



GEF ECW Workshop, Cameroon

Presented by

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Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- Established in Oct 1991
- Largest independently operating funding mechanism for all conventions
- A partnership for international cooperation where 183 countries work together with international institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector, to address global environmental issues.

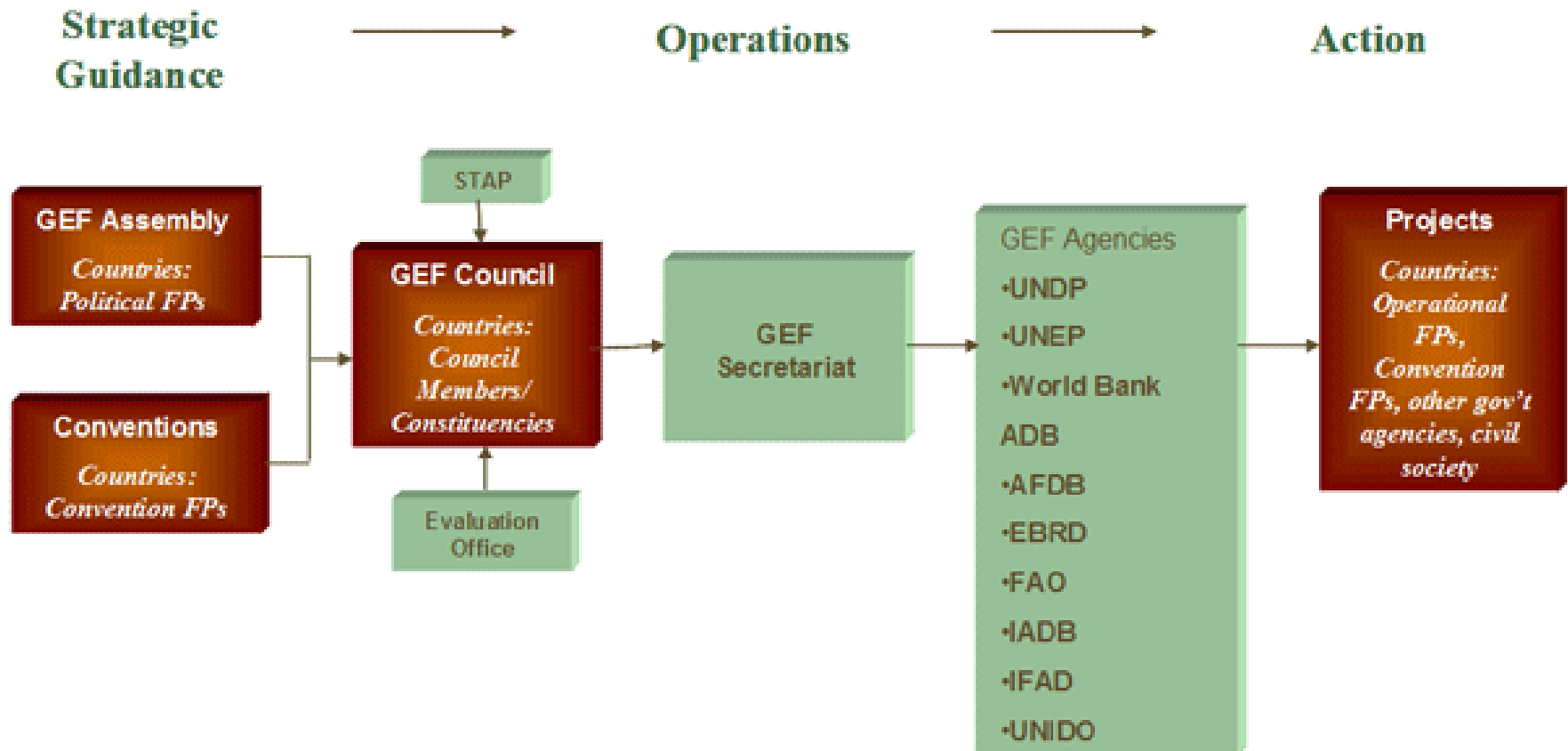
CSOs work to fulfill GEF Focal Areas

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Chemicals & Waste
- Land Degradation
- International Waters
- Sustainable Management of Forest
REDD+

And works through the following International Treaties:

- UN Convention on Biological Diversity
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Montreal Protocol of the Vienna Convention on Ozone Layer Depleting Substances
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001),
- United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (2003)
- Minamata Convention on Mercury (2013)

Partnership within the GEF Structure explained



Understanding the Current GEF Agencies (18)

- 1. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**
- 2. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**
- 3. The World Bank Group**
- 4. The African Development Bank (AfDB)**
- 5. The Asian Development Bank (ADB)**
- 6. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**
- 7. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**
- 8. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**
- 9. The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)**
- 10. The UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)**

Current GEF Agencies (18)

- 11. Conservation International (CI)**
- 12. Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA)**
- 13. World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US)**
- 14. International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)**
- 15. Development Bank of Latin America (CAF)**
- 16. Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO)**
- 17. Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (FUNBIO)**
- 18. West African Development Bank (BOAD)**

GEF National Focal Points

- Designated government officials in each GEF member country responsible for GEF activities.
- Play a key role in ensuring that GEF projects are country-driven and based on national priorities.
 - **Political Focal Points**
 - **Operational Focal Points**

GEF and Civil Society

- GEF was one of the first IFIs to actively engage CSOs in its projects, programmes and policy development.
- Key involvement areas:
 - Access to GEF funds for specific projects
 - Involvement in GEF project implementation
 - Involvement in policy making through GEF Council
- Specific policies related to Civil society

Civil society as key stakeholders in the work of GEF

- Important stewards of natural resources and environment
- Direct beneficiaries from sound environmental management
- Directly impacted by poor environmental management
- Can provide major contributions to safeguarding global environmental benefits and ensuring sustainability of GEF programmes.
- Civil Society should thus be a main partner for effective implementation and long term sustainability of GEFs work

Benefits of CSO engagement in GEF projects and programmes

- Enhancing country ownership
- Ensuring that the needs of affected communities are adequately met
- Improving project design
- Create linkages among community, CSOs and governments
- Help to strengthen the capacity of civil society groups

Opportunities for CSO engagement in GEF projects

- Project implementers (SGP, MSP, FSP)
- Project partners or service providers
- Project advisers/steering committee members
- Project target groups
- Monitoring and evaluation



GEF-CSO Network

- Established in 1995 to facilitate CSO input to GEF Governance
- More than 500 active members in 16 regions
- Facilitate Civil society input to GEF policy making and implementation.
- Organise Civil Society consultations and provide input on each agenda item of GEF Council
- Monitor and build capacity at regional and national level for CSO engagement in GEF activities



Governance

- Governed by a global **Coordination Committee** composed of representatives of
 - elected Regional Focal Point organisations from 16 geographic regions
 - 3 Indigenous Peoples Focal Points from Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- Overseen by a Management Team comprising of a Chair, Vice Chair and Heads of 4 Sub-committees drawn from the Coordination Committee members.



Current Management Team

- **Essam Nada** Network Regional Focal Point for North Africa (Chair)
- **Victor Kazembe Kawanga** Network Regional Focal Point for Southern Africa (Vice Chair)
- **Ms. Patricia Turpin** Network Regional Focal Point for Caribbean (Head of Governance, Membership and Elections Sub-committee)
- **Ms. Nana Janashia** Network Regional Focal Point for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Head of Outreach, Communication and Capacity Development Sub-committee)
- **Ms. Rosa Maria Vidal Rodriguez** Network Regional Focal Point for Mesoamerica (Head of strategy and planning Sub-committee),
- **Ms. Priscilla Achakpa** Network Regional Focal Point for West Africa (Head of Technical Sub-committee)



Governance

- Guided by the Network Strategic Plan (2015-2022)
- Current Interim Secretariat :

Global Environment Centre (Malaysia)

Contact person : Mr. Faizal Parish/Ms. Adelaine Tan

email: secretariat@gefcsso.org



Membership

- Open to all non profit CSOs working in the focal areas of GEF
- Application web based with submission of basic information through www.gefcsso.org
- Membership is equivalent to accreditation to GEF – for participation in GEF related meetings



GEF-CSO Network in West African Region

- Currently region has few active members,
- Currently no Regional Focal Point (administered on an Interim basis by RFP, West Africa),
- Currently region has no Country Contact Points



Network's Achievements

- Since 1996, GCN has been organising CSO consultations twice a year prior to the GEF Council meetings and the CSO Forum during the GEF Assembly
- Actively contributed to policy formulation on various GEF Council decisions
- Organised CSO meetings at regional level in association with Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECWs).
- Supported the development of GEF Principles and Guidelines on the engagement with Indigenous Peoples



Network's Achievements

- Completed the review of the implementation of the GEF Public Involvement Policy, which gave input to the development of the new Guidelines by GEF.
- Contributed actively to the development of GEF 5/6 Focal Area Strategies and Replenishment.
- Played a key role in the establishment of the GEF SGP and MSP mechanisms.
- A conduit for feedback on both positive and negative aspects of GEF implementation

GEF Council-CSO Consultation Meetings, Washington DC, USA



Participation in GEF Assembly Meetings



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GEF-CSO Network's Strategic Plan (2015-2022)

Introduction

- Lays out the vision and targets for the GEF CSO network in the GEF 6 and GEF 7 periods (between 2015-2022)

Vision and Mission

- **Vision:** “A dynamic civil society influencing policies and actions at all levels to safeguard the global environment and promote sustainable development”
- **Mission:** “To safeguard the global environment through strengthening civil society partnerships with GEF by enhancing informed participation, contributing to policy development and stimulating local action ”.

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

Strategies

	Objective	Strategies
1	To enhance the role of civil society in safeguarding the global environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Support outreach and awareness on global environment issues.▪ Encourage CSO contributions to the implementation of the conventions.
2	To promote effective engagement of Civil Society in GEF operations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Provide input to GEF policy making, planning and reviews.▪ Enhance CSO involvement in GEF country, regional and global projects and programs.▪ Strengthen partnership with SGP.▪ Develop meaningful partnership with GEF agencies in project planning, implementation knowledge management and evaluation.

	Objective	Strategies
3	To strengthen the capacity of the Network and CSO members to participate in GEF-related activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Strengthen the operations, finance and governance of the Network.▪ Enhance knowledge sharing and management.▪ Enhance effectiveness of regional and national level activities for network members.▪ Strengthen capacity of CSOs to engage in GEF-related activities.▪ Enhance CSO involvement in monitoring and evaluation of GEF program/projects.

Selected key actions in GEF6

- Develop practical manual for CSO engagement at country level
- Develop “report card” for GEF countries and Agencies on their engagement with civil society
- Establish CSO-government policy platforms for selected countries with SGP support.
- Collaborate with SGP on production of knowledge management materials
- Joint projects with selected GEF Agencies on knowledge sharing and capacity building of CSOs
- Review and revise network rules and structures

A photograph of a sunset over a body of water, with the sun low on the horizon and its light reflecting on the water. The sky is dark with some clouds. The text "Thank you" is overlaid in the center in a white, italicized font.

Thank you