducing the threats to endangered reptiles from habitat loss and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) through enhanced biodiversity governance and strengthened bio-security in Barbados	GEF - 7	UNEP	Barbados	Biodiversity	MSP	1.00	5.29	6.29
10941	Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support (AFRICA 1)	GEF - 7	UNEP	Regional	Biodiversity	EA	2.10	-	2.10
10930	Business Action and Advocacy for the Planet	GEF - 7	CI	Global	Multi Focal Area	MSP	2.21	3.95	6.16
10928	Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Coastal Development and Planning for Sustainable Tourism Development	GEF - 7	UNDP	Albania	Biodiversity	MSP	1.11	9.50	10.61
10923	The Systems Change Lab (SCL): Accelerating Transformational Change Needed to Safeguard the Global Commons for All	GEF - 7	CI	Global	Multi Focal Area	MSP	2.23	3.93	6.16
10921	Enhancing Political Will for Sustainable Protected Areas Financing	GEF - 7	UNEP	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	2.24	6.73	8.97
10920	Policy Coherence for Global Environmental Benefits	GEF - 7	UNEP	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	2.24	2.22	4.46
10916	National Planning for an Inclusive and Effective Conservation Approach to Reaching Global Biodiversity Framework Target 3	GEF - 7	WWF-US	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	2.23	0.34	2.58
10913	Protection of biodiversity and sustainable land-use in conservation landscapes in South Sulawesi, Gorontalo and East Nusa Tenggara	GEF - 7	UNEP	Indonesia	Multi Focal Area	FSP	8.40	38.93	47.33
10912	Developing the national ABS legal, policy and institutional framework in Jamaica to effectively implement the Nagoya Protocol	GEF - 7	UNDP	Jamaica	Biodiversity	MSP	0.91	2.80	3.71
10911	Cerrado standing with income generation: the baru production chain as an ally of biodiversity and traditional peoples	GEF - 7	Funbio	Brazil	Biodiversity	MSP	2.05	4.53	6.58
10907	Facilitating biodiversity conservation by enhancing aquaculture policy, planning, management, and production	GEF - 7	UNEP	Palau	Biodiversity	MSP	1.66	8.37	10.04

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
10906	Mainstreaming Marine and Coastal Natural Capital Assessment and Accounting into Viet Nam's Development Planning for Blue Economic Growth of Key Sectors	GEF - 7	UNEP	Viet Nam	Biodiversity	MSP	1.55	12.65	14.20
10905	Supporting the Operation and Effective Performance Management of the Aqaba Marine Reserve, Jordan	GEF - 7	IUCN	Jordan	Biodiversity	MSP	0.75	5.50	6.25
10897	Knowledge-4-Nature: Provisioning the biodiversity data behind global goals for nature	GEF - 7	IUCN	Global	Biodiversity	MSP	2.00	9.35	11.35
10874	Conserving Biodiversity and Restoring Ecosystem Functions in and around the Day Forest National Protected Area	GEF - 7	UNDP	Djibouti	Multi Focal Area	FSP	3.72	10.06	13.78
10840	Strengthening access and benefit-sharing (ABS) policies and institutional frameworks through demonstrable models in Saint Lucia	GEF - 7	UNEP	St. Lucia	Biodiversity	MSP	1.80	5.64	7.44
10815	Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Belize's Maya Golden Landscape	GEF - 7	FAO	Belize	Biodiversity	MSP	1.64	2.80	4.45
10812	Support to the Development of Legal and Institutional Frameworks on Access to Genetic Resources and related Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge in line with the CBD and its Nagoya Protocol in Venezuela	GEF - 7	UNEP	Venezuela	Biodiversity	MSP	2.00	14.00	16.00
10808	Improving the management and protection of marine biodiversity in the Gulf of Guacanayabo, Cuba	GEF - 7	FAO	Cuba	Biodiversity	MSP	1.50	6.98	8.48
10773	Mainstreaming of Biosafety and Institutional Capacity Building to strengthen effective implementation of Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	GEF - 7	UNEP	India	Biodiversity	MSP	2.24	6.70	8.94
10649	Living in harmony with nature: Connecting biodiversity with production systems in the Gualaca Altitudinal Corridor Landscape.	GEF - 7	CAF	Panama	Biodiversity	MSP	2.00	12.53	14.53
10589	Lake Naivasha Basin Ecosystem Based Management	GEF - 7	WWF-US	Kenya	Multi Focal Area	MSP	2.00	10.53	12.53

ANNEX 2: LIST OF GEF-8 BIODIVERSITY AND MULTI FOCAL AREA PROJECTS APPROVED FROM JULY 1, 2022 TO JUNE 30, 2024

This table lists all the projects approved during the first 2 years of GEF-8 from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2024. During that time, a total of \$296.47 million resources from the BD focal area were allocated to 22 BDFA projects. In addition, a total of \$1,027.52 million resources from the BDFA were used in 209 MFA projects (including 179 child projects under 18 IPs and Programs). There were 22 GBFF projects and PPGs approved during this period, totaling \$40.5 million in financing.

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
	GBFF Projects								
11642	Support for the development of protected areas for the conservation of biodiversity	GEF - 8	UNDP	Senegal	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11640	Strengthening the protected area system in Angola through innovation and capacity development	GEF - 8	UNDP	Angola	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.16	-	0.16
11638	Enhancing co-benefits of conservation/protected area management through an inclusive wildlife-based ecotourism strategy (ECOTOURISM)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Indonesia	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.22	-	0.22
11636	Sustainable Management and Restoration of Threatened Ecological Corridors in Kenya	GEF - 8	World Bank	Kenya	Biodiversity	GBFF	-	-	-
11626	Effective protection of Mozambique's Miombo woodlands and marine hotspot conservation areas enhancing global coping mechanisms to climate change	GEF - 8	CI	Mozambique	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.16	-	0.16
11616	Restoring Forest Ecosystem Functions Through Community-Based Management in the Royal Botanic Garden of Jordan	GEF - 8	UNDP	Jordan	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11612	Empowering Indigenous Peoples for Sustainable Development: Inclusive Biodiversity Management through a Social and Solidarity Economy Approach	GEF - 8	UNDP	Suriname	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11609	Strengthening transboundary conserved area management of the Sangha Tri-National (TNS)	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Regional	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.22	-	0.22
11606	Responding to Pacific priorities for ecosystem management and NBSAP implementation through strengthening capacities for effective planning and monitoring of ecosystems	GEF - 8	UNDP	Regional	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.16	-	0.16
11604	Advancing ABS implementation in Cambodia	GEF - 8	UNDP	Cambodia	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11600	Philippines Biodiversity Financing Program	GEF - 8	UNDP	Philippines	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.16	-	0.16

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11598	Support for the development of a national policy, institutional and monitoring framework to effectively implement the Nagoya Protocol in Belize	GEF - 8	UNDP	Belize	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11595	Delivering Target 3 at the regional scale in Peru: Applying the ecosystem approach in the Northern Transversal Economic Corridor of Peru (Northern TEC)	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Peru	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.33	-	0.33
11590	Community-based conservation for biodiversity and livelihoods in the context of climate change in DRC	GEF - 8	FAO	Congo DR	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.16	-	0.16
11589	Strengthening Globally Significant Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines through Local Community Empowerment	GEF - 8	ADB	Philippines	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.10	-	0.10
11588	Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature – Leveraging Durable Financing Mechanisms for Mega Living Landscapes (MLL) to achieve Target 3 in South Africa	GEF - 8	WWF-US	South Africa	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.16	-	0.16
11583	Scaling up biodiversity-positive and culturally inclusive agrifood and agritourism systems in Palau	GEF - 8	FAO	Palau	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11582	Advancing integrated participatory spatial planning to enhance Samoa's globally significant biodiversity at a national scale	GEF - 8	FAO	Samoa	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.05	-	0.05
11512	Addressing Outstanding Barriers and Leveraging Durable Financial Mechanisms to Achieve Target 3 in Gabon	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Gabon	Biodiversity	GBFF	0.03	-	0.03
11510	Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican biodiversity through communities and their protected areas	GEF - 8	CI	Mexico	Biodiversity	GBFF	18.50	116.17	134.67
11509	Caatinga Protected Areas Program - ARCA	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Brazil	Biodiversity	GBFF	9.88	-	9.88
11508	Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands	GEF - 8	Funbio	Brazil	Biodiversity	GBFF	9.88	17.70	27.58
11287	Sustainable Cities Integrated Program	GEF - 8	World Bank	Global	Multi Focal Area	PFD			
11345	Reshaping Algeria's Cities for a Clean and Healthy Environment Today and Tomorrow (REACT)	GEF - 8	FAO	Algeria	Multi Area	Child FSP	3.33	100.00	103.33
11344	UPRISE Zimbabwe: Urban and Peri-urban Resilience through Investment for Sustainable Ecosystems in Zimbabwe	GEF - 8	FAO	Zimbabwe	Multi Area	Child FSP	4.00	14.00	18.00
11343	Decarbonisation and sustainable cities for a net-zero future in Malaysia	GEF - 8	UNIDO	Malaysia	Multi Area	Child FSP	4.95	15.23	20.18

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11342	The Sustainable City Project for Coordinated Development of the Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei Region	GEF - 8	UNIDO	China	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	12.80	120.00	132.80
11341	Establishing the basis for clean, healthy and resilient cities through an integrated and smart approach in Madagascar	GEF - 8	UNIDO	Madagascar	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	11.56	54.16	65.71
11339	Enhancing Nature-based Solutions and Green Infrastructure networks to promote biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation in urban and peri-urban areas in Chile	GEF - 8	FAO	Chile	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	33.30	38.63
11307	Strengthening Urban Resilience and Electricity Services	GEF - 8	World Bank	Congo	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.20	75.00	82.20
11301	Green cities transformation – smart, sustainable and low-carbon urban solutions in triangular metropolitan area	GEF - 8	UNDP	Serbia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.92	133.60	141.52
11300	Global Program - Sustainable Cities Integrated Program	GEF - 8	World Bank	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	19.53	19.53	39.06
11299	Green and Resilient Cities	GEF - 8	UNDP	Philippines	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	92.90	106.23
11298	Promoting Nature Positive, resilient and inclusive cities in Lima-Callao, Huancayo and Ica	GEF - 8	IUCN	Peru	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	109.46	122.79
11297	Green and Inclusive Cities in Mongolia	GEF - 8	UNDP	Mongolia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.13	70.00	78.13
11296	Supporting the shift towards Integrated, Low-Carbon and Nature-Positive Neighborhoods in Nairobi	GEF - 8	UNEP	Kenya	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.20	35.70	40.90
11294	The South African Sustainable Cities Planning and Decarbonisation Integrated Programme	GEF - 8	DBSA	South Africa	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	18.00	26.00
11293	Towards resilient cities in Guatemala: addressing biodiversity loss and recovery through integrated urban planning and development	GEF - 8	IUCN	Guatemala	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.39	35.08	39.47
11292	Integrated governance and urban transformation for a sustainable “Grand Libreville”	GEF - 8	UNDP	Gabon	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.04	127.80	136.84
11291	A Sustainable, Green, Blue, and Digital Havana	GEF - 8	UNDP	Cuba	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.67	32.50	41.17
11290	Climate Smart Sustainable Cities	GEF - 8	UNEP	Sri Lanka	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	12.90	18.23
11289	The Greater Nokoue Greening Program (GNGP)	GEF - 8	BOAD	Benin	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	166.00	174.00

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11288	Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Program	GEF - 8	World Bank	Belize	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.10	7.73	11.83
11455	Transformation Approach to Large Scale Investment in Support of the Implementation of the Great Green Wall Initiative- TALSISI-GGWI	GEF - 8	UNEP	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11463	Strengthening the resilience of populations and agrosilvopastoral ecosystems through the conservation of biodiversity and the development of value chains in the intervention communes of the Great Green Wall in Niger (SREPABIV)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Niger	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	11.38	722.84	734.22
11462	Project for Landscape Restauration and Integrated management of ecosystem in St Louis Region of Senegal – ProLaRIME	GEF - 8	UNEP	Senegal	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.00	28.17	33.17
11461	Integrated Dryland Ecosystem Rehabilitation, Regeneration and Conservation (IDERRCN) to Support the Great Green Wall Initiative in Kebbi State in Nigeria.	GEF - 8	UNEP	Nigeria	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.41	1,400.00	1,403.41
11460	Restauration of an ecological corridor for forest biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services to support implementation of the Great Green Wall in The Gambia (RECOSERV Gambia)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Gambia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.99	46.20	54.18
11458	Scaling up integrated landscape re-Greening and livelihood diversification best practices along the Great Green Wall belt of Ethiopia (SILAGLID)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Ethiopia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.00	37.00	42.00
11524	Integrated Management of Seascapes of the Kazakhstani part of the Caspian Sea and Land Resources of Adjacent Territories	GEF - 8	UNDP	Kazakhstan	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	8.18	50.99	59.17
11523	Safeguarding the future of Namibia's Protected Area Network through Financing4Future	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Namibia	Biodiversity		FSP	6.91	37.83	44.74
11490	Ecosystem restoration in seven national protected areas of Argentina	GEF - 8	CAF	Argentina	Biodiversity		FSP	7.00	43.88	50.87
11478	CoHABITAT – Conservation and sustainable management of wetlands, forest and grasslands to secure the population of Migratory species along Central Asian Flyway in India	GEF - 8	UNDP	India	Biodiversity		FSP	12.00	73.10	85.10
11448	Conservation, development and livelihoods for thriving people and nature	GEF - 8	UNDP	South Africa	Biodiversity		FSP	5.00	35.27	40.27
11429	Blueing the Caspian Sea	GEF - 8	World Bank	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	13.00	53.00	66.00

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11423	Enhancing the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to meet India's commitment to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets by 2030	GEF - 8	UNDP	India	Biodiversity		FSP	7.50	56.00	63.50
11414	Conserving terrestrial and marine biodiversity and restoring ecosystem services in globally relevant and vulnerable sites in Somalia	GEF - 8	UNDP	Somalia	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	13.90	6.50	20.40
11408	Integrated Conservation and Sustainable Development in Socotra Archipelago and Aden Wetlands, Yemen	GEF - 8	UNEP	Yemen	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	5.00	5.00	10.00
11335	Introducing Nature Based Solutions to Ensure Resilient Ecosystems, Green Recovery and Sustainable Livelihoods	GEF - 8	UNDP	Bosnia-Herzegovina	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	5.46	40.15	45.61
11333	Integrated landscape management in the Napo River Basin for sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation.	GEF - 8	UNDP	Ecuador	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	10.00	51.64	61.64
11323	Indonesia Coral Bond	GEF - 8	World Bank	Indonesia	Biodiversity		FSP	15.00	156.10	171.10
11179	Restoration and sustainable forest management of the Algerian Aleppo pine forest, ecosystem	GEF - 8	UNDP	Algeria	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	4.00	24.00	28.00
11495	Strengthening Conservation of Primary Forests through Partnership Enhancement and Coordination of Support	GEF - 8	IUCN	Global	Multi Area	Focal	MSP	2.22	1.26	3.48
11424	Support and build a more Sustainable Blue Economy in Aqaba through Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and effective management of the first marine reserve in the country.	GEF - 8	UNDP	Jordan	Biodiversity		MSP	2.00	20.00	22.00
11386	Acción Páramos: conservation, restoration and sustainable use of the páramos in Ecuador	GEF - 8	UNEP	Ecuador	Biodiversity		FSP	5.00	25.19	30.19
11449	Strengthening the System of Protected Areas and Improvement of its Financial Sustainability	GEF - 8	CI	Paraguay	Biodiversity		FSP	5.70	12.25	17.95
11435	Improving wetlands management for biodiversity and improved human-wildlife coexistence.	GEF - 8	CI	Timor Leste	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	3.04	12.01	15.05
11432	BioSouth: The Pacific-Andean-Amazonian Ecological and Cultural Connectivity Corridor	GEF - 8	UNDP	Colombia	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	15.30	69.06	84.36
11426	Restoration and Preservation of Key Biodiversity Areas and Ecosystems in Anbar Province, Iraq.	GEF - 8	UNDP	Iraq	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	6.43	45.90	52.33
11422	Lake Ecosystem Restoration in Indonesia through Integrated Governance, Landscape, and Community-based Approaches.	GEF - 8	IFAD	Indonesia	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	8.00	35.00	43.00

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11398	Tajikistan Ecosystem Restoration and Resilient Agriculture (TERRA) Project	GEF - 8	IFAD	Tajikistan	Multi Focal Area	FSP	9.00	11.98	20.98
11396	Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia	GEF - 8	World Bank	Zambia	Multi Focal Area	FSP	11.31	87.20	98.51
11395	Enhancing biodiversity conservation and reducing climate vulnerability in Central Vietnam for sustainable development utilizing a landscape approach	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Viet Nam	Multi Focal Area	FSP	10.03	73.00	83.03
11394	Inclusive Conservation, Restoration, and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Priority Ecoregions	GEF - 8	UNDP	Argentina	Biodiversity	FSP	6.00	39.20	45.20
11347	Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature - Mega Living Landscapes Project	GEF - 8	WWF-US	South Africa	Biodiversity	FSP	10.00	55.08	65.08
11346	Restoring Ecological Integrity of Protected Areas of Galapagos, through Strengthening Capacities for Translocations of Birds and Snakes	GEF - 8	CAF	Ecuador	Biodiversity	MSP	2.00	14.00	16.00
11331	Restoration and sustainable management of Land for improved livelihoods in the degraded landscapes of Free State and Northwest Provinces of South Africa	GEF - 8	IUCN	South Africa	Multi Focal Area	FSP	6.05	21.79	27.84
11327	Living Amazon Mechanism	GEF - 8	Funbio	Brazil	Biodiversity	FSP	6.89	46.60	53.49
11324	Innovative use of financial instruments for Biodiversity Conservation and Restoration in Latin America and the Caribbean	GEF - 8	IADB	Regional	Biodiversity	FSP	43.80	641.28	685.08
11304	Enhancing transboundary fisheries management in the Lower Mekong Basin	GEF - 8	IUCN	Regional	Multi Focal Area	FSP	12.00	77.60	89.60
11286	Umbrella Programme to Support NBSAP Update and the 7th National Reports	GEF - 8	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	38.80	-	38.80
11285	Eighth Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme (Part 1)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Global	Multi Focal Area	FSP	137.54	126.19	263.73
11282	Mainstreaming Climate-Resilient Blue Economy in the BCLME Region (BCLME IV Project)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Regional	Multi Focal Area	FSP	11.65	25.00	36.65
11281	Umbrella Programme to Support NBSAP Update and the 7th National Reports	GEF - 8	UNEP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	39.71	-	39.71
11269	Empowering Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) to manage biodiversity data and information as a strategy to conserve their territories, safeguard traditional knowledge, and promote integrated biodiversity management	GEF - 8	UNEP	Brazil	Biodiversity	FSP	7.00	49.45	56.45
11268	Biodiversity Wildlife Territories	GEF - 8	Funbio	Brazil	Biodiversity	FSP	18.50	51.00	69.50
11249	Ecosystem restoration and sustainable livelihoods in the Biocultural Corridor of the Central West of Mexico (COBIOCOM)	GEF - 8	FAO	Mexico	Multi Focal Area	FSP	10.00	51.16	61.16

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name	Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11213	Generating opportunities for livelihoods and biodiversity through participatory governance of natural resources and the economic diversification of the communities of the central forest corridor of Honduras	GEF - 8	FAO	Honduras	Multi Focal Area	FSP	6.00	39.90	45.90
11212	Resilient communities, land restoration and sustainable ecosystem management	GEF - 8	FAO	Zambia	Multi Focal Area	FSP	13.20	91.20	104.40
11210	Sustainable Wool and Mohair Value chain Competitiveness project (WaMCoP)	GEF - 8	IFAD	Lesotho	Multi Focal Area	FSP	6.00	67.44	73.44
11209	Strengthening ecological connectivity in natural and productive landscapes between the Amistad and Darien biomes	GEF - 8	UNDP	Panama	Multi Focal Area	FSP	7.43	42.80	50.23
11208	Strengthening inter-institutional coordination for the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation in national, regional and local public policies in Chile	GEF - 8	FAO	Chile	Biodiversity	FSP	4.30	25.68	29.98
11167	Restoration of Wetlands and other important Amazonian Ecosystems - Capacity-building, innovation, development and technological transfer for ecological restoration and climate change mitigation	GEF - 8	FAO	Brazil	Multi Focal Area	FSP	5.64	40.91	46.55
11141	Transforming Policy and Investment through Improving Ecosystem Management and Restoration of Degraded Drylands of Dedoplistskaro Biosphere Reserve in Georgia to Generate Multiple Environmental and Socio-Economic Benefits	GEF - 8	UNEP	Georgia	Multi Focal Area	FSP	4.00	24.88	28.88
11140	Land Restoration and Ecosystem Service Improvement through Use of Fruit and Nut Tree Biodiversity in Armenia	GEF - 8	UNEP	Armenia	Multi Focal Area	MSP	2.21	5.00	7.21
11117	Community-based Wildfire Risk Management in Lebanon's Vulnerable Landscapes	GEF - 8	World Bank	Lebanon	Multi Focal Area	FSP	3.79	126.00	129.79
11116	Promoting sustainable economic benefits through the conservation of critical biodiversity and ecosystem services in the Eastern Coastal Region of Sri Lanka	GEF - 8	UNDP	Sri Lanka	Multi Focal Area	FSP	5.10	26.50	31.60
11115	Strengthening management to combat threats from Aquatic Invasive Alien Species in Venezuela	GEF - 8	FAO	Venezuela	Biodiversity	FSP	6.73	35.94	42.67
11114	Rehabilitating and conserving the mountain landscapes in Khangai region of Mongolia for improved ecosystem services and community livelihoods	GEF - 8	FAO	Mongolia	Multi Focal Area	FSP	3.00	25.00	28.00
11056	Support the urgent UN-brokered SAFER Salvage Operation to prevent an environmental, humanitarian and economic oil spill disaster in the southern Red Sea	GEF - 8	UNDP	Yemen	Biodiversity	FSP	5.00	55.50	60.50
11054	Umbrella Programme to Support Development of Biodiversity Finance Plans	GEF - 8	UNDP	Global	Biodiversity	EA	41.63	-	41.63
11052	Conservation of the Atlantic Forest through the sustainable management of cocoa agroforestry landscapes	GEF - 8	FAO	Brazil	Multi Focal Area	FSP	5.31	52.81	58.12

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11046	RESILAND: ARMENIA RESILIENT LANDSCAPES PROJECT	GEF - 8	World Bank	Armenia	Multi Area	Focal	FSP	6.03	30.47	36.49
11467	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11473	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development: Global Platform	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.60	9.52	19.12
11472	Preserving Suriname's Immense Marine and Coastal Biodiversity through Greening Infrastructure Development	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Suriname	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.67	6.57	9.24
11471	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development in the Philippines (GRID-PHI)	GEF - 8	ADB	Philippines	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	254.13	258.13
11470	Greening Transportation Infrastructure Development in Nepal: Terai Arc Landscape Case	GEF - 8	ADB	Nepal	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.04	100.50	104.54
11469	Transforming Malaysia's Port Infrastructure Development through a Nature-Centric Approach for Biodiversity Conservation and Land Degradation Control	GEF - 8	UNEP	Malaysia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.87	27.07	30.93
11468	Integrating Biodiversity Conservation into Upstream Planning of Linear Transport Infrastructure in Ukraine	GEF - 8	UNEP	Ukraine	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.67	11.13	13.80
11391	Guinean Forests (GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program) Addendum (February 2024)	GEF - 8	CI	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11393	Promoting and Strengthening Restoration and Conservation of Cantanhez Primary Forests in Guinea Bissau	GEF - 8	IUCN	Guinea-Bissau	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	20.00	26.67
11392	Strengthening conservation and resilience of forest landscapes in the sub-humid mountainous zone of Togo	GEF - 8	FAO	Togo	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.68	25.50	30.18
11378	Central Asia Water and Land Nexus (CAWLN) for Ecosystem Restoration, Improved Natural Resource Management and Increased Resilience	GEF - 8	FAO	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11385	Integrated Natural Resources Management for Improved Ecosystem Conservation and Biodiversity Preservation	GEF - 8	FAO	Uzbekistan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.60	20.20	25.80
11384	Catalyzing the Nature-Positive Transformation of the Agricultural Sector in Turkmenistan towards Enhanced Resilience to Climate Change project	GEF - 8	FAO	Turkmenistan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.78	42.41	46.20

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11383	Integrated water resources management for the restoration of agro-woodlands in the Syrdarya River basin project	GEF - 8	FAO	Kyrgyz Republic	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.50	54.99	58.49
11382	Sustainable land management and restoration of degraded lands mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services in the Southern region of Kazakhstan	GEF - 8	FAO	Kazakhstan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.50	54.68	58.18
11214	Food Systems Integrated Program	GEF - 8	FAO	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11376	Promoting Low Carbon and Climate Resilient Livestock Value Chain in Uganda	GEF - 8	IFAD	Uganda	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.33	147.00	156.33
11375	Ghana Sustainable Food System and Forest Management	GEF - 8	World Bank	Ghana	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	15.20	240.00	255.20
11374	Advancing Transformative Agricultural Systems in Grenada through the Promotion of Integrated and Resilient Ecosystem approaches throughout the cocoa value chain (ASPIRE)	GEF - 8	IFAD	Grenada	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	10.00	14.00
11373	Transforming Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in Kazakhstan to Ensure Environmental Sustainability	GEF - 8	FAO	Kazakhstan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.67	-	2.67
11372	Food systems, indigenous peoples and biodiversity	GEF - 8	FAO	Mexico	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.20	28.13	33.33
11371	Circular Integrated Aquaculture-Horticulture Systems for Climate Resilience in Namibia (NamiGreen)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Namibia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.33	51.70	60.03
11370	Sustainable aquaculture in the northern region of Angola	GEF - 8	FAO	Angola	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.91	30.50	34.41
11369	Promoting the mainstreaming of biodiversity and protection of ecosystem services through regenerative and deforestation-free livestock in provinces of Manabí, Pichincha and Morona-Santiago.	GEF - 8	FAO	Ecuador	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.67	4.80	7.47
11368	Transforming Nauru's Food Systems through Climate Smart Agriculture	GEF - 8	UNDP	Nauru	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	24.25	30.92
11367	Sustainable Agriculture and Plantations in Peatland Landscapes in Malaysia (SAPPLIM)	GEF - 8	IFAD	Malaysia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.00	20.50	26.50
11349	Clean and Healthy Ocean Integrated Program (CHO-IP)	GEF - 8	FAO	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11364	Green, blue and healthy investments to reduce land-based pollution affecting marine ecosystems in Madagascar	GEF - 8	UNDP	Madagascar	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.00	32.65	45.65
11362	Nature based solutions to reduce coastal pollution in Peru	GEF - 8	UNDP	Peru	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	11.00	42.00	53.00
11361	BBSEA Moldova WATERWISE (Wetlands and Terrestrial Ecosystem Restoration for Watershed Improvements and Sustainable Environments)	GEF - 8	World Bank	Moldova	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.83	52.50	61.33
11360	Forging Partnerships for the Ocean: Reducing Water Pollution in Mexico through Sustainable Solutions	GEF - 8	UNDP	Mexico	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	15.00	89.75	104.75
11358	Improving Waste Management and Public Awareness for a Clean and Healthy Ocean (Grenada)	GEF - 8	CI	Grenada	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.67	4.48	10.15
11351	Conservation and sustainable development of the Maracaibo Lake basin as a contribution to the improvement of the large marine ecosystem of the Caribbean (Venezuela)	GEF - 8	FAO	Venezuela	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.83	99.50	116.33
11350	Enhancing water management and compliance to address hypoxia caused by nutrients, and other pollutants, into the Gulf of Tonkin (Vietnam)	GEF - 8	FAO	Viet Nam	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.33	45.45	49.78
11337	Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3- Addendum Council Meeting Feb 5, 2024	GEF - 8	World Bank	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11338	Advancing Guyana's Development through Improved Forest Management	GEF - 8	World Bank	Guyana	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	20.80	24.80
11273	Mesoamerica Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program	GEF - 8	IUCN	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11280	Panama Mesoamerica Forest IP Project: Critical Forests Biome of Panama - Collaborative Conservation of the Darién	GEF - 8	FAO	Panama	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.67	20.51	31.17
11279	Nicaragua Mesoamerica Forest IP Project: Protection and conservation of forests of global importance located in the BOSAWAS Biosphere Reserve and the Indio Maíz Biological Reserve	GEF - 8	FAO	Nicaragua	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.03	88.47	101.50
11278	Mesoamerica Critical Forest Biome IP Regional Coordination, Knowledge Sharing and Support Project	GEF - 8	IUCN	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.50	63.63	72.13
11277	El Salvador Mesoamerican Forest IP Project: Promoting forest conservation and integrated water management in Trifinio	GEF - 8	IUCN	El Salvador	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.59	22.00	25.59

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11276	Honduras Mesoamerica Forest IP Project: Conserving the Intact Forests of the Honduran Moskitia	GEF - 8	IUCN	Honduras	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	28.00	32.00
11275	Guatemala Mesoamerican Forest IP Project: Securing benefits for the well-being of local communities and the ecosystems of the Maya Forest	GEF - 8	IUCN	Guatemala	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	12.00	122.81	134.81
11274	Mexico Mesoamerica Forest IP Project: Securing benefits for the well-being of local communities and the ecosystems of the Maya Forest	GEF - 8	IUCN	Mexico	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	92.75	106.08
11250	Blue and Green Island Integrated Programme	GEF - 8	UNDP	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11266	BGI IP Global Coordination Project	GEF - 8	UNDP	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	15.70	59.00	74.70
11265	Restoring and protecting Biodiversity, Coastal Landscapes, and Climate Change Resilience through Nature Based Solutions, Women and Youth Entrepreneurship in Vanuatu	GEF - 8	FAO	Vanuatu	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.45	34.93	39.38
11264	Valuing Nature and Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Blue and Green Pathways for the Tourism, Food and Urban Sectors in Saint Lucia	GEF - 8	UNEP	St. Lucia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.59	7.00	10.59
11263	Coastal Resilience Samoa	GEF - 8	UNDP	Samoa	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.67	30.74	33.40
11262	Accelerating PNG's Sustainable Blue Economy through Strengthened Governance and Investment in Marine Areas.	GEF - 8	UNDP	Papua New Guinea	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	18.60	97.49	116.09
11261	Biodiversity Conservation through Nature-based Solutions as Pillars of the Blue & Green Economy in the Union of Comoros.	GEF - 8	UNDP	Comoros	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.44	75.10	84.54
11260	Micronesia: Tourism Support for Biodiversity Conservation	GEF - 8	IUCN	Micronesia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	6.00	10.00
11259	Trinidad and Tobago – Nature Based Solutions in Productive Landscapes	GEF - 8	FAO	Trinidad and Tobago	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	17.00	21.00
11258	Transforming productivity in Palau's food systems through nature positive innovations	GEF - 8	IUCN	Palau	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	11.70	19.70
11257	Resilient, Bold Belize	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Belize	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	40.79	46.12
11256	Nature-based Solutions for Intersectoral Nature-Positive Development in Timor-Leste	GEF - 8	UNDP	Timor Leste	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.46	55.90	63.36

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11255	Accelerating Cabo Verde's Transition to Blue and Green Economy	GEF - 8	FAO	Cabo Verde	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	11.25	40.00	51.25
11254	Mainstreaming Nature-based Solutions in land-use systems for productive and resilient ecosystems	GEF - 8	FAO	Mauritius	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.38	68.00	77.38
11253	Blue and green development in food and urban sectors of Cuba	GEF - 8	FAO	Cuba	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.33	55.00	64.33
11252	GEF 8: Blue Green Islands Integrated Programme for the Seychelles Child Project	GEF - 8	UNDP	Seychelles	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	11.76	36.24	48.00
11251	Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation in Protected Areas in Maldives	GEF - 8	World Bank	Maldives	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.67	98.90	109.57
11241	Congo Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program	GEF - 8	UNEP	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11248	Amazon Congo Critical Forest Biomes: UNEP's Regional Coordination Project for The Congo Basin Integrated Program (IP)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	22.50	30.50
11247	Developing biodiversity and biocarbon finance financing instruments for conserving forests in Equatorial Guinea through improved livelihoods for Indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Equatorial Guinea	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.67	33.00	37.67
11246	Integrated Community-based Management of High Value Forest Ecosystems in Southwestern Central African Republic, to safeguard globally outstanding biodiversity, carbon stock and ecosystem services from key threats, particularly unsustainable land use pract	GEF - 8	UNEP	Central African Republic	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.13	32.54	41.67
11245	Sustainable Management of the Mayombe, Oubangui and Maï Ndombe tropical forest Landscapes to facilitate conservation of natural resources, local development, food security and climate change mitigation in DRC	GEF - 8	IUCN	Congo DR	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	17.13	175.50	192.63
11243	São Tomé e Príncipe's intact forests - the Obô Natural Parks and their buffer zones: a treasure to conserve and restore.	GEF - 8	IUCN	Sao Tome and Principe	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.29	6.30	13.59
11242	Strengthening governance and ecosystem connectivity for biodiversity conservation and improved livelihoods in the Dja landscape	GEF - 8	UNEP	Cameroon	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	12.00	90.00	102.00
11214	Food Systems Integrated Program	GEF - 8	FAO	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11237	Transforming Agricultural Landscapes in Island Ecosystems and Key Biodiversity Areas towards Sustainable Food Systems and Climate Resilient Communities	GEF - 8	FAO	Philippines	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.66	73.22	83.88
11236	Transformation to sustainable crops, livestock and aquaculture food systems in Nigeria	GEF - 8	FAO	Nigeria	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	61.20	69.20
11235	Participatory Agriculture and Climate Transformation Programme	GEF - 8	IFAD	Ethiopia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.67	78.20	88.87
11234	Increasing the sustainability and resilience of agriculture/food system through nature-based solutions	GEF - 8	FAO	Türkiye	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.40	30.00	35.40
11233	Sustainable, regenerative and resilient rice-based food systems to strengthen community and ecosystem health in three river basins of Sri Lanka ¹	GEF - 8	FAO	Sri Lanka	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	21.00	26.33
11232	Revitalizing and transforming Solomon Islands' food system through sustainable agriculture and livestock production for enhanced environmental and community benefits.	GEF - 8	FAO	Solomon Islands	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	15.50	20.83
11231	Sustainable and regenerative management of rice production in Pakistan	GEF - 8	FAO	Pakistan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.73	30.50	38.23
11230	Food Systems Transformation in Usangu Landscape	GEF - 8	FAO	Tanzania	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.33	85.25	94.58
11229	Sustainable Livestock Production to Support Resilient Food Systems, Environment and Rural Livelihoods in Indonesia	GEF - 8	FAO	Indonesia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.00	150.00	166.00
11228	Transforming Andhra Pradesh aquaculture to a sustainable, reduced footprint and climate resilient food system	GEF - 8	FAO	India	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	14.67	224.20	238.87
11227	Catalyzing sustainable aquaculture systems for South Africa	GEF - 8	FAO	South Africa	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	30.00	35.33
11225	Ecological and Low-Carbon Food Systems in China	GEF - 8	FAO	China	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	20.00	140.00	160.00
11224	Integrated production of rice and secondary crops using an agroecological approach in the Tandjilé province	GEF - 8	UNDP	Chad	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.33	23.00	27.33
11223	Productive and Sustainable Food Systems in Bhutan for Environmental Benefits and Gross National Happiness	GEF - 8	FAO	Bhutan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.67	49.54	60.21
11222	Promoting Nature Positive Food Systems in Burkina Faso	GEF - 8	IUCN	Burkina Faso	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	12.00	65.00	77.00
11221	Regenerative livestock farming to promote sustainable landscapes	GEF - 8	FAO	Peru	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	14.67	100.40	115.07

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11220	Scaling-up regenerative practices for the recovery and improvements of soils, biodiversity, and associated ecosystem services in the Chilean agricultural sector	GEF - 8	FAO	Chile	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	30.12	36.79
11219	Sustainable Livestock in the forest region of the Argentine Parque Chaqueño through Forest Management with Integrated Livestock (MBGI)	GEF - 8	FAO	Argentina	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	35.00	40.33
11218	Child Project Food Systems Integrated Programme	GEF - 8	UNDP	Costa Rica	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.53	31.10	37.63
11217	Sustainable food systems for greater resilience and food & nutrition security in Benin	GEF - 8	FAO	Benin	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	20.00	26.67
11216	Integrated land and water management for food, water and climate security in the dairy food system,	GEF - 8	IFAD	Kenya	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	120.00	128.00
11215	Global Coordination Project	GEF - 8	FAO	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	20.20	200.00	220.20
11198	Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program Phase 3	GEF - 8	World Bank	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11206	Amazon Regional Project – ASL Phase 3	GEF - 8	World Bank	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.50	20.00	30.50
11205	Sustainable and Inclusive Development of West Suriname (SID-WS)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Suriname	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	23.98	29.31
11204	Safeguarding the systems of life of Bolivia's Amazon Forests	GEF - 8	UNDP	Bolivia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	20.80	85.00	105.80
11203	Promoting Integrated Sustainable Management of the Peruvian Amazonian landscape Madre de Dios	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Peru	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	69.63	82.96
11202	Integrated management and ecological connectivity of a priority landscape in the Ecuadorian Amazon headwaters	GEF - 8	CI	Ecuador	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	40.71	46.05
11201	Life Amazon: Forest and biodiversity conservation and community-led sustainable management in the Colombian Amazon	GEF - 8	World Bank	Colombia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	26.67	217.51	244.17
11200	Brazil Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Phase 3 Project	GEF - 8	World Bank	Brazil	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.33	60.00	69.33
11199	Integrated management of sustainable landscapes for the conservation of the forest biome and the maintenance of functional and ecosystem services in the state of Amazonas, Venezuela	GEF - 8	FAO	Venezuela	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	41.00	47.67

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11181	Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution	GEF - 8	UNEP	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11197	Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution: Global Platform	GEF - 8	UNEP	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	17.75	111.89	129.64
11196	Circular solutions to plastic pollution in South Africa	GEF - 8	UNIDO	South Africa	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.67	26.30	33.96
11195	Support the management of plastic pollution in Senegal	GEF - 8	UNDP	Senegal	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.67	30.30	35.97
11194	Circular solutions to plastic pollution in the Philippines	GEF - 8	UNIDO	Philippines	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.33	57.00	66.33
11193	Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution in Nigeria	GEF - 8	UNEP	Nigeria	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	43.00	49.67
11192	Circular solutions to plastic pollution in Morocco	GEF - 8	UNIDO	Morocco	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.00	43.13	50.13
11186	Circular solutions to plastic pollution	GEF - 8	UNDP	Costa Rica	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.03	20.90	24.93
11185	Reducing Single-use Plastics on Small-island Economies (RESPONSE)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Cook Islands	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.00	35.00	42.00
11182	Innovation ecosystem for the circularity of plastics, reduction of consumption, and disposal of single-use plastic in the HORECA sector	GEF - 8	UNEP	Brazil	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.00	37.42	46.42
11148	Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program	GEF - 8	World Bank	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11164	Global Coordination, Monitoring and Learning Platform for Wildlife Conservation for Development Integrated Program	GEF - 8	World Bank	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.02	41.00	57.02
11163	Recovering tiger population and landscape through the sustainable land use and ecosystem restoration	GEF - 8	IUCN	Thailand	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.93	47.00	51.93
11162	Investing in Wildlife Conservation through Enforcement, Livelihoods and Tourism (WildINVEST)	GEF - 8	ADB	Philippines	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	40.00	48.00
11161	The Jaguar Corridor	GEF - 8	UNDP	Colombia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.33	27.43	36.76

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11160	Law Enforcement for Sustainable Viable Ecosystems and Biodiversity Resilience through Multi Sectors Engagement (LEVERAGE)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Indonesia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.00	50.00	66.00
11159	Kidepo Landscape Integrated Conservation and Development Project (KLICDP)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Uganda	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.00	19.05	23.05
11158	Conserving the Paraguayan Chaco for the benefit of jaguars and for people	GEF - 8	CI	Paraguay	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.88	12.49	15.37
11157	Managing the Human Tiger Interface In Nepal	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Nepal	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.07	9.58	14.65
11156	From conflict to coexistence, safeguarding wildlife corridors in Mexico for sustainable development	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Mexico	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	33.33	46.66
11155	Protection of wildlife in the Folonigbè reserve through participatory and integrated management	GEF - 8	UNDP	Guinea	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.55	24.60	34.15
11154	Securing the species, habitat, health, and livelihoods of the Lower Kafue Ecosystem	GEF - 8	WWF-US	Zambia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	18.34	25.01
11153	Advancing human-wildlife conflict management effectiveness in Kenya through an integrated approach	GEF - 8	CI	Kenya	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.67	16.97	27.64
11152	Promoting Integrated Conservation of Wildlife and Landscapes for Sustainable Development of Ethiopia	GEF - 8	UNDP	Ethiopia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	52.00	65.33
11151	Establishment of Big 5 Nature Reserve	GEF - 8	UNDP	Eswatini	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.87	40.40	46.27
11150	Transforming wildlife conservation and livelihoods at the landscape scale in Mozambique (TRANSFORM)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Mozambique	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.80	277.81	294.61
11149	Central Region Protected Areas and Landscapes Project	GEF - 8	World Bank	Malawi	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.87	182.10	189.97
11142	Guinean Forests (GEF-8 Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes Integrated Program)	GEF - 8	CI	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11147	Guinean Forests Regional Coordination and Learning Project	GEF - 8	CI	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.00	0.94	7.94
11146	Strengthening restoration and conservation of the ecological corridor of Mount Nimba (Bossou) and Ziam National Park in Guinea	GEF - 8	IUCN	Guinea	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.83	15.30	21.13

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11144	Strengthening conservation and effective governance of Liberia's critical forests in the Northwest Liberia Landscape	GEF - 8	CI	Liberia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.55	27.01	30.56
11143	Strengthening conservation and effective governance of Sierra Leone's critical forests in the Gola Forest Landscape	GEF - 8	CI	Sierra Leone	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.21	16.41	22.63
11118	Ecosystem Restoration	GEF - 8	CI	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11139	Strengthening Ecosystem Restoration Investments in Madagascar	GEF - 8	UNEP	Madagascar	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.00	52.82	68.82
11138	Restoration of the ecological corridors of Mayo-Kebbi, Tandjilé and Fitri in Chad, in support of multiple land and forest benefits	GEF - 8	IUCN	Chad	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.67	10.00	14.67
11137	Integrated Conservation Management and Restoration of High-Value Landscapes in Uzbekistan	GEF - 8	UNDP	Uzbekistan	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.83	52.00	58.83
11136	Accelerating ecosystems restoration by mobilizing communities along the Great Green Wall corridor	GEF - 8	UNDP	Mali	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	100.53	108.53
11135	Enhancing Sustainable Land Management and biodiversity conservation through innovative financing for an integrated Climate resilience in Koinadugu District	GEF - 8	UNDP	Sierra Leone	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.80	19.93	24.73
11134	Ecosystem-Based Restoration Approach for Nyungwe-Ruhango Corridor	GEF - 8	World Bank	Rwanda	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.15	453.60	463.75
11133	Northern Mozambique Rural Resilience Project	GEF - 8	World Bank	Mozambique	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.00	154.00	170.00
11132	Ecosystem Restoration in Northern & Central Savannas of Côte d'Ivoire	GEF - 8	FAO	Cote d'Ivoire	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	4.27	98.00	102.27
11131	Enhancing water security, biodiversity and resilience of livelihoods through integrated water resources management and ecosystem restoration in Viet Nam's Red River basin	GEF - 8	FAO	Viet Nam	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	11.84	103.60	115.44
11130	Enabling Large-Scale Ecosystem Restoration in Haiti through the Piloting and Implementation of Payments for Environmental Services Schemes	GEF - 8	UNEP	Haiti	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	34.60	39.93
11129	Integrated sustainable and adaptive management of natural resources to support ecosystem restoration and livelihoods in the Miombo landscapes of Southern Kwango	GEF - 8	IFAD	Congo DR	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.67	102.78	113.45
11127	A transdisciplinary approach towards restoring selected South African peatland ecosystems and their catchments	GEF - 8	UNEP	South Africa	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.47	54.50	61.97

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11126	Restoration of Forests and Mountain Ecosystems (ReFaME) in Far-West Nepal	GEF - 8	FAO	Nepal	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	2.67	14.00	16.67
11125	High Andean Ecosystem Restoration in Peru	GEF - 8	UNDP	Peru	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	9.60	75.15	84.75
11124	Union for Restoration - Enabling large-scale restoration through national policy in Brazil (GEF-PROVEG)	GEF - 8	CI	Brazil	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	14.93	58.89	73.82
11123	Ecosystem Restoration in Angola's Extended Central Plateau	GEF - 8	UNDP	Angola	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.00	57.00	73.00
11122	Ecosystem Restoration Global Coordination Project	GEF - 8	CI	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	19.74	15.28	35.02
11121	ORIGEN: Restoring Watersheds for Ecosystems and Communities	GEF - 8	CI	Mexico	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	16.00	91.82	107.82
11120	Ecosystem restoration for enhanced biodiversity, productive landscapes and sustainable livelihoods in Sao Tome e Principe	GEF - 8	FAO	Sao Tome and Principe	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	26.00	31.33
11119	Restoring ecosystems for sustainable development in the Tonle Sap Basin and Siem Reap/Phnom Kulen landscape	GEF - 8	UNDP	Cambodia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.75	44.00	52.75
11102	Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome Integrated Program	GEF - 8	IUCN	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			
11107	Indo-Malaya Critical Forest Biome Regional Coordination Project	GEF - 8	IUCN	Regional	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.17	28.37	35.54
11105	Maintaining the integrity of globally significant intact tropical forest landscapes in the Gulf Province and Western Province of Papua New Guinea	GEF - 8	FAO	Papua New Guinea	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	18.00	32.50	50.50
11104	"Forests for life - Intact Tropical Forest Landscape conservation in Thailand	GEF - 8	FAO	Thailand	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	7.47	82.03	89.50
11103	Generating multiple benefits through strengthened protection of intact forest landscapes in Lao PDR (CFB-Lao)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Lao PDR	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.00	42.70	52.70
11085	Net-Zero Nature-Positive Accelerator Integrated Programme	GEF - 8	UNEP	Global	Multi Area	Focal	PFD			

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Lead Agency Name	Country Name	Focal Area Name		Project Type Code	Total GEF Resources (\$ million)	Co-financing	Total Project Costs
11098	NZNP Global Platform	GEF - 8	UNEP	Global	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	10.90	42.25	53.15
11097	Green Journey: Achieving Net Zero through Nature Positive Solutions in Morocco	GEF - 8	UNDP	Morocco	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.00	55.00	61.00
11096	Deep decarbonization of Thai industries based on the emission trading system and carbon border adjustment mechanism	GEF - 8	UNIDO	Thailand	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	44.55	51.21
11095	Indonesia's Net Zero Acceleration through Integrated Actions in the Energy and FOLU sectors (INET-ZERO)	GEF - 8	UNDP	Indonesia	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	17.33	126.19	143.52
11094	Supporting the implementation of net-zero nature-positive (NZNP) solutions in Viet Nam	GEF - 8	UNDP	Viet Nam	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	42.00	50.00
11093	Côte d'Ivoire Net-Zero Nature-Positive Integrated Program	GEF - 8	UNDP	Cote d'Ivoire	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	6.67	20.53	27.20
11092	Accelerating Nature and Climate Action to Advance Nigeria's Net Zero and '30x30' Targets	GEF - 8	UNDP	Nigeria	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	8.00	93.20	101.20
11091	Accelerating action to achieve a net-zero, nature-positive and climate-just Mexico (Mexico Net-zero)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Mexico	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	94.00	107.33
11090	Integrated Net-Zero Nature-Positive Solutions for Climate and Biodiversity Protection	GEF - 8	UNDP	Tanzania	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	33.20	38.53
11089	Accelerating the transition to a net-zero, nature-positive economy in Costa Rica	GEF - 8	UNEP	Costa Rica	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	13.33	80.00	93.33
11088	Accelerating the transition to a net-zero, nature-positive economy in Chile	GEF - 8	UNEP	Chile	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.33	37.00	42.33
11087	Accelerating the transition to a net-zero, nature-positive economy in Mauritius	GEF - 8	UNEP	Mauritius	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	3.67	15.27	18.94
11086	Accelerating the transition to a net-zero, nature-positive economy in Trinidad and Tobago (TT Net-zero)	GEF - 8	UNEP	Trinidad and Tobago	Multi Area	Focal	Child FSP	5.40	12.00	17.40

Annex 3: List of Global Biodiversity Framework Fund Projects and PPG Requests Approved to June 30, 2024

The tables below all the GBFF projects and PPG requests approved in the first and second selection rounds of the first programming tranche. During that time, a total of \$110 million of resources have been set-aside or programmed, following the competitive selection process.

First Selection Round (February 2024)

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-financing	Status
11508	Biodiversity Conservation in Indigenous Lands	GEF-8	Funbio	Brazil	\$9,880,000	\$17,900,000	Approved by 2 nd GBFF Council
11509	Caatinga Protected Areas Program – ARCA	GEF-8	WWF-US	Brazil	\$9,880,000	\$0	Approved by 2 nd GBFF Council
11512	Addressing Outstanding Barriers and Leveraging Durable Financial Mechanism to Achieve Target 3 in Gabon	GEF-8	WWF-US	Gabon	\$1,518,910	\$0	CEO Endorsement circulated to Council
11510	Mex30x30: Conserving Mexican Biodiversity through Communities and Their Protected Areas	GEF-8	CI	Mexico	\$18,500,000	\$115,549,532	Approved by 2 nd GBFF Council
				TOTAL	\$39,778,910	\$133,449,532	

Second Selection Round (March 2024)

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-Financing
11582	Advancing integrated participatory spatial planning to enhance Samoa's globally significant biodiversity at a national scale	GEF-8	FAO	Samoa	\$1,160,000	\$1,150,000
11583	Scaling up biodiversity-positive and culturally inclusive agrifood and agritourism systems in Palau	GEF-8	FAO	Palau	\$1,160,000	\$1,120,000
11588	Reimagining National Parks for People and Nature – Leveraging Durable Financing Mechanisms for Mega Living Landscapes (MLL) to achieve Target 3 in South Africa	GEF-8	WWF-US	South Africa	\$5,000,000	
11589	Strengthening Globally Significant Biodiversity Corridors in the Philippines through Local Community Empowerment	GEF-8	ADB	Philippines	\$3,000,000	\$27,000,000
11590	Community-based conservation for biodiversity and livelihoods in the context of climate change in DRC	GEF-8	FAO	Congo DR	\$6,560,000	\$12,000,000
11595	Delivering Target 3 at the regional scale in Peru: Applying the ecosystem approach in	GEF-8	WWF-US	Peru	\$12,570,000	

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-Financing
	the Northern Transversal Economic Corridor of Peru (Northern TEC)					
11598	Support for the development of a national policy, institutional and monitoring framework to effectively implement the Nagoya Protocol in Belize	GEF-8	UNDP	Belize	\$1,160,000	
11600	Philippines Biodiversity Financing Program	GEF-8	UNDP	Philippines	\$4,000,000	
11604	Advancing ABS implementation in Cambodia	GEF-8	UNDP	Cambodia	\$1,350,000	
11606	Responding to Pacific priorities for ecosystem management and NBSAP implementation through strengthening capacities for effective planning and monitoring of ecosystems	GEF-8	UNDP	Fiji, Nauru, Tonga, Regional	\$4,630,000	\$1,000,000
11609	Strengthening transboundary conserved area management of the Sangha Tri-National (TNS)	GEF-8	WWF-US	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Regional	\$7,259,526	

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-Financing
11612	Empowering Indigenous Peoples for Sustainable Development: Inclusive Biodiversity Management through a Social and Solidarity Economy Approach	GEF-8	UNDP	Suriname	\$1,160,000	
11616	Restoring Forest Ecosystem Functions Through Community-Based Management in the Royal Botanic Garden of Jordan	GEF-8	UNDP	Jordan	\$870,000	
11626	Effective protection of Mozambique's Miombo woodlands and marine hotspot conservation areas enhancing global coping mechanisms to climate change	GEF-8	CI	Mozambique	\$4,876,006	\$1,309,990
11636	Sustainable Management and Restoration of Threatened Ecological Corridors in Kenya	GEF-8	World Bank	Kenya	\$3,896,750	\$9,800,000
11638	Enhancing co-benefits of conservation/protected area management through an inclusive wildlife-based ecotourism strategy (ECOTOURISM)	GEF-8	UNDP	Indonesia	\$7,000,000	\$21,000,000
11640	Strengthening the protected area system in Angola through innovation and capacity development	GEF-8	UNDP	Angola	\$3,260,000	\$600,000

GEF ID	Project Title	GEF Phase	Agency	Country	Total funding request (incl. PPG and PPG fee)	Co-Financing
11642	Support for the development of protected areas for the conservation of biodiversity	GEF-8	UNDP	Senegal	\$1,749,625	\$2,920,000
				TOTAL	\$70,661,907	\$77,899,990