



NOVEMBER 20-22, 2023



#### **Engagement with Civil Society**

#### **Meet GEF Partners**

- GEF CSO Network
- GEF Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG)
- GEF Gender Partnership
- Question & Answers

#### **Small Grants Program**

Question & Answers

\* Please type questions in the chat

QR code: Agenda, presentation & reference materials, survey, recording





#### **Policy Framework**

- Co-financing Policy
- Stakeholder Engagement Policy
- Gender Equality Policy
- Environmental & Social Safeguards
- Minimum Fiduciary Standards
- GEF Grievance Mechanism

#### **Good Project Examples**

- Stakeholder Engagement: Meet Uzbekistan OFP
- Gender: Projects from Philippines & Peru
- Safeguards: Projects from Benin & Indonesia
- Question & Answers
  - \* Please type questions in the chat

Survey<br/>Group Photos





GEF AND CIVIL SOCIETY



### **CSOs Roles in the GEF**



Project
executors and
co-executors
through
partnerships



Deliver
national and
local solutions
and promote
policy change

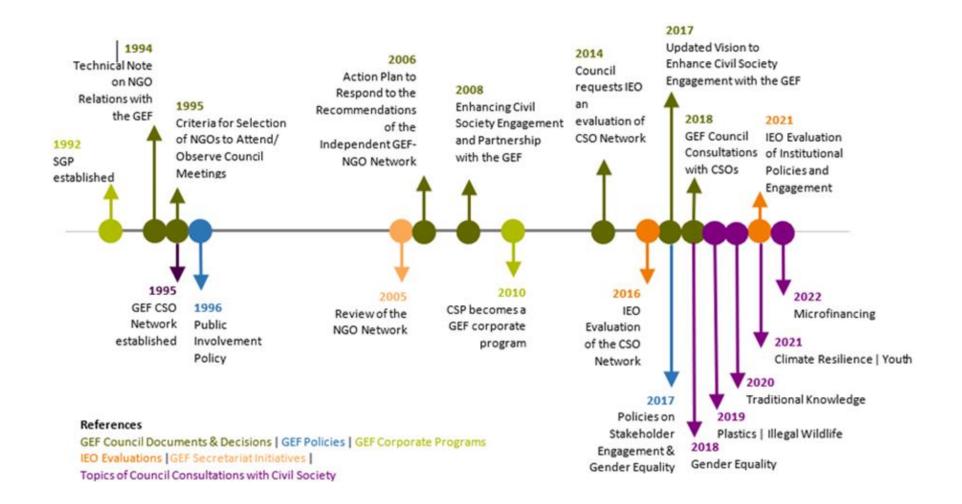


Contribute cofinancing



Influence GEF policy and strategies

## GEF's Evolving Engagement with CSOs





#### **GEF CSO Network**

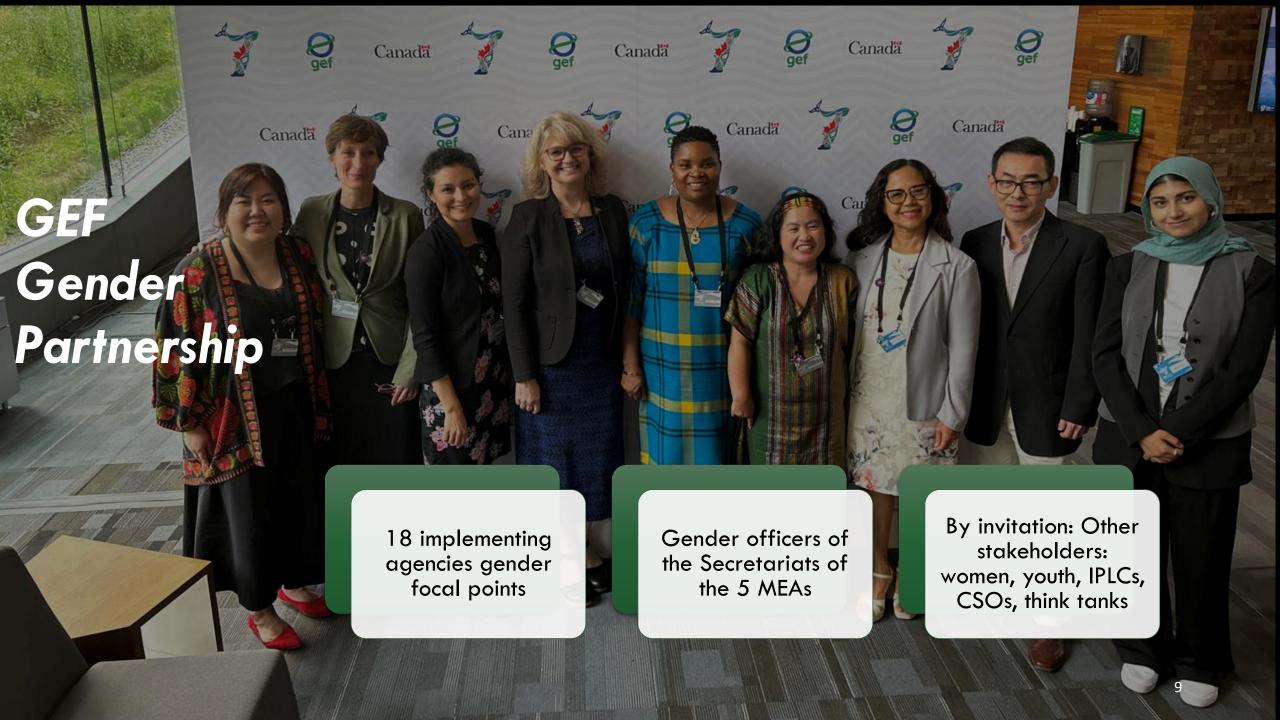
- A voluntary network of civil society organizations established in 1995
- Organized around Regional Focal Points, Chair, Vice Chair and a Network Secretariat
- Evolving mandate in the GEF Governance
- Enhancing the engagement of civil society in the work of the GEF
- Providing feedback to the GEF Council in the development and adoption of policies and guidelines
- Supporting and leading activities such as CSO consultations and workshops, as well as the GEF Assemblies



## Pathways for Increased Engagement

#### **GEF-8 PRIORITIES**

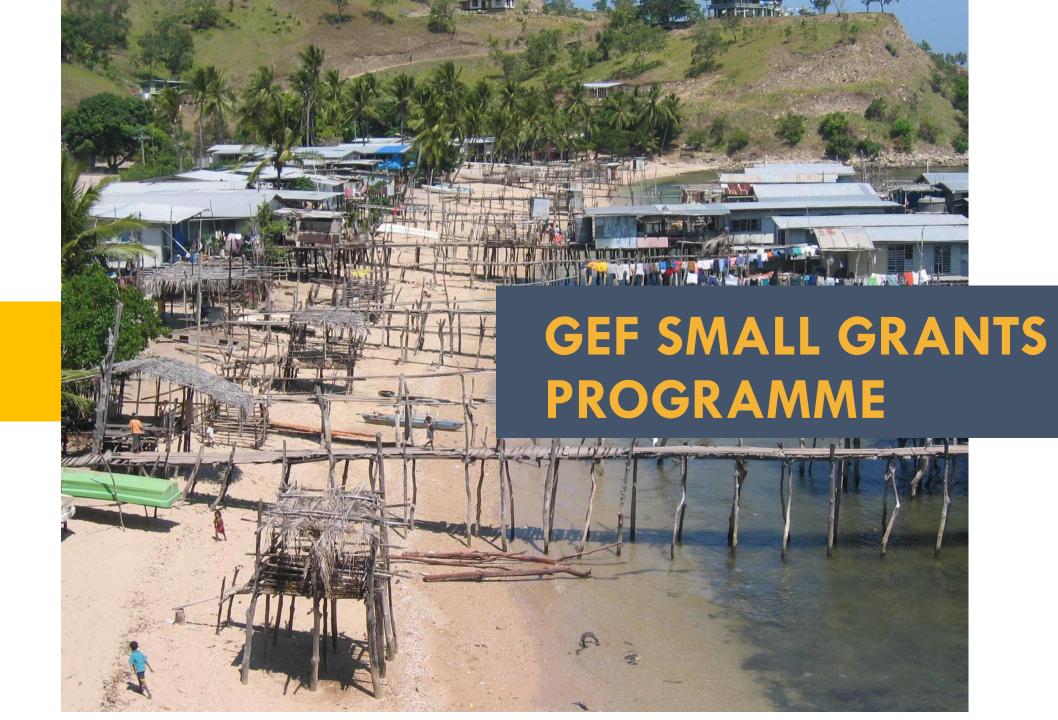
- Increase financing to civil society organizations
- Leverage and support civil society and youth engaged with the Conventions that the GEF serves
- Improving civil society roles and engagement in project design and implementation
- Facilitate civil society roles, voices and engagement in the GEF Council, Assembly and relevant events





#### **GEF Gender Partnership: Priorities**





#### **GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM**

- A flagship corporate program of the GEF
- Demand-driven grants to local communities
- Direct financing and capacity development to CSOs and CBOs
- Local conservation, development, and livelihoods results
- Global Environmental Benefits

Decentralized and country-level delivery of more than 26,000 community-led projects around the world since 1992



## New Features SGP in GEF-8

- Open up SGP implementing roles of SGP Core
- Eliminate the SGP upgrading country policy
- Recalibrate cost efficiency measures and reporting
- Launch novel two new CSO Initiatives, focused on youth, women and IPLCs

# **Thematic Priorities**

#### **SMALL GRANTS CORE PROGRAM**

#### Aligned with GEF-8 Strategy & Integrated Programs

#### Landscape and Seascape Approach

- Community-based management of threatened ecosystems and species
- Sustainable Agriculture and Fisheries and Food Security
- Low-Carbon Energy Access Co-Benefits
- Local to Global Coalitions for Chemicals and Waste Management
- Catalyzing Sustainable Urban
   Solutions

# Cross-cutting priorities

- Enhance social inclusion and engagement of IPLC, women and youth
- Facilitate Government-CSO-Private Sector collaboration
- Support capacity building
- Advance knowledge management and learning

#### **SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM RESOURCE ALLOCATION**

#### **US\$155 Million**

SGP CORE US\$ 135M

Resources are operationalized through two tranches split 50/50

- 1<sup>st</sup> tranche open to UNDP only
- 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche open later during the GEF-8 period once selection of new Agencies process is completed

CSO NITIATIVES US\$ 20M All countries can access SGP Core Resources

SGP Core Resources are allocated equally \$937,500

Countries are encouraged to utilize STAR

#### **SGP 2.0 CSO INITIATIVES**



#### **MICROFINANCE INITIATIVE**

**Support Microfinancing Institutions** to facilitate microenterprises' access to finance for climate and environmental solutions

#### **CSO CHALLENGE PROGRAM**

Support competitive opportunities for local civil society organizations to access financial and technical resources to scale up innovative environmental solutions

- Pilot new GEF models to engage and support civil society actors to catalyze environmental actions and solutions
- Support innovation of youth, women, Indigenous Peoples and Iocal communities in LDCs and SIDS
- Capitalize on expertise of the GEF expanded Agency network and specialized organizations





## GEF POLICY FRAMEWORK



#### POLICY REQUIREMENTS FOR GEF PROJECTS AND AGENCIES

**Gender Equality** 

Environmental & Social Safeguards

Stakeholder Engagement

**Fiduciary Standards** 

Co-financing

Grievance Mechanism

**GEF Policies & Guidelines:** 

https://www.thegef.org/projects-operations/policies-guidelines

#### FIDUCIARY STANDARDS

**OBJECTIVE** 

To strengthen financial and programmatic accountability of the GEF by requiring that all GEF Agencies meet the agreed minimum fiduciary standards

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

#### **Project/Activity Processes & Oversight**

- Project Appraisal Standards
- Procurement Processes
- Monitoring and Project-at-Risk Systems
- Project Completion and Financial
- Evaluation Function

#### **Governance Framework**

- External Financial Audit
- Financial Management and Control Frameworks
- Oversight of Executing Entities
- Code of Ethics/Conduct for GEF Agency staff
- Internal Audit
- Investigation Function
- Hotline & Whistleblower
- Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS**

Environment
and Social
Assessment
Management
and Monitoring

2

Accountability,
Grievance and
Conflict Resolution

- Biodiversity Conservation
- Restriction on Land Use & Involuntary
  Resettlement
- 5 Indigenous Peoples (FPIC)
- 6 Cultural Heritage
- Resource Efficiency & Pollution Prevention
- Labor and Working Conditions
- Community Health, Safety & Security

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To prevent, mitigate and manage adverse impacts that GEF projects may have on people or the environment

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

## PIF (Project Concept)

- Initial screening of the relevant types of risks and potential impacts of project or program (among 9 Minimum Standards)
- Initial overall risk classification
- Plan during PPG stage

## **CEO Endorsement/Approval** (Project Development)

- Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
- Environmental and Social Management Framework/Plan
- Indigenous Peoples Plan etc.

## PIR/Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

 Progress, challenges and outcomes of the implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plan

#### **GENDER EQUALITY**

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To ensure equal opportunities for women and men to participate in, contribute to and benefit from GEF-financed interventions

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

## PIF (Project Concept)

Indicative information on gender considerations in project description and relevant project components

## (Project Development)

- Detailed gender analysis & action plan
- Gender-responsive measures for each project component
- Gender-sensitive indicators, sex-disaggregated targets

## Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

- Information in PIRs, MTRs, TEs progress on gendersensitive indicators, results
- Share
   good practice, methodolo
   gies and lessons learned

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

**OBJECTIVE** 

To promote the inclusive and meaningful participation of stakeholders in GEF's governance and operations

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

## **PIF** (Project Concept)

- Consultations during project development
- Information on how stakeholders will be engaged and means of engagement

## (Project Development)

 Stakeholder Engagement Plan

## Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

 Progress, challenges and outcomes of the implementation of Stakeholder Engagement Plan

#### **CO-FINANCING**

**OBJECTIVE** 

Set out the definitions, level of ambition and requirements for Co-Financing in GEF projects

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

- Co-financing is required for Full-sized & Medium-sized Projects.
- Co-financing is encouraged for Enabling Activities.
- No minimum co-financing ratio on a project level.

**PIF** (Project Concept)

**CEO Endorsement/Approval** (Project Development)

Midterm/Terminal Evaluation (Project Implementation)

indicative co-financing

co-financing

ACTUAL co-financing

#### **GEF CONFLICT RESOLUTION SYSTEM**

## FOUNDATION AND PURPOSE

An overview

## GEF Policies on Safeguards and Fiduciary Standards require:

- Agency have independent accountability and grievance systems that meet minimum standards
- Agencies report on cases and new developments in real time

#### **PURPOSE**

- Voice and right of recourse for project affected people
- Enlist their expertise for accountability and better results
- Identify and address potential issues of fraud and corruption

#### **Prompt** reporting to Council

Transparency and confidentiality

#### **GEF CONFLICT RESOLUTION SYSTEM**

## REFERENCES AND CONTACT INFORMATION

#### For additional information please see:

- GEF website: Conflict Resolution here
- Annual Reports on Cases and Trend from Nov. 2020, Nov. 2021 and Nov. 2022

#### **Contact information:**

Peter Lallas, GEF Conflict Resolution Commissioner, plallas@thegef.org

#### **GEF CONFLICT RESOLUTION SYSTEM**

#### CASES AND LESSONS

#### 54 CASES IN PAST THREE YEARS (about half now closed) in two groups:

- Safeguards-related cases: environmental or social harm, lack of consultations, land disputes, FPIC, human rights . . .
- Fiduciary-related cases: misuse of funds, procurement, whistleblower protection

#### **SOME LESSONS AND TRENDS** (reported in annual reports)

- Much to be learned and understood –importance of listening
- Be proactive in response; impartially and independently!
- Confidentiality and no retaliation
- Even well-intended projects can cause unanticipated harm
- Integral to stakeholder engagement and better projects
- Need to help build awareness that people have a place to go





## MINISTRY FOR ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Jakhongir TALIPOV

**GEF OFP** 



"I would like to once again draw your attention to one of the most acute ecological problems of our time - the Aral Sea catastrophe".

H.E. Sh.Mirziyoyev at the UN GA 72<sup>th</sup> session

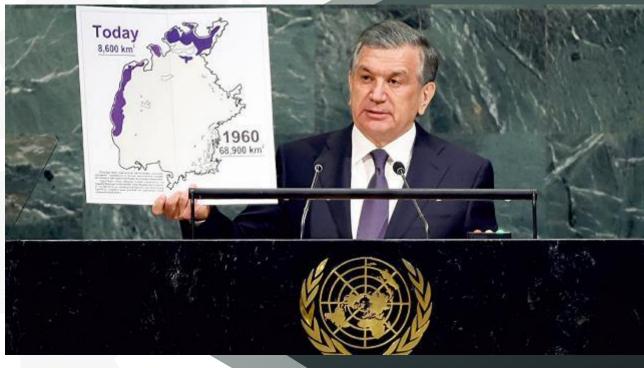
"We propose to adopt a special resolution of the UN General Assembly declaring the **Aral Sea region an** area of ecological innovation and technologies."

H.E. Sh.Mirziyoyev at the UN GA 75<sup>th</sup> session

"Uzbekistan pays special attention to combatting climate change, protecting the environment and biodiversity.

We are determined to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement."

H.E. Sh.Mirziyoyev at the UN GA 76<sup>th</sup> session



PRESIDENT OF UZBEKISTAN H.E. SHAVKAT MIRZIYOYEV 72th SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SEPTEMBER 19th, 2017



**FORESTRY AND LANDSCAPE** 

**RESTORATION** 

The **ARAL SEA** afforestation campaign



2018-2019 | 461 ha\* 2019-2020 **706** ha 2020-2021 354 ha

2022-2023 100 ha

\*thousand hectares afforested area cover

**YASHIL MAKON** (Green Space) nationwide afforestation campaign



Goal 1 billion tree plant



## MINISTRY FOR ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN







AGENCY OF HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

MINISTRY FOR ECOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

THE FOREST AGENSY
REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN





Convention on Biological Diversity

















#### **PROJECT PORTFOLIO**

**GEF-7 PROJECTS:** STAR resources = **18,3M USD** 

MEEP/UNDP: «Sustainable Forest and Rangelands Management in the Dryland Ecosystems of Uzbekistan» 4,3M USD

MEEP/UNDP: «Conservation and sustainable management of lakes, wetlands, and riparian corridors 4,0M USD

as pillars of a resilient and land degradation neutral Aral basin»

MEEP/FAO: «Food System, Land Use and Restoration Impact Program in Uzbekistan» (FOLUR) 6.7M USD

MT/UNDP: «Tashkent - Accelerating Investments in Low Emission Vehicles» (TAILEV) 4,0M USD

MT/UNDP: «Small Grants Programme» (SGP) 1,48M USD

Total mobilized STAR resources = 20,5M USD

#### Global allocations:

MEEP/UNDP: «Complete **HCFC** Phase-out in Uzbekistan through Promotion of Zero ODS Low GWP Energy 2,0M USD

**Efficient Technologies»** 

MEEP/UNDP «Strengthening the Resilience of Central Asian Countries by Enabling Regional Cooperation 7,0M USD

/UNESCO: to Assess High Altitude Glacio-nival Systems to Develop Integrated Methods for SD and CC»











#### **PROJECT PORTFOLIO**

**GEF-8 PROJECTS:** STAR resources = **13,3M USD** 

MEEP/UNDP/IUCN: «Integrated Conservation Management and Restoration of High-Value Landscapes of 6,8M USD

**Uzbekistan**»

MEEP/FAO: «Integrated Natural Resources Management for Improved Ecosystem Conservation and 5.6M USD

**Biodiversity** Preservation»

MEEP/FAO: «Implementation of the National Biosafety Mechanism in Uzbekistan in accordance with the 2,0M USD

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Uzbekistan»

Total mobilized STAR resources = 14,4M USD

Global allocations:

MEEP/FAO: «Coordinated approach for Land Restoration in **Vulnerable Ecosystems** of Central Asia» **2,0M USD** 

MEEP/FAO: «Strengthening Integrated Water Management in Amu Darya, Zarafshon and Panj River 6,0M USD

**Basins**»

MEEP/FAO: «Strengthening integrated Water Management in Syr Darya and Narin River Basins» 5,0M USD

MEEP/UNDP: «Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) Early Action Support» 0,3M USD









#### **EDUCATION and NATURE-BASED TOURISM**

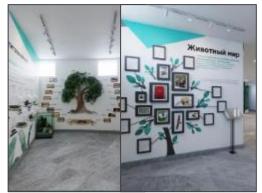




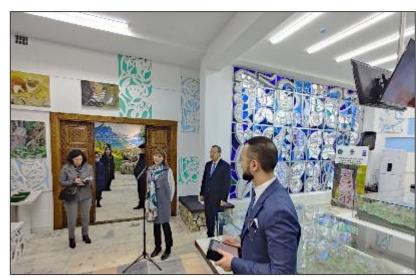


MEEP/UNDP: «Sustainable Natural Resource Use and Forest Management in Key Mountainous Areas Important for Globally Significant **Biodiversity**» GEF-6: STAR allocation **6,5M USD** 













Hissar State Reserve (Shakhrisabz, Kashkadarya region)

Chatkal State Biosphere Reserve (Parkent, Tashkent region)

#### **WORKING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES**







MEEP/UNDP: «Sustainable Natural Resource Use and Forest Management in Key Mountainous Areas Important for Globally Significant **Biodiversity**» GEF-6: STAR allocation **6,5M USD** 







The project provided Technical Assistance Program in mountain regions (snow leopard rangelands), Over 28 training sessions were held for residents of 42 *makhalla* (local communities) of 6 districts, in which about 500 people participated. 183 project applications (57 from women) were received.

#### **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**













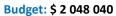
### Complete HCFC Phase-out in Uzbekistan through Promotion of Zero-ODS Low-GWP Energy-efficient Technologies











**Period: 2019 - 2024** 

**Project geography: Uzbekistan** 

#### Project goal:

Accelerate HCFC phase-out to achieve the 2020 compliance objectives set under the Montreal Protocol and sustainably reduce the servicing tail to complete the phase-out until 2030.









#### **Expected outcome**

Implemented national legislation

Strengthened customs and enforcement officers capacity

Reduced consumption of HCFCs in RAC sector.

Strengthened HCFC re-use system

Implemented demonstration projects with zero-ODS/low-GWP

**Public Awareness activities** 

Piloted resource mobilization

Gender-mainstreaming

#### **Current results**

Adopted National Program on ozone-depleting substances

533 trained / RAC equipment provided

2,471 kg recycled and 390 kg of HCFCs reclaimed.

12 RRR centers & 3 RAC training centers established.

5 demonstration and 1 pilot projects implemented.

9 campaigns with emphasis on gender

\$245,410 mobilized (5 projects).

Roadmap, 4 women-startup, edu.grant.













Developed National Cooling Action Plan for Uzbekistan to highlight importance of low GWP transition in sustainable cooling concepts to the economy of the country.



### TRAININGS, CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES







MEEP/UNDP: «Complete HCFC Phase-out in Uzbekistan through Promotion of Zero-ODS Low-GWP Energy-efficient Technologies»

Waste and Chemicals: 2,0M USD











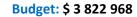
#### CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LAKES, WETLANDS, AND RIPARIAN CORRIDORS AS PILLARS OF A RESILIENT AND LAND DEGRADATION NEUTRAL ARAL BASIN LANDSCAPE SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS











**Period: 2022 – 2026** 

**Lower Amudarya and Aral Sea Basin** 

#### **Project Goal:**

- 1) To improve the sustainability of ecosystems and life in the Lower Amu Darya and the Aral Sea Basin (NABAM)
- 2) Preventing further land degradation along with the integrated management of land and water resources in productive landscapes around protected areas, key biodiversity areas







#### Planned activities:

- o Coordination of water resources management as a basis for achieving land degradation neutrality and biodiversity conservation
- o Sustainable land management to neutralize land degradation in the target landscape
- o Conservation of globally significant biodiversity in the Aral Sea Basin
- o International cooperation and knowledge management











#### **Project results:**



Improving water management for ecosystem resilience and sustainable livelihoods



Practical improvements in soil and vegetation management and the creation of new livelihood opportunities for local communities



Ensuring the safety of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) of lakes, wetlands and coastal corridors through the strengthening of protected areas



Raising awareness of the local population about LDN and the importance of biodiversity in the Aral Sea region, together with water use schemes.

#### GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (GBF) EARLY ACTION SUPPORT









**Budget: \$ 273,973** 



Period: 2023-2025

Project geography: Uzbekistan









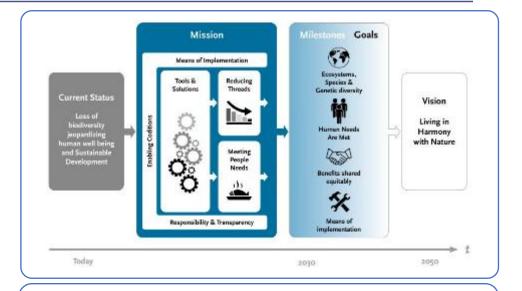
#### **Project goals:**

Take early actions to review and align national NBSAPs, policy frameworks, targets, monitoring frameworks and finance with the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

#### **Project objectives:**

Based on the analysis of the situation, current prepare appropriate recommendations and proposals for harmonizing national biodiversity conservation policy in accordance with the GBF.







#### **Project activities:**

1. To conduct an analysis of the **NBSAPs** and on its basis to prepare proposals for updating the goals and objectives in accordance with the GBF.



Evaluate monitoring systems, including existing gaps, and on this basis prepare proposals to improve their effectiveness.



To review the existing national biodiversity conservation policy and identify priority actions to move the country towards policy coherence with the GBF.



4. Identify gaps in biodiversity financing and identify opportunities for resource mobilization.

### **GLOBAL EVENT in UZBEKISTAN:**

14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Conference of the Parties
CMS convention (COP14)

23-28 October 2024





### Good Practices on GENDER EQUALITY

### Implementation of PCB Management Programs for Electric Cooperatives and Safe E-waster management (UNIDO)

- Key Learnings:
  - Early engagement of stakeholders to gain the support and participation of the community
  - Integration of gender perspectives in the project's framework plan, informed by gender analysis
  - Continuous capacity building with simplified modes of learning for accessibility
  - Constant involvement of government officials with visits, meetings and cooperation activities
  - Women leaders were featured: national and GEF media coverage, International Women's Day, 7th GEF Assembly, webinars
  - Lessons learned integrated in ESMP compliance report, lessons on gender mainstreaming incorporate

# EMPOWERING WOMEN DISMANTLERS AND SKILLS UPGRADING

Gender Sensitivity and Mainstreaming Workshop was organized during Women Month

Protect women
against hazardous
lemicals and Wastes

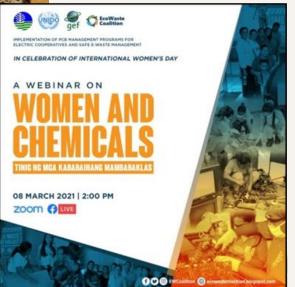
Ecta waste Coalition

A WE B

During pandemic:
42 participants (15M and 27F)
came from project site.

Webinar livestreamed, reached **1.8K viewers** 

Pre-pandemic:39 women and 4 menparticipated inworkshop



**Ensuring technology transfer** to informal sector for the operation of the dismantling facility managed by

the association of dismantlers and the village of Bagong Silang – urban poor community



Hands on training on dismantling of e-wastes:

22 men and 8 women participated in a company processing e-wastes

## Good Practices on GENDER EQUALITY

Sustainable management of agrobiodiversity and vulnerable ecosystems recuperation in Peruvian Andean regions through Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) approach

### Key Lessons:

- Importance of the gender analysis to inform the project design
- Close collaboration with communities both women and men - throughout all project stages
- Crucial participation of a gender expert to guide the project team

#### Results:

- Women's empowerment in leadership and economic autonomy
- Increased women's participation in management practices in biodiversity conservation
- Recognizing women's role as active community members, as economic actors and agrobiodiversity knowledge guardian



# Sustainable management of agrobiodiversity and vulnerable ecosystems recuperation in Peruvian Andean regions







# Good Practices on ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS (1)

Restoring and Enhancing the Value of Degraded Lands and Forest Ecosystems for Enhanced Climate Resilience in Benin (MFA, MTF, GEF ID 10688, UNDP)

- PIF (Project Concept ): Pre-Social and Environmental Screening Template. An overall ESS risk was Moderate. Identified 7 risks (Human rights, Gender, Climate, Biodiversity, Community Health, Displacement, and Pollution). Mitigating actions to be developed in the project design stage.
- CEO Endorsement (Project Development): Updated Social and Environmental Screening Procedure. An overall ESS risk was re-classified as High/Substantial, Environmental and Social Management Framework including conflict assessment and analysis, and action plan (responsibility, schedule and budget).
- Expected outputs: 1) Engagement of vulnerable communities in land use planning 2) Avoid conflict among different ethic groups, 3) Ensure continue access to resource, and 4) Sharing benefits with vulnerable communities.

# Good Practices on ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS (2)

Crop Diversity Conservation for Sustainable Use in Indonesia (BD, GEF ID 10511, FAO)

- PIF (Project Concept): Environmental and Social Screening document. An overall ESS risk was <u>Moderate</u>. Identified 1 risk (Indigenous Peoples). Mitigating actions to be developed in the project design stage including FPIC process.
- CEO Endorsement (Project Development): An overall ESS risk was re-classified as High/Substantial, Updated ESS risk assessment (identified 4 risks) was conducted, and mitigation measures were developed and integrated into the project activities and work plan.
- Expected outputs: Strengthen and improve 1) Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in the selected sites, 2) Socio-economic and baseline Study, and 3) Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) agreement, resulted in 4) improved inclusiveness of the project

