



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF/C.60/Inf.04
June 14, 2021

60th GEF Council Meeting
June 14 – 18, 2021
Virtual Meeting

GEF CORPORATE SCORECARD

JUNE 2021



GEF Corporate SCORECARD

June 2021



ABOUT THE GEF-7 SCORECARD

The GEF-7 Corporate Scorecard is a comprehensive report on the performance of the Global Environment Facility during the GEF-7 period. In particular, the Scorecard reports on the progress made towards the achievement of the GEF-7 targets. It also looks at how the GEF is utilizing resources made available for its seventh

replenishment cycle and making progress in the implementation of key policies. The Scorecard is published twice a year and this issue includes all projects approved from June 2018 up to and including the proposed June 2021 work program.

HIGHLIGHTS

A healthy environment is the basis of all economic and social development. This foundation is now facing over-lapping threats and tipping points that require holistic attention. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a stark reminder that the world was on the wrong track, with conflict between nature and economic systems. We now understand that a healthy planet is the foundation of healthy societies and that the mandate of the GEF is more relevant now than ever before.

This edition of the GEF-7 Scorecard is published at a critical moment for the planet, and for the GEF. In April, member governments and partners of the GEF met to formally start discussions about its eighth replenishment cycle. The investment round, from 2022-2026 (GEF-8) will be critical to the achievement of global environmental ambitions and needs over the coming decade.

SUPPORTING A COVID-19 RECOVERY THAT IS GREEN, BLUE, CLEAN, AND RESILIENT

The GEF has provided uninterrupted support to developing countries throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to keep urgent environmental priorities on track even under crisis. Recognizing the adversity and budgetary strains the coronavirus pandemic has caused in many developing countries, the GEF is applying a green COVID-19 response lens to all its programming.

At the end of the third year of GEF-7 implementation, programming accounts for 81 percent of the seventh replenishment resources, up from 73 percent in the previous GEF work program. It includes new financing through the Africa mini-grids program and two programs supporting chemicals and waste sustainable management. The June 2021 work program also includes 36 projects, with many of them targeting Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries.

The GEF continues to make progress on its blended finance program. With two additional projects approved, the non-grant instrument reaches 91 percent of its allocated amount in GEF-7.

This edition of the Scorecard innovates by reporting for the first time on results at the sub-indicator level. It also reveals that five of the core indicator targets set for GEF-7 have already been met and shows good progress in support of marine biodiversity and fisheries.

With this work program, the GEF continues to leverage more sources of finance for projects and programs. The GEF-7 target of a co-financing ratio of seven dollars mobilized for every “GEF dollar” spent has been surpassed with a ratio of 8.2:1 across its portfolio to date. Similarly, the investment mobilized target of 5:1 has been surpassed, reaching 5.8:1.

Countries have programmed most of their allocated GEF-7 resources and many of them have already exhausted STAR resources. The Least Developed Countries and Small Islands Developing States have respectively reached 92% and 77% of their respective STAR allocation in GEF-7. Nearly three quarters of countries made use of the flexibility provided in the use of resources. The International Waters and Chemicals and Waste focal areas also continued to register progress.

The Country Support Program built on the broader virtual access experienced during the pandemic to reach GEF constituencies through large online events. It held a total of 118 events in GEF-7, including 28 events in the past six months alone. The success of these activities attest to the role of the CSP as a powerful platform to build capacity, strengthen ownership and advance South-South cooperation across the partnership. The Introduction Seminar held in February 2021 was a landmark event in that it gathered six times as many participants virtually than it usually does face-to-face. The CSP has separately engaged with all constituencies as part of the lead-up to the first GEF-8 replenishment meeting and also to discuss this meeting's outcomes afterwards. This helps ensure member countries contribute to the process and have their views reflected in new directions.

This Scorecard shows continuous progress in implementing both the stakeholder engagement and gender policies. It tracks how projects incorporate a gender responsive approach at design stage and engage and work with stakeholders to better reflect on local priorities. This takes place at a time when projects adopt new modalities to engage remotely with stakeholders in the context of ongoing social distancing measures and travel restrictions.

The GEF continues to grow its digital media presence at a time when many activities take place online. This has led to more stories and other relevant content published on the GEF website and shared in social media channels to build awareness and support action on the global environment. The release of Good Practice Briefs supports this endeavor by promoting tested solutions to reach results.

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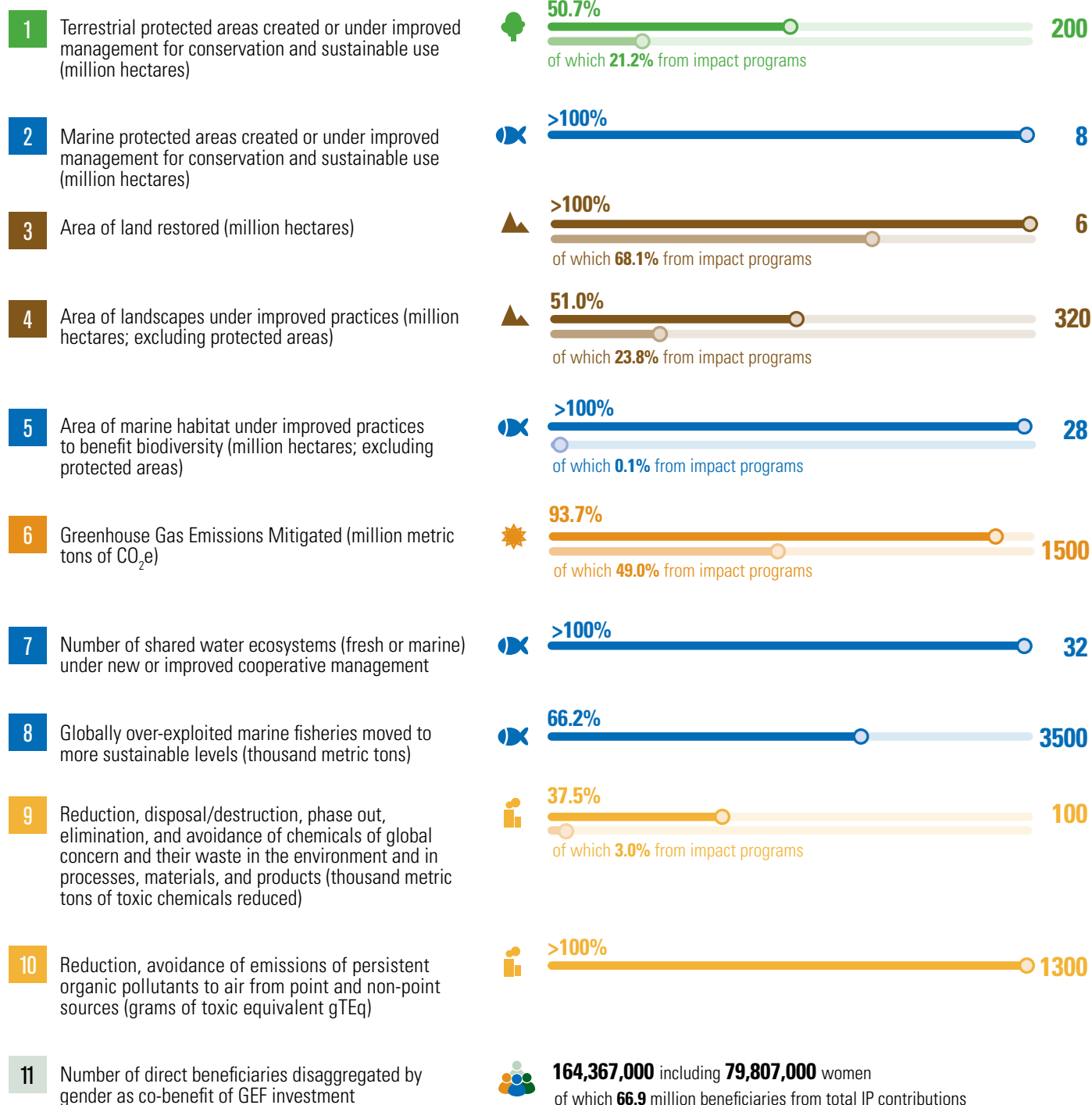
1. CONTRIBUTION TO THE GENERATION OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Projects and programs continue to deliver expected results for GEF-7 against the Core Indicator targets. GEF programming continues to progress in delivering on the targets at the end of the third year of the GEF-7 replenishment cycle.

CORE INDICATORS

EXPECTED RESULTS





TARGET






While the GEF's overarching results architecture consists of eleven Core Indicators, a series of sub-associated indicators feed into these main indicators and bring context. In turn, they also provide disaggregated data, aligned to GEF programming directions.

SUB-INDICATORS

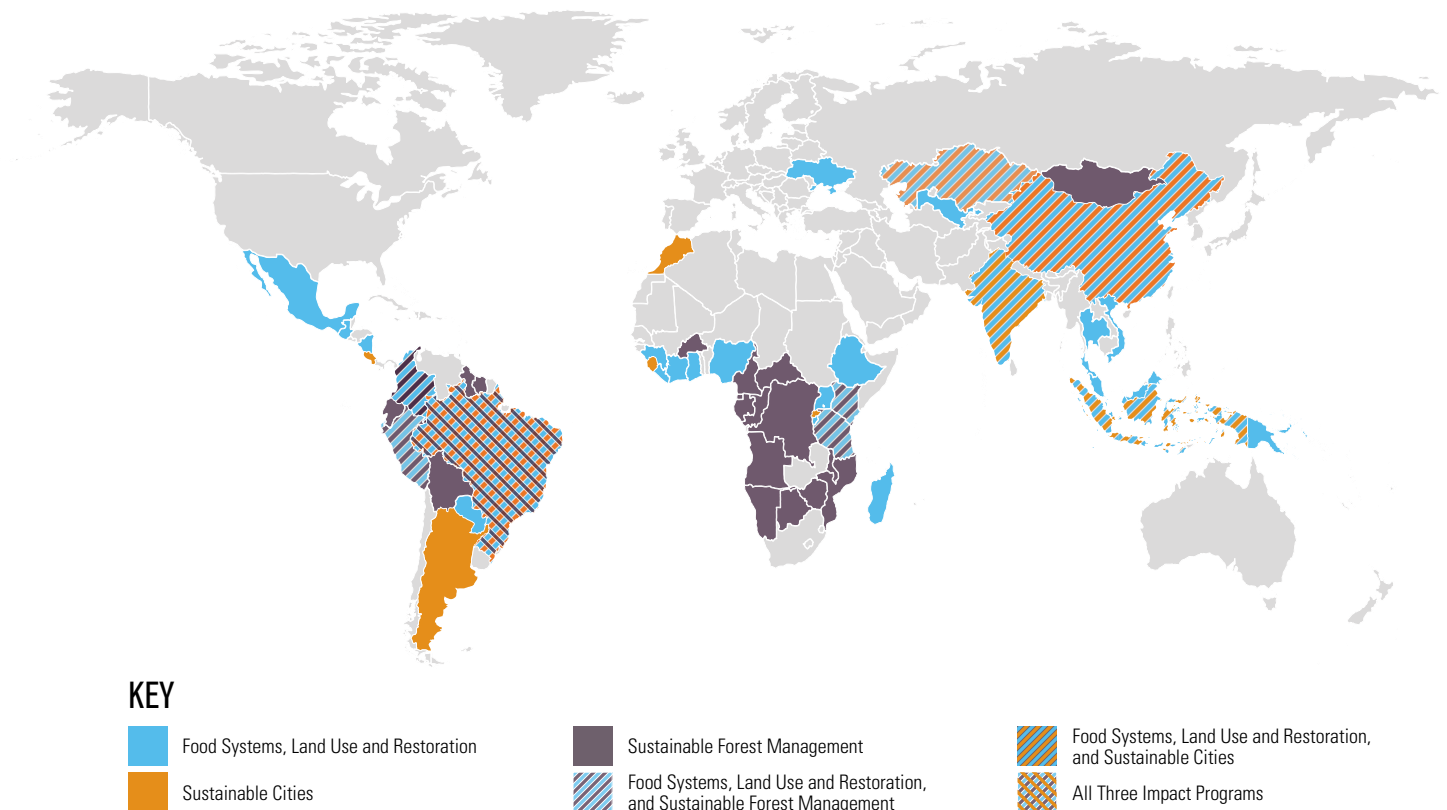
VALUE

	Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (million hectares)	101.4
	– of which newly created (million hectares)	6.5
	– of which under improved management effectiveness (million hectares)	95.0
	Marine protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use (million hectares)	1369.9
	– of which newly created (million hectares)	762.1
	– of which under improved management effectiveness (million hectares)	607.8
	Area of land restored (million hectares)	7.9
	– of which degraded agricultural lands restored (million hectares)	4.0
	– of which forest and forest land restored (million hectares)	2.4
	– of which natural grass and shrublands restored (million hectares)	1.2
	– of which wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves) restored (million hectares)	0.3
	Area of landscapes under improved practices (excluding protected areas) (million hectares)	163.3
	– of which under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (million hectares)	83.8
	– of which that meets national or international third-party certification (million hectares)	0.4
	– of which under sustainable land management in production systems (million hectares)	78.3
	– of which of High Conservation Value forest loss avoided (million hectares)	0.8
	Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity (excluding protected areas) (million hectares)	93.5
	Number of fisheries that meet national or international third-party certification that incorporates biodiversity considerations (numbers)	11
	Number of Large Marine Ecosystems with reduced pollution and hypoxia (numbers)	5
	Amount of Marine Litter Avoided (million metric tons)	1.4
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions Mitigated (million metric tons of CO₂e)	1406.2
	– of which carbon sequestered or emissions avoided in the AFOLU sector (million metric tons of CO ₂ e)	851.6
	– of which emissions avoided (million metric tons of CO ₂ e)	554.6
	Energy saved (gigawatt hours)	426,244.6
	Increase in installed renewable energy capacity per technology (mega watts)	5615.1
	Number of shared water ecosystems (fresh or marine) under new or improved cooperative management (number)	49
	Level of Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Program formulation and implementation (average scale, 1 Low – 4 High)	2.4

	Level of regional legal agreements and regional management institution(s) to support its implementation (average scale, 1 Low – 4 High)	2.5
	Level of national/local reforms and active participation of Inter-Ministerial Committees (average scale, 1 Low – 4 High)	1.7
	Level of engagement in IW:LEARN through participation and delivery of key products (average scale, 1 Low – 4 High)	1.4
	Globally over-exploited fisheries moved to more sustainable levels (thousand metric tons)	2316.8
	Reduction, disposal/destruction, phase out, elimination, and avoidance of chemicals of global concern and their waste in the environment and in processes, materials, and products (thousand metric tons)	37.5
	– of which solid and liquid persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and POPs containing materials and products removed or disposed (POPs type) (thousand metric tons)	35.5
	– of which quantity of mercury reduced (thousand metric tons)	2.0
	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons reduced/phased out (metric tons)	97
	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control chemicals and waste (number)	74
	Number of low-chemical/non-chemical systems implemented, particularly in food production, manufacturing, and cities (number)	67
	Quantity of POPs/Mercury containing materials and products directly avoided (million metric tons)	2.7
	Reduction, avoidance of emissions of POPs to air from point and non-point sources (grams of toxic equivalent)	2846.3
	Number of countries with legislation and policy implemented to control emissions of POPs to air (number)	50.0
	Number of emission control technologies/ practices implemented (number)	31.0
	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment (million)	164.4
	– of which female beneficiaries (million)	79.8
	– of which male beneficiaries (million)	84.6

2. IMPACT PROGRAMS

The GEF-7 Impact Programs are poised to deliver environmental benefits on a large scale, with their resources now almost fully programmed. A total of 61 countries are now participating in the programs, with some in more than one program.



CUMULATIVE PROGRAMMING AGAINST NOTIONAL GEF-7 ALLOCATIONS

IMPACT PROGRAMS

Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration (FOLUR)

Sustainable Cities

Sustainable Forest Management for Major Biomes

Sustainable Forest Management Impact Program on Dryland Sustainable Landscapes

The Congo Basin Sustainable Landscapes

Amazon Sustainable Landscapes Program

PROGRAMMING TO DATE

82%

100%

100%

100%

100%

3. OTHER PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES

Additional priority GEF-7 programs bring countries together to deliver high impact results and global benefits along key thematic areas. They tackle implementation challenges that require a collaborative approach among several individual projects. This latest Work Program added resources and expanded the coverage of three existing programs.

Other Programmatic Approaches	Countries (number)	Financing (\$m)
GEF Trust Fund		
African Mini-Grids Program	16	35.94
Global Cleantech Innovation Program to Accelerate the Uptake and Investments in Innovative Cleantech Solutions	10	20.1
Global Wildlife Program	18	109.8
Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-chemical Development in SIDS (ISLANDS)	31	83.3
Global Program to Support Countries with the Shift to Electric Mobility	27	55.7
Global Opportunities for Long-term Development of Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining (ASGM) Sector Plus - GEF GOLD+	15	81.0
Common Oceans – Sustainable Utilization and Conservation of Biodiversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction	Global	29.1
Yangtze River Basin Biodiversity Conservation Programme	1	7.3
Least Developed Countries Fund		
Climate Resilient Urban Development in the Pacific	4	17.5

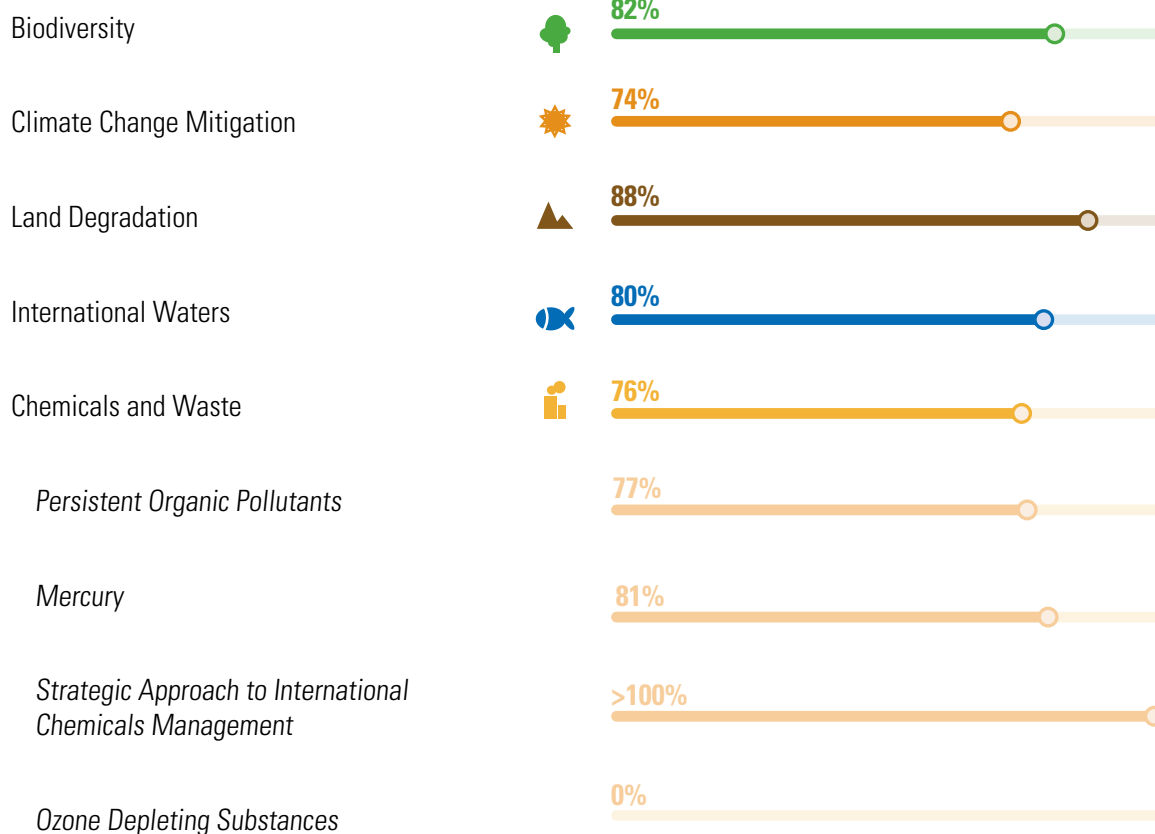
4. PROGRAMMING BY FOCAL AREA

This section summarizes the progress made in programming GEF-7 resources to date, including the June 2021 Work Program. It provides a cumulative summary of GEF-7 utilization of funds against the programming envelopes that were established by the Council during the GEF-7 Replenishment.

GEF TRUST FUND

FOCAL AREAS

UTILIZATION RATE



NON-GRANT INSTRUMENT PROGRAM

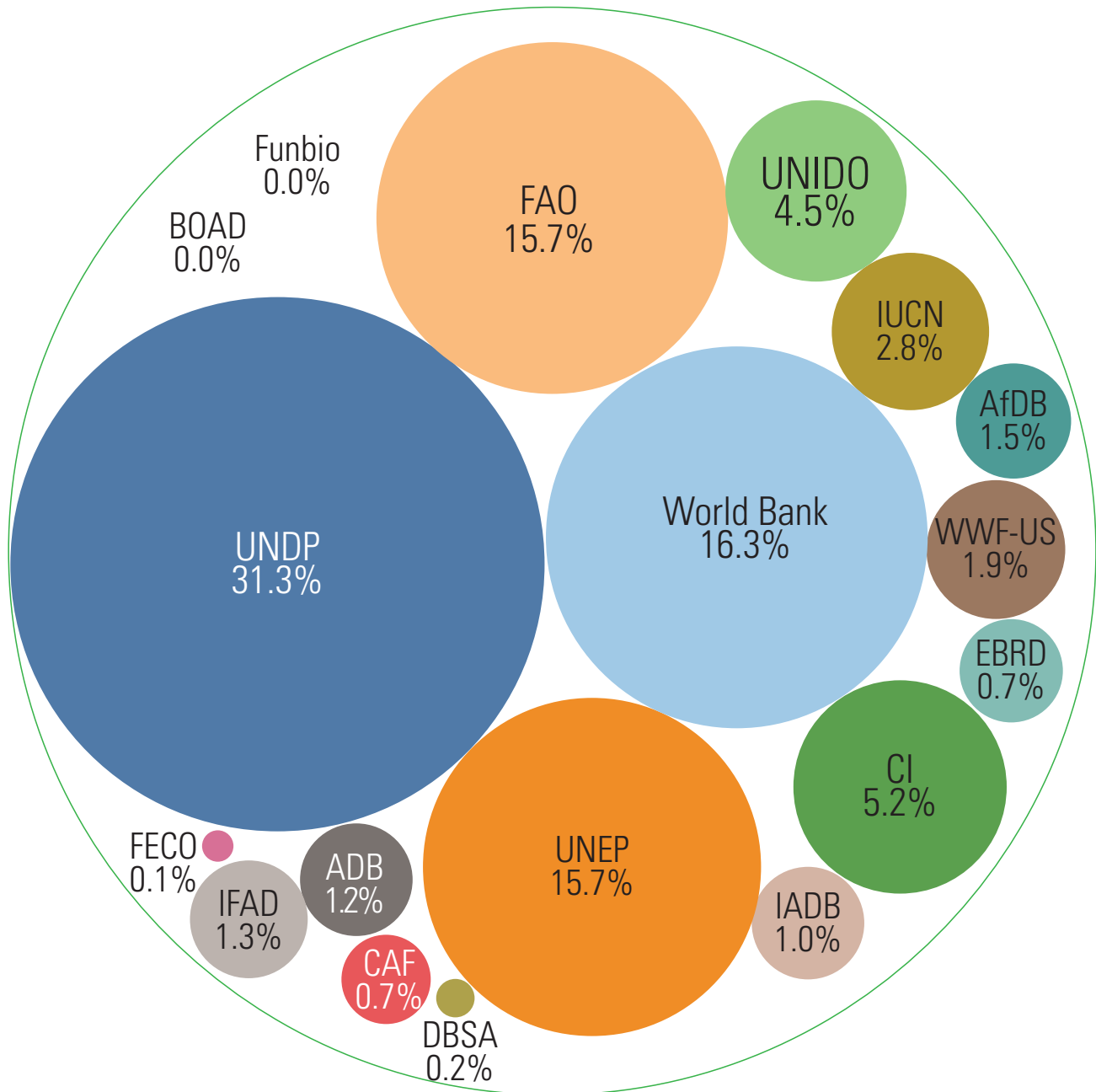


SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME



5. PROGRAMMING BY GEF AGENCY

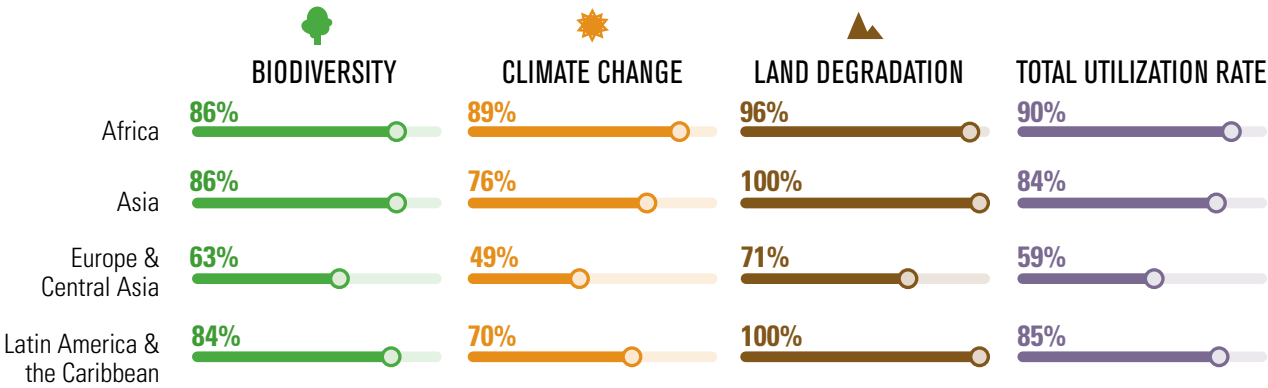
GEF agencies are continuing to submit new projects and programs in GEF-7, in response to country demand. The data shown here reflects the respective Agency share of cumulative programming across GEF-7 Work Programs.



6. SYSTEM FOR TRANSPARENT ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

Utilization of resources allocated to countries under the System for the Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) is increasing across the three focal areas it covers—biodiversity, climate change, and land degradation—and in every region. Small Island Developing States and Least Developed Countries registered the highest increase in programming among regions and country groups in the past six months.

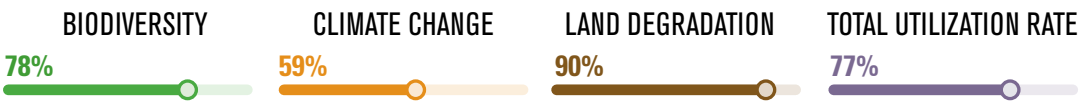
UTILIZATION BY GEF GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS



UTILIZATION BY LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

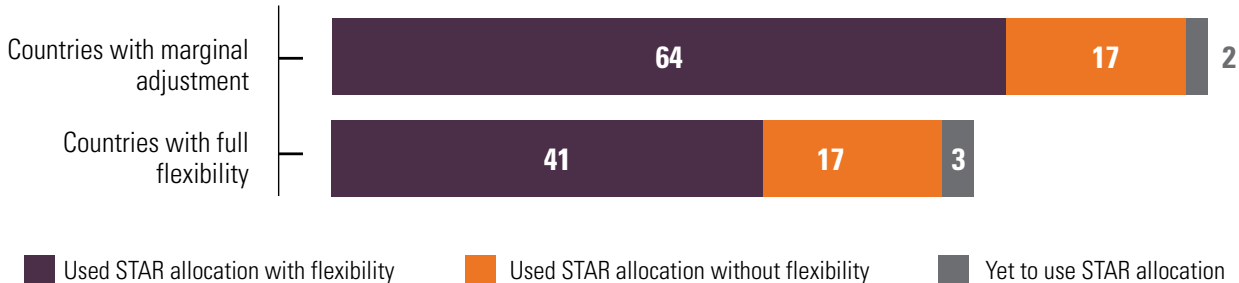


UTILIZATION BY SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES



USE OF STAR FLEXIBILITY

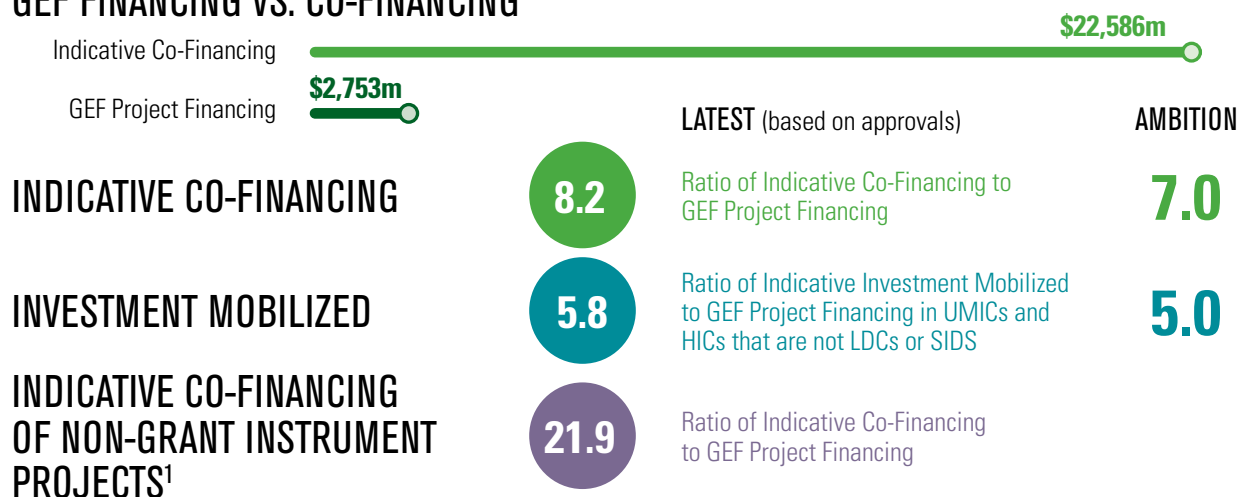
Countries are increasingly using the flexibility offered by the STAR framework in re-allocating resources across focal areas. When using STAR resources, countries can take advantage of the flexibility offered by the system to tailor it to their specific needs and context. Countries with a STAR allocation below \$7 million are fully flexible in conducting reallocation across the three STAR focal areas. Meanwhile, countries with an allocation greater than \$7 million can conduct a marginal adjustment of up to \$2 million, or 13% of their full allocation—whichever is higher—across focal areas.



7. CO-FINANCING

The Policy on Co-Financing sets out a goal for the overall GEF portfolio to reach a ratio of co-financing to GEF project financing of at least 7:1, and for the portfolio of projects and programs approved in Upper-Middle Income Countries and High-Income Countries that are not Small Island Developing States or Least Developed Countries to reach a ratio of investment mobilized to GEF project financing of at least 5:1. Co-Financing means financing that is additional to GEF Project Financing, and that supports the implementation of a GEF-financed project or program and the achievement of its objectives. Investment Mobilized means Co-Financing that excludes recurrent expenditures. Enabling Activities qualify for full agreed costs funding from the GEF; there is no co-finance requirement for Enabling Activities.

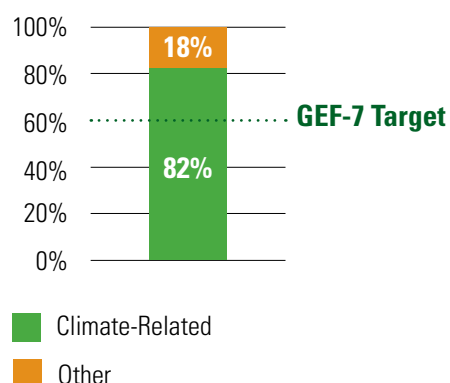
GEF FINANCING VS. CO-FINANCING



8. CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCING IN GEF-7

In line with the GEF-7 Programming Directions, the Secretariat monitors the share of climate-related financing in GEF-7. For this purpose, climate-related financing is defined as GEF financing that contributes towards climate change mitigation (CCM) or climate change adaptation (CCA) as a principal or a significant objective, consistent with the OECD DAC Rio Marker methodology.

A. CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCING IN GEF-7



B. BREAKDOWN OF GEF PROJECT FINANCING BY RIO MARKER (\$m)

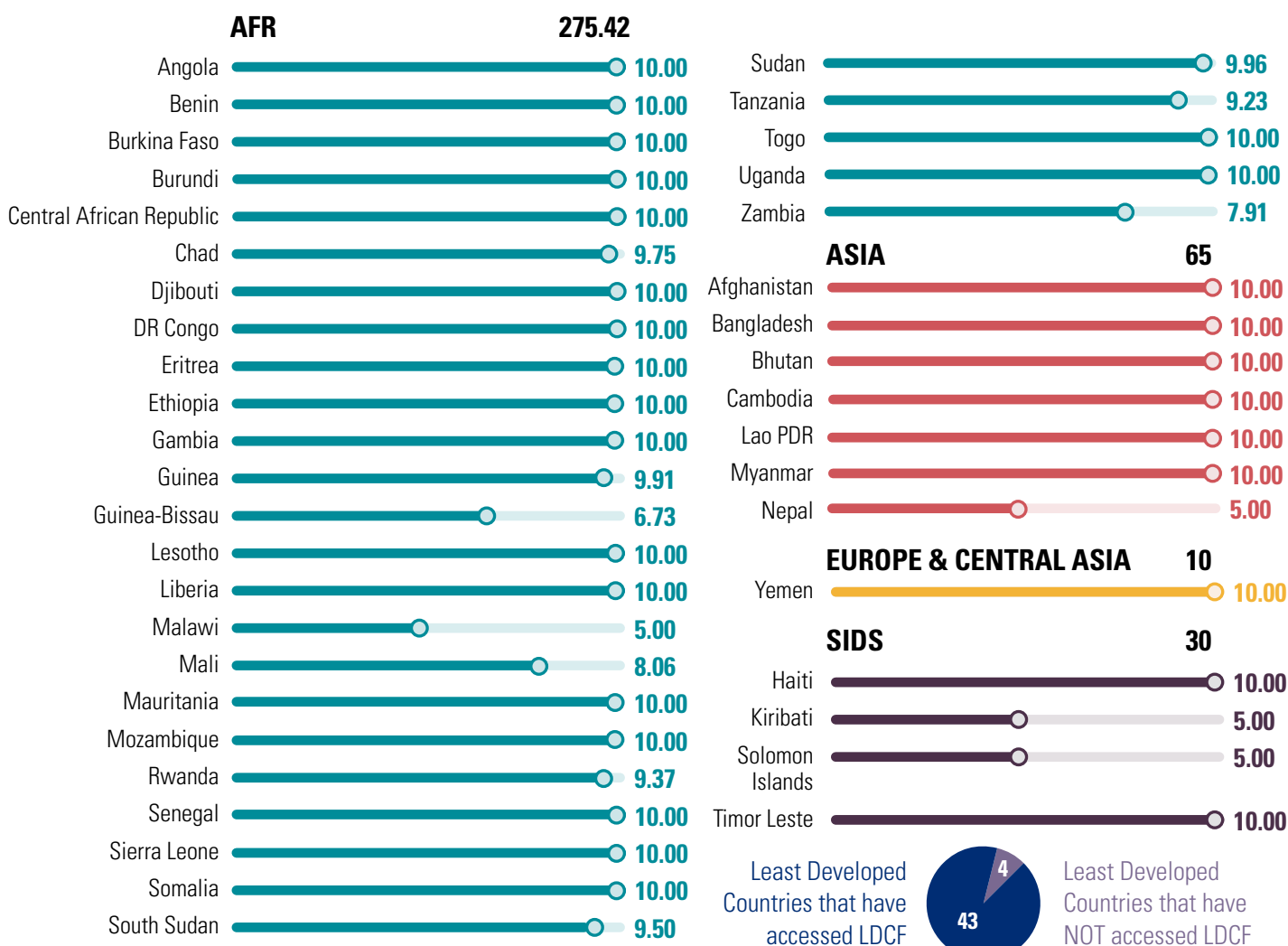
	No Contribution to CCA ("0")	CCA a Significant Objective ("1")	CCA the Principal Objective ("2")
No Contribution to CCM ("0")	531	333	65
CCM a Significant Objective ("1")	698	578	121
CCA the Principal Objective ("2")	306	256	4

¹ Three GEF-7 non-grant instrument projects are included. One fund project (GEFID: 10322) has leveraged a indicative co-financing ratio of 57:1.

9. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

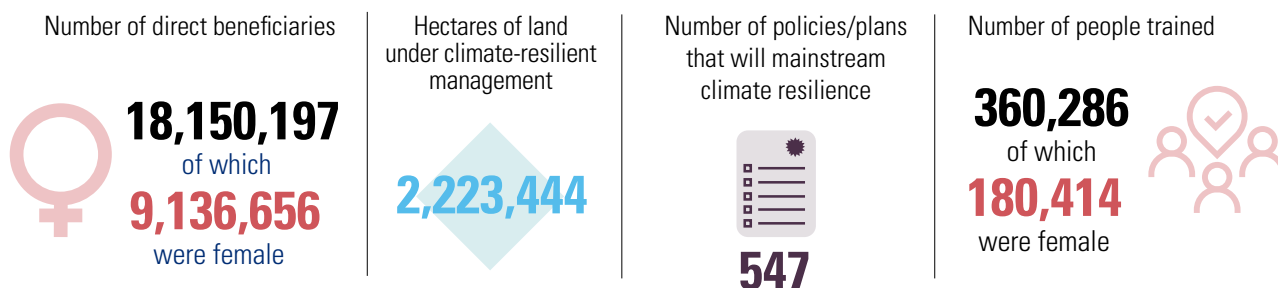
The GEF-7 Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) results framework is linked to the GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). Four Core Indicators track the progress in Adaptation Benefits, including beneficiaries disaggregated by gender. The expected results from the approved projects and programs in GEF-7 are depicted in this section.

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND PROGRAMMING UTILIZED GRANT AMOUNT (\$m)



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CORE INDICATORS

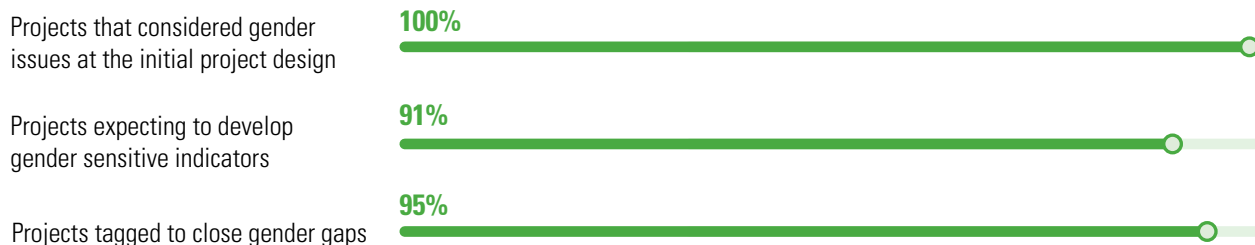
Inclusive of both LDCF and SCCF projects



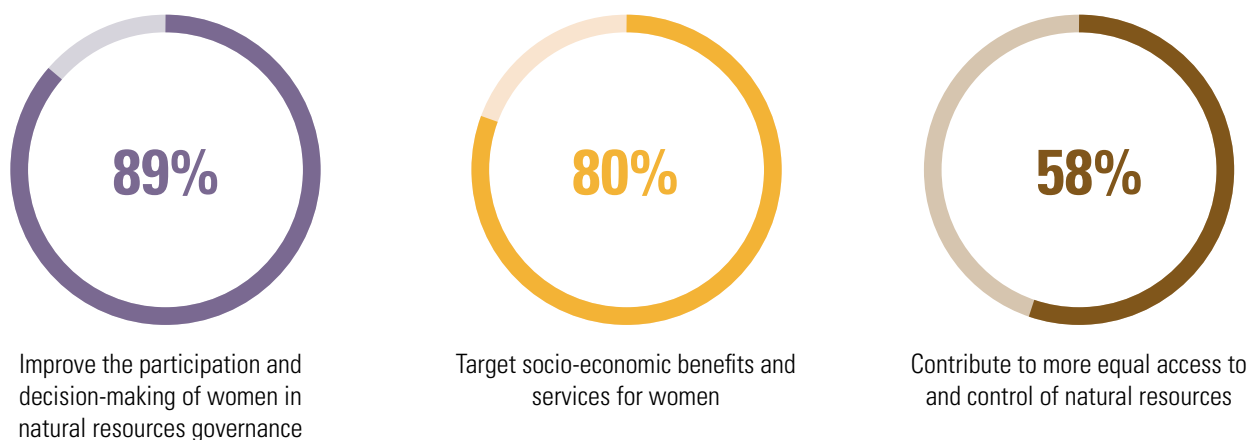
10. GENDER EQUALITY

Without greater equality between men and women, the world will not meet its environment objectives. That's why the GEF is making sure that projects are gender informed, giving women and men equal opportunities to contribute and benefit from them. GEF is ramping up its ability to track these elements during project preparation, as shown in the data below covering full-sized projects in GEF-7.

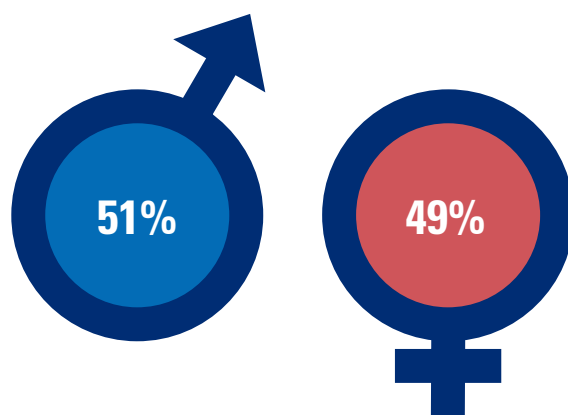
QUALITY AT ENTRY OF GEF-7 PROJECT CONCEPTS



EXPECTED CONTRIBUTION TO GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT BY CATEGORY



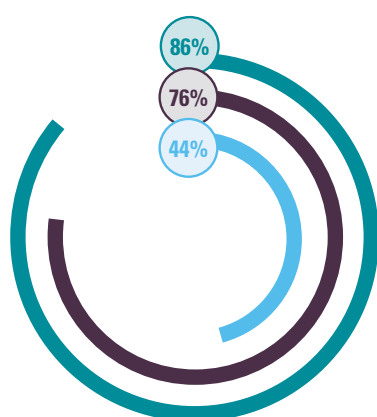
PERCENTAGE OF ANTICIPATED GEF BENEFICIARIES THAT ARE MALE AND FEMALE



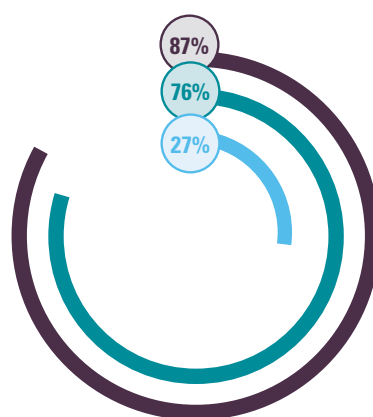
11. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Including stakeholders—civil society organizations, indigenous peoples, local communities, and the private sector—in preparing projects and defining their expected roles during implementation is key in strengthening the overall impact of a project. The data show that over three quarters of projects consulted and took into account the civil society and private sector in their design. Not all projects have indigenous peoples or private sector as stakeholders. Therefore, the percentages are expected to be lower than those reported for civil society.

CONSULTATION IN PROJECT IDENTIFICATION



FUTURE ENGAGEMENT AND DESCRIBED ROLES OF STAKEHOLDER IN PROJECTS



■ Civil Society Organizations ■ Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities ■ Private Sector

12. COMMUNICATIONS

Since July 2018, the growing number of GEF stories, partner content, and mentions in online media has helped to raise the GEF's profile, build awareness, and support action on the global environment. An emphasis on digital communication and strategic partnerships has resulted in the steady growth, and increased engagement, of visitors to the GEF website and followers of the GEF social media accounts.



Number of times the GEF is mentioned in English, Spanish, and French language online media.



Number of original news and feature stories, blogs, and agency stories about GEF projects posted on the GEF website. Also includes GEF videos and publications.



Number of visitors to the GEF website, including GEF Telegraph Hub and YouTube videos.



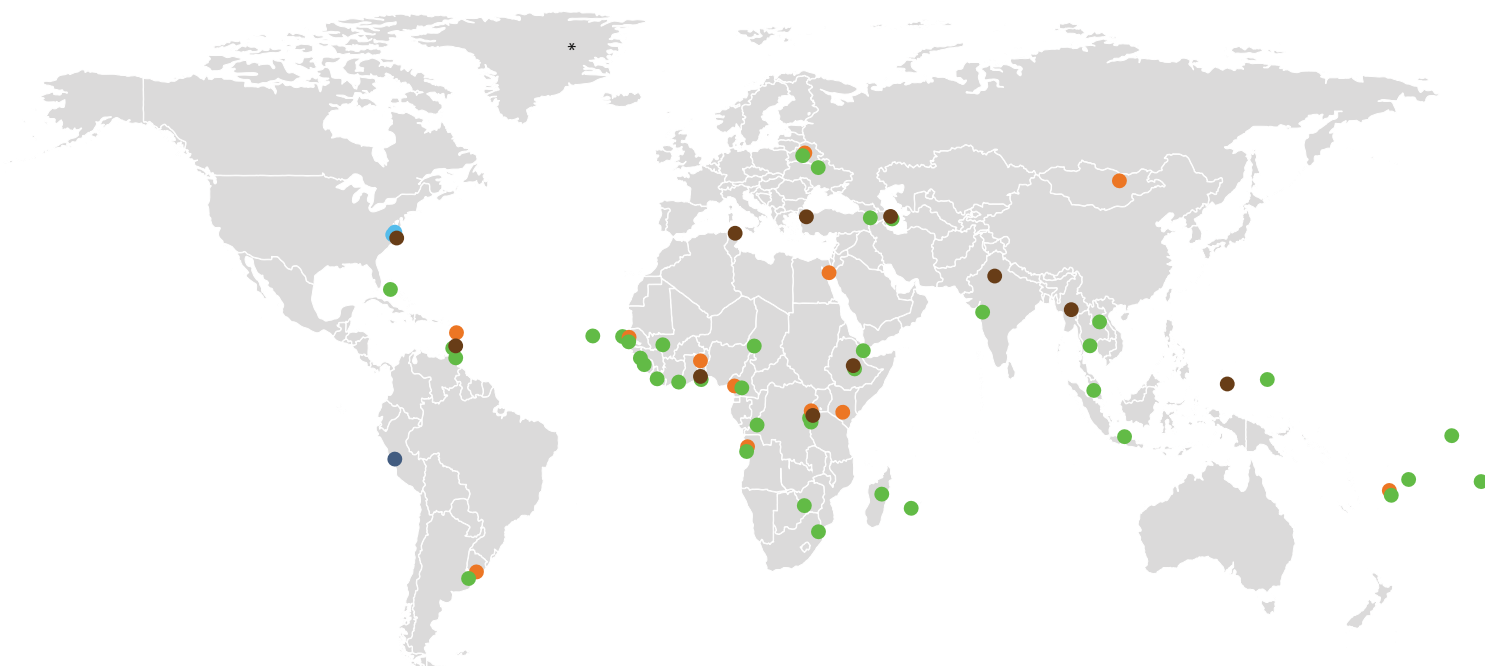
Number of times visitors viewed pages of the GEF website



Total number of followers of GEF social media accounts and subscribers to the GEF newsletter.

13. COUNTRY SUPPORT PROGRAM

With its activities continuing to be held online, the CSP is adapting its delivery model and expanding its reach as it strengthens country capacity and leadership in utilizing GEF resources. Two recent successful events included the first Introduction Seminar held online, bringing together over 400 participants, and the second Stakeholder Empowerment Series (SES) webinar. This event trained five country constituencies on project guidelines. Separately, the CSP held a series of meetings with countries to exchange on the 8th GEF replenishment, as well as on the CSP's own strategic objective looking ahead. The online GEF calendar provides information on CSP events.



SINCE APRIL 2020 THE GEF HELD ONLINE:

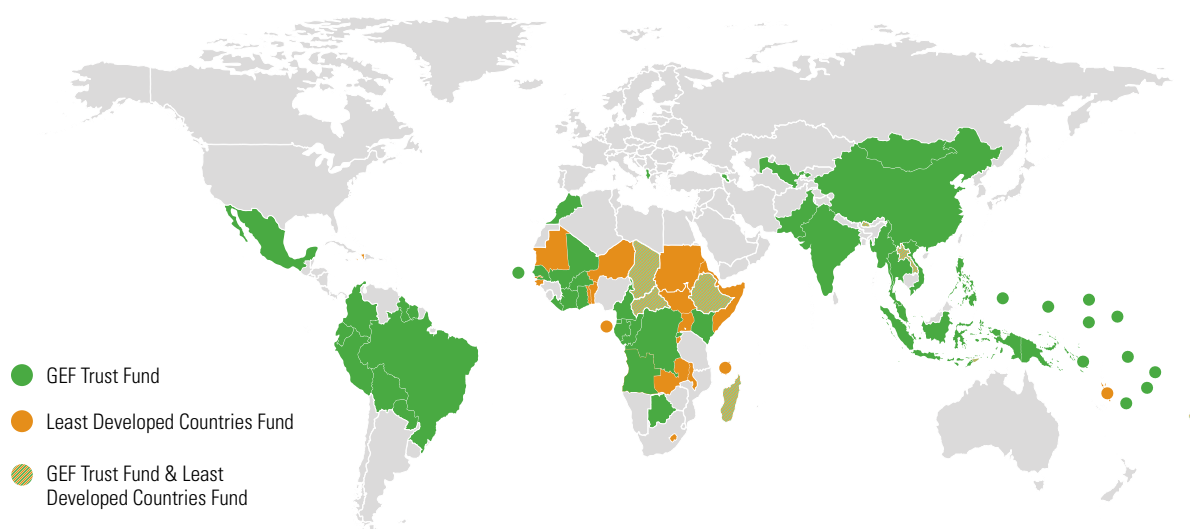
- 27 Replenishment-related Meetings
- 16 Constituency Meetings
- 1 Stakeholder Empowerment Series
- 1 Introduction Seminar

● Introduction Seminars ● National Dialogues ● Expanded Constituency Workshops ● Constituency Meetings ● Special Initiatives ● Stakeholder Empowerment webinar Series

* This represents seven constituency meetings held for the Latin America and Caribbean region which took place in Washington DC.

14. UPSTREAM COUNTRY CONSULTATIONS

At the request of countries, upstream consultation missions were prepared to provide opportunities for Government Agencies and GEF Operational Focal Point teams to engage with technical staff from the Secretariat prior to making important decisions on GEF-7 programming using the GEF Trust Fund and the LDCF/SCCF Adaptation Funds. The objective of these consultations, which took place through virtual engagement since the onset of the pandemic, was to provide strategic guidance on the GEF-7 programming elements for recipient countries and GEF agencies to gain an in-depth understanding of the Impact Programs and Focal Area strategies of GEF-7, and to understand the need to focus on impact as a major criteria for GEF-7 programming and use of resources.



GEF TRUST FUND

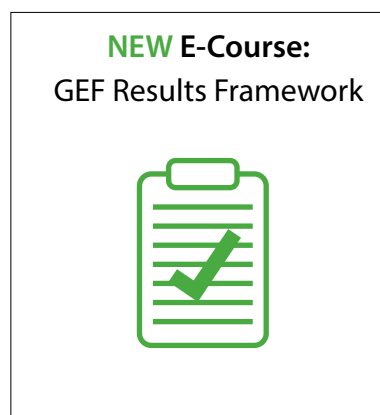
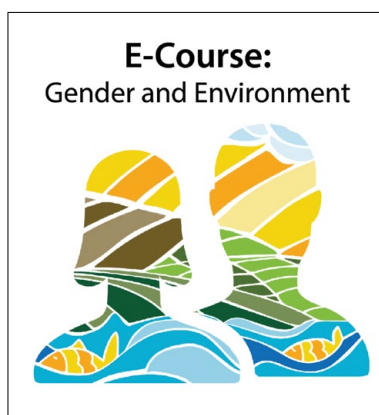
Albania	Fiji	Pakistan
Angola	Gabon	Palau
Armenia	Ghana	Papua New Guinea
Bhutan	Guyana	Paraguay
Bolivia	India	Peru
Botswana	Indonesia	Philippines
Brazil	Kenya	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Kiribati	Samoa
Cabo Verde	Lao PDR	Senegal
Cameroon	Liberia	Sierra Leone
Central African Republic	Madagascar	Solomon Islands
China	Malaysia	Suriname
Colombia	Mali	Thailand
Congo	Marshall Islands	Timor Leste
Congo DR	Mexico	Tonga
Cook Islands	Micronesia	Tuvalu
Côte d'Ivoire	Mongolia	Uzbekistan
Ecuador	Morocco	Vietnam
Equatorial Guinea	Myanmar	
Ethiopia	Nauru	
	Niue	

LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND

Bhutan	Lesotho
Benin	Madagascar
Burundi	Malawi
Central African Republic	Mauritania
Comoros	Niger
Chad	Sao Tome and Principe
Djibouti	Somalia
Eritrea	South Sudan
Ethiopia	Sudan
Gambia	Timor Leste
Guinea-Bissau	Togo
Haiti	Uganda
Kiribati	Vanuatu
Lao PDR	Zambia

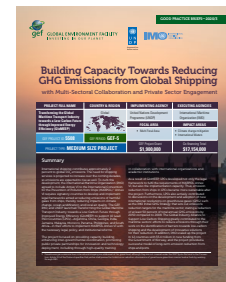
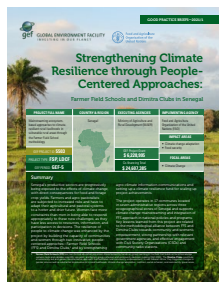
15. KNOWLEDGE AND LEARNING

In the COVID-19 context, the GEF promotes online learning to strengthen the quality and impact of its investments. It has further increased its reach by making classes available in different languages. Over 12,000 participants received a certificate upon completion of any of the six modules of the Gender and the Environment course. Both the Gender and the Introduction to the GEF e-courses are now also available in Spanish and French. In addition, the GEF is launching a new e-course on the GEF Results Framework.



Developed with the Small Grants Programme

In addition, a series of five new **Good Practice Briefs** have been produced with Agencies. They help embed knowledge-management thinking in project design and identify good practices.





www.thegef.org

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established 30 years ago on the eve of the Rio Earth Summit to tackle our planet's most pressing environmental problems. Since then, it has provided more than **\$21.5 billion** in grants and mobilized an additional **\$117 billion** in co-financing for more than **5,000 projects** and programs. The GEF is the largest multilateral trust fund focused on enabling developing countries to invest in nature, and supports the implementation of major international environmental conventions including on biodiversity, climate change, chemicals, and desertification. It brings together 184 member governments in addition to civil society, international organization, and private sector partners. Through its Small Grants Programme, the GEF has provided support to more than 25,000 civil society and community initiatives in **135 countries**.

ISBN: 978-1-948690-88-1

