GEF-8 Strategy & Programming Directions
Pathways to an Equitable, Nature-positive, Carbon Neutral, and Reduced Pollution World beyond Covid-19

3rd meeting | February 2022
Updates to the Programming Documents

- Revised Strategic Positioning Framework
  Document GEF/R.08/11

- Revised GEF8 Programming Directions
  Document GEF/R.08/17

- Updated Note on Operationalizing the Integrated Programs
  Document GEF/R.08/12
**GEF-8 Programming Directions - GEF/R.08/17**

**WHAT'S NEW**

1. Highlights of COP26 Outcomes guidance to GEF and links to key outcomes / pledges by leaders incorporated

2. Integrated Programs reduced to 10, with key priorities from the dropped IP to be addressed through the C&W focal area

3. Further clarification of the new model and approach for the Small Grants Program, including proposal for access by additional entities

4. A detailed Country Engagement Strategy focused on empowering countries for maximum impact, including strengthening of the Country Support Program in response to OPS7 recommendations

5. A dedicated funding window for research and innovation activities that will both directly and indirectly support and enhance the impact of GEF investments.
Strong signals on climate finance especially adaptation

Adaptation as a priority

Compromise on mitigation language on coal

Recognition of the need to reach net zero by around mid-century to stay below 1.5°C

Robust Replenishment
- welcoming integration
- enhance participation of CSOs and national entities in projects
- reinforce private sector engagement
- welcoming LTV with GCF

Enabling Environment and Transparency
- increase transparency support
- reporting on timeliness of ETF support
- developing expedited process

Adaptation
Signals to LDCF/SCCF Programming Development strategy
Embracing a Post-COVID-19 Framework

Healthy planet healthy people

Healthy Planet Healthy People

...protecting nature and restoring health of the environment that can and needs to underpin the health and well-being of human societies.
**GEF-8 Integrated Programs, Focal Areas, and GEBs**

**Theory of Change**

**PURPOSE**  
Planet in Peril

**STRATEGY**  
Invest in Nature and Systems

**IMPACTS & GOALS**  
Systems Transformation

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS MAPPED TO FOCAL AREAS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTEGRATED PROGRAMS</th>
<th>Biodiversity</th>
<th>Climate Change</th>
<th>Land Degradation</th>
<th>International Waters</th>
<th>Chemicals and Waste</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Area protected in landscapes &amp; seascapes</td>
<td>Emissions avoided or reduced</td>
<td>Area under sustainable land management</td>
<td>Fisheries managed sustainably</td>
<td>POPs, mercury, waste reduced or eliminated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Protected area under effective management</td>
<td>Forest carbon stocks conserved</td>
<td>Area restored</td>
<td>Freshwater resources managed sustainably</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Land-based carbon sequestered</td>
<td>Area with deforestation reduced</td>
<td>Basins w/ enhanced water-food-energy ecosystem security</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**GEF-8 VISION**  
Healthy, productive, and resilient environment underpinning well-being of human societies
CARBON-NEUTRAL

CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION
GHG Emissions avoided or reduced
Carbon stocks sequestered
Carbon stocks secured

REDUCED POLLUTION

CHEMICALS AND WASTE
Hazardous chemicals eliminated
POPs / mercury reduced or eliminated

CLEAN AND HEALTHY OCEAN

INTERNATIONAL WATERS
Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity
Globally overexploited marine fisheries under sustainable management
Shared water ecosystems sustainably managed

Ecosystem Restoration

Food systems

Amazon, Congo and Critical Forest Biomes

Blue and Green Islands

Circular Solutions to Plastic Pollution

CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS TO PLASTIC POLLUTION

Sustainable Cities

Net-Zero Accelerator

BIODIVERSITY
Area of landscapes and seascapes under improved practices
Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management
Marine protected areas created or under improved management

LAND DEGRADATION
Area of habitats and landscapes restored
Area under sustainable management increased

GREENING TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management

Sharing Wildlife Conservation for Development

Shared water ecosystems sustainably managed

INTERNATIONAL WATERS
Area of marine habitat under improved practices to benefit biodiversity
Globally overexploited marine fisheries under sustainable management

Shared water ecosystems sustainably managed

NATURE-POSITIVE
Next steps for roll-out of integrated programs

**Financing and Programming modality**
- use of focal area resources (STAR + set-aside)
- OPS7 recommendations for enhancing efficiency and effectiveness

**Selection of Lead Agencies**

**Criteria for country participation**

**Engagement with countries on opportunities and options for participation**
Optimizing the use of IP incentives

2:1 ratio would deplete the incentive much more quickly and reduce access to many more countries

3:1 Ratio

4:1 and 5:1 ratios would deplete the STAR much more quickly and work against countries with smaller allocations

4 to 1 Ratio

5 to 1 Ratio

Favors fewer countries and larger grants

Favors more countries and smaller grants

High

Low
Small Grants Programs 2.0
Building upon the strong foundations and success of the SGP

- **EXPAND**
- **INNOVATE**
- **DIVERSIFY**
- **OPTIMIZE**
Small Grants Programs 2.0

Where we are going

**EXPAND**
- Increase financial resources to civil society actors
- Enable greater scope and reach of SGP
- Ensure access to SGP core financing for all eligible GEF countries

**DIVERSIFY**
- Open implementation roles for other existing GEF Agencies
- Provide accreditation avenue for new organizations / agencies

**INNOVATE**
- Introduce new models and CSO Initiatives
- Pilot a micro-finance model
- Launch a CSO Challenge Program to offer competitive access to civil society actors

**OPTIMIZE**
- Codify management protocols and operational oversight
- Strengthen SGP alignment with GEF-8 strategy
Small Grants Programs 2.0

**Next steps**

- Consultative longer-term SGP visioning exercise
  - Country dialogues and consultations
  - Technical dialogues and consultations

- Elaborate on Operational Approach
  - SGP Structure and Grant Modality
  - Criteria and selection process for CSO Initiatives

Prepare **Implementation Arrangements** for Council approval
- Details of structure, eligibility criteria and resource allocation
- Management protocols
- Knowledge management
- Monitoring and evaluation
Country Engagement Strategy
Country Engagement Strategy

The CES implementation Components

1. UPSTREAM TECHNICAL DIALOGUES
2. THE RENEWED CSP
3. KNOWLEDGE and LEARNING STRATEGY
Country Engagement Strategy

Five Pillars of Country Engagement

1. Building and sustaining local capacity
2. Upstream programming support
3. Project design review and support
4. Operational and policy support
5. Knowledge access and learning exchange
Country Engagement Strategy

**Upstream Technical Dialogues**

- Strengthening dialogue with recipient countries
- Enhancing robust and impactful programming in accordance with country priorities
- Moving GEF Secretariat staff closer to recipient countries → “GEF Facilitators”
Country Engagement Strategy

The Renewed Country Support Program

CSP is “key entry point in the GEF dialogue, knowledge sharing and capacity building process with GEF partners” (from IEO Evaluation of the CSP, OPS-7)

NEW APPROACHES TO CSP IN GEF-8
Incorporate recommendations from IEO, donors, OFPs, Agencies and other stakeholders:

- Improving collaboration at the country level through inclusiveness
- Further increasing country ownership and leadership by empowering OFPs
- Promoting South-South knowledge sharing through tailored responsiveness
Country Engagement Strategy

CSP: CORE Activities

Events

1. GEF Workshops
   Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECWs)
   Other Thematic Workshops

2. National Dialogues

3. Stakeholder Empowerment Series
   Training on specific issues/South-South knowledge-sharing

4. Introduction Seminars

5. Constituency Meetings

6. Meetings of Recipient Council Members

Data and knowledge products

- Country Factsheets
- Training materials and Knowledge tools
Country Engagement Strategy

**CSP: NEW Activities**

### OFP empowerment
- National Steering Committees
- Personalized onboarding training for new OFPs
- Community of Practice Platform
  - Online forum – shared experiences, courses, documents, blogs and articles
- Operational support for OFPs
  - Optional, one-time funding support for OFP for the entire cycle
- Information management capacity building to create institutional memory and ensure continuity of GEF’s work

### Building execution capacity of stakeholders
- National Executing Agencies
  - Targeted capacity building to national executing agencies
- CSOs - mentoring and training

### Enhancing outreach
- Outreach products tailored to stakeholders: resources and tools
Country Engagement Strategy

Knowledge and Learning Strategy

- KM Advisory Group
- GEF Agencies
- CSOs
- GEF Secretariat
- GEF Donors
- Conventions
- IEO & STAP
- Focal Points
Innovation and Targeted Research
Innovation and Targeted Research

**Rationale**

NEED TO ADVANCE AND HARNESS INNOVATION

as a defining element of GEF’s comparative advantage

**OPS7 findings and recommendations**

Pursue innovative projects

Establish a specific window for financing innovation with a higher risk tolerance

Separate funding window for innovative projects

**Goal**

Support and enhance the impact of the ODA funding

Invest in research and innovation activities

Provide information, analyses, knowledge, and tools

Improve the quality, design, implementation, effectiveness and impact of ongoing and future GEF programming
Innovation and Targeted Research

Key Principles and Eligibility Criteria

- Convention guidance
- Consistent with the GEF mandate, objectives and strategy
- Strategically deployed
- Scientific Soundness
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