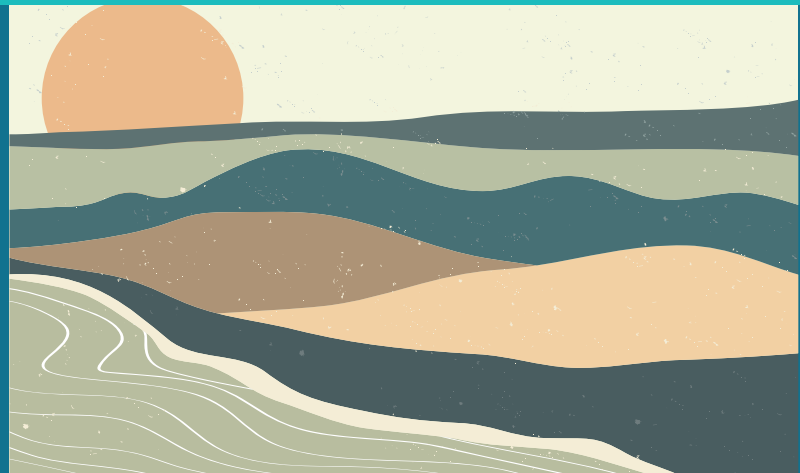
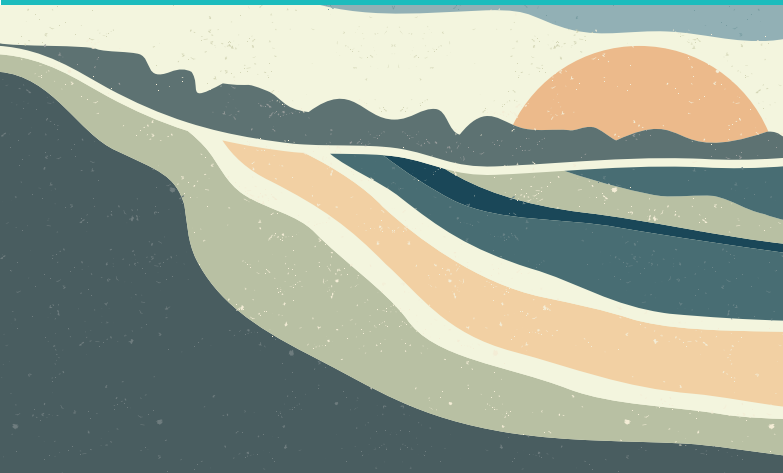




Independent  
Evaluation Office  
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

# Strategic Country Cluster Evaluation of the Least Developed Countries





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# Foreword

**S**trategic country cluster evaluations (SCCEs) are one of the most recent approaches the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has designed to evaluate the performance and sustainability of GEF programming at the country level. The SCCE approach reflects the interconnectedness—in terms of both synergies and trade-offs—between socioeconomic development priorities and environmental conservation imperatives that is typical of all the country settings in which GEF projects and programs are implemented, and especially the least developed countries (LDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS). The three SCCEs conducted thus far—in LDCs, in SIDS, and in two African biomes—address this complexity by applying a purposive evaluative inquiry approach that starts from aggregate analyses designed to provide trends and identify cases of positive, neutral, or negative change; and proceeds to in-depth data gathering aimed at identifying the specific factors underlying the observed change in those specific cases.

The LDC SCCE covers GEF activities in 47 LDCs located in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. LDCs are low-income countries facing significant structural challenges to sustainable development. They are susceptible to economic and environmental shocks, have limited human assets compared to other countries, and almost half are in fragile situations. The choice to evaluate LDCs as a strategic cluster is based on the countries' common LDC status and the GEF's priority in addressing environmental constraints in LDCs through increased funding allocations.

The analyses for this evaluation contributed to the findings of the GEF IEO's Seventh Comprehensive Evaluation (OPS7). It is the IEO's hope that the evaluation findings and recommendations will help enhance the design and implementation of GEF support in LDCs as part of GEF-8 programming.



Juha I. Uitto  
Director, GEF Independent Evaluation Office

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# Acknowledgments

**T**he evaluation was led by Anna Viggh, Senior Evaluation Officer of the Global Environment Facility Independent Evaluation Office (GEF IEO), with oversight from the Chief Evaluation Officer, Geeta Batra, and the Director, Juha Uitto. Sara el Choufi, Evaluation Analyst, was a core evaluation team member. Ventura Mufume conducted the country case study in Mozambique, and Sovith Sin conducted the country case study in Cambodia. Deki Deki served as national consultant for the case study in Bhutan, and Immakulata Komba served as national consultant for the case study in Tanzania; both of these cases were conducted by Anna Viggh.

Anupam Anand, Evaluation Officer, conducted geospatial analyses and provided both country and project site interpretation of findings in country case studies. Carlo Carugi, Senior Evaluation Officer, and Dennis Peter Bours, Evaluation Officer, contributed to the design and conduct of the portfolio and document review that was done in synergy with this and the small island developing states and African biomes strategic country cluster evaluations. Phuong Ngo and Elke-Esmeralda Dikoume served as research assistants for the portfolio analyses and document reviews. Michael Spilsbury provided quality assurance for the approach paper

and for the draft report. Administrative support was provided by Evelyn Chihuguyu, Program Assistant; Malac Kabir, Research Assistant; Marie-Constance Manuella Koukoui, Program Assistant; and Juan Jose Portillo, Senior Operations Officer. Kia Penso and Laurie Denton edited the report, and Nita Congress designed the publication.

The GEF Secretariat, as well as all the GEF Agencies involved in the projects that were part of this evaluation, provided information, data, and insights during interviews and meetings. Critical logistical support and information were provided during the case study missions by the GEF focal points; national and local government staff; GEF Agencies; civil society organizations; communities; and other stakeholders in Bhutan, Cambodia, Mozambique, and Tanzania.

The GEF IEO is deeply grateful to all these individuals and institutions for their contributions, which were critical to the success of the evaluation. Final responsibility for this report remains firmly with the Office.



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# Abbreviations

AfDB	African Development Bank	PMIS	Project Management Information System
APR	Annual Performance Report		
CEO	Chief Executive Officer	POP	persistent organic pollutant
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	SCCE	strategic country cluster evaluation
FCV	fragility, conflict, or violence	SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility	SFM	sustainable forest management
GNI	gross national income	SIDS	small island developing states
IEO	Independent Evaluation Office	STAP	Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
LDC	least developed country	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
LME	large marine ecosystem		
NDVI	Normalized Difference Vegetation Index		

The GEF replenishment periods are as follows:

Pilot phase: 1991–94	GEF-1: 1995–98	GEF-2: 1999–2002	GEF-3: 2003–06
GEF-4: 2006–10	GEF-5: 2010–14	GEF-6: 2014–18	GEF-7: 2018–22

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# Executive summary

## **BACKGROUND, PURPOSE, OBJECTIVES, SCOPE, AND METHODS**

Least developed countries (LDCs) face severe environmental challenges exacerbated by climate change. Most common are deforestation and land degradation, biodiversity loss, and threats to freshwater and marine environments. They also face water-related challenges—including declining water quality, threats to marine resources, coastal and coral reef degradation, and threats to inland water resources. LDCs that are small island developing states (SIDS) face further problems with sea level rise, waste management, and increased effects of natural disasters. A quarter of the people in LDCs live on severely degraded land. Most are trying to feed their families by cultivating land that produces far less than it once did. These environmental issues are exacerbated by climate change and non-climate challenges, including socioeconomic pressures, poor policy, and lack of enforcement of regulations.

For more than 25 years, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has provided funding to address LDCs' diverse environmental challenges on issues such as adaptation to climate change, unsustainable practices in the agriculture sector, land use change and habitat restoration, overexploitation of marine fisheries, as well as environmentally

sound management and disposal of many persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and chemicals. To date, the GEF has invested \$4.68 billion, accompanied by \$25.81 billion in cofinancing through 1,435 national and regional projects in LDCs. The GEF Trust Fund covered 68 percent of the funding; the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) accounted for 29 percent of total funding.

Given the GEF's priority in addressing environmental constraints in LDCs through increased allocations, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) conducted an in-depth review of the LDC portfolio of projects using a strategic country cluster evaluation (SCCE) approach. The overarching objectives of the evaluation were to (1) deepen understanding of the determinants of sustainable outcomes from GEF support in the LDCs, and (2) assess the relevance and performance of GEF support toward LDCs' main environmental challenges from the countries' perspective. This evaluation assessed the relevance, performance, and sustainability of GEF interventions based on a desk review of the GEF project portfolio in 47 LDCs from GEF-4 through GEF-6, and on 12 in-depth country case studies. The evaluation selected case study countries based on the aggregate and geo-spatial analysis of the portfolio under review. The evaluation looked closely at the determinants of

sustainability by focusing on projects completed from 2007 through 2014. This allowed enough time after completion to evaluate outcome sustainability. The evaluation team answered questions using a mixed-methods approach of both quantitative and qualitative analytical tools.

## MAIN FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

**GEF support to LDCs has increased consistently since the pilot phase.** The GEF has long recognized the unique challenges LDCs face and has regularly increased its support to LDCs since the pilot phase to more than \$1.2 billion in GEF-5 and GEF-6. The GEF Trust Fund covered 68 percent of the funding; the LDCF covered 29 percent.

**GEF interventions are relevant to the national environmental challenges LDCs face.** The main interventions of GEF support are well aligned and highly relevant to the national environmental priorities LDCs face. Most GEF support to LDCs has focused on climate change adaptation to address the effects of a changing climate, which exacerbate most environmental challenges in LDCs. Multifocal area interventions—most commonly a combination of biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change, including adaptation—have grown to help LDCs tackle environmental challenges through integrated programming. Review of project documentation in the portfolio and interviews with government officials in case study countries strongly confirmed that GEF interventions are well aligned with LDC governments' environmental priorities. Government officials in countries visited highlighted that the GEF is an important source of funding contributing to national sustainable development planning.

**The relevance of GEF support to country needs has not been affected by the GEF's shift toward integrated programming.** Since GEF-4, the GEF has been moving toward more integrated programming through multifocal projects and

programmatic approaches. Although investment in programs initially increased in GEF-4 and substantially decreased by GEF-6, there has been a shift from single focal areas to multifocal interventions and an increase in the size of programs and their respective child projects in LDCs.

**The expansion of GEF Agencies has increased access for most LDCs.** The number of GEF Agencies supporting LDCs has increased from 8 during GEF-4 to 12 during GEF-6. For LDCs that are also SIDS, the original three GEF Agencies accounted for 82 percent of financing in GEF-6, compared with 92 percent in GEF-3, showing that the benefits of expansion are still to be realized. Most Agencies active in LDCs have a diversified portfolio of focal area composition, and they implement a higher share of climate change adaptation projects. Countries select GEF Agencies based on comparative advantage, including the Agency's technical area of specialization, their history of engagement with the Agency, and the physical presence of the Agency in the country.

**The performance of LDC projects is lower than for the overall GEF portfolio.** Analysis of the most recent annual performance report (APR) data from the 2019 cohort shows that completed projects in LDCs rate lower than the overall GEF portfolio on all performance indicators. Of the projects rated, 72 percent had satisfactory outcomes, considerably lower than the 80 percent rating in the overall GEF portfolio. For sustainability, 46 percent of LDC projects were rated in the likely range, compared with 63 percent in the overall GEF portfolio. On these dimensions, LDC projects also rate lower than projects in the Africa and Asia regions, where most LDCs are located. However, projects in LDCs completed more recently have higher ratings than those completed from 2007 through 2014.

**Climate change adaptation projects performed better than other focal area projects in LDCs.** Seventy-nine percent of climate change adaptation

projects ranked satisfactory for outcomes, and 58 percent likely to have outcomes sustained. This was the highest of all focal area projects. The performance of climate change adaptation projects is comparable to the overall GEF portfolio on outcomes and slightly lower than the 63 percent on sustainability. The LDCF provides most of the funding for climate change adaptation interventions, with small amounts from the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) and the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation.

**Demonstrating sustainability takes time.** This evaluation found that most projects tend to maintain or show higher observed sustainability of outcomes at postcompletion than at the time of the terminal evaluation. This confirms similar findings of the APR 2017 and the recently completed small island developing states (SIDS) SCCE. These improvements in sustainability are mainly attributed to the quality of project design as well as to positive changes in the context postcompletion.

**Financial sustainability is a challenge in most LDCs.** Of the four dimensions of sustainability, LDCs rate lowest in financial sustainability. By region, financial sustainability varies widely, with 54 percent of LDC projects rated likely in terms of financial sustainability in Africa compared with 84 percent in Asia. The range reflects the heterogeneity among LDCs. Limited postcompletion financing is a key context-related factor hindering most of the country case studies the three SCCEs conducted. This finding points to the importance of elaborating financial arrangements in the project design that can continue to deliver benefits after project completion.

**Profitable income-generating activities play a vital role in the sustainability of outcomes in LDCs.** The review of terminal evaluations and country case studies' postcompletion site visits found that many GEF interventions include income-generating activities to link local

community benefits to improved environmental management. This approach has led to tangible outcomes in LDCs, but it does not guarantee success. Community livelihood interventions in LDCs are more likely to succeed if the proposed activity is in fact an alternative livelihood, is well designed, has a positive environmental–socioeconomic nexus, and meets the needs of beneficiaries. Interventions are more likely to be sustainable if they are market oriented and are integrated in development plans and budget.

**The inclusion of gender considerations in GEF interventions has increased in LDCs.** The evaluation found a progressive increase in the number of projects completing gender analysis, including gender mainstreaming plans, and incorporating gender in results frameworks from GEF-4 to GEF-6. Even when gender considerations are not addressed in the design stage, they are considered during project implementation in LDCs. Taking gender into consideration is important to outcome sustainability, as well as for gender equality and women's empowerment.

**Climate resilience is addressed in climate change adaptation projects, but rarely in other focal area projects.** Promoting climate resilience is a key aspect in LDCs, demonstrated by the large number of adaptation interventions and the considerable amount of LDCF/SCCF funding in LDCs. While all climate change adaptation projects financed by the LDCF/SCCF and the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation included resilience considerations, only 37 percent of other focal area projects showed evidence of climate resilience considerations.

**Fragility has affected the timely delivery of GEF support as well as outcomes and sustainability of GEF support in LDCs.** Overall, outcome and sustainability ratings show lower ratings for projects implemented in fragile LDCs. As the team observed in country visits to the African biomes and

SIDS SCCEs in Comoros, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kiribati, and Mali, country insecurity and the emergence of fragile situations can substantially delay implementation and outcomes.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

**Continue to strengthen project design to improve sustainability of outcomes.** Though performance of completed projects has improved recently, the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies should consider a country's socioeconomic and political context in developing projects and programs. While demonstrating sustainability takes time, a well-designed project should include measures and activities that will support—both financially and institutionally—continued delivery of outcomes beyond the life of the project. Emphasis should be placed on elaborating financial arrangements during project design that can continue to deliver benefits after project completion. Special attention should be given to projects' and programs' financial sustainability in African LDCs.

**Derive greater benefits from the expanded GEF partnership for LDCs that are also SIDS.** In line with the SIDS SCCE recommendation, GEF Agencies of the first and second expansion should strengthen dialogue with governments and key stakeholders in LDCs that are SIDS, based on their thematic and regional competencies.

**Strengthen climate resilience considerations in all projects.** While resilience is addressed in climate change adaptation projects, the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies should strengthen climate resilience considerations in other focal area interventions. Addressing climate resilience in project design will increase the likelihood of the sustainability of the GEF portfolio.



# Introduction

## 1.1 Evaluation background, purpose, objectives, scope, and methods

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established to help address global environmental concerns related to biodiversity loss, climate change, land degradation, international waters, and chemical pollution. A priority of the GEF is supporting least developed countries (LDCs), which are characterized by high levels of poverty, serious environmental degradation, and low human and institutional capacities. As a group, LDCs are the most vulnerable countries the GEF supports.

For more than 25 years, the GEF has provided support to address LDCs' diverse environmental challenges on issues such as adaptation to climate change, unsustainable practices in the agriculture sector, land use change and habitat restoration, overexploitation of marine fisheries, as well as the environmentally sound management and disposal of many persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and chemicals. To date, the GEF has invested \$4.68 billion, accompanied by \$25.81 billion in cofinancing

in LDCs.<sup>1</sup> The GEF Trust Fund supplied 68 percent of this funding, and the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) contributed 29 percent; less than 1 percent came from the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF).

A main conclusion of the sixth Comprehensive Evaluation of the GEF (OPS6) was that although the GEF delivers overall good project performance, sustainability of outcomes remains the greatest challenge (GEF IEO 2017). To further explore issues of sustainability, the GEF IEO launched strategic country cluster evaluations (SCCEs) that focus on common themes across clusters of countries where there is a critical mass of projects and experience with GEF programming. Given the GEF's priority of addressing environmental constraints in LDCs through increased allocations, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) conducted an in-depth review of the LDC portfolio using the country cluster evaluation approach, based on the countries' common LDC status. The LDC SCCE covers the current 47 LDCs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America

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<sup>1</sup> Funding figures are as of December 30, 2019, and exclude unallocated parent program financing, funding for dropped and canceled projects, and Agency fees. They do include project preparation grants.

and the Caribbean, based on the United Nations (UN) definition ([annex D](#)). The evaluation does not include any LDCs that have graduated. The sustainability analysis is based on the GEF's investment in LDCs since GEF-4: a total of \$3.18 billion. The GEF Trust Fund provided most of this funding; the LDCF provided 37 percent.

The LDC SCCE assessed the environmental outcomes of GEF interventions and their long-term sustainability. Specifically, the evaluation conducted an in-depth analysis of project- and context-related factors contributing to or hindering outcome sustainability. The evaluation focused on the nexus between national environment and socioeconomic development priorities as determinants of sustainability five years postcompletion. The evaluation also assessed gender considerations, climate resilience, fragility, and the private sector as cross-cutting issues affecting GEF support.

The overarching objectives of the LDC SCCE were to (1) assess the relevance and performance of the GEF support toward LDCs' main environmental challenges from the countries' perspective, and (2) provide a deeper understanding of the determinants of the sustainability of the outcomes of GEF support in the LDCs. These objectives were translated into five key evaluation questions, three of which address the cross-cutting issues of gender, resilience, and fragility. A detailed description of the evaluation design is in the LDC SCCE approach paper ([annex A](#)). The five key questions were as follows:

- To what extent has GEF support been relevant to the main environmental challenges LDCs face, and are there any gaps?
- What are the key factors influencing sustainability of outcomes in LDCs?
- In what way, if any, does the environment and socioeconomic development–livelihoods nexus help explain the sustainability of outcomes in LDCs?

- To what extent have gender and resilience been taken into consideration in GEF programming in LDCs?
- To what extent has GEF support performed in fragile contexts in LDCs, and how have the results achieved by completed GEF projects and programs been affected in situations that have become fragile?

The evaluation used a mixed-methods approach encompassing quantitative and qualitative sources of data, information, and analytical tools. The analysis involved an extensive desk study of project and program documents using a project review template and an aggregate portfolio review ([annex C](#)). The review template and a complete list of projects reviewed are available on the GEF IEO website.<sup>2</sup> The desk study aimed at identifying trends as well as cases of positive, negative, and no change. In addition, the evaluation conducted four country case studies, in Bhutan, Cambodia, Mozambique, and Tanzania. These countries were selected based on the results of the aggregate desk study and portfolio trend analyses, following a rigorously structured selection process (GEF IEO 2019c), and used a standardized country study approach (GEF IEO 2019b). The team reviewed some 6 projects per country in the four case studies, totaling 25 projects, 12 of which were field verified. Projects reviewed in the four case study countries are listed in [annex E](#). The evaluation team conducted geospatial analysis for four of the projects verified during the case study visits. The purpose of field verifications was to identify and understand the determinants of the observed positive or negative change of outcomes postcompletion.

For most evaluation components, the LDC SCCE covered the period from GEF-4 (starting in 2006) through GEF-6. This relevance cohort comprises

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<sup>2</sup>All documents related to the LDC SCCE are available on the [LDC SCCE](#) webpage of the GEF IEO website.



833 national and regional interventions. The team reviewed 529 of these using the portfolio template. The sustainability analysis focused on national and regional interventions completed from 2007 through 2014. This approach provided enough time after completion to allow observation of long-term outcome sustainability. This sustainability cohort is composed of 173 interventions. The team analyzed 123 of these using a detailed project review template. In total, the team reviewed 621 projects (31 belonging to both cohorts) using the project review template. For both cohorts, the overall portfolio was updated after completion of the project template review to capture the latest data available in the portal. In addition, the evaluation team analyzed terminal evaluation ratings from the most recent IEO Annual Performance Report (APR) 2019 database for LDCs and non-LDCs for the cohort composed of projects completed from GEF-4 to GEF-6 (the relevance cohort) and projects completed from 2007 to 2014 (the sustainability cohort). The team triangulated both qualitative and quantitative data and information collected at the completion of the data gathering and analysis phase to determine trends and identify main findings, lessons, and conclusions.

The portfolio of the LDC SCCE included enabling activities (in the relevance cohort only), full- and medium-size projects, as well as programs in the 47 LDCs. The evaluation also reviewed Small Grants Programme interventions in LDCs on an opportunistic basis in country case studies. Global initiatives and those regional interventions that are set up as umbrella arrangements for administrative convenience, such as the GEF Biosafety Program (GEF ID 3654), were excluded.<sup>3</sup> The analysis covered all GEF focal areas, although it centered on climate change adaptation and multifocal

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<sup>3</sup> The excluded interventions account for \$522 million—15 percent of all financing to LDCs from GEF-4 to GEF-6.

interventions on biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and land degradation. It also covered land degradation, international waters, climate change mitigation, and POPs and chemicals and waste.

In line with IEO practice, the evaluation established stakeholder engagement and quality assurance measures. A reference group, composed of representatives from the GEF Secretariat, the GEF Agencies, and the GEF Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) provided feedback and comments on the approach paper, the preliminary findings, and the draft evaluation report (GEF IEO 2018f). The Director of the Evaluation Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was an external peer reviewer.

The LDC SCCE encountered two limitations during the evaluation: (1) the unreliability of the GEF Project Management Information System data on projects and programs, especially on status; and (2) the limited number of field visits conducted (only 4 of 47 countries visited). The team addressed the first limitation, common to several GEF IEO evaluations, by cross-checking the PMIS portfolio information with GEF Agency management information systems before undertaking any analysis. To ensure that the evaluation used the most recent project and financial information, the team further cross-referenced PMIS data and updated that with the new GEF Portal data management system that replaced the PMIS. The team addressed the second limitation by increasing field coverage. The group conducted field missions jointly with those conducted in parallel with other SCCEs, as well as other evaluations the IEO conducted. The team conducted the LDC SCCE in parallel with two other SCCEs: one covering two Sub-Saharan African biomes, the Sahel and the Sudan-Guinea savanna, and a second covering the other small island developing states (SIDS). The African Biomes SCCE and the LDC SCCE were submitted to the GEF Council at the June 2020 session; the SIDS SCCE was

presented in December 2019. The three evaluations used a similar approach and methodology and were harmonized in terms of key questions, portfolio review, and country study approach. These SCCEs have each conducted country case studies in four LDCs—Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, and Uganda, and four SIDS— Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Kiribati, and Vanuatu—that the LDC SCCE has drawn on for evaluative evidence. For all SCCEs, the evaluation reviewed 72 projects in LDCs and verified 36 ([annex E](#)).

## 1.2 The LDC context

LDCs are low-income countries confronting severe structural impediments to sustainable development. They have low levels of human assets and are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks. The UN General Assembly created the LDC category in 1971. The number of countries classified as LDCs has increased from 25 to 47. Only five countries have graduated.<sup>4</sup> Of the 47 countries on the list of LDCs, 9 are SIDS. More than two-thirds of all LDCs are in Sub-Saharan Africa (33); the rest are in Asia and the Pacific (13) and Latin America and the Caribbean (1) (see [figure 1.1](#) and [annex D](#)).

The UN established criteria for LDC classification in 1991 that have been adjusted over time.<sup>5</sup> The UN now uses three criteria: low per capita gross national income (GNI),<sup>6</sup> low level of socioeconomic development, and high structural vulnerability to exogenous economic and environmental shocks.

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<sup>4</sup> The following countries have graduated: Botswana (1974), Cabo Verde (2007), Maldives (2011), Samoa (2014), and Equatorial Guinea (2017) (OECD 2016).

<sup>5</sup> See UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs webpage, [Creation of the LDC category and timeline of changes to LDC membership and criteria](#).

<sup>6</sup> GNI is equal to gross domestic product minus primary incomes payable to nonresident units plus primary incomes received from nonresident units.

LDCs are the poorest and weakest segment of the international community, with a per capita GNI of \$1,025.<sup>7</sup> Some 1 billion people live in LDCs; 36 percent of them lives on less than \$1.90 per day.<sup>8</sup>

Most LDCs are characterized by a low level of socioeconomic development. They have weak human and institutional capacities, low and unequally distributed income, gender inequality, and scarce domestic financial resources. LDCs often suffer from governance crises, political instability, and, in some cases, internal and external conflicts. Their largely agrarian economies are affected by a vicious cycle of low productivity and low investment.

LDCs rely on the export of a few primary commodities as a major source of earnings. This makes them highly vulnerable to external terms-of-trade shocks. Only a handful of LDCs have been able to diversify into the manufacturing sector, though with a limited range of products in labor-intensive industries, such as textiles and clothing.

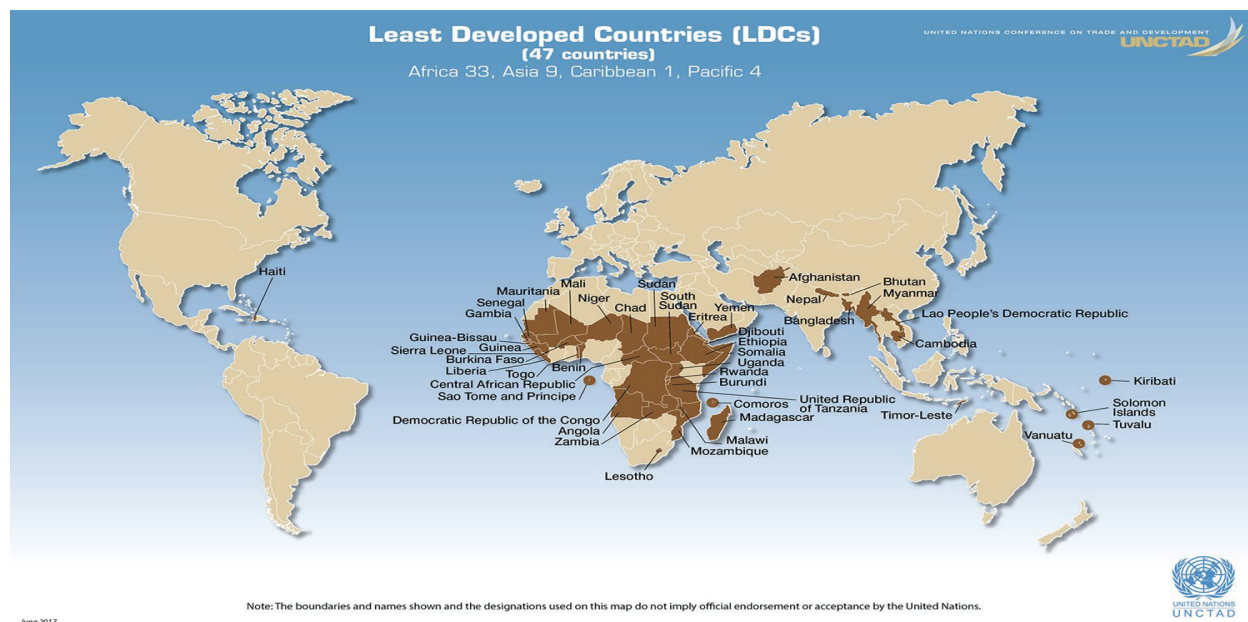
The environmental shocks LDCs face include natural disasters, weather shocks that do not favor agriculture production, and permanent shocks caused by climate change. LDCs are least able to recover from climate stresses, and their economic growth is highly dependent on climate-sensitive sectors. Environmental shocks potentially affect economic activity, consumption, employment, the well-being of the population, and the natural resource base of economic and social development. Moreover, these shocks are exogenous from the perspective of LDCs—the frequency and magnitude

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<sup>7</sup> This is a three-year average; see UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs webpage, [LDC Identification Criteria & Indicators](#).

<sup>8</sup> According to 2019 data from the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States webpage, [Least Developed Countries](#).

**Figure 1.1** Map of the least developed countries (2020)



Source: [United Nations Conference on Trade and Development](#).

of environmental shocks, such as climate change, are to some extent dependent on policy choices made at the international level (CDP 2018).

Despite their similarities, LDCs are diverse in their geography, history, and challenges. They comprise a range of small to large countries, SIDS, land-locked countries, and countries suffering from fragility, conflict, or violence (FCV). Economically, LDCs' growth performance varies widely. LDCs as a group are growing at an average annual rate of 4.6 percent. Some of the larger LDCs are growing at a rate of 7 percent; some are experiencing a contraction (UNCTAD 2019).

## LDCS AND THE UN SYSTEM

The first UN Conference on Trade and Development in 1964 recommended the LDC category. A proposal was adopted at the second conference in 1968. The UN established the LDC category in 1971 to attract special international support for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the UN system.

Since 1981, the UN system has held several conferences to generate international attention and action to reverse the continuing deterioration of the socioeconomic condition of LDCs. In 2011, the Fourth United Nations Conference on LDCs adopted the Istanbul Declaration and the Istanbul Programme of Action for the decade 2011–20. The program of action took the form of a mutually agreed compact between LDCs and their development partners and contained eight priority areas of action, each supported by concrete deliverables and commitments. These priorities included productive capacity; agriculture, food security, and rural development; trade; commodities; human and social development; multiple crises and other emerging challenges; mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity building; and good governance at all levels. The action program emphasized equity at all levels through empowering the poor and marginalized, and ensuring social justice, democracy, gender equality, and sustained, inclusive, and equitable economic growth and sustainable development.

LDCs have exclusive access to certain international support measures, especially in the areas of development assistance and trade. International organizations have created a small number of trust funds for technical assistance specifically for LDCs. The GEF emphasizes supporting LDCs on the environment, managing the LDCF to address their special needs, because they are especially vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

In line with the UN classification system, a country has access to special support until it graduates from LDC status. To be recommended for graduation, a country must meet thresholds for at least two of the three LDC criteria at two consecutive triennial reviews. In 2018, the Committee for Development Policy recommended Bhutan, São Tomé and Príncipe, and the Solomon Islands for graduation. The committee will consider Bangladesh, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Myanmar for graduation in 2021. Vanuatu was scheduled for graduation in 2020 and Angola in 2021.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

Today's LDCs are confronted with myriad environmental issues, the most common being deforestation, land degradation, and biodiversity loss. Water-related challenges include declining water quality and quantity, threats to marine resources, and coastal and coral reef degradation ([figure 1.2](#)). LDCs that are SIDS face further problems from climate change and sea level rise, waste management, and increased effects from natural disasters. Forests are critical to the development and welfare of LDCs, although rates of deforestation vary greatly across LDCs. For example, in Bhutan and the Democratic Republic of Congo historical rates of deforestation are very low; in Lao PDR and Tanzania, deforestation is more than twice the global average (Parker et al. 2013). About a quarter of the population in LDCs lives on severely degraded land. Most residents are trying to feed

their families by cultivating land that produces far less than it once did. Many LDCs are home to the world's biodiversity hotspots, threatened by loss of habitat. All these environmental issues are exacerbated by climate change and non-climate challenges, including socioeconomic pressures, poor policy, and lack of enforcement of regulations.

## 1.3 International environmental conventions

LDCs are parties to several international and regional environmental agreements. All LDCs have become parties to the main conventions—the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (except South Sudan), the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification. Most LDCs are also party to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (43 LDCs), the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (39 LDCs), and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (42 LDCs). Only 28 LDCs have ratified the recently established Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Some LDCs have joined other regional environmental agreements, such as the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel; the Abidjan Convention for Cooperation in the Protection, Management, and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central, and Southern Africa Region; the Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management, and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region; and the South Pacific Tuna Treaty. A full overview of countries' ratification of international environmental agreements is in [annex F](#).

Figure 1.2 Main environmental challenges in LDCs

		Asia	Africa	LAC
<b>Deforestation and land degradation</b>		Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Rep. of Yemen <b>Tuvalu, Vanuatu</b>	Burundi, Dem. Rep. Congo, Djibouti, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Zambia <b>Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Uganda Comoros, São Tomé and Príncipe, Guinea-Bissau</b>	<b>Haiti</b>
<b>Threats to biodiversity</b>		Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal <b>Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu</b>	Angola, Dem. Rep. Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mozambique, Rwanda, Somalia, Tanzania, Zambia <b>Benin, Central African Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mali, Niger, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Uganda Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe</b>	
<b>Water quality and quantity</b>		Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Rep. of Yemen <b>Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste</b>	Angola, Djibouti, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, Tanzania, Zambia <b>Burkina Faso, Chad, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Liberia, Mali, Uganda</b>	
<b>Threats to marine resources</b>		Bangladesh, Cambodia <b>Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu</b>	Angola, Dem. Rep. Congo, Djibouti <b>Gambia, Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo Comoros, São Tomé and Príncipe</b>	
<b>Coastal and coral reef degradation</b>		<b>Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu</b>	Angola, Dem. Rep. Congo, Djibouti <b>Gambia, Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo Comoros, São Tomé and Príncipe</b>	
<b>Natural disasters</b>		Afghanistan, Lao PDR, Myanmar <b>Tuvalu</b>	Mozambique <b>Chad, Gambia, Mali</b>	<b>Haiti</b>
<b>Desertification</b>			Djibouti, Somalia <b>Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger</b>	
<b>Climate change: sea level rise</b>		Bangladesh, Bhutan <b>Kiribati, Tuvalu, Timor-Leste</b>	Zambia	
<b>Threats to inland water resources</b>		Bangladesh, Cambodia	Burundi, Dem. Rep. Congo <b>South Sudan, Sudan</b>	
<b>Mining</b>		Afghanistan	Zambia <b>Central African Republic Mauritania, Niger</b>	
<b>Waste management</b>		Bhutan <b>Kiribati, Timor-Leste</b>	<b>Senegal</b>	

Sources: PMIS data; SPREP (2017); UN-OHRLLS (2015); UNDP (2017); UNEP (1999, 2008, 2010, 2013); World Bank (2008a, 2008b, 2009, 2014, 2015a, 2015b, 2016, 2017).

Note: LAC = Latin America and the Caribbean. ■ = covered by SIDS SCCE; ■ = covered by African Biomes SCCE. Guinea-Bissau is covered by both the SIDS and African Biomes SCCEs; to avoid repetition, it is here listed only for SIDS SCCE.

# GEF engagement in least developed countries

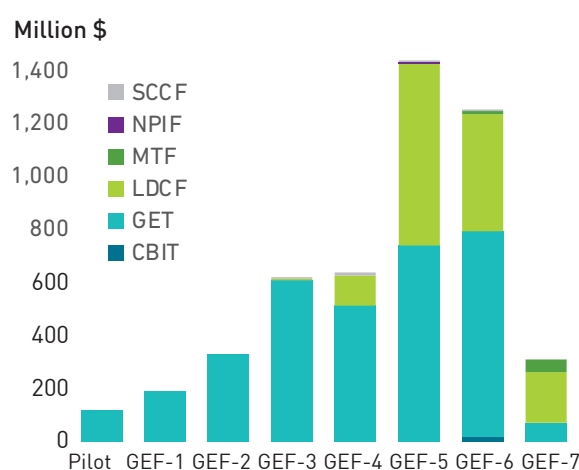
This chapter presents an overview of GEF support to LDCs and the composition of the LDC portfolio over the GEF replenishment periods. It also assesses the relevance of GEF support to the national environmental and sustainable development priorities of the countries.

## 2.1 Portfolio

### FUNDING

**GEF support to LDCs increased continuously from its pilot phase, exceeding \$1.2 billion in GEF-5 and GEF-6.** Increase in the aggregate GEF-6 floor for LDCs of System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) allocations contributed to this increase (GEF IEO 2018c). The GEF Trust Fund provided 68 percent of the funding (figure 2.1). This includes STAR allocations, a special window for SIDS and LDCs under the chemicals and waste focal area (GEF-6 and GEF-7), funds available under the international waters focal area, resources from the Small Grants Programme, and support for fulfilling convention obligations. During the shortfall in replenishment caused by currency fluctuations in GEF-6, the GEF tried to ensure that LDCs were sufficiently funded. As a result, country allocations for LDCs and SIDS were

**Figure 2.1** LDC funding by trust fund by GEF replenishment period (\$ million)



Source: GEF Portal.

Note: GEF-7 programming is still under way. Excludes funding for global interventions and unallocated parent program financing.

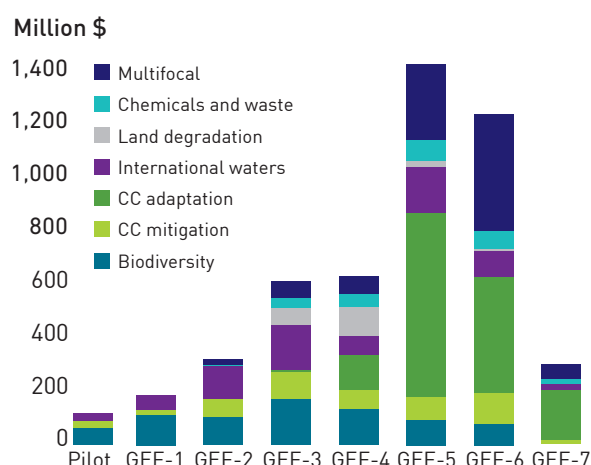
unaffected (GEF IEO 2018c). In GEF-6, the share from the LDCF, which had grown substantially in GEF-5, decreased because the LDCF is replenished through voluntary contributions, and pledges had declined. In GEF-7, programming is still ongoing, but continued support to LDCs is strong and commitment to date has reached \$295.8 million. Overall, since its pilot phase, the GEF has invested \$4.68 billion in grants, accompanied by

\$25.81 billion in cofinancing through 1,435 national and regional projects in LDCs. The 47 LDCs also participate in 83 global projects and 14 global programs totaling \$1.04 billion. Among these is the Small Grants Programme, for which the GEF provided \$99.6 million in GEF-4 and GEF-5.

**The focus of focal area allocations in LDCs has shifted from biodiversity to climate change adaptation.** In the pilot phase through GEF-3, biodiversity interventions were the largest share of the GEF portfolio, followed by international waters (figure 2.2). In GEF-4 the portfolio became more diversified, with biodiversity accounting for 21 percent of project financing, climate change adaptation accounting for 20 percent, and land degradation 16 percent. Climate change adaptation interventions were by far the largest share of the GEF portfolio in GEF-5 and GEF-6, followed by multifocal area projects. Multifocal area projects amount to 19 percent of project financing. The most common combination of multifocal interventions in LDCs is biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change including adaptation, accounting for 31 percent of total multifocal area support to LDCs.

Overall, from GEF-4 to GEF-6, the GEF invested \$3.18 billion in grants accompanied by \$18.97 billion in cofinancing for 833 national and regional interventions in enabling activities and medium- and full-size projects in LDCs (table 2.1). Regional and global interventions may include non-LDC countries. Twenty-one percent of these are part of 21 programmatic approaches (projects designed

**Figure 2.2** Focal area grants invested by GEF replenishment period in LDCs



Source: GEF Portal.

Note: CC = climate change. GEF-7 programming is still under way. Excludes funding for global interventions and unallocated parent program financing. Chemicals and waste includes POPs.

to contribute to the overall program objective). The GEF also invested in LDCs through 57 global interventions.

## MODALITY

**GEF support to LDCs was delivered predominantly through full-size projects, either as stand-alone initiatives or as part of a program.<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>A program is a coherent set of interventions designed to attain specific global, regional, country, or sector objectives; it consists of a variable number of child projects.

**Table 2.1** GEF support to LDCs by geographic scope and support modality

Intervention scope	Enabling activity		Medium-size project		Full-size project		Total <sup>a</sup>	
	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.
Country	30.6	120	146.9	132	2,243.0	437	2,420.4	689
Regional	12.3	12	36.1	32	792.7	100	841.1	144
Global	30.8	9	33.3	22	346.4	26	4105	57

Source: GEF Portal.

a. These totals include \$169.67 million of unallocated financing remaining in parent programs.

Full-size projects have been by far the most used support modality in LDCs during the past three GEF replenishment periods. Child projects under programmatic approaches account for 21 percent of GEF financing in LDCs (table 2.2). Most child projects are full-size interventions, further augmenting the number of full-size projects in LDCs.

**Table 2.2** GEF interventions in LDCs by modality

Modality	Number of projects	GEF funding (million \$)
Parent program	21	83.11 <sup>a</sup>
Child project	183	688.97
Enabling activity	111	42.55
Full-size project	413	2,298.36
Medium-size project	126	148.54
Total	833 <sup>b</sup>	3,178.41 <sup>b</sup>

Source: GEF Portal.

a. Total unallocated financing.

b. Excludes the 21 parent programs.

**Investment in programs increased in GEF-4 but decreased by GEF-6.** The GEF formally introduced the program support modality during GEF-4 in June 2008. At that time, programs constituted 49 percent of total programming in LDCs and 40 percent in LDCs that are also SIDS. Funding for programs decreased substantially to 16 percent in GEF-5 and then increased to 20 percent in GEF-6. In LDCs that are also SIDS, funding dropped to 25 percent in GEF-5 and 9 percent in GEF-6.

The shift from programs in LDCs from GEF-4 to GEF-6 occurred while the GEF moved progressively toward integrated programming (table 2.3). Examples of programs LDCs have participated in are the 2008 Strategic Investment Program for Sustainable Land Management in Sub-Saharan Africa (GEF ID 2757), the 2011 [Great Green Wall Initiative](#) in the Sahel (GEF ID 4511), the LDC and SIDS Targeted Portfolio Approach for Capacity Development and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management (GEF ID 2441), and—for a few SIDS—the 2013 Ridge to Reef in the Pacific (GEF ID 5395).

**Programs and their respective child projects are becoming larger, and there is a move from single focal area interventions to multifocal interventions.** These trends show a change in the way programs are designed and implemented. The size of child projects increased from an average of \$3.0 million in GEF-4 to \$6.4 million in GEF-6. The introduction in GEF-6 of the integrated approach pilots, involving several LDCs, contributed to this. The STAR allocation countries commit to when they participate in the integrated approach pilots is matched with a one-to-one dollar incentive from focal area set-aside funding (GEF 2018).

**Projects under implementation represent 47 percent of GEF support in terms of funding and number of projects in LDCs.** Most of these are projects approved in GEF-5. Most of the projects completed in the past three replenishment periods

**Table 2.3** Programmatic and nonprogrammatic support to LDCs by GEF replenishment period

Period	Programmatic support			Nonprogrammatic support		Total	
	No. of programs	No. of child projects	Million \$	No. of stand-alone projects	Million \$	No. of projects	Million \$ <sup>a</sup>
GEF-4	7	98	298.28	118	316.04	216	614.32
GEF-5	10	55	218.08	292	1,170.80	347	1,388.88
GEF-6	4	30	255.72	240	1,002.60	270	1,258.33
Total	21	183	772.08	650	2,489.44	833	3,261.52

Source: GEF Portal.

a. Includes unallocated parent program financing.



were approved in GEF-4, while most GEF-6 interventions have been endorsed but have yet to begin ([table 2.4](#)). A substantial number of GEF-6 interventions, 48 projects, are pending approval; 36 of these are financed by the LDCF, totaling \$241.7 million.

## AGENCIES

The number of GEF Agencies providing support to LDCs has increased since GEF-4. OPS6 found the expansion of the GEF partnership to 18 Agencies increased GEF relevance in countries by offering greater choice and focal area coverage. This finding also applies to LDCs. The number of GEF Agencies supporting LDCs has increased from 8 in GEF-4 to 12 during GEF-6. However, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP, and the World Bank—the three original GEF Agencies active since the pilot phase—implemented the largest share of GEF grants in LDCs. From GEF-4 to GEF-6, these Agencies implemented 69 percent of projects, corresponding to 72 percent of GEF grants to LDCs ([table 2.5](#)).

The three original Agencies' share of funding in LDCs diminished as new Agencies joined the GEF partnership from GEF-4 onwards, starting with the first expansion to seven more GEF Agencies. This trend continued with the second expansion to 18 accredited GEF Agencies in GEF-6 ([figure 2.3](#)). LDCs that are SIDS followed a different trend. The original GEF Agencies' share of financing was 92 percent in GEF-3 and had only dropped to 82 percent by GEF-6, compared with 69 percent for all LDCs. The percentage of the second expansion of Agencies is similar in SIDS at 9 percent, compared with 8 percent for all LDCs. This shows that Agencies of the first expansion have not yet become active in these SIDS. Although GEF-7 is not yet fully programmed, diversification of GEF Agencies continues, with the original GEF Agencies' funding falling to 52 percent. This could be partly explained by recipient countries' more specific and diversified

demand for technical services as well as by the GEF's strategic move from single focal area support toward multisectoral integrated programming in large impact programs.

**GEF Agencies active in LDCs are diversified across focal areas.** Most GEF Agencies active in LDCs have a diversified portfolio in focal area composition. Each Agency, except the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the World Bank ([figure 2.4](#)), is implementing a higher share of climate change adaptation projects. Most GEF Agencies have a high percentage of multifocal projects. UNIDO, however, has no multifocal interventions in its LDC portfolio, which is composed of POPs, chemicals and waste, and climate change mitigation projects.

**Countries select GEF Agencies based on comparative advantage.** From a detailed review of project documents, the comparative advantage of a GEF Agency includes (1) the history of engagement between the GEF Agency and the country in which the project is implemented; (2) the GEF Agency's ability to bring in technical expertise, provide policy support, and strengthen national capacity; and (3) the Agency's thematic and subject area knowledge through experience with similar projects implemented in the same country or region.

Interviews with national stakeholders conducted during country case studies confirmed this. Government officials indicated that expansion of the GEF Agencies has increased the relevance of GEF support to LDCs' national environmental priorities and has enabled them to work with a range of partners, based on their comparative and competitive advantage. For example, Tanzania credits UNDP's technical expertise for the ability to establish the Uluguru and Amani nature forest reserves under the Conservation and Management of Eastern Arc Mountain Forests project (GEF ID 1170). Several officials expressed an interest in working with the World Wildlife Fund based on its expertise

**Table 2.4** Funding to and number of projects in LDCs by project status and GEF replenishment period

Status	GEF-4		GEF-5		GEF-6		Total	
	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$ <sup>a</sup>	No.
Pending approval	0	0	20.72	6	303.20	48	323.92	55
PIF/PPG approval or clearance	0	0	0.98	1	3.32	3	4.29	4
Council approved	0.40	3	31.00	23	193.33	40	224.73	66
CEO approved/endorsed	3.50	1	183.33	27	453.48	102	640.31	130
Under implementation	191.48	65	1,073.40	252	241.24	76	1,506.13	393
Completed/closed	415.27	146	62.77	38	1.00	1	479.03	185
Total	610.65	216	1,372.19	347	1,195.57	270	3,178.41	833

Source: GEF Portal.

Note: CEO = Chief Executive Officer; PIF = project identification form; PPG = project preparation grant.

a. Excluding unallocated parent program financing.

**Table 2.5** Funding to and number of projects in LDCs by GEF Agency and replenishment period

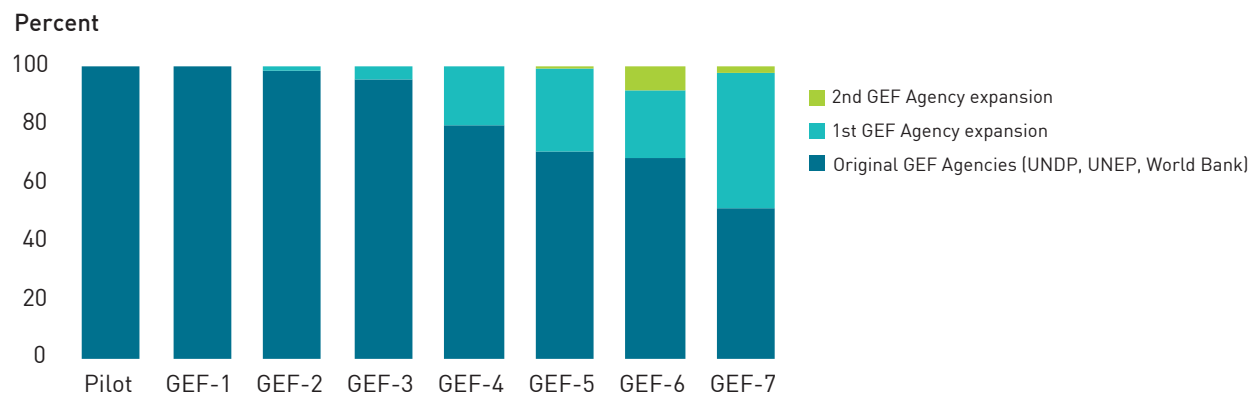
Agency	GEF-4		GEF-5		GEF-6		Total	
	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.
ADB	21.4	3	22.2	7	11.6	3	55.2	13
AfDB	7.5	2	132.5	22	79.0	14	219.0	38
BOAD	0	0	0	0	18.9	2	18.9	2
CI	0	0	1.0	1	28.6	9	29.6	10
FAO	35.0	7	141.1	33	113.7	22	289.9	62
GEF Secretariat <sup>a</sup>	0	0	1.0	25	0	0	1.0	25
IDB	3.6	1	0	0	1.8	1	5.5	2
IFAD	29.0	9	42.9	7	41.7	6	113.6	22
IUCN	0	0	6.6	1	37.5	10	44.1	11
UNDP	242.7	85	568.8	124	490.3	103	1,301.9	312
UNEP	104.2	53	202.1	57	177.9	60	484.2	170
UNIDO	23.0	16	48.4	42	28.6	20	99.9	78
World Bank	144.2	40	204.7	27	152.6	18	501.5	85
WWF-US	0	0	0.9	1	13.3	2	14.2	3
Total	610.6	216	1,372.2	347	1,195.6	270	3,178.4	833

Source: GEF Portal.

Note: ADB = Asian Development Bank; AfDB = African Development Bank; BOAD = West African Development Bank; CI = Conservation International; FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization; IDB = Inter-American Development Bank; IFAD = International Fund for Agricultural Development; IUCN = International Union for Conservation of Nature; UNIDO = United Nations Industrial Development Organization; WWF-US = World Wildlife Fund.

a. The GEF Secretariat directly implemented the national portfolio formulation exercises conducted in GEF-5.

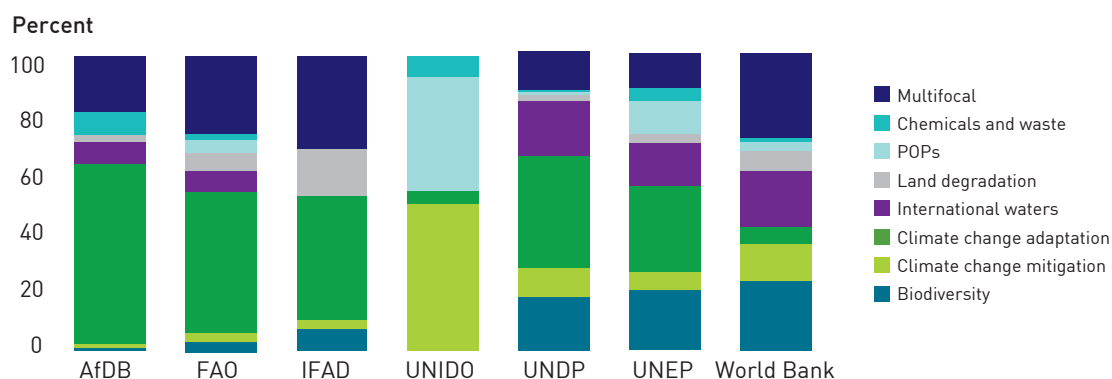
**Figure 2.3** Share of GEF grant by GEF Agency by GEF replenishment in LDCs



Source: GEF Portal.

Note: GEF-7 is not yet fully programmed.

**Figure 2.4** GEF funding in Agency portfolios by focal area in LDCs



Source: GEF Portal.

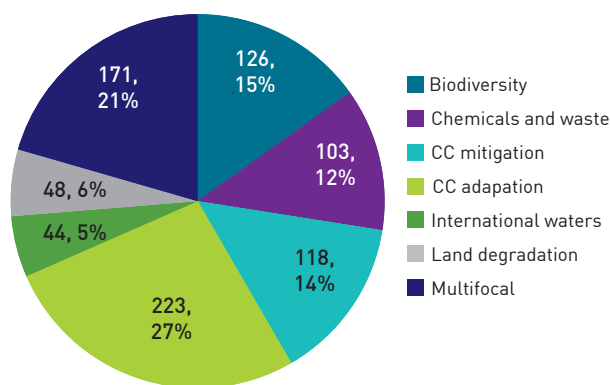
Note: The Inter-American Development Bank, International Union for Conservation of Nature, West African Development Bank, and World Wildlife Fund are omitted because of the low number of projects.

in conservation and environmental socioeconomic issues. In a recent priority-setting exercise, the World Wildlife Fund has been selected as the GEF Agency for a project under GEF-7. Another example is Bhutan, where the government appreciates the opportunity to select among GEF Agencies based on comparative advantage, although Agencies physically present in Thimphu are often given preference. These include the original GEF Agencies, the UNDP and the World Bank, and the World Wildlife Fund from the second expansion.

## FOCAL AREAS

**Climate change adaptation accounts for 37 percent of GEF funding to LDCs.** Climate change adaptation and multifocal support make up most of the GEF-4 to GEF-6 portfolio in number of projects and funding (figures 2.5 and 2.6). For LDCs that are SIDS, climate change adaptation accounts for 34 percent of GEF support, followed by international waters at 23 percent and multifocal projects at 22 percent. Funding for climate change adaptation comes almost exclusively from the LDCF

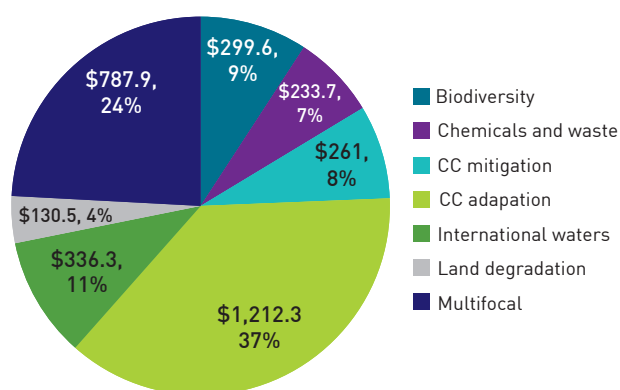
**Figure 2.5** Projects by focal area in LDCs



Source: GEF Portal.

Note: CC = climate change.

**Figure 2.6** GEF funding by focal area in LDCs



Source: GEF Portal.

Note: CC = climate change.

(98 percent), along with the SCCF and the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation,<sup>2</sup> while

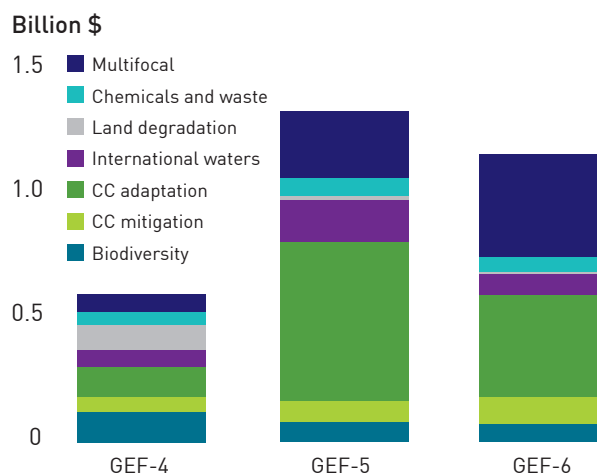
<sup>2</sup> As a precursor to operationalizing the SCCF and the LDCF, the GEF was mandated to finance pilot projects that would demonstrate the practical and successful use of adaptation planning and assessment. The GEF established the Strategic Priority for Adaptation in 2003, dedicating \$50 million under its trust fund to finance pilot and demonstration projects aimed at helping countries reduce vulnerability and increase adaptive capacity to the adverse effects of climate change in any or a combination of the GEF focal areas.

most of the funding for multifocal interventions originates from the GEF Trust Fund.

**The share of multifocal projects is increasing in LDCs.** The share of multifocal area projects increased from 11 percent in GEF-4 to 20 percent in GEF-5 and 35 percent in GEF-6 (figure 2.7). This shift is in line with the GEF’s move toward integrated programming in the overall GEF portfolio. The percentage share for climate change adaptation projects also increased, while shares for land degradation and biodiversity decreased.

The largest percentage of multifocal area projects addressed biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change mitigation from GEF-4 to GEF-6 (figure 2.8). Land degradation accounts for at least 20 percent of the funding for multifocal interventions, although its share has declined slightly since GEF-4. In GEF-5 and GEF-6, the share of sustainable forest management grants in multifocal area interventions has grown. In GEF-5 and GEF-6, more than 20 percent of funding for multifocal interventions in LDCs originated from sources other than single focal area allocations. They include funding

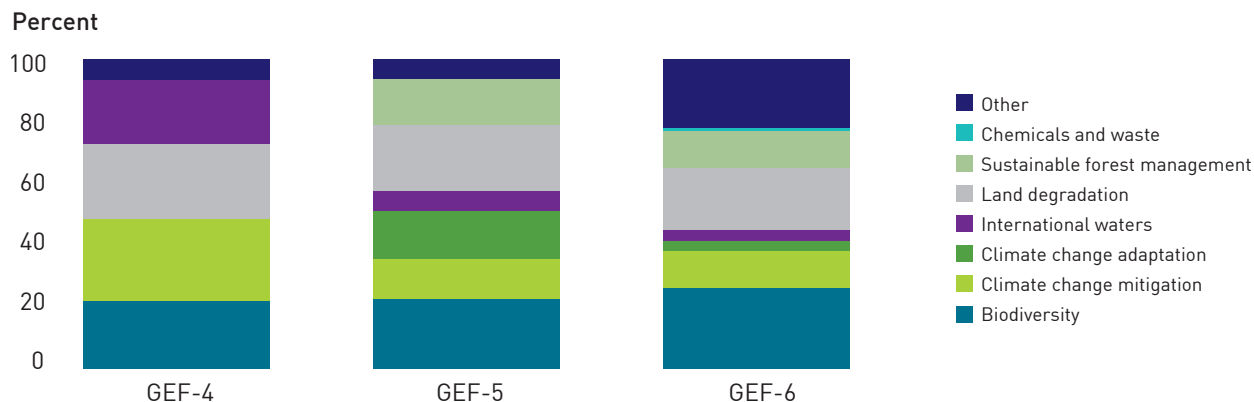
**Figure 2.7** GEF funding by focal area and GEF replenishment period in LDCs



Source: GEF Portal.

Note: CC = climate change.

**Figure 2.8** GEF multifocal support to LDCs by funding component



**Source:** GEF Portal; data provided by the GEF Secretariat.

**Note:** Other includes the integrated approach pilots and capacity development programs.

for integrated approach pilots, the LDCF, the SCCF, and funding for multifocal projects not earmarked for any GEF focal area. Except during GEF-5, there is limited adaptation funding in the multifocal area projects. The limited amount during GEF-6 is mainly because of unpredictable LDCF and SCCF funding. These funds are replenished through voluntary contributions. When pledges declined, it was challenging to combine adaptation funding with GEF Trust Fund funding in multi-trust fund projects.

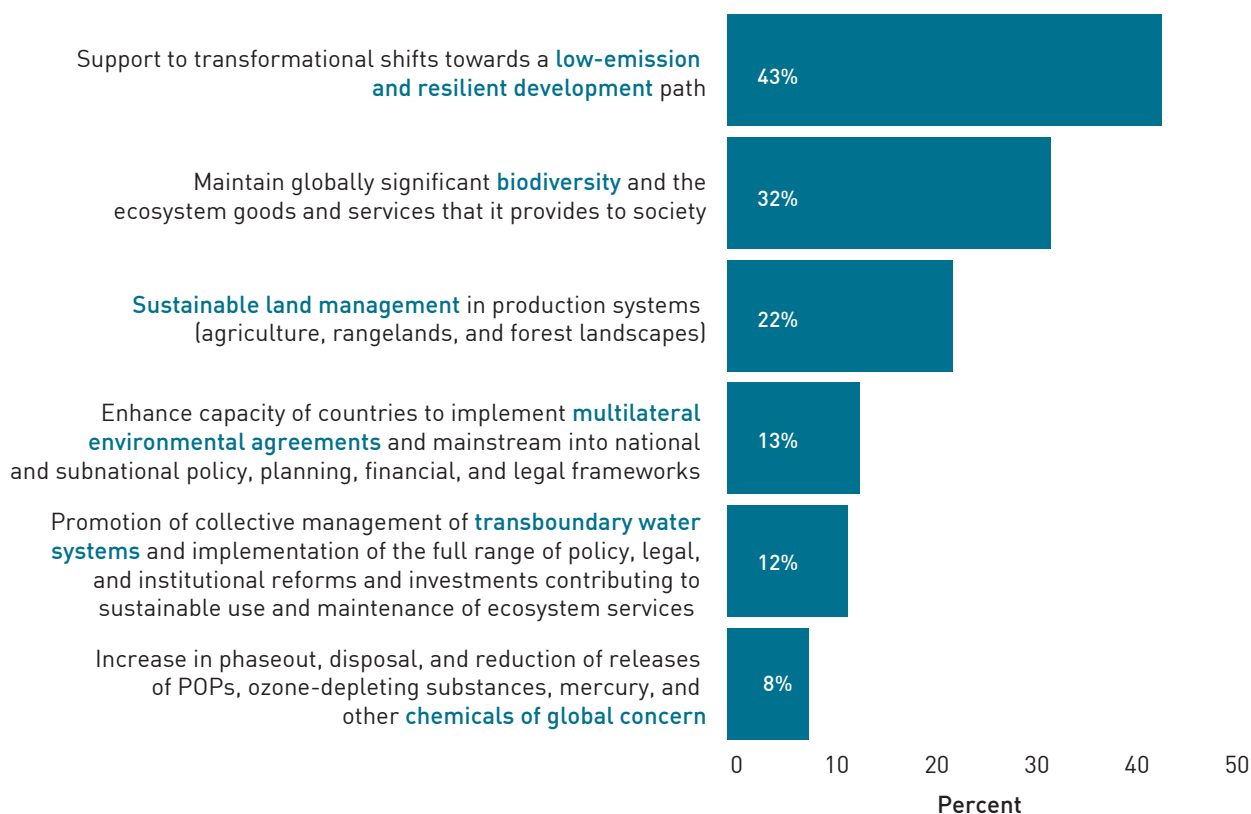
Within each focal area, the GEF must ensure support to achieve global environmental benefits. The desk review of the relevant cohort ( $n = 621$ ) examined the most important global environmental benefits in LDCs. It identified the main intervention domains as support to transformation shifts toward low-emissions and resilient development paths (43 percent), maintenance of globally significant biodiversity (32 percent), and sustainable land management (23 percent) (figure 2.9). A review of the environmental domains in the project logical frameworks, results frameworks, and related monitoring tools shows the most measured domains are deforestation, land degradation, and sustainable land management (27 percent); threats to

terrestrial biodiversity (24 percent); climate change adaptation (19 percent); and climate change mitigation (18 percent).

## 2.2 Relevance to national environmental challenges

**GEF interventions are aligned with LDC governments' environmental priorities.** Ninety-three percent of the GEF project documents reviewed describe the project's relevance to the country's specific priorities and considered these priorities in their design. In addition, 84 percent of projects include detailed reference to the specific environmental challenges in the country in the project objectives and components. Country case studies confirmed relevance. Government officials in countries visited highlighted that the GEF is an important source of funding contributing to national sustainable development planning. In Bhutan, for example, GEF support is aligned with the long-term development vision of Gross National Happiness and Bhutan 2020: A Vision for Peace, Prosperity, and Happiness. Conservation of the environment is one of the nine domains of Gross National Happiness and is integrated into every policy and development plan. Stakeholders

**Figure 2.9** Global environmental benefits addressed by GEF interventions in LDCs (% of projects)



**Source:** GEF Portal.

**Note:**  $n = 621$ . Several projects address multiple areas of intervention.

interviewed in Cambodia agreed that GEF support has generally been in line with government strategies and policies. GEF activities have contributed to the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan 2014–2023, the Agricultural Strategic Development Plan 2014–2018, and the 2006 National Water Resources Policy. LDCF funding in Vanuatu and Kiribati—both very vulnerable to sea level rise—is aligned with government policies and strategies for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction and has strengthened their national policy frameworks and strategies for resilience.

**GEF support addresses the main environmental challenges LDCs face.** Although climate change is not emerging as a direct environmental challenge for LDCs, 51 percent of the projects reviewed addressed it. Climate change is a major

financing window in the GEF as well as in the environmental donor community. It is a major driver of land degradation, desertification, and water scarcity (table 2.6). For 27 percent of the LDC projects reviewed, the respective results framework contains indicators on deforestation and land degradation, including sustainable land management. Indicators on threats to terrestrial biodiversity are in 24 percent of the projects reviewed; and indicators on climate change and mitigation in 19 percent and 18 percent of projects, respectively. These findings confirm the strong alignment of GEF support to the main environmental challenges LDCs face.

**GEF LDC interventions also consider socioeconomic priorities.** LDCs face socioeconomic vulnerabilities that exacerbate the environmental issues. For example, environmental conservation

**Table 2.6 National projects addressing the main environmental challenges in LDCs**

Country	Climate change	Deforestation, land degradation, desertification	Threats to biodiversity	Threats to marine resources	Water quality and quantity	Coastal and coral reef degradation	Waste management	Threats to inland water resources	Natural disasters	Air quality and air pollution	Mining
<b>Africa</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
Angola	5	5	2			1			1		
Benin	6	3	2	1			1				
Burkina Faso	9	4	5				2	1			1
Burundi	4	4	2	1				1			
Cabo Verde			1	1							
Central African Republic	2	1	1		1		1	1			
Chad	4	4	2	1	1		1	1			1
Comoros	6	4	2	2	1	1				2	
Congo, Dem. Rep.	6	1	3		1	1	1		1	1	
Djibouti	5	3		1	2				1		
Eritrea	1	2	1				2				1
Ethiopia	7	6	6				1				
Gambia	7	3	2	1		1					
Guinea	6	2	1	1		2					
Guinea-Bissau	2	3	4		1						
Lesotho	7	1									
Liberia	6	1	4			2					
Madagascar	4	4	6			1					
Malawi	7	4	5		1			1	1		
Mali	7	4	5								
Mauritania	3	8	2	1	2			1			
Mozambique	4	2	5	1			1		1		
Nepal	5	2	4				1				
Niger	5	5	3					1	1		
Rwanda	4	3	2								
São Tomé and Príncipe	5		1								
Senegal	10	5	2	1		1	1				
Sierra Leone	5		1		2						
Solomon Islands	3	1	1		1						
Somalia	2										
South Sudan											
Sudan	8	1	1								

*(continued)*

**Table 2.6** National projects addressing the main environmental challenges in LDCs *(continued)*

Country	Climate change	Deforestation, land degradation, desertification	Threats to biodiversity	Threats to marine resources	Water quality and quantity	Coastal and coral reef degradation	Waste management	Threats to inland water resources	Natural disasters	Air quality and air pollution	Mining
Tanzania	6	5	5	1							
Timor-Leste	5				1	1					
Togo	2		1								
Tuvalu	5	1	1	1							
Uganda	7	7	4		1		1	1			
Vanuatu	5	2	2	1	1	2			2		
Yemen, Rep.	1										
Zambia	5	4	5								
<b>Asia and Pacific</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Afghanistan	6	5	5		1			2	1		
Bangladesh	7	3	3	4		2	1	1		1	
Bhutan	6	4	6						1	1	
Cambodia	10	4	5		1			1			
Kiribati	6	2	3	2	2	2	1		1		
Lao PDR	9	2	5	1		1	1				1
Myanmar	4	3	3	1				1	1		1
<b>LAC</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>		
Haiti	7	4	2	1		1			1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>

**Sources:** PMIS data; SPREP (2017); UN-OHRLLS (2015); UNDP (2017); UNEP (1999, 2008, 2010, 2013); World Bank (2008a, 2008b, 2009, 2014, 2015a, 2015b, 2016, 2017).

**Note:** LAC = Latin America and the Caribbean. ■ = projects address the common underlying challenge of climate change; ■ = projects address one main challenge in the country; ■ = projects address a challenge that is not among the main ones for the country; ■ = no projects address any of the main challenges for the country. Several projects address multiple challenges.



is a cornerstone of Bhutan’s unique development approach and is integrated in all policies and development plans. However, the rapid pace of development and population growth puts chronic pressure on the natural environment, causing land degradation and biodiversity loss. In Guinea, government-sponsored bauxite mining attracts a growing number of workers, increasing pressure on the scarce natural resources in the northern part of the country. Cognizant of beneficiaries’ livelihood needs in LDCs, project documents have begun to capture the socioeconomic dimension of GEF interventions. Thirty-three percent of the project results frameworks reviewed have indicators on alternative livelihoods and income generation and diversification. Eighteen percent of projects measured resilience in their logical framework, 14 percent measured gender equality and women’s empowerment, 12 percent measured food security, and another 8 percent measured private sector engagement.

**In the areas of institutional development and governance, more than half the projects reviewed focus on policy frameworks and skills building.** GEF support can be classified in three main categories: knowledge and information, institutional capacity, and implementing strategies.

These areas of GEF support interact, complement, and reinforce each other, contributing to environmental stress reduction and improved environmental status (GEF IEO 2013a). GEF institutional support in LDCs primarily focused on helping countries develop their environmental policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks; building skills and capacities; and introducing innovative technologies and approaches (table 2.7). All these are domains in which the GEF has traditionally invested most of its financing and technical expertise, demonstrating its comparative advantage and additionality. The majority of GEF interventions in LDCs included indicators in their results framework on capacity—both institutional and governance. Seventy-two percent of projects had indicators measuring capacity and skills development; 70 percent had indicators measuring development of plans, policies, laws, and regulations. Smaller percentages included indicators for knowledge management and raising awareness: 46 percent and 48 percent, respectively.

**For example, the Coping with Drought and Climate Change project (GEF ID 3155) aimed to contribute to food security and increase capacity to adapt to climate change in agricultural and pastoral systems in southern**

**Table 2.7 Intervention typologies in LDCs**

Intervention area	Typology	Number	Percent
Knowledge and information	Knowledge generation	229	37
	Information sharing and access	210	34
	Awareness raising	139	22
	Skills building	371	60
	Monitoring and evaluation	151	24
Institutional capacity	Policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks	363	58
	Governance structures and arrangements	130	21
	Informal processes for trust building and conflict resolution	4	1
Implementing strategies	Technologies and approaches	350	56
	Implementing mechanisms and bodies	196	32
	Financial mechanisms for implementation and sustainability	96	15

**Note:**  $n = 621$ . Several projects address multiple areas of intervention.

**Mozambique.** This SCCF-financed project introduced drought-resilient crops and conservation agriculture, improved livestock production through upgraded enclosures and treatment, and established disaster preparedness committees equipped with communication facilities and a meteorological station. It also provided the necessary capacity development to interpret and transmit relevant information, developed community plans to cope with droughts, improved access to land and water, and replicated successful approaches in other areas. Project interventions were in institutional capacity (policy, legal, and regulatory frameworks), implementing strategies (technologies and approaches), and knowledge and information (skills building and awareness raising). The results framework for the project included indicators on drought impact, food production, and livestock; the number of people able to cope with drought; the number of people using climate information to cope with climate change effects; targets for implementing environmental policies on access to land and water; percentage of communities with disaster management committees; and local and central

government awareness of international lessons on successful drought-coping strategies.

The interventions of the Conservation and Management of the Eastern Arc Mountain Forests project in Tanzania also focused on institutional capacity, implementing strategies, and knowledge and information. The project sought to improve conservation through development and implementation of an integrated conservation strategy for biodiversity and water supply. To measure progress toward the objective, the project identified numerous indicators for four overarching outputs: development of a conservation strategy, community-based conservation initiatives, institutional reforms and increased capacity, and the establishment of a conservation endowment fund. The results framework for the project included indicators for district and forest management plans developed and implemented, planning handbooks and best practice notes produced and shared, workshops and trainings completed, institutional methods developed to increase local community participation, and a functioning endowment fund financing mechanism.

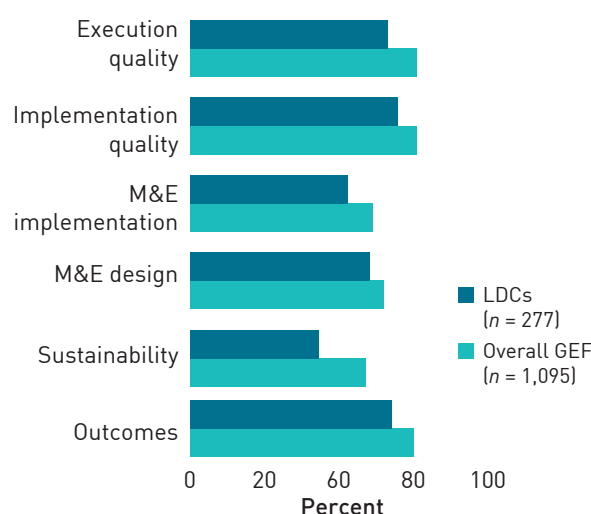
# Results and sustainability

This chapter addresses environmental outcomes and their sustainability, focusing on the factors influencing performance and sustainability of outcomes in LDCs. The analysis assesses sustainability of outcomes in depth to understand the most prevalent contributing and hindering factors at play. The chapter also explores the link between environment and socioeconomic development priorities and the trade-offs between the two in achieving project sustainability. Finally, the chapter assesses gender mainstreaming, climate resilience, fragility, and private sector engagement as cross-cutting issues affecting GEF support.

## 3.1 Performance

**The performance of projects in LDCs was rated lower than the overall GEF portfolio on all measured dimensions.** Analysis of terminal evaluation ratings from the most recent IEO APR 2019 database on projects completed from GEF-4 to GEF-6 (the relevance cohort), and projects completed from 2007 to 2014 (the sustainability cohort), shows that projects in LDCs considerably underperformed when compared with the overall GEF portfolio on all dimensions ([figure 3.1](#)).

**Figure 3.1** Percentage of projects with performance ratings in the satisfactory/likely range



Source: GEF IEO APR 2019 database.

Focusing on the two dimensions of interest to this evaluation—project outcomes and likelihood of sustainability—72 percent of projects were rated in the satisfactory range for outcomes. This is considerably lower than the 80 percent rating of projects in the overall GEF portfolio and 83 percent of projects in the Asia region ( $n = 316$ ), but similar to the rating of 73 percent of projects in the Africa region ( $n = 333$ ) where most LDCs are located. Only

46 percent of projects in LDCs were rated in the likely range for sustainable outcomes, which is lower than in Africa (50 percent of projects), Asia (69 percent), and the overall GEF portfolio (63 percent). Satisfactory outcomes and their likely sustainability are statistically correlated (GEF IEO 2019a). The statistical test for proportionality for this evaluation indicates that the outcome and sustainability ratings for the two comparators—overall GEF and LDCs—differ in their proportions. The difference between the cohorts is statistically significant: the proportion of projects that are rated satisfactory for outcome and sustainability is higher in the overall GEF portfolio compared with the LDCs' portfolio ( $p < 0.05$ ).

These findings on sustainability confirm evaluative evidence the IEO collected from 2008 to 2016 through country portfolio evaluations in LDCs and the LDCF program evaluation. In 2008, the IEO concluded that in Madagascar, despite 15 years of donor investment in the country's environmental program exceeding \$400 million (of which the GEF invested \$36 million), financial and institutional sustainability remained a key weakness at the end of GEF-3. The Madagascar country portfolio evaluation recommended the government and donors diversify investment in the environmental sector to address threats to sustainability (GEF IEO 2008b). More recently, the seventh Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation Report reporting on GEF portfolios in Eritrea, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania concluded that the likelihood of sustainability is mixed (GEF IEO 2014a). The report found that sustainability has been most successful when interventions foster institutional and individual capacity development and promote of livelihood activities through community-based approaches, such as those financed by the Small Grants Programme.

The LDCF provides a sizable portion of the GEF funding for LDCs (37 percent from GEF-4 to GEF-6). The most recent program evaluation of the LDCF (GEF IEO 2016) confirmed that long-term

sustainability of outcomes remains a challenge in LDCs. The main area of potential concern for the LDCF portfolio is the financial sustainability of project activities beyond project-related funding. Added to this is the need to integrate climate change adaptation into national policies and programs (institutional sustainability), and the need for country ownership to ensure sustainability (sociopolitical sustainability).

**Performance has improved in projects completed more recently.** Ratings in terminal evaluations of completed LDC projects approved in GEF-4 to GEF-6 (relevance cohort,  $n = 152$ ) were higher than those for projects completed from 2007 to 2014 (sustainability cohort,  $n = 173$ ). This finding is consistent with recent IEO analyses; they found projects in LDCs, Africa, SIDS, and FCV-affected countries are less frequently rated in the likely range for outcome sustainability than other projects, but have improved considerably, beginning with GEF-3 (GEF IEO 2019a).

**Climate change adaptation projects in LDCs had the highest ratings; 79 percent had outcomes in the satisfactory range, and 58 percent had outcomes likely to be sustained.** Multifocal projects also performed well on outcomes, with 76 percent of projects rated in the satisfactory range; but only 36 percent had positive sustainability ratings (table 3.1). Outcome ratings for international waters projects were the lowest of all focal area projects, yet their sustainability ratings were highest: 67 percent of these projects were rated as having satisfactory outcomes, and 58 percent were rated as having outcomes likely to be sustained.

From an analysis of terminal evaluations of completed projects, the SIDS SCCE found that regional projects had better outcomes and sustainability ratings than national projects (GEF IEO 2022). A similar analysis in this evaluation found that more regional projects in LDCs are rated in the satisfactory range on outcomes, sustainability, and

**Table 3.1** LDC projects with outcome and sustainability ratings in the satisfactory/likely range, by focal area

Focal area	% of projects		Total
	Satisfactory outcomes	Likely sustainability	
Biodiversity	72	41	89
CC – adaptation	79	58	39
CC – mitigation	69	47	36
International waters	67	58	31
Land degradation	70	42	44
Multifocal area	76	36	26
POPs	73	33	12
Total	72	46	277

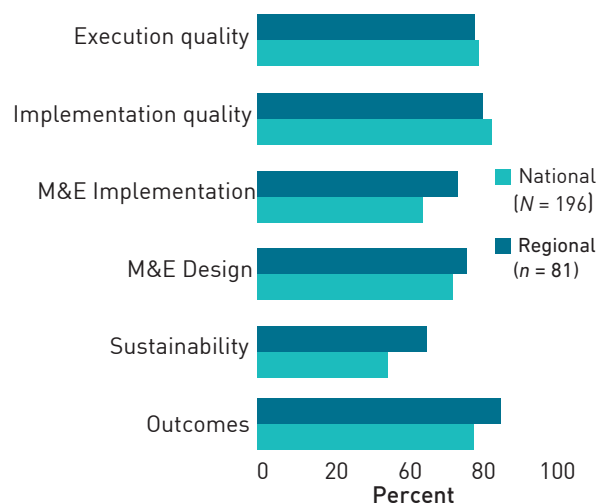
Source: GEF IEO APR 2019 database.

Note: CC = climate change.

monitoring and evaluation design and implementation than national projects (figure 3.2).

African Biomes and SIDS SCCE country case studies postcompletion found sustainability of outcomes for 7 of the 10 field-verified regional projects in the likely range. In four cases, sustainability ratings went from negative at completion to positive

**Figure 3.2** Percentage of national and regional LDC projects with performance ratings in the satisfactory/likely range



Source: GEF IEO APR 2019 database.

at postcompletion (table 3.2). The African Biomes SCCE found that in LDCs, these ratings improvements seem attributable more to the relevance of the technologies introduced than to their introduction in a regional project. For example, integrated pest and pollution management training in Mali provided by a regional POPs project (GEF ID 1420) introduced biological control agents. These continued to provide economic and health benefits of reduced pest control costs and reduced human poisoning, as well as environmental benefits of increased biodiversity. In Mauritania, interventions to protect coastline vulnerable to climate change by the regional Adaptation to Climate and Coastal Change in West Africa: Responding to Shoreline Change and Its Human Dimensions in West Africa through the Integrated Coastal Area Management project (GEF ID 2614) piloted a method of reconstituting the ecosystem and biodiversity of a part of the coastal dune still in place eight years after the end of the project protecting the capital city from ocean incursion.

The SIDS SCCE found that the activities of this same regional project (GEF ID 2614) in Guinea-Bissau have been replicated and scaled up to the national level through the LDCF project Strengthening the Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Areas and Communities to Climate Change in Guinea-Bissau (GEF ID 6988) (GEF IEO 2022). The improved rating of a second regional project in Guinea-Bissau—Combating Living Resource Depletion and Coastal Area Degradation in the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) through Ecosystem-Based Regional Actions (GEF ID 1188)—can partly be explained by the fact that the country went through a political crisis near the end of the project. For this project, the higher post-completion rating is based on partner engagement to develop proposed activities and replication projects. However, there is a risk that the process could be hindered, absent further funding.

**Table 3.2 Postcompletion sustainability ratings for field-verified projects in country case studies**

LDC	GEF ID	Project title	Sustainability rating	
			Terminal evaluation	Observed postcompletion
<b>LDCs</b>				
Bhutan	2358	Sustainable Land Management	Negative	Positive
	2550	Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program	Positive	Positive
	3052	Enhancing Global Environmental Management in Bhutan's Local Governance System	Negative	Positive
	4976	Addressing the Risk of Climate-induced Disasters through Enhanced National and Local Capacity for Effective Actions	Positive	Positive
Cambodia	1043	Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management (CALM) in the Northern Plains	Negative	Positive
	3404	Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices	Positive	Positive
	3635	Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and the Development of Bio-energy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions in Cambodia	Positive	<b>Negative</b>
Mozambique	2003	Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development Project	Negative	Positive
	2889	Zambezi Valley Market-Led Smallholder Development	Negative	Negative
	3155	Coping with Drought and Climate Change	Positive	Positive
Tanzania	1170	Conservation and Management of the Eastern Arc Mountain Forests	Negative	Positive
	2101	Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project	Negative	Negative
	2151	Novel Forms of Livestock & Wildlife Integration Adjacent to Protected Areas in Africa	Positive	Positive
<b>Sahel and Sudan-Guinea savanna biomes</b>				
Guinea	1877	Community-based Land Management	Negative	Positive
	1093	Reversing Land and Water Degradation Trends in the Niger River Basin (regional)	Positive	Positive
	1273	Coastal Marine and Biodiversity Management	Positive	Positive
Mali	1253	Gourma Biodiversity Conservation Project	Negative	<b>Negative/positive<sup>a</sup></b>
	1420	Reducing Dependence on POPs and other Agro-Chemicals in the Senegal and Niger River Basins through Integrated Production, Pest and Pollution Management (regional)	Negative	Positive
	1152	Biodiversity Conservation and Participatory Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Inner Niger Delta and Its Transition Areas, Mopti Region	—	Positive
	3763	SPWA-BD: Expansion and Strengthening of Mali's PA System	—	Negative
Mauritania	1258	Enhancing Conservation of the Critical Network of Sites of Wetlands Required by Migratory Waterbirds on the African/Eurasian Flyways (regional)	Positive	Positive
	2459	Community-based Watershed Management Project	Negative	Positive
	2614	Adaptation to Climate Change—Responding to Shoreline Change and Its Human Dimensions in West Africa through Integrated Coastal Area Management (regional)	Negative	Positive
	3379	SIP: Participatory Environmental Protection and Poverty Reduction in the Oases of Mauritania	Positive	<b>Negative</b>
Uganda	1830	Protected Areas Management and Sustainable Use	Positive	<b>Negative</b>
	1175	Conservation of Biodiversity in the Albertine Rift Forest Areas of Uganda	Negative	Negative
	2140	Removing Barriers to Invasive Plant Management in Africa (regional)	Negative	Negative
<b>SIDS</b>				
Comoros	1082	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Project	Negative	Negative
	1247	Addressing Land-Based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean	Positive	Positive
	2098	Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project	Negative	Negative
	3363	Integrated Ecological Planning and Sustainable Land Management in Coastal Ecosystems of Comoros	Negative	Negative
Guinea-Bissau	1188	Combating Living Resource Depletion and Coastal Area Degradation in the Guinea Current LME through Ecosystem-Based Regional Actions	Negative	Positive
	1221	Coastal and Biodiversity Management Project	Positive	Positive
	2614	Adaptation to Climate Change—Responding to Shoreline Change and Its Human Dimensions in West Africa through Integrated Coastal Area Management	Negative	Positive
Kiribati	2543	Kiribati Adaptation Program—Pilot Implementation Phase	Positive	Positive
Vanuatu	1682	Facilitating and Strengthening the Conservation Initiatives of Traditional Landholders and Their Communities to Achieve Biodiversity Conservation Objectives in Vanuatu	Positive	Positive

**Note:** Positive ratings of sustainability are likely and moderately likely; negative ratings are unlikely and moderately unlikely. **Green** text indicates improved rating postcompletion, **bold** means the rating has worsened.

a. Negative on infrastructure but positive for livelihoods.

## 3.2 Outcomes and sustainability

GEF support is provided to activities that directly or indirectly contribute to the improvement of environmental status or address drivers of environmental degradation. The impact of GEF support may occur immediately from project activities but often takes years or even decades after the project is complete to emerge. By analyzing how GEF support contributes to progress toward impact, the IEO can assess the extent to which it is likely to have an impact and be sustainable in the long term. Progress toward impact is assessed by the extent to which governments and other stakeholders adopt GEF interventions during implementation or at project end. Broader adoption leads to the transformational processes by which widespread implementation of interventions reaps global environmental benefits. This may occur in different ways. Most prominent among GEF-supported initiatives are mainstreaming, replication, scaling up, sustaining, and market change (GEF IEO 2018d) ([box 3.1](#)). The IEO has used this approach since 2013 to assess broader adoption of outcomes and progress toward impact of GEF interventions (GEF IEO 2013b).

In APR 2017, the IEO conducted a desk review of postcompletion verification reports ( $n = 53$ ). According to the analysis, outcomes of most GEF projects are sustained during postcompletion and a higher percentage of projects achieve environmental stress reduction and broader adoption at postcompletion. The review concluded that the key factors contributing to higher postcompletion outcomes are stakeholder buy-in, political support, availability of financial support for follow-up, and sustained efforts by the national executing agency. A few projects regressed to a lower outcome level postcompletion because of a lack of financial support for follow-up, low political support, low institutional capacities, low stakeholder buy-in, or

### Box 3.1 Mechanisms of broader adoption

**Sustaining.** When a GEF-supported intervention or outcome is continued by the original beneficiaries without GEF support so they can continue to reap the benefits.

**Mainstreaming.** When information, lessons, or specific aspects of a GEF initiative become part of a stakeholder's own initiatives, such as through laws, policies, regulations, or programs. This may occur through governments, through development organizations and other sectors, or both.

**Replication.** When a GEF-supported intervention is copied at a similar scale, often in other locations.

**Scaling-up.** When a GEF-supported intervention is implemented at a larger geographical scale, often expanded to include more political, administrative, economic, or ecological components. This allows concerns that cannot be resolved at lower scales to be addressed and promotes the spread of GEF contributions to areas contiguous to the original project site.

**Market change.** When a GEF-supported intervention influences an economic demand and supply shift to more environmentally friendly products and services.

flaws in the project's theory of change. Importantly, the review observed a higher percentage of projects postcompletion showed catalytic processes of broader adoption, such as mainstreaming, replication, and scaling up, or sustaining project outcomes than at completion (GEF IEO 2019a).

Overall, the review of 123 projects completed from 2007 to 2014 (sustainability cohort) in LDCs showed lower broad adoption rates than those of the overall GEF portfolio analyzed as part of the APR 2017. More than 74 percent of projects reviewed in LDCs for sustainability found that no actions occurred during implementation to stimulate broader

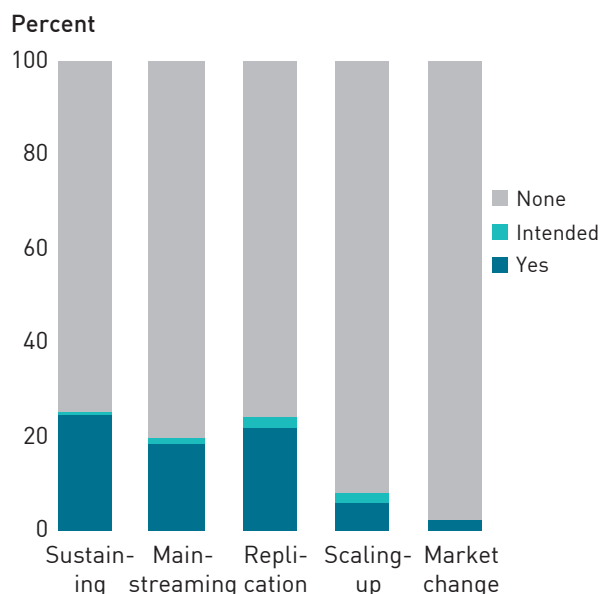
adoption of project outcomes postcompletion. Projects indicated that the most prevalent processes fully or partially implemented for broader adoption while projects were ongoing were sustaining at 24 percent, replication at 22 percent, and mainstreaming at 19 percent. This trend is comparable to the APR 2017 finding in which broader adoption of project outcomes occurred through sustaining and mainstreaming processes—49 percent and 40 percent respectively. However, projects in LDCs showed high levels of replication (figure 3.3).

The likelihood of broader adoption after project completion increases when it is planned for in the project design and implementation—such as in the detailed design of follow-up activities, or the establishment of governance structures or financing windows. In LDCs, such actions translated into concrete sustaining, mainstreaming, replication, and scaling-up initiatives being implemented in 12 percent to 20 percent of the projects reviewed (figure 3.4).

**Sustainability of outcomes is often achieved over time.** This finding confirms the APR 2017 conclusion and a similar conclusion from the SIDS SCCE (GEF IEO 2022). Field visits to 36 completed projects in 12 LDCs by the three SCCEs found that 25 projects maintained or improved sustainability of outcomes postcompletion (table 3.2). These improvements are mainly attributed to the quality of project design, as well as to positive changes postcompletion.

An example of improved postcompletion sustainability of outcomes is the Sustainable Land Management project (GEF ID 2358) in Bhutan. The project’s objective was to strengthen institutional and community capacity for anticipating and managing land degradation. Outcomes included demonstration of effective application of land degradation prevention approaches; farmers trained in adopting sustainable land management practices; and preparation and implementation of the

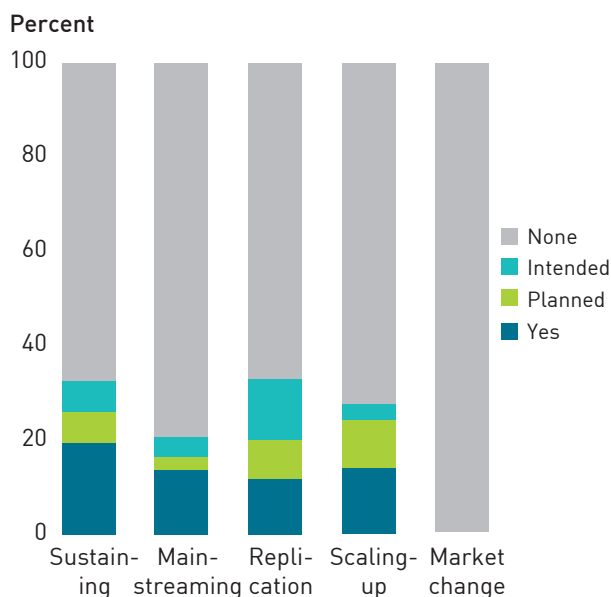
**Figure 3.3 Evidence of broader adoption having taken place in completed LDC projects during implementation**



Source: GEF IEO APR 2019 database.

Note:  $n = 123$ . Yes = actions have been implemented and/or are showing results, or some concrete actions have been taken but not (yet) fully implemented. Intended = actions have been mentioned or intended but no detailed plans or discussions (yet).

**Figure 3.4 Likelihood of broader adoption taking place in completed LDC projects postcompletion**



Source: GEF IEO APR 2019 database.

Note:  $n = 123$ . Yes = follow-on interventions designed and/or governance structures/financing in place. Planned = detailed discussions/planning occurring. Intended = actions have been mentioned or intended but no detailed plans or discussions.



2007 Land Policy Act, which incorporated sustainable land management principles in different programs and policies including the National Land Policy, the Forestry Policy, the National Adaptation Program of Action, and the National Biodiversity Action Plan. The country case study found that good project design and government support drove sustainability. It based the high sustainability rating on sustainable land management principles being incorporated in the government's 12th five-year plan (2018–23), as well as in plans on poverty reduction and increased food security.

Both context- and project-related factors were at play in cases where sustainability has worsened. The project outcomes for Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and the Development of Bioenergy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions in Cambodia (GEF ID 3635) were rated less likely to be sustained postcompletion, attributable to dwindling markets and the loss of forest protected areas. The project demonstrated income-generating activities from sustainable management practices in community forests and protected areas from producing bioenergy efficient cook stoves and charcoal that reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Heavy encroachment on the protected forest has limited the supply and quality of wood for charcoal production, and the charcoal that is produced cannot compete in the market based on quality, price, and quantity. Manufacturing cook stoves from locally available resources such as clay and rice husks was not sustainable because of market and transportation constraints. Production also declined because of better paid jobs in other markets, such as the garment sector.

Outcomes from the Strategic Investment Program: Participatory Environmental Protection and Poverty Reduction in the Oases of Mauritania (GEF ID 3379) project were found to have lower sustainability because the approaches and technologies introduced were expensive and inappropriate. The

project aimed at improving the livelihoods of oasis residents, farmers, and herders by (1) substantially reducing land degradation and enhancing land and water productivity through targeted on-the-ground investments, and (2) promoting environmentally friendly income-generating activities and energy-saving options. The water-lifting and irrigation systems introduced, including drip irrigation and motorized pumping systems, have not survived because they are either too complex, too costly to operate, or both.

### 3.3 Factors influencing outcome sustainability

This section explores factors that contribute to or hinder outcome sustainability. It starts with an analysis of available terminal evaluations assessed in the 2019 APR with ratings on four dimensions—financial, institutional, sociopolitical, and environmental—affecting the likelihood of project outcome sustainability. Findings are then compared with projects in LDCs completed from 2007 to 2014 and are part of the 2019 APR. This is followed by a comparison using evidence from previous IEO analyses, the review of 123 terminal evaluations of projects in the sustainability cohort, and the country case studies.

Fifty-two percent of GEF projects with terminal evaluations from the APR 2019 cohort of projects completed from 2007 to 2014 (371 of 717 projects) have information for all four dimensions of the likelihood of sustainability. A subset of projects in LDCs completed from 2007 to 2014 is part of the 2019 APR (75 of 173 projects). Regional subsets of these are completed projects in LDCs in Africa and Asia.

**Financial sustainability is rated lower than other dimensions of sustainability in LDCs.** In the overall GEF portfolio, more than 80 percent of projects were rated likely for sociopolitical, institutional, and environmental sustainability, compared with

72 percent for financial sustainability. The trend is the same for projects in LDCs that are part of the APR 2019: only 65 percent of these projects were rated likely for financial sustainability (figure 3.5). The trends in Africa and Asia, where most LDCs are located, vary. In Africa, 57 percent of projects are rated likely for financial sustainability; compared with 82 percent in Asia, higher than the GEF portfolio overall.

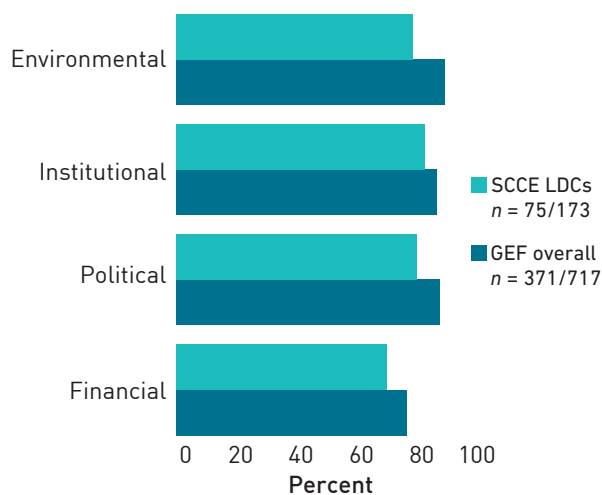
The likelihood of institutional sustainability emerged as the most prominent sustainability dimension in LDCs, with 77 percent of projects so rated. This is slightly lower than for the overall GEF cohort. This positive rating suggests that the investment made by the GEF in building and supporting existing institutional structures and capacities in LDCs is paying off. Seventy-three percent of projects in LDCs were rated likely for environmental sustainability; 75 percent were rated likely for political sustainability.

For completed projects in the 2019 APR database that are in the sustainability cohort (completed from 2007 to 2014), 75 percent of projects in LDCs were rated likely for environmental and political sustainability, 77 percent likely for institutional

sustainability, and only 65 percent likely for financial sustainability. All these are lower than for the overall GEF cohort. By region, financial sustainability varies widely, from 54 percent in LDCs in Africa to 84 percent in LDCs in Asia, the latter being higher than the overall GEF cohort. This range reflects the heterogeneity among LDCs. This evaluation conducted the statistical test for proportionality on the four sustainability dimensions (financial, institutional, sociopolitical, and environmental) for the two cohorts—overall GEF and LDCs. The results indicate that these four dimensions differ in proportionality across the cohorts by varying degrees. In order, they are financial ( $p = 0.88$ ), political ( $p = 0.9338$ ), environmental ( $p = 0.95$ ), and institutional ( $p = 0.75$ ).

The APR 2017 desk review postcompletion identified six main factors hindering sustainability: (1) lack of financial support for maintenance of infrastructure or follow-up, (2) lack of sustained efforts by the executing agency, (3) inadequate political support, including limited progress on the adoption of legal and regulatory measures, (4) low institutional capacities of key agencies, (5) low levels of stakeholder buy-in, and (6) flaws in projects' theories of change. These factors were also found in LDCs in the review of the 123 terminal evaluations of projects in the sustainability cohort.

**Figure 3.5** Percentage of projects attributing outcome sustainability to different dimensions



Source: GEF IEO APR 2019 database.

Analysis of the terminal evaluations of projects completed from 2007 to 2014 in the sustainability cohort identified a strong buy-in and a strong sense of project ownership among key stakeholders (37 percent) and good project management or co-management (28 percent) as the most prominent project-related factors positively affecting the likelihood of outcome sustainability. Other project-related contributing factors the analysis found include timely and evidence-based adaptive management (26 percent), good engagement of key stakeholders/stakeholders involved at design and decision making (24 percent), good coordination with/continuity of previous or current initiatives,

and extended implementation time (22 percent). Less prominent contributing factors were good project design (15 percent) and highly relevant technology/approach (13 percent). Poor project design is the most prominent factor hindering sustainability in LDCs, (35 percent), followed by poor understanding of project management and financial rules and regulations (26 percent), insufficient time for implementation (24 percent), and poor project management (21 percent).

The predominant context-related factor contributing to likelihood of outcome sustainability in LDC projects is national government support (35 percent). Links to previous/current related initiatives was frequently cited (18 percent). In 37 percent of the projects reviewed, no contextual factors were identified. The predominant context-related factor hindering sustainability of outcomes is unfavorable political conditions/events (26 percent), followed by low institutional capacities (20 percent) and lack of national government support (14 percent). Of all these factors, lack of financial support and poor project design were the most frequently observed in the countries and projects this evaluation visited ([table 3.3](#)).

### A well-designed project is key for sustainability.

Project design is one of the most prominent factors that influences sustainability of outcomes, positively or negatively. Project design that promotes sustainability considers a country’s socioeconomic and political context as well as local conditions and knowledge. A well-designed project includes measures and activities that will support—both financially and institutionally—continued delivery of outcomes beyond the life of the project. Site visits confirmed the importance of project design for long-term sustainability. Outcome sustainability of the Market-Led Smallholder Development in the Zambezi Valley project (GEF ID 2889) in Mozambique was rated marginally unsustainable at completion and postcompletion, mainly because the project design overstated existing implementation capacity. At the time of project design, implementation of the country’s decentralization program and capacity development at the district level were still in their formative years. Many capacities relevant to project implementation—such as procurement, financial management, and monitoring and evaluation—were not adequately available at the district level. Therefore, the project relied heavily, and prematurely, on the country’s

**Table 3.3** Factors hindering sustainability observed in country case studies

	Bhutan	Cambodia	Mozambique	Tanzania	Guinea	Mali	Mauritania	Uganda	Comoros	Guinea Bissau	Kiribati	Vanuatu
Factor identified in APR 2017	LDC SCCE			African Biomes SCCE				SIDS SCCE				
Flaws in the projects’ theory of change/ poor design												
Lack of financial support												
Inadequate political support												
No continuation from executing agency												
Low institutional capacities												
Low stakeholder buy-in												

decentralization framework, which was too recent a construct to be fully in place and operational to sustain a development project of this complexity.

The team observed another example of inadequate project design in Tolo, Guinea. There, sustainability of positive environmental outcomes achieved around the source of the Bafing River, reforested with support from the Community-based Land Management project (GEF ID 1877) after relocating the farming communities to a nearby watershed, is threatened by insufficient groundwater. In this case, the project design did not include a technical feasibility study to assess water availability and its seasonal variation or other groundwater stock analyses.

One project highlighted in [table 3.2](#) for improved sustainability of outcomes at postcompletion is the Sustainable Land Management project in Bhutan. A key factor driving sustainability was good project design, including highly relevant objectives in line with government priorities and relevant activities to achieve stated objectives. A bottom-up approach with participatory planning that focused on community priorities guided project design. Phased implementation allowed for adjustment throughout implementation based on learning from pilots, decentralization to strengthen the role of communities and local authorities, use of knowledge and information on farmer incentives, and an integrated multisectoral approach. Before project completion, institutional, financial, technical, and policy arrangements were made for sustaining outcomes.

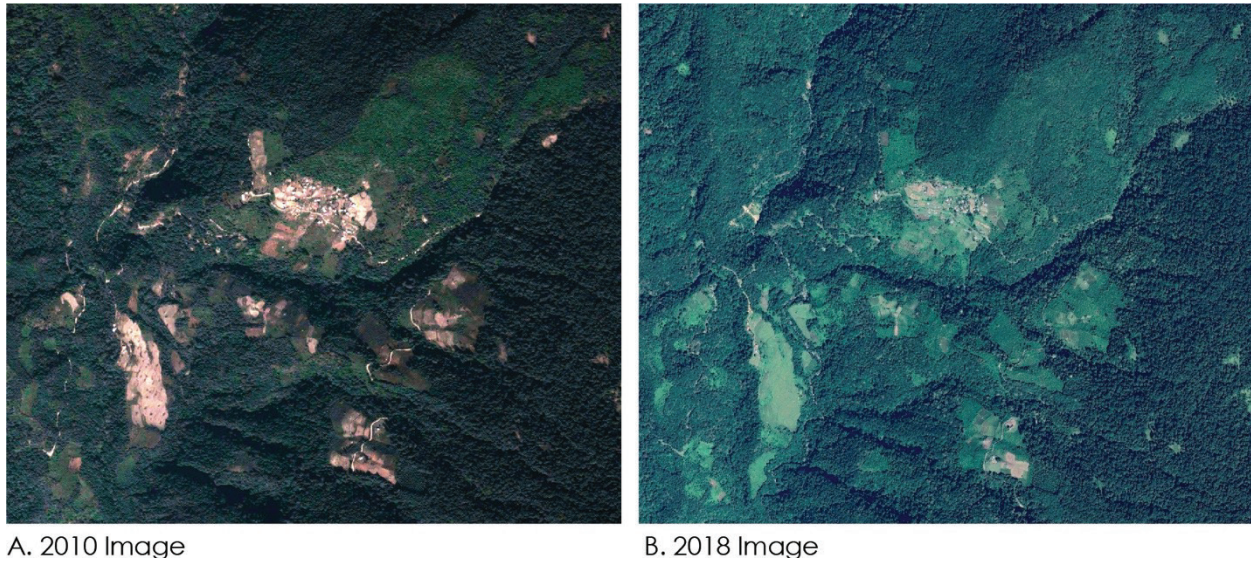
Sustainable land management practices were piloted in three *gewogs* (groups of villages), where farmers were trained in sustainable land management techniques. The project sites were in areas of high incidence of land degradation, inhabited by the country's poorest and most vulnerable communities. The project increased the number of farmers practicing sustainable land management

techniques, reduced sediment flows in selected watersheds, regenerated degraded forest land, and improved grazing land. A postcompletion site visit to a pilot *gewog* in Zhemgang noted continued practice of these techniques, such as land terracing, hedgerows, fruit orchards, tree plantations, and irrigation systems. Income has increased from selling produce both in the district and in Gelephu on the border with India. Villagers interviewed confirmed that more land is under cultivation, and 60 percent of households continue using sustainable land management techniques learned from the project. The remainder of the households discontinued using the techniques because of water shortages and losses caused by wildlife, such as bears and wild boars. The government has provided some electric fencing, but it is insufficient.

The continued practice of sustainable land management techniques has helped improve and retain soil and convert shifting land cultivation to sustainable land cover. This positive outcome is evidenced by satellite images of the project pilot area taken in 2010 and 2018 showing vegetation regeneration. Both forest and vegetation cover in pastures have increased since the onset of the project ([figure 3.6](#)). The 2010 image clearly shows large areas of relatively bare ground that are covered by vegetation in 2018. This trend occurred despite a decrease in overall precipitation.

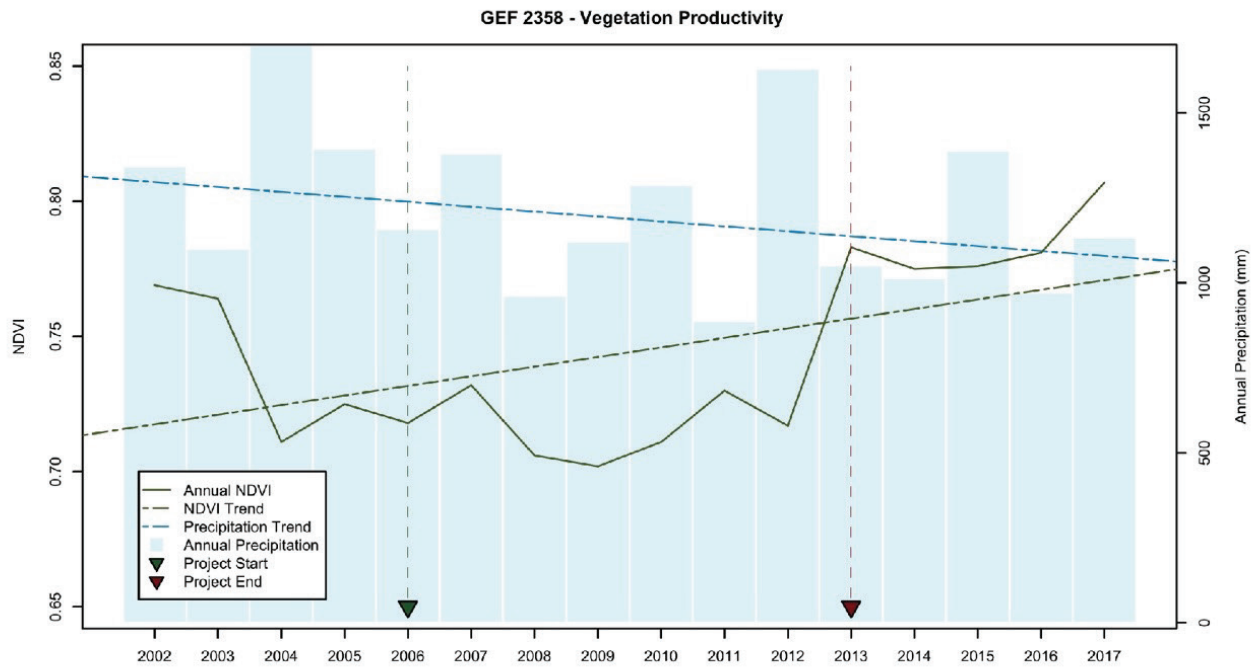
A quantitative analysis of satellite imagery using the annual mean normalized difference vegetation index (NDVI) from 2002 to 2017 shows a positive trend in vegetation regeneration across the area, with noticeable changes toward the end of the project that continue beyond the project ([figure 3.7](#)). These data provide evidence that the sustainable land management techniques the project introduced have contributed to positive environmental outcomes. Interviews corroborate the results of the satellite data analysis.

**Figure 3.6** Satellite images of Zhemgang, Bhutan, 2012 and 2018



**Note:** Satellite images show the landscape early in the project implementation phase and after project completion. The satellite data show an increase in forest cover and ground cover, particularly across bare patches.

**Figure 3.7** Time series of vegetation productivity and rainfall in Zhemgang, Bhutan



**Note:** The vegetation trend (NDVI) and precipitation trend for the area show a general increase in vegetation productivity despite decreasing levels of precipitation.

**Many GEF interventions with positive outcomes include income-generating activities that link local community benefits to improved environmental management.** The review of terminal evaluations of the sustainability cohort projects and postcompletion site visits found many instances of income-generating activities linked to climate-resilient agriculture—sustainable agriculture, livestock, and fishing practices; water resource management; and biodiversity conservation and ecotourism livelihoods. This approach has been found to lead to tangible outcomes in LDCs. Community livelihood interventions have been an effective tool in community systems to create awareness and empower communities to protect the environment and reduce poverty (UNDP IEO 2018).

There are many examples of successes and failures in promoting alternative livelihoods. In Cambodia, the design of the Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management in the Northern Plains project (GEF ID 1043) integrated livelihoods into the strategy for environmental conservation. Local communities were supported in moving from subsistence rice farming to producing organic rice and marketing it in Europe. Another successful example is the Facilitating and Strengthening the Conservation Initiatives of Traditional Landholders and their Communities to Achieve Biodiversity Conservation Objectives project (GEF ID 1682) in Vanuatu that is working with local communities to conserve terrestrial community-based protected areas. The income from ecotourism was achieved after the project was closed, based on project results.

In Cambodia, the Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices project (GEF ID 3404), financed by the LDCF, introduced new technologies, such as solar pumps and adaptive agricultural practices that improved the livelihoods of farmers. The country case study found a lack of funding, spare parts, and mechanics to repair malfunctioning equipment. Also,

community water user groups were not raising enough funds for maintenance. In contrast, in Mauritania, the SIP: Participatory Environmental Protection and Poverty Reduction in the Oases of Mauritania (GEF ID 3379) project introduced small-scale infrastructure investments including solar pumps that were within the financial reach of households in the oases. Households have maintained them and have also invested in new structures after project closure.

**Risks and mitigation measures are important drivers of sustainability and were well documented in most projects.** A comprehensive discussion about context-related factors of sustainability needs to consider risks. If they are not accounted for in the design and they occur during implementation, both outcomes and sustainability postcompletion will likely be hindered. These include socioeconomic and political risks as well as climate-related risks. The review of design documents of GEF-4 to GEF-6 projects in LDCs ( $n = 621$ ), including projects completed from 2007 to 2014, indicates that 85 percent of projects included risk considerations, in compliance with GEF requirements. Further analysis of the types of risks in project documents shows that 53 percent focused on capacity development risks and 46 percent mentioned climatic risks. Thirty-nine percent and 41 percent of project design documents also referred to institutional and implementation risks respectively. Thirty-five percent indicated political and resource risk and 32 percent mentioned government-related risks.

Eighty percent of the projects reviewed elaborated risk mitigation measures in project design documents. For example, the Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program (GEF ID 2550) in Bhutan identified gaps in capacity among farmers to produce and market new agrobiodiversity products. These gaps would be addressed by a major capacity-building component with farmer training, validation of indigenous knowledge, and awareness

raising. In Mozambique, the Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development project (GEF ID 2003) provided policy reforms and incentives to attract private sector partners and investment. The project considered a low response level and a lack of private sector partnerships a risk. To mitigate the risk, the project planned close consultations with the private sector during project preparation and implementation to identify the main obstacles from its perspective. The Institutional Strengthening and Resource Mobilization for Mainstreaming Integrated Land and Water Management Approaches into Development Programs in Africa (GEF ID 1325) focused on risks of low community engagement and stakeholder participation. In response, the project design called for decentralized, community-driven development implementation to avoid being a top-down, government-led program and to address community concerns and skepticism that the project would deliver its intended outcomes.

### 3.4 Synergies and trade-offs between environmental and developmental objectives on sustainability

**Little consideration is given at the project design stage to the influences that synergies and trade-offs between socioeconomic and environmental objectives have on prospects for sustainability.** The review of design documents of 123 projects completed from 2007 to 2014 showed that only 32 percent (39 projects) contained some mention of trade-offs, synergies, or both. Eight also addressed trade-off-related mitigation. Of the 39 projects, only six focused on trade-offs and synergies between development and environment. Of the remaining 33, 3 mentioned synergies, but lacked detailed discussion of the identified synergies: 30 focused on project-level synergies, such as those with other projects and programs,

cost-effectiveness and financial synergies, or synergies among GEF focal areas. For example, the Biodiversity Conservation and Participatory Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Inner Niger Delta and its Transition Areas, Mopti Region in Mali (GEF ID 1152) aimed at the restoration, conservation, and sustainable management of local ecosystems and their biodiversity. The project sought to ensure synergy with other biodiversity conservation and land restoration initiatives undertaken by the GEF, the World Bank, and UNDP projects in the Niger River Delta.

An example of a project that addresses synergies between development and environment is the Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Comoros (GEF ID 4974). This LDCF project seeks synergies between Comoros's development agenda and new technologies. It looks for mitigation and adaptation linkages by promoting adaptive technologies that are low carbon, such as solar water pumping; or by exploring synergies in the agriculture and forestry sectors. The Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development project in Mozambique also addressed trade-off-related mitigation. The project design drew from existing efforts in southern Africa in its aim to achieve synergy between biodiversity conservation and economic development through community-oriented, nature-based tourism and other types of sustainable use of biodiversity. The project's tourism development and conservation objectives were intended to be synergistic. Therefore, the project sought to plan and monitor closely to ensure development was done in an environmentally sustainable manner that also contributed to local livelihoods and economic development. The project also supported the development of incentives and regulatory frameworks to support and favor responsible tourism and discourage exploitative tourism.

**Findings from case studies stressed the importance of nexus thinking between environmental and socioeconomic priorities and objectives for higher sustainability.** The nexus between the environment and socioeconomic development—a concept central to sustainable development—is often neglected in development interventions by donors and developing countries alike. Major trade-offs exist between environmental, socioeconomic, and natural resource objectives. Efforts to integrate socioeconomic development with environmental programming and sustainable resource use at the national and local levels depend in part on the interest of country governments. Case studies indicated that when sustainable alternative livelihoods are possible with a positive environment-socioeconomic nexus, the chances of sustainability of the environmental benefits of project interventions were much greater.

The outcomes of the Conservation and Management of the Eastern Arc Mountain Forests project in Tanzania contributed to urban water supplies through improved forest management and conservation by local communities, government authorities, and other stakeholders. The Ulugurus, part of the Eastern Arc Mountains, are the main source of water for Dar es Salaam and Morogoro. The project linked local community benefits to improved environmental management, providing support for local livelihoods, such as tree nursery establishment and planting, beekeeping, improved cooking stoves and brickmaking, fishponds, and dairy goats, as well as to local saving and credit schemes. Such investments in local livelihoods helped generate support for environmental management.

The LDCF-financed Cambodia Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices project demonstrated resilient irrigation, freshwater management, and farming options. The project restored and built small-scale irrigation schemes, solar and windmill pumps,

and community ponds. It established seed purification groups and integrated farming systems. It provided access to finance through group revolving funds and provided capacity building to farmers and project staff. Finally, it shared lessons learned to promote resilience of farmers and associated communities. This support has led to household labor savings from new domestic water sources and improved health benefits from waterborne diseases through clean water use, as well as enhanced community resilience to climate change. Furthermore, beneficiaries' livelihoods and income generation improved with the water supplied by solar and windmill pumps to home vegetable gardens.

The Coastal and Biodiversity Management Project (GEF ID 1221) in Guinea-Bissau and a series of replication projects (including Small Grants Programme projects) focused on the water-energy-food nexus through water drilling and installation of wells and water pumps. The water is mainly used for drinking, but there is some community-based horticulture as well. The improved drinking water has positive effects on human health. It reduced the number of cases of diarrhea among children. Other microprojects using new technologies resulted in improved productivity and higher incomes in beneficiary communities.

## 3.5 Cross-cutting Issues

### GENDER

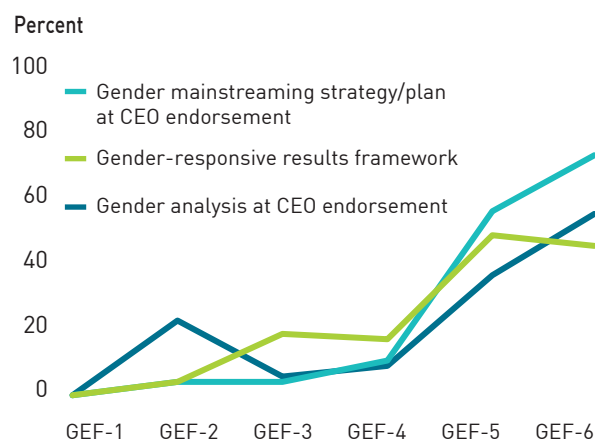
To assess the extent to which gender has been taken into consideration in GEF programming in LDCs, the evaluation completed a quality-at-entry review of design documents of both the relevance and the sustainability cohorts ( $n = 621$ ). The assessment verified whether projects had (1) completed a gender analysis before chief executive officer (CEO) endorsement; (2) developed a



gender mainstreaming plan; and (3) incorporated a gender-responsive results framework, including gender-disaggregated indicators. The analysis shows a progressive increase in the number of projects undertaking a gender analysis at CEO endorsement. It has more than doubled from GEF-4 to GEF-6 (figure 3.8). The number of projects with a gender mainstreaming plan and a gender-responsive results framework follow a similar trend. Interestingly, the analysis found that 41 percent of projects have a gender mainstreaming plan, yet 30 percent of the projects had not conducted a gender analysis at CEO endorsement.

**Consideration of gender has improved over the replenishment periods in LDCs.** Projects were assessed at entry, and for completed projects with terminal evaluations at completion, using a gender rating scale applied in recent IEO analyses (box 3.2) (GEF IEO 2018b). While more than 50 percent of GEF-1 to GEF-4 projects were rated gender blind, this decreased to 11 percent in GEF-5 and to 5 percent in GEF-6 with the introduction of the GEF Gender Mainstreaming Policy in May 2011 (GEF 2012). The percentage of gender-sensitive projects increased substantially in GEF-5 and was maintained in GEF-6 (figure 3.9).

**Figure 3.8** Gender consideration at entry in LDC projects by GEF replenishment



Source: Project documents.

### Box 3.2 Gender rating scale

**Not gender relevant.** Gender plays no role in the planned intervention.

**Gender blind.** Project does not demonstrate awareness of the roles, rights, responsibilities, and power relations associated with being male or female.

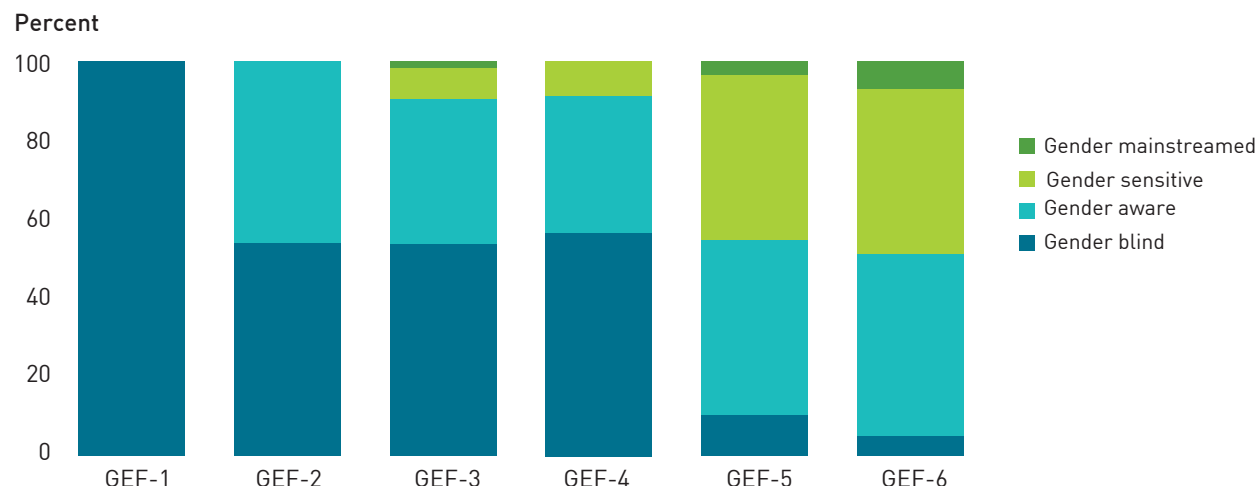
**Gender aware.** Project recognizes the economic/social/political roles, rights, entitlements, responsibilities, obligations, and power relations socially assigned to men and women, but might work around existing gender differences and inequalities or does not sufficiently show how it addresses gender differences and promotes gender equalities.

**Gender sensitive.** Project adopts gender-sensitive methodologies (a gender assessment is undertaken, gender-disaggregated data are collected, gender-sensitive indicators are integrated in monitoring and evaluation to address gender differences and promote gender equality).

**Gender mainstreamed.** Project ensures that gender perspectives and attention to the goal of gender equality are central to most, if not all, activities. It assesses the implications for women and men of any planned action, including legislation, policies, or programs, in any area and at all levels.

**Gender transformative.** Project goes beyond gender mainstreaming and facilitates a critical examination of gender norms, roles, and relationships; strengthens or creates systems that support gender equity; or questions and changes gender norms and dynamics.

**Figure 3.9** Gender consideration in LDC projects at entry by GEF replenishment period

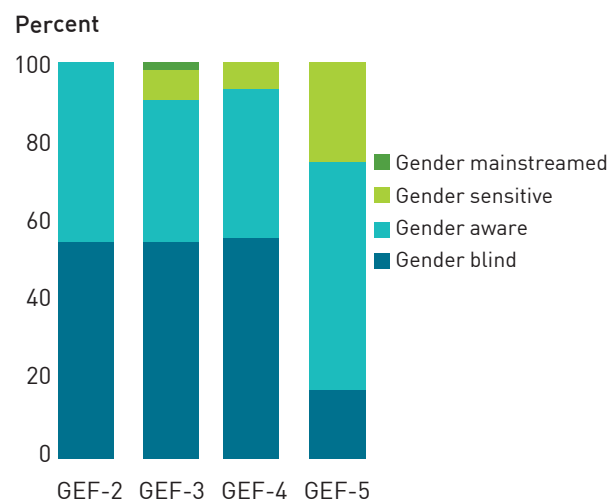


Source: Project documents.

**Gender is increasingly being considered during project implementation, even when it is not explicitly addressed at the design stage.** The GEF IEO’s gender mainstreaming evaluation (GEF IEO 2018b) found that gender ratings at completion for GEF-1 to GEF-4 projects have improved. The evaluation reported a decrease in the number of gender-blind projects and an increase in the

number of gender-aware projects, with some increase in gender-sensitive projects. Similarly, gender considerations in LDCs are considered during project implementation, even when not addressed during design. This is evident in projects’ improved ratings between entry and completion. Figures 3.10 and 3.11 compare gender ratings at entry and completion, based on projects with

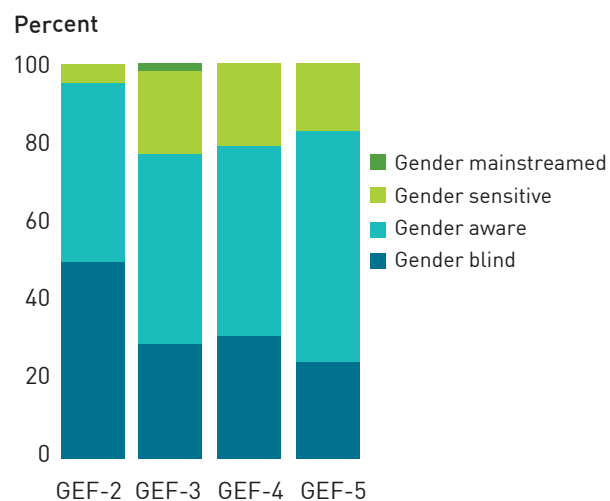
**Figure 3.10** Gender consideration in LDC projects with a terminal evaluation at entry



Source: Project design documents.

Note: n = 234.

**Figure 3.11** Gender consideration in LDC projects with a terminal evaluation at completion



Source: Terminal evaluation reports.

Note: n = 234.

terminal evaluations ( $n=234$ ). This comparison shows that ratings shift toward gender aware and gender sensitive at completion.

**Sixty-five percent of completed projects showed evidence of women's inclusion and empowerment emerging during implementation.**

Gender-disaggregated data in project documents tend to focus on the share of men and women as beneficiaries. No explicit evidence of women being considered or consulted at design emerged from the project documentation reviewed.

**Case studies confirmed that even when gender mainstreaming was not part of the design, most projects were implemented in a gender-inclusive manner.**

The Coastal and Biodiversity Management (GEF ID 1221) project in Guinea-Bissau, which strengthened the country's protected areas system and supported local community organization and community investment priorities, was designed with no explicit gender focus. However, microprojects were designed to ensure women benefited in the choice of projects—such as smoked fish initiatives in which women had their own accounts with a microcredit facility, women-only horticulture ventures—and in terms of wells established in the community area. The country case study confirmed that the outcome of drinking water and improved local health had been achieved in nearly all communities where women's groups oversaw water pumps and their maintenance.

Frequently, women have been involved in the promotion of improved and sustainable livelihoods, such as in the Novel Forms of Livestock and Wildlife Integration Adjacent to Protected Areas of Tanzania project (GEF ID 2151). The project worked with pastoralists dependent on livestock, crops, and wild products for their livelihoods. It introduced and trained women's groups in beekeeping and supported establishment of a conservation business venture that engaged women in making handicrafts. From discussions with stakeholders

during site visits, it was evident that these livelihoods are continuing and are profitable. One women's group has constructed a building where bead jewelry and handicrafts are stored and has established a village community bank that provides loans, even to men's groups. Income-generating activities have also enabled the women's group to build a livestock pesticide plunge dip for tick control.

## RESILIENCE

Promoting climate resilience is a key aspect in LDCs, as demonstrated by the large number of adaptation interventions and the considerable amount of LDCF/SCCF funding in LDCs. Absent an official GEF definition of resilience, this evaluation takes resilience to be the capacity of social, economic, and environmental systems to cope with a hazardous event, responding or reorganizing in ways that maintain their essential function, identity, and structure, while also maintaining the capacity for adaptation, learning, and transformation (Béné et al. 2012). This evaluation examined two resilience considerations. First, the analysis looked at how resilience is considered in the GEF portfolio in LDCs, in terms of (1) risk management, (2) as a co-benefit, or (3) integrated into a multiple benefits framework, as explained in [box 3.3](#) (GEF STAP 2014).

**Climate resilience is addressed as climate risk management and as a co-benefit in projects completed from 2007 to 2014.**

However, it has shifted to being integrated in the multiple benefits framework in more recent projects (relevance cohort). Support for climate change adaptation through LDCF and SCCF aims to strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to the adverse effects of climate change in GEF recipient countries. GEF Trust Fund support also integrates climate resilience in its interventions. While all climate change adaptation projects financed by

### Box 3.3 Climate resilience in the GEF

In the context of the GEF, climate resilience may be considered at three levels:

- **Resilience as risk management.** A first level of response emerges from pure risk management considerations: sustained delivery of future global environmental benefits is at risk from climate change; therefore, projects ought to be screened for climate risks, and suitable risk management measures should be developed and adopted in project design and implementation. This would increase the resilience of the GEF portfolio to climate change. Such a de-risking approach is now being widely adopted by most multilateral and bilateral funding organizations, starting with the development and adoption of screening tools.
- **Resilience as a co-benefit.** GEF focal area interventions offer the opportunity of enhancing resilience of human socioeconomic systems to climate change. It is therefore worth seeking resilience co-benefits of GEF focal area interventions, or in some cases, using approaches practiced in other focal areas specifically to enhance the climate resilience of human systems. This is the underlying logic of ecosystem-based adaptation, where ecosystem restoration reduces the vulnerability of human socioeconomic systems.
- **Resilience integrated into a multiple benefits framework.** It is increasingly important to develop frameworks and approaches that allow multiple objectives and multiple benefits to be achieved simultaneously across social and natural systems. In this framing, resilience is not an add-on (additional risk to be managed) or a co-benefit, but rather a system property that needs to be considered together with all the other system properties and linked to sustainable development.

LDCF/SCCF and the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation ( $n = 159$ ) included climate resilience considerations, only 37 percent of other focal area projects ( $n = 462$ ) showed evidence of resilience considerations. Climate resilience considerations in the terminal evaluations of projects completed from 2007 to 2014 focused on risk management (55 percent) and resilience as a co-benefit (36 percent). The entire portfolio covered by this evaluation, from GEF-4 to GEF-6, shows 59 percent are moving to integrate resilience considerations into project multiple benefits frameworks.

The second resilience consideration this evaluation examined was the resilience system thinking used in projects. The analysis looked at the core components of the resilience concept in climate resilience-focused projects, identifying whether resilience was viewed (1) in a static system/engineering sense, (2) as incremental change, or (3) as transformational change. Types of resilience thinking are outlined in [box 3.4](#). In the 37 percent of focal area projects other than climate change adaptation ( $n = 462$ ) that showed evidence of climate resilience considerations identified in the first step of the analysis, resilience thinking was viewed as incremental change or in a static system/engineering sense. None showed transformative change. Of the climate change adaptation projects reviewed, only two showed resilience as transformative change. Both are LDCF projects financed in GEF-5: Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural and Agropastoral Production Systems through Soil Fertility Management in Key Productive and Vulnerable Areas Using the Farmers Field School Approach (GEF ID 5432) in Angola and Enhancing the Adaptation Capacities and Resilience to Climate Change in Rural Communities (GEF ID 5632) in Madagascar.

Almost all the country case studies found evidence of resilience thinking in projects implemented in the 12 countries. Bhutan's mountainous terrain and variation in agro-ecological zones render it vulnerable to the effects of climate change and disasters.

### Box 3.4 Types of resilience system thinking

#### Resilience from a systems or engineering perspective (absorptive).

This was the original narrow focus of resilience—the ability of a system to bounce back or return to equilibrium following disturbance, referred to by Holling (1973) as “engineering resilience.” This is absorptive (coping) capacity, which Cutter et al. (2008, 663) define as “the ability of the community to absorb event impacts using predetermined coping responses.”

#### Resilience as incremental change (adaptive).

Adaptive resilience refers to the adjustments (incremental changes) that people undergo to continue functioning without making major qualitative changes in function or structural identity. These incremental adjustments and changes can take many forms (adopting new farming techniques, changing farming practices, diversifying livelihood bases, engaging in new social networks). They can be individual or collective, and they can take place at multiple levels (intra-household, groups of individuals or households, community).

#### Resilience as transformational change (transformative).

Transformational changes often involve shifts in the nature of the system, the introduction of new state variables and possibly the loss of others, such as when a household adopts a new direction to make a living or when a region moves from an agrarian to a resource extraction economy. It can be deliberate, initiated by the people involved, or it can be forced on them by changing environmental or socioeconomic conditions. The growing body of literature that discusses transformational changes highlights that the main challenges are not only technical or technological. As Pelling (2011) points out, these shifts may include a combination of technological innovations, institutional reforms, behavioral shifts, and cultural changes.

In three projects visited, resilience considerations were integrated as incremental change in risk management. The Sustainable Land Management project contributed to the reduction of land degradation and to the retention of soil in targeted areas and increased the resilience of the land and critical watersheds and communities dependent on the land to natural disasters and effects of climate change. The Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program increased on-farm diversity of crop and livestock, increasing the resilience of its agricultural production systems. The LDCF-financed Addressing the Risk of Climate-induced Disasters through Enhanced National and Local Capacity for Effective Actions project (GEF ID 4976) enhanced resilience and capacity and reduced the vulnerability of people, livelihoods, physical assets, and natural systems to the adverse effects of climate change. The initiative had a strong focus on economic infrastructure in the Pasaka Industrial Area in Phuentsholing, Bhutan’s financial, industrial, and trading capital.

Tanzania has been experiencing the effects of climate change, including frequent and prolonged droughts, severe floods, rising ocean temperatures, and sea level rise. Resilience thinking in its GEF projects is being integrated into multiple benefits frameworks either in an engineering sense or as incremental change. The Marine and Coastal Environment Management project (GEF ID 2101) addressed resilience of fish stocks. The project enhanced the capacity to monitor transboundary fish stocks in exclusive economic zones and to strengthen the governance regime for commercial fishery and near-shore marine managed areas. Awareness was raised in coastal communities to recognize the importance of closed and open seasons for fishing in marine managed areas. Community members can easily report cases of illegal fishing practices in near-shore waters. The Strategic Investment Program (SIP) for sustainable land management project, Reducing Land

Degradation on the Highlands of Kilimanjaro (GEF ID 3391), has helped strengthen the resilience of communities to the effects of climate change through capacity building, market support for alternative livelihood options, and a regulatory framework for sustainable land management. There is evidence that the project has strengthened the resilience of both communities and ecosystems to the shocks and disturbances that may be caused by natural disasters, such as droughts and floods, and the anticipated effects of climate change. The ongoing LDCF-financed project Developing Core Capacity to Address Adaptation to Climate Change in Productive Coastal Zones (GEF ID 4141) aims to address the vulnerability of the coastal zone in the face of sea level rise and erratic precipitation in four sites. The project is rehabilitating buffering ecosystems, such as mangroves, and key protective infrastructures to ensure their resilience and the continued protection of coastal assets, settlements, and community livelihoods.

In GEF projects in Uganda, where policies and institutions dealing with climate resilience are well developed, resilience thinking entails co-benefits and integration into multiple benefits frameworks as incremental change. Resilience featured prominently in the Integrated Landscape Management for Improved Livelihoods and Ecosystem Resilience in Mount Elgon (GEF ID 5718) project and the SIP: Enabling Environment for SLM [Sustainable Land Management] to Overcome Land Degradation in the Cattle Corridor of Uganda (GEF ID 3393) project. In these projects, to reinforce landscape resilience, tree planting was integrated into the landscape to reduce wind speed and increase water retention. The technologies promoted through these projects help keep more water and nutrients in the soil, and conservation agriculture increases maximum use of resources and productivity. The projects also have enhanced community resilience by organizing community members to undertake joint landscape

management, while savings groups simultaneously seek to reduce land mortgaging for small loans.

Kiribati, an atoll, is especially vulnerable to sea level rise and natural disasters. The resilience thinking in the Kiribati Adaptation Program (GEF ID 2543) is resilience as incremental change integrated into the multiple benefits framework. The design of the project part of the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation focused on climate resilience and disaster risk management, including strengthening local resilience. The program's next phase, Increasing Resilience to Climate Variability and Hazards (GEF ID 4068), continued this process, strengthening climate resilience based on the strategies and designs developed earlier, with special focus on water resources. The project also supported the government in developing a new act on disaster risk management, replacing an outdated act from 1999.

Comoros is prone to hydrological natural disasters that often have severe effects on the country's population and infrastructure. Two of the projects reviewed had resilience thinking as incremental change integrated into the project design's multiple benefits framework. The LDCF finances both projects. The Adapting Water Resource Management in Comoros to Increase Capacity to Cope with Climate Change project (GEF ID 3857), financed by LDCF, built capacity in the National Agency for Civil Aviation and Meteorology for real-time monitoring of cyclones and climate modeling. The project also strengthened the power and utility company, supporting water pipe replacement. The ongoing LDCF project Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Comoros is building on these activities to improve the climate resilience of the agricultural sector by providing water for irrigation. The regional project (GEF ID 1247) improved local resilience through control of beach erosion. Despite the contributions of these initiatives to strengthening the resilience of the country and local communities to climate

change and natural disasters, the impact of such small projects is very limited compared with the need.

## FRAGILITY

**Overall, the analysis of outcome and sustainability ratings showed lower ratings for projects implemented in fragile LDCs than those that were not.** Twenty-eight of the 47 LDCs are or have been affected by FCV in the past 10 years (World Bank 2018) ([annex G](#)). The GEF has approved, implemented, and completed projects in all these FCV countries. GEF support in FCV LDCs includes 38 completed projects, 31 of which were included in the 2019 APR terminal evaluation data set. Sixty-one percent of those projects were rated satisfactory for outcomes; 39 percent were rated likely for sustainability. This is comparable to the sustainability cohort of this evaluation of 173 national and regional interventions, where 71 percent of projects were rated satisfactory for outcomes and 44 percent likely for sustainability. This evaluation of projects from GEF-4 to GEF-6 shows that in the few cases when implementation was interrupted because of a fragile situation, the project continued once the situation returned to normal. This occurred for seven projects; one in Myanmar is on hold.

The African Biomes and SIDS SCCEs visited projects in five FCV LDCs—Guinea and Mali in the African biomes, and the SIDS of Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, and Kiribati. The situation in Guinea directly affected timely delivery of GEF support. In 2008–10, there was an interruption of the Support Program for Village Communities World Bank project because of civil unrest following the president’s death. This forced the World Bank to suspend all operations in the country. The Community-based Land Management and the Coastal Marine and Biodiversity Management (GEF ID 1273) projects were stopped as well, because they were hosted and

executed through the World Bank’s Support Program for Village Communities. Interviews with World Bank and government representatives indicated that this unforeseen interruption caused serious delays during implementation but no other major consequences.

In Mali, the Biodiversity Conservation and Participatory Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Inner Niger Delta and Its Transition Areas, Mopti Region had to delay implementation of its agreement with the government’s funding arm for local development (Agence Nationale d’Investissement des Collectivités Territoriales). The political crisis in the project area in 2012 and 2013 also greatly penalized financing of the microprojects. As a result, following a supervisory mission in April 2013, the project canceled 22 contracts totaling CFAF 110 million (\$182,350). However, other activities continued, as reported in the project’s terminal evaluation. Other projects visited continued operations despite the fragile situation.

Guinea-Bissau has experienced a series of military coups, unrest, and violence since its independence from Portugal in 1974. The regional project Combating Living Resource Depletion and Coastal Area Degradation in the Guinea Current LME through Ecosystem-based Regional Actions was implemented during political unrest. However, it is highlighted in [table 3.2](#) for improved sustainability of outcomes at postcompletion. More than half of the program countries in the region experienced political crises during the implementation period or were recovering from conflict in the years prior to the program. Such problems also affected the national project in Guinea-Bissau. Political conflicts with military involvement marked 2009–10. The project closed just before the last official military coup in 2012. The country case study found that the project accomplished substantial outcomes despite the difficult sociopolitical environment.

## PRIVATE SECTOR

Initially, this evaluation did not include engagement of the private sector as a cross-cutting issue, but country case studies identified it as a potentially important element of GEF interventions affecting sustainability of outcomes. Therefore, the team added the private sector to the assessment of cross-cutting issues in the evaluation.

**The private sector had limited involvement in GEF projects in LDCs; when involved, it contributed to sustainability.**

Fifty-two percent of the projects reviewed in this evaluation (relevance cohort,  $n = 621$ ) showed evidence of some form of private sector engagement in LDCs. Projects engaged with the private sector either as a project stakeholder (29 percent) to get the sector on board from inception (18 percent), or to ask for input on project design (15 percent). However, only 16 percent of projects engaged with the private sector during the design stage to secure private sector cofinancing. Of these, the terminal evaluations of 87 projects (37 percent of all completed projects) identified private sector cofinancing provided after project completion for five projects. During implementation, 24 percent of projects showed evidence of established public-private partnerships. Existing country regulatory frameworks facilitated establishment of 13 percent of these partnerships, which enabled the private sector to address environmental issues. The low level of private sector engagement in LDCs is not surprising, given that LDCs are typically characterized by a weak domestic private sector (UNCTAD 2018).

The Cambodia case study found the most prominent key driver for sustainability is private sector engagement through financing and market-oriented business. The Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management in the Northern Plains project engaged the private sector for ecotourism and markets for organic rice production. This involvement continued to be active at the time of the case study. The LDCF Adapting Water Resource Management in Comoros to Increase Capacity to Cope with Climate Change project had in-kind cofinancing from the private sector. It also had a private sector representative on the project steering committee to validate activities and budget.

In Uganda, the private sector was included to help with project sustainability. The Protected Areas Management and Sustainable Use (GEF ID 1830) project increased private sector investment in park facilities. The project persuaded the private sector to develop infrastructure in the parks, such as hotels and camps in the reserve areas, generating income and employing local community members. This enhanced the nexus between environmental conservation and increased private sector income, as well as local government income through hotel taxes. Two projects in Mozambique, the Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development Project and Sustainable Financing of the Protected Area System in Mozambique (GEF ID 3753), attracted private sector investors and tourists after project completion.



# Conclusions and recommendations

## 4.1 Conclusions

### OVERALL RELEVANCE TO COUNTRY ENVIRONMENTAL PRIORITIES

**Conclusion 1: GEF support to LDCs has increased consistently since the pilot phase.** The GEF has long recognized the unique challenges LDCs face and regularly increased its support to LDCs since the pilot phase to more than \$1.2 billion in GEF-5 and GEF-6. Sixty-eight percent of the funding comes from the GEF Trust Fund, and 29 percent from the LDCF. During the shortfall in replenishment due to currency fluctuations in GEF-6, the GEF tried to ensure that LDCs were sufficiently funded. During GEF-6, the share from the LDCF, which had grown substantially in GEF-5, decreased when available resources declined. Commitment amounts to date for GEF-7 total \$295.8 million, showing continued strong support to LDCs.

**Conclusion 2: GEF interventions are relevant to national environmental challenges facing LDCs.** The main interventions are well aligned and highly relevant to national environmental priorities facing LDCs. Most GEF support to LDCs has focused on climate change adaptation to address the effects of a changing climate that exacerbates most environmental challenges in LDCs. Climate change

adaptation accounts for 37 percent of all GEF financing in GEF-4 to GEF-6 for LDCs. Multifocal area interventions—most commonly a combination of biodiversity, land degradation, and climate change, including adaptation—have grown to help LDCs tackle environmental challenges through integrated programming. Review of project documentation in the portfolio and interviews with government officials in case study countries strongly confirmed that GEF interventions are well aligned with governments' environmental priorities in LDCs. Government officials in countries visited highlighted that the GEF is an important source of funding, contributing to national sustainable development planning. In the much-needed areas of institutional development and governance, more than half the projects reviewed focus on skills building and policy frameworks, including indicators measuring capacity and skills development and the development of plans, policies, laws, and regulations.

### RELEVANCE OF GEF FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**Conclusion 3: The relevance of GEF support to country needs has not been affected by the GEF's shift toward integrated programming.** Since GEF-4, the GEF has been moving toward more

integrated programming through multifocal projects and programmatic approaches. Although investment in programs initially increased in GEF-4 and substantially decreased by GEF-6, there has been a shift from single focus to multifocal interventions and an increase in the size of programs and their respective child projects in LDCs. This trend reflects the GEF's move toward integrated programming to achieve impact at scale and address the main drivers of environmental degradation.

**Conclusion 4: The expansion of GEF Agencies has opened up more options for most LDCs.** The number of GEF Agencies supporting LDCs has increased from eight in GEF-4 to 12 during GEF-6. The three original GEF Agencies active since the pilot phase—UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank—implemented 72 percent of GEF funding. For LDCs that are also SIDS, the original GEF Agencies account for 82 percent of financing in GEF-6, showing that the benefits of expansion are still to be realized. Although not yet fully programmed, the share of the original GEF Agencies' financing has fallen to 52 percent for all LDCs in GEF-7. Most Agencies active in LDCs have a diversified focal area portfolio. Each Agency, except UNIDO and the World Bank, has implemented a higher share of climate change adaptation projects in comparison to other focal areas. Countries select GEF Agencies based on comparative advantage, including technical area of specialization, history of engagement with the Agency, and physical presence of the Agency in the country.

## OVERALL PERFORMANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

**Conclusion 5: LDC project performance is lower than the overall GEF portfolio.** Analysis of the most recent APR available data from the 2019 cohort shows that completed projects in LDCs are rated lower than the overall GEF portfolio on all

performance indicators. Focusing on outcomes and the likelihood of their sustainability, 72 percent of projects were rated satisfactory, considerably lower than the 80 percent rating in the overall GEF portfolio. For sustainability of outcomes, 46 percent of LDC projects were rated in the likely range, compared with 63 percent in the overall GEF portfolio. On these dimensions, LDC projects are also rated lower than projects in Africa and Asia, where most LDCs are located. This confirms previous IEO performance analyses, LDC country portfolio evaluations, and the LDCF program evaluation. However, while projects in LDCs tend to have lower ratings, more recently completed projects have higher ratings than those completed from 2007 to 2014.

**Conclusion 6: Climate change adaptation projects performed better than other focal area projects in LDCs.** Seventy-nine percent of climate change adaptation projects were rated satisfactory for outcomes, and 58 percent were rated as having outcomes likely to be sustained. This was the highest of all focal area projects. The performance of climate change adaptation projects is comparable to the overall GEF portfolio on outcomes and slightly lower than the 63 percent rating for sustainability. The LDCF supplies most of the funding for climate change adaptation interventions, with small amounts from the SCCF and the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation. The LDCF accounted for 37 percent of funding from GEF-4 to GEF-6.

**Conclusion 7: Demonstrating sustainability takes time.** This evaluation found that most projects tend to maintain or show higher observed sustainability of outcomes postcompletion than at the time of the terminal evaluation. This confirms similar findings of the 2017 APR and the recently completed SIDS SCCE. These improvements in sustainability are mainly attributed to the quality of project design as well as to positive changes in the context postcompletion.

## FACTORS OF SUSTAINABILITY

**Conclusion 8: Financial sustainability is a challenge in most LDCs.** Of the four dimensions of sustainability—financial, institutional, environmental, and political—financial sustainability is rated the lowest in LDCs. Seventy-two percent of projects in the 2019 APR cohort of projects completed from 2007 to 2014 were rated likely for sustainability of outcomes in the overall GEF portfolio compared with 65 percent in LDCs. By region, financial sustainability varies widely, with 54 percent of LDC projects rated as likely in terms of financial sustainability in Africa compared with 84 percent in Asia, which outranks the overall GEF cohort. The range reflects LDCs’ heterogeneity. Limited post-completion financing is a key context-related hindering factor in most of the country case studies that the three SCCEs conducted. This finding points to the importance of elaborating financial arrangements in the project design that can continue, after project completion, to deliver ongoing benefits.

**Conclusion 9: Profitable income-generating activities play a vital role in the sustainability of outcomes in LDCs.** The review of terminal evaluations and postcompletion site visits by country case studies found that many GEF interventions include income-generating activities to link local community benefits to improved environmental management. This approach has been found to lead to tangible outcomes in LDCs, but it alone does not guarantee success. Community livelihood interventions in LDCs are more likely to succeed if they are, in fact, alternative livelihoods; are well designed; have a positive environmental-socioeconomic nexus; and meet the needs of beneficiaries. Interventions are more likely to be sustainable if they are market oriented and are integrated in development plans and budget.

## GENDER

**Conclusion 10: The inclusion of gender considerations in GEF interventions has increased in LDCs.** The evaluation found a progressive increase in the number of projects completing gender analyses, including gender mainstreaming plans, and incorporating gender in results frameworks from GEF-4 to GEF-6. Consistent with similar findings from previous IEO evaluations, gender considerations in LDCs are considered during project implementation, even when not addressed at the design stage. This is evident in the improved ratings of projects between entry and completion and from country case study findings. Taking gender into consideration is important for outcome sustainability, as well as for gender equality and women’s empowerment.

## RESILIENCE AND FRAGILITY

**Conclusion 11: Climate resilience is addressed in climate change adaptation projects but rarely in other focal area projects.** Promoting climate resilience is central to LDCs, as demonstrated by the large number of adaptation interventions and the considerable amount of LDCF/SCCF funding in LDCs. While all climate change adaptation projects financed by the LDCF/SCCF and the GEF Trust Fund Strategic Priority for Adaptation included resilience considerations, only 37 percent of other focal area projects showed evidence of climate resilience considerations. Resilience considerations in these projects focused on risk management and resilience as a co-benefit. Considering the entire portfolio this evaluation covers, from GEF-4 to GEF-6, resilience considerations are increasingly integrated into the project multiple benefits frameworks.

**Conclusion 12: Fragility has affected the timely delivery of GEF support as well as outcomes and sustainability of GEF support in LDCs.** Overall, outcome and sustainability ratings show lower ratings

for projects implemented in fragile LDCs than those that were not. As observed in country visits by the African Biomes and SIDS SCCEs, in Comoros, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kiribati, and Mali, country insecurity and the emergence of fragile situations can substantially delay implementation and outcomes; however, activities such as alternative livelihood and income-generating activities that are financially viable and relevant tend to continue—especially those located far from capital cities. The African Biomes SCCE found several examples in which activities that had clear, tangible financial viability and met beneficiary needs suffered fewer negative effects in rural areas during sudden fragile situations.

## 4.2 Recommendations

### **Recommendation 1: Continue to strengthen project design to improve sustainability of outcomes.**

Although performance of projects completed has improved more recently, the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies should take a country's socioeconomic and political context into consideration when developing projects and programs for LDCs. While demonstrating sustainability takes time, a well-designed project should include measures and activities that will support—both financially and institutionally—continued delivery of outcomes

beyond the life of the project. Emphasis should be on elaborating financial arrangements at the project design stage that can continue to deliver benefits after project completion. Special attention on financial sustainability should be given to projects and programs in African LDCs.

### **Recommendation 2: Derive greater benefits from the expanded GEF partnership for LDCs that are also SIDS.**

In line with the SIDS SCCE recommendation, GEF Agencies of the first and second expansion should strengthen dialogue with governments and key stakeholders in LDCs that are SIDS, based on their thematic and regional competencies.

### **Recommendation 3: Strengthen climate resilience considerations in all projects.**

While resilience is addressed in climate change adaptation projects, the GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies should strengthen climate resilience considerations in other focal area interventions. Addressing climate resilience in project design will increase the likelihood of the GEF portfolio's sustainability.

# Approach paper

*This annex has been lightly edited for style and consistency. Its original annexes have been appended to this final evaluation report and the references updated accordingly.*

## A.1 Background

1. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was created in 1991 to serve as a financial mechanism that would ensure the achievement of global environmental benefits in the process of countries meeting their commitments to global environmental conventions. Since its fourth replenishment period (2006–2010), the GEF has been moving toward more integrated programming as a strategy to tackle the main drivers of environmental degradation and to achieve impact at scale (GEF IEO 2018d). This often involves programs dealing with issues that go beyond national boundaries. To participate in integrated multiple country initiatives, governments need to find a balance between their national sustainable development priorities and their commitments to contribute to the global goals of the international environmental conventions they participate in. In this context, the way GEF support is operationalized at the country level is increasingly a key area of inquiry for the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) of the GEF.

2. The concept of strategic country cluster evaluations (SCCE) was introduced in the IEO work program for the GEF-6 replenishment period and subsequently approved by the Council (GEF IEO 2015a). SCCEs focus on common themes across clusters of countries and/or portfolios involving a critical mass of projects and experience with GEF programming. Starting from aggregate portfolio analysis to identify trends as well as cases of positive, negative or no change, SCCEs intend to deep-dive in those themes and unpack them through purposive evaluative inquiry. As was the case for their predecessor country portfolio evaluations (CPEs),<sup>1</sup> SCCE design is based on a similar conceptual analysis framework to allow comparison of findings across geographic regions and/or portfolios. In addition to the aggregate portfolio analysis, SCCEs aim to use geospatial analysis to support field case studies that focus on specific environmental challenges, by providing additional information on selected sites and additional data for triangulation and analysis. The purpose of field case studies is to identify and understand

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<sup>1</sup> From 2006 to 2016 the GEF IEO conducted 26 country portfolio evaluations and studies. The new strategic country cluster evaluations build on this experience.

the determinants of the observed change, or lack thereof.

3. This SCCE covers all least developed countries (LDCs) located in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The choice to evaluate LDCs as a strategic cluster is based on the countries' common LDC status and is supported by Council member's request for more in-depth review of the LDCs portfolio of projects and programs. LDCs face economic, social and environmental challenges and almost half are countries in fragile situations.<sup>2</sup> This evaluation will assess some of the key issues that emerged from the Sixth Overall Performance Study's (OPS6) main findings and conclusions (GEF IEO 2017), which deserve further exploration. These including sustainability of outcomes, relevance of GEF support to countries, and responsiveness to convention guidance, issues of particularly importance in LDCs. The evaluation will also assess gender, resilience and performance in fragile situations as cross-cutting issues.

4. The LDCs SCCE will be conducted in parallel with two other SCCEs: one covering two Sub-Saharan African biomes, Sahel and the Sudan-Guinea Savanna, and the other Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The three SCCEs will be harmonized in terms of questions, approach, and process. Complementarities are sought in planning the evaluations' field work, given 19 LDCs are also part of the African biomes SCCE, and nine of the SIDS are LDCs.

## A.2 LDC context

5. LDCs are low-income countries confronting severe structural impediments to sustainable

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<sup>2</sup>This evaluation adopts the World Bank harmonized list of fragile situations (World Bank 2018). The World Bank sees fragility, conflict, and violence (FCV) as a critical development challenge that threatens efforts to end extreme poverty.

development. These countries have low levels of human assets and are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks. The United Nations (UN) General Assembly created the LDC category in 1971. The number of countries classified as LDCs has increased over time. When the UN first established the category, there were 25 countries. Since then many countries have been added while only five countries have graduated.<sup>3</sup> Currently, 47 countries are on the list of LDCs. More than two-thirds of LDCs are situated in Sub-Saharan Africa (33), while the remaining countries are in Asia and the Pacific (13), and in Latin America and the Caribbean (1) (See [figure A.1](#) and [annex D](#)).

6. The UN uses three criteria to classify LDCs: low per capita gross national income,<sup>4</sup> low level of socioeconomic development, and high structural vulnerability to exogenous economic and environmental shocks. LDCs represent the poorest and weakest segment of the international community. LDCs have a three-year average GNI per capita of \$1,025.<sup>5</sup> Population wise, 979 million people live in LDC countries and 47 percent of the population lives on less than \$1.25 per day.

7. The characteristics of a low level of socioeconomic development are shared by most LDCs. They have weak human and institutional capacities, low

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<sup>3</sup>The original list of LDCs included: Afghanistan, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burundi, Chad, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Lao PDR, Lesotho, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Samoa, Sikkim, Somalia, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Upper Volta, and Republic of Yemen. The following countries have graduated: Botswana (1974), Cabo Verde (2007), Maldives (2011), Samoa (2014), and Equatorial Guinea (2017) (OECD 2016).

<sup>4</sup>Gross national income (GNI) is equal to gross domestic product (GDP) less primary incomes payable to non-residents units plus primary incomes received from non-resident unites.

<sup>5</sup> See UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs webpage, [LDC Identification Criteria & Indicators](#).

**Figure A.1** Map of least developed countries



**Note:** Equatorial Guinea graduated in 2017 but is still shown as an LDC.

and unequally distributed income, gender inequality, and scarcity of domestic financial resources. LDCs often suffer from governance crisis, political instability and, in some cases, internal and external conflicts. Their largely agrarian economies are affected by a vicious cycle of low productivity and low investment.

8. LDCs' susceptibility to external shocks results mainly from their heavy reliance on exports. They rely on the export of few primary commodities as major source of earnings, which makes them highly vulnerable to external terms-of-trade shocks. Only a handful has been able to diversify into the manufacturing sector, though with a limited range of products in labor-intensive industries, such as textiles and clothing.

9. Environmental shocks LDCs face include natural disasters, weather shocks unfavorable for agriculture production, and permanent shocks caused by climate change. Environmental shocks potentially affect economic activity, consumption, employment, well-being of the population, and the natural resource base of economic and social development. Moreover, these shocks are

exogenous from the perspective of LDCs, even though the frequency and magnitude of environmental shocks, such as climate change, are to some extent dependent on policy choices made at the international level (CDP 2015).

## LDCS AND THE UN SYSTEM

10. The LDC category was recommended at the first UN Conference on Trade and Development in 1964, and a proposal was adopted at the second conference in 1968. The UN established the LDC category in 1971 with a view to attract special international support for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the UN system.

11. Since 1981 the UN System has held several conferences to generate international attention and action to reverse the continuing deterioration of the socioeconomic condition of LDCs. In 2011 the Fourth United Nations Conference on LDCs adopted the Istanbul Declaration and the Istanbul Programme of Action for the decade 2011-2020 (IPoA). The IPoA takes the form of a mutually agreed compact between LDCs and their development partners and contains eight priority areas

of action, each supported by concrete deliverables and commitments. These eight development priorities include productive capacity, agriculture, food security and rural development, trade, commodities, human and social development, multiple crises and other emerging challenges, mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building, and governance at all levels. The IPoA emphasizes equity at all levels through empowering the poor and marginalized, and ensuring social justice, democracy, gender equality and sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development.

12. LDCs also have exclusive access to certain international support measures especially in the areas of development assistance and trade. A small number of trust funds from international organizations have been created for technical assistance specifically for LDCs. For environment, the GEF has put emphasis on supporting LDCs. Specifically, the GEF manages the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) which aims to address the special needs of the LDCs, which are especially vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change.

13. A country has access to special support until it graduates from LDC status. To be recommended for graduation a country is required to meet thresholds for at least two of the three LDC criteria at two consecutive triennial reviews. In 2018, the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) recommended Bhutan, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Solomon Islands for graduation. The committee will consider Bangladesh, Laos, and Myanmar for graduation in 2021.

14. LDCs have become parties to several international and regional environmental agreements. All 47 LDCs have become parties to the main conventions, that is the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and the United Nations Convention to Combat

Desertification (UNCCD). Most LDCs are also party to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (43 countries), the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (38 countries), and Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (39 countries). Only 21 LDCs have ratified the recently established Minamata Convention on Mercury, and Basel Convention. Some LDCs have joined other region-specific environmental agreements, such as the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS), the Abidjan Convention for the Cooperation in the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Atlantic Coast of the West, Central and Southern Africa Region, the Nairobi Convention of the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region, and the South Pacific Tuna Treaty (SPTT). A full overview of countries' ratification of international environmental agreements is provided in [annex F](#).

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

15. Today's LDCs are confronted with a myriad of environmental issues of which the most common are deforestation, land degradation, biodiversity loss, and threats to freshwater and marine environments ([table A.1](#)). Forests are critical to the development and welfare of LDCs. Rates of deforestation vary greatly across LDCs. For example, in Bhutan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, historical rates of deforestation are very low, whereas in others, such as Tanzania or Laos, deforestation is more than twice the global average (Parker et al. 2013). About a quarter of the population in LDCs live on severely degraded land. Most of them are trying to feed their families by cultivating land that produces far less than it once did. Many LDCs are home to the world's biodiversity hotspots which



**Table A.1 Key environmental issues in least developed countries**

Country	Issue	Country	Issue
Afghanistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flood and drought on agriculture productivity</li> <li>Mining</li> <li>Water management</li> </ul>	Angola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threat to biodiversity</li> <li>Access to potable water</li> <li>Overfishing and coastal degradation</li> </ul>
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Pollution of watercourses from industrial discharge</li> <li>Threat to fisheries sector</li> </ul>	Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Desertification</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> </ul>
Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate waste management</li> <li>Water pollution</li> <li>Air pollution</li> </ul>	Burkina Faso	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water scarcity</li> <li>Land degradation and desertification</li> <li>Deforestation</li> </ul>
Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land availability and degradation</li> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Threat to Lake Tanganyika ecosystems and fisheries sector</li> </ul>	Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threat to conservation areas (uncontrolled land conversion)</li> <li>Biodiversity degradation</li> <li>Overfishing (pressure on aquatic resources)</li> </ul>
Central African Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsistence and commercial poaching</li> <li>Deforestation and land degradation</li> <li>Diamond mining and pollution</li> </ul>	Chad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drought</li> <li>Land degradation and desertification</li> <li>Access to water and sanitation</li> </ul>
Comoros	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threats to coastal and marine resources (coastal erosion and overfishing)</li> <li>Deforestation and soil erosion</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> </ul>	Congo, Dem. Rep.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildlife poaching</li> <li>Threats to coastal ecosystems and inland wetlands</li> <li>Deforestation</li> </ul>
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water scarcity</li> <li>Land availability and desertification</li> <li>Marine resources and pollution</li> </ul>	Eritrea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water Stress</li> <li>Land Availability and Degradation</li> <li>Deforestation and Threats to Biodiversity</li> </ul>
Ethiopia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water availability and access to a safe source</li> <li>Livestock, soil erosion and land degradation</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity and endemism</li> </ul>	Gambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drought and agricultural productivity</li> <li>Threats to forest and wetland ecosystems</li> <li>Overfishing and coastal erosion</li> </ul>
Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation and refugees</li> <li>Overfishing and destruction of mangroves</li> <li>Land degradation</li> </ul>	Guinea-Bissau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Cashew farming and soil erosion</li> <li>Threats to bijagos biosphere reserve</li> </ul>
Haiti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vulnerability to natural disasters</li> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Soil degradation</li> </ul>	Kiribati	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Climate change (sea level rise)</li> <li>Solid waste and pollution</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> </ul>
Lao PDR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Floods</li> <li>Forest degradation</li> <li>Threat to biodiversity</li> </ul>	Lesotho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degradation of rangelands</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity in Lesotho Highlands</li> <li>Water resource management and pollution</li> </ul>
Liberia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation and rubber plantations</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> <li>Water pollution</li> </ul>	Madagascar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil erosion</li> <li>Endemism and threat to biodiversity</li> <li>Deforestation</li> </ul>
Malawi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land scarcity and soil erosion</li> <li>Deforestation for fuel wood</li> <li>Water pollution and aquatic biodiversity</li> </ul>	Mali	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Desertification and drought</li> <li>Water availability and pollution</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> </ul>
Mauritania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Desertification and deforestation</li> <li>Iron mining</li> <li>Threats to coastal and marine resources (coastal erosion and overfishing)</li> </ul>	Mozambique	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water access</li> <li>Vulnerability to natural disasters</li> <li>Protecting wildlife and forests</li> </ul>

Country	Issue	Country	Issue
Myanmar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land degradation</li> <li>Vulnerability to natural disasters (threat to water resources, flooding)</li> <li>Forest degradation</li> </ul>	Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest degradation</li> <li>Soil erosion</li> <li>Biodiversity loss</li> </ul>
Niger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Desertification and deforestation</li> <li>Threats to wildlife</li> <li>Environmental consequences of mining</li> </ul>	Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Soil erosion and sedimentation</li> <li>Threat to biodiversity</li> </ul>
São Tomé and Príncipe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Degradation of forest ecosystems</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> <li>Threats to marine environment (overfishing)</li> </ul>	Senegal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban pollution</li> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Coastal wetlands and fisheries over-exploitation</li> </ul>
Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Land degradation</li> <li>Threats to marine environment (overfishing)</li> </ul>	Solomon Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss of biodiversity</li> <li>Water pollution and quality issues</li> <li>Threats to marine environment (overfishing)</li> </ul>
Somalia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Threat to biodiversity</li> <li>Desertification, overgrazing and deforestation</li> <li>Water scarcity and drought</li> </ul>	South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil erosion and land degradation</li> <li>Poaching and the ivory trade</li> <li>Forests and fisheries</li> </ul>
Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil erosion and land degradation</li> <li>Poaching and the ivory trade</li> <li>Forests and fisheries</li> </ul>	Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water pollution and aquatic ecosystems</li> <li>Land degradation and deforestation</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity and ecosystems</li> </ul>
Timor-Leste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Water pollution and quality issues</li> <li>Inadequate solid waste management</li> </ul>	Togo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land degradation and deforestation</li> <li>Threats to marine environment (overfishing)</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> </ul>
Tuvalu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agro-deforestation</li> <li>Threats to marine environment (overfishing)</li> <li>Climate change (droughts)</li> </ul>	Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land degradation and deforestation</li> <li>Habitat degradation and threats to biodiversity</li> <li>Water availability and pollution</li> </ul>
Vanuatu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation</li> <li>Threats to biodiversity</li> <li>Threats to marine environment (overfishing)</li> </ul>	Yemen, Rep.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water scarcity and water quality</li> <li>Population and pressure on land</li> <li>Soil, water and wind erosion</li> </ul>
Zambia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Copper mining</li> <li>Water and air pollution</li> <li>Deforestation and wildlife depletion</li> </ul>		

**Sources:** SPREP (2017); UN-OHRLLS (2015); UNDP (2017); UNEP (1999, 2008, 2010, 2013); World Bank (2008a, 2008b, 2009, 2014, 2015a, 2015b, 2016, 2017).

are threatened by loss of habitat. All these environmental issues will be exacerbated by climate change.

16. Related to these environmental issues are problems such as extreme poverty, immense pressure on land and natural resources and a lack of integration into global markets. As efforts to alleviate poverty and build infrastructure naturally dominate the agenda of these nations, environmental concerns tend to be put on the back burner. However, in the medium- to long-term, environmental changes caused partly by a changing climate are likely to become severe, and there is a danger that LDCs will be unprepared.

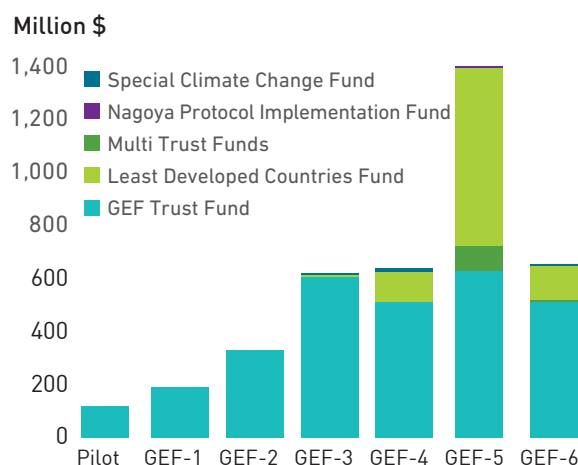
### A.3 GEF support to LDCs

17. GEF support to LDCs and the portfolio composition of this evaluation is discussed below. The LDC SCCE will focus on the active project portfolio of the three most recent replenishment periods, GEF-4 to GEF-6 (2006-2018), and for the sustainability analysis the focus will be on completed projects throughout all GEF replenishment periods that have been completed between 2007 and 2014. The reason for the selection of these specific time frames is further discussed in subsequent sections of the approach paper.

18. The GEF has a long history of supporting LDCs. Since the pilot phase (1991) to the end of January 2018, the GEF has invested \$3.69 billion in LDCs through several funds as shown in [figure A.2](#). Most of the funding is from the GEF Trust Fund (\$2.66 billion), followed by the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) jointly contributing \$921 million.

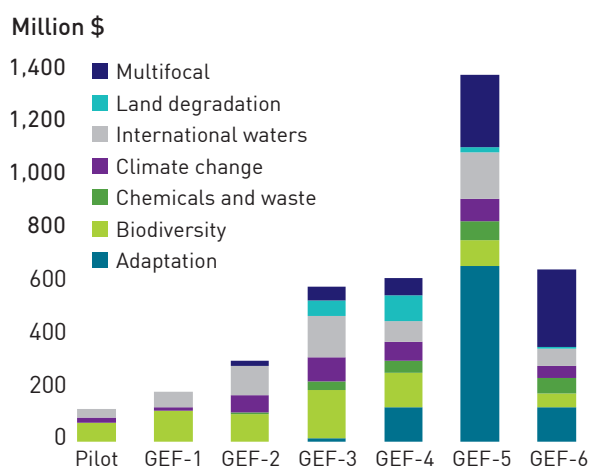
19. [Figure A.3](#) shows the coverage of focal areas across GEF replenishment periods. Since GEF-4 the most funding has gone to adaptation, but due to a lack of LDCF/SCCF funding its share decreased

**Figure A.2** LDC funding throughout the replenishment periods (million \$)



Source: PMIS.

**Figure A.3** Focal area funding by GEF replenishment period in LDCs



Source: PMIS.

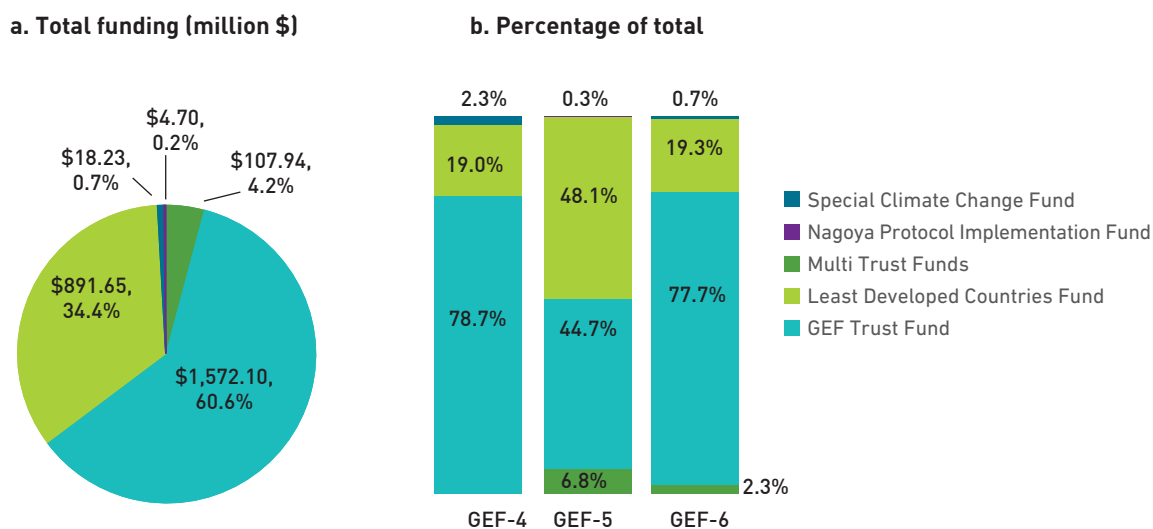
in GEF-6. Overall funding to LDCs has declined in GEF-6 mainly due to a 30 percent decrease in funding from LDCF since GEF-5. There is no formal resource mobilization process for the LDCF/SCCF and the Funds rely on voluntary contributions. Pledges vary significantly each year and have been low during GEF-6 and insufficient to meet the demand to address countries' key adaptation priorities.

20. Funding through multifocal area projects has been increasing steadily since GEF-2 but leveled off from GEF-5 to GEF-6. The land gradation focal area was established in GEF-3, and for LDCs, its share increased in GEF-4 but diminished to small percentages of the portfolio in both GEF-5 and GEF-6. The biodiversity focal area's share has been the most consistent over the GEF phases.

21. Figure A.4 show funding source from GEF-4 (2006) to the end of January 2018. During that time the GEF invested \$2.59 billion (with \$15.67 billion in cofinancing) in LDCs through 685 national and regional interventions relevant to LDCs, as well as the global intervention Small Grants Programme (SGP). Again, the funding is mainly from the GEF Trust Fund (\$1.57 billion), followed by the adaptation funding mechanisms of the LDCF/SCCF jointly contributing \$909.87 million. Multi-trust fund and Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) funding started in the GEF-5 replenishment period and account for \$107.94 million and \$4.69 million respectively. Forty of the 47 LDCs participate in the SGP.

22. In the GEF-4 programming document (GEF 2006) all focal areas included a contribution to country programs for cross-cutting capacity building with an emphasis on in LDCs and SIDS to support a holistic approach to management of global environmental issues building upon the needs identified in the country's own assessment. The GEF-4 focal area strategies and strategic programming (GEF 2007) emphasizes capacity building, but LDCs are only specifically mentioned in the POPs focal area. In the GEF-5 programming document (GEF 2010a), Africa and many LDCs receive priority attention for transboundary river and aquifer systems of West Africa and the Great Lakes Region. The goal of the GEF-5 LDCF/SCCF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change (GEF 2010b) was to support developing countries to increase resilience to climate change through both immediate and longer-term adaptation measures in development policies, plans, programs, projects and actions. Funding from the LDCF was specifically dedicated to LDCs in line with the adaptation strategy.

**Figure A.4** Funding sources, GEF-4 to GEF-6



Source: PMIS.

Note: This figure excludes the global intervention SGP.

23. In the GEF-6 programming directions (GEF 2014a) there is increased attention for technology needs assessments that will also be available for LDCs for the focal area set-aside funds; incentive programs for expedited and flexible programming to promote clean energy access for LDCs; and support for regional approaches to eliminate and reduce harmful chemicals and waste in LDC. The GEF-6 LDCF/SCCF Adaptation Strategy (GEF 2014b) builds on the GEF-5 strategy. The goal was to increase resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change in vulnerable developing countries, through both near- and long-term adaptation measures in affected sectors, areas and communities, leading to a reduction of expected socioeconomic losses associated with climate change and variability.

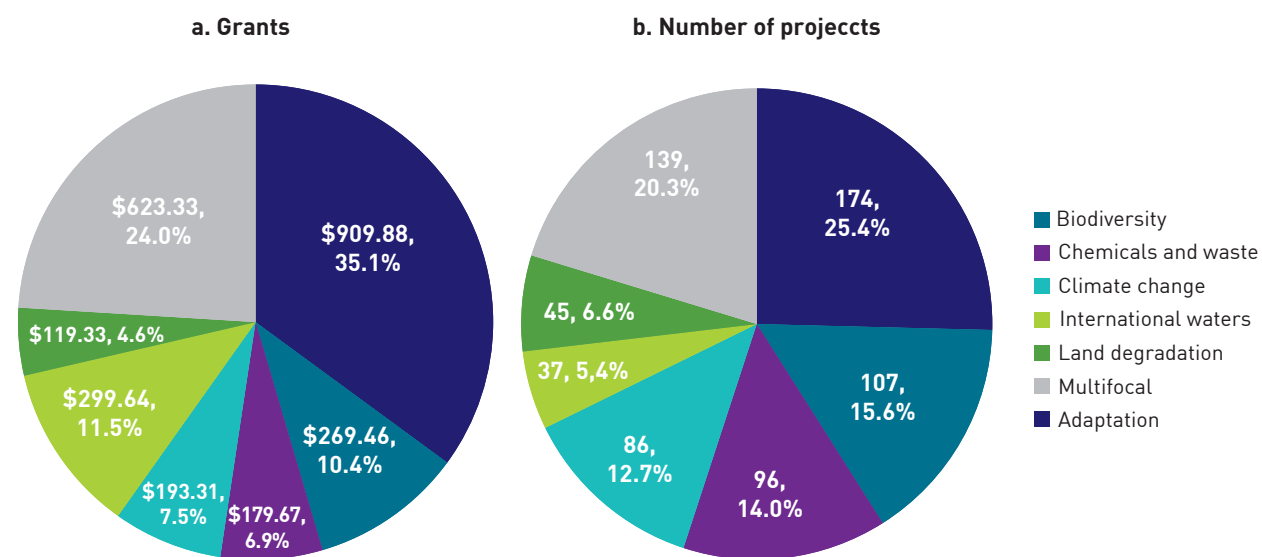
24. The programming directions for GEF-7 (GEF 2018a) mention that the GEF has been requested to provide enhanced support and to continue to assist, in particular, LDCs and SIDS in efficiently accessing resources. There is a specific LDC and SIDS program area as part of the chemicals and waste focal

area. There is no specific mention of LDCs in any of the other focal areas or impact programs. The goal of the GEF-7 Adaptation strategy (GEF 2018b) is to strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to the adverse impacts of climate change in developing countries, and to support their efforts to enhance adaptive capacity.

25. GEF support to LDCs by focal area during GEF-4 to GEF-6 is shown in [figure A.5](#). Climate change adaptation has the largest share of the portfolio (35.1 percent) in financial terms and in number of projects, and multifocal area projects are a close second. International waters and biodiversity are third and fourth respectively in financial terms while biodiversity, and chemicals and waste are in terms of the number of projects (15.6 and 14 percent).

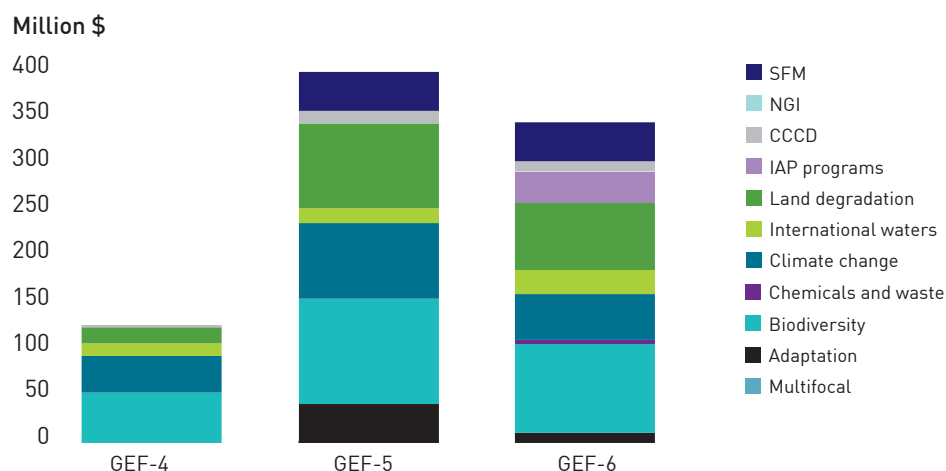
26. When further dissecting the funding components of multifocal area projects ([figure A.6](#)), it shows that the biodiversity focal area receives most attention (and \$258.27 million in funding), followed by the land degradation, climate change

**Figure A.5** Grants and number of projects by focal area, GEF-4 to GEF-6



Source: PMIS.

**Figure A.6** Funding components of multifocal area grants, GEF-4 to GEF-6



Source: PMIS.

mitigation and adaptation focal areas that account for \$217.84, \$166.02, and 51.82 million respectively from GEF-4 to GEF-6. The limited land degradation focal area funding for projects in GEF-6, also shown in figure 2, seems related to the growing land degradation share as part of multifocal area grants. Equally, international waters focal area funding is mostly found within multifocal area grants and not as single focal area activities. There is very limited adaptation funding in any of the multifocal area project grants, which comes down to the different replenishment of the adaptation focused funds, the LDCF and SCCF, making it complicated to combine adaptation funding with GEF Trust Fund funding in multi-trust fund projects.

27. The full-size project is the most common modality, in financial terms and number of projects, with the average project size being \$5.91 million, followed by medium-size projects and enabling activities (table A.2). The balance between modalities is about the same for the three replenishment periods, GEF-4 to GEF-6. Equally, the balance between country-level, regional and global interventions stays about the same for the three replenishment periods, with 75 percent of the projects and 64 percent of the financing being at the country-level. What does change is the average project size, which increases with increasing scale.

28. Considering project status, GEF-4 projects are—as expected—the most advanced, with the

**Table A.2** Project modality and scale by dollar amount and number of projects

Coverage	Enabling activity		Medium-size project		Full-size project		Total	
	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.
Country	27.37	111	102.37	93	1,786.05	352	1,915.79	556
Regional	11.89	11	32.11	29	6,348.21	89	678.82	129
Global	15.95	3	32.10	21	339.77	26	387.82	50
Total	55.21	125	166.57	143	2,760.64	467	2,982.43	735
Average	0.44		1.16		5.91		4.06	

Source: PMIS.

majority of projects having been completed. Most of the projects under implementation are part of the GEF-5 replenishment period, while GEF-6 accounts for most projects that have been approved but have not yet started implementation (see [table A.3](#)). It should be noted that at the time of the 53rd Council meeting in November 2017, 15 percent of GEF-6 resources still needed to be utilized; the total number of resources allocated to LDCs in GEF-6 is expected to increase.

29. GEF programming through programmatic approaches—in which child projects are part of a parent program and are designed to contribute to the overall program objective—has diminished over time in LDCs from 40.9 percent of national level project funding in GEF-4 to 23.2 percent in GEF-6 ([table A.4](#)). On average, child projects are twice as large as standalone projects in all three project modalities. Focusing specifically on full-size projects, the size in financial terms of child projects and standalone projects is about the same (\$5.01 million on average and \$5.09 million on average respectively).

30. Focusing on the project portfolio for the sustainability analysis, 197 national and relevant regional interventions have been completed between 2007 and 2014. These represent a total GEF investment of \$428.9 million plus \$1.97 billion in cofinancing. Almost all the financing is GEF Trust Fund financing.

## A.4 Available evaluative evidence

31. Evidence from previous evaluations conducted by the IEO have helped identify issues to be covered by this evaluation. OPS6 found that while the GEF has a strong track record in delivering overall good project performance, the likelihood of outcomes sustainability remains a greatest challenge. Country context, quality of implementation, and quality of execution influence project sustainability ratings. As is in the case of projects funded by multilateral development banks, GEF projects in Africa and LDCs have comparatively lower ratings for outcomes and sustainability than in other regions.

**Table A.3** Project status for GEF-4 to GEF-6 in \$ and number of projects

Status	GEF-4		GEF-5		GEF-6		Total	
	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.
Council approved	0	0	15.10	2	255.29	45	270.39	47
CEO approved/endorsed	0.95	1	255.46	54	181.45	41	437.86	96
Under implementation	224.71	65	1,032.38	226	200.34	54	1,457.42	345
Project completed	365.04	141	62.71	54	1.20	2	428.95	197
Total	590.69	207	1,365.65	336	638.28	142	2,594.61	685

Source: PMIS.

**Table A.4** National-level child projects vs. standalone projects by GEF replenishment period

Replenishment period	Child projects		Stand-alone projects		Total	
	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.	Million \$	No.
GEF-4	144.64	58	209.08	94	353.72	152
GEF-5	153.23	27	927.34	268	1,080.56	295
GEF-6	111.53	14	369.98	95	481.51	109
Total	409.39	99	1,506.40	457	1,915.79	556

Source: PMIS.

Limited institutional capacity has been identified as the greatest issue to be addressed. OPS6 also found that one of the conditions for transformational change to occur is the establishment of mechanisms for future financial sustainability through the market, government budgets, or both. Another possible approach is to move from projects to long-term programs. The integrated approach pilots (IAPs) initiative, a programmatic approach introduced in GEF-6, has been designed for long-term sustainability (GEF IEO 2018e). These OPS6 findings stimulated GEF-7 Replenishment Group discussions on sustainability of outcomes, highlighting the need for further attention to the factors enabling or hindering the sustainability of outcomes.

32. OPS6 also reports that GEF focal area objectives are strongly aligned with country priorities, and that the expansion of the GEF partnership to 18 Agencies has increased GEF's relevance in countries. The first and second rounds of expansion have increased the Agency choices available in each GEF focal area at the overall partnership level. The expansion has also increased the choices available to recipient countries for programming GEF resources. Expansion of the GEF Agencies has increased choices for most countries, although there are variations in focal area coverage. LDCs, SIDS, and fragile states have an average of eight Agencies to work with because of the two rounds of expansion. Expansion has also increased competition among Agencies which has mostly been positive, but at times counterproductive. However, the way the expanded partnership translates into more relevant support to developing countries' needs and priorities is still to be demonstrated. Importantly, OPS6 did not provide an in-depth assessment of responsiveness to the conventions from a country perspective. This is especially relevant to the current and foreseen GEF transitioning toward more integrated multicountry programming in GEF-7 and beyond.

33. Other evaluations besides OPS6 provided relevant evidence on the issues at hand. The joint GEF-UNDP evaluation of the SGP (GEF IEO and UNDP IEO 2015) found that the small grants outcome sustainability ratings are comparable to those of other GEF projects. The SGP has always given significant attention to community-level benefits and livelihoods. This attention has yielded positive results. In addition, SGP results on the ground in terms of promoting gender equality and contributing to gender empowerment are evident. No evidence or perception of a trade-off between the SGP's gender and global environmental objectives was found. To note, from 2008 to 2010 the SGP has increased its activities in LDCs, SIDS, and countries in fragile or conflict-affected situations.

34. A sizable portion of the funding in LDCs (32 percent) is through the LDCF. According to the 2016 program evaluation of the LDCF (GEF IEO 2016), the main area of potential concern for the LDCF portfolio is the financial sustainability of project activities beyond the scope of project-related funding. Added to that is the need to integrate climate change adaptation into national policies and programs (institutional sustainability), and the need for country ownership to ensure sustainability (sociopolitical sustainability). On gender, the performance of the LDCF portfolio has improved considerably in response to enhanced requirements from the GEF, though there seems to be confusion as to what it means to be "gender mainstreamed."

35. Evaluative evidence collected by the IEO between 2008 and 2014 through country-level evaluations in LDCs have confirmed that long-term sustainability of achievements remains a challenge. In 2008, The IEO concluded that in Madagascar, despite 15 years of donor investment totaling over \$400 million (of which the GEF invested \$36 million) in the Environmental Program, financial and institutional sustainability remains a key weakness at the end of the third



phase. At the time of the CPE, Madagascar was looking to resolve financial sustainability through development of a conservation trust fund (GEF 2008b). Some positive results were also reported. The GEF portfolio in Benin developed local structures for co-managing natural resources and their related benefits, resulting in positive socio-economic sustainability. At the time of that CPE, several years after the projects ended, the GEF-supported village-based co-management structures were still playing a central role in the success and sustainability of agreed efforts through these initiatives (GEF IEO 2008a).

36. More recently, reporting on GEF portfolios in Eritrea, Sierra Leone and Tanzania consolidated in the seventh Annual Country Portfolio Evaluation Report (ACPER) (GEF IEO 2014) concludes that the likelihood of sustainability is mixed; it has been most successful when pursued through the fostering of institutional and individual capacity development and the promotion of livelihood activities through community-based approaches (e.g., the SGP). The ACPER confirmed that the most successful efforts have been those aimed at developing local capacities as well as linking local community benefits to improved environmental management.

37. The above findings on sustainability and financing dependency are also voiced in the 2008 evaluation on UNDP's role and contribution in environment and energy (UNDP 2008). The evaluation finds that in many LDCs foundational environmental activities with non-GEF resources—a precondition for GEF programming that is often more incremental—do not take place, and there is limited opportunity to scale out GEF pilot initiatives. “The result is that most UNDP environment and energy country portfolios appear to be composed of a series of opportunistic projects for which funding was available. In many cases these are high-quality projects in their own right. But strategic portfolio development, the matching of activities with priority needs and significant

attempts to compensate for the distortions inherent in the reliance on GEF funding are largely absent” (UNDP 2008, p. 23).

## A.5 Purpose, objectives, and audience

38. The main purpose of this evaluation is to assess key issues that emerged from OPS6 main findings and conclusions, which deserve further exploration. The overarching objectives are twofold:

- a. To provide a deeper understanding of the determinants of the sustainability of the outcomes of GEF support in the LDCs; and
- b. To assess the relevance and performance of the GEF towards LDCs' main environmental challenges from the countries' perspective.

Gender, resilience and GEF operations in fragile situations will be assessed as cross-cutting issues. Any other important issues emerging from country visits will also be considered.

39. The GEF Council is the primary audience for this evaluation. The evaluation findings can also inform GEF Agencies' proposal development and the GEF Secretariat's appraisal of project proposals coming from LDCs. GEF member countries and non-governmental partners engaged in project and program design and implementation form the secondary audience.

## A.6 Scope, issues, and questions

40. The LDCs grouping, their shared geophysical constraints, resulting in disproportionately large economic, social and environmental challenges, delineates the geographic scope of the evaluation. Portfolio-wise this SCCE includes enabling activities, small- and medium-size projects, and

programs in the 47 countries currently classified as LDCs. Global and regional interventions that are set up as umbrella arrangements for administrative convenience are not included. The SGP will be covered, as it constitutes to be an important modality of GEF support for many LDCs.

41. The analysis will focus on Biodiversity, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, the latter specifically focusing on carbon sequestration from forestry and other land management practices. It will also cover Land Degradation, International Waters, POPs/Chemicals, and multifocal interventions composed of any of these focal areas.

42. Given that projects that make up the evaluation portfolio are at different stages of development, the status of respective projects determines the way and extent in which they will be included in the SCCE. Two portfolio review cohorts will be distinguished; a quality-at-entry cohort and a sustainability cohort focusing on completed projects. For the quality-at-entry analysis, the SCCE will cover the period from GEF-4 (2006) to GEF-6 (2018) and will focus on national and relevant regional and global projects that are CEO approved, CEO endorsed or under implementation. For the sustainability analysis, the focus will be on national and regional interventions that have been completed between 2007 and 2014, to provide sufficient time after completion to allow observation of the sustainability of outcomes for these completed projects in the long term.

43. Based on the evaluation purpose and objectives, as well as on the scope defined in the preceding section, this SCCE will seek to answer the following five key questions (KQs):

**KQ1.** What are the key factors influencing sustainability of outcomes in LDCs?

44. OPS6 has confirmed once more the limited sustainability of outcomes from completed

projects, with the likelihood of sustainability rated at 62 percent for the entire portfolio of closed projects and 44 percent in LDCs. The average for the entire portfolio is not unique to the GEF. However, members of the GEF-7 Replenishment Group expressed an interest in better understanding the factors influencing and/or driving sustainability of outcomes. While OPS6 points at weak institutional and financial sustainability, it does not discuss other possible factors. Sustainability of outcomes will be assessed in more depth to understand the most important hindering factors, as well as the main contributing factors at play in LDCs.

**KQ2.** In what way, if any, does the environment and socioeconomic development/livelihoods nexus help explain the sustainability of outcomes in LDCs?

45. The environment versus socioeconomic development/livelihoods nexus, a concept that is central to sustainable development, is too often neglected in the development interventions by both donors and developing countries alike. Efforts to integrate socioeconomic development with environment conservation and sustainable use at national and local levels depend in part on the interest of country governments. Many governments in LDCs believe it is difficult to achieve both at the same time, considering that rather than a nexus, major trade-offs exist between environment and socioeconomic/livelihoods objectives. Country differences exist on: (1) reliance on natural resources, (2) susceptibility to natural disasters, (3) the poor's dependence on the environment, and (4) the governments' economic development and other priorities. The analysis of the nexus links to the identified factors of weak sustainability (KQ1) and will be contextualized in the environmental and socioeconomic outcomes related to the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to which the GEF contributes in LDCs (GEF 2015).

**KQ3.** To what extent has GEF support been relevant to the main environmental challenges LDCs face, and are there any gaps?

46. Integrated programming provides flexibility in the set of interventions to be implemented, which allows the national environmental priorities to be achieved alongside those of the GEF and the national socioeconomic development priorities. In LDCs, a large part of the portfolio is composed of multifocal projects and programmatic approaches. The analysis will focus on these and other factors influencing the relevance of GEF support to the LDCs departing from the specific environmental challenges they face (described in [table A.1](#)) and reviewing the countries' access to and use of GEF finance windows, support modalities and intervention typologies they have available to tackle these issues. This analysis seeks to assess how country environmental priorities translate into GEF programming in LDCs.

47. The analysis will also look at the relevance of GEF services offered to countries. OPS6 confirmed that the range of expertise and targeted financial support the GEF offers to countries has greatly increased recently with the expansion of the GEF partnership to the current 18 Agencies. It remains to be seen whether and how this opportunity is being captured by LDCs. The expansion is relatively recent and needs time to produce the expected increased relevance of GEF support to developing countries and small economies. This specific part of the analysis will build on the findings of the evaluation of the expansion of the GEF partnership (GEF IEO 2018a) and apply a more formative approach, because the expansion is relatively recent.

**KQ4.** To what extent have gender and resilience been taken into consideration in GEF programming in LDCs?

48. Gender will be a key component in this evaluation. It will be too early to see the effects of the

new GEF policy on gender equality (GEF 2017) but the evaluation will critically assess the LDCs portfolio's performance on gender, gender equality, and women's empowerment, and compare it to the findings of the evaluation of gender mainstreaming in the GEF (GEF IEO 2018b). Gender will be analyzed through desk review, portfolio analysis and case studies. Case studies will review whether projects' gender performance on paper also translates into actual women's empowerment on the ground.

49. In the absence of a GEF definition of resilience, two resilience considerations will inform the resilience analysis. First, the analysis will look at whether and how resilience is considered, being either as (1) risk management, (2) as a co-benefit, or (3) as integrated into a multiple benefits framework (GEF STAP 2014). Secondly, the analysis will look at the core component of the resilience concept in resilience-focused project, analyzing whether resilience is viewed (1) in a static system/ engineering sense, 2) resilience as incremental change, or 3) resilience as transformational change (Béné et al. 2012, 2017). Desk analysis will also look at whether and how resilience is considered differently for different focal areas.

**KQ5.** To what extent has GEF support performed in fragile contexts in LDCs and how have the results achieved by completed GEF projects and programs been affected in situations that have become fragile?

50. The GEF does not have a definition of fragility in an operational context nor a policy or special procedure for working in fragile states. GEF's work in fragile countries is focused primarily on SIDS and LDCs (AusAid 2012). The SGP is a key modality used by the GEF to provide support in fragile countries. OPS6 reported that compared to GEF-5 funding, support for fragile states increased from 8 to 10 percent, but OPS6 did not provide an assessment of the performance and results of such support. This evaluation is using the World Bank harmonized

list of fragile situations, which includes 24 of the 47 LDCs. The analysis will aim to identify the most common factors affecting the performance, results, and sustainability of GEF support in fragile contexts.

## A.7 Evaluation design, quality assurance, and limitations

51. The evaluation questions will be answered through a mixed methods approach encompassing both quantitative and qualitative analytical methods and tools. An evaluation matrix composed of the five key questions, relevant indicators, sources of information and methods is presented in [annex B](#). Synergies with the other two SCCEs will be sought by coordinating data gathering, analysis, and cross-fertilization. As part of the evaluation design, a scoping mission has been conducted to Bangladesh and key stakeholders have been interviewed to, among other things, probe the main questions. The scoping mission to Senegal for the African biomes SCCE has also informed this approach paper.

52. The IEO recently completed a study on the sustainability of GEF project benefits in the Annual Performance Report 2017 (GEF IEO 2019a). The study analyzed IEO datasets on terminal evaluation ratings and progress to impact (P2I) to assess correlations among sustainability, outcomes, implementation, broader adoption, project design features, country characteristics and other variables. The analysis takes stock of projects for which field verifications were conducted by the IEO at least two years after project completion. This study provides the aggregate findings that--together with the portfolio level geospatial analysis--will inform the design of the case studies for this evaluation. The results of the IEO sustainability study on factors driving sustainability will be further explored in a limited yet as possible representative

as possible set of case studies. The plan is to conduct five case studies, identified based on the results of the portfolio and geospatial analyses and given the need to cover projects as well as program sites. To select them, the aggregate analysis will help will help identifying hot spots of sustained (or absent) environmental change to which the GEF contributed in LDCs.

53. The IEO is also planning an evaluation of GEF support to sustainable forest management (SFM). The SFM evaluation will also make use of forest-specific geospatial analysis, and parts of this analysis will link to this evaluation's KQs 1 and 2 for those projects in LDCs where outcomes are observable geospatially. These potentially include projects in land degradation, climate change adaptation, forests and biodiversity focal areas. Change of local environmental conditions will be measured using indicators such as: (1) forest area as a proportion of the total land area; and (2) Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) as a proxy indicator to examine the long-term spatial and temporal patterns of land productivity measured as vegetation density, among others. Socio-economic indicators will be part of this analysis, and other indicators may be identified in coordination with the SFM evaluation.

54. Desk review techniques (document review protocols) will be used for answering the relevance as well as the cross-cutting questions on gender, resilience and fragility. The resilience analysis will use the methodologies developed by STAP and by Béné et al., mentioned earlier. A quality-at-entry approach will be applied to formative analyses of the relevance to the countries of the expanded network of GEF Agencies, due to its recent introduction. The case study phase will field-test and verify overall portfolio analyses and desk review findings, aiming to deep dive into the factors that emerged more frequently.

55. In addition to standard evaluation components such as documentation review, portfolio analyses and interviews, this SCCE will pilot dyadic interviews (box A.1). This is a qualitative interviewing technique based on the creation of a conversation between two stakeholders sharing either a pre-existing relationship or a common interest, knowledge and participation experience (Morgan et al. 2016). Dyadic interviews will be applied to pairs of child and standalone national project managers from similar countries to inquire about evidence or examples of positive, negative and no long term environmental change and the related underlying factors in each example.

56. Triangulation of qualitative as well as quantitative data will be conducted at completion of the data analysis and gathering phase to determine trends and to identify main findings, lessons and conclusions. Triangulation also aims to increase the evaluation's reliability and validity by confirming data collected by one method through the results of another method. Different stakeholders will be consulted during the process to test preliminary findings.

57. In line with IEO's quality assurance practice, quality assurance measures have been set up for

this evaluation. A reference group, composed of representatives from the GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies, and STAP. The reference group will: (1) provide feedback and comments on the approach paper, the preliminary findings and the evaluation report; (2) help ensuring evaluation relevance to ongoing as well as future operations; (3) help identifying and establishing contact with the appropriate individuals for interviews/focus groups; and (4) facilitate access to information. On June 6, 2018 the reference group met for the first time to discuss jointly the draft approach papers of the three SCCEs. The feedback from that meeting was incorporated in this approach paper.

58. The second quality assurance measure is an external peer reviewer, with experience in country-level and/or environmental evaluation. The external peer reviewer, will advise on: (1) the soundness of evaluation design, scope, questions, methods and process described in the approach paper; and (2) implementation of the methodology and implications of methodological limitations in the formulation of the conclusions and recommendations in the draft and final reports. The Director of the UNEP Evaluation Office has taken on this role and his comments on the draft approach paper have been incorporated in final paper.

59. A couple of limitations can be identified at this stage. These include: (1) the unreliability of PMIS data on programs as it is not regularly updated, especially on status; and (2) limited number of field visits that will be possible to conduct in the time frame and budget allowed for this evaluation. The first limitation had been addressed by cross-checking PMIS portfolio information with the management information systems of GEF Agencies as a priority before undertaking any analysis. This process was completed in July 2018. The second limitation will be mitigated by conducting field missions to countries jointly with those that will be conducted in the African biome and SIDS SCCEs, as well as other evaluations conducted by the IEO or

#### **Box A.1 Dyadic interviews**

The dyadic interview format allows each pair of participants to build on each other's comments through a process of sharing and comparing. By sharing their points of view, the participants expand their coverage of the evaluation topic. By comparing their points of view, the participants differentiate their thoughts about the same evaluation topic. Compared to individual interviews, dyadic interviews bring a high level of engagement in the interview itself. Compared to focus groups, dyadic interviews enable deeper and more informative storytelling while being much easier to moderate.

by evaluation offices of GEF Agencies, to increase field coverage. The team will report on how these, as well as other emerging limitations, will be dealt with during the evaluation data gathering and analysis phase.

## A.8 Process, deliverables, and dissemination

60. This evaluation is being conducted between March 2018 and October 2019, and in two phases: (1) aggregate analysis (portfolio, geospatial, quality-at-entry, scoping mission); and (2) field verifications (case studies). Geospatial analysis will be conducted in November 2018, once the results of the aggregate portfolio and geospatial analyses will

be available. An initial work plan is presented below (table A.5).

61. Regular stakeholder interaction will be sought to enhance the evaluation process. This will include consultation and outreach while the evaluation is under way, and dissemination and outreach once the study is complete. During evaluation preparation, the team will solicit feedback and comments from stakeholders to improve the evaluation's accuracy and relevance. An added benefit is stimulating interest in the evaluation results. The principles of transparency and participation will guide this process. Such stakeholder interaction will contribute important information and qualitative data to supplement data, interviews, case studies, and other research.

**Table A.5** Evaluation timetable

Task	2018												2019											
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		
<b>Approach paper</b>																								
Background information and portfolio data gathering	■	■	■	■																				
Approach paper discussed with reference group				■																				
Mission to Bangladesh to probe evaluation design				■																				
Finalizing approach paper					■	■	■																	
<b>Data gathering and analysis</b>																								
Desk review/portfolio analysis (PRT design and filling)						■	■	■	■															
Geospatial analysis							■	■	■															
Quality-at-entry							■	■	■	■														
Country case studies										■	■	■	■	■	■	■								
Triangulation brainstorming																■	■							
Gap filling																■	■							
<b>Report writing</b>																								
Draft report																	■	■	■					
Due diligence (gathering feedback and comments)																		■	■					
Final report																				■	■			
Presentation to Council in the SAER																						■		
Dissemination and outreach																								

62. The main findings, conclusions and recommendations will be included in the IEO Semi Annual Evaluation Report that will be presented to Council at the fall meeting in December 2019. The full report will be submitted as a Council information document. It will be distributed to the Council members, GEF Secretariat, STAP, GEF country focal points and GEF Agency staff. A graphically edited version will be published as open access on the IEO's website. A detailed dissemination plan will be prepared and implemented, which will include distribution of the above-mentioned outputs in the main evaluation networks through existing IEO mailing lists as well as mailing lists of audience and stakeholders that will be developed during the conduct of the evaluation. The plan will also consider concrete opportunities to present the evaluation through webinars as well as at evaluation conferences and workshops.

## A.9 Resources

63. The SCCE is being conducted by team led by a Senior Evaluation Officer from the IEO with oversight from the Chief Evaluation Officer and the Director of the IEO. The team benefits from coordination and interaction with the IEO's staff managing the other two SCCEs and will be supported by IEO evaluation analyst. Short-term consultants will be selected to help with desk reviews and portfolio analyses. National or regional consultants will be selected for field verifications to benefit from the extensive knowledge of context and issues at hand in the case study countries. The required skills mix includes practical, policy, and/or academic expertise in key GEF focal areas of the projects and programs under analysis, evaluation experience and knowledge of external information sources that are relevant to GEF activities in the case study countries.

# Evaluation matrix

Key question	Indicator/basic data/what to look for	Source of information	Methodology
1. What are the key factors influencing sustainability of outcomes in LDCs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aggregated effectiveness ratings</li> <li>Aggregate ratings of sustainability of project outcomes</li> <li>Aggregate financial, socio-political, institutional, and environmental risks to sustainability ratings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APR data, including any other available TEs/TERs of projects completed between 2007 and 2014</li> <li>APR 2017 Study on the sustainability of GEF project benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Documentation review</li> <li>Portfolio analysis</li> </ul>
	Aggregate broader adoption – sustaining, replication, scaling-up, mainstreaming and market change mechanisms in place	TEs/TERs of projects completed between 2007 and 2014	Broader Adoption/P2I desk analysis
		IEO and GEF Agencies' evaluations	Documentation review
	Evidence/examples of positive, negative and no change based on the above mechanisms, and identification of main underlying factors in each example, including: (1) stakeholders involved at design; (2) private sector involvement post-completion; (3) existence of institutions functioning after completion; (4) evidence of private sector co-financing; and (5) other.	Central stakeholders	Interviews
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholder</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dyadic interviews (with pairs of child and standalone project managers from similar countries in LDCs)</li> <li>Field observations in case studies (case studies will be conducted in synergy with the African biomes and SIDS SCCEs)</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aggregate geospatial data on: (1) forest area as a proportion of the total land area; (2) NDVI; and (3) socio-economic indicators; among others.</li> <li>Links between immediate outcomes and GEBs (expressed as geospatial data)</li> <li>Hot spots of positive, negative and no change based on the above mechanisms, and identification of main underlying factors in each example</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GIS/Remote Sensing databases</li> <li>TEs/TERs of projects completed between 2007 and 2014 that can be and/or have already been geocoded</li> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aggregated geospatial analysis aimed at identifying hot spots and no change</li> <li>Field observations in country case studies (geocoding and analysis of environmental parameters to be done in conjunction with SFM evaluation)</li> </ul>



Key question	Indicator/basic data/what to look for	Source of information	Methodology
2. In what way, if any, does the environment and socio-economic development/ livelihoods nexus help explain the sustainability of outcomes in LDCs?	Aggregated geospatial data on land use/Land cover changes, Vegetation productivity, NDVI and/or landscape fragmentation	GIS/Remote Sensing databases; completed projects between 2007 and 2014 that can be and/or have already been geocoded	Aggregated geospatial analysis aimed at identifying hot spots and no change
	Aggregated financial and environmental risks to sustainability ratings	APR data, including any other available TEs/TERs of projects completed between 2007 and 2014	Portfolio analysis
	Aggregated countries' differences in: (1) reliance on natural resources, (2) susceptibility to natural disasters, (3) poor's dependence on the environment, and (iv) governments' economic development and other priorities	TEs/TERs of projects completed between 2007 and 2014	Documentation review protocol
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existence of regulatory framework enabling private sector to address environmental issues</li> <li>Evidence of access to private sector funding after project completion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TEs/TERs of projects completed between 2007 and 2014</li> <li>IEO's country-level evaluations (Benin, Eritrea, Madagascar, Sierra Leone and Tanzania)</li> </ul>	Documentation review
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	Field observations in country studies
	Perceptions on the existence of a nexus or a trade-off between environment and socioeconomic development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	Field observations in country studies
3. To what extent has GEF support been relevant to the main environmental challenges LDCs face, and are there any gaps?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existence of national operational strategies related to GEF focal areas</li> <li>Alignment of GEF support with national environmental priorities and budgets, and with other donors' support to the environmental sector in the countries</li> </ul>	Documentation from completed and ongoing enabling activities	Documentation review protocol
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data (laws/policies, strategies and budgets; documentation from other donors)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews</li> <li>Field observations in country studies</li> </ul>
	Evolution of STAR and non-STAR focal areas allocations and utilization	Portfolio data from PMIS verified by GEF Agencies	Portfolio analysis
	Evolution of GEF support by modality		
	Variety of the services available to countries from the GEF Agencies working in LDCs	Portfolio data from PMIS verified by GEF Agencies and project documentation	Formative quality-at-entry analysis (building on the findings of the evaluation of the expansion of the GEF partnership)
	Actual and planned use of the services available to countries from the GEF Agencies working in LDCs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	Field observations in country studies
Perceptions on incentives and disincentives to embark in GEF integrated programs and/or multifocal projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews</li> <li>Field observations in country studies</li> </ul>	

Key question	Indicator/basic data/what to look for	Source of information	Methodology
4. To what extent have gender and resilience been taken into consideration in GEF programming in LDCs?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existence of a gender analysis</li> <li>Existence of sex disaggregated/ gender sensitive data (i.e., share of men and women involved in project design; share of men and women targeted as direct beneficiaries; share of men and women in lead project management roles)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portfolio data from PMIS, Agency verified</li> <li>Project documentation</li> <li>OPS5 and OPS6 data on gender (Also covering APR data from TEs/TERs of projects completed since GEF-4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portfolio analysis</li> <li>Documentation review protocol</li> </ul>
	Gender ratings	GEFSEC Annual Monitoring Report data and corporate score card on gender	Portfolio analysis
	Evidence of women's inclusion and women's empowerment Linkages between country gender plans, policies, strategies and project strategies and plans on gender	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	Field observations in country studies
	Existence of resilience consideration	Portfolio data from PMIS verified by GEF Agencies	Documentation review protocol
	Resilience as (1) risk management, (2) as a co-benefit, or (3) as integrated into a multiple benefits framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APR data from TEs/TERs of projects completed since GEF-4</li> <li>Portfolio data from PMIS verified by GEF Agencies</li> </ul>	STAP methodology
	Resilience as (1) in a static system/ engineering sense, (2) resilience as incremental change, or (3) resilience as transformational change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APR data from TEs/TERs of projects completed since GEF-4</li> <li>Portfolio data from PMIS verified by GEF Agencies</li> </ul>	Béné et al. methodology
5. To what extent has GEF support performed in fragile contexts in LDCs and how have the results achieved by completed GEF projects and programs been affected in situations that have become fragile?	Aggregated effectiveness, outcome and sustainability ratings, and their variation over time in the fragile countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Bank list of fragile situations from FY06 to FY18</li> <li>APR data from TEs/TERs of projects completed since GEF-4 in fragile LDCs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Portfolio trend analysis</li> <li>Comparative rating analysis between different cohorts of fragile situations (always fragile, become fragile, not fragile anymore, etc.)</li> </ul>
	Main features and dynamics on environmental change caused by fragility	Relevant existing literature	Literature review
	Perceptions on the most important factors having influenced the variations in those fragile countries having shown the largest change in performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central stakeholders</li> <li>Country stakeholders</li> <li>Available country data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interviews</li> <li>Case studies selected on an opportunistic basis</li> </ul>

# Projects reviewed

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
4227	Building Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in Afghanistan	Afghanistan	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4839	Establishing Integrated Models for Protected Areas and their Co-management	Afghanistan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5017	Developing Core Capacity for Decentralized MEA Implementation and Natural Resources Management in Afghanistan	Afghanistan	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5202	Strengthening the resilience of rural livelihood options for Afghan communities in Panjshir, Balkh, Uruzgan and Herat Provinces to manage climate change-induced disaster risks	Afghanistan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5610	Reducing GHG Emissions Through Community Forests and Sustainable Biomass Energy in Afghanistan	Afghanistan	FAO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5664	Building Resilience of Communities Living Around the Northern Pistachio Belt (NPB) and Eastern Forest Complex (EFC) of Afghanistan through an EbA Approach.	Afghanistan	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
6914	Adapting Afghan Communities to Climate-Induced Disaster Risks	Afghanistan	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
9285	Community-based Sustainable Land and Forest Management in Afghanistan	Afghanistan	FAO	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
1907	Natural Resources and Poverty Alleviation Project	Afghanistan	ADB	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3568	Enabling activities to facilitate early action on the implementation of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Angola	Angola	UNIDO	GEF-4	EA	C	R
4082	National Biodiversity Project: Conservation of Iona National Park	Angola	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4589	Expansion and Strengthening of Angola's Protected Area System	Angola	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4720	Land Rehabilitation and Rangelands Management in Small Holders Agropastoral Production Systems in Southwestern Angola	Angola	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5177	Promoting Climate-resilient Development and Enhanced Adaptive Capacity to Withstand Disaster Risks in Angola's Cuvelai River Basin	Angola	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5230	Addressing Urgent Coastal Adaptation Needs and Capacity Gaps in Angola	Angola	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5231	Integrating Climate Change into Environment and Sustainable Land Management Practices (ICE-SLM)	Angola	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5432	Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural and Agropastoral Production Systems through Soil Fertility Management in Key Productive and Vulnerable Areas Using the Farmers Field School Approach	Angola	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5719	Promotion of Sustainable Charcoal in Angola through a Value Chain Approach	Angola	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
3287	Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change through Coastal Afforestation	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4459	Development of Sustainable Renewable Energy Power Generation (SREPGen)	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4700	Integrating Community-based Adaptation into Afforestation and Reforestation Programmes in Bangladesh	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4858	Environmentally-sound Development of the Power Sector with the Final Disposal of PCBs	Bangladesh	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4931	ASTUD: Greater Dhaka Sustainable Urban Transport Corridor Project	Bangladesh	ADB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5099	Expanding the PA System to Incorporate Important Aquatic Ecosystems	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5106	National Capacity Development for Implementing Rio Conventions Through Environmental Governance	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5189	Third National Communication to the UNFCCC	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5456	Ecosystem-based Approaches to Adaptation (EbA) in the Drought-prone Barind Tract and Haor "Wetland" Area	Bangladesh	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5636	Community-based Climate Resilient Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Bangladesh	Bangladesh	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5823	Establishing National Land Use and Land Degradation Profile toward Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management Practices in Sector Policies – ENALULDEP/SLM	Bangladesh	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
668	Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management at Cox's Bazar and Hakakuki Haor	Bangladesh	UNDP	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1209	Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development	Bangladesh	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
3704	Integrated Adaptation Programme to Combat the Effects of Climate Change on Agricultural Production and Food Security	Benin	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3770	SPWA-BD: Incorporation of Sacred Forests into the Protected Areas System of Benin	Benin	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4756	Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides and Strengthening Life-cycle Management of Pesticides	Benin	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5002	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Western and Central Africa for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Benin	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5215	GGW: Forests and Adjacent Lands Management Project	Benin	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5232	Flood Control and Climate Resilience of Agriculture Infrastructures in Oueme Valley	Benin	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5431	Strengthening the Resilience of the Energy Sector in Benin to the Impacts of Climate Change	Benin	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5752	Promotion of Sustainable Biomass-based Electricity Generation in Benin	Benin	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5807	Preparation of Benin's First Biennial Update Report (BUR1) to UNFCCC	Benin	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
6974	Improving Mobility in Parakou	Benin	AfDB	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
1234	Community-based Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Management Project	Benin	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3844	Sustainable Rural Biomass Energy	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4579	Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management	Bhutan	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4824	NAP Alignment and Report Preparation	Bhutan	GEFSec	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
4976	Addressing the Risk of Climate-induced Disasters through Enhanced National and Local Capacity for Effective Actions	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5448	Implementing the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	A	R
9199	Enhancing S and Climate Resilience of Forest and Agricultural Landscape and Community Livelihoods	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
2358	Sustainable Land Management	Bhutan	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2550	Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
2667	Community Micro Hydro for Sustainable Livelihood	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3052	Enhancing Global Environmental Management in Bhutan's Local Governance System	Bhutan	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3219	Reducing Climate Change-induced Risks and Vulnerabilities from Glacial Lake Outbursts in the Punakha-Wangdi and Chamkhar Valleys	Bhutan	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3262	LDC/SIDS Portfolio Project: Building Capacity and Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management in Bhutan	Bhutan	UNIDO	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3850	BS: Implementation of the National Biosafety Framework of Bhutan	Bhutan	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
2876	SPWA-CC: Ouagadougou Transport Modal Shift	Burkina Faso	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3684	Strengthening Adaptation Capacities and Reducing the Vulnerability to Climate Change in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4073	SPWA-CC: Promotion of Jatropha Curcas as a Sustainable Source of Agrofuel in Burkina-Faso	Burkina Faso	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4221	SPWA-BD: Protected Area Buffer Zone Management in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4285	Promoting Energy Efficiency Technologies in Beer Brewing Sector in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4767	Capacity Development : Generating Global Environmental Benefits from Improved Local Planning and Decision-making Systems in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
4971	Adapting Natural Resource Dependent Livelihoods to Climate induced Risks in Selected Landscapes in Burkina Faso: the Boucle du Mouhoun Forest Corridor and the Mare d'Oursi Wetlands Basin	Burkina Faso	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5003	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Africa for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change - Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5014	Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural and Pastoral Production for Food Security in Vulnerable Rural Areas Through the Farmers Field School Approach.	Burkina Faso	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5061	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Burkina Faso	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5187	GGW: Community based Rural Development Project 3rd Phase with Sustainable Land and Forestry Management	Burkina Faso	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9141	GEF-IAP: Participatory Natural Resource Management and Rural Development Project in the North, Centre-North and East Regions (Neer Tamba project)	Burkina Faso	IFAD	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9711	National Action Plan on Mercury in the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining Sector in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
876	Partnership for Natural Ecosystem Management Program (PAGEN)	Burkina Faso	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1178	Sahel Integrated Lowland Ecosystem Management (SILEM), Phase I	Burkina Faso	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3567	CPP: Burkina Faso - Sub-programme of the Northern Region-under Partnership Programme for Sustainable Land Management	Burkina Faso	IFAD	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
4133	SPWA-CC: Energy Efficiency Project	Burundi	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4631	Watershed Approach to Sustainable Coffee Production in Burundi	Burundi	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4990	Community Disaster Risk Management in Burundi	Burundi	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9056	Promotion of Small Hydro Power (SHP) for Productive Use and Energy Services	Burundi	UNIDO	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9178	Food-IAP: Support for Sustainable Food Production and Enhancement of Food Security and Climate Resilience in Burundi's Highlands	Burundi	FAO	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
2357	Agricultural Rehabilitation and Sustainable Land Management Project	Burundi	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3752	SPWA-BD: Consolidation of Cape Verde's Protected Areas System	Cabo Verde	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3635	SFM Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and the Development of Bio-energy Markets to Promote Environmental S and to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions in Cambodia	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3890	Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Programme for Climate Change in the Coastal Zone of Cambodia Considering Livelihood Improvement and Ecosystems	Cambodia	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3976	Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Improved Energy Efficiency in the Industrial Sector	Cambodia	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4042	TT-Pilot (GEF-4): Climate Change Related Technology Transfer for Cambodia: Using Agricultural Residue Biomass for Sustainable Energy Solutions	Cambodia	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4434	Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity and Resilience of Rural Communities Using Micro Watershed Approaches to Climate Change and Variability to Attain Sustainable Food Security	Cambodia	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
4905	Strengthening National Biodiversity and Forest Carbon Stock Conservation through Landscape-based Collaborative Management of Cambodia's Protected Area System as Demonstrated in the Eastern Plains Landscape (CAMPAS Project)	Cambodia	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4945	Collaborative Management for Watershed and Ecosystem Service Protection and Rehabilitation in the Cardamom Mountains, Upper Prek Thnot River Basin	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5265	Review and Update of the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in the Kingdom of Cambodia	Cambodia	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5295	Generating, Accessing and Using Information and Knowledge Related to the Three Rio Conventions	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5419	Reducing the Vulnerability of Cambodian Rural Livelihoods through Enhanced sub-national Climate Change Planning and Execution of Priority Actions	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5421	Reduction of GHG Emission through Promotion of Commercial Biogas Plants	Cambodia	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
9103	Building Adaptive Capacity through the Scaling-up of Renewable Energy Technologies in Rural Cambodia (S-RET)	Cambodia	IFAD	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
621	Biodiversity and Protected Area Management Pilot Project for the Virachey National Park	Cambodia	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
946	Rural Electrification and Transmission	Cambodia	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1043	Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management (CALM) in the Northern Plains	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1086	Developing an Integrated Protected Area System for the Cardamom Mountains	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-2	MSP	C	R, S
1183	Tonle Sap Conservation Project	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3404	Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices	Cambodia	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
5163	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Central African Republic	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5504	Reducing Rural and Urban Vulnerability to Climate Change by the Provision of Water Supply	Central African Republic	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9532	LCB-NREE CAR child project: Enhancing Agro-ecological Systems in Northern Prefectures of the Central African Republic (CAR)	Central African Republic	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
3959	SPWA-CC: Promoting renewable energy based mini-grids for rural electrification and productive uses	Chad	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
5376	Enhancing the Resilience of the Agricultural Ecosystems	Chad	IFAD	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5795	Promoting Energy Efficient Cook Stoves in Micro and Small-scale Food Processing Industries	Chad	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
9100	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Chad	Chad	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9476	LCB-NREE Chad Child Project: Integrated Management of Natural Resources in the Chadian part of the Lake Chad Basin	Chad	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
1855	Community-Based Ecosystem Management Project	Chad	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3857	Adapting Water Resource Management in Comoros to Increase Capacity to Cope with Climate Change	Comoros	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
4974	Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Comoros	Comoros	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5062	Development of a National Network of Terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas Representative of the Comoros Unique Natural Heritage and Co-managed with Local Village Communities	Comoros	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5694	Building Climate Resilience through Rehabilitated Watersheds, Forests and Adaptive Livelihoods	Comoros	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5869	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the Comoros	Comoros	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
9314	Strengthening of Multisector and Decentralised Environmental Management and Coordination to Achieve the Objectives of the Rio Conventions in the Union of Comoros	Comoros	UNDP	GEF-6	MSP	CEO	R
9635	Review and update of the national implementation plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Comoros	Comoros	UNDP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
3160	Preparation of the POPs National Implementation Plan under the Stockholm Convention	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNDP	GEF-4	EA	UI	R
3718	Building the Capacity of the Agriculture Sector in DR Congo to Plan for and Respond to the Additional Threats Posed by Climate Change on Food Production and Security	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3772	CBSP Forest and Nature Conservation Project	Congo, Dem. Rep.	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4640	Democratic Republic of Congo Conservation Trust Fund [AF for National Parks Network Rehabilitation Project]	Congo, Dem. Rep.	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4923	Promotion of Mini and Micro-hydro Power Plants in Congo, Dem. Rep.	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5226	Improving Women and Children's Resilience and Capacity to Adapt to Climate Change in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5280	Resilience of Muanda's Communities from Coastal Erosion, Democratic Republic of Congo	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5451	Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Services	Congo, Dem. Rep.	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5547	Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Services	Congo, Dem. Rep.	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9453	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
248	Rehabilitation of Protected Areas in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Congo, Dem. Rep.	UNDP	GEF-1	FSP	C	R, S
3408	Implementing NAPA Priority Interventions to Build Resilience in the most Vulnerable Coastal Zones in Djibouti	Djibouti	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3529	SIP: Harmonizing support: a national program integrating water harvesting schemes and sustainable land management	Djibouti	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3713	Establishing Effectively Managed Marine Protected Areas in Djibouti	Djibouti	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4626	Geothermal Power Generation Program	Djibouti	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5021	Implementing Adaptation Technologies in Fragile Ecosystems of Djibouti's Central Plains	Djibouti	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R



GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5332	Supporting Rural Community Adaptation to Climate Change in Mountain Regions of Djibouti	Djibouti	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9174	Development of a Minamata Initial Assessment in Djibouti	Djibouti	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9325	RLACC - Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa (PROGRAM)	Djibouti	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
3139	Enabling Activities to Facilitate Early Action on the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention on POPs	Eritrea	UNIDO	GEF-4	EA	UI	R
3362	SIP: Catchments and Landscape Management	Eritrea	IFAD	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3364	SIP: Sustainable Land Management Pilot Project	Eritrea	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3987	Eritrea: Prevention and Disposal of POPs and Obsolete Pesticides	Eritrea	FAO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4559	Integrated Semenawi and Debubawi Bahri-Buri-Irrori-Hawakil Protected Area System for Conservation of Biodiversity and Mitigation of Land Degradation	Eritrea	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5389	Support to Eritrea for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Eritrea	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	A	R
5616	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Eritrea	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
6923	Mainstreaming Climate Risk Considerations in Food Security and IWRM in Tsilima Plains and Upper Catchment Area	Eritrea	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9641	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Eritrea	Eritrea	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
3367	SIP: Community-Based Integrated Natural Resources Management in Lake Tana Watershed	Ethiopia	IFAD	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3736	Mainstreaming Agro-biodiversity Conservation into the Farming Systems of Ethiopia	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4091	Capacity Building for Access and Benefit Sharing and Conservation and Sustainable Use of Medicinal Plants	Ethiopia	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4222	Promoting Autonomous Adaptation at the community level in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4992	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems to Support Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5040	Investment Promotion on Environmentally sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste: Up-Scale and Promotion of Activities and Initiatives on Environmentally Sound Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste.	Ethiopia	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	C	R
5107	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Ethiopia	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5220	PSG: Sustainable Land Management Project 2	Ethiopia	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5440	Mainstreaming Incentives for Biodiversity Conservation in the Climate Resilient Green Economy Strategy (CRGE)	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5501	Promoting Sustainable Rural Energy Technologies (RETs) for Household and Productive Uses	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
6967	CCA Growth: Implementing Climate Resilient and Green Economy plans in highland areas in Ethiopia	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
9048	Ethiopian Urban NAMA: Creating Opportunities for Municipalities to Produce and Operationalise Solid Waste Transformation (COMPOST)	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9135	Food-IAP: Integrated Landscape Management to Enhance Food Security and Ecosystem Resilience	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9157	Enhanced Management and Enforcement of Ethiopia's Protected Areas Estate	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
2794	SIP: Country Program for Sustainable Land Management (ECPSLM)	Ethiopia	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3154	Coping with Drought and Climate Change	Ethiopia	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3368	SIP: Participatory Integrated Watershed Management Project (PIWAMP)	Gambia	AfDB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3728	Strengthening of The Gambia's Climate Change Early Warning Systems	Gambia	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3922	SPWA-CC: Promoting Renewable Energy Based Mini Grids for Productive Uses in Rural Areas in The Gambia	Gambia	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4724	Enhancing Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Areas and Communities to Climate Change in the Republic of Gambia	Gambia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5071	Strengthening Climate Services and Early Warning Systems in the Gambia for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change – 2nd Phase of the GOTG/GEF/UNEP LDCF NAPA Early Warning Project	Gambia	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5406	Community-Based Sustainable Dryland Forest Management	Gambia	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5529	Gambia Protected Areas Network and Community Livelihood Project	Gambia	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5609	Greening the Productive Sectors in Gambia: Promoting the Use and Integration of Small to Medium Scale Renewable Energy Systems in the Productive Uses	Gambia	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5782	Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change in the Gambia	Gambia	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
1067	Integrated Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Management	Gambia	UNEP	GEF-2	MSP	C	R, S
3135	Adoption of Ecosystem Approach for Integrated Implementation of MEAs at National and Divisional Level	Gambia	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3961	SPWA - The Gambia Biodiversity Management and Institutional Strengthening Project	Gambia	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3703	Increased Resilience and Adaptation to Adverse Impacts of Climate Change in Guinea's Vulnerable Coastal Zones	Guinea	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3958	SPWA-CC: Promoting Development of Multi-Purpose Mini-hydro Power Systems	Guinea	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	UI	R
4667	National Biodiversity Planning to Support the Implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Guinea	Guinea	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
4692	Strengthening Resilience of Farming Communities' Livelihoods against Climate Changes in the Guinean Prefectures of Gaoual, Koundara and Mali	Guinea	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5041	Strengthening Decentralized Management of the Environment to Meet Rio Convention Objectives	Guinea	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5153	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Guinea	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	C	R
5289	Developing a Market for Biogas Resource Development and Utilization in Guinea	Guinea	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5382	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation Targeting Vulnerable Communities of the Upper Guinea Region	Guinea	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
8	Rural Energy	Guinea	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1273	Coastal Marine and Biodiversity Management	Guinea	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1877	Community-based Land Management	Guinea	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3575	SPWA-BD: Support for the Consolidation of a Protected Area System in Guinea-Bissau's Forest Belt	Guinea-Bissau	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4019	Strengthening Resilience and Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in Guinea-Bissau's Agrarian and Water Sectors	Guinea-Bissau	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
5331	Promoting Investments in Small to Medium Scale Renewable Energy Technologies in the Electricity Sector	Guinea-Bissau	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5368	Strengthening the Financial and Operational Framework of the National PA System in Guinea-Bissau	Guinea-Bissau	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
1221	Coastal and Biodiversity Management Project	Guinea-Bissau	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3817	SPWA-BD: Guinea Bissau Biodiversity Conservation Trust Fund Project	Guinea-Bissau	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
1904	Small Scale Hydro Power Development in Haiti	Haiti	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3132	SFM Sustainable Land Management of the Upper Watersheds of South Western Haiti	Haiti	IDB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3616	Establishing a Financially Sustainable National Protected Areas System	Haiti	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3733	Strengthening Adaptive Capacities to Address Climate Change Threats on Sustainable Development Strategies for Coastal Communities in Haiti	Haiti	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4447	Strengthening Climate Resilience and Reducing Disaster Risk in Agriculture to Improve Food Security in Haiti Post Earthquake	Haiti	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5380	Increasing Resilience of Ecosystems and Vulnerable Communities to CC and Anthropogenic Threats Through a Ridge to Reef Approach to BD Conservation and Watershed Management	Haiti	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5531	Ecosystem Approach to Haiti Cote Sud	Haiti	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5557	Developing Core Capacity for MEA Implementation in Haiti	Haiti	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
9803	Managing the Human-Biodiversity Interface in the Southern Marine Protected Areas of Haiti - MHBI	Haiti	IDB	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
3316	LDC/SIDS Portfolio Project: Capacity Building for Sustainable Land Management	Haiti	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
4219	Emergency program for solar power generation and lighting for Haiti, as a consequence of the Earthquake in Port au Prince	Haiti	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3897	PAS: Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA)	Kiribati	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4068	Increasing Resilience to Climate Variability and Hazards	Kiribati	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4282	PAS: Grid Connected Solar PV Central Station Project	Kiribati	WB	GEF-4	MSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5130	Integrating Global Environmental Priorities into National Policies and Programmes	Kiribati	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5414	Enhancing National Food Security in the Context of Global Climate Change	Kiribati	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5885	Support to Alignment of Kiribati's National Action Programme to the UNCCD Ten-Year Strategy and Reporting Process	Kiribati	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	A	R
2543	Kiribati Adaptation Program - Pilot Implementation Phase (KAP-II)	Kiribati	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2416	Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Agricultural and Land Management Policies, Plans and Programmes	Lao PDR	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3873	Developing and Demonstrating Replicable Protected Area Management Models at Nam Et - Phou Louey National Protected Area	Lao PDR	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4152	Rural Electrification Phase II	Lao PDR	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4554	Effective Governance for Small Scale Rural Infrastructure and Disaster Preparedness in a Changing Climate	Lao PDR	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
4650	GMS-FBP: Strengthening Protection and Management Effectiveness for Wildlife and Protected Areas	Lao PDR	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4782	PCB Management and Disposal at the Energy Sector	Lao PDR	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5095	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Lao PDR	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5462	Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems to Improve Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in Lao PDR	Lao PDR	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5489	Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas (CAWA)	Lao PDR	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5743	Reducing of Green House Gas Emissions in the Industrial Sector through Pelletization Technology	Lao PDR	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
6940	Sustainable Forest and Land Management in the Dry Dipterocarp Forest Ecosystems of Southern Lao PDR	Lao PDR	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9146	Vientiane Sustainable Urban Transport Project	Lao PDR	ADB	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9275	Lao PDR Intended National Contributions (Lao INDC)	Lao PDR	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
9622	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and Updating of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining	Lao PDR	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
1836	Integrated Ecosystem and Wildlife Management Project in Bolikhamxay Province	Lao PDR	WB	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2366	Southern Provinces Rural Electrification II Program	Lao PDR	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3173	Meeting the Primary Obligations of the Rio Conventions through Strengthening Capacity to Implement Natural Resources Legislation	Lao PDR	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3372	SIP: Capacity Building and Knowledge Management for Sustainable Land Management	Lesotho	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3841	Improvement of Early Warning System to Reduce Impacts of Climate Change and Capacity Building to Integrate Climate Change into Development Plans	Lesotho	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4034	Improving the Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Lao PDR to Climate Change Impacts	Lesotho	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4453	Adaptation of Small-scale Agriculture (LASAP)	Lesotho	IFAD	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5009	Alignment of Lesotho's National Action Plan with UNCCD	Lesotho	FAO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5075	Reducing Vulnerability from Climate Change in the Foothills, Lowlands and the Lower Senqu River Basin	Lesotho	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5124	Strengthening Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation through Support to Integrated Watershed Management Programme in Lesotho	Lesotho	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5742	Development of Cornerstone Public Policies and Institutional Capacities to Accelerate Sustainable Energy for All (SE4A) Progress	Lesotho	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
1245	Renewable Energy-based Rural Electrification	Lesotho	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3837	SPWA-BD: Biodiversity Conservation through Expanding the Protected Area Network in Liberia (EXPAN)	Liberia	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3885	Enhancing Resilience of Vulnerable Coastal Areas to Climate Change Risks	Liberia	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3944	SPWA-CC: Installation of multi purpose mini-hydro infrastructure (for energy & irrigation)	Liberia	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4268	Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change by Mainstreaming Adaption Concerns into Agricultural Sector Development in Liberia	Liberia	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4950	Strengthening Liberia's Capability to Provide Climate Information and Services to Enhance Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Liberia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5108	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Liberia	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5712	Improve S of Mangrove Forests and Coastal Mangrove Areas in Liberia through Protection, Planning and Livelihood Creation- as a Building Block Towards Liberia's Marine and Coastal Protected Areas	Liberia	CI	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
8015	Enhancing Resilience Of Liberia Montserrado County Vulnerable Coastal Areas To Climate Change Risks	Liberia	UNDP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9292	Increasing Energy Access through the Promotion of Energy Efficient Appliances in Liberia	Liberia	AfDB	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
1475	Establishing the Basis for Biodiversity Conservation on Sapo National Park and in South-East Liberia	Liberia	WB	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3284	Consolidation of Liberia's Protected Area Network	Liberia	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
2398	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Environmental Management	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-4	EA	UI	R
3374	SIP: Stabilizing Rural Populations through Improved Systems for SLM and Local Governance of Lands in Southern Madagascar	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3687	Madagascar's Network of Managed Resource Protected Areas	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3773	Support to the Madagascar Foundation for Protected Areas and Biodiversity (through Additional Financing to the Third Environment Support Program Project (EP3)	Madagascar	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4568	Adapting Coastal Zone Management to Climate Change in Madagascar Considering Ecosystem and Livelihoods	Madagascar	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4983	Alignment of National Action Programme to the UNCCD 10 Years Strategy and Preparation of the Fifth Reporting and Review process	Madagascar	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5233	Enabling Climate Resilience in the Agriculture Sector in the Southwest Region of Madagascar	Madagascar	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5317	Increased Energy Access for Productive Use through Small Hydropower Development in Rural Areas	Madagascar	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5352	Conservation of Key Threatened Endemic and Economically Valuable Species in Madagascar	Madagascar	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5486	A Landscape Approach to Conserving and Managing Threatened Biodiversity in Madagascar with a Focus on the Atsimo-Andrefana Spiny and Dry Forest Landscape	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5632	Enhancing the Adaptation Capacities and Resilience to Climate Change in Rural Communities in Analamanga, Atsinanana, Androy, Anosy, and Atsimo Andrefana	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5875	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment in Madagascar	Madagascar	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
9300	Strengthening National Capacities to Meet Global Environmental Obligations with the Framework of Sustainable Development Priorities	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-6	MSP	CEO	R
1929	Participatory Community-based Conservation in the Anjozorobe Forest Corridor	Madagascar	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3373	SIP: Watershed Management	Madagascar	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3376	SIP: Private Public Sector Partnership on Capacity Building for SLM in the Shire River Basin	Malawi	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3692	Effective Management of Nkhotakota Wildlife Reserve (PDMNWR)	Malawi	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4625	Shire Natural Ecosystems Management Project	Malawi	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4797	Climate Proofing Local Development Gains in Rural and Urban Areas of Machinga and Mangochi Districts	Malawi	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4994	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Malawi to Support Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Malawi	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5015	Implementing Urgent Adaptation Priorities Through Strengthened Decentralized and National Development Plans.	Malawi	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5328	Building Climate Change Resilience in the Fisheries Sector in Malawi	Malawi	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5587	Increasing Access to Clean and Affordable Decentralized Energy Services in Selected Vulnerable Areas of Malawi	Malawi	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
9138	Food-IAP: Enhancing the Resilience of Agro-Ecological Systems (ERASP)	Malawi	IFAD	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
640	Mulanje Mountain Biodiversity Conservation Project	Malawi	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
3377	SIP: Fostering Agricultural Productivity in Mali	Mali	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3699	SPWA-CC: Promotion of the Use of Agrofuels from the Production and Use of Jatropha Oil in Mali	Mali	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3763	SPWA-BD: Expansion and Strengthening of Mali's PA System	Mali	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3776	Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Mali	Mali	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3979	Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural Production for Food Security in Rural Areas	Mali	FAO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4429	GEF National Portfolio Formulation Document	Mali	GEFSec	GEF-5	EA	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
4822	Strengthening Resilience to Climate Change through Integrated Agricultural and Pastoral Management in the Sahelian zone in the Framework of the Sustainable Land Management Approach	Mali	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5192	Strengthening the Resilience of Women Producer Groups and Vulnerable Communities in Mali	Mali	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5270	GGW Natural Resources Management in a Changing Climate in Mali	Mali	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5443	Third National Communication to the UNFCCC	Mali	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5644	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in the Republic of Mali	Mali	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5746	Scaling up and Replicating Successful Sustainable Land Management (SLM) and Agroforestry Practices in the Koulikoro Region of Mali	Mali	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
5819	Promoting Sustainable Electricity Generation in Malian Rural Areas through Hybrid Technologies	Mali	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
6971	Generating Global Environment Benefits through Improved Environmental Information, Planning and Decision Making Systems	Mali	UNDP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
1152	Biodiversity Conservation and Participatory Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Inner Niger Delta and its Transition Areas, Mopti Region	Mali	IFAD	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1253	Gourma Biodiversity Conservation Project	Mali	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1274	Household Energy and Universal Rural Access Project	Mali	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3893	Support to the Adaptation of Vulnerable Agricultural Production Systems	Mauritania	IFAD	GEF-4	FSP	CEO	R
5190	Improving Climate Resilience of Water Sector Investments with Appropriate Climate Adaptive Activities for Pastoral and Forestry Resources in Southern Mauritania	Mauritania	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5580	Development of an Improved and Innovative Management System for Sustainable Climate-resilient Livelihoods in Mauritania	Mauritania	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5639	Stocktaking and Update of National Biosafety Framework for Mauritania	Mauritania	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
5769	Promoting Sustainable Mini-grids in Mauritanian Provinces Through Hybrid Technologies	Mauritania	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
5792	PSG-Sustainable Landscape Management Project under SAWAP	Mauritania	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
8029	West Africa Regional Fisheries Program SOP C1	Mauritania	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
2459	Community-based Watershed Management Project	Mauritania	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3379	SIP: Participatory Environmental Protection and Poverty Reduction in the Oases of Mauritania	Mauritania	IFAD	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3753	Sustainable Financing of the Protected Area System in Mozambique	Mozambique	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3768	Development of the National Clearing House Mechanism- and Capacity Assessment for ABS and Taxonomy (previously titled "Updating of the NBSAP, Development of the NCHM")	Mozambique	UNEP	GEF-4	EA	UI	R
3986	Disposal of POPs Wastes and Obsolete Pesticides	Mozambique	FAO	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4276	Adaptation in the Coastal Zones of Mozambique	Mozambique	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5161	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Mozambique	Mozambique	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5225	Mozambique Conservation Areas for Biodiversity and Development Project	Mozambique	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5433	Strengthening Capacities of Agricultural Producers to Cope with Climate Change for Increased Food Security through the Farmers Field School Approach	Mozambique	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5516	Payment for Ecosystem Services to Support Forest Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods	Mozambique	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
6985	National Action Plan on Mercury in the Mozambican Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining sector	Mozambique	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9158	Strengthening the Conservation of Globally Threatened Species in Mozambique through Improving Biodiversity Enforcement and Expanding Community Conservancies around Protected Areas	Mozambique	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
9225	Towards Sustainable Energy for All in Mozambique: Promoting Market-Based Dissemination of Integrated Renewable Energy Systems for Productive Activities in Rural Areas	Mozambique	UNIDO	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
648	Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Management Project	Mozambique	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
2003	Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development Project	Mozambique	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2889	Zambezi Valley Market Led Smallholder Development	Mozambique	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3155	Coping with Drought and Climate Change	Mozambique	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3702	Preparation of National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA)	Myanmar	UNEP	GEF-4	EA	A	R
5123	Sustainable Cropland and Forest Management in Priority Agro-ecosystems of Myanmar	Myanmar	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5159	Strengthening S of Protected Area Management	Myanmar	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5321	Improvement of Industrial Energy Efficiency	Myanmar	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5702	FishAdapt: Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity and Resilience of Fisheries and Aquaculture-dependent Livelihoods in Myanmar	Myanmar	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
6992	Ridge to Reef: Integrated Protected Area Land and Seascape Management in Tanintharyi	Myanmar	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
9267	Rural Productivity and Ecosystems Services Enhanced in Central Dry Zone Forest Reserves	Myanmar	ADB	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9805	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Myanmar	Myanmar	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
3573	Environmentally Sound Management and Disposal of POPs Pesticides and PCBs	Nepal	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4130	Kathmandu Sustainable Urban Transport (SUT) Project	Nepal	ADB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4345	Renewable Energy for Rural Livelihood (RERL)	Nepal	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4464	Integrating Traditional Crop Genetic Diversity into Technology Using a BD Portfolio Approach to Buffer Against Unpredictable Environmental Change in the Nepal Himalayas	Nepal	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4551	Community Based Flood and Glacial Lake Outburst Risk Reduction	Nepal	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R



GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5111	Reducing Vulnerability and Increasing Adaptive Capacity to Respond to Impacts of Climate Change and Variability for Sustainable Livelihoods in Agriculture Sector in Nepal	Nepal	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5203	Catalysing Ecosystem Restoration for Climate Resilient Natural Capital and Rural Livelihoods in Degraded Forests and Rangelands of Nepal	Nepal	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5596	Sustainable Land Management in the Churia Range	Nepal	WWF-US	GEF-5	MSP	C	R
9152	Minamata Initial Assessment in Nepal	Nepal	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9352	Strengthening Capacities for Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Nepal	Nepal	IUCN	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
1107	Landscape Level Biodiversity Conservation in Nepal's Western Terai Complex	Nepal	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1217	Conservation and Sustainable Use of Wetlands	Nepal	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3381	SIP: Oasis Micro-Basin Sand Invasion Control in the Goure and Maine Regions (PLECO)	Niger	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3383	SIP: Agricultural and Rural Rehabilitation and Development Initiative (ARRDI)	Niger	IFAD	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3760	SPWA-BD: Integrating the Sustainable Management of Faunal Corridors into Niger's Protected Area System	Niger	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3796	SPWA-CC: Integration of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions in Niger's Rural Energy Service Access Program	Niger	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4701	Scaling up Community-Based Adaptation (CBA) in Niger	Niger	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4702	Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural and Pastoral Production for Food Security in Vulnerable Rural Areas through the Farmers Field School Approach	Niger	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5436	Disaster Risk Management and Urban Development Project	Niger	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5493	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Niger	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
9136	Niger: Food-IAP: Family Farming Development Programme (ProDAF)	Niger	IFAD	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9497	LCB-NREE Niger child project: Improving Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in Niger's Diffa Region	Niger	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
1275	Community-based Integrated Ecosystem Management Program under the Community Action Program	Niger	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
2380	Sustainable Co-Management of the Natural Resources of the Air-Tenere Complex	Niger	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3382	SIP: Community Driven SLM for Environmental and Food Security	Niger	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3838	Reducing Vulnerability to Climate Change by Establishing Early Warning and Disaster Preparedness Systems and Support for Integrated Watershed Management in Flood Prone Areas	Rwanda	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4952	Landscape Approach to Forest Restoration and Conservation (LAFREC)	Rwanda	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5194	Building Resilience of Communities Living in Degraded Forests, Savannahs and Wetlands of Rwanda Through an Ecosystem Management Approach	Rwanda	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5495	Increasing the Capacity of Vulnerable Rwandan Communities to Adapt to Adverse Effects of Climate Change: Livelihood Diversification and Investment in Rural Infrastructures	Rwanda	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
972	Integrated Management of Critical Ecosystems	Rwanda	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1104	Conservation of the Montane Forest Protected Area System in Rwanda	Rwanda	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
4274	Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity of Most Vulnerable São Tomé's Livestock-keeping Households	São Tomé and Príncipe	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4494	Integrated Ecosystem Approach to Biodiversity Mainstreaming and Conservation in the Buffer Zones of the Obo and Príncipe Natural Parks	São Tomé and Príncipe	IFAD	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5004	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in São Tomé and Príncipe for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	São Tomé and Príncipe	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5184	Enhancing Capacities of Rural Communities to Pursue Climate Resilient Livelihood Options in the São Tomé and Príncipe Districts of Caué, Me-Zochi, Príncipe, Lemba, Cantagalo, and Lobata (CMPLCL)	São Tomé and Príncipe	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5334	Promotion of Environmentally Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Grid Isolated Grid Based Hydroelectric Electricity Through an Integrated Approach in São Tomé and Príncipe.	São Tomé and Príncipe	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9113	Strengthening Resilience and Adaptive Capacity to Climate Change in São Tomé and Príncipe's Agricultural and Fisheries Sectors	São Tomé and Príncipe	AfDB	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
3386	SIP: Innovations in Micro Irrigation for Dryland Farmers	Senegal	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4055	TT-Pilot (GEF-4): Technology Transfer: Typha-based Thermal Insulation Material Production in Senegal	Senegal	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4080	SPWA-BD: Participatory Biodiversity Conservation and Low Carbon Development in Pilot Ecovillages in Senegal	Senegal	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4095	SPWA-CC: National Greenhouse Gas Reduction Program Through Energy Efficiency in the Built Environment	Senegal	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	UI	R
4888	Environmentally Sound Management of Municipal and Hazardous Solid Waste to Reduce Emission of Unintentional POPs	Senegal	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5371	Project for the Restoration and Strengthening the Resilience of the Lake de Guiers Wetland Ecosystems (PRRELAG)	Senegal	AfDB	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5449	PSG- Sustainable and Inclusive Agribusiness Development Project	Senegal	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5469	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Senegal	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5503	Mainstreaming Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate-resilient Rural Livelihoods in Vulnerable Rural Areas through the Farmer Field School Methodology	Senegal	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5566	Strengthening Land & Ecosystem Management Under Conditions of Climate Change in the Niayes and Casamance regions- Republic of Senegal	Senegal	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5802	Promoting SLM Practices to Restore and Enhance Carbon Stocks through Adoption of Green Rural Habitat Initiatives	Senegal	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
9123	Cities-IAP: Sustainable Cities Initiative	Senegal	WB	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9134	Food-IAP: Agricultural Value Chains Resilience Support Project (PARFA)	Senegal	IFAD	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
921	Electricity Services for Rural Areas Project	Senegal	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1189	Integrated Marine and Coastal Resource Management Project	Senegal	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2268	SIP: Integrated Ecosystem Management in Four Representative Landscapes of Senegal, Phase 2	Senegal	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3385	SIP: Sustainable Land Management in Senegal	Senegal	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3937	SPWA-CC: Promoting Mini Grids Based on Small Hydropower for Productive Uses in Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4105	SPWA-BD: Wetlands Conservation Project	Sierra Leone	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4599	Building Adaptive Capacity to Catalyze Active Public and Private Sector Participation to Manage the Exposure and Sensitivity of Water Supply Services to Climate Change in Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4840	Energy Efficient Production and Utilization of Charcoal through Innovative Technologies and Private Sector Involvement	Sierra Leone	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5006	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Africa for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Sierra Leone	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5209	Building Resilience to Climate Change in the Water and Sanitation Sector	Sierra Leone	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9454	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment and National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
4284	SB Development of Community-based Renewable Energy Mini-Grids	Solomon Islands	WB	GEF-4	MSP	UI	R
4725	Solomon Islands Water Sector Adaptation Project (SIWSAP)	Solomon Islands	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5045	Integrating Global Environment Commitments in Investment and Development Decision-making	Solomon Islands	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	C	R
5122	Integrated Forest Management in the Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5581	Community Resilience to Climate and Disaster Risk in Solomon Islands Project	Solomon Islands	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5007	Preparations of National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) in response to Climate Change for Somalia	Somalia	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	A	R
5196	Support to Somalia for the Development of its first NBSAP and Fifth National Report to the CBD	Somalia	FAO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5592	Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Vulnerable Communities and Ecosystems in Somalia	Somalia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
8016	National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management in Somalia	Somalia	UNDP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9488	Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa - Phase II (RLACC II)	Somalia	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5907	Support to South Sudan for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the CBD	South Sudan	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	P	R
3430	Implementing NAPA Priority Interventions to Build Resilience in the Agriculture and Water Sectors to the Adverse Impacts of Climate Change	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
3748	Protected Area Network Management and Building Capacity in Post-conflict Southern Sudan	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3915	Integrated Carbon Sequestration Project in Sudan	Sudan	IFAD	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4745	Promoting Utility-Scale Power Generation from Wind Energy	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4958	Climate Risk Finance for Sustainable and Climate Resilient Rainfed Farming and Pastoral Systems	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5019	National Biodiversity Planning to Support the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Sudan	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	C	R
5030	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Sudan	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5619	GGW Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project SSNRMP	Sudan	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5651	Livestock and Rangeland Resilience Program	Sudan	IFAD	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5673	Promoting the Use of Electric Water Pumps for Irrigation	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5703	Enhancing the Resilience of Communities Living in Climate Change Vulnerable Areas of Sudan Using Ecosystem Based Approaches to Adaptation (EbA)	Sudan	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9108	Third National Communication (TNC) and First Biennial Update Report (BUR)	Sudan	UNDP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9345	Minamata Convention: Initial assessment in the Republic of Sudan	Sudan	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9501	Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa - Phase II (RLACC II)	Sudan	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
3000	SFM: Sustainable Management of the Miombo Woodland Resources of Western Tanzania	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3391	SIP: Reducing Land Degradation on the Highlands of Kilimanjaro	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3965	Strengthening the Protected Area Network in Southern Tanzania: Improving the Effectiveness of National Parks in Addressing Threats to Biodiversity	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4004	Mini-Grids Based on Small Hydropower Sources to Augment Rural Electrification	Tanzania	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4141	Developing Core Capacity to Address Adaptation to Climate Change in Productive Coastal Zones	Tanzania	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4855	Kihansi Catchment Conservation and Management	Tanzania	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4873	Promotion of Waste-to-Energy Applications in Agro-Industries	Tanzania	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4991	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Tanzania to Support Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5034	Enhancing the Forest Nature Reserves Network for Biodiversity Conservation in Tanzania	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5093	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Tanzania	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5185	Support to Alignment of Tanzania's National Action Plan with the UNCCD's 10 Year Strategic Framework and Support National Reporting	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5463	Securing Watershed Services through Sustainable Land Management in the Ruvu and Zigi Catchments, Eastern Arc Region, Tanzania	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5691	Sustainable Land Management of Lake Nyasa Catchment in Tanzania	Tanzania	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
5695	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Rural Resilience	Tanzania	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
9132	Food-IAP: Reversing Land Degradation Trends and Increasing Food Security in Degraded Ecosystems of Semi-arid Areas of Central Tanzania	Tanzania	IFAD	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9456	Development of National Action Plans for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in the United Republic of Tanzania	Tanzania	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
780	Development of Mnazi Bay Marine Park	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1170	Conservation and Management of the Eastern Arc Mountain Forests	Tanzania	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1734	The Development and Management of the Selous-Niassa Wildlife Corridor	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2101	Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project (MACEMP)	Tanzania	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2151	Novel Forms of Livestock & Wildlife Integration Adjacent to Protected Areas in Africa	Tanzania	WB	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2832	Mainstreaming Climate Change in Integrated Water Resources Management in Pangani River Basin	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3428	SFM Extending the Coastal Forests Protected Area Subsystem	Tanzania	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3464	National Adaptation Programme of Action to Climate Change (NAPA) Formulation Project	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-4	EA	UI	R
3662	National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan, the First & Third National Report to CBD, Establishment of Clearing House Mechanism	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-4	EA	C	R
4344	Promoting Sustainable Bio-energy Production from Biomass	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4696	Strengthening the Resilience of Small-Scale Rural Infrastructure and Local Government Systems to Climatic Variability and Risk	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5056	Strengthening Community Resilience to Climate-induced Disasters in the Dili to Ainaro Road Development Corridor, Timor-Leste	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5671	Building Shoreline Resilience of Timor-Leste to Protect Local Communities and their Livelihoods	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5773	Upscaling Climate-Proofing in the Transport Sector in Timor-Leste: Sector Wide Approaches	Timor-Leste	ADB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5874	Second Communication to the UNFCCC	Timor-Leste	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
9052	CPDP: Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Urban Services Sector in Timor-Leste	Timor-Leste	ADB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4026	SPWA-BD: Strengthening the Conservation Role of Togo's National System of Protected Areas (PA)	Togo	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4570	Adapting Agriculture Production in Togo (ADAPT)	Togo	IFAD	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
4765	Strengthening National and Decentralized Management for Global Environmental Benefits	Togo	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	C	R
5035	Enabling activities to review and update the national implementation plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Togo	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5279	Strengthening Climate Resilience of Infrastructure in Coastal Areas in Togo	Togo	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5850	Togo's First Biennial Update Report (FBUR)	Togo	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
3694	Increasing Resilience of Coastal Areas and Community Settlements to Climate Change	Tuvalu	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4714	Effective and Responsive Island-level Governance to Secure and Diversify Climate Resilient Marine-based Coastal Livelihoods and Enhance Climate Hazard Response Capacity	Tuvalu	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5480	Support to Tuvalu for the Revision of the NBSAPs and Development of Fifth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Tuvalu	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	A	R
5550	R2R Implementing a Ridge to Reef Approach to Protect Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functions	Tuvalu	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9220	Facilitation of the Achievement of Sustainable National Energy Targets of Tuvalu (FASNETT)	Tuvalu	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
9512	Climate Resilience in the Outer Islands of Tuvalu	Tuvalu	ADB	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
3392	SIP: Sustainable Land Management Country Program	Uganda	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3393	SIP: Enabling Environment for SLM to overcome land degradation in the cattle corridor of Uganda	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3854	Development of a National Clearing House Mechanism and Capacity Assessment for Taxonomy and Indigenous Knowledge(Add-on) (New title as of March 19, 2009)	Uganda	UNEP	GEF-4	EA	C	R
4456	Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Threatened Savanna Woodland in the Kidepo Critical Landscape in North Eastern Uganda	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4644	Addressing Barriers to the Adoption of Improved Charcoal Production Technologies and Sustainable Land Management Practices through an Integrated Approach	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4993	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Africa to Support Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	C	R
5042	Support to Alignment of Uganda's National Action Programme and Reporting Process to the UNCCD Ten-Year Strategy	Uganda	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5204	Building Resilience to Climate Change in the Water and Sanitation Sector	Uganda	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5603	Reducing Vulnerability of Banana Producing Communities to Climate Change Through Banana Value Added Activities - Enhancing Food Security And Employment Generation	Uganda	UNIDO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5625	Enabling Activities to Review and Update the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)	Uganda	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5718	Integrated Landscape Management for Improved Livelihoods and Ecosystem Resilience in Mount Elgon	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
9137	Food-IAP: Fostering S and Resilience for Food Security in Karamoja Sub Region	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9210	NAMA on Integrated Waste Management and Biogas in Uganda	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
9335	Strengthening Institutional Capacity for Effective Implementation of Rio Conventions in Uganda	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-6	MSP	CEO	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
1175	Conservation of Biodiversity in the Albertine Rift Forest Areas of Uganda	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1830	Protected Areas Management and Sustainable Use (PAMSU)	Uganda	WB	GEF-1	FSP	C	R, S
1837	Extending Wetland protected Areas through Community Based Conservation Initiatives	Uganda	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3682	Developing an Experimental Methodology for Testing the Effectiveness of Payments for Ecosystem Services to Enhance Conservation in Productive Landscapes in Uganda	Uganda	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3798	Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards	Vanuatu	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
5049	Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu	Vanuatu	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5397	R2R: Integrated Sustainable Land and Coastal Management	Vanuatu	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5655	Mainstreaming Global Environmental Priorities into National Policies and Programmes	Vanuatu	UNDP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
9197	Protecting Urban Areas Against the Impacts of Climate Change in Vanuatu	Vanuatu	ADB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
9440	Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC	Vanuatu	UNDP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
1682	6. Facilitating and Strengthening the Conservation Initiatives of Traditional Landholders and their Communities to Achieve Biodiversity Conservation Objectives	Vanuatu	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3067	Strengthening Socotra's Policy and Regulatory Framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity	Yemen, Rep.	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	UI	R
3267	MENARID: Adaptation to Climate Change Using Agrobiodiversity Resources in the Rainfed Highlands of Yemen	Yemen, Rep.	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4833	National Biodiversity Planning to Support the Implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Yemen	Yemen, Rep.	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5347	Support to the Integrated Program for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of the Socotra Archipelago	Yemen, Rep.	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5474	Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC	Yemen, Rep.	UNDP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5884	Support to the Alignment of National Action Programme to the UNCCD 10 Years Strategy and Reporting Process	Yemen, Rep.	UNIDO	GEF-5	EA	A	R
2649	Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Development	Yemen, Rep.	WB	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
3689	Adaptation to the effects of drought and climate change in Agro-ecological Zone 1 and 2 in Zambia	Zambia	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4639	Strengthening Management Effectiveness and Generating Multiple Environmental Benefits within and around the Greater Kafue National Park in Zambia	Zambia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4995	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems in Eastern and Southern Africa for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change - Zambia	Zambia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5394	Climate Resilient Livestock Management Project	Zambia	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5435	Promoting Climate Resilient Community-based Regeneration of Indigenous Forests in Zambia's Central Province	Zambia	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
8021	Zambia Lake Tanganyika Basin Sustainable Development Project	Zambia	AfDB	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
969	Securing the Environment for Economic Development (SEED)	Zambia	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1268	Effective Management of the National Protected Areas System	Zambia	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1330	Sustainable Land Management in the Zambian Miombo Woodland Ecosystem	Zambia	WB	GEF-2	MSP	C	R, S
1358	Renewable Energy-based Electricity Generation for Isolated Mini-grids	Zambia	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
3668	Extension of Kasanka Management System to Lavushi Manda National Park	Zambia	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
1902	Development and Application of Decision-support Tools to Conserve and Sustainably use Genetic Diversity in Indigenous Livestock and Wild Relatives	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
1909	Protection of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (LME)	Regional	FAO	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
2546	Demonstration of Sustainable Alternatives to DDT and Strengthening of National Vector Control Capabilities in Middle East and North Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
2706	Implementing Integrated Water Resource and Wastewater Management in Atlantic and Indian Ocean SIDS	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
2770	Demonstration of a Regional Approach to Environmentally Sound Management of PCB Liquid Wastes and Transformers and Capacitors Containing PCBs	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
2820	Supporting the Development and Implementation of Access and Benefit Sharing Policies in Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
2906	CBSP Sustainable Financing of Protected Area Systems in the Congo Basin	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
2929	Reducing Conflicting Water Uses in the Artibonite River Basin through Development and Adoption of a Multi-focal Area Strategic Action Programme	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3305	Implementation of the Benguela Current LME Action Program for Restoring Depleted Fisheries and Reducing Coastal Resources Degradation	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3321	Mainstreaming Groundwater Considerations into the Integrated Management of the Nile River Basin	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3398	SIP: Eastern Nile Transboundary Watershed Management in Support of ENSAP Implementation	Regional	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3401	SIP: Equatorial Africa Deposition Network (EADN)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3522	CTI Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action Programme (ATSEA) - under the Coral Triangle Initiative	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3591	PAS: Strengthening Coastal and Marine Resources Management in the Coral Triangle of the Pacific - under the Pacific Alliance for S Program	Regional	ADB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3618	Sustainable Management of Nyika Transfrontier Conservation Area	Regional	WB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3619	CTI Strategies for Fisheries Bycatch Management	Regional	FAO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R



GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
3641	PAS: Promoting Energy Efficiency in the Pacific	Regional	ADB	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3663	PAS: Supporting the POPs Global Monitoring Plan in the Pacific Islands Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3664	PAS: Prevention, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species in the Pacific Islands	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3673	Supporting the Implementation of the Global Monitoring Plan of POPs in Eastern and Southern African Countries	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3674	Supporting the Implementation of the Global Monitoring Plan of POPs in West Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
3732	Demonstration of BAT and BEP in Fossil Fuel-fired Utility and Industrial Boilers in Response to the Stockholm Convention on POPs	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3750	CBSP Catalyzing Sustainable Forest Management in the Lake Tele-Lake Tumba (LTLT) Transboundary Wetland Landscape	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3779	CBSP Enhancing Institutional Capacities on REDD issues for Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin	Regional	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3781	SPWA-BD: Evolution of PA systems with regard to climate change in the West Africa Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3809	Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Strategic Ecosystem Management	Regional	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3819	PAS: Forestry and Protected Area Management	Regional	FAO	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3822	CBSP - A Regional Focus on Sustainable Timber Management in the Congo Basin	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
3878	LGGE Promoting Energy Efficiency in Buildings in Eastern Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3942	AFLDC: Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs) in African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of the SADC Subregion	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3957	Removing Barriers to Invasive Species Management in Production and Protection Forests in SE Asia	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3968	AFLDC: Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs) in African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of the COMESA Subregion	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
3969	AFLDC: Capacity Strengthening and Technical Assistance for the Implementation of Stockholm Convention National Implementation Plans (NIPs) in African Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of the ECOWAS Subregion	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4000	PAS: Low Carbon-Energy Islands - Accelerating the Use of Energy Efficient and Renewable Energy Technologies in Tuvalu, Niue and Nauru	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4014	Management of PCBs stockpiles and equipment containing PCBs	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R
4023	PAS: Implementing the Island Biodiversity Programme of Work by Integrating the Conservation Management of Island Biodiversity	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R
4066	PAS: Pacific POPs Release Reduction Through Improved Management of Solid and Hazardous Wastes	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
4074	Africa Stockpiles Program (ASP) - Project 1- Supplemental Funds for Disposal and Prevention	Regional	WB	GEF-4	FSP	UI	R
4178	SPWA-CC Promoting Coherence, Integration and Knowledge Management under Energy Component of SPWA	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	UI	R
4523	Support to Preparation of the Second National Biosafety Reports to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety-Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
4569	Improve the Health and Environment of Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Communities by Reducing Mercury Emissions and Promoting Sound Chemical Management	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-5	MSP	C	R
4611	Reducing UPOPs and Mercury Releases from the Health Sector in Africa	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4652	GMS Forest and Biodiversity Program (GMS-FBP) - Creating Transboundary Links Through a Regional Support	Regional	ADB	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
4668	Demonstration of Effectiveness of Diversified, Environmentally Sound and Sustainable Interventions, and Strengthening National Capacity for Innovative Implementation of Integrated Vector Management (IVM) for Disease Prevention and Control in the WHO AFRO Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4740	Disposal of Obsolete Pesticides including POPs and Strengthening Pesticide Management in the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) Member States	Regional	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4746	Implementation of Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries Conventions and Related Instruments in the Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4748	Improving Lake Chad Management through Building Climate Change Resilience and Reducing Ecosystem Stress through Implementation of the SAP Minamata Convention: Initial Assessment in Cabo Verde and São Tomé and Príncipe	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
4886	Continuing Regional Support for the POPs Global Monitoring Plan under the Stockholm Convention in the Africa Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4940	Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the Western Indian Ocean from Land-based Sources and Activities (WIO-SAP)	Regional	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4953	Mano River Union Ecosystem Conservation and International Water Resources Management (IWRM) Project	Regional	IUCN	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
4966	Sustainable Groundwater Management in SADC Member States	Regional	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5113	Enhancing Climate Change Resilience in the Benguela Current Fisheries System	Regional	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5133	Senegal River Basin Climate Change Resilience Development Project	Regional	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5195	Building National and Regional Capacity to Implement MEAs by Strengthening Planning, and State of Environment Assessment and Reporting in the Pacific Islands	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5283	Multi-Country Project to Strengthen Institutional Capacity on LMO Testing in Support of National Decision-making	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
5401	Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5404	R2R: Testing the Integration of Water, Land, Forest & Coastal Management to Preserve Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods in Pacific Island Countries	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5405	EAS: Scaling up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5454	Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) for the Member Countries of the Central African Forests Commission COMIFAC	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
5487	Integrated Development for Increased Rural Climate Resilience in the Niger Basin	Regional	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5513	Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonization and Institutional Reforms (SAPPHIRE)	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5526	Support to the Cubango-Okavango River Basin Strategic Action Programme Implementation	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5538	Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5542	Catalyzing Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the Sustainable Management of Shared Living Marine Resources in the Caribbean and North Brazil Shelf Large Marine Ecosystems (CMLE+)	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5633	Lead Paint Elimination Project in Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5634	Ratification and Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in the Countries of the Pacific Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	MSP	A	R
5674	Lakes Edward and Albert Integrated Fisheries and Water Resources Management Project	Regional	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5753	Realizing the Inclusive and Sustainable Development in the BCLME Region through the Improved Ocean Governance and the Integrated Management of Ocean use and Marine Resources	Regional	UNDP	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5768	Enabling Transboundary Cooperation for Sustainable Management of the Indonesian Seas	Regional	FAO	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
5798	Adaptive Management and Monitoring of the Maghreb's Oases Systems	Regional	FAO	GEF-5	MSP	UI	R
5815	Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the Asia-Pacific Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
5860	Development of Minamata Convention on Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-5	EA	UI	R
5905	First South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Project (SWIOFish 1)	Regional	WB	GEF-5	FSP	UI	R
6964	Volta River Basin Strategic Action Programme Implementation Project	Regional	WB	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
6970	Pacific Islands Regional Oceanscape Program (PROP)	Regional	WB	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
6978	Continuing Regional Support for the POPs Global Monitoring Plan under the Stockholm Convention in the Pacific Region	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
6982	Enhancing Capacity to Develop Global and Regional Environmental Projects in the Pacific	Regional	UNDP	GEF-6	MSP	C	R

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
9080	Integrated Health and Environment Observatories and Legal and Institutional Strengthening for the Sound Management of Chemicals in Africa (African ChemObs)	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9098	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Francophone Africa II	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9101	Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in Francophone Africa I	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9118	Support to Preparation of the Third National Biosafety Reports to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety - AFRICA REGION	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9173	Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9185	Development of Minamata Initial Assessment	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9187	Development of Minamata Convention Mercury Initial Assessment in Pacific	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9276	Regional Project on the Development of National Action Plans for the Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9360	West Africa Regional Fisheries Program, Additional Financing?	Regional	WB	GEF-6	FSP	UI	R
9446	Regional Project for the Conservation and Sustainable Development of Lake Chad: Enhancing Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Lake Chad Basin	Regional	AfDB	GEF-5	FSP	CEO	R
9491	Mainstreaming Conservation of Migratory Soaring Birds into Key Productive Sectors along the Rift Valley / Red Sea Flyway (Tranche II of GEFID 1028)	Regional	UNDP	GEF-6	FSP	CEO	R
9533	Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining Mali and Senegal	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	UI	R
9754	Development of National Action Plan for Artisanal and Small Scale Gold Mining in Guinea and Niger	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	EA	X	R
9817	Support to Eligible Parties to Produce the Sixth National Report to the CBD (Africa-1)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9823	Support to Eligible Parties to Produce the Sixth National Report to the CBD (Pacific)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9824	Support to Eligible Parties to Produce the Sixth National Report to the CBD (Africa-2)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	MSP	UI	R
9882	Support to Eligible Parties to Produce the Sixth National Report to the CBD (Europe, CIS and Mongolia)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-6	MSP	CEO	R
260	Southern Africa Biodiversity Support Programme	Regional	UNDP	GEF-1	FSP	C	R, S
457	Conservation of Biodiversity through Participatory Rehabilitation of Degraded Land in Arid and Semi-Arid Cross- Border Zones of Mauritania and Senegal	Regional	UNDP	GEF-1	FSP	C	R, S
504	Management of Indigenous Vegetation for the Rehabilitation of Degraded Rangelands in the Arid Zone of Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
615	Mekong River Basin Water Utilization Project	Regional	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
762	Maloti-Drakensberg Conservation and Development Project	Regional	WB	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
842	Environmental Protection and Sustainable Management of the Okavango River Basin	Regional	UNDP	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
885	Reversing Environmental Degradation Trends in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand	Regional	UNEP	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
1082	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Project - SWIOFP	Regional	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1093	Reversing Land and Water Degradation Trends in the Niger River Basin	Regional	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1111	Addressing Transboundary Concerns in the Volta River Basin and its Downstream Coastal Area	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1188	Combating Living Resource Depletion and Coastal Area Degradation in the Guinea Current LME through Ecosystem-based Regional Actions	Regional	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1216	Building Scientific and Technical Capacity for Effective Management and Sustainable Use of Dryland Biodiversity in West African Biosphere Reserves	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1247	Addressing Land-based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1254	Integrating Watershed and Coastal Area Management (IWCAM) in the Small Island Developing States of the Caribbean	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1258	Enhancing Conservation of the Critical Network of Sites of Wetlands Required by Migratory Waterbirds on the African/Eurasian Flyways.	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1259	In-situ Conservation of Crop Wild Relatives through Enhanced Information Management and Field Application	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1325	Institutional Strengthening and Resource Mobilization for Mainstreaming Integrated Land and Water Management Approaches into Development Programs in Africa	Regional	WB	GEF-2	MSP	C	R, S
1348	Africa Stockpiles Program, P1	Regional	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1420	Reducing Dependence on POPs and other Agro-Chemicals in the Senegal and Niger River Basins through Integrated Production, Pest and Pollution Management	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
1490	Mekong River Basin Wetland Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Program	Regional	UNDP	GEF-2	FSP	C	R, S
1684	National Performance Assessment and Subregional Strategic Environment Framework in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS)	Regional	ADB	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2041	Managing Hydrogeological Risk in the Iullemeden Aquifer System	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2052	Sustainable Management of Inland Wetlands in Southern Africa: A Livelihoods and Ecosystem Approach	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2098	Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project	Regional	WB	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2129	Demonstrating and Capturing Best Practices and Technologies for the Reduction of Land-sourced Impacts Resulting from Coastal Tourism	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2140	Removing Barriers to Invasive Plant Management in Africa	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2173	Sustainable Management of Inland Wetlands in Southern Africa: A Livelihoods and Ecosystem Approach	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2184	SIP: Stimulating Community Initiatives in Sustainable Land Management (SCI-SLM)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S

GEF ID	Project title	Country	GEF Agency	GEF period	Modality	Project status	Type of review
2396	Dryland Livestock Wildlife Environment Interface Project (DLWEIP)	Regional	UNEP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2571	Distance Learning and Information Sharing Tool for the Benguela Coastal Areas (DLIST-Benguela)	Regional	UNDP	GEF-3	MSP	C	R, S
2584	Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project (NTEAP), Phase II	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
2586	PAS: Implementing Sustainable Integrated Water Resource and Wastewater Management in the Pacific Island Countries - under the GEF Pacific Alliance for S	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
2614	Adaptation to Climate Change - Responding to Shoreline Change and its human dimensions in West Africa through integrated coastal area management.	Regional	UNDP	GEF-3	FSP	C	R, S
2865	Promotion of Strategies to Reduce Unintentional Production of POPs in the PERSGA Coastal Zone	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3101	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change Project (PACC)	Regional	UNDP	GEF-4	FSP	C	R, S
3346	DSSA Malaria Decision Analysis Support Tool (MDAST): Evaluating Health Social and Environmental Impacts and Policy Tradeoffs	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3572	Regional Plan for Introduction of BAT/BEP Strategies to Industrial Source Categories of Stockholm Convention Annex C of Article 5 in ESEA Region	Regional	UNIDO	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3628	MENARID: Cross Cutting M & E Functions and Knowledge Management for INRM within the MENARID Programme Framework	Regional	IFAD	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3853	Building Capacity for Regionally Harmonized National Processes for Implementing CBD Provisions on Access to Genetic Resources and Sharing of Benefits	Regional	UNEP	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S
3960	CBSP-Capacity Building for Regional Coordination of Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin under the GEF Program for the Congo Basin	Regional	WB	GEF-4	MSP	C	R, S

**Note:** Project status is as of December 2019. *Agencies:* ADB = Asian Development Bank, AfDB = African Development Bank, CI = Conservation International, FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, GEFSec = GEFSec, IDB = Inter-American Development Bank, IFAD = International Fund for Agricultural Development, IUCN = International Union for Conservation of Nature, UNIDO = United Nations Industrial Development Organization, WB = World Bank. *Modalities:* EA = enabling activity, FSP = full-size project, MSP = medium-size project. *Status:* A = Council approved, C = completed/closed, CEO = CEO approved/endorsed, P = pending approval, UI = under implementation, X = canceled. *Type of review:* R = relevance, S = sustainability.

# LDCs covered by the evaluation

Country	Year classified as LDC	Country	Year classified as LDC
<b>Africa</b>			
Angola	1994	Malawi	1971
Benin	1971	Mali	1971
Burkina Faso	1971	Mauritania	1986
Burundi	1971	Mozambique	1988
Central African Republic	1975	Niger	1971
Chad	1971	Rwanda	1971
Comoros*	1977	São Tomé and Príncipe*	1982
Congo, Dem. Rep.	1991	Senegal	2000
Djibouti	1982	Sierra Leone	1982
Eritrea	1994	Somalia	1971
Ethiopia	1971	South Sudan	2012
Gambia	1975	Sudan	1971
Guinea	1971	Tanzania	1971
Guinea-Bissau*	1981	Togo	1982
Lesotho	1971	Uganda	1971
Liberia	1990	Zambia	1991
Madagascar	1991		
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>			
Afghanistan	1971	Nepal	1971
Bangladesh	1975	Solomon Islands*	1991
Bhutan	1971	Timor-Leste*	2003
Cambodia	1991	Tuvalu*	1986
Kiribati*	1986	Vanuatu*	1985
Lao PDR	1971	Yemen, Rep.	1971
Myanmar	1987		
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>			
Haiti*	1971		

**Source:** 2019 data from the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States webpage, [Least Developed Countries](#).

**Note:** \* = small island developing state. The following countries have graduated: Botswana (1974), Cabo Verde (2007), Maldives (2011), Samoa (2014), and Equatorial Guinea (2017) (OECD 2016). These graduated countries are not included in the evaluation.

# Country case studies and projects visited

GEF ID	GEF Agency	Focal area	GEF period	Modality	Project title
<b>Projects visited as part of the LDC SCCE</b>					
<b>Bhutan</b>					
2358	WB	LD	GEF-3	FSP	Sustainable Land Management
2550	UNDP	BD	GEF-4	MSP	Integrated Livestock and Crop Conservation Program
3052	UNDP	MF	GEF-4	MSP	Enhancing Global Environmental Management in Bhutan's Local Governance System
3262	UNDP	LD	GEF-3	MSP	LDC/SIDS Portfolio Project: Building Capacity and Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management in Bhutan
4579	WB	MF	GEF-5	FSP	Sustainable Financing for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources Management
4976	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Addressing the Risk of Climate-induced Disasters through Enhanced National and Local Capacity for Effective Actions
<b>Cambodia</b>					
1043	UNDP	BD	GEF-3	FSP	Establishing Conservation Areas Landscape Management (CALM) in the Northern Plains
1086	UNDP	BD	GEF-2	MSP	Developing an Integrated Protected Area System for the Cardamom Mountains
1684	ADB	MF	GEF-3	MSP/Regional	National Performance Assessment and Sub-regional Strategic Environment Framework in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS)
3404	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Promoting Climate-Resilient Water Management and Agricultural Practices
3635	UNDP	MF	GEF-4	FSP	Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management and the Development of Bio-energy Markets to Promote Environmental Sustainability and to Reduce Green House Gas Emissions in Cambodia
4434	FAO	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Strengthening the Adaptive Capacity and Resilience of Rural Communities Using Micro Watershed Approaches to Climate Change and Variability to Attain Sustainable Food Security



GEF ID	GEF Agency	Focal area	GEF period	Modality	Project title
<b>Mozambique</b>					
2003	WB	BD	GEF-3	FSP	Transfrontier Conservation Areas and Sustainable Tourism Development Project
2889	WB	MF	GEF-3	MSP	Zambezi Valley Market-Led Smallholder Development
3155	UNDP	CCA (SCCF)	GEF-3	MSP	Coping with Drought and Climate Change
2052	UNEP	LD	GEF-3	MSP/Regional	Sustainable Management of Inland Wetlands in Southern Africa: A Livelihoods and Ecosystem Approach
3753	UNDP	CC	GEF-4	FSP	Sustainable Financing of the Protected Area System in Mozambique
4276	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Adaptation in the Coastal Zones of Mozambique
<b>Tanzania</b>					
1170	WB-UNDP	BD	GEF-2	FSP	Conservation and Management of the Eastern Arc Mountain Forests
2052	UNEP	LD	GEF-3	MSP/Regional	Sustainable Management of Inland Wetlands in Southern Africa: A Livelihoods and Ecosystem Approach
2101	WB	MF	GEF-3	FSP	Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project]
2151	WB	BD	GEF-3	MSP	Novel Forms of Livestock & Wildlife Integration Adjacent to Protected Areas in Africa
3391	UNDP	LD	GEF-4	FSP	SIP: Reducing Land Degradation on the Highlands of Kilimanjaro
3428	UNDP	BD	GEF-4	FSP	SFM Extending the Coastal Forests Protected Area Subsystem
4141	UNEP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Developing Core Capacity to Address Adaptation to Climate Change in Productive Coastal Zones
<b>Projects visited as part of the Biomes SCCE</b>					
<b>Guinea</b>					
1093	WB-UNDP	IW	GEF-3	FSP/Regional	Reversing Land and Water Degradation Trends in the Niger River Basin
1273	WB	BD	GEF-3	FSP	Coastal Marine and Biodiversity Management
1877	WB	LD	GEF-3	FSP	Community-based Land Management
3703	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Increased Resilience and Adaptation to Adverse Impacts of Climate Change in Guinea's Vulnerable Coastal Zones
4692	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Strengthening Resilience of Communities' Livelihoods Against Climate Changes in Gaoual, Koundara, and Mali
<b>Mali</b>					
1152	IFAD	BD	GEF-3	FSP	BD Conservation and Participatory SM of Natural Resources in the Inner Niger Delta, Mopti Region
1253	WB	BD	GEF-2	FSP	Gourma Biodiversity Conservation
1420	UNEP	MF	GEF-3	FSP/Regional	Reducing Dependence on POPs and Other Agro-Chemicals in the Senegal and Niger River Basins through IPPM
3377	WB-UNDP	LD	GEF-4	FSP	Strategic Investment Plan—Fostering Agricultural Productivity in Mali
3763	UNDP	BD	GEF-4	FSP	SPWA-BD: Expansion and Strengthening of Mali's Protected Area System
3979	FAO	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural Production for Food Security in Rural Areas

GEF ID	GEF Agency	Focal area	GEF period	Modality	Project title
5270	WB	MF	GEF-5	FSP	GGW—Natural Resources Management in a Changing Climate in Mali
<b>Mauritania</b>					
1258	UNEP	BD	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Enhancing Conservation of Network of Wetlands Required by Migratory Water Birds on African/Eurasian Flyways
2459	WB	LD	GEF-3	FSP	Community-based Watershed Management Project
2614	UNDP	CC	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Responding to Shoreline Change and Its Human Dimensions in West Africa through Integrated Coastal Area Management
3379	IFAD	LD	GEF-4	FSP	SIP: Participatory Environmental Protection and Poverty Reduction in the Oases of Mauritania
3893	IFAD	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Support to the Adaptation of Vulnerable Agricultural Production Systems
<b>Uganda</b>					
1175	UNDP	BD	GEF-3	FSP	Conservation of Biodiversity in the Albertine Rift Forest Protected Areas
1830	WB	BD	GEF-1	FSP	1830 Protected Areas Management and Sustainable Use
2140	UNEP	BD	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Removing Barriers to Invasive Plant Management in Africa
3393	UNDP	LD	GEF-4	FSP	SIP: Enabling Environment for SLM to Overcome Land Degradation in the Cattle Corridor of Uganda
4644	UNDP	MF	GEF-5	FSP	Addressing Barriers to Adoption of Improved Charcoal Production Technologies and SLM
5718	UNDP	MF	GEF-5	FSP	Integrated landscape management for improved livelihoods and ecosystem resilience in Mount Elgon
<b>Projects visited as part of the SIDS SCCE</b>					
<b>Comoros</b>					
3363	IFAD	MF	GEF-4	MSP	SIP: Integrated Ecological Planning and Sustainable Land Management in Coastal Ecosystems in the Comoros in the Three Islands (Grande Comore, Anjouan, and Moheli)
1082	WB	IW	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Project
1247	UNEP	IW	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Addressing Land-based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-LaB)
2098	WB	IW	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Western Indian Ocean Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project
3857	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Adapting Water Resource Management in Comoros to Increase Capacity to Cope with Climate Change
4974	UNDP	CC (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Enhancing Adaptive Capacity and Resilience to Climate Change in the Agriculture Sector in Comoros
<b>Guinea-Bissau</b>					
1221	WB	BD	GEF-3	FSP	Coastal and Biodiversity Management Project
3817	WB	BD	GEF-4	MSP	SPWA-BD: Guinea-Bissau Biodiversity Conservation Trust Fund
1188	UNDP	IW	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Combating living resource depletion and coastal area degradation in the Guinea current LME through ecosystem-based regional actions

GEF ID	GEF Agency	Focal area	GEF period	Modality	Project title
2614	UNDP	CC	GEF-3	FSP/ Regional	Adaptation to climate change – Responding to shoreline change and its human dimensions in West Africa through integrated coastal area management
3575	UNDP	BD	GEF-4	MSP	SPWA-BD Support for the consolidation of a protected area system in Guinea-Bissau forest belt
4019	UNDP	CC (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change in Guinea-Bissau agrarian and water sectors
5331	UNIDO	CC	GEF-5	MSP	Promoting investments in small and medium scale renewable energy technologies in the electricity sector
5368	UNDP	BD	GEF-5	FSP	Strengthening the financial and operational framework of the national protected areas system in Guinea-Bissau
<b>Kiribati</b>					
2543	WB	CC	GEF-3	FSP	Kiribati Adaptation Program - Pilot Implementation Phase (KAP-II)
3897	UNEP	BD	GEF-4	MSP	PAS: Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA)
4068	WB	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Increasing Resilience to Climate Variability and Hazards
4282	WB	CC	GEF-4	MSP	PAS: Grid Connected Solar PV Central Station Project
5130	UNDP	MF	GEF-5	MSP	Integrating Global Environmental Priorities into National Policies and Programmes
<b>Vanuatu</b>					
1682	UNDP	BD	GEF-3	MSP	Facilitating and Strengthening the Conservation Initiatives of Traditional Landholders and their Communities to Achieve Biodiversity Conservation Objectives
3798	WB	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-4	FSP	Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards
5049	UNDP	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu
5655	UNDP	MF	GEF-5	MSP	Mainstreaming Global Environmental Priorities into National Policies and Programmes
9197	ADB	CCA (LDCF)	GEF-5	FSP	Protecting Urban Areas Against the Impacts of Climate Change in Vanuatu

**Note:** Agencies: ADB = Asian Development Bank, FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, WB = World Bank. Focal areas: BD = biodiversity, CCA = climate change adaptation, IW = international waters, LD = land degradation, MF = multifocal. Modalities: FSP = full-size project; MSP = medium-size project.

# Ratification of multilateral environmental agreements

Country	UNFCCC	UNCCD	CBD	Stockholm	Rotterdam	Basel	Minamata	CILSS	Marine
Africa									
Angola	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	Yes	Signature	n.a.	Abidjan
Benin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan
Burkina Faso	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.
Burundi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	n.a.
Central Afr. Rep.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
Chad	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	n.a.
Comoros	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	n.a.	Nairobi
Congo, Dem. Rep.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	Abidjan
Djibouti	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	No
Eritrea	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	n.a.	No
Ethiopia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	No
Gambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan
Guinea	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan
Guinea-Bissau	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan
Lesotho	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
Liberia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	Abidjan
Madagascar	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	No
Malawi	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	n.a.
Mali	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.
Mauritania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan
Mozambique	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	No
Niger	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.
Rwanda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
São Tomé & Príncipe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	No
Senegal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan

Country	UNFCCC	UNCCD	CBD	Stockholm	Rotterdam	Basel	Minamata	CILSS	Marine
Sierra Leone	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	Abidjan
Somalia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	n.a.	No
South Sudan	Signature	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	n.a.	n.a.
Sudan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	n.a.
Tanzania	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	No
Togo	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Abidjan
Uganda	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
Zambia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
<b>Asia and the Pacific</b>									
Afghanistan	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
Bangladesh	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Signature	n.a.	No
Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	n.a.	n.a.
Cambodia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	No
Kiribati	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	n.a.	SPTT
Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	n.a.
Myanmar	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	n.a.	No
Nepal	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	n.a.
Solomon Islands	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	n.a.	SPTT
Timor-Leste	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	n.a.	No
Tuvalu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	n.a.	SPTT
Vanuatu	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	n.a.	SPTT
Yemen, Rep.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	n.a.	No
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>									
Haiti	Yes	Yes	Yes	Signature	No	Signature	No	n.a.	No

**Source:** Convention websites.

**Note:** n.a. = not applicable. UNFCCC = United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; UNCCD = United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; CBD = Convention on Biological Diversity; Stockholm = Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants; Rotterdam = Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade; Basel = Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal; Minamata = Minamata Convention on Mercury; CILSS = Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel. Marine = regional conventions focused on the marine environment; Abidjan = Abidjan Convention for Co-operation in the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central African Region; Nairobi = Nairobi Convention of the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region; SPTT = South Pacific Tuna Treaty.

# Classification of fragility, conflict-affected, and violence situations in the LDCs

Country	Fragility assessment/index value													FY18 mission	Trend
	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY08	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18		
Africa															
Angola	C	C	C	C	2.95	2.98	2.98	2.95							(0.0012)
Benin															
Burkina Faso															
Burundi	C	C	C	C	3.04	3.04	3.03	3.10	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.15	3.04	P	0.0181
Central African Republic	S	S	C	C	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.5	P	(0.0548)
Chad	M	C	C	C	2.8	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	3.0		0.0335
Comoros	S	S	C	C	2.35	2.5	2.55	2.55	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.54	2.49		0.0139
Congo, Dem. Rep.	C	C	C	C	2.77	2.76	2.81	2.85	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.16	3.08	K	0.0544
Djibouti	C	M	M	M	3.2							3.16	3.13		(0.0082)
Eritrea	C	C	C	C	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	2.0		(0.0482)
Ethiopia															
Gambia	M	M	M	M	3.3						3.2	3.0	2.9	K	(0.0341)
Guinea	C	C	C	C	3.1	3.0	3.1	3.1							0.0062
Guinea-Bissau	C	C	C	C	2.8	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.7	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	P	(0.0480)
Lesotho															
Liberia	S	S	C	C	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	K	0.0090
Madagascar									3.1	3.1	3.2	3.15			0.025
Malawi									3.2						
Mali									3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.6	K	(0.0370)
Mauritania		M													
Mozambique													3.20		
Niger															
Nigeria	C	C													
Rwanda															
São Tomé and Príncipe	M	M	C	C	3.14	3.15									
Senegal															

Country	Fragility assessment/index value													FY18 mission	Trend
	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY08	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18		
Sierra Leone	M	M	M	M	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.3	3.3	3.3	P	0.0028
Somalia	S	S	C	C				1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.5	P	0.0409
South Sudan			C	C					2.2	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.7	K	[0.1240]
Sudan	C	C	C	C	2.6	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	K	[0.0079]
Tanzania															
Togo	C	S	C	C	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.9	3.1		3.1	3.1	3.1		0.0361
Uganda															
Zambia															
<b>Asia and Pacific</b>															
Afghanistan	S	S	C	C	2.59	2.76	2.73	2.74	2.9	2.7	2.7	2.75	2.75	P	0.0084
Bangladesh															
Bhutan															
Cambodia	C	M	M	M											
Kiribati			M	M	2.85	2.95	2.88	2.86	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0	2.95		0.014
Lao PDR	C	C	M	M											
Myanmar	S	S	C	C						3.0	3.1	3.10	3.19		0.057
Nepal					3.54	3.66	3.65	3.69	3.7						0.0351
Solomon Islands	C	C	C	C	2.91	2.97	3.02	3.11	3.2	3.1	3.1	3.10	3.10		0.0217
Timor-Leste	C	C	C	C	2.77	2.93	2.96	3.16	3.2	3.0					0.0614
Tuvalu									2.9	2.9	2.9	2.92	2.94		0.01
Vanuatu	C	M	M												
Yemen, Rep.				M	3.19	3.15	3.17	2.98	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.61	2.38		[0.0864]
<b>Latin America and the Caribbean</b>															
Haiti	C	C	C	C	2.86	2.93	2.93	2.90	2.9	2.8	2.9	2.90	2.88	K	[0.0023]

Source: World Bank 2018.

Note: C = core; M = marginal; S = severe. FY = fiscal year; K = peacekeeping; P = peacebuilding and political. Blank cells indicate no fragility threats. Fragility index scores have been rounded to first decimal point.

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