Overview of the evolving role of civil society, and the GEF CSO Network engagement within the GEF Partnership
Updates on GEF-CSO Network
GEF-CSO Network

- Established in 1995 to facilitate CSO input to GEF Governance
- More than 540 active members in 16 regions and 73 member organisations in West Africa
- 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

- Mr. Akhteruzzaman Sano, RFP for Southeast Asia (Chair)
- Ms. Patricia Turpin, RFP for Caribbean (Head of Governance, Membership and Elections Sub-committee)
- Ms. Nana Janashia, RFP for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Head of Outreach, Communication and Capacity Development Sub-committee)
- Nguavese (Representing), RFP for West Africa (Head of Technical Sub-committee)
- Dr. Lalit Mohan, RFP for South Asia (Head of Strategy Sub-committee)
- Crispin Swede, DR Congo – RFP for Central Africa
Operation

- Guided by the Network Strategic Plan (2018-2022)
- Currently there are 24 Country Contact Points
- The Secretariat:
  
  Society For Environment & Development (SED)
  
  UG - 3, E/77, West Vinod Nagar,
  
  Delhi – 110092, India
  
  Tel/Fax : 011- 22479505
  
  Email : society@sed.org.in, dr.lmohan@gmail.com
  
  Contact person : Dr. Lalit Mohan
Membership

- Open to all non profit CSOs working in the focal areas of GEF
- Application form can be downloaded from the website www.gefcso.org and submitted to the Secretariat by mail.
- Membership is equivalent to accreditation to GEF – for participation in GEF related meetings
GEF CSO Network engagement within the GEF Partnership
Involvement in GEF

- Actively participated in the GEF Council meetings and Expanded Constituency meetings WG for Review of GEF Policies
- Providing input to GEF policy making with statements on many agenda items during GEF council meetings.
- CSOs implement projects through SGP grants
- Some CSO’s are selected as members of GEF-SGP Project selection committee
- Participating in monitoring and evaluation of projects
Involvement in GEF

- Actively participated in the GEF Council meetings and Expanded Constituency meetings.
- Providing input to GEF policy making with statements on many agenda items during GEF council meetings.
- Worked with Ad-Hoc Council Working Group (WG) on Civil Society to develop an updated vision to enhance civil society engagement with the GEF.
- Input to GEF-7 Programming directions and replenishment.
Issues/Recommendation

- Enhance support for CSO engagement with the GEF at COPs of various multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and the SDG framework.
- Exploring ways to strengthen the relationship between GEF, Ministries, department and agencies, implementing partners and civil society.
- Call for proposals should come early so that CSOs can have the opportunity to apply.
Issues/Recommendation

- Strengthen CSOs presence in relevant ministries/agencies/agencies by conducting proper registration/update of CSO database and documentation of CSO activities for proper referencing.
- Increasing funding ceiling for CSOs for project implementation
- Showcasing projects done by Agencies during ECWs alongside CSOs
- CSOs would like to embark on in-country assessment to determine the environmental and social impacts of the investments of a number of emerging economies.
Efforts to enhance the engagement of CSOs and GEF OFP at the country level should be enhanced – through the organisation of annual meetings between OFPs and CSOs and enhanced engagement of CSOs in GEF project and programme design and implementation.

The GEF Agencies and GEF CSO Network should undertake discussions to identify options for enhanced CSO engagement in projects and programmes developed by agencies.
Thank you