

Learning from GEF investments:

Strengthening Resilience and Socio-economic Benefits: Innovative Approaches to Create Nature-based Livelihood Opportunities

Thursday, July 29, 2021, 9:00 – 10:30 EST



A portable solar pump to grow vegetables for new livelihood opportunities @IFAD

Program: (moderated by **Aloke Barnwal, Senior Climate Change Specialist and Coordinator of Sustainable Cities Program, GEF**)

- Opening remarks: **Carlos Manuel Rodriguez, CEO and Chairperson, GEF**
- Presentation:
 - Experience from “Strengthening Climate Resilience through People-Centered Approaches: Farmers Field Schools and Dimitra Clubs in Senegal” <LDCF>: **Andrea Sánchez Enciso, Gender and Community Engagement Specialist, FAO Dimitra Clubs, Inclusive Rural Transformation and Gender Equality Division, FAO; Stefano Mondoví, Farmer Field School specialist, FAO**
 - Experience from “Renewable Energy Technology for Smallholder Farmers: Collaboration with Local Companies for Adaptive Agriculture in Cambodia” <SCCF>: **Karan Sehgal, Environment and Renewable Energy Officer -Asia & the Pacific Region, IFAD**
 - Experience from “Participatory Conservation and Peacebuilding in Dry Forest as Production Landscape: Nature-based Solutions for Local and Global Benefits in Colombia”: **Zoraida Fajardo, Coordinator of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Strategy, UNDP Colombia**
- Discussion (reflection on the presentation, views and Q&A)

Discussants:

 - **Edward Carr, Panel Member for Climate Change Adaptation, Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, GEF**
 - **Adriana Moreira, Senior Biodiversity Specialist, GEF**

- Closing remarks: **Paola Ridolfi, Manager, Policy, Partnership & Operations Unit, GEF**

About BBL:

Strengthening resilience of vulnerable communities and natural ecosystem is vital to tackle climate change impacts and other shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Resilience building is also central to sustaining environmental benefits and generating socio-economic benefits including resilient livelihoods, food security, health. Through the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), the GEF is providing catalytic investments in highly vulnerable countries especially LDCs to increase resilience of communities. Resilience is also a key cross-cutting theme of the GEF Trust Fund to deliver transformative impacts of GEF's investments by generating global environmental benefits of climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, land restoration, reduction of chemical and waste, and sustainable international water systems. Resilience of natural ecosystems are basis of human well-being, and through increasing resilience of social-ecological system GEF investments are supporting new and diversified nature-based livelihood opportunities, addressing gender gaps, and improvement of local governance.

This BBL will introduce three projects supported by the LDCF, SCCF and GEF Trust Fund, which effectively strengthened resilience and socio-economic benefits in rural communities through innovative approaches to create nature-based livelihood opportunities, while achieving strong global environment benefits including reduction of GHG emission, restoration of land, conservation of dry forest, and climate change adaptation. The BBL will introduce key lessons learned and challenges on strengthening resilience and socio-economic benefits from these projects, and discuss relevance of lessons to GEF Partnership and beyond.

Speaker Bio:



Andrea Sánchez Enciso is a gender and community engagement specialist with over 8 years of experience in integrating community engagement for empowerment approaches, in particular the FAO Dimitra Clubs, in development and humanitarian strategies in sub-Saharan Africa. She holds an Executive MSc in Behavioural Science from the London School of Economics and Political Science, LSE. Andrea is particularly interested in understanding the root drivers for behavior change and she is passionate about gender issues and participatory research.



Stefano Mondoví is a Farmer Field School specialist at FAO. With about 30 years' experience in international cooperation, since 2009 Stefano focused his work in Latin America and Africa on climate change adaptation and agroecology supporting smallholder farmers through participatory community learning approaches. He has a PhD in Anthropology.



Karan Sehgal is an Environment and Renewable Energy Officer, Asia and Pacific Division, IFAD. Since 2010, Karan Sehgal focused his work and gained hands-on experience with climate change mitigation and adaptation, small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) development and renewable energy for small-scale agriculture. Over the last decade, he has supported energy-efficient processing and storage technologies (for heating, cooling and drying) in over 13 countries.



Zoraida Fajardo is a Coordinator of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Strategy of UNDP Colombia. She is a biologist with a master's degree in environmental management, and more than 20 years of professional experience. She was the National Coordinator for the GEF project of Dry Forest in Colombia and previously coordinated the Biodiversity and Strategic Ecosystems Group of the Colombian Ministry of Environment.



Edward Carr is Professor and Director of International Development, Community, and Environment (IDCE) at Clark University. A geographer and anthropologist, Ed has more than twenty years of experience working at the interface of climate change adaptation and global development as an academic, through policy and technical positions with bilateral and multilateral development donors, and various roles on global environmental assessments, serving as a lead author for the ongoing IPCC AR6.

Good Practice Briefs available [here](#), and **the three examples highlighted at this GEF BBL** can be found via the below links:

- [Good Practice Brief \(2021/1\): Strengthening Climate Resilience through People-Centered Approaches: Farmers Field Schools and Dimitra Clubs in Senegal <LDCF>](#)
- [Good Practice Brief \(2021/2\): Renewable Energy Technology for Smallholder Farmers: Collaboration with Local Companies for Adaptive Agriculture in Cambodia <SCCF>](#)
- [Good Practice Brief \(2021/3\): Participatory Conservation and Peacebuilding in Dry Forest as Production Landscape: Nature-based Solutions for Local and Global Benefits in Colombia](#)