Civil Society Engagement at the GEF

Expanded Constituency Workshop
Minsk, July 11
2019
Non-state actors, including not-for-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs), farmers, women, the scientific and technological community, youth and children, Indigenous Peoples and their communities, business and industry, workers and trade unions.

Definition of civil society in the GEF:
Long history of Engagement with CSOs

- GEF Small Grants Programme
- Public Involvement Policy
- GEF CSO Network
- Country Support Program
- Consultations
- Policy on Stakeholder Engagement/Policy on Gender Equality
Value of civil society engagement in the GEF:

• Enhancing recipient country ownership and accountability;
• Liaising with communities and other local stakeholders;
• Making use of skills, experiences, and knowledge;
• Facilitators, conveners and advocates.
CSOs Roles

- Project executors/co-executors
- Leverage co-financing
- Provide expert local knowledge to project design and implementation
- Participate in monitoring of project impacts and outcomes
- Influencing policy and advocating for the GEF’s mission and in replenishment processes
- CSOs as GEF Project Agencies (WWF, IUCN, CI)
The GEF-CSO Network

Established in 1995 as an independent Network of member organizations whose work in environment and sustainable development is aligned with the GEF mandate.

www.gefcso.org
CSO engagement is key to greater results and impact

projects on the ground, building awareness, engagement with recipient country governments and participation with Council members.

advisory role for the GEF Council

CSO Network’s role in advocacy and outreach to civil society at the global level
Looking Ahead

- CSO engagement at GEF National Dialogues
- CSO Representation at Council, Consultations, Assembly - (youth, women groups, IPs)
- CSO engagement in Policy Development, Replenishment, Advocacy, etc.
- Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation
- Strengthening Access to information Redress and Grievance mechanisms
- Agencies compliance of Policies on SE/Gender/Safeguards
Thank you

For more information:
Pilar Barrera Rey
Senior Operations Officer
Partnerships Coordinator
pbarrera@thegef.org
• What are some key lessons learned about civil society engagement at both policy and project level?
• What are some key remaining challenges?
• What are the opportunities?

Roundtable per country
• Какие основные уроки извлечены из взаимодействия с гражданским обществом как на уровне политики, так и на уровне проектов?
• Какие ключевые проблемы?
• Какие возможности?