



GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/04

May 21, 2024

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36<sup>th</sup> LDCF/SCCF Council Meeting  
June 19-20, 2024  
Washington D.C.

Agenda Item 04

## **FY23 ANNUAL MONITORING REVIEW OF THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FUND AND THE SPECIAL CLIMATE CHANGE FUND**

**Recommended Council Decision**

The LDCF/SCCF Council, having considered document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/04, *FY23 Annual Monitoring Review of the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund*, welcomes the review and appreciates the progress made in reporting portfolio-level performance, results, and lessons learned under the LDCF and the SCCF.

The Council welcomes the overall finding that the LDCF and SCCF portfolio under implementation in FY23 performed satisfactorily.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This Annual Monitoring Review (AMR) describes the performance and results of, and the lessons learned from, the portfolio of projects and programs financed under the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). The cohort of projects included in this AMR includes those that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and that were under implementation during at least part of the fiscal year 2023 (FY23), which is from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The review further provides a summary of cumulative results achieved at the portfolio level since the inception of the two funds. Information on management effectiveness and efficiency as it relates to the LDCF and the SCCF is also discussed.

2. The GEF Secretariat received 70 project implementation reports (PIRs) from 88 LDCF projects that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and were under implementation during at least part of FY23. In addition, the GEF Secretariat received six mid-term reviews (MTRs) and eight Terminal Evaluations (TEs) conducted during the reporting period. Total LDCF project financing<sup>1</sup> commitments towards the active portfolio amounted to \$397.9 million as of June 30, 2023, with \$2,022.8 million in confirmed co-financing. Of the LDCF project financing that had been committed, \$202.8 million or 51 percent, had been disbursed by the 70 projects.

3. Fifty-nine LDCF projects under implementation, or 86 percent of the active cohort, were rated moderately satisfactory (MS) or higher in terms of their progress toward development objectives (DO). Fifty-six projects, or 70 percent, were also rated MS or higher in their implementation progress (IP).

4. As of June 30, 2023, the active LDCF portfolio had already reached more than 2.5 million direct beneficiaries, brought around 318,000 hectares of land under more climate-resilient management, and trained more than 168,000 people in various aspects of climate change adaptation. Cumulative on-the-ground results achieved under the LDCF portfolio, including projects completed before FY23, comprised more than 19.7 million direct beneficiaries, 2.9 million hectares of land under more climate-resilient management, and 727,000 people who were trained on various aspects of climate change adaptation.

5. The GEF Secretariat received 20 project implementation reports (PIRs) from 23 SCCF projects that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and were under implementation during at least part of FY23. In addition, the GEF Secretariat received one MTR and two TEs conducted during the reporting period. In FY23, the cohort of SCCF projects achieved high implementation performance—100 percent and 90 percent received DO and IP ratings of MS or higher, respectively. The total SCCF project financing committed towards the active portfolio amounted to \$77.2 million,<sup>2</sup> with confirmed co-financing amounting to \$489.4 million.

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<sup>1</sup> GEF project financing excludes project preparation grants and Agency fees.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Of the SCCF project financing that had been committed, \$51.1 million, or 66 percent, had been disbursed by the 20 projects in the active portfolio.

6. Under the SCCF, projects under implementation had reached more than 831,000 direct beneficiaries, brought over 426,000 hectares of land under more climate-resilient management, and trained 28,000 people in various aspects of climate change adaptation. Cumulative on-the-ground results achieved under the SCCF portfolio, including projects completed before FY23, comprised over 7.2 million direct beneficiaries, 6.8 million hectares of land better management to withstand the effects of climate change, and over 139,000 people who were trained.

7. This review also provides a qualitative analysis of the active portfolio of LDCF and SCCF projects, identifying key success factors and challenges behind project performance and exploring stakeholder engagement.

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## INTRODUCTION

1. This review describes the performance, results, and lessons learned from the portfolio of projects and programs financed under the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) that began implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and that were under implementation during at least part of the fiscal year 2023 (FY23) (from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023). Key data from the active portfolio of the two funds analyzed in this review are presented in Table 1.<sup>3</sup> The review further provides information on management effectiveness and efficiency as it relates to the LDCF and the SCCF.

**Table 1: The LDCF and the SCCF Active Portfolio at a Glance as of June 30, 2023**

	LDCF	SCCF	Total
<b>Active portfolio in FY23: Projects that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and were under implementation during at least a part of FY23</b>			
Total GEF project financing committed towards active portfolio (US\$) <sup>4</sup>	\$397,877,666	\$77,225,925	\$475,103,591
Total cumulative disbursements from GEF Agencies to projects and programs (project grants, excluding Agency fees and PPG) (US\$)	\$202,786,213	\$51,096,722	\$253,882,935
Total confirmed co-financing (US\$)	\$2,022,813,616	\$489,380,718	\$2,478,376,528
Number of projects analyzed*	70	20	87
Number of countries	36	9	45

\* Three LDCF-SCCF multi-trust fund projects. Five projects are multi-trust fund projects with the GEF Trust Fund.

## PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

2. This section provides a quantitative overview of the portfolio of projects and programs that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and that were under implementation during at least a part of FY23. For a summary of the total cumulative funding approvals under the LDCF and the SCCF and expected portfolio-wide results, please refer to the Progress Report of the LDCF and SCCF.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> This analysis only includes projects for which implementation documentation has been submitted to the GEF Secretariat in the reporting period.

<sup>4</sup> Project Financing refers to 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 Project Preparation Grants.

<sup>5</sup> GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the LDCF and the SCCF](#), Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/05.



## Least Developed Countries Fund

3. The GEF Secretariat received 70 project implementation reports (PIRs) from 88 LDCF projects that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and were under implementation during at least part of FY23.<sup>6</sup> The approval dates of these projects ranged from November 2012 to August 2020, covering GEF-5 to GEF-7 periods. In addition, the GEF Secretariat received six mid-term reviews (MTRs) and eight Terminal Evaluations (TEs) conducted during the reporting period.

4. The active portfolio includes 63 Full-Sized Projects (FSPs) and seven Medium-Sized Projects (MSPs). Of the 70 projects reviewed, 16 had completed their first full year of implementation as of June 30, 2023; 11 had completed their second year; while 43 projects were in more advanced stages of implementation. Annex I provides a list of LDCF project reports received by the GEF Secretariat for analysis, including their ratings.

5. Total LDCF project financing commitments towards the active portfolio amounted to \$397.9 million as of June 30, 2023, with \$2,022.8 million in confirmed co-financing. Of the LDCF project financing that had been committed, \$202.8 million, or 51 percent, had been disbursed by the 70 projects. Funding commitments and disbursements are also summarized in Table 1. Seven projects reported on the total co-financing materialized at the TE stage, while one project did not include this information. Total co-financing materialized at the TE stage for these seven projects that included co-financing information was \$194.4 million, or 75 percent of the amount that has been envisioned at the CEO endorsement stage.

### *Regional Distribution of LDCF Projects under Implementation*

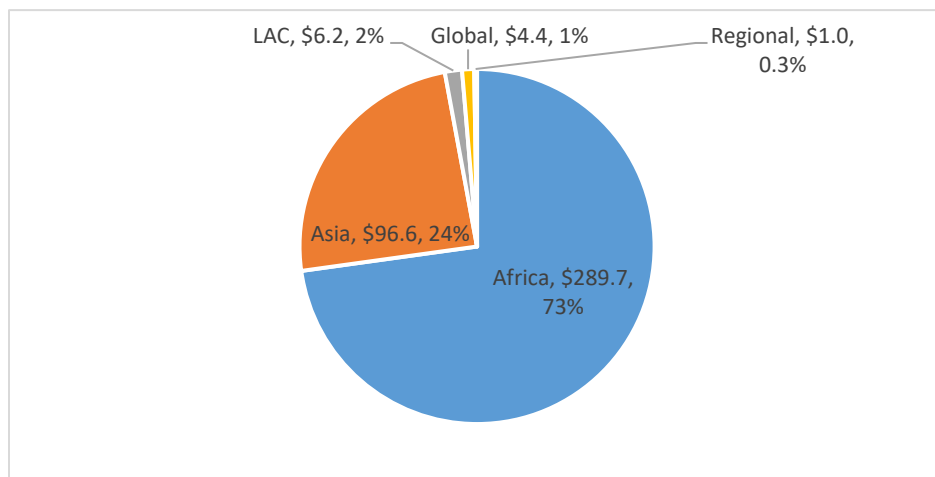
6. As of June 30, 2023, 73 percent of LDCF funding for projects under implementation had been committed towards projects in the least developed countries (LDCs) in Africa, while 24 percent had been committed towards LDCs in Asia and the Pacific, and 2 percent to Latin America and the Caribbean, which is Haiti (see Figure 1). The active LDCF portfolio includes 12 projects in eight small island developing States (SIDS) that are also LDCs, with funding commitments amounting to \$70.9 million, or 18 percent of the active portfolio.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> This analysis only includes projects for which implementation documentation has been submitted to the GEF Secretariat in the reporting period.

<sup>7</sup> The SIDS included in this year's analysis are Comoros, Haiti, Guinea-Bissau, Kiribati, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste and Tuvalu.

**Figure 1: Regional Distribution of LDCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023  
(\$ Million and Share)**



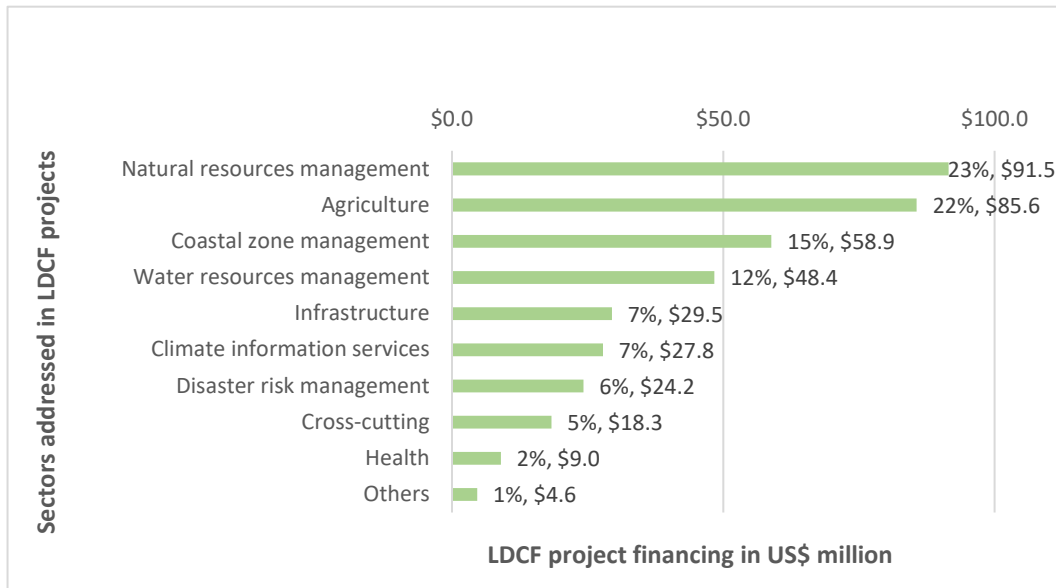
*Distribution of LDCF Projects under Implementation by Sector*

7. The GEF, through the LDCF, supports LDCs in addressing their urgent and immediate adaptation needs across all vulnerable sectors. Figure 2 presents the distribution of sectors primarily addressed by LDCF projects under implementation. Consistent with the priorities identified in LDCs’ National Adaptation Programs of Action (NAPA) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), 23 percent of projects in the active LDCF portfolio were primarily working towards natural resources management, to reduce the vulnerability of agricultural production and food systems. Agriculture received 22 percent of funding commitments, followed by coastal-zone management and water resources management, each receiving 15 percent and 12 percent.

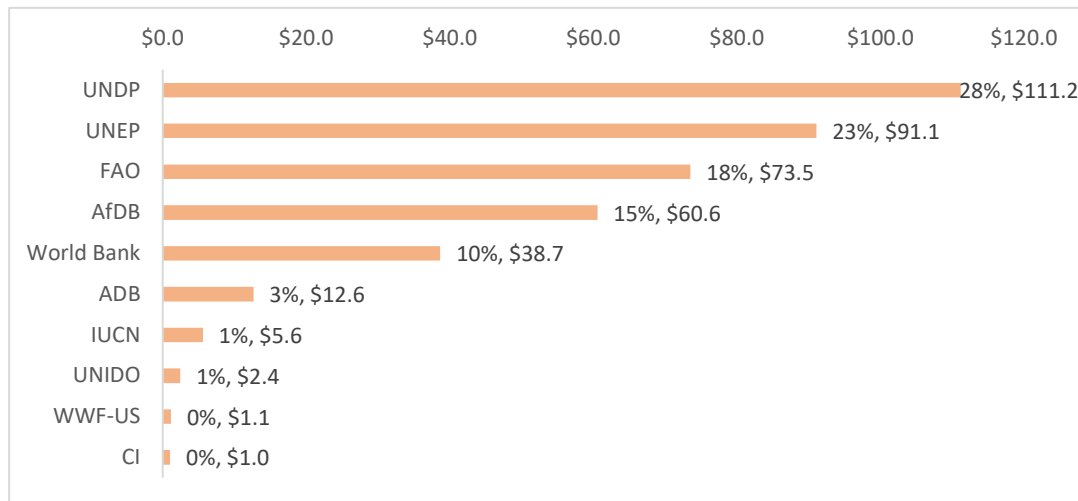
*Distribution of LDCF Projects under Implementation by GEF Agency*

8. As of June 30, 2022, ten GEF Agencies were involved in LDCF projects under implementation, with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) holding the largest share of the active portfolio at \$111.2 million or 28 percent of total funding commitments of \$397.9 million in project financing. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) had the second largest share at \$91.1 million or 23 percent of total funding commitments, followed by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), as shown in Figure 3. This distribution is based on 70 projects for which project monitoring documentation has been submitted to the GEF Secretariat during the reporting period.

**Figure 2: Distribution of LDCF Projects under Implementation by Sector as of June 30, 2023 (\$ Million and Share)**



**Figure 3: Distribution of LDCF Projects under Implementation by Lead GEF Agency as of June 30, 2023 (\$ Million and Share by Agency)**



*Performance Ratings of LDCF Projects under Implementation*

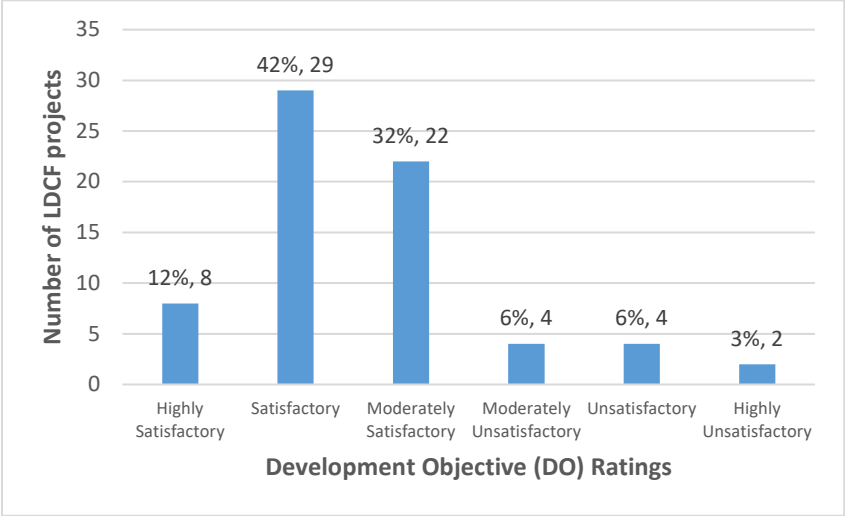
9. Fifty-nine LDCF projects under implementation, or 86 percent of the projects under implementation for which performance ratings were received, were rated moderately

satisfactory (MS) or higher in terms of their progress towards development objectives (DO).<sup>8</sup> Fifty-six projects, or 70 percent, were also rated MS or higher in their implementation progress (IP) (see Figures 4 and 5). IP ratings are based on progress made during a given reporting period, whereas DO ratings are based on the likelihood that a project will achieve its stated objectives by the end of implementation.

10. Six projects received both DO and IP ratings of Unsatisfactory (U) or lower. One project had an unsatisfactory IP rating and a satisfactory DO rating. The challenges concerning the projects which received DO and IP ratings of U or lower are summarized in the section on Success Factors, Challenges, and Lessons Learned. The GEF Secretariat is following up individually with the Agencies and/or countries on the concerned projects to better-understand the context and mitigation measures.

11. Figure 6 presents the percentage of LDCF projects rated MS or above in their DO and IP ratings by the lead Agency. All Agencies, except UNDP, UNEP and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) reported in achieving MS or above in 80 percent of their portfolio for both DO and IP ratings, with six Agencies reporting achieving MS or above in 100 percent of their projects. It should be also noted that Agencies may use different methodologies and levels of candor or stringency in applying project ratings.<sup>9</sup> This is the case of UNDP, which has made substantial changes to its annual reporting in 2017, resulting in a smaller share of projects rated in the satisfactory range.<sup>10</sup>

**Figure 4: Development Objectives Ratings of LDCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023 (Number of Projects and Share)**

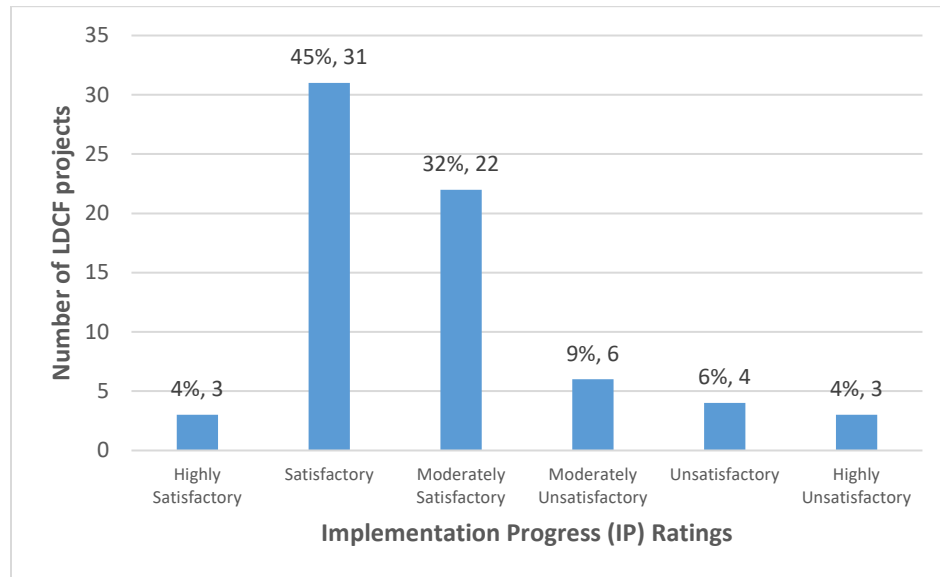


<sup>8</sup> Classification of ratings: Highly Satisfactory (HS), Satisfactory (S), Moderately Satisfactory (MS), Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU), Unsatisfactory (U), Highly Unsatisfactory (HU).

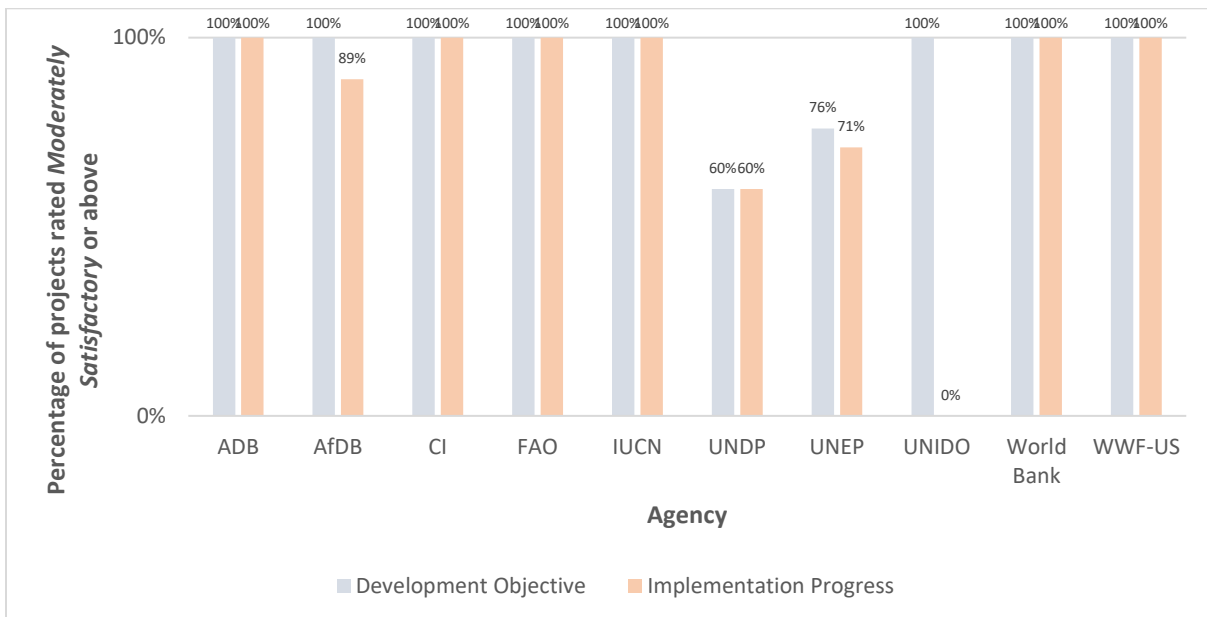
<sup>9</sup> GEF, 2022, [The GEF Monitoring Report 2022](#). Council document GEF/C.63/03.

<sup>10</sup> GEF, 2022, [The GEF Monitoring Report 2022](#). Council document GEF/C.63/03.

**Figure 5: Implementation Progress Ratings of LDCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023 (Number of Projects and Share)**



**Figure 6: Percentage of LDCF Projects under Implementation with Performance Ratings of Moderately Satisfactory or Above by Agency as of June 30, 2023**



\*: UNIDO had one rated project of which the IP rating was MU due to a delay deriving from COVID-19.

12. The trend analysis of DO and IP ratings rated MS or higher for the recent years is summarized in Table 2. DO and IP ratings at 86 percent and 70 percent respectively have experienced an increase of five percent and a reduction of four percent in FY23 from FY22. In

comparison, the FY23 DO and IP ratings for the GEF Trust Fund portfolio were at 87 percent and 82 percent.<sup>11</sup> The lower IP ratings of the LDCF projects may be attributed to the fact that LDCF projects tend to be implemented in more challenging environments in general and with limited capacity to address COVID constraints, compared to the GEF Trust Fund portfolio. Specifically, reasons provided for low IP ratings included election and subsequent government structure change, project under suspension limiting progress, and ongoing conflict within the country, as well as limited government capacity.

**Table 2: Trend Analysis of Percentage of LDCF Projects under Implementation with Performance Ratings of Moderately Satisfactory or Above**

	FY21 Reference	FY22 Reference	FY23 Average
Projects rated in the satisfactory range for Development Outcome (%)	82% ●	81% ●	86% ●
Projects rated in the satisfactory range for Implementation Progress (%)	81% ●	74% ●	70% ●

● Above 80% of the project portfolio ● From 60% to 80% of the project portfolio  
● Below 60% of the project portfolio ● Data not available

### Results Achieved under the LDCF

13. Results achieved under the active LDCF portfolio as of June 2023 are summarized in Table 3. The summary is framed around the GEF-7 strategic objectives and Core Indicators introduced as part of the updated results framework for adaptation to climate change for 2018 to 2022.<sup>12, 13, 14</sup> While Core Indicators in the updated results framework are compatible with the previous results-based management system indicators, the framework further enables to report on sex-disaggregated results. At the request of the LDCF/SCCF Council at its 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in May 2014, the table also provides the total cumulative results achieved under the LDCF, including for projects that were completed before June 30, 2022.

14. As of June 30, 2023, the projects contained in the active portfolio had already reached approximately 2.5 million direct beneficiaries and trained more than 168,000 people in various aspects of climate change adaptation. Fifty percent and 49 percent were female among those

<sup>11</sup> GEF, 2024, [The GEF Monitoring Report 2023](#). Council document GEF/C.66/03.

<sup>12</sup> GEF, 2018, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and Operational Improvements July 2018 to June 2022](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.24/03.

<sup>13</sup> GEF, 2018, [Updated Results Architecture for Adaptation to Climate Change under the LDCF and the SCCF](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.25/05.

<sup>14</sup> GEF, 2019, [GEF Climate Change Adaptation Results Framework](#).

projects that reported on sex-disaggregated results for number of direct beneficiaries and number of people trained, respectively. In addition, an estimated 317,540 hectares of land had also been brought under more resilient management. Moreover, over 295 policies and plans have been strengthened or developed, such as the development of the local planning and budgeting guides, to better address climate change risks and adaptation.

**Table 3: Portfolio-Level Results under the LDCF as of June 30, 2023**

	Cumulative results (incl. projects completed before FY23)	Results from active portfolio	No. of projects in active portfolio	No. of countries in active portfolio
Core Indicator 1:				
No. of direct beneficiaries / female ratio (%)*	19,739,145 / 50%	2,521,634 / 50%	37	22
Core Indicator 2:				
Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	2,890,726	317,540	24	15
Core Indicator 3:				
No. of policies/plans that will mainstream climate resilience	2,348	295	20	14
Core Indicator 4:				
No. of people trained / female ratio (%)*	726,843 / 49%	168,860 / 49%	38	21

\*: calculated from the projects that reported on the female ratio per updated results framework for adaptation to climate change for 2018 to 2022.

15. In FY23, eight TEs and six MTRs were submitted along with trackable achievements in climate adaptation indicators. Tables 4 summarize the results achieved at the MTR and TE stages, respectively, for indicators that are compatible with GEF-7 Core Indicators,<sup>15, 16, 17</sup> by comparing the target set at the CEO Approval or Endorsement stages.

16. Overall, the data indicates that good progress is recorded at both MTR and TE stages for the majority of Core Indicators, as shown in Table 4. In particular, at the TE stage, the result achievement ratio of the active projects exceeded the targets set at the approval/endorsement stage for two Core Indicators, namely number of policies/plans that will mainstream climate

<sup>15</sup> GEF, 2018, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and Operational Improvements July 2018 to June 2022](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.24/03.

<sup>16</sup> GEF, 2018, [Updated Results Architecture for Adaptation to Climate Change under the LDCF and the SCCF](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.25/05.

<sup>17</sup> GEF, 2019, [GEF Climate Change Adaptation Results Framework](#).

resilience (Core Indicator 3) and number of people trained (Core Indicator 4). While the achievement ratios of the number of direct beneficiaries (Core Indicator 1), areas of land managed for climate resilience (Core Indicator 2) and policy and plans that will mainstream climate resilience (Core Indicator 3) were below 50 percent at the MTR stage, achievement ratios of Core Indicator 1 and 3 were above 100 percent at the TE stage. Core indicator 2 did not reach 100 percent, impacted by a number of factors including conflict that arose when applying a new land management approach.

**Table 4: Average Result Achievement of LDCF Projects at MTR and TE Stages in the Reporting Period**

	<b>Achieved Results at Mid-Term Review against Expected Results</b>	<b>Achieved Results at Terminal Evaluation against Expected Results</b>
Core Indicator 1: No. of direct beneficiaries	10%	> 100%
Core Indicator 2: Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	74%	92%
Core Indicator 3: No. of policies/plans that will mainstream climate resilience	5%	>100%
Core Indicator 4: No. of people trained	>100%	>100%

### Special Climate Change Fund

17. The GEF Secretariat received 20 PIRs from 23 SCCF projects that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and were under implementation during at least part of FY23.<sup>18</sup> The approval dates of these projects ranged from November 2012 to August 2020, from GEF-5 to GEF-7 periods. GEF Secretariat also received two TEs and one MTR.

18. Thirteen projects under the active portfolio were FSPs, while seven were MSPs. Of the 20 projects reviewed, five had completed their first full year of implementation, one had completed its second year, while 14 projects were in more advanced stages of implementation. Annex II provides a list of the reports received for the active SCCF portfolio.

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<sup>18</sup> This analysis only includes projects for which implementation documentation has been submitted to the GEF Secretariat in the reporting period.



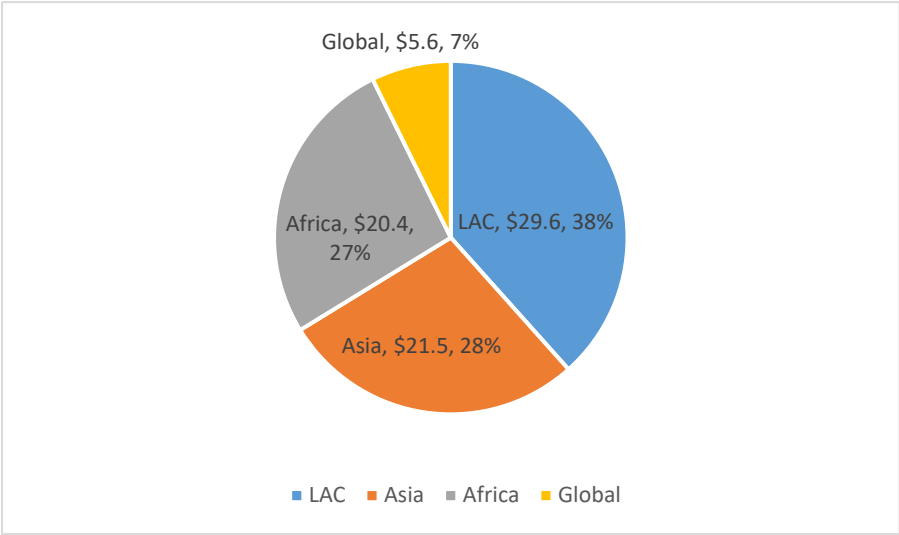
19. Overall, this year’s cohort of SCCF projects showed high levels of achievement, as evidenced by high performance ratings and significant co-financing. This is consistent with the high portfolio performance ratings as reported in recent AMRs.

20. Total SCCF project financing commitments for the active portfolio amounted to \$77.2 million as of June 30, 2023, with \$489.4 million in confirmed co-financing. Of the SCCF project financing that had been committed, \$51.1 million, or 54 percent, had been disbursed by the 20 projects in the active portfolio. Funding commitments and disbursements are summarized in Table 1. Total co-financing materialized at the TE stage was \$25.9 million, or 55 percent more than what has been envisioned at the CEO endorsement stage.

*Regional Distribution of SCCF Projects under Implementation*

21. As of June 30, 2023, the regional distribution of SCCF resources allocated to the active portfolio was balanced among three regions. Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), Africa and Asia and the Pacific received about 38, 28 and 27 percent of funding commitments, respectively. Global projects received about seven percent, as shown in Figure 7. SIDS benefited from \$5.0 million in funding commitments, or approximately six percent of the active portfolio.

**Figure 7: Regional Distribution of SCCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023 (\$ Million and Share)**

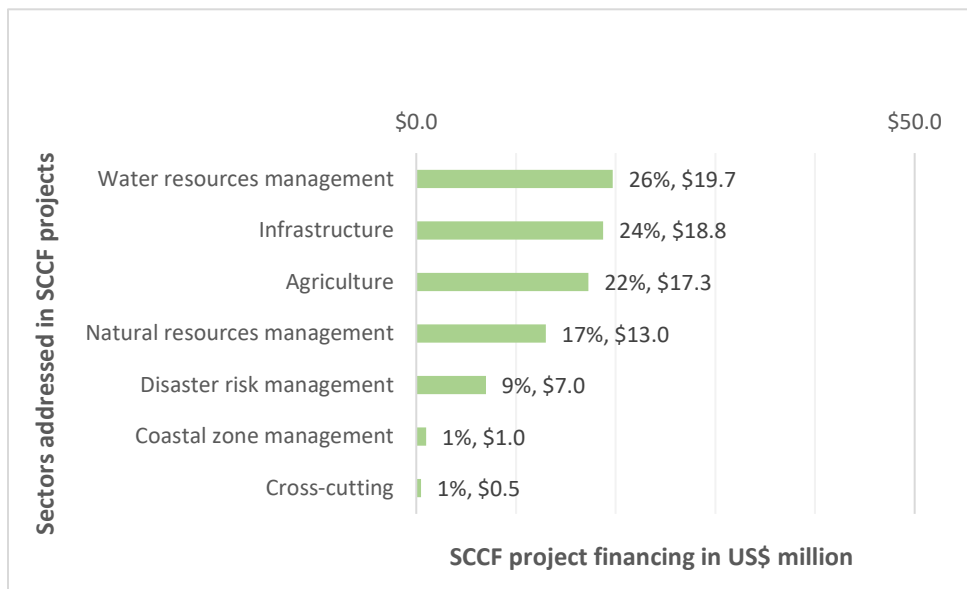


*Distribution of SCCF Projects under Implementation by Sector*

22. Among the cohort for this year’s analysis, projects addressing water resources management, infrastructure and agriculture had the highest shares of SCCF resources, at 26 percent, 24 percent, and 22 percent respectively, as shown in Figure 8. Natural resources

management comprised another priority for SCCF support, receiving 17 percent of total commitments.

**Figure 8: Distribution of SCCF Projects under Implementation by Sector as of June 30, 2023 (\$ Million and Share)**

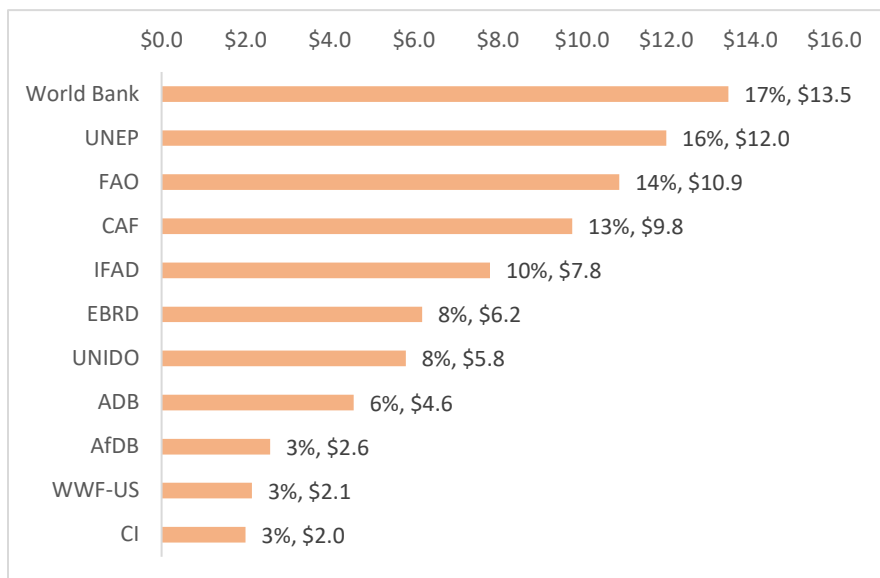


*Distribution of SCCF Projects under Implementation by GEF Agency*

23. As of June 30, 2023, eleven GEF Agencies were involved in SCCF projects under implementation. The World Bank has the highest share of the active SCCF portfolio, with \$13.5 million, or 17 percent of the total funding commitments of \$77.2 million, followed by UNEP with \$12.0 million, or 16 percent of total funding commitments, and the FAO with \$10.9 million, or 14 percent (see Figure 9).<sup>19</sup>

<sup>19</sup> These figures include GEF project financing.

**Figure 9: Distribution of SCCF Projects under Implementation by GEF Agency as of June 30, 2023 (\$ Million and Share)**



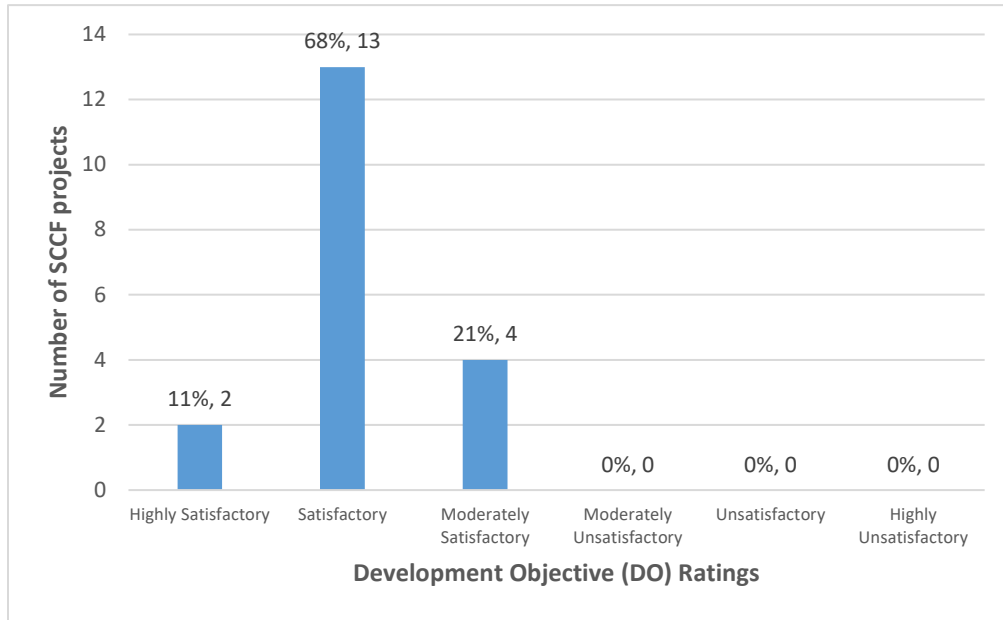
*Performance Ratings of SCCF Projects under Implementation*

24. Nineteen projects that submitted reports in this year’s AMR cohort reported performance ratings. All 19 projects received a DO rating of Moderately Satisfactory or higher. Eighteen projects, or 90 percent, received an IP rating of Moderately Satisfactory or higher (see Figures 10 and 11 below).

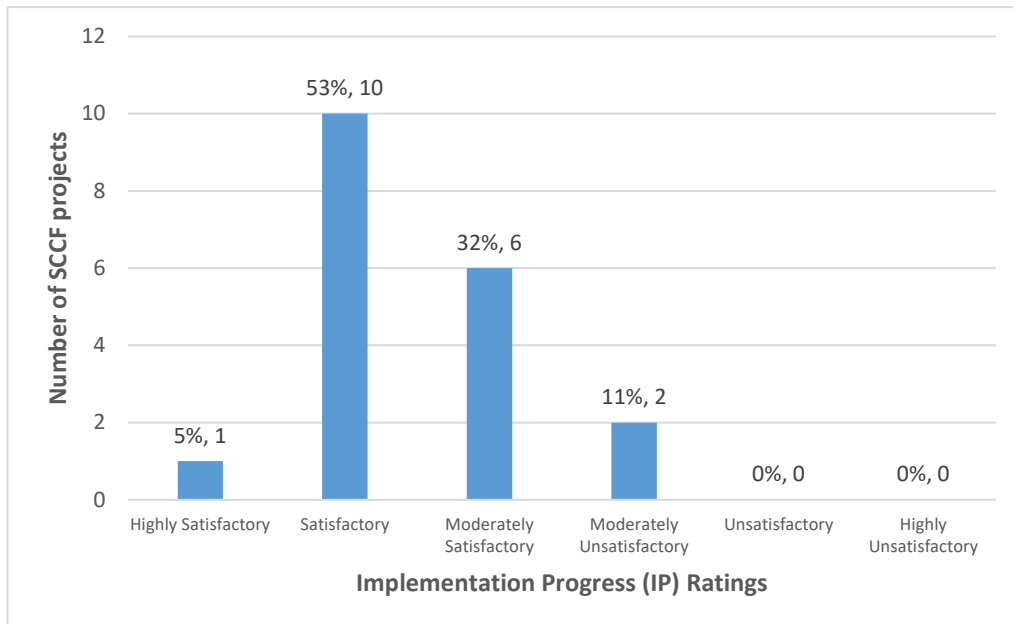
25. None of the SCCF projects in the active portfolio received an Unsatisfactory (U) DO or IP rating this year.

26. Figure 12 presents the percentage of SCCF projects rated MS or above in their DO and IP ratings by Agency. While the number of projects per Agency is too small for an in-depth statistical analysis, nine out of eleven Agencies received both DO and IP ratings in a satisfactory range for all of their projects. UNEP and the World Bank received both DO and IP ratings in an unsatisfactory range of Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU) or lower for one project, with both Agencies having only two projects in total.

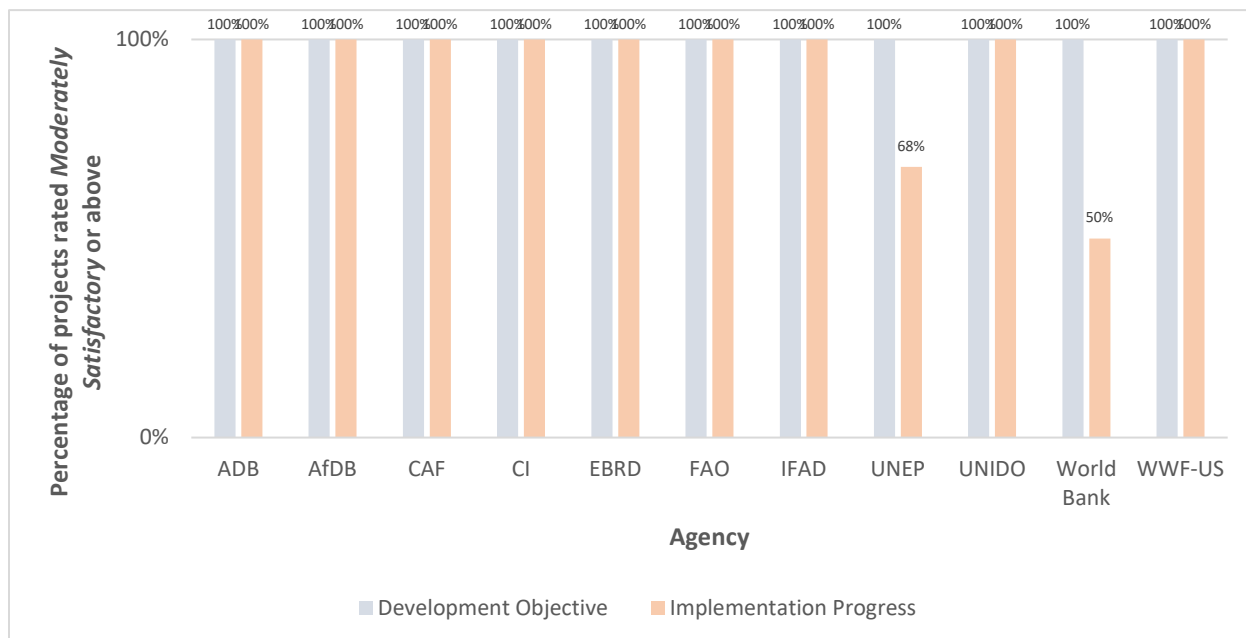
**Figure 10: Development Objectives Ratings of SCCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023 (Number of Projects and Share)**



**Figure 11: Implementation Progress Ratings of SCCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023 (Number of Projects and Share)**



**Figure 12: Percentage of SCCF Projects under Implementation with Performance Ratings of Moderately Satisfactory or Above by Agency as of June 30, 2023**



27. The trend analysis of DO and IP ratings rated MS or higher is summarized in Table 5. Both DO and IP ratings indicate a high performance of above 90 percent over the past years. The SCCF performance rating figures were higher than the performance rating of the FY23 GEF Trust Fund portfolio of 87 percent for DO and 82 percent for IP ratings.<sup>20</sup> The SCCF portfolio continues to demonstrate high levels of performance.

**Table 5: Trend Analysis of Percentage of SCCF Projects under Implementation with Performance Ratings of Moderately Satisfactory or Above**

	FY21 Reference	FY22 Average	FY23 Average
Projects rated in the satisfactory range for Development Outcome (%)	97% ●	90% ●	100% ●
Projects rated in the satisfactory range for Implementation Progress (%)	94% ●	90% ●	90% ●

● Above 80% of the project portfolio ● From 60% to 80% of the project portfolio ● Below 60% of the project portfolio ● Data not available

<sup>20</sup> GEF, 2024, [The GEF Monitoring Report 2023](#). Council document GEF/C.66/03.

## Results Achieved under the SCCF

28. The SCCF has a long history of tracking actual results. Table 6 summarizes both the results achieved under the active SCCF portfolio in FY23 and the total cumulative results. The summary is framed around the GEF-7 strategic objectives and Core Indicators introduced as part of the updated results framework for adaptation to climate change for 2018 to 2022.<sup>21, 22, 23</sup> Core Indicators in the updated results framework are compatible with the previous results-based management system indicators. The framework further enables to report on sex-disaggregated results; however, SCCF projects in the active portfolio have not yet reported on sex-disaggregated results per the framework. At the request of the LDCF/SCCF Council at its 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in May 2014, the table also provides the total cumulative results achieved under the SCCF, including for projects that were completed before June 30, 2021.

29. As of June 30, 2023, the projects contained in the active portfolio had already reached more than 831,000 direct beneficiaries and trained more than 28,000 people in various aspects of climate change adaptation. Fifty-two percent and 54 percent were female among those projects that reported on sex-disaggregated results for number of direct beneficiaries and number of people trained, respectively. More than 426,000 hectares of land had also been brought under more resilient management. Moreover, 66 policies and plans had been strengthened or developed to better address climate change risks.

**Table 6: Portfolio-Level Results under the SCCF as of June 30, 2023**

	Cumulative results (incl. projects completed before FY23)	Results from active portfolio	No. of projects in active portfolio	No. of countries in active portfolio
Core Indicator 1: No. of direct beneficiaries / female ratio (%)	7,251,247 / 52%	831,720 / 52%	13	7
Core Indicator 2: Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	6,831,398	426,195	5	3
Core Indicator 3: No. of policies/plans that will mainstream climate resilience	599	66	6	3
Core Indicator 4: No. of people trained / female ratio (%)	139,842 / 54%	28,174 / 54%	12	5

<sup>21</sup> GEF, 2018, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and Operational Improvements July 2018 to June 2022](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.24/03.

<sup>22</sup> GEF, 2018, [Updated Results Architecture for Adaptation to Climate Change under the LDCF and the SCCF](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.25/05.

<sup>23</sup> GEF, 2019, [GEF Climate Change Adaptation Results Framework](#).

30. In FY23, two TEs and one MTR were submitted along with trackable achievements in climate adaptation indicators. Table 7 summarizes the results achieved at the TE stage, for indicators that are compatible with GEF-7 Core Indicators,<sup>24, 25, 26</sup> by comparing the target set at the CEO Approval or Endorsement stages.

31. The data shows that the cohort of two SCCF projects had achieved results above 80 percent for all four Core Indicators and higher results for all three Core Indicators at completion (TE stage) compared to expected results at the CEO Approval/Endorsement stage. While the achievement ratios of areas of land managed for climate resilience (Core Indicator 2), policy and plans that will mainstream climate resilience (Core Indicator 3) and people trained (Core Indicator 4) were below 50 percent at the MTR stage, achievement ratios of these Core Indicators were much higher at the TE stage. The achievement rate of the number of direct beneficiaries (Core Indicator 1) was 80 percent, as one project reported a low achievement ratio. However, due to the small number of the projects at TE stage, trends cannot be derived.

**Table 7: Average Result Achievement of SCCF Projects at MTR and TE Stages in the Reporting Period**

	Achieved Results at Mid-Term Review against Expected Results	Achieved Results at Terminal Evaluation against Expected Results
Core Indicator 1: No. of direct beneficiaries	65%	80%
Core Indicator 2: Area of land managed for climate resilience (ha)	1%	>100%
Core Indicator 3: No. of policies/plans that will mainstream climate resilience	-	>100%
Core Indicator 4: No. of people trained	9%	>100%

### Multi-Trust Fund Projects under Implementation

32. The GEF Secretariat received PIRs for eight projects that draw resources from multiple trust funds, seven of which were projects that received support from the LDCF, and five received support from the SCCF (three projects received support from both LDCF and SCCF). The

<sup>24</sup> GEF, 2018, [GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Special Climate Change Fund and Operational Improvements July 2018 to June 2022](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.24/03.

<sup>25</sup> GEF, 2018, [Updated Results Architecture for Adaptation to Climate Change under the LDCF and the SCCF](#). Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.25/05.

<sup>26</sup> GEF, 2019, [GEF Climate Change Adaptation Results Framework](#).

Council/CEO approval dates of these projects ranged from November 2012 to March 2020, covering GEF-5 to GEF-7 periods. Of the eight projects reviewed, four had completed its first year of implementation, one had completed its third year, while one project was in more advanced stages of implementation. Two had submitted the final Project Implementation Reports. Total project financing commitments amounted to \$21.7 million from the LDCF and \$13.4 million from the SCCF, leveraging co-financing of \$83.9 million and \$104.1 million respectively. They are summarized in Annex IV.

33. Seven out of eight LDCF and SCCF multi-trust fund projects received IP and DO ratings of MS or above. These ratings are generally higher than ratings of the active LDCF single trust fund portfolio while it is comparable with SCCF single trust fund portfolio presented in the previous sections.<sup>27</sup> One LDCF/SCCF multi-trust fund project has not been rated,<sup>28</sup> as no activities have been implemented due to a change in the hosting arrangement of the global Technology Mechanism under UNFCCC.

### **Risk Assessment**

34. This section delineates an overview of projects risks reported in project monitoring documentation submitted from the Agencies for LDCF and SCCF projects that had begun implementation on or before June 30, 2022 and that were under implementation during at least a part of FY23.

### **Project Risk Analysis**

35. Risk ratings assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project that may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risks of projects are rated on the following scale in the PIR: High Risk (H); Substantial Risk (S); Modest Risk (M); and Low Risk (L). In this AMR, 81 projects provided risk ratings, including 64 LDCF and 15 SCCF with two MTF projects between LDCF and SCCF. Among the risk reported in the cohort, 67 LDCF/SCCF projects indicated moderate or low risk and 14 projects indicated high or substantial risk. Out of the 14 projects with high or substantial risk, three projects are rated HU and two projects are rated MU for its IP rating. On the other hand, no projects with low and moderate risk are rated HU for its IP rating. This suggests a link between risk and implementation progress, that the projects with high and substantial risk are facing challenges in meeting their implementation progress.

36. The risk levels faced by LDCF and SCCF projects combined were reported as low or moderate for 83 percent of the projects (Figure 13). Overall, SCCF projects reported less risk

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<sup>27</sup> The Agency-specific IP/DO ratings analyzed in the LDCF and SCCF also include MTF.

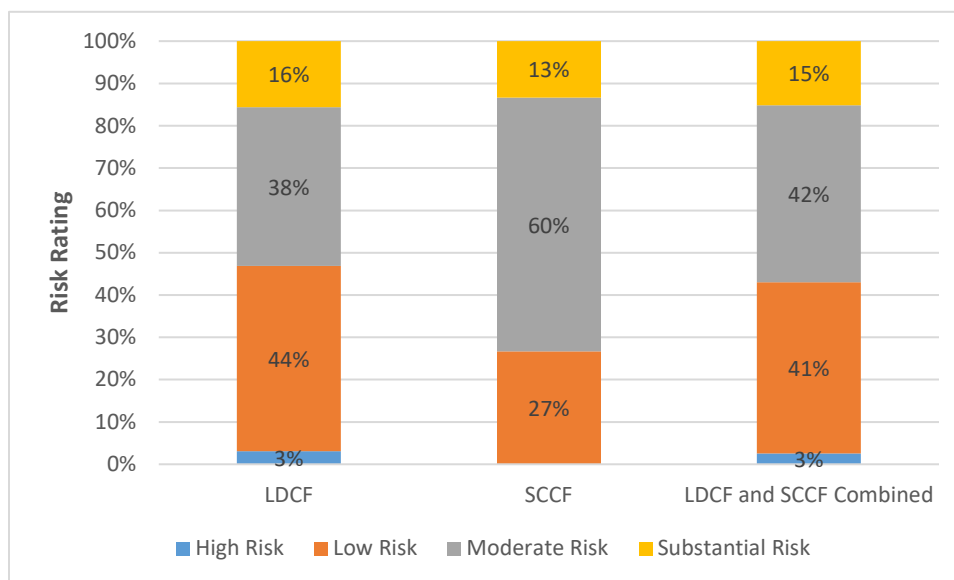
<sup>28</sup> "Piloting innovative financing for climate adaptation technologies in medium-sized cities" (GEFID 10433; Country: Global; CEO Approved: March 4, 2022; GEF project financing: \$677,000): The Agency reported that the change in hosting arrangements of the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN), which is identified as one of the executing entities, between two Agencies and the transfer process impacted implementation.



compared to LDCF projects. While 82 percent of LDCF projects reported low or modest risks, 87 percent of SCCF projects rated low or modest risks. As LDCF is specifically for LDCs and SCCF is for any developing country, this difference in risk ratings may highlight more challenges faced amongst LDCs.

37. The overall risks faced by LDCF and SCCF projects were reported are comparable to those of the GEF Trust Fund. The GEF Monitoring Report for the same FY23 states that 83 percent, down from 85 percent a year ago, reported low or modest risk for the overall GEF Trust Fund projects.<sup>29</sup> The trend of LDC projects reporting higher risks is also evident in the GEF Trust Fund: 76 percent of GEF Trust Fund projects in LDCs reported low or modest risk, whereas 83 percent of the overall GEF Trust Fund projects.

**Figure 13: Distribution of Risk Ratings in LDCF and SCCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023**



38. Risk ratings from the FY23 are at the comparable level as risk ratings from FY21 and FY22 as shown in Table 8. For LDCF, projects with low and moderate risk rating have increased to 82 percent comparing to FY22. Risk rating for SCCF has also reduced to 87 percent from 95 percent in FY22. Overall, this analysis shows that risk ratings at the portfolio level has remained same at 83 percent as FY22.

<sup>29</sup> ibid

**Table 8: Comparison of Low or Moderate Risk Ratings in LDCF and SCCF Projects in FY21, FY22 and FY23 Portfolios**

	FY21 Reference	FY22 Reference	FY23 Average
<b>Total portfolio (LDCF + SCCF)</b>	79% ●	83% ●	83% ●
<b>LDCF portfolio</b>	72% ●	80% ●	82% ●
<b>SCCF portfolio</b>	94% ●	95% ●	87% ●

● Above 80% of the project portfolio ● From 60% to 80% of the project portfolio

### SUCCESS FACTORS, CHALLENGES, AND LESSONS LEARNED

39. This section provides the quantitative and qualitative analysis of the LDCF and SCCF projects drawing on the project monitoring documentation received. The analysis explores the following broad themes: (i) implementation progress analysis to identify challenges, (ii) key success factors and challenges behind project performance, (iii) enabling private sector engagement in adaptation, (iv) gender mainstreaming, and (v) stakeholder engagement.

40. The analysis is subject to limitations due to the fact that it relies in part on PIRs that are not primarily intended to perform an analytical function. As a result, the analysis does not attempt to synthesize the information provided, but rather to highlight illustrative examples, and those projects for which sufficient information and lessons were articulated.

### Implementation Progress Analysis

41. This analysis provides a comparison between the Implementation Progress (IP) ratings provided by Agencies and some key project implementation measurements, such as intended duration and disbursement rate, with a focus on key implementation elements where challenges can be identified.

42. Of the 86 LDCF and SCCF projects that provided IP ratings, 8 projects (9 percent) had reached or exceeded their intended implementation duration<sup>30</sup> reported by Agencies but had not yet been completed within the intended duration. These “overdue” projects amounted to \$58.3 million in GEF project financing, of which \$53.9 million (93 percent) had been disbursed.

43. Among these eight overdue projects, two projects were rated Satisfactory (S), one Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU) and one Unsatisfactory (U). The overdue projects were rated at lower than overall active portfolio for implementation progress—83 percent of the active

<sup>30</sup> The intended duration is calculated from the expected completion date, reported by Agencies.

portfolio was rated moderately satisfactory (MS) or higher, compared with 75 percent of overdue projects. One out of eight overdue projects is a MTF with GEF TF, which was rated as MS.

44. Delays of projects in Afghanistan and Sudan are due to deteriorating security and political situation, while restrictions related to COVID-19 pandemic had cascading effects on the timely implementation of projects in Lao PRD and in Angola. A project in Benin faced challenges to implement a financial support mechanism in an uncertain market, where its intended objective to support private investment in adaptation measure needed more efforts than initially thought. Similarly, an unexpected change in the composition of the project team, coupled with lack of relevant service provider in the country, has delayed project implementation in Djibouti.

45. Table 9 compares the Implementation Progress ratings against their disbursement rates for overdue projects. Overall, the disbursement rate for overdue projects is higher than the active portfolio at large—93 percent of the project financing of the overdue portfolio had been disbursed, compared with 54 percent disbursement rate of the active portfolio. This is as expected, as the overdue projects have been under implementation longer than the overall portfolio.

**Table 9: Comparison between the Implementation Progress Ratings and Disbursement Rate of LDCF and SCCF Projects under Implementation as of June 30, 2023**

Overdue	Moderately Satisfactory or higher		Moderately Unsatisfactory or lower	
	Number of Projects	Cumulative Disbursement Rate	Number of Projects	Cumulative Disbursement Rate
by one year	3	99%	1	100%
by one – two years	3	89%	1	71%

46. The Secretariat continues to monitor active projects against their intended duration, disbursement rate and other implementation dimensions, and work with Agencies and country stakeholders with a view to ensuring that any implementation challenges can be identified and addressed.

### **Understanding Project Performance: Key Success Factors and Challenges**

47. Of the 87 LDCF and SCCF projects considered in this review, nine were rated Highly Satisfactory (HS) in terms of their progress towards development objectives (DO), which suggests that they may be considered as good practice at this juncture. These include seven projects financed through the LDCF, one SCCF project and one LDCF-SCCF MTF project.

48. The project “Climate Resilience in the Outer Islands of Tuvalu” (GEF ID: 9512; Country: Tuvalu; PIF/CEO Approved: September 6, 2016; GEF project financing: \$0.5 million), by ADB with

support from the LDCF received a DO rating of HS. The project has handed over the wharf and jetty, breakwaters, passenger terminal building and warehouse, and the 3-ton crane truck to the government and community, with contractor has completing over 98 percent of the physical works. The GEF financing has supported construction of climate resilient transit shed on Nukeulaelae Island and a crane truck to improve transfer operation to help overcome connectivity constraints for inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development.

49. The project “Resilient productive landscapes in Haiti” (GEF ID: 9750; Country: Haiti; PIF approved: May 1, 2017; CEO endorsed: January 8, 2018; GEF project financing: \$6.2 million), by the World Bank with support from the LDCF, received both DO and IP ratings of S. Despite facing a difficult political, economic, social and security context in Haiti, the project has made considerable progress in the implementation of activities. This includes operationalization of Haitian Biodiversity Fund as a financial mechanism to support actions to flight climate change, distribution of inputs (bean seeds) and agricultural services, developing participatory sub-watershed management plans and establishment of Farmers Field Schools.

50. Continuous engagement of stakeholders through various meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee has helped to monitor implementation of the project. This has created a platform for the stakeholders to discuss challenges and potential solutions, and share lessons learned. The project considers involvement and participation of vulnerable groups, in particular women, as essential. Women were strongly encouraged to share their ideas on the criteria for the location of the Farmers Field Schools and other decisions related to the project. Furthermore, the project is stepping up its action aimed at increasing knowledge and good practices to improve seed distribution to beneficiaries where they were provided with a purchase coupon that can allow them to have access to quality inputs and technical assistance. The project has also made funding available for Matching Grant to finance 20 sub-projects, which made it possible to reach 1,661 direct beneficiaries.

51. The project “Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems to Improve Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in Lao PDR” (GEF ID: 5462; Country: Lao PDR; PIF Approved: January 7, 2014; CEO Endorsement: July 27, 2016; GEF project financing: \$5.5 million), by FAO with support from the LDCF received a DO rating of HS. Significant progress was made during this reporting period on Laos Climate Services for Agriculture (LaCSA) development with the publication of the app in the google and apple store. Key achievements include the continued production of weekly and monthly bulletins in a regular manner on the LaCSA website. Such knowledge and information disseminated through bulletins are well received and used by farmers for crop preparation and harvesting which has resulted in increased rice yield. In collaboration with multiple partners the LaCSA is now reaching more than 100,000 Lao inhabitants through collaborating partners. In addition, the Land Resources Management Information System (LRMIS) is up and running with a user-friendly visual interface. The LRMIS is customized for use by the Government of Lao PDR (Department of Agriculture Land Management (DALAM)). DALAM experts can upload, modify, tag and include metadata independently, while a specialized company is still responsible for the server management. Globally, this is the first case of an LDC implementing LRMIS independently by national experts and with national data only.

52. On the other hand, six LDCF projects received DO and IP ratings of Unsatisfactory (U) or lower, and one project received a U rating for IP and a DO rating in the satisfactory range. None of the SCCF projects in the active portfolio cohort received a U or lower rating. Each of these projects with unsatisfactory ratings is summarized below, highlighting responses to address the challenges. The GEF Secretariat is contacting concerned countries and Agencies for follow-up and response.

53. The project “Enhancing Whole of Islands Approach to Strengthen Community Resilience to Climate and Disaster Risks in Kiribati” (GEF ID: 9041; Country: Kiribati; PIF approved: March 2, 2017; CEO endorsed: November 17, 2020; GEF project financing: \$8.9 million), by UNDP with support from LDCF, received DO rating of U and IP rating of HU. The DO rating remains at U rating because the project is off-track. Similarly for the IP rating, the HU rating is because the project is in its third year of implementation without progress. Apart from UNDP’s oversight support, without project management unit in place and no Project Board constituted thus far, the project is currently not effectively supported. The project is yet to start implementation due to the fact that it has been put on hold with the anticipation to revisit the implementation arrangements of the project. The project was initially designed and approved The Agency as a country office support to the National Implementation Modality with the Prime Minister’s Office (Office of Te Beretiteti OB) as the Implementing Partner. The Agency has determined that the Implementing Partner and the responsible parties have some limitations in implementation capacities, including in procurement and financial management capacities. Through FY23 PIR, it was reported that the Agency is working closely with the Government of Kiribati to arrive at the details of the new implementation arrangement, including implications on the budget. The project’s design and its development objectives remain relevant and achievable once implementation starts.

54. The project “Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for climate-resilient development in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal” (GEF ID: 8009, Countries: Nepal; PIF approved: March 30, 2017; CEO endorsed: August 2, 2019; GEF project financing: \$6.2 million), implemented by UNEP with support from the LDCF, received DO and IP ratings of U. The Project ran into issues related to project management, where the Project Manager from the executing partner, which is a regional Development Authority, did not follow the procurement process. This led for the Project Steering Committee to terminate Project Manager’s contract due to slow progress during one and half year of the project implementation. Upon termination of the project manager, project management unit (PMU) was restructured requested the Agency to recruit a project manager in a fair and transparent manner. The Agency is currently in the process of hiring a project manager through UNOPs. The restructured PMU has made partial progress under component 1 of the project, such as conducting baseline studies, tree plantation and training for the regional Development Authority. However, physical progress related to rainwater harvesting and establishing ground water recharge wells are yet to be implemented.

55. The project “Addressing Urgent Coastal Adaptation Needs and Capacity Gaps in Angola” (GEF ID: 5230; Country: Angola; PIF approved: November 25, 2013; CEO endorsed: April 8, 2016; GEF project financing: \$6.2 million), by UNEP with support from LDCF, received DO and IP ratings of HU. The project has continued to face substantial challenges owing to internal and external

factors which resulted in the project not being operational during the reporting period. The Executing Agency recruited Project Manager, recruited by the Executing Agency, resigned in September 2021, the Project Officer resigned in June 2022 and the Finance and Administrative Officer resigned in May 2022. While terms of reference and vacancy announcements were prepared in Portuguese and English, to date the Executing Agency has not recruited a new project management unit. Consequently, no progress has been made or achievements against the project outputs and outcomes. The main external factor affecting the project during the reporting period was the August 2022 national election. The incumbent elected government announced its new government structure in late September 2022. The Executing Agency changed from the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Environment to the Ministry of Environment (MINAMB). The Minister and two Secretaries of State were appointed in October 2022 and the technical staff assigned to Ministry posts were in place by December 2022. During this transition period, no project related actions were undertaken. The Agency is engaging with MINAMB to identify alternative implementation arrangements.

56. The project “Ecosystem-based Approaches to Adaptation (EbA) in the Drought-prone Barind Tract and Haor wetland Area” (GEF ID: 5456; Country: Bangladesh; PIF approved: November 25, 2013; CEO endorsed: December 20, 2016; GEF project financing: \$5.0 million), by UNEP with support from LDCF, received DO and IP ratings of U. This project implementation is impacted due to absence of essential positions in Project Management Unit (PMU) and delay in getting approval from the government to formally start implementation. UNEP is now supporting the recruitment of project functionaries while the government has also accorded approval of the project, which should improve the implementation.

57. The project “Mainstreaming Climate Risk Considerations in Food Security and IWRM in Tsilima Plains and Upper Catchment Area” (GEF ID: 6923; Country: Eritrea; PIF approved: January 7, 2015; CEO endorsed: August 11, 2016; GEF project financing: \$9.1 million) by UNDP received DO and IP ratings of HU, as it has suffered the legacy of the border-induced stalemate/no-war-no peace situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia and UN sanction over Eritrea in 2019, followed by the COVID-19 pandemic. This led to a suspension of the project until March 2023. The project is now being reactivated and expected to initiate implementation from the fourth quarter of 2024.

58. Similarly, the project “Adapting Afghan Communities to Climate-Induced Disaster Risks” (GEF ID: 6914; Country: Afghanistan; PIF approved: December 2, 2015; CEO endorsed: August 11, 2017; GEF project financing: \$5.6 million) by UNDP received DO and IP ratings of U. The project was interrupted by political changes on August 15, 2021. Since then, the project has remained under suspension. Recently, the agency is processing for its cancellation, as the current political situation in Afghanistan continues to pose challenges to resume its implementation.

### **Enabling Private Sector Engagement in Adaptation**

59. The focus of LDCF/SCCF private sector engagement since inception has largely been on micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry, mostly for local consumption rather than surplus production. There is also a growing

appreciation of opportunities to develop value chain partnerships or linkages with the larger value chain actors, including as demonstrated by projects supported by the two funds.

60. An analysis of the PIRs in the portfolio shows that successful private sector engagement is most often demonstrated through direct engagement with the MSME sector as beneficiaries, including through such approaches as micro and small enterprise incubation and acceleration, participation in training programs, farmer field schools, demonstration projects, and in participatory activities related to decision making, strategic planning and the allocation of resources.

61. The LDCF/SCCF is continuing to partner with institutional investors and financial institutions to identify opportunities and catalyze private sector investment in better support linkage with MSMEs.

62. Finance for climate change adaptation is limited when compared to the resources and investments dedicated to mitigation projects. The 2023 UNEP Adaptation Gap Report<sup>31</sup> highlighted that developing country adaptation finance needs are 10 to 18 times larger than the available public financial flows. The report recommends increasing and tailoring finance to the MSME sector.

63. In the project “Reviving High Quality Coffee to Stimulate Climate Adaptation in Smallholder Farming Communities” (GEF project ID: 10432; Country: Congo DR and Uganda; PIF approved: July 2, 2020; CEO approved: September 30, 2021; GEF project financing: \$1.1 million), a winner of the GEF Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, the objective is to increase the climate resilience of coffee farming households in the Congo DR and Uganda, enhance the capacity of women in the coffee supply chain to translate their participation into economic empowerment, and to direct access to the coffee supply chain through the AAA Sustainable Quality program supporting coffee farmers with the commitment for long term sourcing intention. The project stands out as an example of private sector engagement, is executed by Nespresso, and demonstrates direct linkages to international export markets. This model of using the private sector as an executing partner has been broadly successful and has resulted in a further long-term commitment of \$20 million in private sector co-finance announced by Nespresso in 2024 in the Congo DR.

64. As another example, the SCCF global MSP “Adaptation SME Accelerator Program (ASAP)” (GEF project ID: 10296; Country: Global; CEO approved: October 1, 2019; GEF project financing: \$2.0 million) aims to catalyze the markets for climate resilience and adaptation solutions in developing countries and promote greater market use of these solutions. The project is building the rapidly growing ecosystem of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) engaged in adaptation and climate resilience in developing countries through a program of market mapping, convening and network building, and incubation/acceleration. Project activities include refining the taxonomy of the range of climate resilience solutions and segments, mapping companies and

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<sup>31</sup> UNEP, 2023, [Adaptation Gap Report 2023: Underfinanced. Underprepared – Inadequate investment and planning on climate adaptation leaves world exposed.](#)

markets, sharing market information with market participants, building networks and holding convenings of adaptation-focused SMEs regionally, and enabling existing incubator and accelerator programs to begin enrolling and supporting climate adaptation and resilience-focused SMEs.

65. This PIR shows encouraging results demonstrating demand in the marketplace for adaptation solutions. The aforementioned ASAP project has been able to identify 550+ adaptation SMEs across all three target regions (228 in LAC, 162 in Africa, and 202 in Asia). 24 companies were selected to enroll in the ASAP accelerator program, 18 companies completed the accelerator week and are continuing to be supported through technical assistance and financial support by Village Capital.

66. The global MSP under the LDCF-SCCF MTF “Investment Readiness for the Landscape Resilience Fund” (GEF project ID: 10436; Country: Global; PIF approved: July 2, 2020; CEO approved: June 3, 2021; GEF project financing: \$1.1 million) supports establishing systems to support climate resilience-focused SMEs’ access private investments, pre-investment services to make climate resilience-focused SMEs investment-ready and establishing matchmaking support for climate resilience-focused SMEs to match with potential private investors. During the PIR reporting period, the initiative sourced 73 SMEs and as a result, three new SMEs underwent the necessary screening process (Nossa Fruits, Brazil; Long Miles Coffee, Kenya; Slow Coffee, Vietnam), one previously identified SME continued its screening process (Aluan, Indonesia), and one previously identified SME was rejected because of its reputational risk (Brazil). Of these, Luc Dong in Vietnam and Trianon in Tanzania were approved for pre-investment support by the Technical Committee and signed agreements with South Pole.

67. The insurance sector is broadly recognized as a critical element of the financial infrastructure needed to de-risk climate change investments, enhance resilience and build adaptive capacity. In the SCCF MSP “Financial tools for small scale fishers in Melanesia” (GEF project ID: 10437; Countries: Fiji and Papua New Guinea; PIF approved: June 17, 2020; CEO approved: May 28, 2021; GEF project financing: \$1.0 million), a winner of the GEF Challenge Program for Adaptation Innovation, improved financial literacy in the target communities, with and accompanying trainings for livelihood resilience, financial savings, loans, and insurance including parametric insurance. The second component of this project focused on advancing the building blocks for insurance products and identifying premium financing so that these products could be rolled out in the short and long term with regional counterparts. The project team has engaged insurance companies (including Tower Insurance and Sun Insurance in Fiji, and Transpacific Assurance Ltd and Capital in Papua New Guinea) on offering inclusive insurance products with the target population.

68. The continued support for gender sensitive private sector engagement, and women owned and managed businesses, is strongly evident in the LDCF and SCCF portfolio. This includes the design and funding of women’s private sector activities that strengthen the skills, resources, entrepreneurship, and specializations of women in their communities for their adaptation and resilience to climate change.



69. The SCCF project “Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation through Water Resource Management in Leather Industrial Zone Development” (GEF project ID: 5666; Country: Pakistan; PIF approved: March 21, 2014; CEO endorsed: December 10, 2015; GEF project financing: \$3.3 million) being implemented by UNIDO and executed through local partners the Sialkot Tannery Association Guarantee Ltd (STAGL) (Lead Executing Partner) District Government Sialkot, Irrigation and Environment Departments, Provincial Government Punjab highlights important developments and learnings in the engagement of the private sector and gender. The project has made good use of the STAGL membership for the provision of technical assistance on modern techniques of finishing and to promote women’s broader engagement in the industry by establishing a Gender Mainstreaming program upon operationalization of the Sialkot Tannery Zone (STZ), and STAGL has inducted female participants in STZ Common Facility and Training Center. Further work is planned to include greater representation of women in the project management unit.

70. Following the review of FY23 PIRs, greater provision for private sector consultation could be made in the LDCF and SCCF projects. This includes through leveraging agency resources and their ability to connect with key markets and private sector actors beyond the immediate project areas. There is also potential to deepen the engagement of private sector actors within the project geographies.

### **Gender Mainstreaming in Projects under Implementation**

71. Realizing gender equality and women’s empowerment are key to realizing GEF’s whole of society and broader social inclusion approach. In line with GEF’s Policy on Gender Equality, projects funded under the LDCF and SCCF are integrating gender equality considerations throughout the project, incorporating gender-responsive approaches early in project design, and ensuring that activities and interventions to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment are implemented and reported on.

72. All projects in the cohort reported on key gender-specific results achieved during the reporting period. The examples below elaborate on how the projects have benefitted and engaged women and girls as key players in addressing climate change.

73. The project “Financial tools for small scale fishers in Melanesia” (GEF ID: 10437; Country: Regional; CEO approved: May 28, 2021; GEF project financing: \$1.0 million) implemented by WWF-US under the SCCF, aims to develop and deploy innovative ex-ante risk financing products to improve community resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change, including major shock events. The project’s gender analysis and action plan have led to gender-responsive measures in community engagement, capacity building, and product design. This includes incorporating gender-inclusive questions in surveys to understand how climate risks affect women and men differently. It identified adaptation strategies tailored to women’s needs, ensuring that workshops are scheduled to suit everyone, taking into account their higher domestic duty burden. The financial literacy training course addressed gender-specific issues like climate and disaster risk, as well as financial resilience, emphasizing women’s vulnerabilities to access to resources in

disaster scenarios. The training was led by community facilitators and the activities incorporated gender elements, such as women receiving fewer tokens than men, to showcase the reality of the financial constraints women face. The collection of sex-disaggregated data throughout the project has helped adapt the targeted interventions that will benefit not only women but also other marginalized groups such as people with disabilities, enhancing their financial and livelihood resilience to climate shocks.

74. The “Adaptation SME Accelerator (ASAP)” (GEF ID: 10296; Country: Global; CEO approved: September 20, 2019; GEF project financing: \$2.0 million) implemented by CI under the SCCF, aims to catalyze the markets for climate resilience and adaptation solutions in developing countries and promote greater use of these solutions by customers. By focusing on building a gender-responsive ecosystem for SMEs, the project ensures that women, who often bear the brunt of climate impacts, have access to the technologies and support they need to mitigate these risks and build resilience. The project, therefore, expanded the Climate Adaptation SME directory with a deliberate focus on sectors impacting women, where they reported that 26.25% presented female leadership. This data helped understand women's involvement and contribution in climate-related businesses. With the launch of the Accelerator Program, all 18 participating companies showcased female representation and leadership roles, fostering a more inclusive environment that also translated into their business plans, with 6 of them incorporating gender considerations in their strategies. Post-program assessments revealed not just increased female leadership but also the adoption of gender-inclusive HR policies among 13 of the 18 companies. For instance, the companies implemented parity in paternity/maternity leaves or women's career development mentorship programs. The three ASAP Technical Assistance Facility projects have also integrated gender considerations into their design and implementation. In Nigeria, despite initial challenges due to religious constraints, the project recruited more women agents that resulted in an increased participation of women smallholder farmers.

75. The “Building Climate Change Resilience in the Fisheries Sector in Malawi” (GEF ID: 5328; Country: Malawi; CEO approved: August 29, 2016; GEF project financing: \$5.5 million) implemented by FAO under the LDCF aims to build resilience in the beleaguered fisheries sector especially among the riparian communities of Lake Malombe. While women play key roles in fisheries and aquaculture value chains, fishing professions, especially on lakes, are mostly male dominated, with women often excluded due to the nature of work and lack of capital. Therefore, the project focused on advocating for equal access to and control over natural resources, particularly for women engaged in fish processing and trading. Through awareness campaigns and promoting access to financial services, women were empowered to actively participate in decision-making processes. The capacity building initiatives engaged both men and women in challenging negative socio-norms and promoting gender-responsive solutions at community, household, and individual levels, and it led to the election of women into leadership positions within the Fisheries Association of Lake Malombe and Upper Shire River. In partnership with JP-GTA, the project introduced village savings and loans to improve women's access to ecosystem services by engaging them in fishery-based value chains, and introduced self-financing approach at the local level that empowered them to be more active in decision making at household and community level. To support the implementation, the project hired dedicated gender specialists

and gender-trained project management, so that gender considerations were prioritized throughout project implementation.

76. The project “Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in Latin America and the Caribbean” (GEF ID: 5681; Country: Regional; CEO approved: October 20, 2016; GEF project financing: \$6.0 million) implemented by UNEP under the SCCF, aims to enhance urban resilience to climate change in the LAC region by implementing Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) strategies that offer social and economic advantages. Gender equality and women’s empowerment were embedded in all project components. At the initial stage of the project, UNEP and UN Women collaborated to ensure gender mainstreaming throughout the project implementation cycle, and worked to develop and implement the Gender Action Plan and Gender Results Frameworks in El Salvador and Mexico. With this approach, the project allocated funds to gender-related activities, including the identification of gender indicators going beyond disaggregation by sex. In El Salvador, the women’s group Ahorradoras (“savers”, responsible for the finances of the cooperative), benefitting from the climate-resilient crops and commercialization training sessions of the projects, were empowered to request the installation of a community garden that would not only to supply the community but also be a source of income for the families. In Xalapa, the use of gender-sensitive indicators helped identify vulnerable zones and targeted interventions addressing women’s specific needs. Women trained in reforestation projects have secured jobs within the organizations linked to the project, providing an alternative and sustainable income and livelihood.

77. The project “Support for Integrated Water Resources Management to Ensure Water Access and Disaster Reduction for Somalia’s Pastoralists” (GEF ID: 8028; Country: Somalia; CEO approved: July 24, 2019; GEF project financing: \$8.8 million) implemented by UNDP under the LDCF, aims to enhance the climate resilience of pastoralists in Somalia by improving their technical and operational abilities for sustainable water resource management. It has incorporated gender considerations into the design and implementation stages of the project. The project enabled the development of the first gender-focused National Water Resource Management Policy in Somalia, which was a crucial step towards gender-sensitive water resource management. Training programs were specifically designed to enhance women’s roles in the water and livestock sectors, focusing on areas where women were already active and could potentially increase their income, to diversify the livelihoods for women in vulnerable situations. One big milestone of the project has been the training of 504 of women for Rangeland Improvement and Livestock Value Chains, strengthening women’s resilience and ensuring their inclusion as beneficiaries in the management of natural resources. The project also developed an advanced IWRM master’s degree program, which was adopted by the Somalia National University. This program has benefited more than 35 students, with women making up 30 percent of them. As a result of gender-responsive actions, the project went beyond addressing immediate climate resilience needs. It has established mechanisms to support women’s economic empowerment and education, which are critical building blocks for women’s leadership and voice in their households, communities and beyond.

## Stakeholder Engagement

78. Early consultation with and meaningful participation of local actors, including grassroots, civil society, women, youth and indigenous peoples and local communities, are key factors in the successful implementation of LDCF and SCCF projects. Local leadership and effective participation of those stakeholders that are most impacted by climate change favors the design of strategies that are tailored to the specific challenges and conditions of the sites and to building effective adaptation solutions and climate resilience.

79. Supporting the participation on decision-making of the most vulnerable groups have a positive effect on the community as a whole and allows for more effective and sustainable projects. Local civil society organizations provide important support as executors or co-executors of project components and facilitators of capacity development activities and providers of technical support to other local stakeholders. Four percent or three projects in the active LDCF project portfolio and 10 percent or two projects of the active SCCF portfolio were executed by CSOs or NGOs. The projects examples that follow have had different degrees and approaches to stakeholder engagement and they're intended for illustrations purposes and not for assessing the success of anyone approach:

80. The Project "Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project -Additional Financing" (GEF ID: 10083; Country: Sudan; PIF approved: November 26, 2018; CEO endorsed: June 9, 2020; GEF project financing: \$5.9million), implemented by WB with support from GEFTF and LDCF has directly benefited local farmers and youth. The project, in its third PIR, has highlighted that the project has built strong and open relationships with its stakeholders including local communities, local NGOs, and government towards reducing environmental degradation and vulnerability of rural poor and marginalized people to climatic impacts in Gedarif and Khartoum. Stakeholders have been actively involved in all aspects of the project. The establishment of Village Development Committees (VDCs) at each targeted village has significantly helped in ensuring that community members are well represented while also promoting a sense of ownership over the project activities. The stakeholder engagement process has, however, impacted by the triggering of the Operational Policy/BP 7.30 "Dealing with De Facto Governments", from October 25, 2021. During the pause period, the World Bank's Task Team has maintained regular engagement with relevant development partners to strengthen collaboration and coordination as well as exchange lessons learned and analytical outputs. The project has received MS for both DO and IP ratings.

81. The project "Catalysing Ecosystem Restoration for Climate Resilient Natural Capital and Rural Livelihoods in Degraded Forests and Rangelands of Nepal." (GEF ID: 5203; Country: Nepal; PIF approved: May 2, 2013; CEO endorsed: August 12, 2015; GEF project financing: \$5.3million), implemented by UNEP with support from LDCF is underscoring collaboration, transparency and meaningful engagement of stakeholders. The project has set up a mechanism that includes apex decision making level at the central level to the field implementers that reflects strong ownership. At the central-level, PSC plays a strong role in providing updates on the plan, work progress, and implementation issues. PSC members from various ministries and departments are involved in decision-making processes. At the subnational and local levels, municipalities, wards, and local user groups play a direct role in planning, implementing, and monitoring project interventions.

Site selections for interventions are headed by the ward chair and ward members. Community meetings are held to solicit inputs on the program and plans. The project has undertaken a wide range of activities ranging from restoration works to community livelihood options to build community resilience such as cumulative restoration of 274 hectares of degraded land and improved 490 hectares of terraces for the conservation of agricultural land. The project at its 4<sup>th</sup> PIR received S for DO and IP rating.

82. The project “Building Climate Resilience through Innovative Financing Mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation” (GEF ID: 5523; Country: Antigua and Barbuda; PIF approved: November 7, 2013; CEO endorsed: July 5, 2016; GEF project financing: \$5.0 million), implemented by UNEP with support from SCCF, aims to build national and sub-national capacity for medium- and long-term adaptation planning, accessing innovative financing mechanisms and implementing cost-effective adaptation interventions focused on ecosystems for communities and sectors vulnerable to climate change in Antigua and Barbuda. Through the stakeholder engagement, the project revised Building Code and best building practices which has provided opportunities to secure buy-in and commitment towards the updated Building Code and Woods Pond upgrades. Stakeholder engagement continued through a community training and awareness-raising campaign on the maintenance of the McKinnon’s waterway interventions and on vector control. This was organized in collaboration with local teachers, the Defense Force and the solid waste department, and focused on the need to keep the waterway clear of litter and debris, to prevent flooding. The awareness campaign targeted 2,000 community members in the McKinnon’s area, of whom 1,000 in the SCCF project intervention area.

## **MANAGEMENT EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS**

### **Project Cycle Performance of GEF-8 Projects**

83. Projects and programs financed under the LDCF and the SCCF follow GEF-wide standards for project cycle performance. The Project Cancellation Policy, approved by the GEF Council in December 2018, set out a time standard for FSPs to receive CEO endorsement no later than 18 months after Council approval, and for MSPs to receive CEO approval no later than 12 months after CEO PIF approval.<sup>32</sup> To help ensure that the time standards are met, the policy requires that Agencies submit FSPs for CEO endorsement within 12 months of Council Approval. MSPs need to be submitted for CEO Approval within 8 months of CEO PIF approval. If these submission dates or approval dates are not met, projects will be cancelled.

84. The Project Cancellation Policy has provisions indicating that if the project proponents cannot submit the CEO Endorsement/CEO Approval request package by the due date, the OFP (for national projects) or the GEF Agency (for regional/global projects) can send a notification to

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<sup>32</sup> See GEF, 2018, [Project Cancellation Policy](#). Council document GEF/C.55.04/Rev.01.

the GEF Secretariat to avoid project cancellation. The updated Project Cancellation Policy is applicable to all new projects submitted on or after March 1, 2019.<sup>33</sup>

85. During the GEF-7 period, the projects faced difficult and extraordinary circumstances due to COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences. In light of this, the GEF CEO notified countries on March 21, 2020 about her decision to provide an automatic extension of three months to the business standard deadlines applicable to the submission of CEO Endorsements or Approvals. On June 1, 2020, this deadline was extended by an additional three months, due to the extraordinary circumstances still posed by the pandemic and its impact on the required work. The extension is six months in total. In addition, a decision was made in the 59<sup>th</sup> GEF Council Meeting (December 2020) that the GEF CEO may grant extensions to cancellation deadlines for all project types for a total of up to 24 months, upon request from the OFP (for national projects) or the GEF Agency (for regional/global projects).

86. The LDCF/SCCF Council approved 29 FSPs under the GEF-8 period as of May 1, 2024. These projects contribute to the goals and priority areas of the 2022-2026 GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change<sup>34</sup>. Due to the updated Project Cancellation Policy described above, all of the Council-approved FSPs from the GEF-8 period are in compliance with the project cycle standards and Cancellation Policy as of May 1, 2024. To date, no GEF-8 project has requested consideration for extension under the force majeure, as all Council-approved GEF-8 projects are within 12 months timeframe of the policy requirement for Agencies to submit FSPs for CEO endorsement after Council Approval.

87. Two of the 29 council approved FSPs under the GEF-8 period have received CEO endorsement. The preparation time for the project “Vulnerable Twenty Group funding programme to leverage adaptation by averting and minimizing impacts of climate change” (GEF ID: 11055; Country: Global), implemented by UNIDO received CEO Endorsement within 5 months since its Council approval, while the project “Climate Resilience Enhancement for Building Adaptive Capacity in Agri-Value Chains in Cambodia (CREA)” (GEFID 11051, Country: Cambodia) implemented by the IFAD received its CEO endorsement in 16 months since its Council approval.

### **Project Cycle Performance of GEF-7 Projects**

88. The LDCF/SCCF Council approved 65 FSPs and program under the LDCF and one MTF FSP under the SCCF in the GEF-7 period. Twenty-nine of these projects have submitted a notification to avoid project cancellation while thirty-six projects have submitted an extension request of the

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<sup>33</sup> Projects approved prior to March 1, 2019 are subject to the previous cancellation policy. The FSPs approved by LDCF/SCCF Council in December 2018 therefore follow the previous policy.

<sup>34</sup> 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.

actual CEO endorsement deadline invoking force majeure to avoid project cancellation. All extension requested projects are under the LDCF.

89. In addition, amongst the six projects that were approved by the GEF Council in December 2018 that fall under the previous cancellation policy, four projects have been endorsed as of May 1, 2024. The two remaining projects “Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in Guinea Bissau” (GEF ID: 10105; Country: Guinea-Bissau)<sup>35</sup> and “Scaling up Local Adaptation and Climate-risk Informed Planning for Resilient Livelihoods” (GEF ID: 10100; Country: Mozambique)<sup>36</sup>, both by UNDP, are yet to receive CEO endorsement.

90. As of May 1, 2024, 58 out of 65 FSPs and programs approved by Council in GEF-7, including four child projects, had been CEO-endorsed. The average preparation time between Council approval and CEO Endorsement for the GEF-7 LDCF projects that were CEO endorsed by May 1, 2024 was 24.1 months. Under the SCCF, the LDCF/SCCF Council had approved one MTF FSP during GEF-7, and also has been endorsed.

91. Regarding MSPs, fourteen MSPs from the LDCF, six from the SCCF, and seven LDCF/SCCF MTF projects have been approved by the CEO in the GEF-7 period as of May 1, 2024. Among these, nine projects from the LDCF have been CEO approved and five are under implementation. One project from the SCCF has been CEO approved and five are under implementation. Four MTF projects are CEO approved while three projects are under implementation. The average preparation time for the GEF-7 LDCF/SCCF projects that were CEO approved by May 1, 2024 was 17.4 months. All of these MSPs are in compliance with the project cycle standards and Cancellation Policy as of May 1, 2024.

### **Project Cycle Performance of GEF-6 Projects**

92. During the GEF-6 period, the LDCF/SCCF Council approved 41 FSPs under the LDCF, including two that form part of a programmatic approach. As of May 1, 2024, 37 of these projects had been endorsed. The average preparation time for the GEF-6 LDCF projects that were CEO endorsed by May 1, 2022 was 27 months. The number of projects that were CEO endorsed within 18 months of Council approval was four, or 11 percent.

93. Annex III provides a list of projects that had, as of May 1, 2024, exceeded the 18-month period since Council approval. These all fall under the previous cancellation policy that requires CEO endorsement submission to be made before 18 months from the date of Council approval of the PIF. The GEF Secretariat has contacted the concerned Agencies and countries to inquire about the progress and to urge the resolution of these pending projects.

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<sup>35</sup> The GEF Secretariat has received CEO Endorsement request from the Agency on May 13, 2024.

<sup>36</sup> The GEF Secretariat has been informed about the projected CEO Endorsement request submission for May 15, 2024.

94. Under the SCCF, the LDCF/SCCF Council had approved ten FSPs during GEF-6. As of May 1, 2023, one of these SCCF projects had been dropped before CEO endorsement, one has been cancelled and all remaining eight projects had been CEO endorsed. Five of these SCCF projects, or 63 percent, were CEO endorsed within 18 months. The average preparation time for the endorsed GEF-6 SCCF projects was 13 months.

### Historical Performance Rating

95. Table 10 provides a performance rating share of active LDCF and SCCF projects and the historical performance rating as of June 30, 2023. Overall, the performance rating of the active portfolio is comparable or slightly lower than the historical ratings. The SCCF ratings continue to be higher than the LDCF ratings for both historical and current portfolio.

**Table 10: Performance Ratings Share of Active LDCF and SCCF Projects as of June 30, 2023**

	LDCF	SCCF	Total
Share of projects with a DO rating of <i>moderately satisfactory</i> or above (%)	83%	100%	86%
Share of projects with a DO rating of <i>satisfactory</i> or above (%)	50%	73%	54%
Historic share of projects with a DO rating of <i>moderately satisfactory</i> or above (%)	90%	94%	92%
Historic share of projects with a DO rating of <i>satisfactory</i> or above (%)	58%	68%	61%

96. A summary of management efficiency and effectiveness analysis, such as increased and diversified contributions, more efficient cost structure, and enhanced visibility of the LDCF and the SCCF, has been relocated to the Progress Report whose objective is to discuss operations aspect of the LDCF and SCCF.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>37</sup> GEF, 2024, [Progress Report on the LDCF and the SCCF](#), Council document GEF/LDCF.SCCF.36/05.



**ANNEX I: ACTIVE PORTFOLIO UNDER THE LDCF AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	LDCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
5021	Djibouti	Implementing adaptation technologies in fragile ecosystems of Djibouti's Central Plains	UNEP	7,360,000	14,170,000	11/30/2012	Final PIR	MS	MU
5113	Regional	Enhancing Climate Change Resilience in the Benguela Current Fisheries System	FAO	1,870,000	19,166,000	11/15/2012	Final PIR	S	S
5133	Regional	Senegal River Basin Climate Change Resilience Development Project	World Bank	12,000,000	68,600,000	04/12/2013	Final PIR	S	MS
5190	Mauritania	Improving climate resilience of water sector investments with appropriate climate adaptive activities for pastoral and forestry resources in southern Mauritania	AfDB	6,350,000	14,580,000	03/12/2013	7th PIR	S	U
5194	Rwanda	Building resilience of communities living in degraded forests, savannahs and wetlands of Rwanda through an ecosystem management approach.	UNEP	5,500,000	9,244,000	05/02/2013	6th PIR	HS	S
5203	Nepal	Catalyzing ecosystem restoration for resilient natural capital and rural livelihoods in degraded forests and rangelands of Nepal.	UNEP	5,246,475	11,039,000	05/02/2013	4th PIR	S	S
5230	Angola	Addressing Urgent Coastal Adaptation Needs and Capacity Gaps in Angola	UNEP	6,180,000	12,311,467	11/25/2013	6th PIR	HU	HU
5232	Benin	Flood Control and Climate resilience of agriculture infrastructures in Oueme Valley	AfDB	7,200,000	67,639,000	05/02/2013	7th PIR	S	S
5279	Togo	Strengthening climate resilience of infrastructure in coastal areas in Togo	AfDB	8,932,420	90,000,000	09/18/2013	6th PIR	S	MS
5328	Malawi	Building climate change resilience in the fisheries sector in Malawi	FAO	5,460,000	12,120,000	03/11/2014	6th PIR	MS	MS
5431	Benin	Strengthening the resilience of the energy sector in Benin to the impacts of climate change	UNDP	8,000,000	31,570,000	03/11/2014	6th PIR	MS	MS
5432	Angola	Integrating Climate Resilience into Agricultural and Agropastoral Production Systems through Soil Fertility	FAO	6,668,182	23,619,230	07/30/2014	Final PIR	S	S

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	LDCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
		Management in Key Productive and Vulnerable Areas Using the Farmers Field School Approach							
5451	Congo DR	Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Climate Services	World Bank	5,329,452	32,700,000	01/07/2014	Final PIR	MS	MS
5456	Bangladesh	Ecosystem-based Approaches to Adaptation (EbA) in the Drought-prone Barind Tract and Haor wetland Area	UNEP	5,200,000	55,032,617	11/25/2013	3rd PIR	U	U
5462	Lao PDR	Strengthening Agro-climatic Monitoring and Information Systems to Improve Adaptation to Climate Change and Food Security in Lao PDR	FAO	5,479,452	16,130,000	01/07/2014	Final PIR	HS	S
5489	Lao PDR	Climate Adaptation in Wetlands Areas (CAWA)	FAO	4,717,579	15,367,380	01/07/2014	7th PIR	HS	S
5495	Rwanda	Increasing the Capacity of Vulnerable Rwandan communities to adapt to adverse effects of Climate change: Livelihood diversification and investment in rural infrastructures	AfDB	8,824,749	45,386,000	02/20/2014	6th PIR	HS	HS
5504	Central African Republic	Reducing Rural and Urban Vulnerability to Climate Change by the Provision of Water Supply	AfDB	7,140,000	21,469,000	01/07/2014	Final PIR	HS	HS
5636	Bangladesh	Community-based Climate Resilient Fisheries and Aquaculture Development in Bangladesh	FAO	5,425,114	16,350,000	04/02/2014	4th PIR	MS	S
5695	Tanzania	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Rural Resilience	UNEP	7,571,233	20,750,000	10/17/2014	5th PIR	S	S
5703	Sudan	Enhancing the resilience of communities living in climate change vulnerable areas of Sudan using Ecosystem Based approaches to Adaptation (EbA)	UNEP	4,284,000	7,915,200	07/31/2014	6th PIR	MS	MS
5773	Timor Leste	Upscaling Climate-Proofing in the Transport Sector in Timor-Leste: Sector Wide Approaches	ADB	4,560,000	118,750,000	03/28/2014	8th PIR	S	S
5782	Gambia	Adapting Agriculture to Climate Change in the Gambia	FAO	6,288,356	36,830,000	07/30/2014	6th PIR	S	S

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	LDCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
5815	Regional	Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the Asia-Pacific region	UNEP	6,000,000	88,190,417	08/29/2014	5th PIR	MS	S
6912	Comoros	Strengthening Comoros Resilience Against Climate Change and Variability Related Disaster	UNDP	8,932,421	38,480,908	03/02/2016	5th PIR	MU	MS
6914	Afghanistan	Adapting Afghan Communities to Climate-Induced Disaster Risks	UNDP	5,600,000	65,500,000	12/02/2015	5th PIR	U	U
6923	Eritrea	Mainstreaming climate risk considerations in food security and IWRM in Tsilima Plain	UNDP	9,050,000	27,500,000	01/07/2015	5th PIR	HU	HU
6926	Lesotho	Strengthening climate services in Lesotho for climate resilient development and adaptation to climate change	UNEP	5,000,000	37,060,000	11/22/2016	3rd PIR	MS	S
6983	Mozambique	Building resilience in the coastal zone through Ecosystem – based approaches to adaptation (EbA)	UNEP	6,000,000	22,900,328	11/22/2016	3rd PIR	MU	MU
6984	Regional	Building Resilience of Health Systems in Asian LDCs to Climate Change	UNDP	9,000,000	27,061,600	03/02/2016	4th PIR	S	MS
6986	Rwanda	Building the capacity of Rwanda's government to advance the National Adaptation Planning process	UNEP	6,000,000	7,500,000	11/22/2016	3rd PIR	S	S
6988	Guinea-Bissau	Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable coastal areas and communities to climate change in Guinea Bissau	UNDP	12,000,000	58,629,172	11/22/2016	4th PIR	MU	MU
6989	Nepal	Developing climate resilient livelihoods in the vulnerable watershed in Nepal	UNDP	7,000,000	35,793,000	04/10/2017	2nd PIR	MS	MU
7997	Uganda	Integrating climate resilience into agricultural and pastoral production in Uganda, through a Farmer/Agro-pastoralist Field School Approach	FAO	6,886,838	29,957,724	03/24/2017	4th PIR	S	S
8001	Chad	Community-based climate risks management in Chad	UNDP	5,250,000	12,500,000	03/02/2017	1st PIR	MS	MS
8009	Nepal	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for climate-resilient development in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal	UNEP	6,242,700	32,460,000	03/30/2017	2nd PIR	U	U

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	LDCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
8010	Burundi	Natural Landscapes Rehabilitation and Climate Change Adaptation in the Region of Mumirwa in Bujumbura and Mayor of Bujumbura through a Farmer Field School Approach	FAO	5,877,397	17,499,000	03/29/2017	4th PIR	MS	MS
8013	Malawi	Climate Adaptation for Sustainable Water Supply	AfDB	2,643,500	39,500,000	05/17/2017	4th PIR	S	S
8014	Lesotho	Climate Change Adaptation for Sustainable Rural Water Supply in Lowlands Lesotho	AfDB	4,416,210	16,040,000	03/24/2017	3rd PIR	S	S
8020	Niger	Planning and financing adaptation in Niger	UNDP	8,925,000	31,867,282	03/02/2017	2nd PIR	MS	MS
8022	Lao PDR	Building the Capacity of the Lao PDR Government to Advance the National Adaptation Planning Process	UNEP	3,552,969	22,409,174	01/26/2018	2nd PIR	MS	MS
8028	Somalia	Support for Integrated Water Resources Management to Ensure Water Access and Disaster Reduction for Somalia's Pastoralists	UNDP	8,831,000	69,744,000	10/19/2017	3rd PIR	S	S
8032	Burkina Faso	Promoting index-based weather insurance for small holder farmers in Burkina Faso	UNDP	4,466,175	24,500,000	03/30/2017	2nd PIR	MU	MU
8033	Mauritania	Project for the conservation, restoration and improvement of the resilience of ecosystems in continental wetlands	IUCN	4,449,542	7,057,990	03/02/2017	4th PIR	S	S
8034	Zambia	Building the resilience of local communities in Zambia through the introduction of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) into priority ecosystems, including wetlands and forests	UNEP	6,185,000	15,389,400	10/19/2017	2nd PIR	MS	MS
8035	Uganda	Reducing the Climate Change Vulnerability of Local Communities in Uganda through EbA in Forest and Wetland Ecosystems	UNEP	4,350,000	16,600,000	03/27/2017	2nd PIR	MS	S
9041	Kiribati	Enhancing "whole of islands" approach to strengthen community resilience to climate and disaster risks in Kiribati	UNDP	8,925,000	48,543,587	03/02/2017	2nd PIR	U	HU

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	LDCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
9052	Timor Leste	Enhancing Climate Resilience of the Urban Services Sector in Timor Leste	ADB	3,000,000	55,000,000	03/28/2014	1st PIR	MS	S
9194	Gambia	Strengthening Adaptative Capacities to Climate Change through Capacity Building for small scale Enterprises and Communities Dependent on Coastal Fisheries in The Gambia	UNIDO	2,200,000	9,621,062	11/14/2017	1st PIR	S	MU
9201	Cambodia	Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Cambodia's Coastal Fishery Dependent Communities	FAO	4,350,000	24,054,751		2nd PIR	MS	MS
9303	Ethiopia	Climate Change Adaptation in the Lowland Ecosystems of Ethiopia	UNDP	5,836,073	10,450,000	02/15/2018	2nd PIR	S	MS
9325	Djibouti	RLACC - Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa (PROGRAM)	AfDB	5,077,778	34,051,500	06/20/2013	6th PIR	S	S
9364	Sao Tome and Principe	São Tomé and Príncipe Adaptation to Climate Change - Additional Financing	World Bank	6,000,000	8,400,000		2nd PIR	S	MS
9488	Somalia	Rural livelihoods' adaptation to climate change in the Horn of Africa -Phase II (RLACC II)	AfDB	9,985,185	22,950,000	11/14/2014	3rd PIR	MS	MS
9512	Tuvalu	Climate Resilience in the Outer Islands of Tuvalu	ADB	500,000	13,510,000	09/06/2016	Final PIR	HS	S
9750	Haiti	Resilient productive landscapes in Haiti	World Bank	6,210,046	20,000,000	05/01/2017	5th PIR	S	S
10083	Sudan	Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project	World Bank	4,566,210	17,600,000	11/26/2018	3rd PIR	MS	MS
10096	Rwanda	Ecosystems/Landscape Approach to Climate Proof the Rural Settlement Program of Rwanda	UNDP	8,355,638	22,860,000	11/20/2018	1st PIR	HS	S
10103	Mauritania	Climate Change Adaptation and Livelihoods in Three Arid Regions of Mauritania	UNEP	4,416,210	13,770,374	11/20/2018	1st PIR	S	S
10165	Togo	Strengthening resilience to climate change of coastal communities in Togo	FAO	8,932,420	41,000,000	05/14/2019	1st PIR	S	S
10181	Timor Leste	IKAN Adapt: Strengthening the adaptive capacity, resilience and biodiversity conservation ability of fisheries and aquaculture dependent livelihoods in Timor-Leste	FAO	2,649,726	10,530,000	05/14/2019	1st PIR	S	MS

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	LDCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
10186	Zambia	Climate Change Adaptation in Forest and Agricultural Mosaic Landscapes	FAO	8,932,420	33,021,000	05/14/2019	1st PIR	MS	S
10430	Global	Resilience for Peace & Stability, Food and Water Security Innovation Grant Program	UNDP	1,000,228	810,950	08/06/2020	1st PIR	MS	MS
10432	Regional	Reviving high quality coffee to stimulate climate adaptation in smallholder farming communities	IUCN	1,146,790	1,900,393	07/02/2020	1st PIR	S	MS
10433	Global	Piloting innovative financing for climate adaptation technologies in medium-sized cities	UNIDO	247,104	1,830,000	01/22/2020	1st PIR	Not Rated	Not Rated
10435	Regional	Adaptation Accelerator Program: Building Climate Resilience through Enterprise Acceleration	CI	1,025,046	1,317,880	01/24/2020	1st PIR	MS	MS
10436	Global	Investment Readiness for the Landscape Resilience Fund	WWF-US	1,142,661	12,821,806	03/19/2020	1st PIR	HS	S
10525	Global	Strengthening Endogenous Capacities of Least Developed Countries to Access Finance for Climate Change Adaptation	UNEP	1,980,000	2,074,424	06/30/2020	1st PIR	S	S
10746	Solomon Islands	Strengthening Resilience of Water Supply in Honiara	ADB	4,587,156	92,817,000		1st PIR	S	HS
10861	Solomon Islands	Integrated Economic Development and Community Resilience (IEDCR)	World Bank	4,566,211	19,000,000	11/12/2021	1st PIR	S	S

**ANNEX II: ACTIVE PORTFOLIO UNDER THE SCCF AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	SCCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
5113	Regional	Enhancing Climate Change Resilience in the Benguela Current Fisheries System	FAO	2,855,000	19,166,000	11/15/2012	Final PIR	S	S
5125	Lebanon	Smart Adaptation of Forest Landscapes in Mountain Areas (SALMA)	FAO	7,147,635	26,980,000	11/15/2012	6th PIR	S	MS
5384	Regional	Adaptation to the impact of climate change in water resources for the Andean Region	CAF	9,260,000	58,181,237	06/20/2013	6th PIR	S	S
5523	Antigua and Barbuda	Building climate resilience through innovative financing mechanisms for climate change adaptation	UNEP	5,000,000	12,900,000	11/07/2013	Final PIR	S	MU
5666	Pakistan	Mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation through Water Resource Management in Leather Industrial Zone Development	UNIDO	3,310,000	14,700,000	03/21/2014	7th PIR	S	S
5681	Regional	Building Climate Resilience of Urban Systems through Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in Latin America and the Caribbean	UNEP	6,000,000	29,734,000	03/21/2014	6th PIR	S	S
5687	Belize	Energy Resilience for Climate Adaptation	World Bank	8,000,000	3,975,000	03/21/2014	6th PIR	MS	MU
5814	Regional	Pacific Resilience Program	World Bank	5,479,452	40,217,000	06/04/2015	8th PIR	MS	MS
6924	Viet Nam	Promoting Climate Resilience in Viet Nam Cities	ADB	4,566,210	77,897,100	10/30/2014	4th PIR	S	MS
6927	Egypt	Integrated Management and Innovation in Rural Settlements	IFAD	7,812,000	38,132,600	10/30/2014	8th PIR	S	S
6951	Morocco	Enhancing the climate resilience of the Moroccan ports sector	EBRD	6,192,694	48,900,000	10/30/2014	7th PIR	MS	MS
9326	Kenya	RLACC - Rural Livelihoods' Adaptation to Climate Change in the Horn of Africa (PROGRAM)	AfDB	2,577,778	58,938,000	06/20/2013	3rd PIR	S	S
9670	Regional	Enhancing Regional Climate Change Adaptation in the Mediterranean Marine and Coastal Areas	UNEP	1,000,000	4,891,894	11/14/2016	2nd PIR	MS	MS
10195	Regional	CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase1: Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS)	FAO	883,242	25,797,816	05/14/2019	1st PIR	S	MS

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	SCCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	Report	DO rating	IP rating
		multi-country soil management initiative for Integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems†							
10296	Global	Adaptation SME Accelerator (ASAP)	CI	1,995,497	500,000	10/1/2019	3rd PIR	HS	HS
10433	Global	Piloting innovative financing for climate adaptation technologies in medium-sized cities	UNIDO	494,210	1,830,000	01/22/2020	1st PIR	Not Rated	Not Rated
10436	Global	Investment Readiness for the Landscape Resilience Fund	WWF-US	1,142,661	12,821,806	03/19/2020	1st PIR	HS	S
10437	Regional	Financial Tools for Small Scale Fishers in Melanesia	WWF-US	1,005,046	7,330,578	06/17/2020	1st PIR	S	S
10438	Colombia	UAVs/Drones for Equitable Climate Change Adaptation: Participatory Risk Management through Landslide and Debris Flow Monitoring in Mocoa, Colombia	CAF	504,500	2,665,201	8/10/2020	1st PIR	S	S
10632	Global	Using systemic approaches and simulation to scale nature-based infrastructure for climate adaptation	UNIDO	2,000,000	3,822,486	07/22/2020	1st PIR	S	S



### ANNEX III: CEO ENDORSEMENT OVERDUE PROJECTS

The projects listed in this Annex were, as of May 1, 2024, overdue for CEO Endorsement. The GEF Secretariat has contacted the Agencies to request follow-up and resolution. The responses and the expected timelines are described as a footnote for three of the projects.

GEF ID	Country	Title	GEF Agency	Council Approval Date	Trust Fund
9166	Chad <sup>1,4</sup>	Strengthening agro-ecosystems' adaptive capacity to climate change in the Lake Chad Basin (Lac, Kanem, Bahr El Ghazal, and part of the Hadjer-Lamis region)	FAO	8/27/2018	LDCF
9392	Congo DR <sup>1</sup>	Climate resilient growth and adaptation in Democratic Republic of Congo	UNDP	8/27/2018	LDCF
10105	Guinea-Bissau <sup>2</sup>	Strengthening Climate Information and Early Warning Systems for Climate Resilient Development and Adaptation to Climate Change in Guinea Bissau	UNDP	12/20/2018	LDCF
10100	Mozambique <sup>3</sup>	Scaling up Local Adaptation and Climate-risk Informed Planning for Resilient Livelihoods	UNDP	12/20/2018	LDCF

<sup>1</sup>. These projects were posted for LDCF/SCCF Council approval by mail on May 29, 2018 following streamlined procedures for processing LDCF proposals, and were approved on a no objection basis on June 26, 2018. Due to operational changes that took place at the end of GEF-6 period, the issuance of the Council approval letters was postponed until early GEF-7. As the approval decision was taken in the GEF-6 period, they are considered as part of the GEF-6 portfolio.

<sup>2</sup>. The project has been submitted and is expected to be CEO endorsed by May 31, 2024.

<sup>3</sup>. The project is expected to be submitted for CEO endorsement review by May 31, 2024.

<sup>4</sup>. The project is expected to be submitted for CEO endorsement review by July 31, 2024.

**ANNEX IV: MULTI-TRUST FUND PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION AS OF JUNE 30, 2023**

GEF ID	Country	Title	Lead GEF Agency	Trust fund	LDCF/SCCF project financing (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	PIF Approval Date	DO rating	IP rating
5113	Regional	Enhancing Climate Change Resilience in the Benguela Current Fisheries System	FAO	LDCF	1,700,000	6,846,973	11/15/2012	S	S
				SCCF	3,025,000	12,419,027	11/15/2012		
5133	Regional	Senegal River Basin Climate Change Resilience Development Project	World Bank	LDCF	12,000,000	49,600,000	04/12/2013	S	MS
5384	Regional	Andean Adaptation to the Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources Project	CAF	SCCF	8,456,621	58,181,237	06/20/2013	S	S
10083	Sudan	Sudan Sustainable Natural Resources Management Project	World Bank	LDCF	4,566,210	10,000,000	11/26/2018	MS	MS
10181	Timor Leste	IKAN Adapt: Strengthening the adaptive capacity, resilience and biodiversity conservation ability of fisheries and aquaculture dependent livelihoods in Timor-Leste	FAO	LDCF	2,649,726	10,530,000	05/14/2019	S	MS
10195	Regional	CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase1: Caribbean Small Island Developing States (SIDS) multi-country soil management initiative for Integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems†	FAO	SCCF	883,242	25,797,816	05/14/2019	S	MS
10433	Global	Piloting innovative financing for climate adaptation technologies in medium-sized cities	UNIDO	LDCF	225,668	583,479	01/22/2020	-	-
				SCCF	451,332	1,246,521	01/22/2020		
10436	Global	Investment Readiness for the Landscape Resilience Fund	WWF-US	LDCF	571,330	6,410,901	03/19/2020	HS	S
				SCCF	571,330	6,410,901	03/19/2020	HS	S