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February 8, 2024
Washington, D.C

Agenda Item 03

**WORK PROGRAM
FOR
THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND
AND
THE SPECIAL CLIMATE CHANGE FUND**

Recommended Council Decision

The Council, having reviewed document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.35/03, *Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund*, approves the Work Program comprising of 21 projects, subject to comments made during the Council meeting and additional comments that may be submitted in writing to the Secretariat by March 6, 2024.

Total resources approved in this Work Program amount to \$180.40 million from the LDCF and \$23.00 million from the SCCF-A, both inclusive of GEF project financing and Agency fees. The Work Program is comprised of the following Project Identification Forms (PIFs):

[See Annex A]

With respect to the PIFs approved as part of the Work Program, the Council finds that each of these PIFs (i) is, or would be, consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures, and (ii) may be endorsed by the CEO for final approval by the GEF Agency, provided that the final project documents fully incorporate and address the Council's and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) reviewer's comments on the Work Program, and that the CEO confirms that the project continues to be consistent with the Instrument and GEF policies and procedures.

With respect to any PIF approved in this Work Program, the final project document will be posted on the GEF website for information after CEO endorsement. If there are major changes to the project objectives or scope since PIF approval, the final project document shall be posted on the web for Council review for four weeks prior to CEO endorsement.

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INTRODUCTION

1. This Work Program for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) is the third Work Program to be considered by the LDCF/SCCF Council in the GEF-8 period, and among the largest work programs for the LDCF and SCCF to date. It requests a total of \$203.40 million for 21 projects, to address urgent climate change adaptation priorities in 16 least developed countries (LDCs) and eight non-LDC small island developing state (SIDS).¹ The Work Program includes one multi-country project and 20 national projects.
2. This is also the first Work Program to include multiple SIDS projects from the SCCF window for SIDS, which is a new feature for GEF-8.
3. In the GEF-8 period, each LDC has a per-country resource cap of \$20 million from the LDCF and each non-LDC SIDS has a per-country resource cap of \$3 million from SCCF Window A ('SCCF-A'), exclusively for adaptation support. For the LDCF, 17 out of the 20 concepts submitted were technically cleared, and all technically cleared projects have been included in the Work Program. All of the SCCF-A concepts submitted have been technically cleared and included in the Work Program.
4. Among national and multi-country projects, this Work Program includes four SIDS projects utilizing the SCCF national resource cap of \$3 million for seven SIDS, and \$2 million for one SIDS, under SCCF-A. Fourteen of the 16 LDCs in this Work Program are accessing LDCF resources for the first time in this period, with three LDCs utilizing their entire resource cap of \$20 million.
5. Out of the 21 projects, four projects are multi-trust fund (MTF) projects requesting support from the LDCF or SCCF-A, and the GEF Trust Fund. The flexibility and integration potential across the GEF family of funds is demonstrated in this Work Program, especially in the area of resilient and sustainable land management.
6. The LDCF portfolio of this Work Program has a significant share of projects by multilateral development banks (MDBs) and international financing institutions (IFIs). For the LDCF, seven out of 17 PIFs have been submitted by an MDB/IFI. In total, a significant portion of this Work Program, namely 43.24 percent, or \$78.00 million of GEF grants, is programmed by MDBs and IFIs.
7. The cohort of projects proposed for the Work Program is expected to mobilize \$880.17 million in co-financing for the LDCF project financing amount of \$161.88 million, and \$114.95

¹ The requested amounts are inclusive of GEF project financing (\$161.88 million for the LDCF and \$20.46 million for the SCCF) and Agency fees (\$15.11 million for the LDCF and \$1.88 million for the SCCF). It does not include project preparation grants (PPGs, \$3.11 million for the LDCF and \$0.60 million for the SCCF) and PPG fees (\$0.29 million for the LDCF and \$0.055 million for the SCCF).

million in co-financing for the SCCF project financing amount of \$20.46 million.² Out of total co-financing for the LDCF, 41.70 percent or \$367 million is from MDBs and IFI (AfDB, IFAD and World Bank). Each dollar provided by the LDCF is to be matched by \$5.44 in financing provided by a variety of sources, and each dollar provided by the SCCF leverages \$5.62.³

8. The projects included in the proposed Work Program all contribute to the goals and priority areas of the 2022-2026 GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change.⁴ The LDCF projects in the Work Program contribute to implementation of climate change adaptation solutions in priority themes and addresses strategic priority area 1 mainly among the three LDCF priority areas set forth in the strategy. The three key priority areas in the strategy are:

- Priority Area 1: Scaling up finance;
- Priority Area 2: Strengthening innovation and private sector engagement; and
- Priority Area 3: Fostering partnership for inclusion and whole-of-society approach.

9. These LDCF projects also have potential to contribute to other priority areas, which will be explored and finalized at the CEO Endorsement stage.

10. The projects with SCCF-A support in the Work Program address priority area 1 of the SCCF set forth in the strategy:

- Priority Area 1: Supporting the adaptation needs of SIDS.

11. This cover note presents key aspects of the proposed Work Program, such as an analysis of factors for strategic prioritization, results and impacts through contributions to core indicators, status of LDCF and SCCF programming, gender analysis, and project descriptions.

² The co-financing figure is calculated based on the 2018 Co-Financing Policy (GEF, 2018, Policy: FI/PL/01). The co-financing is applied to GEF project financing, which means a grant or concessional financing provided from any GEF-managed trust fund to support the implementation of any Full-Sized Project, Medium-Sized Project, Enabling Activity or Program, excluding Co-Financing, Agency Fees and PPGs.

³ Co-financing is not required for LDCF or SCCF projects.

⁴ GEF, 2022, [*GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund for the GEF-8 Period of July 2022 to June 2026 and Operational Improvements*](#), Council Document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.32/04/Rev.01.

LDCF/SCCF WORK PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

12. The LDCF/SCCF Work Program presents 21 projects with the total LDCF financing of \$180.40 million, comprising of GEF project financing of \$161.88 million, and Agency fees, PPGs, and PPG fees (\$18.52 million), and total SCCF-A financing of \$23.00 million, comprising of GEF project financing of \$20.46 million, and Agency fees, PPGs, and PPG fees (\$2.54 million).⁵

13. The projects with LDCF support include 17 national projects in Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Central African Republic (CAR), Ethiopia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal Niger, Rwanda, South Sudan and Zambia. South Sudan has two projects included in this Work Program. Two projects in the LDCF Work Program (for Cambodia and Zambia) are MTF projects with the GEF Trust Fund, seeking to achieve both adaptation and global environmental benefits in biodiversity, climate change mitigation, and land degradation.

14. The SCCF projects address climate adaptation priorities in eight SIDS. The three national SCCF projects are in Barbados, Dominican Republic and the Maldives. Another SCCF project in the Work Program is a multi-country project with Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. Two are MTF projects, for Barbados and Dominican Republic.

15. All national projects are aligned with, and contribute to the implementation of, national climate change policies and strategies, including the National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPAs), and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), among other policy documents.

16. Sectors and systems addressed in this Work Program include agriculture, fisheries and food security; nature-based solutions; water resources management; climate information services and early warning systems; disaster risk management; ecotourism and alternative livelihoods. Each project aligns with the unique environmental and socio-economic contexts of the countries involved.

17. These projects also seek to contribute to scaling up finance for adaptation by mobilizing additional adaptation finance through the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank, MDBs and IFIs, other major multilateral climate funds including the Green Climate Fund (GCF). Engagement of private sector in resilient value chains and livelihoods by supporting private sector enterprises will also be supported, specifically in projects of Burundi, Lao PDR and Mozambique.

18. The whole-of-society approach is inherent in most of the projects for supporting adaptation at multiple levels. The projects in Burundi, Maldives, Mozambique and South Sudan

⁵ For LDCF, the total amount comprises of GEF project financing (\$161.88 million), Agency fees (\$15.11 million), and PPGs (\$3.11 million) and fees (\$0.29 million). For SCCF, the total amount comprises of GEF project financing (\$20.46 million), Agency fees (\$1.88 million), and PPGs (\$0.60 million) and fees (\$0.055 million).

articulate respectively the approach to engage stakeholders across governance levels, engage communities and civil society organizations in decision-making, and empower youth as agents of positive change for socioeconomic national development, resource management and peacebuilding. The project in Niger emphasizes community ownership and execution of project actions, while the Nepal project involves multi-stakeholder dialogue and inclusive services. In Lao PDR, the project focuses on long-term collaboration among various stakeholders, including private sector, to ensure a broad societal approach, and in Cambodia the project aligns with this approach through inclusive community-based governance structures. These examples demonstrate multi-faceted approaches to involving diverse groups in decision-making and implementation processes.

19. Several of the projects are proposed to be implemented amid challenging circumstances. For example, the Burkina Faso project will be implemented in the regions which are not only climate vulnerable but also severely affected by armed conflict, where it has led to large-scale internal displacement. In South Sudan, the project will not only directly enhance the climate resilience of the vulnerable poor but will also deal with issues around conflict and illegal logging for timber and deforestation for wood fuel, which exacerbate the impacts of climate change hazards on agro-pastoral production systems and rural livelihoods.

20. The priority themes, intervention scales, and programming focus of these projects are well-aligned with those presented in the LDCF/SCCF Programming Strategy for the GEF-8 period.⁶

21. After an initial year of modest programming, the third Work Program in GEF-8 for the LDCF and SCCF received a very high volume of concepts for review. While an improving post-COVID context in countries may be a factor, this rise in GEF-8 LDCF and SCCF projects may also be attributable in part to the extensive outreach, capacity building and visibility efforts made by the GEF for the LDCF/SCCF during calendar year 2023. This included:

- *Outreach and capacity workshops for LDCs on the GEF-8 Adaptation Strategy.* These workshops were held in Maputo (March 2023; Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia), Dakar (April 2023; Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo), Siem Reap (September 2023; Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Nepal), Honiara (September 2023; Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, Tuvalu) and Addis Ababa (October 2023; Angola, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia). Participants from 43 LDCs participated, including the GEF Operational Focal Point (OFP), national United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Focal Points, two national adaptation

⁶ GEF, 2022, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund for the GEF-8 Period of July 2022 to June 2026 and Operational Improvements](#).

experts nominated by the OFP, and a representative from a relevant civil society organization (CSO). The workshops included extended project conceptualization sessions.

- *Active engagement of the GEF Secretariat with the LDC Group and the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS).* The GEF Secretariat presented the GEF-8 Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change to the LDC Group and to AOSIS during the margins of UNFCCC COP 27 and during the Subsidiary Body meetings. The GEF Secretariat has also engaged actively in programming-related bilateral discussions with LDC and SIDS representatives.
- *Pledging events which raise the profile and available resources of the LDCF and SCCF.* The GEF Secretariat has organized pledging events for the LDCF and the SCCF for two years in a row; at UNFCCC COP27 and COP28, with the engagement of Ministers and high level representatives of recipient and donor countries to share experiences with, and expectations from, the LDCF/SCCF.

22. The above efforts, donor support, and continued efforts by countries and GEF Agencies have contributed to the current constitution of one of the largest LDCF and SCCF Work Programs in GEF history.

ANALYSIS OF FACTORS CONSIDERED FOR ENHANCED STRATEGIC LDCF PRIORITIZATION

23. In line with the 2022-2026 GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, factors to be considered for the strategic prioritization of projects by the LDCF/SCCF Council for Work Program-based approvals include the following, with the alignment with national needs and priorities being the most important factor to consider. These are similar to the GEF-7 strategic prioritization:

- Alignment with needs and priorities identified in national plans, such as the NAP process, NAPAs, and national sustainable development strategies;
- Alignment with priorities in the Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change, such as opportunities to foster innovation and investments for technology transfer;
- Opportunities to leverage/catalyze support, including GEF multi-trust fund programming and other funding sources including the GCF; and
- Level of LDCF resources previously accessed by the country, to help facilitate access by countries underserved by the LDCF to date.

24. Additional factors were further considered:

- Potential for private sector engagement;
- Geographical balance of LDCF support provided;
- Extenuating circumstances, such as natural disasters; and

- Timing of technical approval of projects.

25. The following sections summarize an analysis of how the proposed Work Program addressed factors for strategic prioritization among proposals that were ready for support.

26. Alignment with national needs and priorities: The project concepts convey strong alignment with national priorities. For example, the project in Ethiopia will directly contribute to the government's flagship Green Legacy Initiative (GLI) which is aimed at socio-economic upliftment of the population through nature-based solutions and the restoration of forest ecosystems. The LDCF project will systemically integrate climate change adaptation in best practices of GLI and lay the foundation for scaling up the second phase of the GLI, thereby ensuring that the socio-economic objectives are achieved under current and future climate conditions. For Lao PDR, the concept outlines how it contributes to progress towards climate change adaptation targets for the agricultural sector of the NDC; in the Maldives, the project is aligned with the national Climate Change Policy Framework (2015-2025); and in Nepal, the project aligns with the NAP (2021-2050), which outlines targets for the agriculture and food security sectors.

27. The multi-country project with five SIDS in the Caribbean is aligned with national priorities of Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. It is also aligned with regional priorities: it will contribute to the regional platform of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Thematic Group on Climate Change, Disaster Risk Management and Natural Resource Management, in which key government and nongovernment stakeholders actively seek to build synergies among initiatives. It will also contribute to regional resilience by supporting CARICOM's envisioned 25 percent reduction in the regional food import bill by 2025.

28. Alignment with Programming Strategy priorities: For the 17 LDCF projects in the Work Program, there is clear alignment across the three LDCF strategic priorities articulated in the 2022-2026 Programming Strategy, namely (i) scaling up finance; (ii) strengthening innovation and private sector engagement; and (iii) fostering partnership for inclusion and whole-of-society approach. All four of the SCCF project concepts align with the first SCCF priority area, which is to support the adaptation needs of SIDS.

29. Opportunities to leverage/catalyze support: The projects are catalyzing additional financing from recipient governments, GEF Agencies, donor agencies, and the private sector. For instance, the Malawi and Liberia projects plan to directly leverage and mobilize public financing from national government programs, whereas Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi and Zambia projects are blending LDCF resources with grants and loans from MDBs. Mozambique and South Sudan are leveraging GEF Agency co-financing, with Mozambique also drawing on private sector co-finance. The Lao PDR project expects to mobilize significant co-financing from the Korean International Cooperation Agency.

30. GEF-GCF coordination: Several of the projects in this Work Program exhibit strong GEF-GCF cooperation. Projects in Cambodia, Ethiopia and the Caribbean (multi-country) are being

co-financed by GCF grants. For example, Caribbean project will leverage \$14 million grant cofinance for Dominica and Grenada from a GCF project that aims to strengthen the resilience of three Caribbean islands to climate change-related threats by improving the hurricane resilience of community buildings, homes, and businesses, and through flood prevention measures. In Cambodia, the LDCF project will complement the GCF-funded and FAO executed project “Public-Social-Private Partnerships for Ecologically-Sound Agriculture and Resilient Livelihood in the Northern Tonle Sap Basin (PEARL)”, from which relevant outputs, such as capacity building support on agrometeorological services, will be expanded and in the protected landscapes of the LDCF project. \$20 million of the GCF-FAO project will be applied as co-financing toward the LDCF project.

31. There are also examples of active coordination across LDCF and GCF projects. For example, in Malawi, the LDCF project will complement the GCF funded project, “Saving Lives, Protecting Agriculture Based Livelihoods in Malawi (M-CLIMES)”, which focuses on strengthening climate information services, and will leverage its participatory approach to inform climate resilient natural resources management and agricultural resilience for the LDCF project. The Ethiopia LDCF project likewise intends to coordinate with the GCF project, “Building Resilience of Communities and Ecosystems in the Drylands of Ethiopia through Sustainable Forest Management”.

32. Some of the LDCF projects will draw and build on Readiness support provided by the GCF to countries. In the Dominican Republic, for example, the SCCF project will coordinate with GCF-funded NAP Readiness and preparatory support, to facilitate the exchange of information and experience with methodologies and institutional arrangements to develop and implement early warning systems.

33. Rwanda is one of the pilot countries under the GEF-GCF collaborative framework, the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity (LTV). The Rwanda LDCF project in this Work Program will contribute to this vision at the institutional, geographical, and project levels. Areas of collaboration will include joint adaptation planning and investments through the financing facility proposed in the project concept; knowledge management for scaling up best practices by establishing an LTV knowledge management platform; and strengthening climate finance governance in Rwanda by engaging respective entities and focal departments in a coherent manner to identify priorities and investments.

34. Level of LDCF/SCCF resources previously accessed: For the SCCF, the eight SIDS included in the Work Program are accessing the SCCF for the first time in the GEF-8 period. For the LDCF, 14 out of the 16 LDCs with projects included in this Work Program are accessing the LDCF resources for the GEF-8 period for the first time.

35. Geographical balance: The LDCF/SCCF Work Program includes three Asian LDCF projects, fourteen African LDCF projects, three Caribbean SIDS projects (of which one project spans five Caribbean SIDS) and one Asian (Indian Ocean) SIDS project. The GEF will continue to monitor the geographical balance of the GEF-8 portfolio as well as of each Work Program. Additional

information on the regional distribution of LDCF and SCCF support is presented in Figures 1 and 2 in the next section.

36. Private sector engagement: The LDCF/SCCF Work Program has several examples of envisioned engagement with the private sector, engaging with it in diverse ways, as partners and beneficiaries. Projects in Barbados, Benin, CAR, the Caribbean (multi-country), Liberia, and Malawi are working with the private sector towards innovative financial solutions for adaptation, including inclusive microfinance, access to credit, and insurance. Projects in Burundi, Lao PDR and Mozambique seek to build climate resilience across agricultural and fishery value chains. The projects in Cambodia and Nepal are looking to the private sector to unlock innovative technologies for adaptation, and the project in the Maldives will deliver climate resilience benefits to small and medium sized fisheries and explore their engagement in project implementation. It will also work with the tourism sector to ensure that their food sourcing is resilient to the impacts of climate change, thereby contributing to the overall resilience of the sector and its contribution to the national economy and local livelihoods. In Burkina Faso, the project will seek to better link smallholders with markets by providing infrastructure and equipment for processing; it will also help forge commercial partnership between farmers organizations and private economic operators. In South Sudan, the project will work with a private entity to lessen the burden of food and nutrition insecurity through support towards drought-tolerant crop species and post-harvest measures such as grain and fish storage.

37. Extenuating circumstances: The previous Work Program included a \$20 million program in Bhutan, in light of their graduation from the LDC status on December 13, 2023 and to enable them to fully utilize the LDCF resources before graduation. For this Work Program, no other LDCs faced graduation. A number of concepts included descriptions of weather-related extreme events, disasters, and conflicts as factors that highlight the need for proposed adaptation interventions and their approaches, and have articulated them as risks.

38. Timing of technical approval of projects: All LDCF and SCCF proposals that were technically cleared by the deadline were considered and included in the Work Program. Three LDCF concepts received were not deemed technically ready for Work Program inclusion, and will either undergo additional revision or be reconsidered by the government. For the PIF cohort included in the February 2024 Work Program, the average time from the initial PIF submission to the CEO PIF clearance (December 21, 2023) was 74 days. All projects were submitted on or near the receipt deadline of PIFs to be considered for the February 2024 Work Program, except for one LDCF project which was submitted about one month prior to the submission deadline and one SCCF project which was submitted earlier. This means that the technical approval of projects and the Work Program constitution are done as expeditiously as the current GEF project cycle allows. For the June 2023 Work Program, the average time from the initial PIF submission to the CEO PIF clearance was 50 days (7 weeks). For the December 2022 Work Program, the average time from the initial PIF submission to the CEO PIF clearance was 38 days (6 weeks) for the two projects. For the June 2022 Work Program, the average time was 51 days (7 weeks). For the December 2021 Work Program, the average time was 119 days (17 weeks).

DISTRIBUTION OF LDCF RESOURCES BY REGION AND AGENCY

39. All 17 of the LDCF projects for this Work Program are national projects. Fourteen projects are in Africa, while three are in the Asia region. This Work Program brings the total number of LDCs that have reached the \$20 million cap for GEF-8 to five, namely Bhutan, Burundi, Djibouti, Rwanda, and South Sudan. Eleven additional LDCs will have initiated LDCF access under the \$20 million cap to address their adaptation priorities.

40. For the SCCF, the Work Program includes three national SIDS projects and one multi-country project that includes five SIDS from SCCF-A. With this Work Program, seven SIDS out of 30 have reached their national cap for SCCF-A access in GEF-8⁷, namely Barbados, Cabo Verde, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Maldives, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago. One SIDS, Grenada, has accessed \$2 million. No concepts were received or technically approved for SCCF-B for this Work Program.

41. Figures 1 and 2 present the distribution of LDCF and SCCF resources in the February 2024 LDCF/SCCF Work Program by region. The figures include GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees. For this Work Program, \$158.0 million, or 87.6 percent of LDCF resources, are programmed in Africa, and \$22.40 million, or 12.4 percent, are programmed in Asia. For SCCF-A, \$20.0 million or 87.0 percent is programmed in the Latin America and Caribbean region and \$3 million or 13.0 percent is programmed in Asia.

Figure 1: Regional Distribution of LDCF in February 2024 Work Program (\$ million)

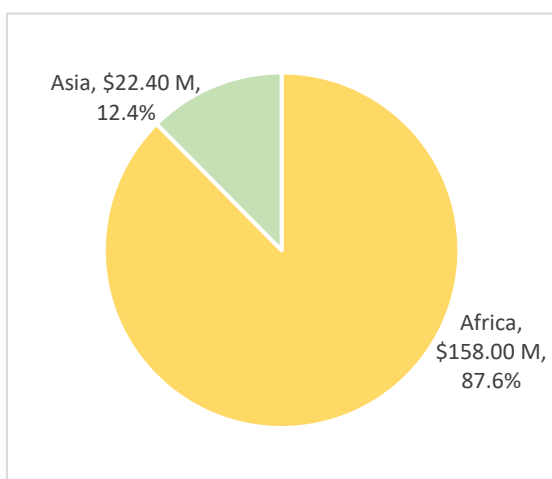
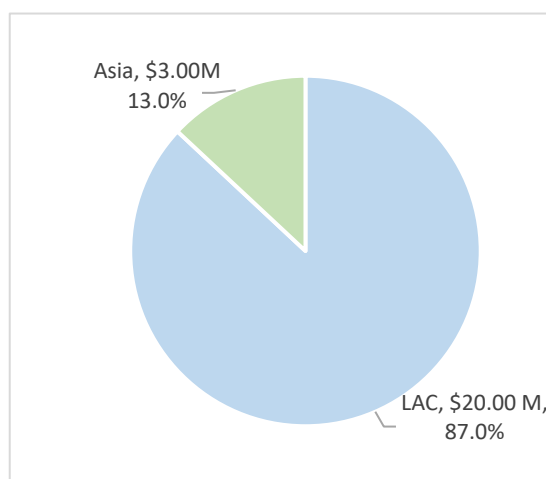


Figure 2: Regional Distribution of SCCF in February 2024 Work Program (\$ million)



⁷ Under the financial scenario of \$3 million per non-LDC SIDS.

42. No medium-sized projects (MSPs) have been submitted and approved in the GEF-8 period.

43. Table 1 presents a summary of country allocation of resources from the LDCF for this Work Program, as well as for the GEF-8 period. The figures are inclusive of PPGs and fees.

Table 1: LDCF Resource Programming by Country in February 2024 Work Program, GEF-8, and Cumulative Programming since Fund Inception

Country	Resources requested in February 2024 LDCF Work Program (with PPG and fees)	GEF-8 cumulative resources including February 2024 Work Program (with PPG and fees)	Cumulative LDCF resources accessed including February 2024 Work Program
	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million
Afghanistan			26.52
Angola			40.63
Bangladesh			38.39
Benin	10.00	10.00	50.67
Bhutan		20.00	60.39
Burkina Faso	10.00	10.00	50.14
Burundi	20.00	20.00	49.99
Cambodia	7.00	12.46	49.50
Central African Republic	10.00	10.00	31.37
Chad			39.95
Comoros			50.15
Congo DR			40.11
Djibouti			52.22
Eritrea			23.98
Ethiopia	10.00	10.00	50.13
Gambia			39.64
Guinea			35.57
Guinea-Bissau			27.10
Haiti			33.68
Kiribati			32.50
Lao PDR	5.40	5.40	43.27
Lesotho	10.00	10.00	50.85
Liberia	10.00	10.00	38.11
Madagascar			29.82
Malawi	10.00	10.00	50.15
Mali			39.17
Mauritania			35.27

Country	Resources requested in February 2024 LDCF Work Program (with PPG and fees)	GEF-8 cumulative resources including February 2024 Work Program (with PPG and fees)	Cumulative LDCF resources accessed including February 2024 Work Program
	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million
Mozambique	10.00	10.00	42.06
Myanmar			22.05
Nepal	10.00	10.00	50.88
Niger	10.00	10.00	49.91
Rwanda	20.00	20.00	61.01
São Tomé and Príncipe			36.94
Senegal			40.18
Sierra Leone			36.78
Solomon Islands			33.33
Somalia			39.87
South Sudan	20.00	20.00	39.77
Sudan			42.15
Tanzania			26.14
Timor Leste			37.27
Togo			30.20
Tuvalu			22.05
Uganda			40.20
Yemen			26.73
Zambia	8.00	17.24	54.53
Global			41.08
Regional			47.08

44. Table 2 presents a summary of country allocation of resources from SCCF-A for SIDS for this Work Program and for the GEF-8 period. The figures are inclusive of PPGs and fees.

Table 2: SCCF-A Resource Programming by SIDS (non-LDC) in February 2024 Work Program, GEF-8 and Cumulative Programming since Fund Inception

Country	Resources requested in February 2024 SCCF-A Work Program (with PPG and fees)	GEF-8 cumulative SCCF-A resources including February 2024 Work Program (with PPG and fees)	Cumulative SCCF-A resources Accessed including February 2024 SCCF Work Program (with PPG and fees)
	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million
Antigua and Barbuda			6.51
Barbados	3.00	3.00	3.00
Belize			8.76
Cabo Verde		3.00	3.00
Dominica	3.00	3.00	3.00
Dominican Republic	3.00	3.00	3.00
Grenada	2.00	2.00	2.00
Guyana			4.14
Jamaica			2.19
Maldives	3.00	3.00	3.00
Regional ⁸			61.69
St. Kitts and Nevis	3.00	3.00	3.00
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	3.00	3.00	3.00
Tonga			5.01
Trinidad and Tobago	3.00	3.00	3.00

45. Table 3 presents the total amount of LDCF resources by Agency, inclusive of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, for the February 2024 Work Program as well as cumulative GEF-8 programming. Figures 3 and 4 present similar information. Seven GEF Agencies are represented in the February 2024 Work Program, namely AfDB, FAO, IFAD, IUCN, UNEP, UNDP and the World Bank. The Agency distribution in the Work Program is well balanced, with FAO holding a 23.50 percent share and IFAD and UNDP each holding a 22.17 percent share, followed by the World Bank (15.52 percent). AfDB, IUCN and UNEP each have a 5.54 percent share.

46. In the GEF-8 period, the share of MDBs and IFIs in the LDCF programming has been significant. The share of MDBs and IFIs in the February 2024 Work Program for the LDCF is \$78 million, or 43.24 percent, while the share for the GEF-8 period is \$83.46 million, or 33.11 percent.

⁸ A large number of non-LDC SIDS have been supported by the SCCF through regional projects in Pacific, Caribbean and African and Indian Ocean regions.

Table 3: LDCF Resource Programming by Agency in February 2024 Work Program and GEF-8

GEF Agency	Resources requested in February 2024 LDCF Work Program (with PPG and fees)		GEF-8 cumulative LDCF resources requested including February 2024 Work Program and MSPs (with PPG and fees)	
	\$ million	% of resources	\$ million	% of resources
ADB	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
AfDB	\$10.00	5.54%	\$10.00	3.97%
BOAD	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
CI	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
FAO	\$42.40	23.50%	\$51.64	20.49%
IFAD	\$40.00	22.17%	\$45.46	18.03%
IUCN	\$10.00	5.54%	\$10.00	3.97%
UNDP	\$40.00	22.17%	\$80.00	31.74%
UNEP	\$10.00	5.54%	\$19.99	7.93%
UNIDO	\$0.00	0.00%	\$6.99	2.77%
WB	\$28.00	15.52%	\$28.00	11.11%
WWF-US	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
Total	\$180.40	100%	\$252.08	100%

Figure 3: Distribution of LDCF Resources by GEF Agency in GEF-8 Period (\$ million)

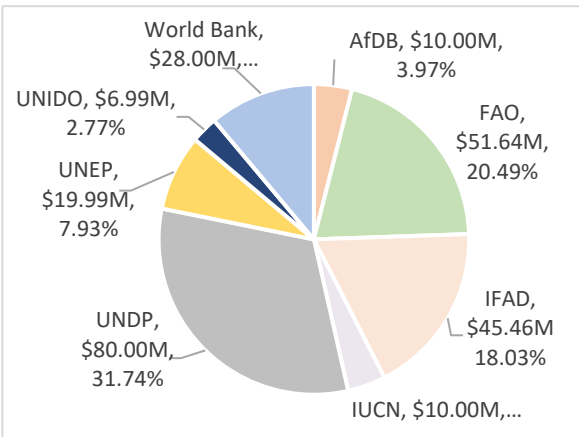
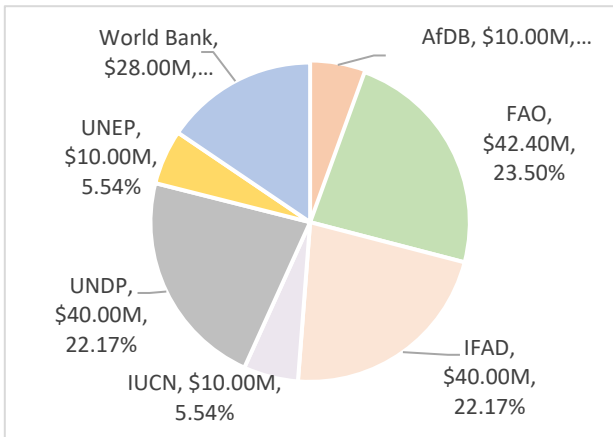


Figure 4: Distribution of LDCF Resources by GEF Agency in February 2024 Work Program (\$ million)



47. Table 4 presents the total amount of SCCF resources by Agency, inclusive of GEF project financing, PPGs, and Agency fees, for the February 2024 Work Program as well as cumulative GEF-8 programming. The only Agency to submit SCCF-A project concepts for the February 2024 Work Program was FAO. Two GEF Agencies, FAO and UNIDO, have been engaged in SCCF programming thus far in the GEF-8 period. Table 5 presents Agency distribution figures for the SCCF in the GEF-8 period. As this is the first Work Program with multiple SIDS concepts, it is not feasible to draw conclusions on the Agency share. Nevertheless, efforts will be made to raise awareness among countries about Agency options.

Table 4: SCCF Resource Programming by Agency in February 2024 Work Program and GEF-8

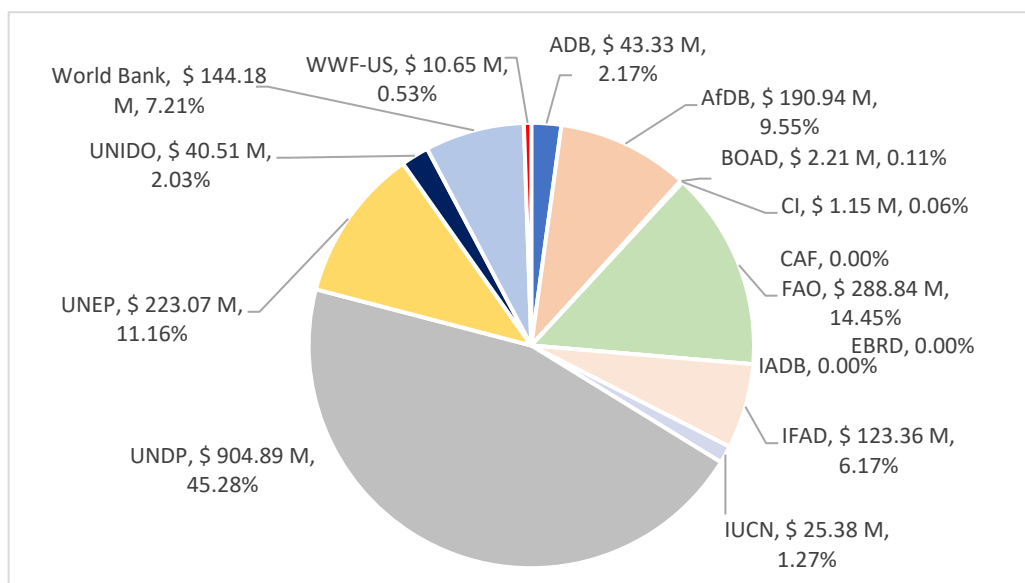
GEF Agency	Resources Requested in February 2024 SCCF Work Program (with PPG and Fees)		GEF-8 Cumulative SCCF Resources Requested including February 2024 Work Program and MSPs (with PPG and Fees)	
	\$ million	% of resources	\$ million	% of resources
ADB	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
AfDB	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
BOAD	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
CI	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
FAO	\$23.00	100%	\$26.00	96.26%
IFAD	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
IUCN	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
UNDP	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
UNEP	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
UNIDO	\$0.00	0.00%	\$1.01	3.74%
WB	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
WWF-US	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	0.00%
Total	\$23.00	100%	\$27.01	100%

Table 5: Agency Distribution of SCCF Resources in GEF-8 Period

GEF Agency	February 2024 Work Program		GEF-8 Cumulative including February 2024 Work Program	
	SCCF-A (\$ million)	SCCF-B (\$ million)	SCCF-A (\$ million)	SCCF-B (\$million)
FAO	23.00		26.00	
UNIDO				1.01

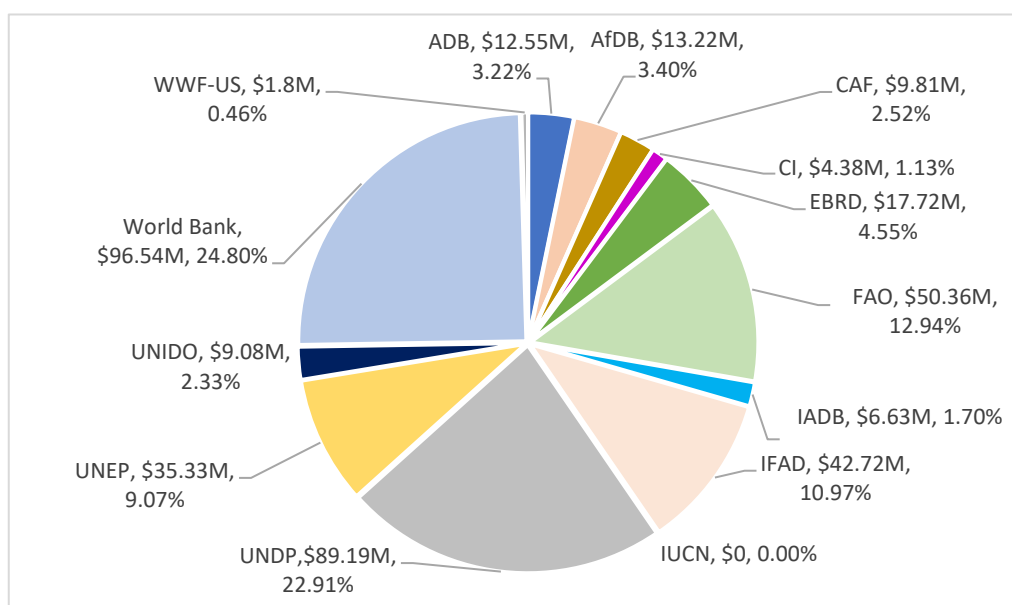
48. The LDCF and SCCF Agency programming distributions since fund inception and including the February 2024 Work Program, are shown in Figures 5 and 6. Various GEF Agencies have been involved in LDCF projects and programs totaling \$1,998.51 million since the fund inception. Of this amount, UNDP holds the largest share of project funding decisions to date, with 45.28 percent; followed by 14.45 percent by FAO and 11.16 percent by UNEP. The share of programming by MDBs and IFIs (ADB, AfDB, BOAD, IFAD and World Bank) is \$504.02 million or 25.22 percent. The large historical UNDP share is in part due to the limited number of Agencies that were engaged in climate adaptation in the early period of LDCF operations. Over time, the number of GEF Agencies active in climate adaptation has increased, contributing to a more balanced LDCF programming.

Figure 5: Distribution of LDCF Resources by GEF Agency since Fund Inception to February 2024 Work Program (\$ million)



49. For the SCCF, of the total \$389.33 million of approved projects since inception to date including the February 2024 Work Program, 24.80 percent has been allocated to the World Bank, 23 percent to UNDP, 10.97 percent to IFAD and 9.07 percent to UNEP. The total share of MDBs and IFIs in cumulative SCCF programming is 199.2 million or 51.16 percent.

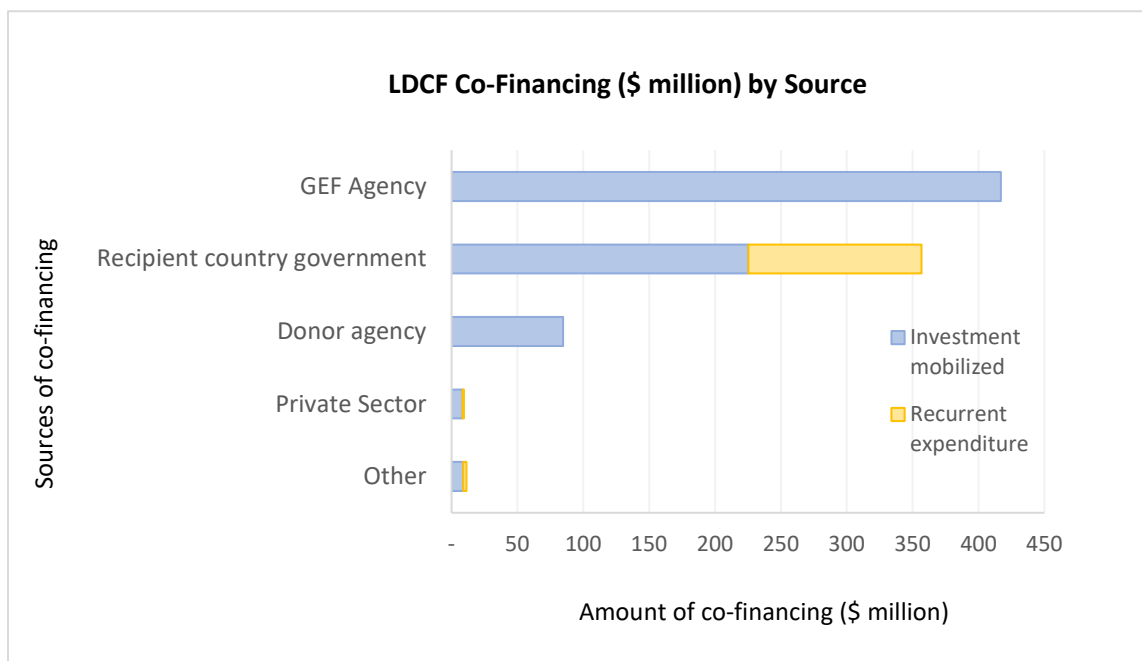
Figure 6: Distribution of SCCF Resources by GEF Agency since Fund Inception to February 2024 Work Program (\$ million)



DISTRIBUTION OF CO-FINANCING

50. Indicative co-financing associated with the February 2024 LDCF Work Program amounts to \$880.17 million, of which \$750.94 million or 85.32 percent is investment mobilized. Distribution of co-financing by co-financier type for the projects in the February 2024 Work Program is shown in Figure 7. For the LDCF, donor agencies and recipient country governments are the main providers of co-financing.

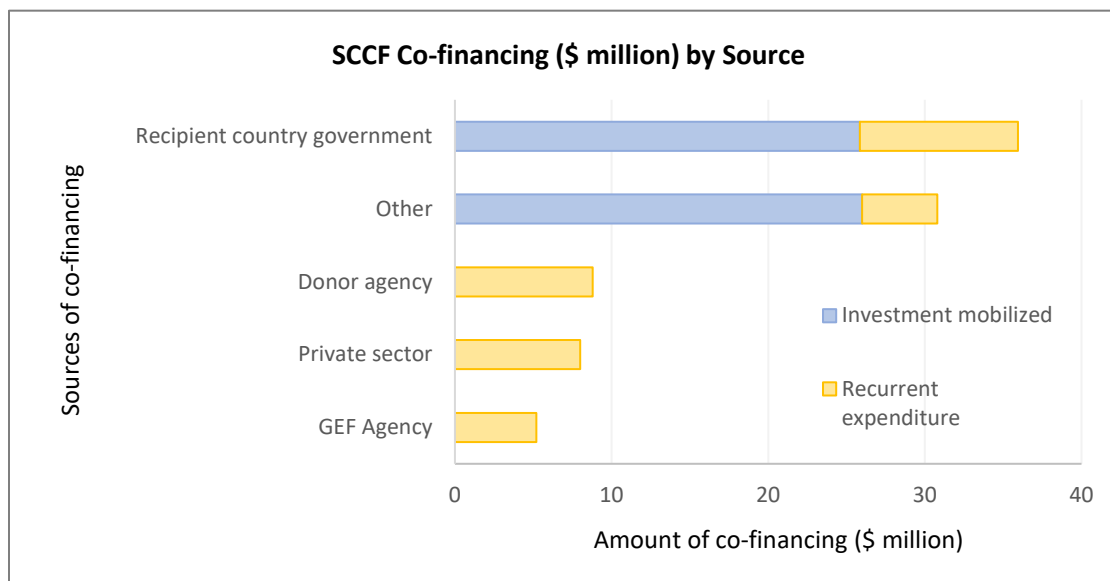
Figure 7: Co-Financing for February 2024 LDCF Work Program



51. Co-finance for the SCCF-A February 2024 Work Program amounts to \$114.95 million. Figure 8 below shows the cofinance associated with non-MTF SCCF-A projects⁹ in the February 2024 Work Program, by source. For these two projects, recipient country governments and other climate funds (GCF and Adaptation Fund, categorized as “other”) were the largest sources of co-finance.

⁹ The GEF Portal does not show the co-finance breakdown by trust fund for MTF projects. Therefore, the breakdown shown in Figure 8 is only for the two non-MTF SCCF-A projects (ID 11411 and ID 11412). For the case of the two MTF projects in the LDCF Work Program, it is possible to obtain this breakdown due to the fact that for ID 11400 (Cambodia) the LDCF-relevant co-finance is associated with a GCF adaptation project being implemented by the FAO, and for ID 11396 (Zambia) the World Bank has specified the loan amount that will be applied as co-finance for the LDCF portion of the project.

Figure 8: Co-Financing for February 2024 SCCF Work Program¹⁰



RESULTS AND IMPACTS

52. The projects presented in the LDCF/SCCF Work Program cover interventions to deliver adaptation benefits aligned with the Programming Strategy. The results framework for adaptation to climate change for the LDCF and SCCF (2022-2026) comprises of five core indicators. Contributions of the LDCF portion¹¹ of the 17 proposals to the core indicators are as follows:

- Core indicator 1. Number of direct beneficiaries: 4,193,882 persons, of which 2,156,318 persons or 51.4 percent are female.
- Core indicator 2 (a). Area of land under climate-resilient management: 1,458,157 hectares.
- Core indicator 2 (b). Coastal and marine area under climate-resilient management: 67,000 hectares.
- Core indicator 3. Total number of policies, plans, and frameworks that will mainstream climate resilience: at least 260 policies and plans.
- Core indicator 4. Number of people trained or with awareness raised: 555,871 persons, of which 272,710 persons or 49.0 percent are female.
- Core indicator 5. Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action: 1,401 enterprises.

¹⁰ The figure shows the co-finance breakdown for the two SCCF-A projects in the Work Program that are not MTFs, namely ID 11411 (Maldives) and ID 11412 (multi-country Caribbean).

¹¹ The Core Indicator values presented correspond to the LDCF grant only, in the case of the two MTF project concepts.

53. The contribution of the SCCF-funded portion of the four projects to the core indicators is as follows:

- Core indicator 1. Number of direct beneficiaries: 50,360 persons, of which 18,759 persons or 37.2 percent are female.
- Core indicator 2 (a). Area of land under climate-resilient management: 117,346 hectares.
- Core indicator 2(b). Coastal and marine area under climate-resilient management: 1,817,244 hectares.
- Core indicator 3. Total number of policies, plans, and frameworks that will mainstream climate resilience: at least 13 policies and plans.
- Core indicator 4. Number of people trained or with awareness raised: 29,531 persons, of which 8,627 persons or 29.2 percent are female.
- Core indicator 5. Number of private sector enterprises engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience action: 15 enterprises.

54. The Corporate Scorecard includes a section on core indicators for adaptation, which will be tracked at the CEO endorsement, mid-term, and terminal stages.

55. Age-disaggregated data will be requested as sub-indicators for core indicators 1 and 4, to be used as relevant for each project at the CEO endorsement, mid-term review, and terminal evaluation stages.

GENDER

56. For the LDCF, the 17 projects in this Work Program substantively reflected gender equality considerations in their initial project design. Complying with the GEF Policy on Gender Equality, they specified measures to address gender inequalities and empower women in the projects' components by, among others: i) ensuring women's equal access to land, water, agricultural inputs, and finance (South Sudan); ii) empowering women economically by creating employment opportunities (Benin, Rwanda), targeting women for alternative livelihood and value chain development interventions (Liberia), paying specific attention to women owned and operated businesses (Malawi) and providing training in business management, accounting and marketing for the development of new SMEs run by women (Liberia, Benin, Malawi); and iii) promoting women's participation in leadership positions (Mozambique), including women as key stakeholders in designing policies, plans, strategies and systems to enhance community resilience and food security (Malawi, South Sudan, Benin, Rwanda), and ensuring their participation in farmer field schools (Cambodia and Nepal).

57. Several projects have specified measures to empower women and youth by: engaging the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs to ensure gender mainstreaming throughout the project activities (Ethiopia); creating awareness programs to build resilience and gender-responsive approaches to Nature-based solutions (NbS) for women and youth (Lesotho); and introducing gender-specific agricultural advisories to empower men, women, and youth (South

Sudan); Some projects included aspects of engagement of men and boys to address concepts of masculinity and gender (Mozambique), and strengthening the grievance redress mechanism systems to better capture issues of gender-based violence (GBV) and creating a safe space for women for their economic development (South Sudan).

58. The four SCCF projects in the Work Program will benefit women and children by seeking to bolster and bring robustness in the area of food security and by extension, health and income, to the communities. In Barbados, the project will empower men and women farmers, and enhance trust and collaboration between farmers and other value chain actors. In the Dominican Republic, they will work on women's land tenure and financial inclusion, by specific training programs and the participation of women in decision-making roles within associations and committees and create a resilient livelihood for women beneficiaries. In the Maldives, the project will establish farmers' and fishers' field schools taking into account gender dimensions and organize separate process for men and women to better include their needs.

59. For the SCCF Work Program, the number of women direct beneficiaries lags that of the men direct beneficiaries in three SCCF PIFs. This was due to the fact that the livelihood areas being targeted (fisheries, agriculture) in the participating islands are male-dominated. While this may be the case, the GEF Secretariat is committed to delivering direct adaptation benefits in a balanced manner to both women and men. Therefore, for the three SCCF projects in which the ratio of women to men beneficiaries is low, the agency has been asked to address the gender imbalance by CEO endorsement, by seeking ways to meaningfully deliver direct adaptation benefits to the women and girls of the targeted fishing and agricultural communities.

60. Most projects included measures to ensure gender-sensitive knowledge management and gender-responsive monitoring and evaluation. The projects specified plans to carry out a detailed gender analysis which will serve as a basis to develop gender action plans that will address the gender inequalities through the projects' outputs and activities. The GEF Secretariat has conveyed the importance of developing a gender action plan that is budgeted. It also underscored the need to ensure that the GAP is monitored and reported on. During project development stage, agencies confirmed that they will develop gender-responsive results framework, with gender-sensitive indicators.

LDCF PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

61. **Benin:** *Promoting Social and Ecological Resilience in Land-Water-Food systems in Blue Economy Sectors* (GEF ID 11453); GEF Agency: AfDB; GEF project financing: \$9,781,000; Co-financing: \$41,116,800. The project aims to enhance the resilience of the fisheries sector to climate change by implementing comprehensive adaptive strategies, strengthening institutional capacities, and advancing community-driven approaches. It will catalyze community-centric initiatives, with consideration for enhancing women's roles, harnessing climate-smart innovations and supporting resilient infrastructure, while providing the platform to foster knowledge sharing at the local, national and regional levels. Overall, the project will introduce adaptation measures that will restore and build the resilience of ecosystems affecting fisheries resources, strengthen capacities, and support effective knowledge management, communications and adaptive and resilient management of Benin's fisheries resources. The project will deliver significant adaptation benefits to at least 1.2 million beneficiaries (50 percent female), strengthen the management of 65,000 hectares of coastal and marine areas for climate resilience, enhance the knowledge and capacity of 10,000 people (50 percent female), reinforce eight key policies, plans, frameworks, and institutions for climate adaptation, and engage at least 10 private sector enterprises in climate adaptation efforts.

62. **Burkina Faso:** *Program to Strengthen Smallholder Resilience to Climate Change (RESI-2P)* (GEF ID: 11365); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$105,610,400. The project aims to enhance the adaptive capacity of the agriculture sector in Burkina Faso through innovative agro-ecological adaptation solutions, improved governance, increased investments, and a whole-of-society approach, delivering food security and sustainable livelihoods. The interventions target two impacts which include resilient production systems and strengthening of value addition and market access for products based on sustainable solutions. These two impacts will be delivered in a synergistic manner to create both a "pull" effect from the market asking for more sustainable products and a "push" effect with sustainable products readily available. The total LDCF financing requested by IFAD for Burkina Faso for this project is \$10 million which will leverage an IFAD loan of nearly \$92 million which will run parallel to the LDCF investments for the period of 2024 to 2031. The project will deliver several benefits and co-benefits in terms of increased adaptive capacity, environmental restoration, and social inclusion. It will benefit 109,000 people (45 percent female and 50 percent young people) in 36,556 poor rural households in Burkina Faso. The project investments cover 36 municipalities in two regions, the North and the Centre-West and will also support improved management of 30,802 hectares of agriculture land.

63. **Burundi:** *Scaling up Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience and Land Restoration across Burundi's Fragile Colline Landscapes* (GEF ID 11397); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$18,348,624; Co-financing: \$100,000,000. The objective of the project is to scale-up integrated landscape management and enhance livelihood resilience of fragile communities in target collines (hills) of Burundi. This multisector rural development project focuses on Burundi's most at-risk rural hillsides to address the vulnerability of colline communities influenced by multiple overlapping challenges, including demography, conflict, and national economic fragility. The project will strengthen or establish an enabling

environment for climate resilience, improved integrated management of priority at-risk watersheds, and enhance the livelihood resilience of targeted communities. The project will also support the Government of Burundi to strengthen its capacity to anticipate, monitor, and act on intensifying climate change and land degradation risks while strengthening climate-resilient livelihoods to improve the economic prospects of households in targeted areas. The project will have a strong synergy with other World Bank's cross-sector investments in Burundi and other development partners' projects related to climate resilience and land certification in Burundi. The project is expected to benefit 150,000 people (50 percent female), place 41,000 hectares of land area under improved practices and climate resilient management, develop or strengthen five national policies and plans, and train 18,000 people (50 percent male).

64. **Cambodia:** *Building Climate Resilience of Communities in Cambodia's Protected Landscapes: Biodiversity-Friendly Crop-Livestock Systems for Adaptation* (GEF ID: 11400); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$6,237,138 (LDCF), \$1,782,040 (GEFTF LD); Co-financing: \$21,500,000. The main objective of this MTF project is to strengthen climate resilience of local communities, ecosystems and livelihoods in protected landscapes in a manner compatible with biodiversity conservation goals through an integrated approach. The project will be implemented in two protected areas of Boeung Per Wildlife Sanctuary and Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary within the Northern Tonle Sap basin. The project complements GCF-funded initiative "Public-Social-Private Partnerships for Ecologically-Sound Agriculture and Resilient Livelihood in the Northern Tonle Sap Basin (PEARL)" to strengthen climate resilient management of ecosystems, farmlands, and livestock. The interventions will directly benefit 84,835 people (50 percent female), restore 2,000 hectares of degraded land and bring at least 92,300 hectares of community protected areas under sustainable land management practices.

65. **Central African Republic:** *Livestock Support for Climate Change Adaptation and Enhanced Resilience Project (LISCADERP)* (GEF ID 11423); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$35,450,000. The objective of this project is to strengthen the climate resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral communities by improving agriculture and livestock systems in eight Prefectures in Central African Republic. This will be achieved by enhancing an enabling environment for resilient livestock farming systems; strengthening gender-responsive community resilience by improving the resilience of livestock value chains; and improving gender-responsive financial investment flows to livestock and crop sectors. This project will draw learning on good practice for engaging across government, local communities, and other stakeholders to strengthen the resilience of the livestock sector to climate impacts, in a context of political instability and widespread extreme poverty. An innovative aspect of this project will be to improve the access of local communities, livestock producers and small holder farmers to financial services, capital and accessible credit to enable their transition to more climate resilient practices. The project is expected to benefit 150,000 people (50 percent female), place 41 million hectares of agriculture land under climate resilient management, create two policies and plans, train 18,000 people (50 percent female), and engage six enterprises in adaptation.

66. **Ethiopia:** *Scaling up the Green Legacy Initiative Best Practices to Enhance the Climate Resilience of Smallholder Farmers and Disadvantaged Groups in Ethiopia* (GEF ID 11416); GEF Agency: UNEP; GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$27,500,000. The project aims

to strengthen the climate resilience of Ethiopia's vulnerable communities in midlands and highlands through ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA). It will directly complement the Green Legacy Initiative (GLI) of the Ethiopian government which is aimed at socio-economic uplift of the population through nature-based solutions and the restoration of forest ecosystems. The proposed project will inform Phase 2 of the GLI, thereby ensuring that the socio-economic objectives are achieved under current and future climate conditions. The project will support scaling up climate-resilient GLI best practices, forest and agricultural landscape management for ecological and socioeconomic resilience in Ethiopia's midlands and highlands and climate-resilient agricultural and nature-based livelihoods. It will address both urgent and future adaptation needs of the targeted beneficiaries by combining climate-sensitive restoration and management of upstream forests and agro-ecological landscapes with resilient agricultural and natural resource-based livelihoods downstream. The project will directly contribute to Ethiopia's climate adaptation objectives described in its NDC, and set the country on a path towards building a resilient green economy. The project will be implemented in three regions within six districts (woredas) across 67,200 hectares of Ethiopia's midlands and highlands, benefitting 300,000 people (at least 50 percent female).

67. **Lao PDR:** *Climate Change Adaptation in Lowlands of Lao PDR* (GEF ID 11399); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$4,781,507; Co-financing: \$20,000,000. The project aims to strengthen the climate resilience of lowland communities in the four districts of Sanamxay, B Chiangchaleunsook, Paksong and Pathoomphone given their economic significance to the country while increasingly exposed to climate extremes. Climate-smart and nature-based adaptation approaches in agrifood systems are the central focus of the project. It will collaborate with different stakeholders to promote whole of society approaches. The project draws upon lessons from past GEF LDCF investments and is expected to strengthen collaboration with upcoming GCF investment to scale up and enhance agrometeorological advisories and early warning systems. The project is expected to directly benefit 138,000 people (50 percent women), bring 17,800 hectares of land under climate resilient management, support 21 policies and frameworks to strengthen climate adaptation and train 10,000 people (50 percent women). In addition, the project will engage four private sector enterprises in climate change adaptation action.

68. **Lesotho:** *Nature Based Solutions for Increased Climate Resilience in Vulnerable Rural Communities of Lesotho* (GEF ID 11387); GEF Agency: IUCN; GEF project financing: \$8,974,312; Co-financing: \$65,357,500. Lesotho's economy and livelihood sectors including tourism, forestry, health, industry, ecosystems and urban development are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, leading to the loss of vital ecosystem services, which threatens the survival of poor and rural communities. The project will implement structured nature-based solutions for increased climate change resilience, sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation in vulnerable rural communities of Lesotho. Through the project, existing barriers including weak implementation of policies and legislation, lack of capacities for effective implementation of nature-based solutions (NbS), and weak coordination mechanisms will be addressed by supporting the mainstreaming of NbS into policy and institutions for systemic and transformative uptake in national and community adaptation, mitigation and management of climate change impacts, biodiversity loss and land management. The project

will also support the application of co-designed NbS and related integrated approaches for climate resilience, ecosystems and livelihoods, and sustainable land management. The project will achieve this through deployment of innovative financial instruments with the involvement of communities including youth and women. It is expected to directly benefit 300,000 people (60 percent female), manage 50,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen five climate adaptation related policies, plans and frameworks, and train or raise the awareness of 10,000 people (60 percent female) on climate change adaptation.

69. **Liberia: *Strengthening Agricultural Resilience Through Transformational Livelihood Adaptation (SARTLA)*** (GEF ID 11447); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF project financing: \$9,781,000; Co-financing: \$103,938,106. The objective of the project is to build climate resilience in natural-resource-dependent rural communities of Liberia through systems-based, transformational adaptation in the agricultural, fisheries and ecotourism sectors. Specifically, the project will support the restoration of degraded ecosystems, work closely with local communities to co-develop locally appropriate livelihood options that maximize the productivity of food systems through value chain development interventions, and design and operationalize sustainable, innovative and private sector-driven business and engagement models focused on climate-resilient livelihood improvement under UNDP's existing Growth Accelerator program. The project will deliver adaptation benefits to vulnerable communities in the agriculture and fisheries sectors, targeting 99,460 vulnerable people (56 percent women). The project is also expected to place 3,640 hectares of land under climate resilient management, support the development of three inclusive adaptation policies relevant to the fisheries sectors, train 81,800 people (55 percent women) and engage 30 private enterprises in adaptation.

70. **Malawi: *Championing Local Adaptation for Productive Ecosystems and Enhanced Resilience (CLAP for Resilience)*** (GEF ID 11436); GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$55,400,000. The project aims to support climate change adaptation of communities through integrated watershed-based approaches to rejuvenate agriculture and enhance climate resilient livelihoods in partnership with the private sector. It will focus on the Bua River landscape in the Central Region of Malawi whose communities are among the most vulnerable to climate change impacts. It will strengthen resilience of 105,000 people (56 percent women) and bring over 108,000 hectares of land under climate resilient management by strengthening governance of natural resources for climate resilience at the local level; scaling up climate resilient agriculture practices, protection and restoration work in the Bua River catchments and adjacent riparian areas and wetlands; engaging the private sector to strengthen climate resilient value chains; and supporting participatory planning and a sustainable knowledge management system for durability of project outcomes. It will support the private sector through a dedicated private sector engagement facility under Malawi's Special Climate Change Finance, adopt innovative technologies such as remote sensing and use of integrated climate information services for climate-informed integrated planning, and support policy coherence in management and monitoring of the ecosystem. It will promote a whole-of-society in its focus on institutional strengthening and capacity building efforts at all levels and on building partnerships with local organizations and systems to enhance social equity.

71. **Mozambique:** *Artisanal Fisheries Resilient Development Project (PROPEIXE)* (GEF ID 11419); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF project financing: \$9,781,000; Co-financing: \$54,448,000. The objective of the project is to increase the sustainability and climate resilience of fishery value chains, by upscaling and promoting climate resilient technologies and practices, and restoration of degraded ecosystems, while also supporting diversification of green alternative livelihoods in five coastal provinces of Mozambique. By targeting climate resilient infrastructure, innovative mariculture technologies, improved climate information systems and gender-sensitive climate change adaptation initiatives, LDCF investments will complement IFAD's efforts, creating synergistic impact, and will ensure that climate resilience is integrated into the broader development framework, fostering transformational change in the artisanal fishery sector and enhancing the overall sustainability and adaptive capacity of the communities. The project's focus on climate proofing and greening the fishery value chain, and supporting local MSMEs through a graduation approach based on climate smart fishing practices to improve climate resilience, are innovative. The transformative initiative emphasizes capacity development, research and development and policy development to enhance climate change adaptation in ecosystems. The project is expected to bring positive adaptation benefits to 90,000 vulnerable people (50 percent women), place 2,000 hectares of coastal and marine area under climate resilient management, support the development of 14 inclusive adaptation policies relevant to the fisheries sectors, train 30,000 people (30 percent women) and engage 1,080 private enterprises.

72. **Nepal:** *Climate Resilient Transformation of Rice-Based Farming and Food Systems in Central Nepal (CRAFT Nepal)* (GEF ID 11401); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$10,000,000. The project will promote transformation toward climate-resilient rice-based production landscapes in four districts of Mahottari, Sarlahi, Nuwakot and Parasi in central Nepal. It will address climate change induced problems at the landscape level to transform the rice-based cropping systems from subsistence-based low production to a more commercial model by promoting climate resilient production systems through inclusive, climate resilient value chains and NbS. The project promotes partnerships with all levels of government, farming communities, cooperatives, and private sector actors to enable a whole-of-society approach to improve value addition and supply chain infrastructure for rice-based systems. The project is expected to directly benefit 148,000 people (59 percent female), bring 10,000 hectares of land under climate resilient management, support 22 policies, plans, and frameworks in mainstreaming climate resilience, and train or raise awareness of 4,840 people (79 percent female) on adaptation issues. In addition, 60 private sector enterprises will be engaged in climate change adaptation and resilience actions.

73. **Niger:** *Integrated Management of the Doumeraie of the Goulbi N'kaba Watershed and Adjacent Ecosystems (Maradi region)* (GEF ID 11409); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$48,880,000. The objective of this project is to improve the climate resilience of rural populations through the restoration and integrated management of the Goulbi N'Kaba and adjacent ecosystems. This will be achieved by strengthening governance and integrated planning for climate-resilient development of rural communities; restoring forests and landscapes of rural communities; and strengthening climate resilient agro-sylvo-pastoral livelihoods. A central focus of the project is to ensure that restored ecosystems, the natural

resources base and the communities that depend on them for their lives and livelihoods become more resilient to current and anticipated climate change impacts. A key to this project's success is the communal approach, in which municipalities are both the project owners of the actions and investments planned, as well as responsible for the execution of the activities they will carry out. The project is expected to benefit 301,320 people (50 percent female), place 270,000 hectares of agricultural land under climate resilient management, create or enhance 19 climate-resilience focused policies and plans, train 150,000 people (50 percent female), and engage 150 enterprises in adaptation.

74. **Rwanda:** *Building Community Resilience and Transforming Livelihoods through Systems-Based Adaptation and Integrated Resource Management in Rwanda's Southern Province* (GEF ID 11446), GEF Agency: UNDP; GEF Project Financing: \$18,048,624; Co-financing: \$67,100,000. The project aims to enhance the climate resilience of communities in Rwanda's Southern Province through sustainable livelihoods, integrated land management and improved access to finance. It will introduce an integrated approach to landscape management that will strengthen food and livelihood security under future climate conditions by building resilience across various sectors, landscapes, and value chains. It prioritizes value chain development, market access enhancement and the integration of water management and circular agriculture systems into local-level development plans, supporting national objectives in poverty reduction, sustainable land management and forest resource conservation. The project will also advance green investments and private sector engagement, in line with the country's GEF-8 priorities and NDC. It will be implemented in collaboration with the GCF and will directly contribute to the Long-Term Vision on Complementarity, Coherence and Collaboration between the GCF and GEF. By contributing to GEF-GCF partnerships and streamlining knowledge-sharing and public and private investments, the project is expected to generate long-lasting adaptation outcomes. It is expected to benefit 578,268 people (52 percent female), bring 6,000 hectares of land under resilient management, and directly support at least 25 private sector enterprises.

75. **South Sudan:** *Strengthening Adaptation through Institution Building and Resilient Livelihoods in South Sudanese Agro-pastoral Landscapes (SABRELA)* (GEF ID 11418); GEF Agency: IFAD; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$40,430,000. The objective of the project is to strengthen the agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable communities and improve capacities for natural resources management while enhancing the resilience of the socioecological contexts of selected states in South Sudan. It will focus on improving livelihoods through agriculture, peacebuilding via asset building, and strengthening institutional capacity to improve sustainable management of natural resources. This will be achieved by focusing on strengthening policy and institutional capacities to support the growth and transformation of agro-pastoral systems of vulnerable rural communities. The project will also support a private sector led market system to build absorptive and adaptive capacities of local communities. To enhance community resilience and adaptive capacities, it will also support diversified and gender-responsive climate resilient livelihood opportunities and market driven agro-pastoral strategies including financial service models that are adaptable and tailored to the scales of production of communities to benefit vulnerable households. It will employ NbS to strengthen the adaptive capacities of the socioecological systems - taking advantage of the potential of NbS in providing socioeconomic benefits, while mitigating climate change, preserving

biodiversity, and improving ecosystem resilience. It is expected to directly benefit 20,000 people (50 percent female), manage 20,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, adopt or strengthen three climate adaptation related policies, plans and frameworks, and train or raise the awareness of 2,000 people (50 percent women) on climate change adaptation.

76. **South Sudan:** *Climate Adaptation and Resilience Enhancement for South Sudan (CARES)* (GEF ID 11322); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$8,932,420; Co-financing: \$24,132,520. The complex dynamics between climate change, inadequate resource management, and low agricultural productivity in South Sudan due to recurring droughts, unpredictable rainfall patterns, and flash floods, perpetuate environmental degradation, vulnerability, ecosystem fragility, communal conflicts over access to natural resources, and climate change induced migration. In addressing these challenges, the project will promote climate adaptation in the agricultural sectors by implementing nature-based solutions, integrated land use planning, and climate services to deliver food security and sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable people in areas prone to climate-related risks. The project will also leverage South Sudan's significant agricultural and forestry potential to enhance resilience and promote sustainable development by balancing the needs of farmers, pastoralists, and ecological preservation. It will achieve its aim through capacity building, policy enhancements, multi-stakeholder dialogues, and innovative solutions, and improve financial access in a conflict-sensitive manner to enhance resilience to climate change impacts and pressing societal challenges such as human health, food and water security, and disaster risk reduction. The project will further empower women across the agricultural value chain using gender-sensitive approaches such as inclusive access to land, water, agricultural inputs, and finance. It is expected to directly benefit 220,000 people (50 percent female); place 1,000 hectares of land under climate resilient management; adopt or strengthen four climate adaptation related policies, plans and frameworks; train or raise the awareness of 120,000 people (50 percent female) on climate change adaptation; and engage four private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

77. **Zambia:** *Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia* (GEF ID 11396); GEF Agency: World Bank; GEF project financing: \$7,235,114 (LDCF), \$1,903,881 (GEFTF BD), \$1,088,626 (GEFTF LD); Co-financing: \$87,200,000. The main objective of the project is to sustainably restore and manage the Miombo forest ecosystems and agro-pastoral landscapes and enhance resilience of the vulnerable communities through the integration of adaptation considerations in land use planning and sustainable management of natural resources. The project's focus is in the Copperbelt, Central and Muchinga Provinces of Zambia where communities are highly vulnerable and ecosystem degradation is high. With co-finance from the World Bank's "Transforming Landscapes for Resilience and Development (TRALARD)" project, it will strengthen the policy, legal and institutional environment for land rehabilitation, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation, promote an integrated landscape approach for sustainable ecosystem management practices and biodiversity conservation, and introduce community-based adaptation solutions including resilient livelihoods and climate risk insurance products for smallholders. The proposed multi-trust fund project will deliver multiple adaptation and global environmental benefits which include improved climate adaptation of

100,000 people, 629,400 hectares of land under improved management, and reduction of 1.2 million tCO₂e of greenhouse gas emissions.

SCCF PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

78. **Barbados:** *Accelerating Transition to Climate-resilient Agrifood Systems (BATCRAS)* (GEF ID 11270); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$2,627,226 (SCCF-A), \$875,742 (GEFTF); Co-financing: \$15,000,002. Effective climate change adaptation in the agriculture sector is inefficient, making Barbadian farmers vulnerable due to lack of knowledge and skills to adopt climate-resilient practices and technologies, as well as inadequate soil, water and nutrient management practices and low access to finance. To accelerate the transition to climate-resilient and low-emission gender-sensitive agrifood systems and strengthen the adaptive capacity of farmers in Barbados, the project aims to support climate-resilient and low emission, gender-sensitive food production, including increasing the climate-responsiveness of decision making. The project will achieve this by (i) increasing availability and use of agrometeorological data in decision making, (ii) providing hands-on gender-sensitive training programmes, including demonstrations of climate-resilient and low-emission practices and technologies that increase water and land productivity; (iii) strengthening organizational capacity of farmer associations to drive climate resilience; and (iv) establishing a framework for upscaling of climate-resilient and low-emission gender-sensitive technologies for food production through local businesses, commercial banks and other private sector entities. The project is expected to directly benefit 3,052 people (30 percent female), manage 4,000 hectares of land under climate resilience practices, train 2,180 people (30 percent women) about climate change adaptation, and engage 10 private enterprises in climate change adaptation and resilience.

79. **Dominican Republic:** *Land Degradation Neutrality for Increased Resilience to Climate Change* (GEF ID 11402); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$4,416,212 (SCCF-A: \$2,649,727; GEF Trust Fund: \$1,766,485); Co-financing: \$15,156,920. This project seeks to apply land degradation neutrality related and climate change adaptation approaches to build climate resilience of the food and agriculture sector for vulnerable communities of the Dominican Republic, a Caribbean SIDS. The Dominican Republic faces a range of climate change-induced threats, including sea-level rise, storm surges, flooding, and saltwater intrusion, which intensify existing stresses contributing to land degradation and disrupting livelihoods. Climate projections include reductions in annual precipitation and severe droughts, which will pose challenges to crop zones, damage infrastructure, and increase economic pressures as well as municipal management challenges. This multi-trust fund project will draw on SCCF-A and GEF Trust Fund Land Degradation resources to support a range of investment, policy and capacity interventions to build resilience. Actions include decision support systems, land restoration with endemic species, silvopasture, drought and flood risk management, drought and flood early warning systems, and agricultural value chain diversification and improvement. The project will deliver climate resilience benefits to 19,732 people (50 percent female), improve the climate resilient management of 113,346 hectares of land, mainstream climate resilience in two policies, and train 1,500 people on climate risks and adaptation. It will also restore 1,960 hectares of forest and improve the sustainable land management of 15,700 hectares.

80. **Maldives: A Holistic Approach to Food Systems Resilience and Adaptation** (GEF ID 11411); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$2,639,726; Co-financing: \$3,000,000. With a maximum elevation of below 1.5 meters above sea level, the Maldives is highly vulnerable to sea level rise, storm surge, erratic rainfall, higher temperatures, saltwater intrusion and other adverse impacts of climate change. This SCCF-A project will support food security by building climate resilience in agriculture and fisheries on the following southern atolls: Laamu, Gaafu Alifu, Gaafu Dhaalu, Gnaviyani and Seenu. It will support integrated food system approaches as well as “whole of society” and “whole island” approaches to improve food security in the face of climate change, by working with nature and addressing both environmental and health dimensions. It will mainstream climate resilience in agriculture and fisheries policies and plans; strengthen food-system-related micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprises; enhance tourism-sector related food supply chains; land use zoning; and establish farmers’ and fishers’ field schools, to define and promote climate-smart options for food production, farming, and fisheries. The project will directly benefit 5,751 people (30 percent female), place 6,874 hectares of coastal and marine land under climate-resilient management, mainstream climate resilience in 11 policies and plans, train 4,026 people in identifying climate risks (35 percent female) and implementing adaptation measures, and engage 5 enterprises in climate resilient action. The high ration of male beneficiaries is owing to the fact that in the Maldives, fisherfolk are predominantly men.

81. **Regional (Caribbean – Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago): Climate Change Resilience in the Caribbean Fisheries Sector (CCAFISH-II)** (GEF ID 11412); GEF Agency: FAO; GEF project financing: \$12,545,661; Co-financing: \$85,750,000. This project targets vulnerable small-fisherfolk communities of five Caribbean small island states. Climate change is exacerbating threats such as sea surface temperature, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and extreme climatic events such as hurricanes and precipitation anomalies. The region has weak human and institutional capacity to cope with climatic hazards in the fisheries sector, and a weak enabling environment to mainstream climate resilience or NbS solutions in fisheries. The project will strengthen regional and national enabling environments to support the adoption of climate- and disaster-resilient technologies and practices, by: (1) building climate- and disaster-resilient value chains; (2) enhancing the delivery of ecosystem services, and climate resilience measures; (3) strengthen the enabling environment and mainstreaming of climate change adaptation in the fisheries sector; and (4) supporting knowledge management, resource mobilization and scale-up in the region. Together, these measures are expected to catalyze transformation, enable ecosystem-based adaptation; improve socio-ecological system resilience, and generate sustainable fisheries livelihoods for all actors along the fisheries value chains, with better capacity to prepare for and respond to shocks and stressors supported by adaptive social protection. The project is expected to directly benefit 21,825 people (29 percent female, due to the high ratio of male fisherfolk), place 1,810,370 hectares of coastal and marine area under climate resilient management, and train 21,825 people on climate risk identification and adaptation measures. It contributes to several regional and national priorities and environmental commitments.

ANNEX A: PROJECT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR LDCF/SCCF COUNCIL APPROVAL

PROJECT AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL

Under the LDCF

February 8, 2024

No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Funding Source	Country	Agency	PPG	PPG Fee	GEF Project	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
						Amount		Financing			
in US \$											
Stand-Alone Full-sized Projects											
<i>Climate Change</i>											
1	11453	Promoting social and ecological resilience in land-water-food systems in blue economy sectors in Benin	LDCF	Benin	AfDB	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	41,116,800	51,116,800
2	11447	Strengthening agricultural resilience through transformational livelihood adaptation in Liberia (SARTLA)	LDCF	Liberia	UNDP	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	103,938,106	113,938,106
3	11446	Building Community Resilience and Transforming Livelihoods through Systems-based Adaptation and Integrated Resource Management in Rwanda's Southern Province	LDCF	Rwanda	UNDP	300,000	27,000	18,048,624	1,624,376	67,100,000	87,100,000
4	11436	Championing Local Adaptation for Productive Ecosystems and Enhanced Resilience (CLAP for Resilience)	LDCF	Malawi	UNDP	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	55,400,000	65,400,000

No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Funding Source	Country	Agency	PPG	PPG Fee	GEF Project	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
						Amount		Financing			
in US \$											
5	11433	Livestock Support for Climate Change Adaptation and Enhanced Resilience Project (LISCADERP) in Central African Republic	LDCF	Central African Republic	IFAD	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	35,450,000	45,450,000
6	11419	Artisanal Fisheries Resilient Development Project (PROPEIXE)	LDCF	Mozambique	IFAD	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	54,448,000	64,448,000
7	11418	Strengthening Adaptation through Institutional Building and Resilient Livelihoods in South Sudanese Agro-pastoral Landscapes (SABRELA)	LDCF	South Sudan	IFAD	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	40,430,000	50,430,000
8	11416	Scaling up the Green Legacy Initiative best practices to enhance the climate resilience of smallholder farmers and disadvantaged groups in Ethiopia	LDCF	Ethiopia	UNEP	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	27,500,000	37,500,000
9	11409	Integrated management of the doumeraie of the Goulbi N'kaba watershed and adjacent ecosystems (Maradi Region)	LDCF	Niger	FAO	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	48,880,000	58,880,000
10	11401	Climate Resilient Transformation of Rice-based Farming and Food Systems in Central Nepal (CRAFT Nepal)	LDCF	Nepal	FAO	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	10,000,000	20,000,000

No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Funding Source	Country	Agency	PPG	PPG Fee	GEF Project	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
						Amount		Financing			
in US \$											
11	11399	Climate Change Adaptation in Lowlands of Lao PDR	LDCF	Lao PDR	FAO	150,000	14,250	4,781,507	454,243	20,000,000	25,400,000
12	11397	Scaling up Nature-Based Solutions for Climate Resilience and Land Restoration across Burundi's fragile colline landscapes	LDCF	Burundi	World Bank	-	-	18,348,624	1,651,376	100,000,000	120,000,000
13	11387	Nature based solutions for increased climate resilience in Vulnerable Rural communities of Lesotho	LDCF	Lesotho	IUCN	200,000	18,000	8,974,312	807,688	65,357,500	75,357,500
14	11365	Program to strengthen smallholder resilience to climate change (RESI-2P)	LDCF	Burkina Faso	IFAD	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	105,610,400	115,610,400
15	11322	Climate Adaptation and Resilience Enhancement for South Sudan (CARES)	LDCF	South Sudan	FAO	200,000	19,000	8,932,420	848,580	24,132,520	34,132,520
Standalone LDCF sub-total						2,850,000	268,250	148,409,687	13,872,063	799,363,326	964,763,326
Multi-Trust Fund*											
16	11396	Sustainable Management of Ecosystems in Miombo Ecoregions of Zambia	LDCF	Zambia	World Bank	104,336	9,390	7,235,114	651,160	60,809,173	68,809,173

No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Funding Source	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
									in US \$		
17	11400	Building climate resilience of communities in Cambodia's protected landscapes: biodiversity-friendly crop-livestock systems for adaptation	LDCF	Cambodia	FAO	155,556	14,778	6,237,138	592,528	20,000,000	27,000,000
CCA- Sub-Total for MTFs						259,892	24,168	13,472,252	1,243,688	80,809,173	95,809,173
GRAND TOTAL						3,109,892	292,418	161,881,939	15,115,751	880,172,499	1,060,572,499

** For Multi-Trust Fund projects, only LDCF allocation is included in this Annex, the SCCF and GEFTF allocation is included in the SCCF and GEFTF Annex A accordingly.*

PROJECT AND PROGRAM PROPOSALS SUBMITTED FOR GEF COUNCIL APPROVAL
Under the SCCF
February 8, 2024

No.	GEF ID	Project Title	Funding Source	Country	Agency	PPG Amount	PPG Fee	GEF Project Financing	Agency Fee	Co-financing	Total Project Cost
in US \$											
Stand-Alone Full-sized Projects											
<i>Climate Change</i>											
1	11412	Climate Change Resilience in the Caribbean Fisheries Sector (CC4FISH-II)	SCCF	Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago	FAO	300,000	26,350	12,545,661	1,127,989	85,750,000	99,750,000
2	11411	A Holistic Approach to Food Systems Resilience and Adaptation in Maldives	SCCF	Maldives	FAO	100,000	9,500	2,639,726	250,774	3,000,000	6,000,000
Standalone SCCF Sub-Total						400,000	35,850	15,185,387	1,378,763	88,750,000	105,750,000
Multi-Trust Fund*											
3	11270	Barbados - Accelerating transition to climate-resilient agrifood systems (BATCRAS)	SCCF	Barbados	FAO	112,500	10,688	2,627,226	249,586	15,000,002	18,000,002
4	11402	Land Degradation Neutrality for Increased Resilience to Climate Change in Dominican Republic	SCCF	Dominican Republic	FAO	90,000	8,550	2,649,727	251,723	11,201,914	14,201,914
MTF - Sub-Total						202,500	19,238	5,276,953	501,309	26,201,916	32,201,916
GRAND TOTAL						602,500	55,088	20,462,340	1,880,072	114,951,916	137,951,916

** For Multi-Trust Fund projects, only LDCF allocation is included in this Annex, the SCCF and GEFTF allocation is included in the SCCF and GEFTF Annex A accordingly.*