



GEF NGOs Network

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GEF Familiarization seminar 2013 Washington DC

Key facts

- Created in May, 1995.
- The GEF-NGO Network is made up of [GEF-accredited organizations](#)¹ whose work in environment and sustainable development is aligned with the GEF mandate.
- Around 600 NGOs to date
- Diversified profile – Worldwide presence
- Establish a formal dialogue and partnership between NGOs worldwide and the GEF Secretariat, the GEF Council, the GEF Assembly and various partner agencies.

Why NGOs important to GEF ?

- Help to disseminate the GEF purpose broadly and across large different partners.
- Be in direct dialogue with GEF council members incl donors countries.
- Bring policy, operational and technical expertise, catalyze involvement of local communities indigenous people into national and regional GEF dialogue.

Why NGOs important to GEF ?

- Help governments to support national environment strategies and design GEF projects
- Leverage co-financing through their own involvement and/or their partnership i;e development NGOs, foundations, private sector coalitions
- Help GEF agencies to execute activities on the ground

ENHANCE THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN SAFEGUARDING THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

- Support outreach and awareness on global environment issues
- Encourage civil society contributions to the negotiation and implementation of Conventions

STRENGTHEN GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- Support promotion of GEF programs and activities to Civil Society
- Enhance Civil Society involvement in GEF Country, regional and global Projects
- Provide strategic input to GEF policy making, planning and reviews

STRENGTHEN THE GEF NGOs NETWORK CAPACITY

- Enhance Governance capability of the GEF NGO Network
- To promote active membership
- Improve the NGO Network Communication and procurement of funding

How does it work?



Who and where?

Regional Focal Points

The GEF-NGO Network is overseen by a Coordination Committee made up of up to fifteen Regional Focal Points (RFPs).



An active network

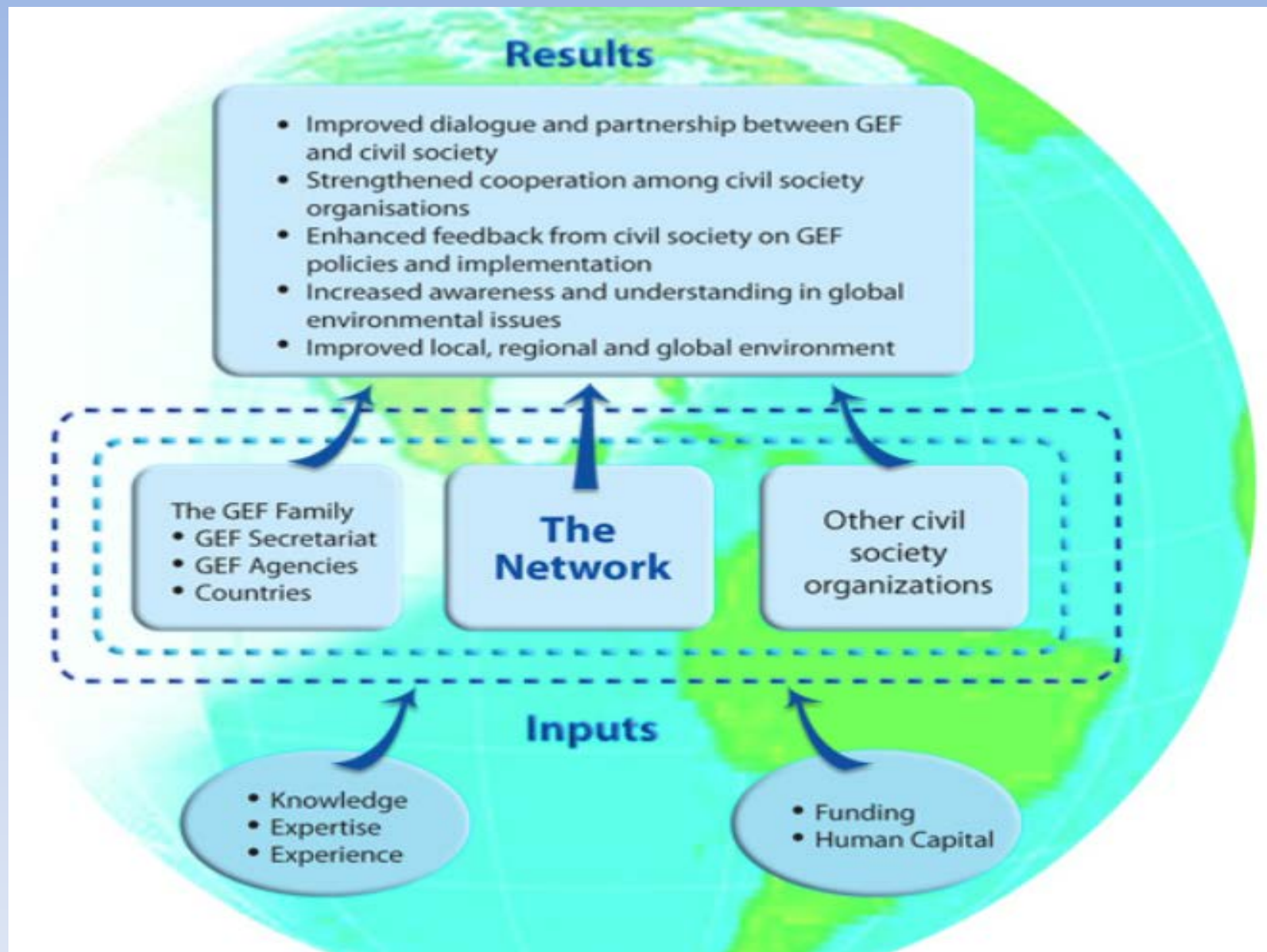
Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECW)

The 3-day ECW organised by GEF is intensive and interactive and enhanced by the diversity of perspectives brought by its participants. The ECW is also an opportunity to discuss priority issues and share lessons and experiences from the development and implementation of GEF projects and their integration within national policy frameworks. CSO representative from each country in the meeting region is invited to participate in the meeting.

To view the CSO's report on the past ECWs, click on the following :

- [ECW Asia, Dalat, Vietnam, 5-7 April 2011](#)
- [ECW West Africa Coastal Zone, Liberia, 19-21 July 2011](#)
- [ECW Eastern Africa, Nairobi, 25 - 27 Oct 2011](#)
- [ECW Bujumbura, Burundi, 8-10 Feb 2012](#)
- [ECW Albania, 27-29 March 2012](#)
- [ECW South America, Lima, Peru, 22-24 May 2012](#)
- [ECW Maputo, Mozambique, 1-3 Aug 2012](#)
- [ECW Cote d'Ivoire, 4-6 Sept 2012](#)
- [ECW New Delhi, India, 5-6 Nov 2012](#)
- [ECW Antalya, Turkey, 11-12 Dec 2012](#)

For more details, you can visit GEF's website by clicking [here](#).



The GEF-NGO Network



INTRODUCTION

The GEF-NGO Network was established in May 1995 following the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council's decision to enhance relationships between the GEF and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The Network is made up of GEF-accredited organizations whose work in environment and sustainable development is aligned with the GEF mandate. It has a global organizational structure with Regional Focal Points based in 15 different regions overseen by a Central Focal Point and a global Coordination Committee including representatives of indigenous people. The Network currently links member organizations in all regions of the world. Its role is expanding from focusing mainly on input to GEF planning and policymaking to one of empowering the engagement of civil society in the implementation of GEF programs.

OBJECTIVES

1. To enhance the role of civil society in safeguarding the global environment
2. To strengthen GEF Program Implementation through an enhanced partnership with civil society
3. To maintain and enhance the capacity of the GEF-NGO Network

VISION

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

MISSION

To strengthen civil society partnership with GEF by enhancing participation, contributing to policy and stimulating action.

NETWORK FOCAL AREAS

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- International Waters
- Land Degradation
- Ozone Depletion
- Persistent Organic Pollutants

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 1996, the Network has organized consultations twice a year immediately prior to the GEF Council meetings and has also played a prominent role in regular GEF Assemblies. The Network has contributed to policy formulation by GEF and advocated strong public participation in all stages of GEF program implementation. The Network has also been a conduit for feedback on both positive and negative aspects of GEF implementation and has compiled case studies of practical experiences and best practices in implementing GEF activities at the country and local levels. The Network has successfully helped to enhance recognition of the importance of working with civil society to address global environment objectives.



<http://www.gefnngo.org/index.cfm>



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43rd GEF Council, 12 - 15 Nov 2012, Washington DC

The 43rd GEF Council meeting was held from the 13 to 15 Nov 2012 in Washington DC, USA. The GEF-NGO Network has presented several statements on the key agenda associated with CSOs. Click [here](#) to view the report.

Prior to the council meeting, a consultation meeting between the GEF Council with representatives of civil society organizations was held at Washington D.C. on Monday, November 12, 2012. Click [here](#) to read

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Announcements - more...

18 Dec, 2012: [Connect4Climate and GEF launch](#)

10 Dec, 2012: [Catalysing Ocean Finance: Transforming Markets to Restore and Protect the Global Ocean](#)

04 Dec, 2012: [GEF-ADB High](#)