Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Brazil

Part I: Project Information

GEF ID
10122

Project Type
FSP

Type of Trust Fund
GET

Project Title
Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Brazil

Countries
Brazil,

Agency(ies)
UNDP,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Executing Partner(s)</th>
<th>Executing Partner Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instituto Sociedade, População e Natureza (ISPN)</td>
<td>CSO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

GEF Focal Area
Multi Focal Area

Taxonomy
Focal Areas, Climate Change, Climate Change Adaptation, Climate Change Mitigation, Forest, Forest and Landscape Restoration, Land Degradation, Land Degradation Neutrality, Sustainable Land Management, Biodiversity, Mainstreaming, Biomes, Protected Areas and Landscapes, Species, Influencing models, Stakeholders, Type of Engagement, Civil Society, Communications, Gender Equality, Gender results areas, Gender Mainstreaming, Capacity, Knowledge and Research, Learning, REDD - REDD+, Rivers, Mangroves, Tropical Rain Forests, Community Based Natural Resource Mngt, Productive Landscapes, Terrestrial Protected Areas, Threatened Species, Plant Genetic Resources, Tourism, Forestry - Including HCVF and REDD+, Agriculture and agrobiodiversity, Land Productivity, Land Cover and Land cover change, Sustainable Pasture Management, Community-Based Natural Resource Management, Restoration and Rehabilitation of Degraded Lands, Sustainable Agriculture, Integrated and Cross-sectoral approach, Income Generating Activities, Improved Soil and Water Management Techniques, Sustainable Livelihoods, Sustainable Forest, Ecosystem Approach, Sustainable Fire Management, Ecosystem-based Adaptation, Community-based adaptation, Livelihoods, Climate resilience, Renewable Energy, Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Land Use, Energy Efficiency, Convene multi-stakeholder alliances, Demonstrate innovative approach, Strengthen institutional capacity and decision-making, Strategic Communications, Education, Behavior change, Awareness Raising, Local Communities, Participation, Information Dissemination, Consultation, Partnership, Community Based Organization, Non-Governmental Organization, Academia, Sex-disaggregated indicators, Beneficiaries, Gender-sensitive indicators, Women groups, Capacity Development, Access and control over natural resources, Participation and leadership, Access to benefits and services, Adaptive management, Innovation

Rio Markers
Climate Change Mitigation
Climate Change Mitigation 1

Climate Change Adaptation
Climate Change Adaptation 1

Duration
48 In Months

Agency Fee($)
425,715

Submission Date
### A. Indicative Focal/Non-Focal Area Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programming Directions</th>
<th>Trust Fund</th>
<th>GEF Amount ($)</th>
<th>Co-Fin Amount ($)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BD-1-1</td>
<td>GET</td>
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<td>7,956,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CCM-1-1</td>
<td>GET</td>
<td>896,242</td>
<td>1,989,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Project Cost ($)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>4,481,210</td>
<td>9,945,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. Indicative Project description summary

Project Objective
To build social, economic, and ecological landscape resilience in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes through community-based activities for global environmental benefits and sustainable rural development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Component</th>
<th>Financing Type</th>
<th>Project Outcomes</th>
<th>Project Outputs</th>
<th>Trust Fund</th>
<th>GEF Amount($)</th>
<th>Co-Fin Amount($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
### Resilient Landscapes for Sustainable Development and Global Environmental Protection

#### Technical Assistance

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Ecosystem services within Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, are enhanced through multifunctional land-use systems that improve resilience, ecological connectivity and livelihoods of communities.</td>
<td>1.1.1 Community level small grants that restore degraded landscapes, improve connectivity, support innovation regarding biodiversity conservation and optimization of ecosystem services, including sustainable use of biodiversity; recovery of native vegetation; integrated fire management; etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 The sustainability of production systems in the target landscapes is strengthened through integrated agro-ecological practices.</td>
<td>1.1.2 Targeted community projects enhancing the sustainability and resilience of production systems, including soil and water conservation practices, silvopastoral and agroforestry systems, increased on-farm arboreal coverage, conservation of agrobiodiversity; agro-ecological practices and cropping systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 Community livelihoods in the target landscapes become more resilient by developing eco-friendly small-scale community enterprises and improving market access.</td>
<td>1.1.3 Targeted community projects promoting sustainable livelihoods, green businesses and market access, including sociobiodiversity products, beekeeping; green value-added agro-businesses integrated into value chains, micro-processing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Increased adoption (development, demonstration and financing) of renewable and energy efficient technologies at community level.</td>
<td>1.1.4 Targeted community projects implementing energy efficient technologies in each landscape, including biogas, fuel-efficient stoves, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### GET

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,426,575</td>
<td>5,385,218</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Landscape governance and adaptive management for upscaling and replication

Technical Assistance

2.1 Multistakeholder governance platforms strengthened/in place for improved governance of target landscapes for effective participatory decision making to enhance socio-ecological resilience

2.2 Mainstreaming and upscaling the contribution of local communities to landscape resilience, conservation and connectivity

2.1.1 A multistakeholder governance platform in each target landscape develops and monitors landscape level agreements; promotes advocacy for the territorial rights of traditional communities and family farmers; value-chain development strategies for NTFP and agroecological products; adaptive landscape management plans and policies, including enhanced community participation in river basin commissions and other relevant forums.

2.1.2 A landscape strategy developed by the corresponding multistakeholder platform for each target landscape to enhance socio-ecological resilience through community grant projects.

2.2.1 Knowledge from project innovation experience is shared for replication and upscaling across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network.

2.2.2 Strategic initiatives are supported to upscale successful SGP project experience and practice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub Total ($)</th>
<th>4,267,819</th>
<th>9,471,618</th>
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</table>

Project Management Cost (PMC) 1

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>213,391</td>
<td>473,382</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Sub Total($) 213,391 473,382

Total Project Cost($) 4,481,210 9,945,000

https://gefportal.worldbank.org
C. Indicative sources of Co-financing for the Project by name and by type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sources of Co-financing</th>
<th>Name of Co-financier</th>
<th>Type of Co-financing</th>
<th>Investment Mobilized</th>
<th>Amount($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Community Organizations</td>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>Investment mobilized</td>
<td>750,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>Community Organizations</td>
<td>In-kind</td>
<td>Recurrent expenditures</td>
<td>2,150,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEF Agency</td>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>Investment mobilized</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment</td>
<td>In-kind</td>
<td>Recurrent expenditures</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>ISPN</td>
<td>In-kind</td>
<td>Recurrent expenditures</td>
<td>400,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSO</td>
<td>ISPN- Other projects</td>
<td>Grant</td>
<td>Investment mobilized</td>
<td>3,645,000</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Project Cost($)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9,945,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Describe how any "Investment Mobilized" was identified

Investment mobilized was identified through discussions with Ministerial staff, program management and NGO coordinators. The Investment Mobilized figure from the German Technical Cooperation is based on discussions with them and will be provided as a cash contribution to the objectives and outcomes of the Country Programme. This figure will be formally confirmed through a formal co-financing letter defining the contribution in cash. SGP global policy requests grant recipient CSOs to contribute to their projects in cash to the best of their abilities. The National Steering Committee will foster compliance with this policy as appropriate. These contributions will only be confirmed during project implementation as grant projects are approved. The SGP National Coordinators were instructed to differentiate cofinancing commitments between those corresponding to recurrent costs e.g. salaries of NGO or government staff, costs of premises, etc., and Investment Mobilized, corresponding to new and additional funding either directly contributed to SGP to apply to project grants, as grantee contributions in kind and in cash, or mobilized to support project objectives but not managed by SGP.
## D. Indicative Trust Fund Resources Requested by Agency(ies), Country(ies), Focal Area and the Programming of Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Trust Fund</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Focal Area</th>
<th>Programming of Funds</th>
<th>Amount($)</th>
<th>Fee($)</th>
<th>Total($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
<td>GET</td>
<td>Brazil</td>
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<td>BD STAR Allocation</td>
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<td>3,925,540</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
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<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>CC STAR Allocation</td>
<td>896,242</td>
<td>85,143</td>
<td>981,385</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total GEF Resources($)**  
4,481,210  
425,715  
4,906,925
E. Project Preparation Grant (PPG)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Trust Fund</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Focal Area</th>
<th>Programming of Funds</th>
<th>Amount($)</th>
<th>Fee($)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
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<td>Biodiversity</td>
<td>BD STAR Allocation</td>
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<td>6,460</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNDP</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Climate Change</td>
<td>CC STAR Allocation</td>
<td>17,000</td>
<td>1,615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Project Costs($)**  
85,000  
8,075
Provide additional explanation on targets, other methodologies used, and other focal area specifics (i.e., Aichi targets in BD) including justification where core indicator targets are not provided

**Core Indicators**
These are footnotes in the PIF corresponding to indicators 3-6. 1 Please note that while the indicators for this project are not expected to change, the targets will be carefully calculated during the PPG-financed Project Preparation Stage using the corresponding GEF-7 methodology. Any changes to GEF-7 indicators will be noted and subject to revision at CEO Endorsement. 2. To be confirmed during Project Preparation. (for numbers of beneficiaries)
Part II. Project Justification

1a. Project Description

The Seventh Phase of the GEF Small Grants Program in Brazil will enable communities and organizations in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes of Brazil to take collective action to enhance socio-ecological resilience of their production landscapes through a participatory landscape planning and management approach that supports multi-functional land-use systems aimed at optimizing ecosystem services for local and global environmental benefits. SGP will support specific community-based actions in each landscape by financing small-scale projects implemented by local community organizations and coordinating them within the priority landscapes to achieve landscape-scale impacts.

A strategy of close dialogue with traditional communities and family farmers is necessary for Brazil to achieve its broader goals of biodiversity conservation, maintenance of ecosystem services and reduction of land degradation. As support for this strategy, the project will work in the context of existing public policies and the new National Program for Landscape Connectivity – Conecta, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment – to promote landscape sustainability and connectivity in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, by means of a program of small grants to communities and their organizations. The grants will support activities such as promotion of non-timber forest products, agroecology, agroforestry, landscape restoration and mitigation of climate change, among others. Beside small grants, the project will also work in the broader context of providing training, capacity building and advocacy for individuals and organizations to improve value chains, influence public policies and advocate for rights to land and territory.

a) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed;

Background:

Brazil is known worldwide as one of the most important countries in terms of biological diversity. The Amazon, the Atlantic Forest and, on a smaller scale, the Pantanal, have received the most international attention. On the other hand, the Cerrado, the Caatinga and the Southern Grasslands biomes have been largely ignored in Brazil and internationally until recently.

The Cerrado is Brazil’s second largest biome, after the Amazon, with an area of more than 2 million square kilometers, approximately 22% of the Brazilian territory. Although best known for containing the most biodiverse savannah in the world, it also comprises a great variety of unique ecosystems that are particularly rich in species and that are important for maintaining carbon stocks and water resources. The Cerrado landscape is characterized by extensive open savannahs crossed by gallery forests along stream valleys, humid “veredas” dominated by the buriti palm (Mauritia flexuosa), “cerradão”, a taller and more closed canopy variant of tree savannah, patches of dry forests, as well as a number of other open vegetation types. The system of gallery forests provides links to the Atlantic Rainforest and Amazonian biomes, with a number of shared tree species, as well as configuring wildlife corridores for important species such as tapirs and jaguars. The number of vascular plants is estimated at around 11,000 species of which 44% are endemic. Over 1,600 species of mammals, birds and reptiles have been recorded. The number of freshwater fish species is around 800, of which around 25%
are endemic. Many large mammals that range widely throughout South America have the Cerrado as one of their principal habitats. One of the best known of these species is the maned wolf (Chrysocyon brachyurus), while two of the most unusual species are the rare giant armadillo (Priodontes maximus) and the giant anteater (Myrmecophaga tridactyla), which is the largest anteater in the world and can grow up to 1.9 meters in length. The Cerrado biome is still poorly represented in the protected areas system of Brazil with only 8.21% of the total land area protected in conservation areas, with 2.85% under strict protection and 5.36% in sustainable use categories.

Throughout Brazil’s history, the Cerrado region was largely regarded as the country’s hinterland, the home of a number of tribes who roamed across large territories as part of their seasonal trekking and foraging activities and practiced itinerant slash-and-burn agriculture in areas of gallery forests. Many of these tribes had their first substantial contact with the outside world in the first decades of the 20th century, with the construction of telegraph lines connecting the cities of the coast of Brazil with towns in the interior. Pressure on these indigenous peoples took on greater force only in the 1940’s, with the government-sponsored “March to the West” aimed at colonizing supposedly empty territories. However, significant expansion of mechanized agriculture in the Cerrado began only in the 1960’s and 70’s, with the availability of technologies such as liming and fertilizers that permitted production of grain crops in the region’s typically acidic and aluminum rich soils.

Although many indigenous lands were officially demarcated as a response to the advance of the agricultural frontier, for the most part they represent only a fraction of these peoples’ original territories. Nevertheless, in comparison to neighboring areas, indigenous lands, along with conservation areas, represent very significant portions of the Cerrado’s remaining natural areas.

The Caanga – the only biome that is exclusively Brazilian, the Caanga occupies 850,000 square kilometers in 10 states of northeast Brazil, approximately 11% of the national territory. The Caanga is the largest dry forest region in South America and one of the richest dry forests in the world. Biotic interchange over evolutionary time with surrounding biomes – i.e, Cerrado, Atlantic Forest and Amazonia, has lead to significant biodiversity. Although the Caanga’s biota is poorly known, studies so far have identified at least 1,200 species of vascular plants, 185 fish species, 44 lizards, 9 amphisbaenians (worm lizards), 47 snakes, 4 turtles, 3 crocodile, 49 amphibians, 350 birds, and 80 mammals. The percentage of endemics is very high among vascular plants (around 30%). Two of the ten most threatened birds in the world, the indigo macaw (Anodorhynchus leari) and little blue macaw (Cyanopsitta spixii) are found there. Distinctive and endemic plant species include Godmania dardanoi, Cordia globosa, Billbergia fosteriana, Cereus jamacaru, Melocactus oreas, Pilosocereus gounellei, Copernicia prunifera, and Ziziphus joazeiro. Other examples of endemics include the spiny rat (Proechimys yonenagae), and several lizards, Tropidurus amathites, Tropidurus divaricatus, and Tropidurus cocorobensis. Although protected areas now represent approximately 7.8% of the Caanga biome, it is still one of the least protected biomes in Brazil, with little more than 1% in strictly protected areas.

The Caatinga region was occupied early in Brazil’s colonial history, with extensive cattle herding providing a source of hide and dried beef to the coastal regions of the Northeast. The region’s indigenous people, with some notable exceptions, were, for the most part, driven extinct or absorbed into the contingent of peasant agriculturalists. Nevertheless, recent years have seen the resurgence of a number of indigenous groups who were forced to hide their cultural identity and heritage because of persecution and prejudice, and are now struggling to recuperate at least a portion of their traditional territories.

While there are many threats to the ecosystems of the Caatinga biome, there are a number of sustainable forms of use that are possible. Beekeeping of both Apis and native bees, for example, relies on areas of natural vegetation for bees to forage, and is a strong incentive for conservation of the Caatinga. Many plant species from this biome are used both for commercial and subsistence purposes. For example, fruit of palms such as babaçu, tucum and licuri are used for food and oil production, and the leaves of the carnauba palm are used both for fiber and for production of high-quality wax. Many trees, especially those of the dry forests, are used for lumber including species such as Anadenanthera macrocarpa, Ziziphus joazeiro, Amburana cearensis, Astronium fraxinifolium, Myracrodruon urundeuva, Handroanthus impetiginosus, Tabeula caraba, Schinopsis brasiliensis, Cedrela odorata, Dalbergia variabilis, and Pithecellobium polycephalum. Caatinga trees in general are strong sprouters, and if areas of Caatinga are correctly managed, they can be used both for fuel production as well as low levels of grazing. The sabiá tree (Mimosa caesalpiniifolia) is now being extensively planted as in 4-5 years it provides very durable fence posts, and once harvested, ressprouts from the stump.
Besides indigenous peoples and “quilombos” – afrodescendant communities now accorded recognition and rights to communally owned lands – both the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes have unique situations in which traditional communities manage common property resources for farming, grazing, gathering of extractive products and other uses. Although some degree of official recognition has been given to these communities, many are threatened by outside pressures. In many cases, the lack of official land titles facilitates encroachment by powerful landowners, while political pressures for community members to be granted individual titles often results in situations where traditional land use and stewardship is disrupted. Such changes in land tenure and forms of resource use often result in serious impacts to ecosystems that were historically managed with sustainable harvesting of their natural resources and low levels of agricultural conversion.

Threats to the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes

Among the various threats faced by the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, land use change - where native vegetation and traditionally community-managed areas are substituted by large-scale monocultures, eucalyptus plantations, and pasture - is the most serious. Deforestation of the native Cerrado vegetation brings several impacts, ranging from loss of biodiversity to alterations in the hydrological cycle, caused by an increase in runoff, reduction in evapotranspiration and changes in soil structure and its capacity to absorb rainfall, leading to erosion and decreasing the replenishment of aquifers. The increase in center-pivot irrigation, which makes strong demands in terms of water use, has also affected flow levels of several rivers.

Besides affecting hydrological cycles, the advance of agricultural frontiers in the Cerrado has a strong impact on Brazil’s greenhouse gas emissions. In 2016, deforestation in the Cerrado emitted 248 million tons of greenhouse gases, more than double the emissions from industries, and equivalent to 11% of all of Brazil’s GHG emissions.

Although the rate of clearing has fallen in the last few years, to 7,400 square kilometers in 2017, deforestation in the Cerrado is still a critical issue, as 51% of the area has already been deforested and the present rate of deforestation is now greater than in the Amazon region. The main driver of deforestation is the expansion of the agricultural frontier to the center and north of the country, historically favored or stimulated by public policies. These policies and fiscal incentives have resulted in enormous crop production in the Cerrado region, from very large farms, and mostly for export. In 2017, the Cerrado was responsible for around 60% of Brazil’s grain production, including 58% of the country’s total soybean production. In 2016, the Cerrado’s ranches held approximately 35% of Brazil’s cattle, on the order of 70 million head, and steady growth in the agriculture and cattle sectors is projected into the future.

While agricultural expansion in the Cerrado has had a positive impact in the Brazilian economy, the negative effects on the environment and local communities are now significant. Land use change with conversion to monoculture or pasture has lead to deforestation and landscape fragmentation, dislodging and isolating rural communities. Many traditional territories are now surrounded by monocultures, such as the Xingu Indigenous Park, which impedes community access to natural resources on which they traditionally depend. A sequence of years with extensive forest fires in the Xingu region has also been attributed to alterations in the hydrological cycle, with deforestation exacerbating the effects of the 5-6 month long dry season. Several local communities have seen their water courses dry up or become contaminated by agricultural inputs. In addition to the loss of biodiversity resulting from forest clearing and degradation, the agriculture practices of large-scale farms decrease soil infiltration capacity, causing erosion and increasing rainwater runoff, thus carrying sediments and pollutants to water courses. The silting up of water courses aggravates water scarcity during the dry season and contributes to flooding during the rainy season. Large-scale agriculture also leads to loss of traditional crop seed varieties and genetic erosion.

Unless they are able to diversify production of food crops and find local markets for small-scale production, crop production by local communities generally cannot compete with large-scale farms and cattle ranches in either national or international markets. As a result, outmigration and sale of land to larger farmers has become more common. According to the 2006 Brazilian Agriculture Census, 69% of all rural properties in the Cerrado are still owned by small farmers, representing 9% of the total area (some 180,000 square kilometers). However, unless local communities receive support, concentration of land in large farms is likely to continue, increasing land use change.
Land use change in the Caanga is also quite significant, with an estimated 45% of the area’s native vegetation already destroyed or significantly altered by human activities. One of the most populated semi-arid areas in the world, the Caanga has 27 million inhabitants and is located in the poorest region of Brazil; only 4.6% of the municipalities have HDI equal or higher than 0.5. The annual rainfall average of 600 mm characterizes a semi-arid climate, which makes most of the region unfit for large-scale agriculture and cattle ranching, except for areas with irrigation schemes. Irrigation policies, however, are concentrating land and water in the hands of major companies, while the small farmers who depend on agriculture for their basic subsistence are not profiting as much from it. In some areas, improper irrigation practices have led to soil salinization. As in the Cerrado, land property concentration is high, with 89% of the properties/farms owned by small farmers, but covering only 37% of the total area.

Extensive goat and sheep raising, the main economic activity for local communities, has been practiced in the region for centuries with rudimentary management techniques, which means animals feed on the natural vegetation, eliminating new plants and sprouts, affecting the natural regeneration of disturbed areas. A study by INPE found that the area of degraded soils in the region that remained without vegetation cover between 2007 and 2016 totalled more than 70,000 km2. More than 50% of the area of the Caanga is now considered as being affected by desertification, and around 10 to 15% is threatened by severe desertification. The Areas Subject to Desertification (ASD) cover an estimated 1.34 million square kilometers in the nine states of the Northeast region and two in the Southeast (parts of Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo), potentially affecting more than 30 million people (17% of the Brazilian population).

Besides the reduction of their territories, Caanga communities face water scarcity, soil erosion, and impoverishment, which are the main reasons for rural outmigration and for unsustainable use of natural resources. Other threats to the biome are eucalyptus and crop plantations, wood extraction for fuel and charcoal production, forest fires and hunting. At least 28 animal species in this threatened ecosystem are endangered.

For the Cerrado as well as the Caanga, the projected scenarios of climate change are troubling, with reductions in the volume of rainfall or its concentration in a shorter period, resulting in impacts on urban areas, agricultural and livestock production and, especially, the lifestyles and well-being of small-scale farmers.

Besides deforestation, fire is a significant cause of GHG emission in Brazil, and unwanted fires may increase with climate change. In the Cerrado and Caanga, fire is traditionally used by local inhabitants to open new areas for small-scale agriculture and to promote pasture resprouting during the dry season. In some cases, it is also used to manage plants with economic interest, like golden grass (Syngonanthus nitens). However, it is common for fires to become uncontrolled and reach other areas causing loss of biomass and nutrients and death of animals and trees. Nonetheless, Brazilian agencies are questioning whether a policy of “zero fire” is a viable paradigm in ecosystems where fire is a naturally occurring ecological factor, such as in the savanna ecosystems of the Cerrado. As such, there is now an increasing interest in integrated fire management, in which prescribed burning of open vegetation types early in the dry season prevents more severe late dry season fires from invading gallery forests and dry forests. As part of this policy shift, more attention is being given to the fire management practices of traditional communities that have coexisted with fire for centuries, if not millennia. Through the Prev-Fogo/Ibama program of the Ministry of Environment there are now more than 30 indigenous fire brigades that offer seasonal employment, and one of the findings from these experiences is that burning at the right time of the year can have a positive effect on the production of savanna fruits and reducing GHG emissions.

The project will focus in these two important Brazilian biomes, although having a concentrated effort in four landscapes, where a ‘landscape approach’ will be applied. The selection of the landscapes was done based on four criteria defined by the National Steering Committee: presence of a strong local partner, capacity to leverage co-financing, socio environment conditions and logistics and will be confirmed during the project preparation phase (PPG). The description of the selected landscapes follows below:

Cerrado Biome:
Western Bahia - The western region of the state of Bahia comprises 24 municipalities on the left bank of the São Francisco River with 1.2 million inhabitants. The Cerrado of Bahia is highly endangered, the region has an enormous amount of water courses, springs and footpaths, as well as a native vegetation with huge diversity of plants important for the local communities and for the fauna. As Protected Areas are not abundant in this region, it is very important that private areas and traditional territories also contribute to the conservation of biodiversity.

The region has been intensely occupied by large farms for the production of soybeans, maize and cotton, mainly since 1970s. Several municipalities are prominent in the production of commodities in the national context: São Desidério, Formosa do Rio Preto, Barreiras, Luís Eduardo Magalhães and Correntina are easily among the 50 most productive municipalities in the country. In the region, the main soybean crushers and traders are represented, making feasible the entire agribusiness strategy of west-Bahia. Land tenure is a hot issue in this area, much of the land used to be public lands originally occupied by traditional communities that have been and are being systematically scrounged. This is one of the reasons of the intense land conflicts that are present in Western Bahia between powerful producers and local communities.

The largest remaining Cerrado areas in the region are under serious threat, since the Native Vegetation Protection Law (Law 12.651/2012) authorizes the deforestation of 80% of the private areas. On the other hand, local communities have practices of coexistence with the Cerrado, such as wild collection of NTFP, cattle raising in native Cerrado pastures and agroecological systems for food production. These traditional communities and family farmers live in a vulnerable situation reghads land tenure, because they do not have the title of the lands they occupy, often, secularly. The lack of information about their rights and the absence of contextualized technical assistance and education generates isolation of rural communities and youth exodus, which is unable to visualize work and income options in their communities. The absence of public power and rare presence of civil society and little participation of local communities in governance forums aggravates the situation.

Upper Jequitinhonha Valley - In Minas Gerais state, the region is composed of tablelands in the higher regions and grottoes (deep tight valleys) and valleys, cut by rivers, streams and creeks, in the lower areas, and covered with wooded savanna vegetation of the Cerrado. The rural communities occupy smaller tablelands, grottoes and valleys, where family farming within small properties dominates, producing both livestock and crops (grain, root crops, fruit, meat, milk, etc.) for subsistence, with surplus sold in local markets. The tablelands are vital areas of water recharge for the Santo Antônio, Fanado and Itamarandiba Rivers - tributaries of the greater Araçuaí and Jequitinhonha Rivers.

With the increasing expansion of eucalyptus plantations into the rural areas since the 1970’s, populations historically practicing agriculture on the hill slopes and valley bottoms, as also wild collection of NTFP and cattle grazing on the tablelands, were uprooted to the lower laying areas. Trampling on the slopes by displaced cattle advanced soil exposure, pressuring the Cerrado and compromising the springs. Deforestation for charcoal production and incorrect use of fire for pasture regeneration further contributed to erosive processes, loss of biodiversity and drastic alteration of hydrologic cycles. Increased evapotranspiration on the tablelands lowers the overall water table and the reduced infiltration ratio to the soils manifests in silitation of watercourses.

Such effects have reduced overall food production, income, and the availability of water for human consumption. This scenario is further aggravated by the provoked rural exodus of the younger generation, which consequently reduces both the force of the family labor, as also ruptures the intergenerational transmission of traditional knowledge. Fragile social organization limits smallholder family capabilities to alter the exodus. Therefore, existing community organizations are assisted by local partners such AFAVE, Escola Família (Family School) in Veredinha (EFAV), Rural Workers Union of Veredinha and Turmalina and Center for Alternative Agriculture Vicente Nica (CAV).

Caatinga Biome

Sertão do Pajeú - in the state of Pernambuco, it has semi-arid climate and is composed of 20 municipalities in the Caatinga biome. Among the economic activities developed in this region, stand out the agriculture and the commerce and services sector. The total population of the territory is 395 thousand inhabitants, with 39% living in the rural area. There are 34,000 family farmers, 1,810 settled families, 16 quilombola communities and an indigenous land.
The native vegetation in the region has long been exploited in an uncontrolled and unsustainable way, which has led to losses of floristic and faunistic diversity, acceleration of the erosion process, and decline in soil fertility and water quality. The Caatinga remnants are highly fragmented, making clear the urgency of actions aimed at connectivity to contribute to the conservation of this biome.

The energy matrix based on the use of firewood for food processing, combined with the use of burnings in the preparation of the soil for cultivation, are aggravating factors for the degradation of the ecosystem. Although family-based agriculture has the potential for sustainable farming practices, the high level of poverty of this population and the lack of contextualized education and technical assistance for coexistence with semiarid conditions are two risk factors for the conservation of this biome and consequently for survival of local communities.

In addition, firewood accounts for more than 80% of the energy matrix used to prepare food for families in the region. This firewood, which had been obtained around the houses for two decades, is scarcer today, so that in order to obtain a quantity of 20-30 kg of firewood, women generally travel more than 6 km distances every 2-3 days by women to collect it, pressuring the remnants of Caatinga native vegetation. The wood stoves used in food preparation are mostly old and rustic, based on inefficient and polluting technologies, and consequently cause great damage to human and environmental health in a permanent and cumulative manner. Currently, the exposure and inspiration of smoke and soot of firewood during food preparation is the 8th cause of death in the world and the 4th in developing countries, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Gender and race inequalities are strongly faced by women in the Pajeú region, expressed in the invisibility of women’s work in family farming, in the domestic environment, and sexual violence. In this context, women farmers face great difficulties in accessing land, means of production, quality technical assistance and market for their production. For these women, the Caatinga is the irreplaceable source of wood, food, herbal medicines, and several other non-wood products.

Alto Poti River Basin - In the state of Piauí, it includes the municipalities of Pedro II, Castelo do Piauí, Milton Brandão, Juazeiro, among others. The landscape has smooth, wavy to undulating reliefs, with the presence of mountain ranges that print in the region a gradient of altitudes of 200 to 600m and is characterized by a semi-arid climate with an average annual rainfall of 700mm. The native vegetation is composed of different Caatinga phytophysiognomies. The Poti river is an important river for the water supply of several municipalities, including the capital of the state. It is an important tributary of the river Parnaíba, the main river of the state of Piauí.

Most of the landscape is occupied by small farmers for subsistence agriculture, as well as latifundium occupied by cattle ranches from extensive to semi-intensive farming. Local communities and small producers face water scarcity for their productive activities and little access to public policies, such as credit for investments in social technologies and technical assistance capable of developing productive practices compatible with the semi-arid climate and depending on modest investments, since households have very little income. Therefore, raising cattle and goats, one of the most important activities in the region, depends on the native vegetation of the Caatinga for an important part of the food supply, degrading the Caatinga and generating little income. The wood for fuel is also extracted from the vegetation of the Caatinga. These and other practices have accelerated the erosion process, soil degradation and discredit the availability of water. In addition, difficulties in accessing the market for garden products, as well as gender and race inequalities are also major challenges in the landscape.

The problem to be addressed
In the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, the loss of biodiversity and negative impacts on ecosystem services are largely tied to changes in land use, as traditional land and natural resource management practices, often of communally owned or managed territories, increasingly give way to agribusiness and extensive monocultures. Although advances have been made with regard to the recognition of the rights of traditional communities to their territories and natural resources, these rights are susceptible to political interference by local or regional economic interests of groups involved in ranching, agribusiness, mining and infrastructure development. Land tenure, therefore, is a major source of tensions and conflicts for traditional communities, family farmers and their local organizations, and tenure problems negatively affect their capacity to carry out the long-term planning necessary for stewardship of the landscape and natural resources. At the same time, the Brazilian government has given priority to supplying export markets of beef and grains, meaning that incentives are increasingly steered towards agribusiness, resulting in decreasing support for the competitiveness of small-scale agricultural holdings. There is also a tendency for small-holders to copy non-sustainable practices, often stimulated by extension agencies. Agricultural loan programs are limited to financing technological packages and conventional (chemical-based) agriculture, and agricultural extension, if available, generally follows this line.

With different interest groups competing for the same land resources, traditional communities and family farmers are often the weakest links in the chain, and their organizations often do not have the capacity to both advocate for their rights and also develop initiatives for developing more sustainable land use practices. Changes in land use associated with fragile land tenure are resulting in loss of landscape resilience and are negatively impacting families’ well-being, often resulting in increased poverty, weakened food security and rural outmigration.

The preferred solution is:

Brazil has a solid backdrop of policy and legal frameworks that in theory support natural resource management by traditional communities and their organizations, as well as the recognize the cultural, social, economic and environmental rights of these communities and of family farmers. Additionally, Brazil has assumed national commitments calling for significant efforts in terms of restoring forests in degraded areas, with a goal of 12 million hectares, a task in which the participation of rural communities, family farmers and their organizations is fundamental. In 2018, many of these policies were placed under the conceptual umbrella of the National Program for Landscape Connectivity (Conecta), which has as its main themes environmental conservation, environmental recuperation, territorial management and sustainable production. This program also foresees actions that favor the social-environmental development of traditional peoples and communities, including indigenous and quilombo communities.

Achieving these ambitious goals for landscape restoration requires, nonetheless, the collaboration of local communities and the recognition of their fine-tuned knowledge of the functioning of ecosystems and the behavior of plant and animal species. As such, in order for national policies to be effective in achieving landscape resilience and connectivity through sustainable land use systems, they must work through regional networks and local community-level organizations. These, in turn, need essential adaptive management capabilities such as the technical know-how, the planning skills, the innovation and experimentation capacities and the organizational abilities to become effective agents for coordinated, long term development and maintenance of landscape resilience built on global environmental and local sustainable development outcomes.

In terms of common property resources or ICCAs (Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Communities Conserved Territories and Areas), which is the context of many families for whom NTFPs are an important component of livelihoods and culture, continuing management of these natural resources requires mechanisms that allow communities to practice governance over these resources and their territories. This requires community empowerment, by providing instruments and opportunities for their organizations.
and representatives to participate in broader networks where they can influence policy and shift power balances so that their rights are recognized.

One of the key factors to be considered is that community organizations are empowered not only by exercising agency in determining priorities and measures for action, developing strategies and plans, carrying them out and reflecting on impacts and knowledge gained, but also by increasing their economic influence, i.e. developing and improving value chains and increasing incomes and food security of their members. Ensuring landscape sustainability thus involves improving productivity of existing, traditional agricultural systems through various appropriate technologies, along with improving farmers’ access to markets through participation in cooperatives, as well as support for processing of agricultural products and NTFP and their value chains. This can increase family incomes and allow farmers to think and act on their long-term goals, including a healthier environment.

In other words, collective action is required by communities to build ecological, social and economic resilience of rural landscapes. This involves building community capacities, resources, knowledge and motivation as the critical factor in addressing the problems in a sustainable manner. The preferred solution, therefore, involves the empowerment of community organizations to develop and implement landscape strategies, building resilience and sustainability through the generation of global environmental and sustainable development benefits. Community organizations build their capacities by implementing and coordinating concrete projects aimed at achieving and maintaining landscape level outcomes affecting biodiversity and ecosystem services, agroecosystems and sustainable livelihoods, and climate change mitigation. These capacities include technical, planning, experimentation and organizational capacities of community organizations through learning-by-doing (projects) framed within and supported by a landscape level strategy and plan.

The landscape level outcomes will be identified by community organizations and other stakeholders in a participatory planning and strategy development process, yielding a typology of potentially eligible projects in each landscape corresponding to the outcomes. ISPN’s prior knowledge and experience gained from applying the COMDEKS methodology in the Upper Jequitinhonha Valley will provide the conceptual basis for this participatory landscape level planning. COMDEKS is designed to support local community activities that maintain and revitalize socio-ecological production landscapes, and to collect and disseminate knowledge and practical experiences from successful on-the-ground actions so that, if feasible, they can be replicated and adapted by other communities in other parts of the world. The COMDEKS experience in Brazil offers a potent example of how environment and development benefits can be scaled over larger geographic areas and over several communities simultaneously, and how these efforts can be linked to national development and land use planning to magnify their effects. Following this process, community organizations will implement projects within the selected landscapes; monitor and evaluate them; generate knowledge management materials in a continuous process of adaptive management.

Barriers to communities’ contribution to biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management and maintenance of carbon stocks in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes are described below:

Multiple barriers need to be overcome if communities are to contribute to the conservation of the remaining natural areas of Cerrado and Caatinga and to take advantage of the enormous potential of these ecosystems to generate income and improve quality of life. SGP will support communities in addressing the following barriers:

Implementation challenges for alternative environmentally friendly and economically viable community livelihood options: While traditional communities and local farmers know about the potential or actual uses of many wild species, there are significant challenges involved in establishing sustainable production practices that are also economically viable. Sawyer (2009) identified more than 100 barriers to the sustainable use of biodiversity in Brazil of which some of the most critical are the following:
• Policy and regulatory barriers: Small farmers and traditional communities find it very difficult to comply with existing regulatory frameworks, including sanitary and fiscal legislation, which was designed for other products and in a different context. These regulatory frameworks impede community access to markets and credits for the harvesting and transformation of non-timber forest products. Despite this negative context, in the last 10 years several government policies, especially those from the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agrarian Development and Ministry of Agriculture are focusing on sustainable use of biodiversity by small farmers and local communities. Most of these policies are relatively new instruments and although some important applications are underway, much needs to be done to help implement these policies and give feedback to the relevant entity to improve them and to enable their effective application at a broader scale.

• Financial barriers and difficulties for production at scale: Credit lines are not available in Brazil for small-scale non-timber forest products enterprises, and there is still little interest on the part of the private sector in investing in sustainable harvesting and marketing of wild species and related products in the Caatinga and Cerrado regions. Remoteness and dispersion of communities also create organizational, transport and other challenges to achieving sufficient quantities of products for certain markets.

• Educational barriers: Both Cerrado and Caatinga regions have serious social problems, such as weak health and educational assistance. Most local communities are distant from urban centers and road conditions are terrible. This makes it difficult for small farmers and traditional communities to succeed in managing projects and marketing their production because they are not used to developing business plans, dealing with bureaucracy, accounting, reporting, and other aspects. In rural Brazil it is uncommon to find people with well-developed entrepreneurial skills and there are few development practitioners who understand communities’ specificities and are willing to live in remote places and provide this assistance. Moreover, local communities cannot obtain certification for their products because they are unable to meet the required standards or cannot cover the cost of obtaining the certificates.

• Lack of community access to information and training for agroecological production and sustainable land and water management: Traditional communities. small farmers and communities in agrarian reform settlements generally do not receive agricultural extension support to implement environmentally friendly agricultural practices suitable to local climate and soil conditions. Where agricultural extension is available, it is often geared to technological packages that are often unsuitable to local socioeconomic or environmental conditions, leading to low productivity and high indebtedness. On the other hand, in a scenario of reduced land bases, climate shifts and cultural changes (including dietary traditions), indigenous groups and traditional communities’ production methods often are no longer adapted to present conditions. They need, therefore, technical support and appropriate technologies to update their knowledge base to adapt to new realities. When adapted to local conditions, agroecological techniques can help these groups improve their food production methods, respecting nature, and increasing food security, but information and training on these techniques is not readily available to these communities.

In terms of the capacity of community-based organizations to effectively design and implement projects, there are a number of weaknesses that need to be considered and addressed:

• Many community organizations in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes suffer from weak organizational and administrative capacities, preventing them from seeking out significant funding sources as well as efficiently and effectively planning, managing and implementing initiatives and actions;

• Community organizations rarely coordinate with other community organizations to pursue collective action for global environmental and landscape management outcomes at scale;

• Community organizations lack a larger, more long-term vision and strategy for ecosystem and resource management and suffer from weak adaptive management capacities i.e. to innovate, test alternatives, monitor and evaluate results, and adjust practices and techniques to meet challenges and lessons learned;

• Knowledge from project experience with innovation/experimentation is not systematically recorded, analyzed or disseminated to policy makers or other communities, organizations and programmes;
High turnover in the administration of community organizations can have a negative effect on the continuity of projects;

Conventional relationships and interactions between communities and local government result in political interference in organizations, especially during election periods. Local organizations do not exist in a political vacuum, and often negotiate support for their members through local (municipal) governments. As a result, local leaders are often absorbed into politics, willingly or unwillingly, either in offering support for candidates and parties or as candidates themselves.

Activities often require collaboration with municipal governments in order to be more effective and have a broader reach, involving actions such as improving and maintaining roads and fixing bridges. However, when governments change, it is a common practice to discontinue support for the previous administration’s programs. Depending on the level of integration, this can represent a serious setback. Even in more neutral situations, change in local government still may require that the organization spend more time in renegotiating support.

In addition to barriers related to the weaknesses of community organizations, there are other barriers that operate on broader scales:

- Fragility of land rights generates uncertainty over natural resource tenure, affecting local economies based on NTFP gathering. Conflicts over land rights and resources also affect the capacity of local organizations to focus on developing and carrying out projects aimed at sustainability;

- Government policies related to natural resource use and management by traditional communities often do not translate into funding, hampering the efforts of community organizations to manage their landscapes adaptively;

- On the national level, discontinuity or decreased support for certain government programs can be a serious setback for small-scale farmers and their organizations. Recent cutbacks in the PNAE – National Program for School Food, which supported purchase of local produce for school lunches and the PAA – Program for Food Acquisition, which purchased local produce for donation to social aid organizations, have had a negative impact on small-scale farmers and extractivists that supplied products.

b) The baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

The GEF SGP Country Programme

Since the inception of the SGP Country Programme in Brazil, its geographic focus has been the Cerrado biome, where between 1995 and 2009 it supported 318 projects distributed across 14 states. The overall strategy has been to promote conservation of biodiversity through sustainable use of natural resources within production landscapes that combine native vegetation and agriculture. Community projects supported by SGP Brazil have primarily focused on income generation through sustainable use of non-timber forest products such as native fruits, nuts and seeds harvested from the wild or from cultivation. SGP has also promoted beekeeping, the cultivation or harvesting of medicinal plants, sustainable wildlife management (e.g. rhes, river turtles and peccaries) for food security of indigenous and other local communities, and handicraft production using local native fiber species, flowers and leaves. Other SGP projects in the Cerrado focused on restoration of degraded areas, particularly those affected by deforestation, erosion and drought. In this process, the SGP Country Programme learned about the importance of enabling local communities to establish networks and creating opportunities for civil society participation in policy debates at local, sub-national and national levels.
After accumulating 15 years of experience and investing USD 7,720,000 in projects in the Cerrado biome, in 2013, a GEF Full Size Project was approved to finance the Fifth Operational Phase of the Small Grants Programme in Brazil, expanding the programme’s geographic focus to the Caatinga biome. The project was executed by ISPN through the UNDP CO, supporting communities on projects in the Biodiversity, Climate Change and Land Degradation focal areas. This project will end in December 2018 and has supported 94 community grants in the Cerrado and the Caatinga. The main results over the combined lifetime of the projects are compiled below:

- 921,790 hectares under sustainable management in the Cerrado and Caatinga;
- 1,414 hectares with agroecological practices adopted;
- 6,100 hectares with soil conservation practices adopted;
- 4,730 hectares restored;
- Reduction in carbon emissions of 15,521,269 tCO2
- 72,000 tCO2 sequestered through restoration or agroecological practices;
- More than 20 contributions to influence public policies;
- Presence in more than 100 municipalities in 15 states;
- Approximately 15,000 families benefitted;
- 9,390 persons participated in training;
- Dissemination of information about products of the Cerrado and Caatinga by means of support for the Central do Cerrado, the Cerranga website and a series of technical manuals;
- USD 2.3 million in co-financing leveraged by grantees during GEF-5; 47% in cash and 53% in kind.

During GEF-5, SGP Brazil also implemented the Satoyama Initiative, investing USD 280,000 in funding from the Ministry of Environment of Japan in addition to GEF SGP resources to increase landscape resilience in the upper Jequitinhonha Valley in Minas Gerais. Fourteen communities within the landscape were benefitted from projects involving integrated water management, sustainable farming techniques, conservation of natural resources with the objective of increasing community resilience, combating land degradation, and ensuring sustainable production. These projects have contributed to management and storage of an estimated 53 million liters of water annually through the construction of 199 communal technologies, including 65 terraces in contour lines, 102 containment basins, and 32 small dams. These water management and storage techniques are part of a larger strategy to improve the resilience of the landscape by increasing water infiltration and avoiding runoff and erosion, as well as by promoting vegetation recovery. The projects also supported families in improving their agricultural productivity as well as soil and water conservation through the adoption of agroecological practices. Organic horticulture and agroforestry practices – such as zero tillage, soil cover, crop rotation, organic pest control and fertilizers – are contributing to reduce negative impacts of agriculture on the environment. Over 180 ha are now under sustainable management and 113 hectares of degraded vegetation around springs and creeks were fenced, and seedlings and seeds were planted. Grants also invested in dissemination of agroecological practices for 120 families aimed at soil improvement and increased food production. In addition, two facilities were built to improve production of cassava flour and fruit pulp and preserves in two communities.

https://gefportal.worldbank.org
At the Programme level, substantial co-financing was also obtained from the Amazon Fund, resulting in significant on the ground achievements. An additional USD 2.2 million was invested in small grants, replicating the Programme for the Arc of Deforestation in the Amazonian portion of Maranhão, Tocantins and Mato Grosso states, besides another USD 1.8 million invested in capacity building, knowledge management, replicating and mainstreaming. Through the Amazon Fund, eighty eight grants were supported, benefitting 2,900 families, strengthening 163 community-based organizations and promoting the sustainable use of 19,380 hectares and regeneration of 2,680 hectares. A second phase is being negotiated to continue supporting small grants in these three states as well as expanding the geographic focus to other parts of Cerrado within the Legal Amazon region.

SGP has also worked as the delivery mechanism for a National Climate Fund project, executed by the National Indian Agency – FUNAI with UNDP support, and for a component of a GEF Full Size Project also executed by FUNAI (Catalyzing the contribuon of Indigenous Lands to the conservaon of Brazil’s forest ecosystems), supporting 52 additional grants to elaborate and implement Environmental and Territorial Management Plans in indigenous lands as well as to develop local iniaves with agroforestry, restoration, agroecology and other topics. The total value invested in community grants was approximately USD 1.5 million.

Successful experiences across the Cerrado over the last 23 years show that sustainable use of native biodiversity resources can become an engine of growth for rural communities, creating jobs and diversifying economic activities, which in turn will halt or reverse land use change and rural outmigration.

The experience of SGP-Brazil shows that a bottom-up approach to supporting projects generates significant and lasting positive impacts with an excellent cost/benefit ratio. From the outset, support for projects proposed and managed by communities brings lasting benefits in terms of social organization, infrastructure, behavior, self esteem, gender and even changes in public policies and private sector commitments. In many communities, sustainable innovations demonstrate effects that lead to the diffusion and multiplication of technologies without additional costs to donors.

Several of the lessons learned from the SGP-Brazil can be highlighted. These are:

- Sustainable livelihoods represent an integrated strategy for conservation of ecosystems, income generation, food security and social inclusion;
- The open format and bottom-up approach to the calls for project proposals gives greater weight to innovations proposed by the communities and promotes their empowerment, different from financing mechanisms that work within more narrowly defined lines;
- Less red tape allows communities and organizations that otherwise have little access to conventional sources of financing to be able to fund their activities, as well as reducing the amount of complex accounting, a factor that often leads to default;
- The “horizontal training” (farmer-to-farmer) that takes place during exchanges and other events is a methodological instrument that allows participants to both trade their experiences as well as to observe and be inspired by new techniques, forms of organization and marketing setups;
- The organizations supported by the SGP tend to become involved in networks with greater influence on public policies;
- The learning process builds capacity that prepares project proponents to access new sources of funding;
- The support by institutions such as the United Nations and GEF increases the credibility of local organizations and allows them to leverage financing from other financial mechanisms.
There are a number of very positive policies that have been created in recent years that support the rights of traditional communities and family farmers. However, many of them lack clear financing mechanisms, for which reason articulating communities and organizations with existing networks is critical to their empowerment and capacity to carry out initiatives geared towards more sustainable rural landscapes. These networks are particularly important with regard to their experience in mobilization. SGP Brazil has enabled community grantee organizations to join or support some of the main existing networks:

- National Articulation for Agroecology - ANA
- Articulation for the Semi-Arid - ASA
- Cerrado Network - Rede Cerrado
- Movement of the Indigenous Peoples of the Cerrado - Mopic
- Articulation of the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil -Apib
- Pacari Network
- Núcleo do Pequi
- Nacional Campaign for Defense of the Cerrado - Campanha Nacional em Defesa do Cerrado
- National Council of Quilombos - CONAQ (and state organizations)

Component 1: Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection

The interventions under Component 1 are built upon the following baseline projects:

- The Amazon Fund’s geographic coverage has recently expanded to include the Cerrado portion of Legal Amazonia, with a call for landscape restoration projects with targets of at least 3,000 ha restored (deadline Aug. 2018);
- The project "Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into NTFP and AFS production practices in multiple-use forest landscapes of high conservation value" – “Bem Diverso”, financed by the GEF through UNDP and Embrapa and involving Embrapa’s regional centers and NGO partners in Cerrado and Caatinga;
- The Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous People and Local Communities (DGM), an initiative of the Climate Investment Funds' (CIF) Forest Investment Program (FIP) supports projects proposed by indigenous peoples, quilombolas and local communities of the Cerrado that promote the protection and conservation of natural resources (particularly forest), avoid deforestation and degradation, and encourage social inclusion;
- The Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund – CEPF, based on a participatory effort to design a Cerrado Profile - is supporting initiatives in the Cerrado;
- Through IBAMA’s national policy for conversion of environmental fines, a call was launched for proposals to restore the São Francisco river basin and for dissemination of adaptive practices for the semi-arid portion of the Parnaíba river basin in Piauí;
- The project Phytoterapy Chains, financed by the GEF through UNDP and the Ministry of Environment will help to structure value chains for native biodiversity inputs and products for medicinal purposes contributing to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;
- The Project MATOPIBA 2020, which is part of the GEF strategic program 'Taking Deforestation Out of the Commodity Chains' is acting with soy producers in Western Bahia.

Component 2: Landscape governance and adaptive management for upscaling and replication

The interventions under Component 2 are built upon the following baseline projects:
- The Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative Project (COMDEKS) - a unique global effort implemented by UNDP, in partnership with the Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MOEJ), the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and the United Nations University (UNU-IAS), were applied in Brazil through SGP from 2015 to 2017 in the Upper Jequinhonha Valley;
- The projects "Socioenvironment studies in Upper Jequinhonha Valley: analyses of eucalyptus monoculture impacts and building mitigation strategies" and "Organic production and fair trade", supported by the Swiss organization Vivamos Mejor, is being executed by the Center for Alternative Agriculture Vicente Nica (CAV), in Upper Jequinhonha Valley;
- ISPN is managing the project "Activism to enhance conservation of the Cerrado in western Bahia" supported by the CEPF aiming at strengthening civil society in this landscape;
- ISPN is collaborating in the project "Mapping "Invisible" Traditional Communities to support Cerrado Conservation" with the Institute of Research in the Amazon (IPAM), supported by the CEPF, which will face the challenge of producing a map of the location of local and traditional communities in the Cerrado;
- The National Program for Landscape Connectivity – Conecta, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment to promote landscape sustainability and connectivity in all biomes of Brazil will work along the following themes: environmental conservation; environmental recuperation; territorial management; and sustainable production.

c) The proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

General explanation/rationale:

The basic goal of the project is to promote communities' governance over their territories and their autonomy so that they can work towards improved landscape resilience, in accordance with several public policies that point in this direction. Livelihoods will be supported by valuing "sociobiodiversity" products (NTFPs and traditional agriculture), generating income and contributing to reduced deforestation and maintaining carbon stocks and hydrologic cycles. The project will work within the general framework of existing public policies, increasing their breadth and effectiveness.
A strategy of close dialogue with traditional communities and smallholders is necessary for Brazil to achieve its broader goals of biodiversity conservation and maintenance of ecosystem services. As support for this strategy, the project will work in the context of existing public policies and the new National Program for Landscape Connectivity – Conecta, coordinated by the Ministry of Environment – to promote landscape sustainability and connectivity in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, by means of a program of small grants to communities and their organizations. The grants will support activities such as management of and marketing of NTFPs, agroecology, landscape restoration and mitigation of climate change, among others. Besides small grants, the project will also work in the broader context of providing training, capacity building and advocacy for individuals and organizations to improve value chains, influence public policies and advocate for rights to land, resources and territory.

Regarding the selected landscapes, in Western Bahia, the project will provide support to community based-organizations to strengthen civil society for land security, improve management of collective territories avoiding wildfires and protecting springs and rivers, as well as increasing families' productive capacity for sociobiodiversity (NTFP) and agroecological products. In this way, the role of the communities as promoters of conservation and connectivity among Cerrado remnants will be amplified.

In Jequinhonha Valley, the project will continue to tackle soil degradation through implementing social technologies to conserve soil, avoid erosion, harvest and store rainwater, as well as promoting agroecological practices and improving technical assistance and marketing access to smallholders. It will also aim at youth inclusion and gender equity, mainly through the partnership with the Family School of Veredinha.

For the Caatinga landscapes, the project will provide contextualized technical assistance to improve land management and increase production for income generation, food sovereignty and also restoring Caatinga remnants through natural regeneration. In the Pajeú, focusing on women's production gardens, efficient stoves and sustainable systems for crop irrigation can help women to access market and increase income, while reducing carbon emissions. In Piauí, improvements in goat and cattle raising practices along with social technologies for living in harmony with the semiarid climate have a big potential for improving landscape resilience and promoting Caatinga recovery.

Description of the Components and their outcomes:

Component 1 – Resilient landscapes for sustainable development and global environmental protection

This Component focuses on supporting community-based organizations to identify, design and implement grants that produce Global Environmental Benefits and local sustainable development benefits. The bottom-up approach applied by the Brazil SGP Country Programme is fully aligned with the GEF Small Grants Programme’s approach in 126 countries of “thinking globally, acting locally” i.e. working to empower local communities by providing financial and technical support to their projects for sustainable development with global environmental impacts.

Through this Component, the project will focus on promoting a wide array of productive practices that directly impact global environmental values by conserving biodiversity, fostering sustainable use, promoting sustainable land, water and resource management and generating impacts for climate change mitigation.

The project’s focus will be primarily on the targeted landscapes of Western Bahia, Upper Poti Basin (Piauí), Upper Jequinhonha Valley (Minas Gerais) and Pajeú (Pernambuco), where the landscape initiatives will be developed using the COMDEKS methodology as their basis. Up to 70% of GEF funding will go to these landscape initiatives, while the remaining 30% will be either programmed for other strategic initiatives (see under Component 2, below) that cut across landscapes or the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, or fall outside a landscape strategy but with strategic value in terms of potential contribution to innovating, expanding and upscaling results.

The small grants for community based-organizations will work on various fronts, ranging from support for on-the-ground activities such as integrated agro-ecological practices, conservation of local agrobiodiversity, restoration of springs and riparian forests, improving management and production of sociobiodiversity products (NTFPs), management of Indigenous and Community Conservation Areas (ICCAs), ecotourism, and other eligible initiatives responding to community interests. These on-the-ground
inivestments will have a direct effect on increasing the resilience of both ecosystems and livelihoods of the communities by contributing to the sustainability of production systems and improving resource conservation through sustainable use. The small grants will help community organizations in improving market access and providing support for eco-friendly small-scale community enterprises and value chains.

Specifically in the semi-arid Caatinga, special attention will be given to projects that develop and demonstrate climate change mitigation options at community level, such as those implementing 'social technologies' to harvest and store rainwater.

The project foresees holding three calls for community level small grant projects (one per year) both benefitting the selected landscapes and other parts of the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes in the case of innovative projects or those with high potential for replication and/or upscaling. The strategic partners in each targeted landscape will be responsible for helping to identify community projects that are in line with projected and agreed landscape outcomes. Selection and implementation of these projects will follow methodologies and practices developed by SGP-Brazil over the last twenty years. They will also play the role of facilitating integration among grantees. ISPN will be responsible for building stakeholder capacities and closely monitoring grants during the project lifetime, as well as knowledge management.

Under this component there are four complementary Outcomes directed at building the resilience of the target landscapes by producing global environmental benefits. As such, the Outcomes generally correspond to the different focal areas, though there is overlap on the ground where community projects pursue integrated objectives affecting more than one focal area. In keeping with GEF SGP’s approved Operational Guidelines, community projects – to be identified, designed and implemented during the implementation of the SGP GEF-7 Country Program – comprise the core Outputs required to achieve each Outcome. In this regard, the following Outcomes and Outputs will be achieved under Component 1:

Outcome 1.1: Ecosystem services within Cerrado and Caatinga biomes are enhanced through multi-functional land-use systems that improve resilience, ecological connectivity and livelihoods of communities.

This outcome will be achieved through:

Output 1.1.1 Community level small grants that restore degraded landscapes, improve connectivity, support innovation regarding biodiversity conservation and optimization of ecosystem services, including sustainable use of biodiversity; recovery of native vegetation; integrated fire management; community conservation areas, etc.

Outcome 1.2: The sustainability of production systems in the target landscapes is strengthened through integrated agro-ecological practices.

This outcome will be achieved through:

Output 1.2.1 Targeted community projects enhancing the sustainability and resilience of production systems, including soil and water conservation practices, silvopastoral and agroforestry systems, increased on-farm arboreal coverage, conservation of agrobiodiversity; agro-ecological practices and cropping systems.

Outcome 1.3: Community livelihoods in the target landscapes become more resilient by developing eco-friendly small-scale community enterprises and improving market access.

This outcome will be achieved through:

Output 1.3.1 Targeted community projects promoting sustainable livelihoods, green businesses and market access, including sociobiodiversity products, beekeeping; green value-added agro-businesses integrated into value chains, micro-processing.

This outcome will be achieved through:
Outcome 1.4 Increased adoption (development, demonstration and financing) of renewable and energy efficient technologies at community level

This outcome will be achieved through:

Output 1.4.1 Targeted community projects implementing energy efficient technologies in each landscape, including biogas, fuel-efficient stoves, solar energy applications, etc.

Component 2 – Landscape governance and adaptive management for upscaling and replication

Although Brazil has a strong set of public policies that are supportive of natural resource management by traditional communities and their organizations and also recognize their cultural, social, economic and environmental rights, the on-the-ground application and effectiveness of these public policies needs much further development. These improvements in public policy are almost entirely dependent on the feedback and pressures placed on government by the traditional communities and family farmers’ networks, whose participation is foreseen in various committees and councils associated with public policies. In the face of competition by powerful interest groups for land and natural resources, the maintenance of the territorial rights of traditional communities and family farmers is almost entirely dependent on their capacity to mobilize and work through such networks to pressure Congress and politicians.

The landscape approach is a tool for promoting participation and policy influence, as well as for capacity building in governance. It can also be important for the upscaling of solutions to socioenvironmental problems, as different groups will share knowledge and learn from others’ experience. Organized, systematic communication will be essential to disseminate information, results and lessons learned to other landscapes and regions, and even abroad.

Outcome 2.1 Multistakeholder governance platforms strengthened/in place for improved governance of target landscapes for effective participatory decision making to enhance socio-ecological resilience

The multistakeholder governance platform in each target landscape will play an important role in strengthening of local organizations for improved governance, technical capacity and social participation in platforms for dialogue and increased capacity to access and influence relevant public policies.

The establishment of multistakeholder platforms will have as its first step the identification of one local or regional partner in each target landscape who will take on the responsibility of setting up the multistakeholder platform in that landscape and guaranteeing its functioning. Following the establishment of the multistakeholder platform, a diagnosis will be carried as part of the designing of a landscape strategy that will describe main socioenvironmental problems, identify desired landscape level outcomes, and define typologies of the grants and eligibility criteria.

In the phase of small grant implementation, this strategic partner will monitor and provide technical and administrative assistance to community organizations in their landscape. Other activities led by the strategic partner are the farmer-to-farmer exchanges, local or regional seed fairs and thematic workshops. In accordance with the diagnosis of the landscape strategy, the partner will also promote interfaces and liaison with private enterprise to improve value chains for NTFPs and products of traditional agriculture or create new chains with eco-friendly small-scale community enterprises. As necessary, the partner will also be responsible for helping community organizations to resolve bottlenecks in their value chains, such as improving labelling, compliance with sanitary and environmental regulations and business plans, among others. For the most part, this support will be given through specialized technical assistance, contracted locally or regionally and under the close supervision of ISPN.

In the context of the multistakeholder platform, the strategic regional partner will also be responsible for promoting discussions, workshops and other events in which landscape-level planning is at the forefront. The different stakeholders will be brought together in a participatory decision-making process to establish agreements resulting in support for multi-functional land-use systems, more resilient landscapes and ecological connectivity, in the context of sustainable development and global environmental
As the project develops, the multistakeholder platforms will also be forums for the presentation, discussion and dissemination of project results.

Community organizations face a number of barriers that prevent them from accessing funding sources and successfully carrying out projects, ranging from internal institutional fragilities to lack of political presence in local and regional scenarios. Capacity building of community organizations is, therefore, a fundamental part of the project’s actions in the target landscapes. Capacity building of grassroots organizations will include training in writing proposals and managing ecossocial projects, farmer-to-farmer exchanges and participation in regional and national networks. Peer-to-peer exchanges represent moments in which community members not only trade their experiences about agricultural techniques but also observe and become inspired by new forms of social organization and marketing setups.

This outcome will be achieved by the following outputs:

2.1.1 A multistakeholder governance platform in each target landscape develops and monitors landscape level agreements; promotes advocacy for the territorial rights of traditional communities and family farmers; value-chain development strategies for NTFP and agroecological products; adaptive landscape management plans and policies, including enhanced community participation in river basin commissions and other relevant forums.

2.1.2 A landscape strategy developed by the corresponding multistakeholder platform for each target landscape to enhance socio-ecological resilience through community grant projects.

Outcome 2.2 Mainstreaming and upscaling the contribution of local communities to landscape resilience, conservation and connectivity

In addition to on-the-ground local actions through small grants and the broader landscape focus of the multistakeholder platforms, the project will address the goal of replicating and upscaling successful experiences to a broader context.

Knowledge management is a fundamental component to support policy dialogues and for replication of positive results in the selected landscapes and elsewhere, as well as for upscaling through the use of strategic projects. It is also important to other non-landscape strategic goals, such as increasing awareness among a particular constituency, such as urban groups in the landscapes, and building capacities of the rural family schools. Within the landscapes, for example, the Family Agriculture Schools (Escolas Familias Agrícolas), which are rural schools that board children and youth of family farmers and are generally supported by farmers’ grass roots associations and the student’s families, will represent a unique opportunity to discuss and disseminate issues related to gender, youth, agroecology, and socio-ecological resilience in general.

Important lessons learnt by communities and CBOs regarding biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation, and sustainable land and forest management will be systematized through publications and widely disseminated. Different knowledge products will be produced, such as videos, brochures, case studies, booklets and toolkits, depending on the content of the grants and the landscape strategies developed. The most relevant documents will be translated to English to enable the global SGP program and other practitioners to benefit from SGP Brazil experiences.

Replication and upscaling, therefore, is linked to the broader strategy of aggregating institutional partners. Partners in academia can provide support in terms of research on NTFPs, agrobiodiversity and environmental management, often by involving the growing number of students from local communities, a result of recent education policies that have promoted broader access to higher education. Equally important, academia has had a very important role in terms of the defense of the rights of indigenous peoples, traditional communities and family farmers, and can thus provide a very important contribution to the multistakeholder platforms.

This outcome will be achieved by the following outputs:

2.2.1 Knowledge from project innovation experience is shared for replication and upscaling across the landscapes, across the country, and to the global SGP network.

2.2.2 Strategic initiatives are supported to upscale successful SGP project experience and practice
d) Alignment with GEF focal area and/or Impact Programme strategies:

The SGP Brazil Upgrading Country Programme (UCP) will focus in GEF-7 on support to community-driven planning and management of critical selected landscapes aimed at achieving global environmental and local sustainable development benefits. Community organizations will enhance their adaptive management capacities, cultivate resilience by strengthening their capacities for innovation across the landscape and throughout the local economy, and privilege no-regrets actions and initiatives. The SGP UCP will support community organizations in some of the most vulnerable and least developed areas of Brazil to take collective action through a participatory landscape planning and management approach aimed at enhancing socio-ecological resilience from innovative livelihoods producing local and global environmental benefits.

The SGP UCP aims to address challenges to biodiversity loss, land degradation and climate change through strengthened community organizations that lead to enhanced landscape governance for resilience and global environmental benefits. The programme focuses on food and livelihood security of the local community by promoting agro-ecological practices and cropping systems, participatory land use planning, and forest conservation-based livelihoods of local communities. The UCP will also promote innovative technologies and processes to reduce GHG emissions. By promoting low cost energy efficient cooking fuels and renewable energy measures, local communities will be able to contribute to pathways to low carbon local economy both directly and through channelling of evidence-based lessons to policy and decision makers.

The Brazil SGP UCP in GEF-7 is aligned with the Biodiversity Focal Area Strategy as it engages communities in landscape strategies that “mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes” and also addresses the “direct drivers to protect habitats and species”. The SGP Country Programme will also work with community organizations to “enhance on-the-ground Implementation of SLM” as well as provide policy makers with on-the-ground evidence from renewable energy and energy efficiency applications that can be used to “promote innovation and technology transfer for sustainable energy breakthroughs.”

The strategy for the Brazil SGP UCP in GEF-7 is fully aligned with the strategy and spirit of the GEF Impact Programme on Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration in that its core approach promotes “a sustainably integrated landscape that simultaneously meets a full range of local needs, including water availability, nutritious and profitable crops for families and local markets, and enhanced human health; while also contributing to national economic development and policy commitments (e.g. NDCs, LDN, Aichi targets for biodiversity conservation, Bonn Challenge); and delivering globally to the maintenance of biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and provision of food, fiber, and commercial commodities to international supply chains.”

During project preparation, SGP will liaise closely with the GEF Secretariat and GEF agencies on alignment with relevant programs and projects, including its Impact Programmes and Programmatic Approaches, as well as Full-sized and Medium-sized projects, particularly in relation to local community-driven land and resource management.

e) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF and co-financing;
GEF incremental funding and co-financing will be applied to overcome the barriers mentioned previously and to add value, where appropriate and possible, to existing initiatives by the government, the private sector or CSOs in specific rural landscapes of Brazil located in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes. It will contribute to the long-term solution of adaptive management of the Brazilian Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, operating mainly in four important landscapes to improve social, economic and ecological resilience and human well-being. GEF funding will provide small grants to NGOs and Community-based Organizations to develop four landscape management strategies and implement community projects in pursuit of strategic landscape level outcomes related to biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable land management and integrated water resources management. Funding will also be available for initiatives that build the organizational capacities of specific community groups as well as landscape level organizations and other organizations with strategic approaches outside the target landscapes. This support for initiatives outside the target landscapes seeks to increase the number of possible situations in which community level innovations are planned, tested, evaluated and disseminated. Resources will also be made available through the SGP strategic grant modality to upscale proven technologies, systems or practices based on knowledge from analysis of community innovations from past experience gained during previous phases of the SGP Brazil Country Programme. Identification of specific potential upscaling initiatives will take place during project preparation, but preliminary possibilities include expansion of programs for co-management of protected areas, agro-ecosystem management for increased productivity and sustainability, and promotion of value chains for NTFPs.

Multistakeholder groups will be consolidated in each target landscape, incorporating local government, national agencies and ministries, universities, CSOs, the private sector and other relevant actors. These partnerships will provide technical assistance, strategic guidance and financial support, where possible, to community-based organizations for individual community initiatives, as well as landscape level projects and strategic upgrading projects. Partnership agreements will be formulated and signed with communities as projects are identified and aligned with landscape level outcomes.

The project components will be carried out in targeted priority landscapes, as well as within the broader context of the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes, applying an integrated approach to enhance resilience in socio-ecological production landscapes in order to harmonize activities that can sustain biodiversity and ecosystem services while also supporting human well-being and production activities.

Project experiences and best practices will be systematized and knowledge generated for discussion and dissemination to local policy makers and national/subnational advisors, as well as landscape level organizations, NGOs and other networks.

The Country Program has selected an initial focus area in each region based on the consolidation of community experiences and lessons learned from the on-going and previously supported projects in GEF 5 for forthcoming replication, upscaling and mainstreaming. The criteria for choosing these landscapes are:

- Presence of relevant initiatives to be strengthened;
- Presence of a local NGO or institution to be a strategic partner within the landscape;
- Areas where co-financing for GEF-SGP can be provided;
- Relevant socioenvironmental contexts (both of threats to biodiversity and opportunities for greater resilience).

The selected target landscapes are:

- Cerrado biome: Western Bahia and Upper Jequitinhonha Valley, Minas Gerais
- Caatinga biome: Upper Poti river basin, in Piauí and Pajeú, in Pernambuco
During the project preparation period, various categories of information will be compiled or collected in order to consolidate the project’s initial diagnosis and strategies for socio-ecological production landscapes. Slight adjustments regarding selected landscapes can also be made at that stage. Based on this, planning activities will be held with full participation of community stakeholders so that they have a broader picture of communities and their needs and the links between communities. The three-fold approach of the Satoyama Initiative will be applied during the project preparation and the project implementation periods, with the following objectives:

1. Consolidate wisdom on securing diverse ecosystem services and values;
2. Integrate traditional ecological knowledge and modern science; and
3. Explore new forms of co-management systems.

The exit strategies for phasing out will be planned with the multistakeholder groups at this stage to ensure the sustainability of impacts and to encourage community commitment after the GEF 7 project ends.

f) Global Environmental Benefits

The global environmental benefits generated by the SGP Brazil Upgraded Country Programme through community-based landscape management initiatives and actions in selected priority sites and in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes in Brazil can be estimated over the short term as a result of potential aggregated impacts from individual grant projects. However, overall benefits over the longer term will be a function of the synergies created between projects through programmatic approaches, such as the landscape management approach proposed here and additional efforts for mainstreaming and upscaling. This also may involve communities participating in broader networks, such as the Semi-arid Articulation (ASA) and the National Agroecology Articulation (ANA), among others, that bring empowerment and the possibility of political action.

Under this approach, community groups, local authorities, indigenous peoples, and NGOs form multistakeholder partnerships and develop and implement landscape resilience strategies based on outcomes linked to biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services, sustainable land management, and climate change mitigation, all of which are shaped and defined by their relation to local priorities for food security, income generation and the development of social capital. These strategies will guide the definition of the types and numbers of community projects required to meet the selected outcomes. At that point, once the strategies have been developed by the communities in each landscape, a more credible, detailed accounting of potential global environmental benefits will be possible. At the same time, the project’s multistakeholder partnerships can develop strategic projects (defined by SGP as up to USD 150,000) to upscale successful SGP-supported technologies, practices or systems identified from previous phases of the SGP Brazil Country Programme. Prospective Global Environment Benefits from these initiatives will be more precisely defined during project preparation and implementation but it is expected that these will be oriented towards broader, landscape-level impacts.

The Brazil Upgraded Country Programme will generate the expected outcomes through two main strategic components. The core component for on-the-ground action, however, is Component 1. Support for local projects in order to promote resilient landscapes and ecological connectivity for sustainable development and global environmental protection. Through this component of small grants, the project will bring results related to climate change, land degradation and biodiversity, as described below.
The project will seek the sustainable mitigation of the concentration of anthropogenic greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere, with avoided greenhouse gas emissions and increased carbon sequestration in production landscapes as the principal contribution of the project with regard to climate change. Project interventions will promote the conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in agriculture, natural vegetation and other land use through reforestation, agroforestry, revegetation and rehabilitation of degraded soils, increasing plant coverage and maintaining or increasing soil organic matter content.

With regard to land degradation, the project will address erosion, desertification and deforestation through two main lines:

- Improved provision of agro-ecosystem and forest ecosystem goods and services (through reforestation, agroforestry, dissemination of knowledge on improved grazing/livestock maintenance and planting of native resilient trees);

- Adaptation and coexistence with semi-arid climate through use of “social technologies” such as rainwater storage cisterns and agricultural techniques to improve soil conditions.

On biodiversity, the project will seek to promote the conservation of globally and locally significant biodiversity through sustainable use. Two main approaches will be employed: (1) valuation and dissemination of NTFPs from the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes and (2) landscape connectivity, linking protected areas with areas under sustainable management and use by local communities and smallholders. These will be addressed through:

- Improving sustainable management of biodiversity and production landscapes;

- Improving production based on biodiversity products to value native ecosystems and avoid deforestation.

The project will contribute to achieving several of the Aichi targets, as described below:

Target 1 – Awareness of biodiversity values: The project will contribute to the awareness of the importance of biodiversity, not only locally in the target landscapes, but also on a broader scale, through support for creating greater public awareness and markets for products of biodiversity such as NTFPs.

Target 2 – Integration of biodiversity values: The project has as its backdrop the strengthening of the contribution of ICCAs to national policies and regional programmes for sustainable development.

Target 3 – Incentives: The project will support advocacy for the rights of indigenous peoples, traditional communities and family farmers and support for their landscape-level planning and management of natural resources. This will function as a counterpoint to existing incentives and practices that result in loss of biodiversity through deforestation and conversion.

Target 4 – Use of natural resources: The multistakeholder platforms that the project will develop in target landscapes will conduct planning for sustainable use of natural resources.

Target 5 – Reduce pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use: The project will address the loss of habitat through measures to promote the sustainable use and connectivity of landscapes, with support for ICCAs.

Target 7 – Areas under sustainable management: A central tenet of the project is to promote planning for the sustainable use of landscapes, especially in regard to ICCAs.

Target 8 – Pollution: Through promotion of agroecology, the project will support reduction in the use of agricultural chemicals that can contaminate watercourses. At the same time, strengthening of community organizations will help them to protest and fight against excessive use of chemicals and environmental contamination, such as caused by aerial spraying.
Target 11 – Protected areas: The project will support initiatives that support existing mosaics of conservation areas and their links with ICCAs and ecological corridors.

Target 13 – Genetic diversity: Conservation of agrobiodiversity present in traditional agricultural systems will be supported by the project, through mechanisms such as seed banks and seed fairs.

Target 14 – Essential ecosystem services: The project will promote the protection and maintenance of ecosystem services through landscape-level planning and participation in watershed committees, as well as through direct actions of restoring and protecting vegetation around springs and in riparian strips.

Target 15 – Ecosystem resilience: The project will contribute to climate change mitigation through multi-functional land-use systems with integrated agro-ecological practices that improve resilience and carbon storage.

Target 17 – NBSAPs: the project goals are fully in line with Brazil’s national biodiversity strategy and action plans and support the various related policy measures.

Target 18 – Traditional knowledge: The project supports indigenous peoples and traditional communities as to the recognition of the importance of their traditional knowledge as a fundamental component of strategies to manage natural resources and landscapes.

g) Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up.

Innovativeness

This project proposes to carry out participatory, multistakeholder, landscape management in two biomes, the Cerrado and the Caatinga, and aims at enhancing social and ecological resilience through community-based, community-driven projects to conserve biodiversity, optimize ecosystem services, manage land – particularly agro-ecosystems – and water resources sustainably and mitigate climate change.

Using the knowledge and experience gained from global and national landscape level initiatives delivered by SGP – through its COMDEKS initiatives and others – this project will pilot four distinct landscape planning and management processes in Brazil, two in the Cerrado biome and two in the Caatinga biome – and, building on experience and lessons learned from previous SGP operational phases in Brazil, assist community organizations to carry out and coordinate projects in pursuit of outcomes they have identified in landscape plans and strategies. This will build community ownership of individual initiatives as well as landscape management effectiveness overall. Coordinated community projects in the landscape will generate ecological, economic and social synergies that will produce greater and potentially longer-lasting global environmental benefits, as well as increased social capital and local sustainable development benefits. The capacities of community organizations will be strengthened through a learning-by-doing approach in which the project itself is a vehicle for acquiring practical knowledge and organizational skills in a longer-term adaptive management process. The project will also take prior years’ experience and identify and implement a number of potential scaling-up opportunities.

Sustainability

To ensure sustainability of community-based landscape management initiatives, the SGP Brazil Country Program will actively develop and maintain broad-based relationships/partnerships that promote collaboration. For example, to ensure NTFP market access, SGP will not only focus on local markets but also leverage the opportunity to establish market linkages with private sector companies that are interested in integrating local products in their supply chain. Initially, this will be done by working with existing partners that are already involved in marketing of Cerrado and Caatinga products, mainly the Central do Cerrado, that is now also marketing products from the Caatinga. Importantly, to ensure sustainability, project implementation schemes will respond more to the strengths rather than the weaknesses of local
communities – for example, their capacity to innovate and their potential to create value. Engagement with the private sector will be key. Since the individual proposals are written/developed by local community organizations based on what they want to achieve, communities are more likely to exhibit ownership over the outcomes of the projects. Community ownership is a critical contributing factor to the sustainability of project benefits. SGP Brazil will involve all community members (men, women, youth and elders) in all stages of the grant project cycle: design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

SGP Brazil has been working extensively for more than two decades in providing technical support and facilitating funding for communities for the sustainable use of resources, biodiversity conservation and mitigation of climate change. The growing network of voluntary support, as a result of cooperation with more than two hundreds NGOs, CBOs and IP groups, has made it possible for SGP Brazil to reach out to more vulnerable groups efficiently, addressing gender, local communities and smallholders’ and indigenous peoples’ concerns. This network consists of practitioners in community-based entrepreneurship, project cycle development facilitators, government officials, indigenous peoples and traditional communities groups, decision makers and scientists. Sustainability will be maintained further by contributing to adjustments in government policies and increasing their effectiveness, building the capacities of communities and indigenous peoples groups, and engaging the private sector, universities, and research institutes in providing services. Project advocacy and support for the presence and participation of local communities in public policy forums will help to ensure that resources will continue to be available for their land management practices and for new initiatives and projects.

Sustainability of landscape-level planning and management processes will be enhanced through the formation of multistakeholder partnerships, involving local government, national agencies and institutions, NGOs, the private sector, universities, research institutions and others at the landscape level and the adoption of multistakeholder partnership agreements to pursue specific landscape level outcomes. NGO networks will be called upon for their support to community projects and landscape planning processes, and technical assistance will be engaged through government, NGOs, universities, academic institutes and other institutions.

Potential for scaling up

Scaling up of successful initiatives is an essential output of this project. Scaling up has been done successfully during previous projects and programs of the SGP Brazil Country Program. The principle of scaling up is that the communities adopt or replicate lessons learned from successful experiences into their own initiatives. Therefore, as is mentioned in the grant project preparation guidelines, it is necessary to include a set of standard “guiding questions”, which will help individual community groups to explore scaling-up pathways and related monitoring and evaluation practices.

SGP Brazil will work closely with its partners to ensure that promising innovations, successful pilots, and best practices are replicated and scaled up through joint or coordinated planning, financing, and implementation. A multistakeholder partnership strategy will be developed during the planning phase to meet these principles.

Meanwhile, SGP Brazil has already undertaken systematic outreach activities to promote scaling-up of community practices by involving governments, research and technical support institutions, foundations, networks and NGOs. Previous SGP outreach and partnership-building activities from 2013 to 2018 included peer-to-peer exchanges, learning events as well as publications to make available knowledge generated by supported grants.

Multistakeholder partnership mechanisms for this project in the four targeted areas in two biomes will be applied taking into account the following elements: (1) understanding the potential core values of each actor and their resources, such as specific technologies, practices or systems; (2) identifying potential opportunities for scaling up and analyzing and planning the scaling up process; and (3) implementing the scaling up program and evaluating its performance and impacts as a lesson learned or case study for adaptive management, policy discussion and potential replication of the model in other areas of the country or in other countries. The scaling-up and replication strategy will be conducted by SGP Brazil through advocacy and publication of best practices targeted to relevant stakeholders.

More detailed analysis of potential scaling up will take place during the project preparation phase, leading to the development of a strategy for the use of SGP strategic project financing. These resources that will be made available through the SGP strategic grant modality (grants up to USD 150,000) will finance key elements of the upscaling initiative to reduce the risk to other donors and investors. Multistakeholder partnerships will identify potential upscaling opportunities, analyze and plan upscaling processes, engage established microcredit and revolving fund mechanisms to finance upscaling components, design and implement the upscaling programme, and evaluate
its performance and impacts for lessons learned for adaptive management, policy discussion and potential extension of the model to other areas of the country. Identification of specific potential upscaling initiatives will take place during project preparation. One of the possible mechanisms for upscaling is to work with the Family Agriculture Schools (Escolas Famílias Agrícolas), rural agricultural schools that board children and youth of family farmers and are generally supported by farmers’ grass roots associations and students’ families. These schools represent unique opportunities to work with varied themes such as gender, youth and agroecology and to disseminate practices and techniques.
1b. Project Map and Coordinates

Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions will take place.

**Geographic Focus of the Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Brazil**

*Cerrado and Caatinga Biomes and four priority landscapes*
2. Stakeholders

Select the stakeholders that have participated in consultations during the project identification phase:

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities: Yes

Civil Society Organizations: Yes

Private Sector Entities

If none of the above, please explain why:

In addition, provide indicative information on how stakeholders, including civil society and indigenous peoples, will be engaged in the project preparation, and their respective roles and means of engagement.

The primary stakeholders of the Brazil GEF-SGP Upgraded Country Programme are the community-based organizations (CBOs) and local communities themselves who will receive grants to produce benefits to local sustainable development and to global environment. Women, ethnic minorities and youth will be especially invited to participate in the landscape planning and management processes as well as to submit project proposals for specific initiatives. Primary stakeholders are located in rural areas of the two biomes, Cerrado and Caatinga. Stakeholder organizations will be first identified based on the experience of SGP of nearly 25 years, and with more precision through a participatory process of planning and consultation to take place during the process of project formulation – financed by a Project Preparation Grant - and during implementation of the project itself.

CSO/NGOs, whose work has been to support CBOs and communities in pursuing local sustainable development in the areas, are also important stakeholders. These will include those NGOs who have the interest and capacity to provide key support services to community-based projects, including technical assistance and capacity development. These NGOs will be identified and contacted during the process of project formulation and implementation.

Key supporting actors in this SGP Upgraded Country Programme project will include the Ministry of Environment and its relevant agencies (Ibama, ICMBio and Forestry Service), the Ministry of Science, Technology, Information and Communication (MCTIC), Ministry of Planning, Budgets and Management (MP), Brazilian Agency of Cooperation (ABC), Public Attorney and the UNDP Country Office. From civil society, the involvement of Cerrado Network, Semi-Arid Network, as well as Indigenous Peoples and traditional communities’ movements and organizations are equally important for project success.

Key stakeholders and their indicative responsibilities for the implementation of the proposed project are outlined, as follows:

Community Based Organizations: Principal participants in landscape planning exercises; first-order partners in the multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape; signatories to community level partnership agreements; implementing agents of community and landscape level projects. The project will give special attention to organizations run by and for women, ethnic minorities and youth.

CSOs: Lead and facilitate participatory baseline assessments and landscape planning processes; partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape; signatories to community level partnership agreements; provide technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects; execute landscape level projects; potential participants in policy platforms.
Local government and watershed committees: Municipal governments generally channel commitments to communities in regards to agricultural and land use topics through their secretaries of agriculture or environment, and these will be invited to participate in baseline assessments and landscape planning processes. If suitable, they can be partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape. With regard to land use planning, of particular interest is improving participation in watershed committees, established as part of the National System for Management of Water Resources in 1988. Other relevant local committees that will be involved in the multistakeholder platform are Municipal Councils for Sustainable Rural Development, for Environment and for Food Security.

Government Agencies, namely the Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Science, Technology, Information and Communication, will represent government interests and participation at the federal level. Agencies of the Ministry of Environment such as Ibama (responsible for natural resources and the program for conversion of fines into funding for environmental restoration) and ICMBio (responsible for protected areas and the policy for integrated fire management), will be primary participants in landscape planning exercises when these are in their areas of jurisdiction and may be first-order partners in the multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape, as well as partners in landscape level projects and policy platforms. State environmental agencies will also be involved, especially when links with state-level protected areas are necessary or in regard to licensing of activities related to use and harvesting of natural resources.

Private sector will be involved as appropriate, participating in multistakeholder partnerships in the landscapes, but particularly in regard to developing links for improving value chains for agroecological products and NTFPs.

Academic institutions (to be defined) will be invited to be partners in multistakeholder partnerships for each landscape and potential participants on policy platforms when appropriate. They may also assist in participatory baseline assessments, landscape planning processes and in providing technical assistance to community organizations for implementation of their projects. They will also be engaged in looking for solutions for communities challenges and removing bottlenecks for marketing of sociobiodiversity products.
3. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Briefly include below any gender dimensions relevant to the project, and any plans to address gender in project design (e.g. gender analysis).

Gender will be considered throughout the project’s design and implementation. SGP-Brazil has pioneered and is highly recognized for mainstreaming gender equality and women’s empowerment in every step of the program cycle. A gender focal point will be designated in the SGP National Steering Committee to ensure review of gender considerations in project selection. The project will prioritize work with women’s groups, particularly livelihood groups and public health volunteer groups. The Country Programme team, as part of project preparation, will undertake a gender analysis and gender action plan, and formulate a specific strategy to engage women/girls groups as primary actors in landscape/seascape management.

During project preparation, consultations with community groups and NGOs during landscape strategy formulation will take place in ways that ensure women’s comfortable participation, depending on their preference for mixed or separate groups.

The Country Programme team will work with the gender focal point on the National Steering Committee to identify potential project ideas for initial discussions with women’s and girls’ groups. CSOs that have relevant experience will be engaged to support women’s/girls’ groups in defining grant project objectives and designing grant project activities. Women’s/girls’ groups will evaluate their projects’ performance to identify lessons and knowledge for adaptive management as well as gender specific policy recommendations.

Does the project expect to include any gender-responsive measures to address gender gaps or promote gender equality and women empowerment? Yes

closing gender gaps in access to and control over natural resources; Yes

improving women's participation and decision-making; and/or Yes

generating socio-economic benefits or services for women. Yes

Will the project’s results framework or logical framework include gender-sensitive indicators? Yes
4. Private sector engagement

Will there be private sector engagement in the project?
Yes

Please briefly explain the rationale behind your answer.

Private sector will be involved as appropriate, participating in multistakeholder partnerships in the landscapes, but particularly in regard to developing links for improving value chains for agroecological products and NTFPs.
5. Risks

Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental risks that might prevent the Project objectives from being achieved, and, if possible, propose measures that address these risks to be further developed during the Project design (table format acceptable)

Risks to the proposed project, potential consequences and proposed mitigation measures are detailed in Table 2 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified risks</th>
<th>Potential consequence</th>
<th>Risk category</th>
<th>Mitigation measures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low capacity and awareness of local NGOs and CBOs to address global environmental problems</td>
<td>Low capacity and awareness of local NGOs and CBOs may affect the capacity to manage and influence the pace and implementation of grant projects once approved</td>
<td>L: Likelihood</td>
<td>L: Likelihood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental problems in selected geographical areas</td>
<td>Approved</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Climatic unpredictability, with periodic droughts and changes in rainfall distribution, will affect agroecology initiatives and undermine efforts to arrest biodiversity loss and land degradation.

Projects based on agroecological techniques may have reduced success if climatic factors such as drought are overriding. Both drought and fires related to extended dry seasons can result in significant setbacks to restoration efforts. At the same time, extreme events of rain may increase runoff and soil erosion, neutralizing positive effects of supported projects.

Dealing with vulnerabilities including climate variability is a primary emphasis and objective of SGP. By working to develop capacities for appropriate landscape management and adoption of “social technologies” such as rainwater cisterns for water storage and slow infiltration, as well as agroecological techniques, the project will enable local communities to reduce vulnerabilities and increase ecosystem resilience and the potential to sustainably manage their land. This is an underlying premise and principle across all components. When possible, the project will work with government agencies involved in adaptive fire and soil management.

The risks, if and when encountered, will be managed by providing additional capacity building support to affected communities and allowing relocation of projects’ resources to deal with the situation. Experience will be documented, analyzed and shared with all project partners to create awareness and share lessons learned. The related technical guidelines, partnerships, platforms, workshops, exposure, contacts to learn and share knowledge for and by grantees will provide the confidence, credibility and commitment to adapt in the face of CC and deliver landscape and project outcomes.

Political instability causes discontinuity in government programs related to environment and traditional communities and smallholders

Discontinuity in government programs can undermine funding for complementary actions and support of partner organizations, affecting success of projects. Programs involved in the purchase of agricultural and NTFPs, and which promote local markets, may also be affected, impacting communities’ income and favoring short-term sources of cash such as deforestation.

By mobilizing partners from different sectors of society and levels of government and involving them in networks, the project will build resilience for local organizations and their initiatives, buffering the consequences of political instability as well as promoting participation in order to pressure for the continuation of these policies and programs.
Economic instability affects value chains.

Incomes for farmers and extractive producers may decline, affecting their long-term decision-making and capacity to invest in conservation and restoration, as well as weakening organizations such as cooperatives.

The concept of resilient landscapes also involves economic resilience. As such, the project envisions value chains that do not rely on single buyers or that steer producers principally toward commodity or international markets. By maintaining a mix of products from the landscapes and initiatives that access local, regional and national markets, the project expects to buffer economic instabilities.
6. Coordination

Outline the institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level. Describe possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

Institutional structure of the project including monitoring and evaluation coordination at the project level.

The SGP Country Programme is structured similarly to other SGP Country Programmes worldwide under the SGP Operational Guidelines approved by GEF Council. First and foremost, the Country Programme is governed by a National Steering Committee comprised of rotating representatives of civil society (the majority), as well as government and UNDP. The National Coordinator manages the Country Programme. Their duties and responsibilities are briefly described below; their detailed Terms of Reference can be found in the Operational Guidelines and will be annexed to the Project Document after the project preparation phase.

SGP National Steering Committee: Functions as Project Steering Committee; reviews and approves landscape strategies; advises regarding multistakeholder partnership composition and TORs; approves criteria for project eligibility for each landscape based on proposal by multistakeholder partnership and SGP Operational Guidelines; reviews and approves projects submitted by the SGP Country Programme Manager; reviews annual project progress reports and recommends revisions and course corrections, as appropriate, representative participant on policy platforms.

SGP Country Programme Manager (National Coordinator), and team: Responsible for the overall implementation and operations of the SGP Philippines Country Programme, acting as secretary to the National Steering Committee, mobilizing cofinancing, organizing strategic partnerships with government and non-governmental organizations, and in general managing the successful achievement of Country Programme Objectives, as described in the Project Document.

Possible coordination with other relevant GEF-financed projects and other initiatives.

The proposed project will collaborate with and build on the lessons of a range of related initiatives. The National Steering Committee of the Brazil SGP has consistently promoted the collaboration of the Country Programme with GEF and government financed projects and programmes for many years. One recent example is GEF/UNDP Indigenous Lands Project (2010-2016), with which ISPN collaborated, applying SGP methodology to administer the selection and funding of 37 small projects in 26 indigenous lands. This collaboration also resulted in ISPN assisting in the application of resources from the Ministry of Environment’s Climate Fund to support environmental and territorial management plans in 15 indigenous lands in the Caatinga and Cerrado biomes. In both cases, ISPN provided training to community components in project administration as well as technical assistance.

Members of the National Steering Committee have endorsed collaborative arrangements and partnerships to maximize the efficiency of the GEF SGP investment, with SGP-sponsored technologies, experience and lessons learned disseminated and absorbed by government programmes and institutions. As part of project preparation, SGP Brazil will analyze and confirm potential and/or continued cooperation with the following initiatives, programmes or institutions:

GEF Initiatives:

(a) The project Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use into NTFP and AFS production practices in multiple-use forest landscapes of high conservation value – “Bem Diverso”, through UNDP and Embrapa;

(b) The project Affordable and innovative sustainable use of traditional biodiversity and knowledge resources in the promising productive chains of herbal medicines in Brazil - Eco-chains through the Ministries of Environment, Health and National Integration Nacional and UNDP;
The Matopiba project Taking Deforestation out of the Commodities Supply Chains, in the context of the Good Growth Partnership in the Cerrado is focused on portions of the states of Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia. It is a partnership of the Sociedade Rural Brasileira (SRB), Conservação Internacional Brasil (CI-Brasil), Fundação Brasileira para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável (FBDS) and UNDP;

The proposed project will also coordinate and build partnerships with other relevant initiatives, including those SGP partners that are associations, cooperatives and NGOs that represent or assist local communities from the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes. The Cerrado Network (Rede Cerrado) and the Semi-Arid Articulation (ASA) are special stakeholders in this regard because they congregate hundreds of CBOs and NGOs present in those biomes. They will be represented in the NSC and will contribute to disseminate information about SGP. Other important stakeholders are the Cerrado Central, which is a network that congregates about 30 initiatives working with marketing of Cerrado and Caatinga products. Cerrado Central was created as a result of the SGP Brazil work and was formalized as a cooperative in 2010, and is able to access formal markets and new possibilities of financial support. Other initiatives of interest include:

- National Campaign for the Cerrado - an articulation among about 30 NGOs and CBOs acting within the Cerrado biome aimed at bring awareness to society about the threats the Cerrado and its peoples are facing with the expansion of agribusiness.

- Mapeamento dos Invisíveis - coordinated initiatives by the Public Attorney, the Institute for Environmental Reasearch in the Amazon (IPAM), ISPN and others in order to produce information through mapping by local communities and protecting traditional territories, which are essential for Cerrado conservation.

- Other articulations with NGOs acting in the Cerrado, such as 'Cerrativo'.

https://gefportal.worldbank.org
7. Consistency with National Priorities

Is the Project consistent with the National Strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions

Yes

If yes, which ones and how: NAPAs, NAPs, ASGM NAPs, MIAs, NBSAPs, NCs, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, BURs, INDCs, etc

Brazil is a Party to multiple multilateral environmental agreements, including the Convention on Biological Diversity, ratified in March 1998 (Decree nº 2,519), the Framework Convention on Climate Change, ratified in May 1994, and the Convention to Combat Desertification, ratified in 1997. The SGP is directly relevant to, supportive of, and consistent with Brazil’s national priorities and policies related to these conventions and to national development priorities, in particular, policies and programs targeting biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes (the geographical focus of this project), as well as those designed to maintain carbon stocks, improve land management and prevent land degradation. The following are the most relevant strategies and plans.

National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan: NBSAP

Published in 2002 and modified in 2003 by the Ministry of Environment, the NBSAP identified the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes as priority conservation areas. SGP Brazil also acts directly on a key NBSAP objective i.e., the sustainable use of native species.

As part of Brazil’s national strategies on conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, a number of policies, measures and plans have been created and placed in action. Those relevant to the proposed project are listed below, in chronological order:

Program for Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Cerrado Biome (Decree 5,577/2005) - The Sustainable Cerrado Program represents the first major effort to protect the Cerrado biome. It created the Sustainable Cerrado Program National Commission (CONACER) that promotes civil society participation. The program has as its objectives the conservation, recuperation and sustainable management of natural ecosystems, as well as the recognition of the importance of local populations in the sustainable use of the Cerrado.

National Policy for Development of Traditional Peoples and Communities (Decree 6,040/2007) - The policy has as its objective the sustainable development of traditional peoples and communities, with emphasis on the recognition, strengthening and guarantee of their territorial, social, environmental, economic and cultural rights, with respect and valuation of their identity, forms of organization and institutions. The National Plan for Strengthening Extractivist and Ribeirinho Communities - Planafe (Decree 9,334/2018) is one of the plans created to implement this Policy.

Policy to Guarantee Minimum Prices for Sociobiodiversity Products - PGPMBIO - Inclusion of biodiversity products in the Guaranteed Minimum Price National Policy, that establishes a minimum price for each product and pays the difference if it is sold below this price. The most important species recently included in this policy are Brazil nut and açaí from the Amazon biome and pequi, babaçu palm, baru nut and mangaba from the Cerrado. It also includes andiroba, extractivist rubber, buriti, cacao, carnaúba, copaíba, erva mate, jussara, licuri, macaúba, piaçava, pinhão and umbu, several of which are Cerrado or Caatinga products.

National Policy for Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands – PNGATI (Decree 7,747/ 2012) - The policy has as its objective the protection, recuperation and sustainable use of the natural resources of indigenous lands and territories, as well as the improvement of the well-being of indigenous peoples. Its steering committee, established in 2013, has become an important forum for government, indigenous organizations and NGOs to discuss policies and programs that affect management of indigenous lands.
Law for Protection of Native Vegetation (Law 12,651/2012) - This law establishes rules for the protection and restoration of native vegetation in the form of Legal Reserves, as a percentage of total area of rural properties (variable according to the different biomes), and Permanent Protected Areas around springs and waterways and in areas of steeper relief.

National Biodiversity Goals for 2020 (CONABIO Resolution no 6/2013) - The goals are part of Brazil’s commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity – CDB and include objectives related to conservation and recuperation of ecosystem and environmental services such as water production.

National Policy for Recuperation of Native Vegetation (Decree 8,972/2017) - This policy contemplates the restitution of native vegetation by means of reforestation, agroforestry, natural regeneration, and ecological rehabilitation and restoration, to be carried out through the National Plan for Recuperation of Native Vegetation – PLANAVEG (2017).

National Program for Landscape Connectivity – CONECTA (Ministerial Ordinance no 75/2018) - This program will work along the following themes: I – Environmental conservation; II - Environmental recuperation; III – Territorial management; and IV – Sustainable production. It foresees actions that favor the social-environmental development of traditional peoples and communities, including indigenous and quilombo communities.

National Adaptation Plan: NAP

The National Action Programme to Combat Desertification and to Mitigate the Effects of Drought (NAP), published in 2004, focuses on poverty reduction; sustainable expansion of productive capacity; conservation and sustainable management of natural resources; as well as institutional strengthening in areas that are defined as susceptible to desertification, such as the Caatinga biome. The SGP project will contribute to the NAP through supporting sustainable land management projects in line with NAP priorities such as helping to improve harvesting of wild products and their marketing, agroecological techniques, and enrichment of degraded areas.

National Climate Change Adaptation Master Plan

The National Climate Change Policy (Law no 12,187, published in 2009), contains the Brazilian commitment of 38.9% emissions reduction by 2020. It foresees actions to reduce deforestation in all Brazilian biomes and includes actions to reach the target, such as creation of protected areas, demarcation of indigenous territories, improvement of the deforestation monitoring system and incentives to sustainable productive activities. Brazil has a National Plan on Climate Change, published in 2008 and being revised through debates at the Brazilian Forum of Climate Change and Inter-ministerial Commission of Global Climate Change. At a global level, Brazil voluntarily presented the national goals for reduction of emissions by 2020 at the COP 15, now including the Cerrado, in addition to the Amazon. Government actions on climate change mitigation in the two regions will constitute the baseline for SGP CC actions through local communities. Brazil is currently developing a national REDD + strategy.

As part of the National Climate Change Policy, specific action plans were created for the different biomes. Described below are the plans for the Cerrado and Caatinga biomes:

Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Deforestation and Burning in the Cerrado Biome (PPCerrado) - The Action Plan was prepared in 2009 through several public consultations, in which ISPN participated, and signed in September 2010. SGP activities are lined up with the objectives of the Plan. The main actions foreseen in the Plan, which can help consolidate important strategic actions of SGP grantees, are to support sustainable use of Cerrado species (especially pequi and babaçu palm), recovery of degraded land, and fire prevention and control. The Plan also includes technological innovation to stimulate sustainable agriculture, strengthening traditional livelihoods and access to natural resources by communities and small farmers.

Action Plan for Deforestation Prevention and Control in the Caatinga Biome (PPCaatinga) - The plan seeks to study and quantify deforestation in the Caatinga biome, looking at causes and consequences in order to help the government propose actions that reduce deforestation and contribute to sustainable development. It recognizes that although the Caatinga vegetation can be used sustainably for extensive grazing and NTFPs such roots and barks for tannins, fibers and fruits, it is now threatened by overharvesting of wood for charcoal production and fuel for both domestic and industrial use, in activities such as production of plaster, lime and ceramics.
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Convenção-UNFCCC - The national contribution determined by the Brazilian government, specifies, among other items, the goal of restoring 12 million hectares of forests by 2030, for multiple uses.

In terms of broader links to climate change, biodiversity and land degradation, Brazil’s National Policy for Agroecology and Organic Production – PNAPO (Decree 7,794/2012) is also relevant to the objectives of the proposed project, and represents one of the national forums in which traditional communities and family farmers have voice. The policy also focuses on the promotion of income generation through added value, sustainable management and consolidation of appropriate marketing for ten native non-timber forest products, which include important Cerrado species. This policy is implemented by the National Plan for Agroecology and Organic Production – PLANAPO, which also incorporated the National Plan for Promotion of the Value Chains of Sociobiodiversity Products - PNPPS (2009).

It is important to note that many other policies relevant to SGP Brazil are being developed by state and municipal governments, such as a Tocantins state law that regulates “golden grass” (Syngonanthus nitens) harvest or the Maranhão law that determines free access to areas with babaçu palm (Attalea speciosa) for traditional harvest. SGP’s work will take into consideration these policies.
8. Knowledge Management

Outline the Knowledge management approach for the Project, including, if any, plans for the Project to learn from other relevant Projects and initiatives, to assess and document in a user-friendly form, and share these experiences and expertise with relevant stakeholders.

Besides bringing global environmental and local sustainable development benefits and improvement in organizational capacities of community-based organizations and their partners, the SGP-Brazil has an important role as a laboratory for new concepts, methodologies and technologies. Knowledge management, therefore, is an integral part of the project’s goals, and will arise principally from the ongoing evaluation of the innovation experience.

At the broader landscape level, the SGP Brazil Country Programme will produce a case study of each landscape planning and management experience. These case studies will highlight the processes of stakeholder participation, as well as the progress toward the targets selected during landscape planning, using the Satoyama Resilience Indicators (1). A detailed analysis will be produced of the successes and failures in each landscape in regard to the generation of synergies between individual community projects around landscape level outcomes, lessons learned, and future efforts to strengthen the landscape planning and management processes. The results of these studies will be published and disseminated throughout the country through print and digital media and SGP’s institutional partners, NGOs, SGP-supported CSO networks, universities and others.

Project funding will be set aside for potential “strategic projects”, in line with SGP’s global guidelines. Strategic projects aim to bring broader adoption of specific successful SGP-supported technologies, practices or systems in each landscape through engagement of potential financial partners, policy makers and their national/subnational advisors and institutions, as well as the private sector. Each of these strategic projects will produce a case study highlighting the process, obstacles to and opportunities for upscaling. Each case study will be produced at the end of implementation of the strategic project, with the costs of external experts and participatory analysis workshops incorporated into each strategic project’s budget.

In the case of knowledge, each strategic grant project will have as a primary product a case study, with a summary of lessons learned based on evaluation of implementation results and their contributions to GEB, local development objectives and landscape level outcomes, including the development of social capital. This knowledge will be further systematized for dissemination at the landscape level through policy dialogue platforms, community landscape management networks and multi-stakeholder partnerships, and knowledge fairs and other exchanges; at the national level through the National Steering Committee, strategic partnerships and their networks, and national symposia where appropriate; and globally through the SGP global network of SGP Country Programmes and UNDP’s knowledge management system. The individual grant project case studies will be anticipated during project design and based on participatory methodology, so that the production of the case studies strengthens the community organizations’ capacities for reflection and action through learning-by-doing.

The project will create a knowledge management platform to facilitate links among communities, promote information sharing, and provide access to knowledge resources that are relevant to their individual projects. The knowledge obtained from project experiences and lessons learned will be socialized through SGP’s well-established national network of stakeholders and SGP’s global platform, and it will be used in upscaling successful initiatives. The increased capacity of community-level stakeholders to generate, access and use information and knowledge is expected to increase the sustainability of project activities beyond the life of the grant funding. Knowledge sharing and replication will help ensure that the impacts of the project are sustained and expanded, generating additional environmental benefits over the longer-term.

Two other communication mechanisms of SGP Brazil are the website Cerratinga and the hotsite CAPTA. The Cerratinga encompasses information about a wide array of Cerrado and Caatinga fruits and NTFPs and their sources, finished products, recipes, nutritional values, etc. The objective is to disseminate information about these products and stimulate consumption in cities, especially of the lesser known regional products. Capta is a hotsite that includes information about ecosocial project preparation and resource mobilization, along with methods for diagnosis, indicators and results. It also has an opportunity box, where SGP team can post news about calls for proposals that might interest SGP public. The information is also disseminated by e-mail for those who registered in the mailing list.
At the global level, knowledge platforms including the SGP website and Communities Connect (a platform to share knowledge from civil society organizations around the world) will continue to be updated.

Footnote:

### Part III: Approval/Endorsement By GEF Operational Focal Point(S) And Gef Agency(ies)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter with this template).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Ministry</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcelo Moises de Paula</td>
<td>General Coordinator for External Financing</td>
<td>Ministry of Planning Development and Management, Secretariat for International Affairs</td>
<td>10/5/2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX A: Project Map and Geographic Coordinates
Please provide geo-referenced information and map where the project intervention takes place

Geographic Focus of the Seventh Operational Phase of the GEF Small Grants Programme in Brazil

Cerrado and Caatinga Biomes and four priority landscapes