



GEF REGIONAL WORKSHOP

Quito, Ecuador

September 3-5, 2024



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



Day 2 (Wednesday)

- Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF)
- Blended Finance

Coffee Break

- Panel Discussion: Civil Society Organizations

Lunch

- GEF communications: policy and operation
- Introduction of the Field Visit - Project Strengthening of the local bioenterprise network as a strategy for conservation, tourism development and food sovereignty in the Zuleta biocorridor: “La Magia de Vivir”.

INTRODUCTION TO THE GEF TEAM



Avril Benchimol
Senior Financial
Specialist



Charles Dixon
Social Specialist



Emanuela Fernandes
Senior Learning Officer



Esteban Bermudez
Climate Change
Specialist



Henry Salazar
Senior Operations
Officer



Ikuko Matsumoto
Knowledge
Management



Kettly Gousse
Program Assistant



Nicolas Pizanelli
Operations Officer



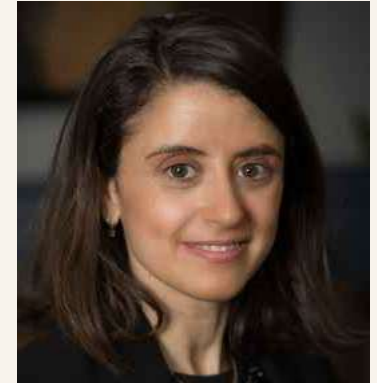
Nitya Mehta Mehta
Communications
Specialist



Noemi Hernandez
Senior Country
Officer and
Secretary of the
GEF Council



Pascal Martinez
Senior Climate
Change Specialist



**Patricia Marcos
Huidobro**
Climate Change and
Latam Regional
Coordinator



GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FUND



REGIONAL LATIN AMERICA WORKSHOP

Jurgis Sapijanskas
GEF Secretariat

September 9, 2024

GBF Fund Establishment

**CBD COP 15 requests
the GEF to establish a
GBF Fund**

December 2022

**GBF Fund Ratified
at 7th GEF Assembly**

August 2023

**Start of programming
Two GBFF selection
rounds**

March-May 2024

**Third selection
round**

August 8 – Sept. 30

**GBF Fund Establishment
and Programming
Directions approved at
64th GEF Council**
June 2023

1st GBFF Council
Approves
operational policies
February 2024

2nd GBFF Council
First Work Program
June 2024

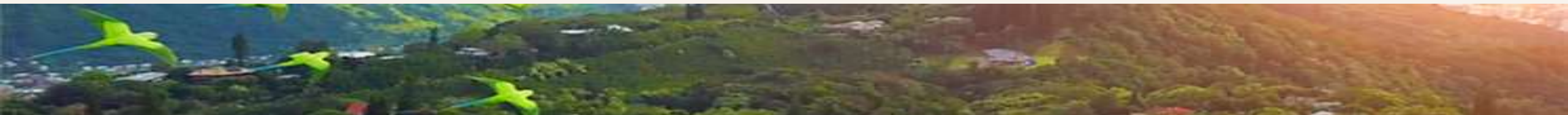


How is the GBFF different?



GBFF Programming Directions: Strategic complementarity

ACTION AREA		GBF TARGETS
1	Biodiversity conservation, restoration, land/sea-use and spatial planning	1, 2, 3
2	Support to IPLC stewardship and governance of lands, territories, and waters	1, 2, 3, 22
3	Policy alignment and development	14, 15, 18
4	Resource mobilization	18, 19
5	Sustainable use of biodiversity	5, 9
6	Biodiversity mainstreaming in production sectors	7, 10
7	Invasive alien species	6
8	Capacity building and implementation support for the Cartagena and Nagoya protocols	13, 17



How is the GBFF different?



Governance

- **GBFF Council**
- **Expanded observer rep.**
 - IPLCs
 - Youth
 - Women
 - Conservation and philanthropic organisations
 - Private sector
- **Auxiliary body**
- **Advisory group(s)**



Resources

- **From all sources**
- **Contributions on rolling basis**

Approx. \$244 million to date



Resource allocation & project cycle

- **Co-finance encouraged, not required**
- **Streamlined & faster project cycle** with single project modality
- **Competitive allocation model**
 - Selection rounds / calls for proposals
 - Agreed selection criteria and portfolio-level targets

Submitting projects to the GBFF

1

Project Preparation Grant (PPG) REQUEST – SELECTION ROUNDS

- Secretariat opens a submission window
- Secretariat reviews **according to agreed selection criteria**
- Based on the review, **resource availability** and the three **portfolio-level targets**, the **CEO approves all or a subset** of the submitted PPG requests

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Potential to generate Global Environmental Benefits
2. Alignment with the GBFF Programming directions and advancing the GBF implementation
3. Alignment with the NBSAP and BFP or similar instruments to identify national and/or regional priorities
4. Level of policy coherence and coordination across multiple ministries, agencies, the private sector and civil society
5. Mobilization of private sector and philanthropies' resources
6. Engagement with and support to IPLCs
7. Balance amongst regions

PORTFOLIO-LEVEL TARGETS

1. **36%+3%** allocated to **SIDS/LDCs**
2. A full **25%** to be programmed through **International Financial institutions** that are GEF agencies
3. **Aspirational share of 20%** by 2030 to support actions by **IPLCs**



Submitting projects to the GBFF

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- Based on the review, **resource availability** and the three **portfolio-level targets**, the **CEO approves all or a subset of the submitted PPG requests**

Maximum 9 months from PPG approval to full project submission

2

COUNCIL APPROVAL (or delegated CEO Approval for projects up to \$5 million) of fully developed projects

Maximum 12 months from endorsement to first disbursement

3

IMPLEMENTATION



Submitting projects to the GBFF



BIODIVERSITY DIFFERENTIATION THROUGH COUNTRY-SPECIFIC CEILINGS

- Share of GBFF resources a country may receive limited to twice its share of the GEF-8 Biodiversity STAR allocation
- Countries' maximum dollar value of funding request(s) in the third selection round recently published



Country	Country Ceiling	Maximum dollar value for funding request(s) in first tranche (million USD)	Total used by projects with approved PPGs in first tranche (million USD)	Maximum dollar value for funding request(s) for third selection round (million USD)
Argentina	2.58%	5.45		5.45
Bolivia	2.15%	4,53		4,53
Brazil	9.37%	19.76	19,76	
Chile	2.59%	5.47		5.47
Colombia	7.61%	16.06		16.06
Costa Rica	1.92%	4.06		4.06
Ecuador	4.64%	9.78		9.78
El Salvador	0.41%	0.87		0.87
Guatemala	1.21%	2.55		2.55
Honduras	1.76%	3,72		3,72
Mexico	8.78%	18.53	18.50	0.03
Nicaragua	0.95%	2.01		2.01
Panama	1.95%	4.11		4.11
Paraguay	0.45%	0.95		0.95
Peru	5.96%	12.57	12.57	
Uruguay	0.46%	0.98		0.98
Venezuela	2.57%	5.43		5.43

PROGRAMMING TO DATE



Portfolio to date

70

PPG requests submitted

32 submitted by LDCs/SIDS

22

PPG requests approved

11 approved for LDCs/SIDS

24

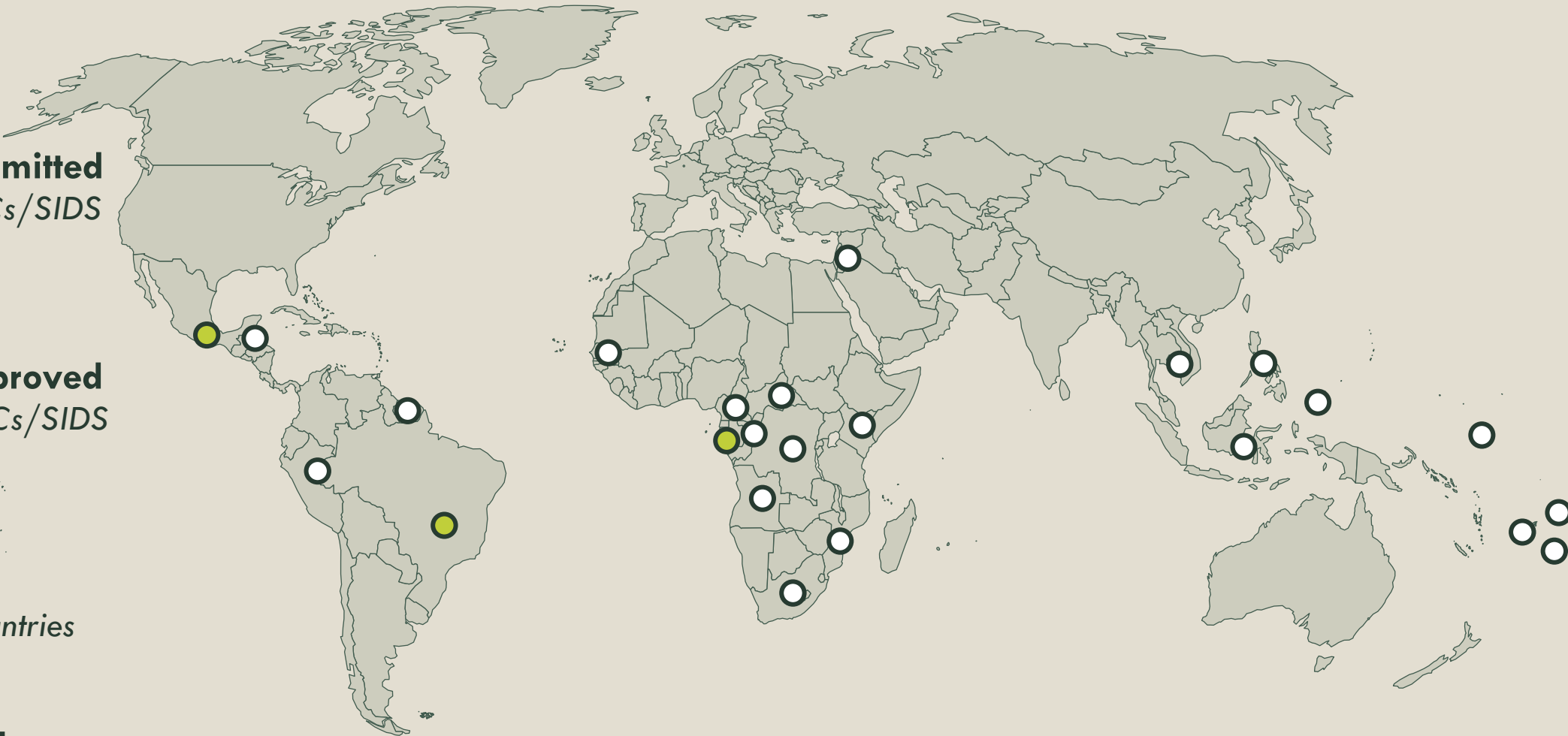
Countries

13 LDCs/SIDS countries

\$110.4

million in GBFF Financing

\$28.2 million for LDCs/SIDS



← First programming tranche (\$211 million) →



↑ PPGs approved

Portfolio to date

ROUNDS	PPG REQUEST SUBMISSIONS	SELECTED
First Selection Round	4 proposals 3 countries \$39.8 M	4 submissions approved \$39.8 M
Second Selection Round	66 proposals 63 countries \$210.1 M	18 proposals 21 countries \$70.7 M

A total of **\$110 million** set aside for projects in **24 countries**

	<i>% of funds dedicated to</i>	<i>Fund amount dedicated</i>	<i># of projects</i>
LAC	48%	\$53.1 million	6
Africa	31%	\$34.1 million	8
Asia	20%	\$22.3 million	7
ECA	1%	\$870,000	1


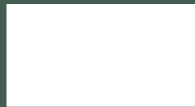

Portfolio to date

Portfolio-level targets:

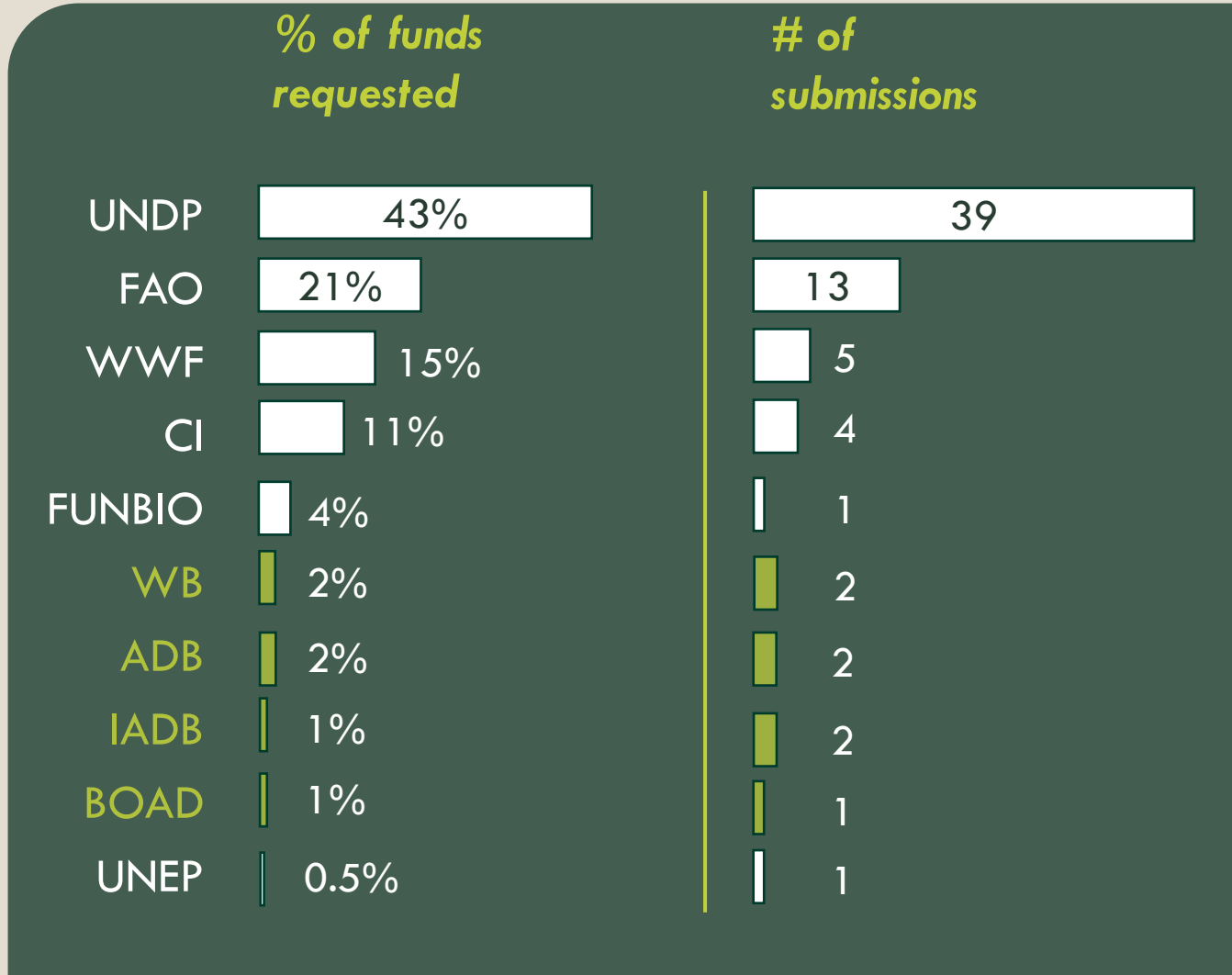
- **26%** to SIDS/LDCs
- **6%** through International Financial institutions
- **35%** to support actions by IPLCs

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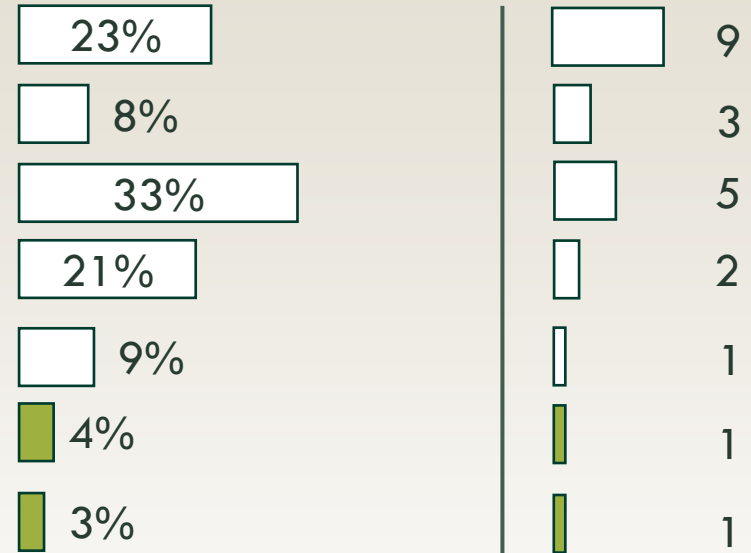
Portfolio to date



Submissions

% of funds approved or set aside

of approved PPG request



Approvals

A scenic view of a forest with a large tree in the foreground and a waterfall in the background, overlaid with a green circular graphic containing the text 'Q&A'.

Q&A



GEF-8

GEF Blended Finance Program (Non-Grant Instrument)

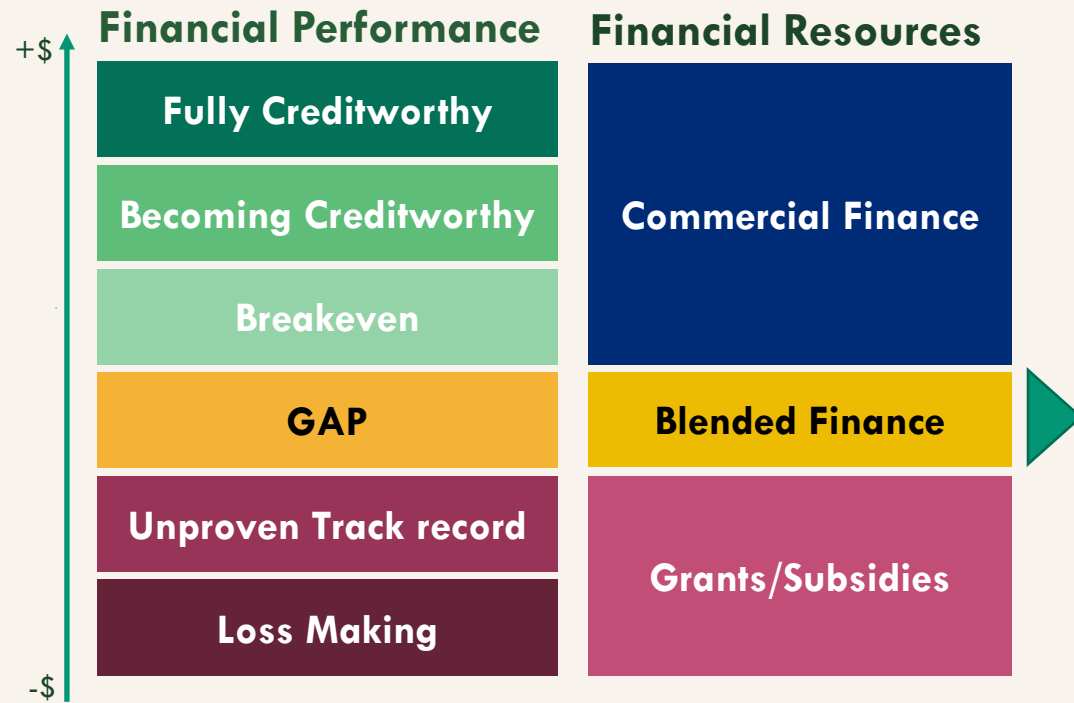


fondo
para el medio
ambiente mundial
INVERTIMOS EN NUESTRO PLANETA

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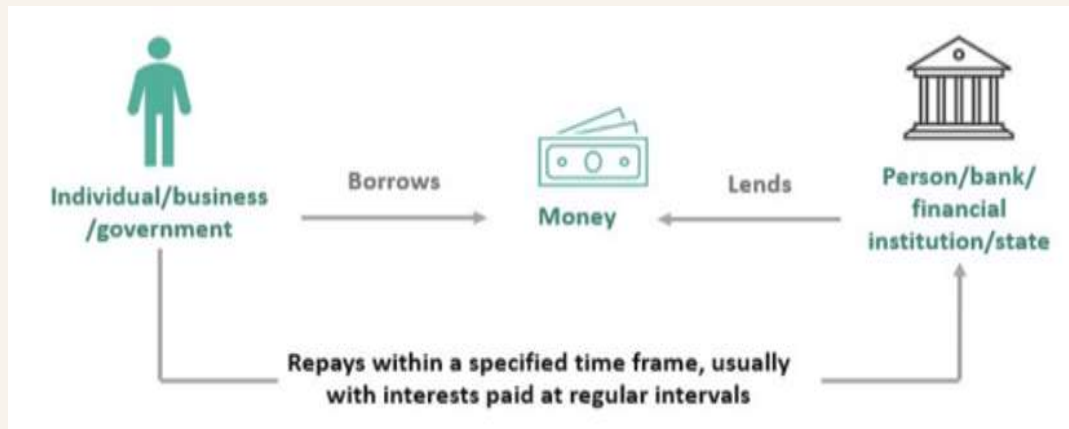
- I. **¿What does Blended Finance means?**
- II. GEF's Experience with Blended Finance and Regional Overview in Latin America
- III. Terms and Conditions
- IV. Case Studies
 - a. Regional examples and innovative projects
 - b. The case of AgroApoyo in Ecuador
- V. Questions & Answers

What does Blended Finance means?



Blended Finance is an investment mechanism filling the gap between *grants* and *commercial finance*. It is used in projects which commercial banks cannot finance due to *high risk*.

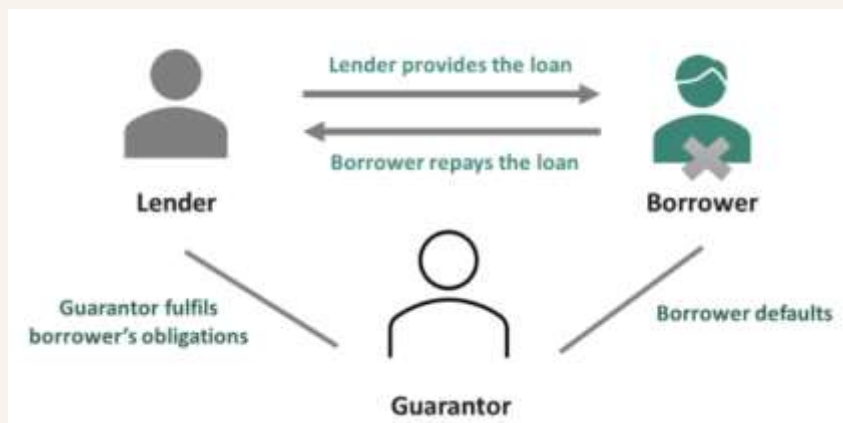
Debt: Money borrowed for later repayment, usually with interest. Concessional debt has favorable conditions (longer repayment period, lower repayment priority) or lower interest rates than the market.



Equity/Capital: An instrument that grants ownership in a company. The GEF would accept greater risk for lower financial returns in exchange for environmental impact.



Guarantees: An instrument that protects investors from losses arising from various forms of risk (credit/return).



Payment for results: An instrument that is only paid if certain development objectives are achieved.



State of the Combined Finance Market in Latin America



- **Latin America** is a popular region for blended finance professionals, accounting for **47%** of transactions in the Convergence Database, currently raising funds in the **year 2022**. According to this database, Latin America represents a joint committed financing of US\$ 19.7 billion
- By area, **Renewable Energy** is the main subsector
- **Debt** or concessional **capital** and **technical assistance** are the key archetypes of the mix in Latin America
- The majority of commercial commitments for Latin America-focused transactions have come from **Development Finance Institutions and Multilateral Development Banks (37%)** and from **Commercial Investors (36%)**, predominantly commercial banks, diversified financial institutions and large corporations.



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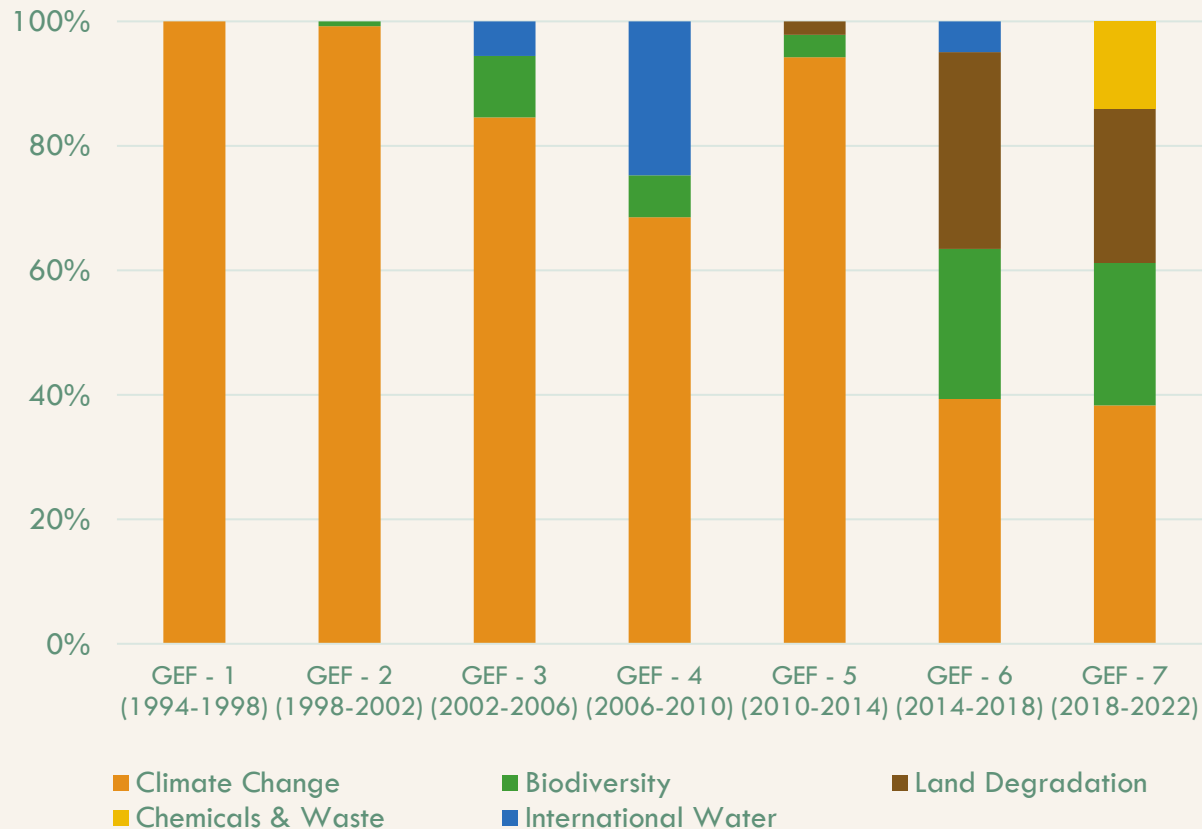
Blended Finance Program (Non-Grant Instrument)

Goal

Mobilize private sector investment in projects with high potential to generate GEBs

Definition

Investment has the potential to generate reflows

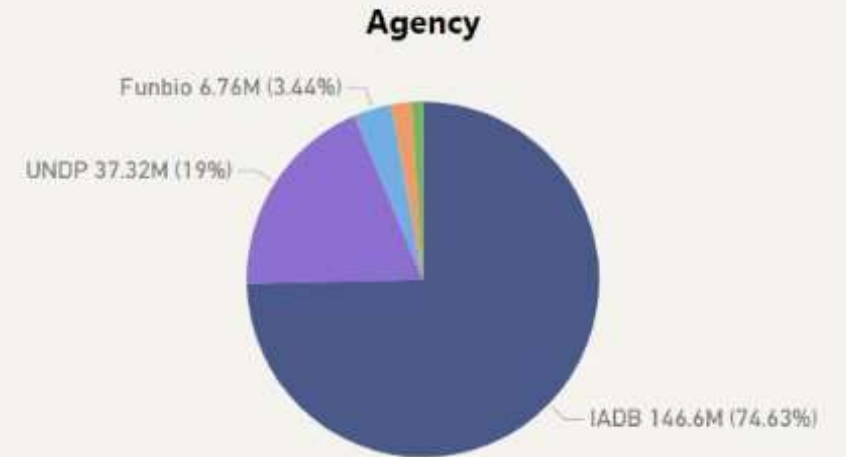
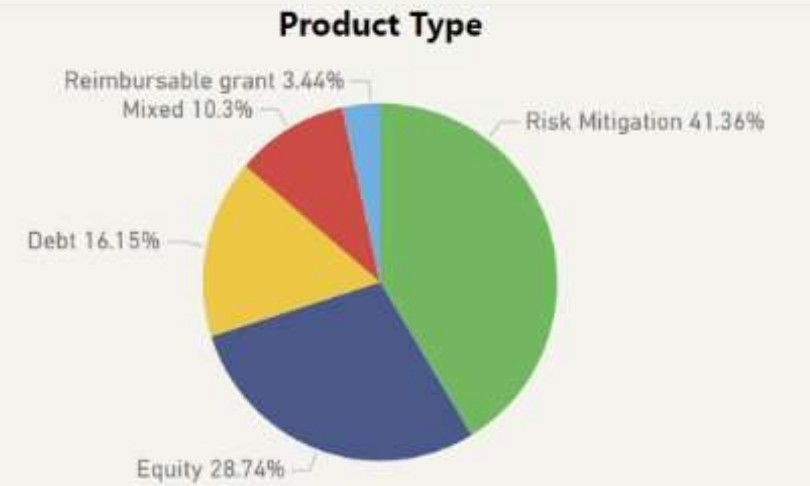
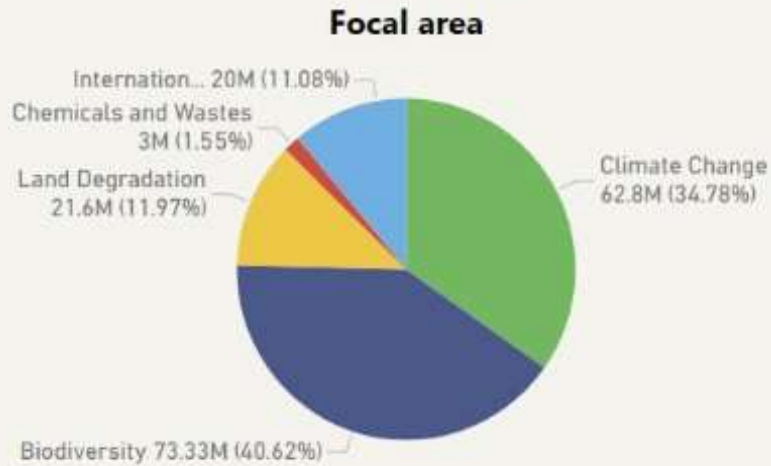
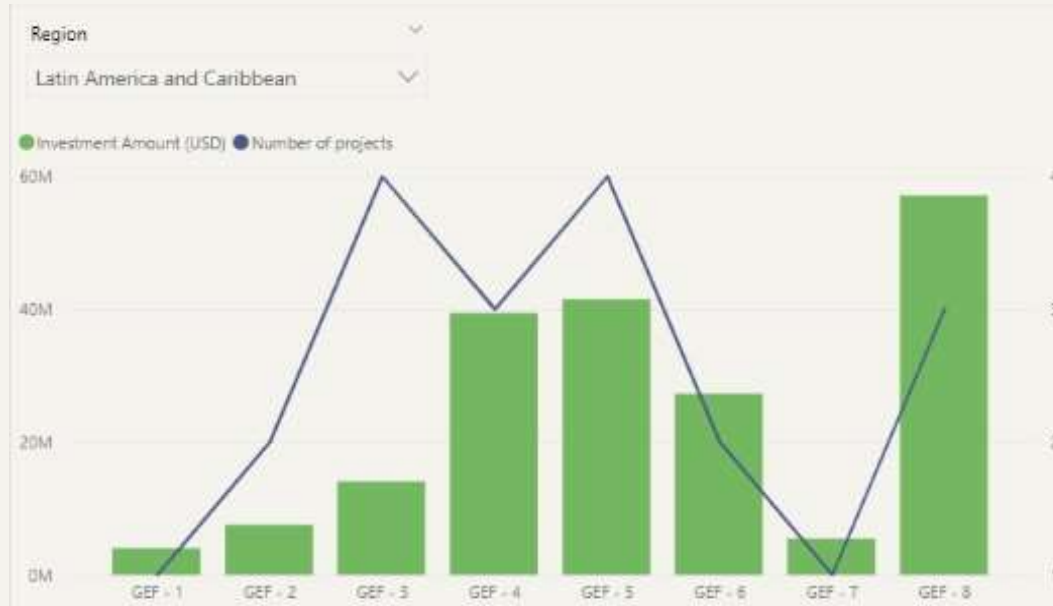


- **The GEF has been a leader in blended finance since its inception.** Initially focusing on climate change mitigation, but lately moving to "frontier" areas, including biodiversity, **where private sector investment is limited.**
- In GEF-7, the blended finance initiative had an allocation of USD 136 million and **USD 122.6 million allocated** to 10 projects with a co-financing ratio of 20:1
- In GEF-8, the allocation is **USD 196 million**, new instruments were introduced including contingent/convertible instruments linked to environmental performance and risk elimination instruments, such as political risk insurance and liquidity facilities.
- **There is a high demand for blended financing.** GEF Agencies propose investments to access more than four times the available funding; selection is highly competitive.

Regional summary

LAC

- **23 projects**
- ✓ **GEF-1 (1)**
- ✓ **GEF-2 (2)**
- ✓ **GEF-3 (4)**
- ✓ **GEF-4 (3)**
- ✓ **GEF-5 (4)**
- ✓ **GEF-6 (2)**
- **2 regional**
- ✓ **GEF-7 (1) (regional)**
- ✓ **GEF-8 (3)**
- **1 country (BRZ)**
- **2 regional**



Use of Non-Grant Instruments: 2 entry points



	GOAL	FEATURES	PROJECTS
<p>“BLENDED FINANCE PROGRAM” (NGI SET-ASIDE)</p>	<p>Mobilize private sector investment</p>	<p>Investment has potential for generating reflows back to the GEFTF</p> <p>Separate Call for Proposals (CfP) and rules for selection of projects</p>	<p>GEF-7/8 supported projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>GEF ID 10497 Agri 3 (CI)</i> • <i>GEF ID 10328 CERI (EBRD)</i> • <i>GEFID 10330 Rhino Bond (WB)</i>
<p>STAR OR IW/CW ALLOCATION</p>	<p>Mobilize public/private sector investment</p>	<p>Investment reflows stay in the country</p> <p>Non-competitive process for STAR</p> <p>Selection and allocation depend on Country priorities.</p>	<p>GEF-5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>GEFID 4918 Partial Risk Sharing Facility for EE (WB)</i> <p>GEF-8:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>GEF ID11064 PSEEP (DBSA)</i>
<p>GBFF</p>	<p>Scaling up private finance to Support KMGBF</p>	<p>Reflows stay in the country</p> <p>Competitive process – selection rounds</p> <p>Submission and allocation are country-driven.</p>	<p>No submission using non-grant instruments to date</p>

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Terms and Conditions

Maximum Funding Amount	Up to \$15 million per project/program, larger amounts of funding may be considered
Maximum maturity	Up to 20 years
Financial products	Including but not limited to: (i) debt instruments; (ii) risk mitigation products (guarantees and structured finance); (iii) equity instruments; (iv) contingent or convertible instruments indicated in the Non-Grant Instruments Policy, GEF C.63/12, FI/PL/02, December 2022
Currency	Proposals in currencies other than USD are acceptable, however, foreign exchange risk and any hedging strategies will be disclosed and quantified in the term sheet
Subordination/seniority considerations	The financing terms are negotiated by the GEF Agency to ensure minimum levels of concessionality and avoid crowding out other sources of financing. The description of the indicative financial terms and conditions of the proposal must be submitted on the GEF portal as part of the PIF or Project Framework Document (PFD).

Competitive Call for Proposals

Each proposal is evaluated based on the following criteria that were shared in the call for proposals.

Selection Criteria

1. Projects that support the latest global environmental commitments
2. Scalability: financial structures or investment platforms aimed at scaling projects beyond individual projects;
3. Appropriate levels of co-financing: in line with the expected impact of the project and in the context of the capacity of each focal area;
4. Financial innovation;
5. High Financial Additionality;
6. Ability to generate reflux;
7. Innovation in the use of funds;
8. Global Environmental Benefits: Proposals will be evaluated based on their contribution to GEF focal areas, Integrated Programmes and their ability to generate global environmental benefits.

Eligibility Criteria

- Alignment with Programming Priorities (Programming Directions del GEF-8)
- Geography: Project beneficiaries must be in eligible GEF recipient countries
- GEF Agency Eligibility Requirements;
- Modalities: Medium projects, large projects and programs;
- Non-Donations Instruments: Policy - Non-Donations Instruments updated at the December 2022 Council meeting

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Wildlife Conservation Bond (GEF-7, 10330)

Project summary

The five-year rhino bond, which raised \$150 million in its March 23, 2022 issuance is a combination of existing financial products – a bond with an excellent credit rating (AAA for World Bank issued bonds), paired with a performance-based grant funded by the GEF which results in a new financial structure that can successfully harness investment from capital markets to directly support endangered species conservation.

Two South African Parks will receive technical assistance for the protection of Black Rhinos.

Country (South Africa)/ Biodiversity/ SDG 15

Financial terms

- Investment type for the GEF: Reimbursable Grant
- Amount of GEF investment: USD 13.76 M
- Coupon: The bonds will be redeemed on the maturity date as par plus a Conservation Success Payment. The higher the rhino growth rate, the higher the success payment.
- Maturity: 5 years
- Reflow: Reflow will vary between 0 and 13.76 million (net of fees) based on rhino growth rate

Global Environmental Benefits*

Indicator 1

Terrestrial protected areas created or under improved management for conservation and sustainable use

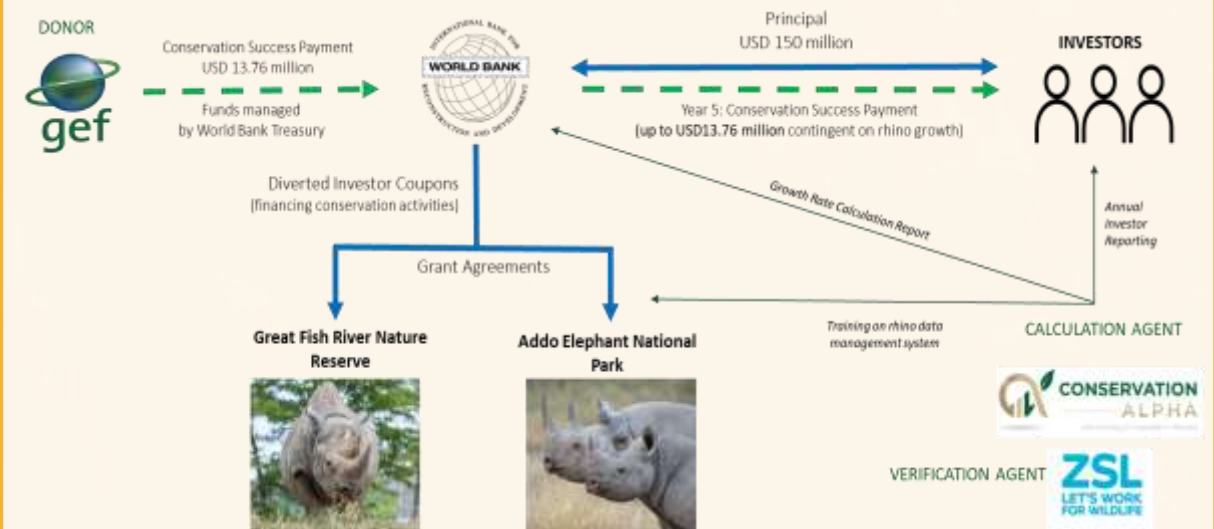
153,141 ha

Indicator 11

Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment

1,684 male
620 female

Financial structure



* Including GEF Agency fee, Project Preparation Grant (PPG) and PPG Agency fee

IDB Innovative use of Financial Instruments for BD (US\$43.79 M GEF, 1:16 co-financing)

Project summary: The objective of this Project is to establish a Regional Facility to support biodiversity conservation and restoration in at least 3 LAC countries by: (i) enabling long-term financing for conservation, restoration, and sustainable management without increasing the debt ceiling; (ii) introducing very powerful incentives to timely achieve conservation commitments; and (iii) strengthening national institutional frameworks to support natural resources management.

The Facility will provide to each participating country an innovative blended finance solution through the use of guarantees to support a Debt for Nature Conversion (DFNC) and a convertible risk mitigation instrument, that will help countries attend to nature and debt objectives concurrently, ensuring long-term financing for PAs, spatial planning, effective management, and/or expansion without increasing the debt ceiling.

Financial terms

- **Investment type:** Convertible Risk Mitigation Instrument, performance-based grant
- **Amount of investment:** USD 39.0M (+grant USD 1.18M), co-financing: USD 641M (+future mobilization expected)
- **Convertibility Feature:** Behaving as a first loss guarantee that covers default of payment of interest/principal of the Guaranteed Instrument until the Convertibility Event; and performance-based grant that will be disbursed contingent to the achievement of pre-defined Conservation Commitments.
- **Co-financing:** 1:16
- **Maturity:** 20 years
- **Reflows for GEF:** guarantee premium on a yearly basis and uncalled guarantees with no convertibility

Selection of Countries: To be eligible to receive support under this Facility, LAC countries must comply with the following:

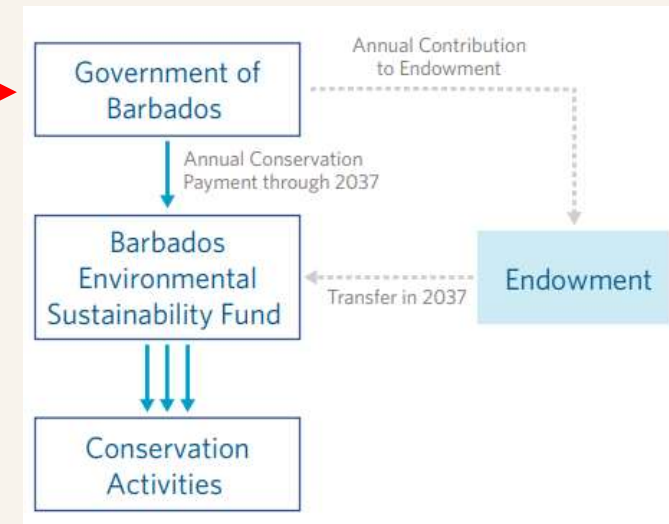
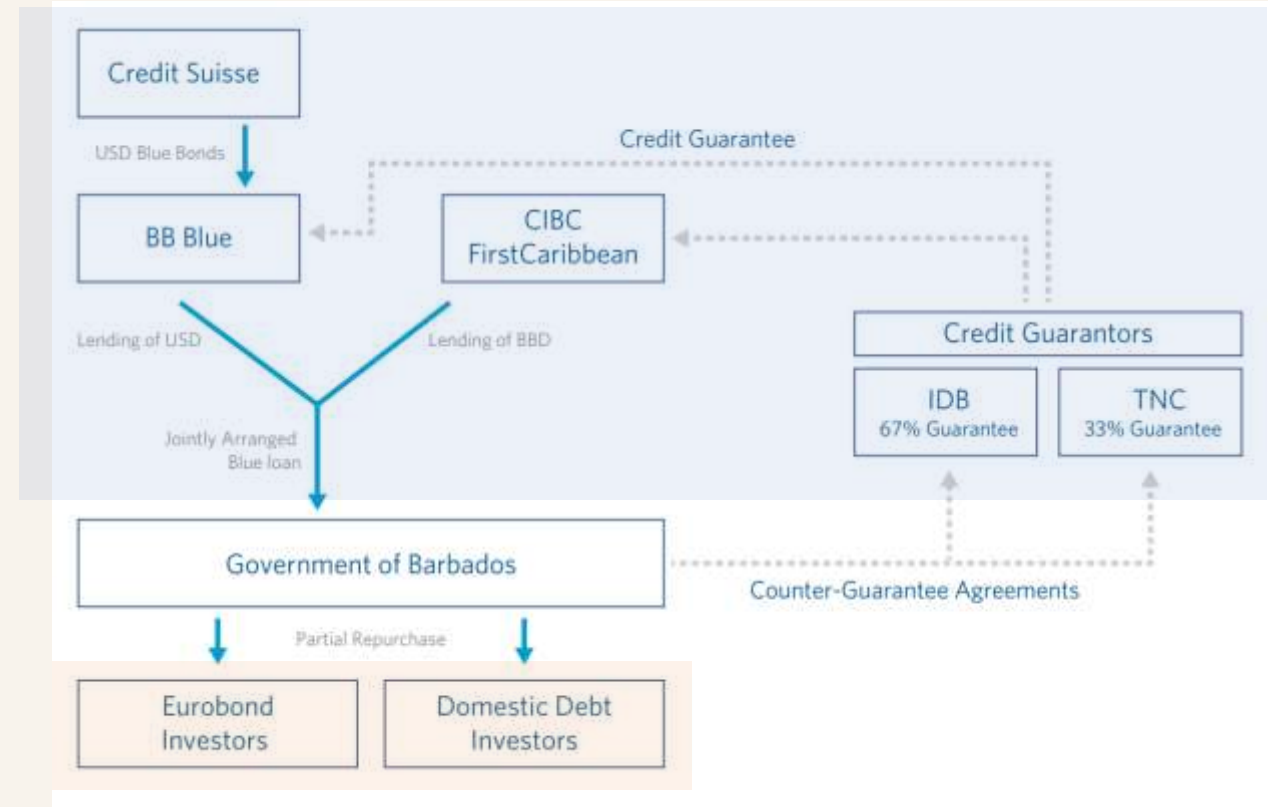
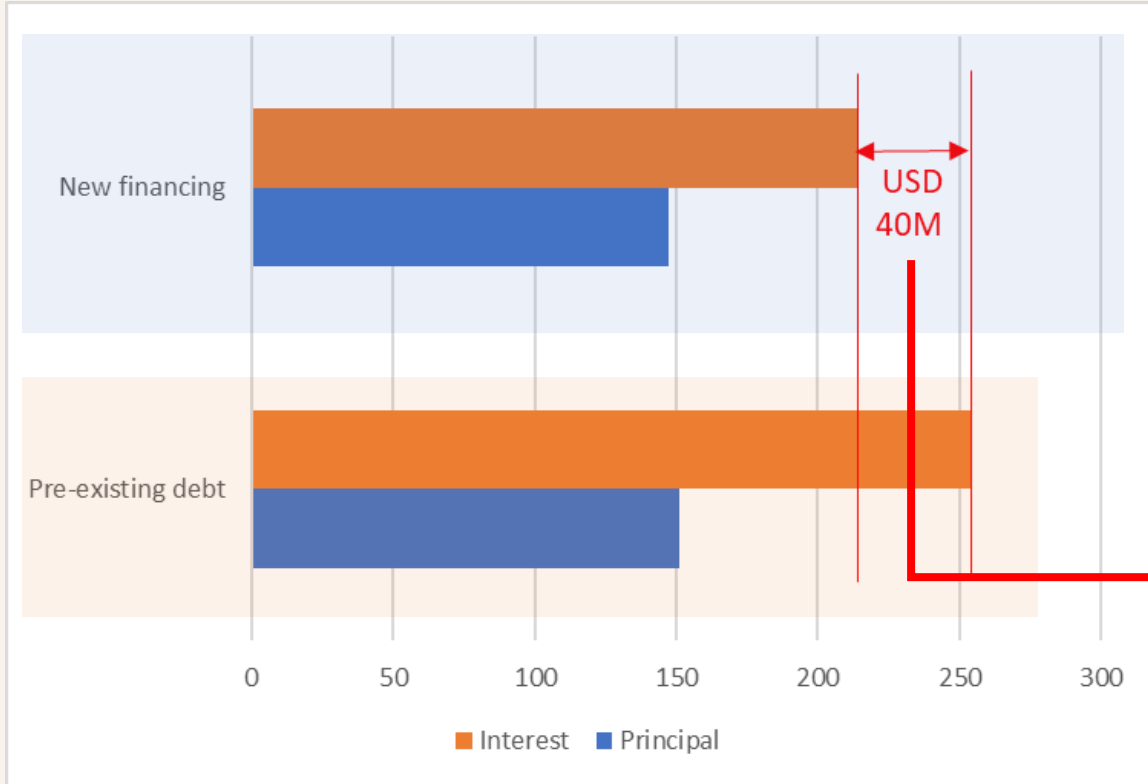
1. Request a Policy-Based Guarantee (PBG) from the IDB to support a Debt for Nature Conversion (DFNC)
2. Be eligible GEF countries and be parties to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
3. Have solid environmental policies in place such as National Development Plans with environmental commitments as one of the central pillars, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) with biodiversity actions, and/or active National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs).
4. Commit to achieve ambitious conservation commitments aligned with national plans and priorities, including the ambition to implement restoration or conservation goals in line with the Global
5. Biodiversity Framework (GBF), using territorial development plans with prioritization of areas of environmental importance (defined as containing one or more IUCN Key Biodiversity Areas or areas of critical habitat for endangered species) contributing to GEF-8 Global Environmental Benefits targets in the areas of Conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and Sustainably managing and restoring land.
6. Financial savings generated through the DFNC must be at least 20% of the guaranteed amount.
7. 100% of the savings generated by the GEF funds and at least 50% of savings from IDB guarantee will be channeled to conservation or restoration activities.
8. Have an adequate governance structure in place (or be willing to create one) for a successful channeling of conservation resources through a Conservation Trust Fund (CTF) or other similar mechanism, based on international guidance.

Global Environmental Benefits

Indicator 1	Terrestrial Protected Areas under Improved Management effectiveness	2,112,297ha
Indicator 2	Marine Protected Areas under improved Management	40,630,170ha
Indicator 3	Area of land of ecosystems under restoration	187,500 ha
Indicator 11	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender as co-benefit of GEF investment	310,737

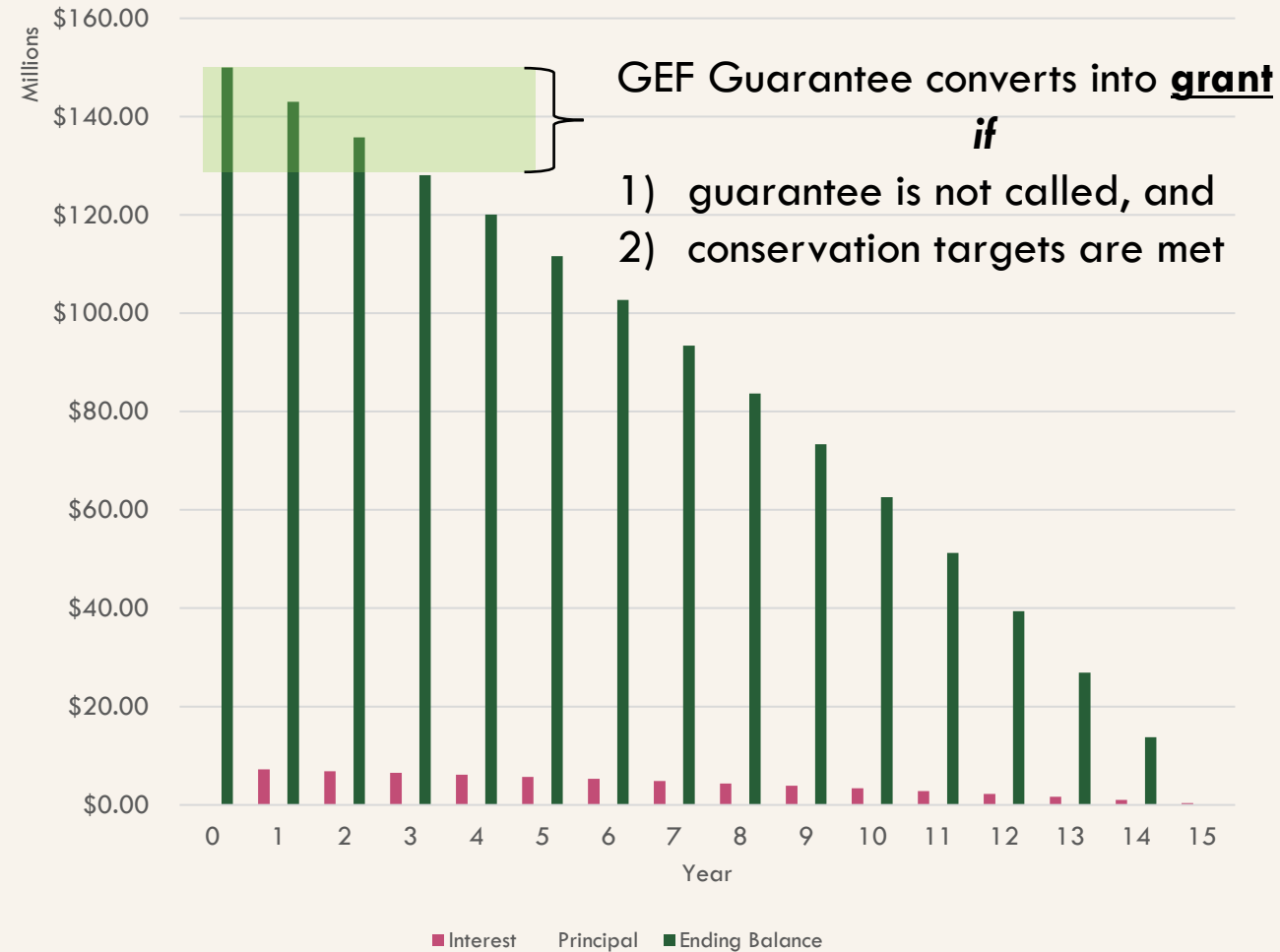
Barbados Case Study (Example)

Savings in sovereign debt restructuring



Case from Barbados (what if GEF-IBD facility participate?)

Amortization schedule of Barbados Blue Bonds



Investment Fund IDB LAB-GEF PPP Platform (GEF-5 4959)



Project Summary

The platform aimed to support several funds in the region: EcoEnterprises Fund, MicroCarbon Development Fund and the Honduras Renewable Energy Facility (H-REF). The objectives of this program were to support “first movers” in clean technologies and bioeconomy and to catalyze greater investments from the private sector. The platform also generated benefits at the level of low-income populations, women and indigenous populations. The EcoEnterprises Fund invested in SMEs such as Kabloom, Runa and Terrafertil with operations in Ecuador.

Global Environmental Benefits

Indicator 4	Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)	2,063,000 ha
Indicator 6	Greenhouse Gas Emissions mitigated	3,500,000 tCO ₂ e

Terms and Conditions

- **Investment:** Equity del GEF, la plataforma proporciono una multitud de instrumentos desde deuda, equity y garantías.
- **Size/Amount:** GEF US\$ 15 y co-financinamiento US\$ 115M
- **Maturity:** 12 años. Investment tickets per project [US\$ 500K-US\$ 3M]
- **Countries:** Colombia, Peru, Guatemala, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Brazil, Chile, Mexico

COMPANY	COUNTRIES	SECTOR	BACKGROUND
DURABILIS	Colombia, Guatemala, Peru	Sustainable Agriculture	Global supplier of Fair-Trade fresh fruits and vegetables with unique year- round supply.
ecoflora Agro	Colombia	Emerging Opportunities	Premium Latin American player in organic, plant- based crop protection.
ECOFLORA	Colombia	Emerging Opportunities	A global innovator that develops natural colorants from plant-based extracts.
flp	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	Sustainable Agriculture	Leading provider of premium Fair Trade exotic fruits and processed products.
KaBloom	Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador	Emerging Opportunities	Innovator in direct farm- to-retailer certified flower business.
Morgan's Rock	Nicaragua	Ecotourism	Ecotourism vanguard in the coastal rainforest of Nicaragua.
mm nurturino	Peru	Sustainable Agriculture	Emerging leader in healthy, organic, non-GMO quinoa food products for children.
rain forest	Peru	Ecotourism	Ecotourism pioneer and example of business model excellence in the Peruvian Amazon.
RUNA	Ecuador, Peru	Agroforestry	First mover in organic, fair trade guayusa beverages in partnership with Kichwa peoples in the Amazon.
SAMBAZON	Brazil	Agroforestry	Leader in wild-harvested acai products and other super-fruits grown in the Brazilian Amazon.
TERRAFERTIL	Brasil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, México, Perú	Sustainable Agriculture	Creator of Latin American wellness brand and premier supplier of organic dried golden berries.

agro
apoyo

a **bar**nana[®]
company

Proveemos snacks de banano, plátano y relacionados, que son novedosos, saludables y deliciosos, mientras generamos un impacto positivo en el medio ambiente y las comunidades a lo largo de nuestro negocio desde la finca a la percha.



CONVERSIÓN ORGÁNICA

Recuperar el balance de la tierra mediante el apoyo a pequeños agricultores en su proceso hacia la agricultura orgánica.

KPI	2018	2023
Superficie de plátano org. / Organic plantain area	567 ha	1,333 ha
Plátano org. disponible / Org. plantain available	4,954 Tn	8,429 Tn
Nº Agricultores / Farmers	256	1173
Nº de asociaciones / Nº of Coops/Groups	3	11
Beneficiarios / Beneficiaries	256	8500
Mujeres en la cadena / Women in the supply chain	na	> 40%
Ingreso prom. por agricultor / Avg income per farmer	< \$100	± \$175



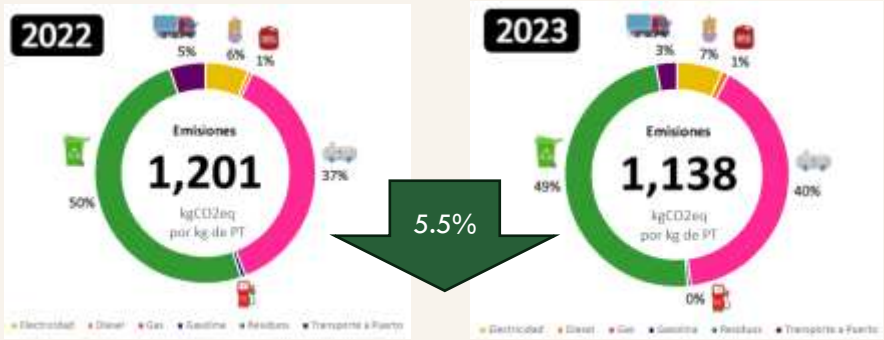
Agroapoyo (Ecuador) / Barnana (EEUU)



Líder en el canal natural en EEUU
Más de 14.000 puntos de venta



HUELLA DE CARBONO (GEI)



Certificaciones:



... entre otros ...

Index

- I. ¿What does Blended Finance means?
- II. GEF's Experience with Blended Finance and Regional Overview in Latin America
- III. Terms and Conditions
- IV. Case Studies
 - a. Regional examples and innovative projects
 - b. The case of AgroApoyo in Ecuador
- V. Questions & Answers**

Thank you



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF and Communications: Policy & Partnership Strategy

Communication and Visibility Policy

POLICY ON COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

- **WHAT:**

- Guiding principles and mandatory requirements for recipients of GEF funding on **how and when to describe the GEF's role and contribution** to project and program outcomes.

- **WHO IT APPLIES TO:**

- the **GEF Secretariat, GEF Agencies, and other entities receiving GEF financing**, who are responsible for publicizing their work and include references to support received from the GEF.

POLICY ON COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

- **WHY:**

- **Strong, clear, and consistent communications strategies** across the GEF Partnership are vital to ensure that donors, recipient countries, and other stakeholders see the **value of GEF-funded activities** and initiatives.
- Creating a more coordinated, appropriately funded approach at the global, Agency, program, and project level will help **communicate GEF's impacts and results** better.

Partnership Communications Strategy

PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

VISION

- Strategic communications can **raise the visibility of the GEF and its results.**
- The GEF Communications Collective is a network of communicators that can **boost the quality and cohesiveness of communications.**
- Coordinating our efforts, we transmit a more **impactful and complete message** about the GEF and why **its growth would be beneficial across the board.**
- With more cohesion we can raise the quality of **communications around individual projects and programs.**

PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

OBJECTIVES

- Clearly define and effectively share the **GEF's identity and value addition.**
- **Show the benefits** of working with the GEF.
- **Provide donors** with easily accessed **information on effectiveness and impact** and offer avenues and channels for **amplified visibility.**
- **Provide recipient countries** with easy to access, **accurate information** about the **GEF's effectiveness and impact.**

PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

OBJECTIVES

- Recognize and **elevate the voices of champions and changemakers** working with the GEF, from the local to national and international levels.
- Support the **production of clear and joined-up communication about GEF-funded work.**
- Increase the **quality and impact of project-level and program-level communications**, ensuring that each project can align and contribute to the GEF's global communication narrative, footprint, and impact.

PARTNERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

PROJECT-LEVEL COMMUNICATORS NETWORK

- Improve collaboration among communicators to support the implementation of the Policy on Communication and Visibility
- Enhance synergy and collective action towards shared goals (GEF, Agencies, Countries, Projects)
- Provide guidance and empower communicators to seize opportunities more effectively and in alignment with the GEF Policy
- Create a flexible platform for sharing diverse stories from various themes, regions, and countries
- Capacity building: training sessions and networking opportunities to enhance cohesion and quality of communications outputs across the partnership

GEF Communications



GEF COMMUNICATIONS – WEBSITE



GEF COMMUNICATIONS – STORY TELLING



Bridging local realities and global climate goals

FEATURE STORY / November 10, 2023



Photo courtesy of Juliany Minyety Méndez

Juliany Minyety Méndez is a sustainable development expert from the Dominican Republic who will be part of her country's delegation to COP28, with support from the Global Environment Facility and Climate Reality Project America Latina. In an interview, she shared how her experience growing up in a hurricane-prone area has shaped her thinking about climate vulnerability and the world's responsibility to help those affected by a crisis they did not contribute to.

In the Seychelles, financial innovation buoys ocean health

FEATURE STORY / September 12, 2023



Photo credit: ReneGammer/Shutterstock


The Seychelles is known for its isolated beauty, with pristine beaches, turquoise waters, and lush tropical rainforests.


Over the past decade, the Indian Ocean archipelago spanning 115 granite and coral islands has also emerged as a pioneer of using innovative finance for ocean health.

With long-term support from the Global Environment Facility, the Seychelles has turned its vast ocean territory into leverage that has allowed it to protect its natural assets, reduce its economic pressures, and open up a whole new category of financing for others to follow.

GEF COMMUNICATIONS – MEDIA RELATIONS




 **REUTERS**® Countries adopt multibillion-dollar fund to protect nature

 **The Guardian** Developed countries urged to 'step up' contributions to global nature fund

 **新华社**
XINHUA NEWS AGENCY New global biodiversity fund launched in Vancouver

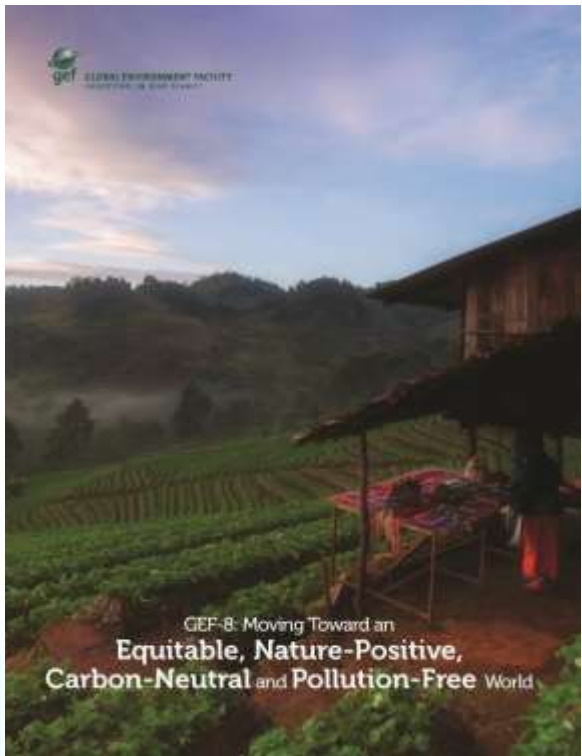
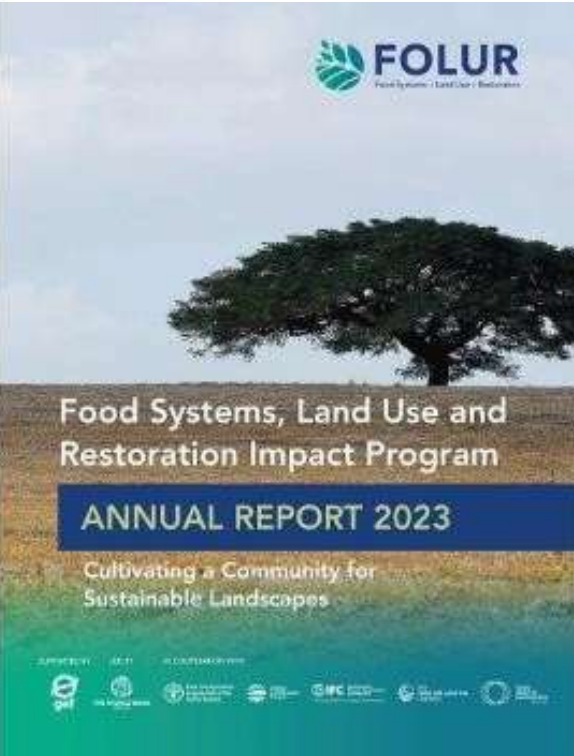
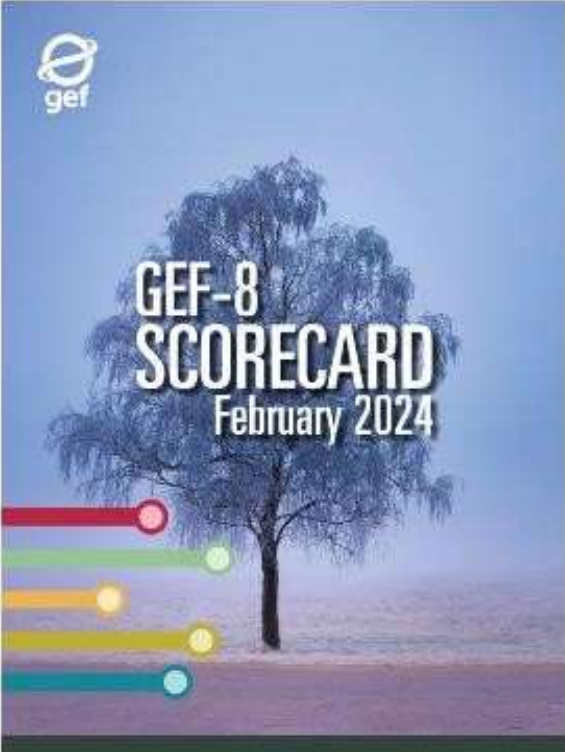
 **POLITICO** Top environmental fund chief calls on countries to defund activities 'destroying' nature

 **Diálogo Chino** Top environmental fund calls for more direct funding to communities

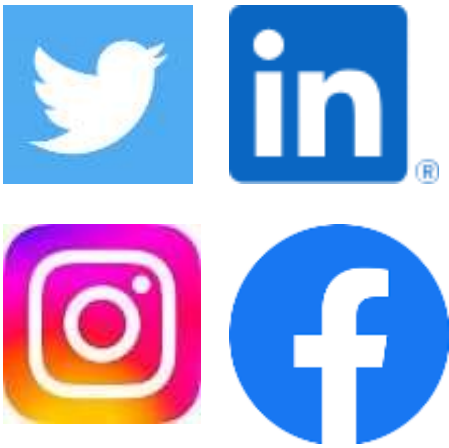
GEF COMMUNICATIONS – EVENTS & PAVILIONS



GEF COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLICATIONS



GEF COMMUNICATIONS – SOCIAL MEDIA



Global Environment Facility
Tackling our planet's most pressing environmental problems.
Environmental Services · Washington, DC · 100K followers · 51-200 employees



GEF COMMUNICATIONS – FOLLOW AND TAG THE GEF

A vertical banner with a green background. At the top, there is a photograph of hands holding a glowing globe with various icons. Below the photo, the text 'Connect with us on social media' is written in white. Underneath, a smaller line of text says 'Follow us and get updates delivered to your favorite social media channel.' Below this, there are five social media links, each with its respective icon and the text 'Follow the GEF':

- Twitter
- Instagram
- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- Visit us online (www.thegef.org)

A green circular button with a white left-pointing arrow is located at the bottom right of the banner.

GEF COMMUNICATIONS – NEWSLETTER



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS



GEF Council approves \$1.1B for international action

The expansive work program will catalyze action on biodiversity, climate change, nature renewal, and pollution control. Members also met for the first time as Council of the new Global Biodiversity Framework Fund. [Read more >>](#)



GEF deploys high-impact climate adaptation funding

Government representatives endorsed \$203 million for 21 climate change adaptation projects funded by the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF). [Read more >>](#)



GEF Monthly Newsletter

Highlights from investment and collaboration for the environm...

Monthly newsletter

32,438 subscribers

✓ Subscribed



February 2024: Growing momentum for biodiversity



Global Environment Facility

100,569 followers

✓ Following



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

GEF COMMUNICATIONS – LOGO

Brand Guidelines



GEF Full Name with Tagline



global
environment
facility
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET



GEF Communications Contacts



Robert Bisset – Head of Communications



Laura MacInnis – Editorial Strategy and Content



Alexandre Pinheiro Rego – Media Relations, Country-level Communications



Alua Kennedy – Digital Services, Social Media



Nicholas Greenfield – Climate Change Communications



Mariela Chinchilla Araya – Communicators Network



Nitya Mehta – Social Media



Jason Harmala – Publications, Website Management, IT Liaison



Olivier Besson – Admin and Procurement, Pavilions



Contact us: communications@thegef.org



GEF AND CIVIL SOCIETY



GEF's Approach, Support and Engagement with Civil Society and other Stakeholders

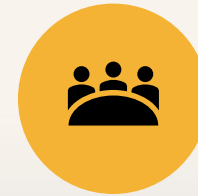
Increasing the scale and scope of GEF's engagement and financing for Civil Society



CSOs ROLES IN THE GEF



Project
executors and
co-executors
through
partnerships



Deliver
national and
local solutions
and promote
policy change

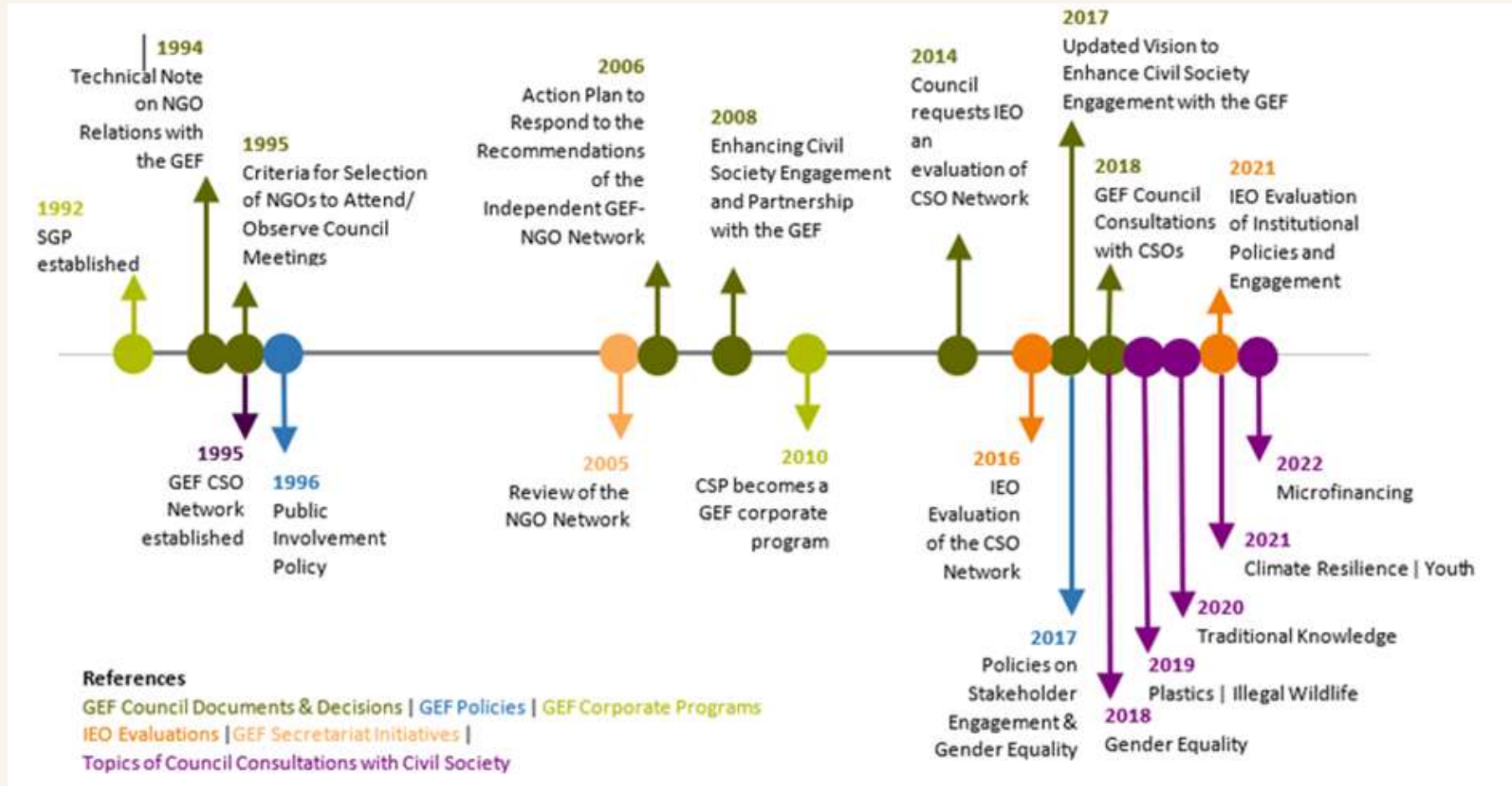


Contribute co-
financing



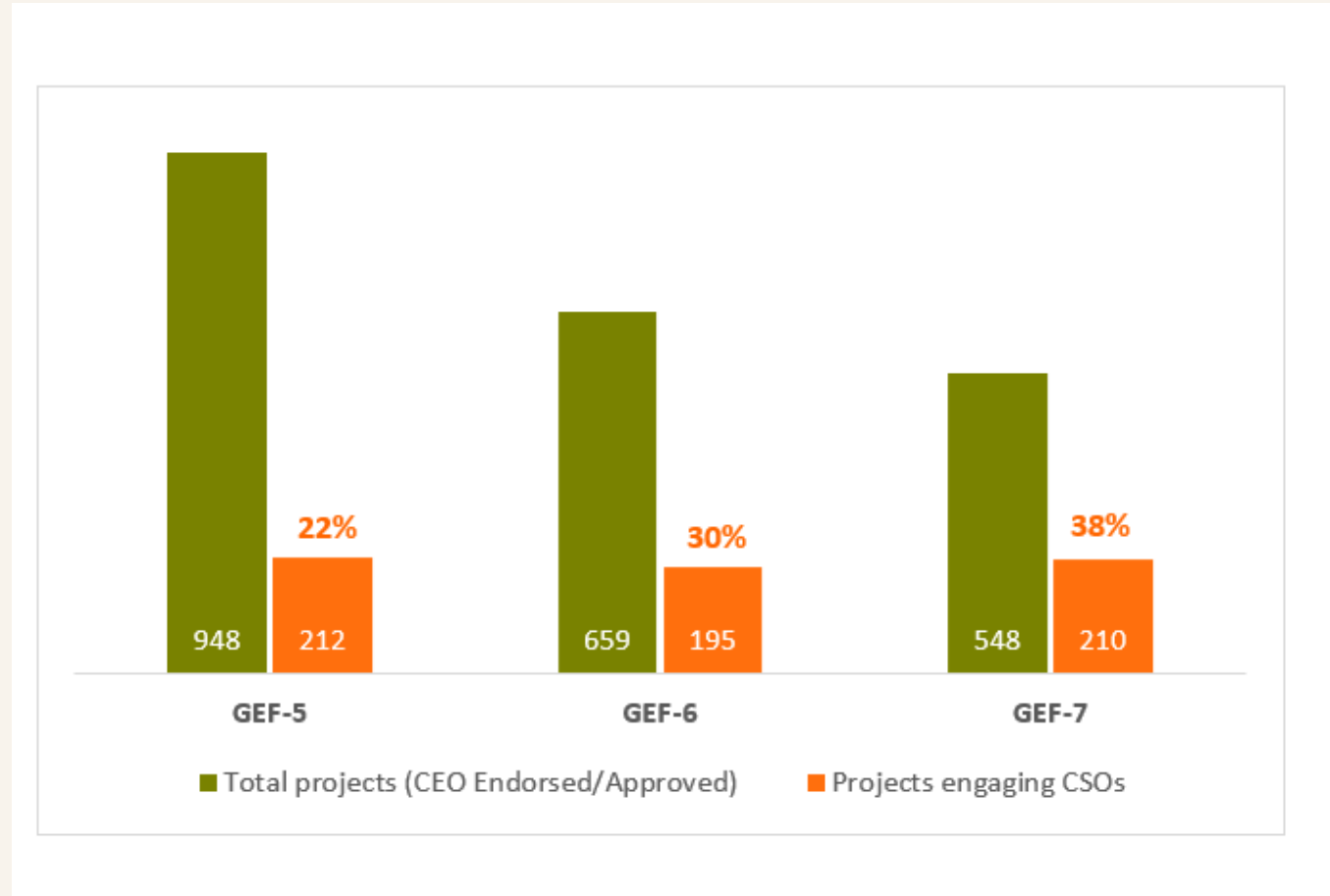
Influence GEF
policy and
strategies

GEF's EVOLVING ENGAGEMENT WITH CSOs



CSO ENGAGEMENT IN GEF PROJECTS BY CYCLE

Increasing CSOs involvement in GEF project execution





PATHWAYS FOR INCREASED ENGAGEMENT

GEF-8 PRIORITIES

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

GEF CSO Advisory Groups

Indigenous Peoples Advisory Group (IPAG)

- Provides guidance and advice to the GEF on policies, project design, financing options, and monitoring and evaluation metrics
- Raising awareness on the GEF and programs related to Indigenous Peoples in international, multilateral fora

CSO Network

- Enhancing the engagement of civil society in the work of the GEF
 - Feedback to the GEF Council in the development and adoption of policies and guidelines

GEF Gender Partnership

- Exchanges knowledge and experiences on how to advance gender-responsive actions GEF projects.
- exchange ideas and identify common needs, GEF Agencies and CSO representatives

GEF CSO NETWORK



- Independent network of civil society organizations (CSOs) established in 1995
- Facilitates civil society inputs to GEF processes.
- Over 500 member organizations with experience and expertise in GEFs areas of work from all regions around the world.
- Recognized by GEF Council & Secretariat as key entity in the work of GEF.
- Organized half-yearly consultations prior to GEF Council meetings & prominent role in regular GEF Assemblies
- A conduit for feedback on GEF implementation, compiling case studies of practical experiences and best practices

VISION



A dynamic civil society influencing policies and actions at all levels to safeguard the global environment and promote sustainable development action.

MISSION

To safeguard the global environment through strengthening civil society partnership with GEF by enhancing informed participation, contributing to policy development and stimulating local action.

KEY OBJECTIVES

1. To enhance the role of civil society in safeguarding the global environment.
2. To promote effective engagement of civil society in GEF operations.
3. To strengthen the capacity of the Network and CSO members to participate in GEF-related activities.



CURRENT INITIATIVES TARGETING CIVIL SOCIETY

Inclusive Conservation Initiative (ICI)

The GEF-7 Inclusive Conservation Initiative funds Indigenous Peoples organizations to protect biodiversity.

It grants \$1-2 million to nine organizations across 13 countries and promotes knowledge exchange, training, and international engagement, all directed and governed by Indigenous communities.



The GEF Fonseca Leadership Program

The GEF Program aims to train over 100 conservation professionals in the next 4 years that will serve the GEF partnership in its goals to assure global environmental sustainability.

1. Training and capacity-building of young conservation leaders
2. Direct support to young leaders for participation in international events related to GEF business
3. Yearly Global Youth Leadership Summits in GEF regions





GEF CSO Network

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



The GEF Small Grants Programme



The GEF Small Grants Programme

SGP
background

Serving as GEF
Corporate Program since
1992

Providing local solutions to
global environmental
problems

Supporting innovative
community-based initiatives
and actions

A large circular graphic with a dark green center and a light grey outer ring. A grey arrow points clockwise from the top of the ring. The text 'SGP in numbers' is centered in the dark green area, followed by a bulleted list of statistics.

SGP in numbers

- > 28,000 grants since 1992
- US\$795m of GEF funds to local communities and CSOs across 136 countries
- \$956m mobilized in co-financing
- Currently active in 127 countries

SGP in
Latin
America



Latin America Portfolio Overview

Coverage: The SGP in Latin America region has 15 active country programs.

From its start, **4907 GEF-funded SGP** projects implemented.

\$126.5M GEF funding provided.

\$163.6M in Co-financing

- **SGP Latin America for GEF-7 :**

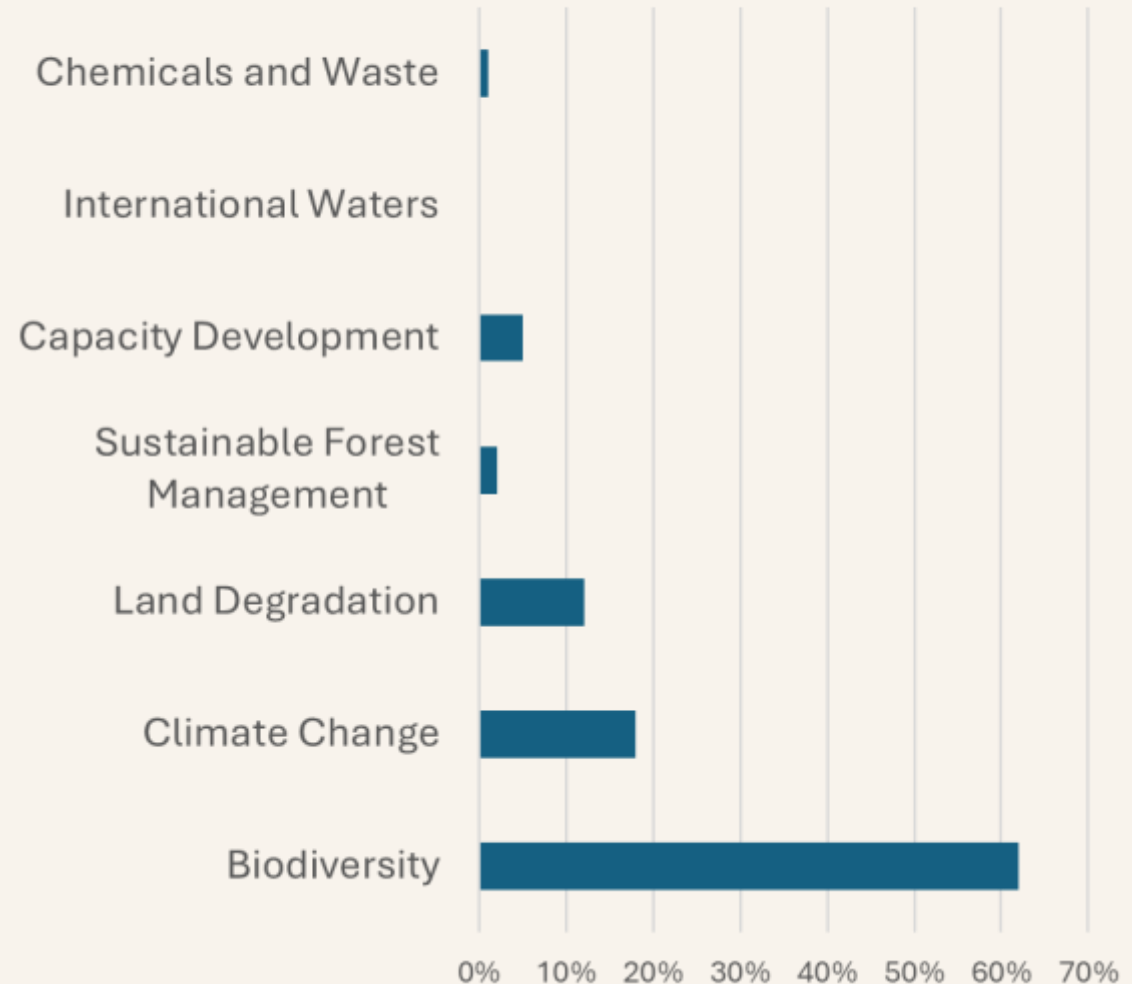
- **Projects: 395**

- **Total GEF funding: \$18.3 M**

- **CORE: \$5.8M**

- **STAR: \$12.4M**

LATIN AMERICA PORTFOLIO FOCAL AREA DISTRIBUTION



Country case: Ecuador*

- Started in 1993, Upgraded 2011
- Supported more than 399 projects
- **2017-2023**
 - 58 projects completed (BD)
 - GEF grant amount: 12,65M USD
 - Cofinancing: 17,5M USD

- Source: UNDP Annual Country Report 2022-23



BIODIVERSITY

226,615 Ha

of target landscapes/seascapes under improved community conservation and sustainable use

1,150,585 Ha

Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas and Territories (ICCAs) positively influenced



SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM (SGP)

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

US\$155 Million



SGP CORE
US\$ 135M

CSO INITIATIVES
US\$ 20M

Resources are operationalized through two tranches split 50/50

- 1st tranche opened to UNDP only (CEO endorsement approved August 2024)
- 2nd tranche open to UNDP, FAO and CI (PIF's expected to submitted before December Council 2024)

1

All countries can access SGP Core Resources

2

SGP Core Resources are allocated **equally**
\$937,500

3

Countries are encouraged to utilize **STAR**





GEF-8 SGP 2.0 CSO Initiatives

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

CSO CHALLENGE PROGRAM

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

MICROFINANCE INITIATIVE

Support Microfinancing Institutions to facilitate micro/small enterprises' access to finance for climate and environmental solutions

Panel
discussion



THANK YOU



THE GEF SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME IN ECUADOR (SGP)

OPERATIONAL PHASE 8 (OP8)

COMMUNITY ACTION GLOBAL IMPACT



Ministry of Environment, Water and Ecological Transition

National Environmental Authority

GEF Operational Focal Points



Implementation of phase 7 of the Small Grants Program

Ecosistemas conservados/protegidos



36 260 ha
Páramo



30 697 ha
Bosque Andino



1 200 ha
Manglar



11 839 ha
Bosque seco costero



1 767 ha
Bosque húmedo de la costa



20 151 ha
Bosque húmedo tropical de la amazonía



101 915 ha

Total de ecosistemas
conservados/protegidos



COMMUNITY ACTION GLOBAL IMPACT

Zuleta Community

Biocorridor Project Cayambe-Coca Video

“To strengthen local bio-enterprise network as a strategy for conservation, tourism development and food sovereignty in the biocorridor – Zuleta”



Objective 1

To create a local bio-enterprise network to support production and sustainable tourism in Zuleta Community, through a Community management model.

Results

- Local bio-enterprises network.
- Management model for the Community Business Center.
- Business plan for the Community Business Center.





Local bio-enterprises network

No.	Bio-enterprise	Responsable
1	Productos Lácteos Carlosama PROLACAR	Rosario Carlosama
2	Unidad Educativa Zuleta	Carmen Adela Sandoval
3	Maderas y Maderos	Carlos Sandoval
4	Catelina Bordados con alma	Teresa Casa
5	Expo Zuleta	
6	Casa Museo Carangue	Amable Chachalo
7	Finca Integral La Pastorita	Mayra Perugachi
8	Hospedaje Arrayan Sisa	Edgar Carlosama
9	Agro Productores y Artesanos Zuleta	José Carlosama
10	AlpacaUrku	Comuna Zuleta
11	Cosas Lindas Bordados a mano	Consuelo Casa
12	La Zuleteñita	Fernando Carlosama



Objective 2

Conservation of 2,378 hectares of páramo and water springs registered in Socio Bosque project and strengthening initiatives of alpaca management in the Zuleta Community "Zuleta-ALPACAURKU".

Results

- AlpacaUrku Initiative.
- Creation of the alpaca fiber management group.
- Participation in the third fair of cattle, goats and Andean camelids.





Objective 3

To implement agroecological farms to promote Andean family food sovereignty in Zuleta Community.

Results

- Farmers and artisans capacities strengthening.
- Exchange experiences with Agroecological Association RESAK from the biocorridor
- Fairs participation
- Visit to the University UDLA integral farm.







Financing and co-financing

- Socio Bosque Programme (MAATE)	USD 40.432,35 (cash)
- Ministry of Agriculture	USD 2.500,00 (kind)
- Provincial Government Imbabura	USD 12.926,00 (cash)
- Catholic University (Ibarra)	USD 3.800,00 (kind)
- Zuleta Community	USD 15.860,00 (kind)
- Zuleta school and high school	USD 3.600,00 (kind)
Total Co-financing	USD 79.118,35
- GEF/PPD Funds	USD 40.000
Project Total	USD 119.118,35



- Zuleta Community has achieved to structure a successful governance model based on the articulation between conservation and sustainable production.
- Bio-enterprises preserve the culture of Caranqui People and are linked to tourism activities (Imbabura World Geopark - UNESCO).
- The participation of youth in all the Community activities is an innovative and fundamental aspect for the project sustainability.
- SGP/GEF project supported community capacities strengthening, through participatory methodologies, considering traditional knowledge, socio-ecological resilience approach to respond the COVID-19 pandemic, the biocorridor approach, the development of bio-enterprises, stakeholders' participation in the territory and youth and gender approach.



- Bio-enterprises are a sustainability strategy that generates environmental, social and economic benefits in a scalable and replicable form.
- Bio-enterprises process considers community organization at the core to strengthen the productive process and commercialization.
- Through the strengthening of bio-enterprises, we aim to conserve The Nature, improve the Community quality of life, generate employment, and work on a socially responsible project; is part of Zuleta Community's vision for the future.





Socio-Environmental Agreement (ASOCIATE) was signed to *"Improve and give sustainability to bio-enterprises, as well as to exchange proposals among the actors within the territory, with emphasis on conserving ecosystems of great importance, activate and support marketing processes in the Biocorridor"*..

The paramo conservation is a strategic practice. It has been important for the community people to understand that they can conserve the paramo and develop sustainable activities that allows a relative economic profitability. Elías Colimba, Zuleta Community President.





I highlight the importance of partnership and networking to optimize economic resources and human talent. The articulation of actors from public and private institutions allowed the project to achieve its objectives.

Another important good practice that can be replicated is the achievement of strategic alliances, for instance with universities, as the Catholic University, which supported different processes of Alpaca Urku's work, such as logo creation, branding and teaching wool dyeing. Community member.

- Bio-enterprises have been able to participate in national and local fairs, as well as participate in television channels for broadcasting, and e-commerce stores.

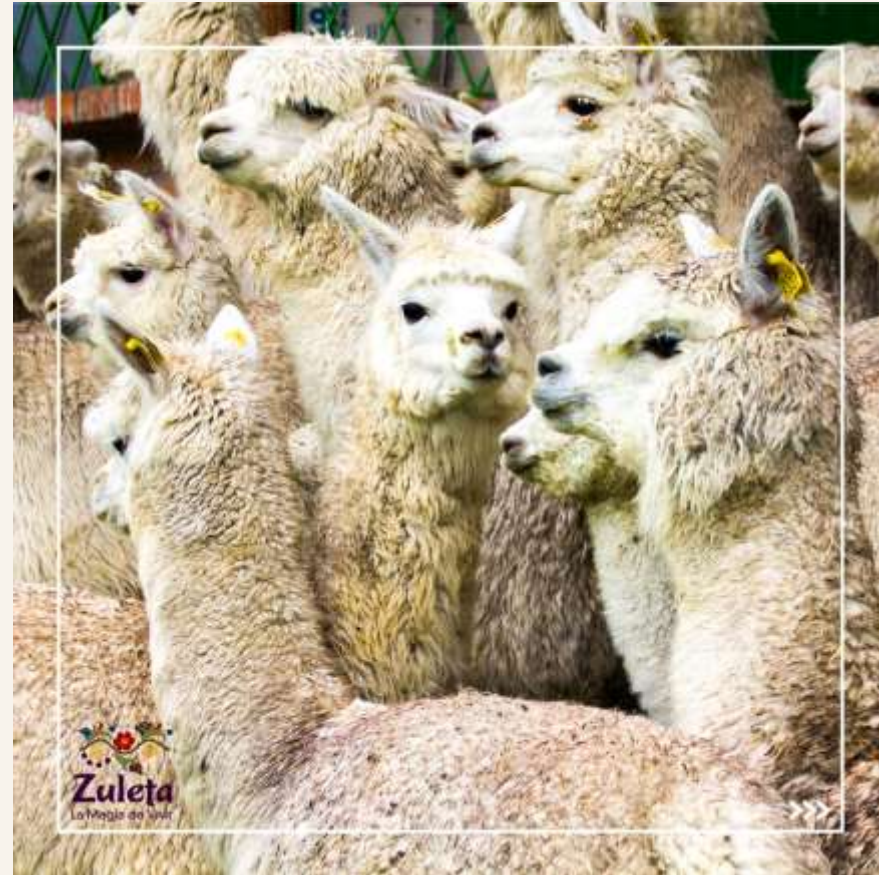
A good practice learned during SGP OP7 is to know what other organizations and artisans do, we can learn from them, as when we traveled to the Amazon Region to exchange experiences with the Women Association Awakkuna. Amada Díaz, embroiderers association.



Zuleta

La Magia de Vivir

Thank you





Zuleta

La Magia de Vivir

Visita de campo

5 de septiembre de 2024

Schedule

- 7:30 a.m.- lobby (2:30) Departure of the buses from in front of the Hilton Colon Hotel
- 10:00 a.m.- Welcome remarks in Zuleta Community (1:15)
- 11:15 a.m.- Learning stations in the community <4 learning stations> (1:30)
- 12:45 p.m.- Lunch and presentation of local products (1:15)
- 2:00 p.m.- Visit Biodiversity-based enterprise stands (0:30)
- 2:30 p.m.- Tour of the community ateliers (1) Museum, 2) Wood carving, 3) hand embroidery) (1:00)
- 3:30 p.m.- Departure to the hotel (2:30)
- 6:00 p.m. Arrival at the hotel



Bus to Zuleta community (7:30 am)

	GEF Sec (Facilitator)
Bus 1: Museum	Nico
Bus 2: Hand embroidery	Noemi
Bus 3: Wood carving	Esteban

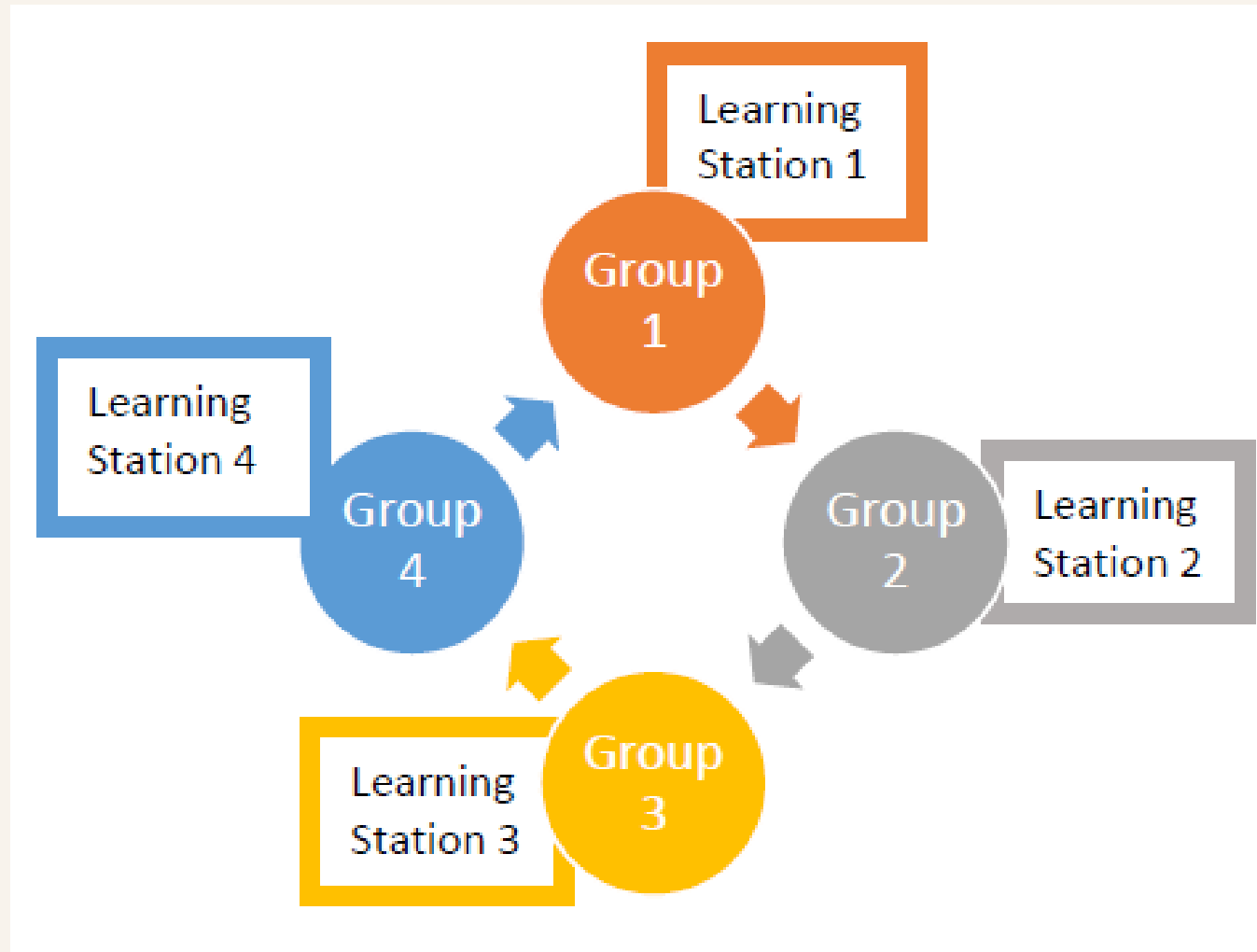


Grouping for the learning stations (11:15 am-12:45 pm)

	GEF Sec (Facilitator)	Visiting Learning Stations
Group 1: Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Paraguay	Nico	Learning station 1 -> 2 ->3 -> 4
Group 2: Peru, Uruguay, Brazil, Colombia	Noemi	Learning station 2 -> 3 ->4 -> 1
Group 3: Ecuador, El Salvador	Esteban	Learning station 3 -> 4 ->1->2
Group 4: Guatemala, Honduras, (Mexico, Nicaragua), Panama, Venezuela	Pascal	Learning station 4 -> 1-> 2-> 3



About the Learning Station



Learning Stations

- 1) Forest and paramo conservation
- 2) Strengthening biodiversity-based enterprise
- 3) Community experience during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 4) Strengthened process of associativity, strategic alliances and youth and gender approach.



What to bring?

Water bottle, GEF hat, small cash (if you wish to buy biodiversity-based products in the community), warm clothes or jackets (The field trip location will be windy), prepare for altitude sickness (The Zuleta Community is 2800 m high)

